



SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM | Grey. Green. Clean.

Southeast Treatment Plant: Minimizing Air Quality Impacts

Commitment to the Community

The Bayview-Hunters Point community is home to the Southeast Treatment Plant, the City's largest wastewater treatment facility. Built in the 1950's, this critical facility treats 80% of the City's wastewater. After years of planning and community engagement, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) is investing billions to upgrade and modernize the Plant, resulting in a modern facility that looks better, smells better and works better.

Our Commitment: *We are committed to ensuring the new facilities are cleaner and better for the community, with emission levels that will not exceed that of the current aging facilities.*

Commitment to Cleaner Future Operations

The existing biosolids processing facilities at the Southeast Treatment Plant currently emit pollutants and odors that impact the neighborhood. The Biosolids Digester Facilities Project will replace and relocate existing equipment with state-of-the-art facilities further away from residents that will reduce air impurities and nuisance odors.

Our Commitment: *We will monitor the PM2.5 emissions from the new facilities and if testing shows the PM2.5 emissions exceed 3.0 tons per year, then we are committed to enact a PM2.5 offset program to further reduce operational emissions.*

Particulate matter (PM) with a diameter of less than 2.5 micrometers, known as PM2.5, is a specific concern of the community because of its adverse health effects. In the planning process, modeling was done to compare estimated future emissions to not having a project. The modeling showed the total annual PM2.5 emissions would increase but stay well below the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) threshold. Because we are committed to reducing our impact on the community, we will monitor emissions and take steps to ensure future emissions will not exceed those anticipated from the existing, outdated facilities.

Commitment to the Environmental Justice Analysis Recommendations

Planning for the largest project, the Biosolids Digester Facilities Project, included an **Environmental Justice Analysis** in addition to standard **environmental review** to assess the range of impacts and benefits to the local community from construction and future operations. We are committed to enacting all the recommendations made in the analysis.



24-hour Air quality monitoring of new Energy Utilization Facilities at the SEP



PM2.5 offset program*



Strict equipment requirements



Future bike lanes on Phelps Street



Replace removed trees

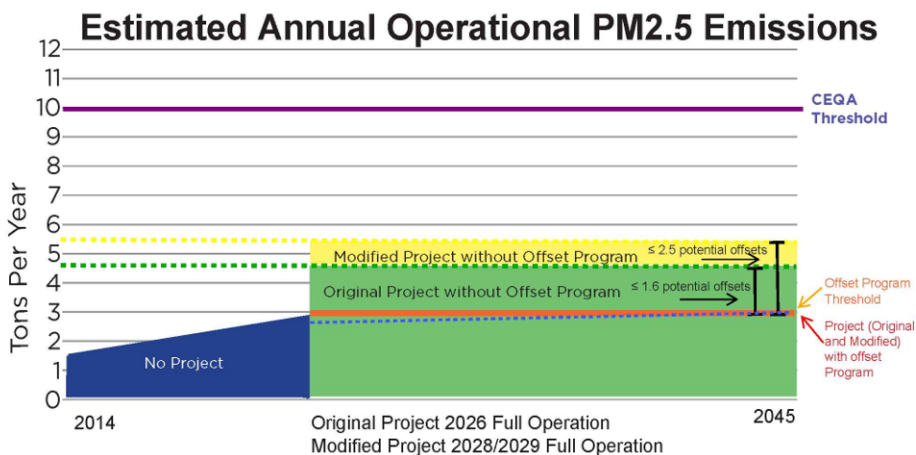


Electric vehicle charging stations in District 10



Construction signage in Spanish and Chinese

*If PM2.5 emissions exceed 3.0 tons per year



AIR QUALITY REGULATORY AGENCIES

Several agencies regulate our air quality from the federal to local levels. US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), California Air Resources Board (CARB), Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD), SF Department of Public Health, SF Public Works.

Commitment to Minimizing Air Pollution During Construction

San Francisco's standards to protect air quality exceed those set by the Bay Area, California and the Federal Government. And yet the Bayview-Hunters Point community and other parts of San Francisco are known to have poor air quality due to traffic, maritime, and industrial activities. The SF Department of Public Health includes these areas in the Air Pollutant Exposure Zone. As a result, construction at the Plant is subject to even stricter air quality emission requirements.

Our Commitment: *We are committed to minimizing the air quality impacts of construction by meeting or exceeding the highest and most stringent clean construction requirements in the nation.*

These upgrades will take several years of large-scale construction to complete.

Strategies to Reduce Construction Tailpipe Emissions

Tailpipe emissions from construction vehicles and equipment are a major source of air quality pollutants. Cleaner equipment is used during construction and is strictly monitored so emissions are substantially reduced. The equipment also uses cleaner burning renewable diesel.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency and California Air Resource Board require emission standards, or "Tier" levels based on engine horsepower and year, for construction equipment such as drill rigs, excavators, and tractors. All equipment at the Plant is Tier 4 or equivalent.

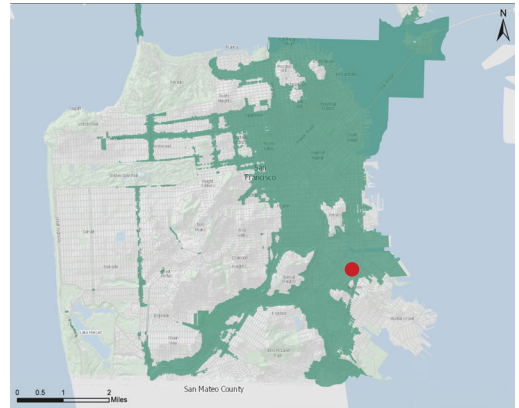
Strategies to Meet or Exceed our Commitments

The on-site SFPUC environmental compliance team works alongside construction managers and inspectors to ensure all environmental requirements are met. They provide training, monitor activities, and identify potential challenges so these frontline workers can do their part to minimize impacts. Additional construction compliance methods include:

- Training, tracking and documentation
- Daily SEP-wide site inspections
- Perimeter air quality monitoring
- Other agency inspections
- SFPUC construction hotline
- IVAN Network (Identifying Violations Affecting Neighborhoods) monitoring

San Francisco Air Pollution Exposure Zone Map

The Air Pollutant Exposure Zone (APEZ) includes areas of San Francisco with higher levels of air pollution.

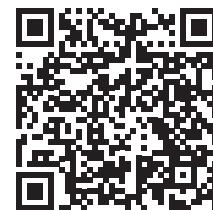


- Air Pollution Exposure Zone
- Southeast Treatment Plant

SFPUC is currently partnering with three organizations to install air quality monitors and collect data from the rooftop of Southeast Community Center:

- Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice: data to be available on [IVAN](#)
- Manylabs: data available on [Purple Air](#)
- UC Berkeley: data available on [BEACO₂N](#)

Learn more about construction at the **Southeast Treatment Plant!**



To report air quality concerns, please call our 24-hour hotline by dialing 3-1-1. You can also visit sf311.org.