



MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 14, 2007
TO: PPACG Board of Directors
FROM: Richard Muzzy, Environmental Program Manager
THROUGH: Robert MacDonald, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Site Application for Falcon Highlands Reuse Wastewater Treatment Facility

ACTION REQUESTED: Review and Approve

SUMMARY:

The proposed Falcon Highlands Reuse Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) will service an area of about 58 acres comprised of commercial establishments, primarily small shops and offices, and a possible anchor retail or grocery store. The effluent will be reclaimed to irrigate landscaped commercial areas and park grounds in and near the service area and potentially a local school yard. The wastewater treatment facility's design flow is planned to be 30,000 gallons per day (GPD) which will match the appropriate irrigation application rate for the parks, commercial establishments and school expected to be built in the vicinity. The WWTF is expected to be completed by November 2007 and will be owned and operated by Falcon Highlands Metropolitan District (FHMD).

Surplus treated water generated during reduced irrigating times and unused treated effluent water generated during the non-irrigating season will be discharged to a constructed wetland adjacent to the treatment facility. The wetland is a mitigation site that will be maintained by FHMD and will overflow to an unnamed tributary of Black Squirrel Creek. Any wastewater generated beyond the capacity of the WWTF will be conveyed to the Woodmen Hills Pump Station and then to the Paint Brush Hills WWTF for treatment. FHMD and Woodmen Hills have an intergovernmental agreement in place regarding wastewater treatment.

The location map (Attachment 1) shows the proposed Falcon Highlands Reuse WWTF is located near Falcon, close to the intersection of Highway 24 and the new Meridian Road alignment. The plant site is relatively flat and is about a half acre in size.

The site application also has to be signed by the El Paso County Planning Department and El Paso County Environmental Health Department prior to being submitted to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE).

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:

None

BACKGROUND:

During review of the site application, WQMC and PPACG staff recommended that back up power and emergency overflow holding calculations be included when the site application is submitted to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). This is to ensure that during a power failure or emergency situation there is power and the ability to provide enough storage until the problem can be repaired or wastewater pumped out.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

STAKEHOLDER PROCESS:

The Water Quality Management Committee (WQMC), which consists of representatives of special districts and local military installations who are involved with water quality management along with local governments located within El Paso, Teller and Park Counties, reviewed the site application for the Falcon Highlands Reuse WWTF and forwarded its recommendation to the PPACG Board of Directors.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the Site Application.
2. Disapprove the Site Application.
3. Request more information

RECOMMENDATIONS:

PPACG staff and the Water Quality Management Committee recommend approval of the site application for development of the Falcon Highlands Reuse WWTF. The committee recommends approval with the caveat that back up power and emergency overflow holding calculations be included when the site application is submitted to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). This site application meets the requirements of the Colorado Department of Health and Environment's Regulation No. 22 and Regulation No. 84 – Reclaimed Water Control Regulation Requirements and is consistent with PPACG's Water Quality Management (208) Plan.

PROPOSED MOTION:

Approve site application for development of the Falcon Highlands Reuse WWTF with the recommendation that back up power and emergency overflow holding calculations be included when the site application is submitted to CDPHE

ATTACHMENT:

1. Vicinity Map