Pushing the Envelope: Sustainable Design and LEEDTM for Brightwater

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King County

King County Building Summit:

Dollars and Sense Tools to Green Your Project

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Outline

- Overview of Brightwater project
- Sustainability Design Approach
- LEED[™] Buildings at Brightwater
- Lessons Learned
- Toward a LEED[™] industrial rating system

Project Overview

EXISTING KING COUNTY WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM



FUTURE KING COUNTY WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM WITH BRIGHTWATER



Brightwater System Elements

- System Capacity:
 - Phase I (2010) 36 mgd
 - Phase II (2040) 54 mgd
- Peak Flow 130 mgd 170 mgd

- 14 miles of tunnels & pipes
- Tunnels 10 14' in diameter
- Outfall discharges 5,200 feet off-shore in 600 feet water

Avg. Flow

- Treatment plant located north of Woodinville
- Design will be completed in 2006
- Construction 2007 2010



Brightwater System Elements

- Innovative components
 - Extensive reforestation of a former industrial site
 Improvements to the watershed
 High level of stormwater treatment
 Community elements
 Environmental education and community center
 Classroom in the woods (field house pavilion)
 Extensive trail system

Brightwater System Elements

- State-of-the-art treatment technologies
 - Split flow membrane bioreactor for high level of wastewater treatment
 - Anaerobic digestion to produce Class B biosolids to be reused as fertilizer or compost
 - Class A reclaimed water production and regional distribution system
 - Multi-stage odor prevention system (biological/chemical/carbon)

Project Site



Brightwater Treatment Plant



Brightwater Treatment Plant – View from Route 9



Sustainable Design Approach

King County Commitment

- King County Council established LEED™ goal for Brightwater in 2000
- Brightwater should be designed to achieve a Silver LEED[™] rating

Brightwater Approach

- Incorporate sustainable design into treatment system where possible
- Use existing LEED[™] rating system on single project elements where applicable
- Engage the design team
 - Ecocharrettes
 - Assigning LEED "leads"
 - Follow the design process milestones
- Remain flexible to changes in project

Summary of Sustainable Elements

- Reforest the plant site and minimize impervious areas
- Develop a community asset
 - Improve streams
- Enhance salmon habitat
- Provide a high level of wastewater treatment
- Foster education with an off-the-grid classroom in the woods

Summary of Sustainable Elements

- Reuse water where possible, on-site and offsite
- Capture and reuse process energy
- Reuse biosolids
 - Incorporate biological process for air treatment
- "Recycle" LEED specs on non-LEED buildings (e.g., concrete, paint, adhesives)
 Reuse Stockpot Soup building, largest onsite building

LEEDTM Buildings

Summary of LEED Buildings

 Two LEED[™] Silver buildings - EECC and Operations/Maintenance building
 Field pavilion designed with sustainable components for possible LEED[™] certification

Solids Building designed with LEED[™] components, but will not be certified Energy/Digestion Buildings – same approach as Solids Bldg

Initial LEED Challenges

- New territory no LEED[™] industrial rating system available for guidance
- Commercial LEED[™] system does not easily accommodate industrial facilities
- Brightwater is a campus with a large site and several structures
- Large and diffuse design team working on different project aspects

Handout – Summary of Brightwater LEEDTM Approach

Target credits for EECC LEED[™]-NC Silver rating

 Target credits for Operations and Maintenance LEED[™]-CI Silver rating

Example Easy vs. Hard Credits

• "Easy" credits: Water use reduction CO₂ monitoring Bike racks and changing rooms **Recycled** content **Regional materials** (manufacture) Certified wood Low VOC carpet, paint and adhesives Thermal comfort Daylight and views

- "Hard" credits
 - Energy performance
 - Control systems
 - Measurement and verification
 - Resource reuse
 - Additional commissioning
 - Regional materials (harvest)

Environmental Education and Community Center (EECC)



Highlights of EECC

- 14,400 ft² for environmental education and community activities
- All spaces designed as multiple use spaces
- Two separate buildings with much of the circulation provided by outdoor covered walkways
- Exhibit space, meeting spaces and catering kitchen

EECC Plan View



Overall Site Plan View



EECC Elevations





WEST ELEVATION - EECC

Potential EECC Gold Rating

- List of potential additional credits if decision is made to go for LEEDTM gold
 - Increased water use reduction (to 30%)
 - Increased energy optimization (to 35%)
 - Electric Operation of Operable windows and window shading
 Additional thermal monitoring
 - Partial green roof
 - Stawbale infill construction
 - Certified wood
 - Rain garden
 - Fly ash in concrete
 - 75% construction waste recycling

Highlights of Field House

- "Off-the-grid" classroom in the woods
- Built by local trade students
 - Straw-bale infill construction
- Photo-voltaic cells on the roof
- Rainwater catchment for test garden use
- Composting toilets
 - Amphitheater and living fence
 - Gathering place for teaching and events



Model of the Field House

Field House Side View



Field House Front View



Highlights of Operation and Maintenance Building

- Reuse existing StockPot Soup building
 Operations control room
- Administration offices
- Staging area for sampling and testing
- Warehouse

Picture of Existing Operation and Maintenance Building (StockPot Soup)



Lessons Learned

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- LEED[™] is a useful framework
- Develop your target credits and project goals in the planning process
- Involve the design team leads in every step of the LEED[™] process
- Involve the contractor early, if possible
- Allocate sufficient budget for the registration, documentation and certification of the buildings
- Assign sufficient capital budget to attain target credits

Lessons Learned

- Involve operations and maintenance staff in developing list of target credits
- Be aware of educational value of your completed project can deliver
- Don't be afraid to push the envelope if your project does not meet the "standard" project description or a standard LEED[™] rating system

Next Steps

Education

 Educate King County and the public about the sustainable components of Brightwater and the application of the LEEDTM rating system to the project

• Industrial rating system

 King County will use Brightwater as an opportunity to share information with USGBC as they consider the development of an industrial rating system for process facilities and campuses

Industrial Rating System

- When developed, an industrial LEED[™] system should evaluate:
- Campus of multiple building facilities
- Individual facility design and construction
- Industrial processes carried out
- Products produced

Questions/Comments

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