

PROJECT:

Digester Cleaning with Significant Sand and Solids Build-up in California



CHALLENGES

Cleaning up to 30 digesters over a 5-year period from 2 plants in southern California historically known to have significant sand and solids build-up making it difficult to dewater. APG's challenge was to meet the client's cleaning schedule, which involved moving equipment to different locations within each plant, and sometimes plant to plant.

BACKGROUND

The client has two plants in southern California. Plant 1 treats up to 200 million gallons of wastewater each day and has 12 large digesters. Plant 2 treats up to 150 million gallons of wastewater each day with several, smaller digesters located right at the Pacific Ocean shore. More than 2.5 million people are serviced in the southern California area.

DREDGING & DEWATERING

Project location: California

Quantity of wastewater treated: 350 million gallons/day

Project date: 2020-2025

SOLUTION DEVELOPED

APG approached cleaning the digesters at both plants the same as we do with all digesters. While not having a clear understanding as to how this work was completed in the past, APG has been able to clean the digesters in less time and has completed the work to date ahead of the client's desired schedule and quicker than any competitors have done in the past.

After APG was awarded the project, the client requested a change: taking the dewatered solids to beneficial reuse locations rather than a landfill. APG was able to identify a compost facility that would accept the material and change the transportation contractor with minimal effect on schedule, and with a reasonable increase the client was willing to accept. APG is continuing to identify other compost facilities to accept the dewatered material to provide redundancy for the end use of the dewatered solids. This allows the material to be reused beneficially as opposed to taking up space in a landfill, which was a big win for the client.



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