### 69th St. WWTP Work Order Task Oxygen Plant System Replacement

**TACWA** Presentation

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July 21, 2023

## Presentation Outline

#### I. Introduction/Background

- A. 69th St Plant Operation
- B. Age/Condition of Existing Oxygen Plant

II. Oxygen Plant Replacement OptionsA. Pipeline, LOX, On-site generation (SOE/SOG)B. Cryo vs. VPSA

#### III. Other Considerations

- A. Oxygen Demand
- B. Site Civil and Electrical Requirements
- C. Equipment Pre-Procurement Challenges

#### IV. Project Status and Next Steps

- A. Proposed Solution
- B. Schedule

# Background and Oxygen Demand

### **Overall Plant PFD**



→ SLUDGE DRYER FACILITY

## **Overall Plant PFD**



### Background

- Two 160 TPD cryogenic oxygen (cryo) plants (installed 1980)
  - Produces 99% pure oxygen, 98+% uptime
  - Only 1 of 2 cold box and 2 of 3 compressors operational
  - 2022 Air Products report recommends \$11.3M improvements to existing system
- 600-ton LOX Tank and vaporizers near end of service life
  - LOX Tank is back-up to oxygen generation system (approx. 3 days of storage)

- \$57,000+ per day to truck in LOX when unit is down
- Oxygen plant replacement as highest priority for 69<sup>th</sup> St.
  - Recent oxygen system downtime and insufficient
     LOX led to ammonia excursions
  - Air Products believes that unexpected downtime will occur more frequently

# **Oxygen Plant Replacement Options**

### **Procurement Options**

#### Sale of Gas through Pipeline

- Construction of a pipeline from a large-scale production facility directly to 69<sup>th</sup> St WWTP
- Long-term contract with a single Vendor
- Prohibitive from both a cost and schedule standpoint
  - Route from the nearest production facility would be about 4.5 miles and cross 41 parcels

- Exclusively using trucked-in liquid oxygen (LOX)
- Prohibitive from a cost standpoint
  - Cost >> other alternatives over a 20-year life cycle
- On-site Generation
  - Purchase or rent the necessary equipment which will be located City of Houston Property

#### LOX-Only (truck delivery)

### Cryogenic Oxygen Plant PFD





## Cryo vs. VPSA

|      | Cryogenic Units   | VPSA/VSA Units  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Pros | <ul> <li>Higher oxygen purity</li> <li>Onsite LOX generation</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Simpler to operate and maintain</li> <li>Lower Pressure Compressors</li> <li>Modular design</li> <li>Faster installation</li> <li>Faster cooldown/start times (~30 min)</li> <li>Newer Technology</li> </ul> |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cons | <ul> <li>Loud compressors, with a lot of vibration</li> <li>Requires additional cooling</li> <li>Need to defrost every 4-5 years</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Louder PD Blowers, with more vibration</li> <li>Lower oxygen purity</li> <li>No on-site LOX generation</li> </ul>  |  |  |  |  |  |

- Older technology
- More complex to operate
- Longer cool down/ start times (~0.5-3 d)

## Sale of Gas vs. Sale of Equipment

- Sale of Gas (SOG)
  - Oxygen generation equipment is housed on City site
  - Owned and operated by the Vendor.
  - Guaranteed uptime (typically >98%).
  - A long-term (20-y) D/B/O/O contract w/ Vendor
  - Separate D/B/B contract for all other aspects

- Sale of Equipment (SOE)
  - Owned by the City.
  - City can enter into a 3<sup>rd</sup> party O&M agreement
     w/ Vendor to run the plant
  - City is ultimately responsible for long-term maintenance
  - Direct purchase of the oxygen system, and separate D/B/B contract for all other aspects

### **Evaluation and Recommendations**

- Reached out to 4 vendors to evaluate SOE vs. SOG
- Determined SOE option is better in the long term
  - Significantly lower life cycle costs
  - More security

- Pre-Procurement of Equipment with separate General Contract for Site Preparation, Installation, and Electrical
  - More than 50% of total project cost is oxygen system equipment
  - Expedited schedule

# **Other Considerations**

## **Oxygen Demand**

- Created GPS-X models
- Modeled oxygen demand is <u>200 TPD</u>
   <u>contained oxygen</u> at peak loads

#### City made decision to provide 100% equipment redundancy



### **Site Civil Considerations**

- The Armour Dr site includes 3 separate parcels that need to be platted
- The site elevation is outside of the 500-y floodplain (23.2 ft)
- Additional impervious area will require stormwater infrastructure
- Minimize space to reserve portion of property for other uses
- Railroad crossing coordination



#### **Noise Concern**

- The non-residential noise limit is 68 dB(A), measured from the property line
- VSA/VPSA sound pressure: 85-113 dB(A)
- Equipment approx. 50 ft from property line
- 15-ft tall noise barrier may be sufficient to reduce sound to meet the ordinance
- Conservatively estimate noise wall will surround the oxygen generation units



#### **Power Supply**

#### Existing Electrical

- 2 main 12.47 kV switchgear feeder breakers connect to the existing oxygen plant
- 2,400 V and 480 V power distribution equipment is in poor condition

#### Proposed Plan

- One 12.47 kV circuit can serve existing plant, other circuit will be used to start-up and test proposed plant
- Additional circuit will be brought over to the new plant for full redundancy
- All System Suppliers are well within the capacity of a single 12.47 kV circuit

### **Equipment Pre-Procurement Challenges**

- Scope split between the VPSA System
   Supplier and General Contractor
  - Off-loading
  - Electrical Equipment
  - Equipment installation
- Extended Warranties
  - VPSA System Supplier does not fabricate the individual pieces of equipment and can only provide standard warranty on the entire system
- 3rd Party O&M

- Determining whether the Plant Staff, Supplier, or
   3rd Party will operate
- Coordination between Contracts
  - Field services
  - Delivery time

# **Project Status and Schedule**

### **Project Status**

- Working with the City's Strategic Procurement Division to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the oxygen system equipment
  - Best Value Bid
  - Incorporates cost and non-cost factors in scoring
- Beginning final design on site and electrical improvements

#### **Estimated Schedule**

|   | FY 2023 | FY 2   | .024        | FY 2025   |             | FY 202 | 6    | FY 2027 |
|---|---------|--------|-------------|---|-------------|--------|------|---------|
| Activity  | 2023    |        | 20          | 24  | 2025        |        | 2026 |         |
|   | JFMAMJ  | JASOND | J F M A M J | J A S O N D J F N   | 1 A M J J A | SONDJF | MAMJ | JASONC  |
| Oxygen Generation System Equipment<br>Procurement, Fabrication and Delivery |         |        |             |   |             |        |      |         |
| Final Design, Bidding, and Engineering<br>Services During Construction      |         |        |             |   |             |        |      |         |
| GC Contract - Site Preparation, Installation,<br>and Start-Up               |         |        |             | Image: Section of the section of t |             |        |      |         |



# **Questions?**

