Aging UV System Gets Replaced, New UV System Withstands Extreme Flooding Event

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The city of Orange in Orange County, Texas, is located about 100 miles east of Houston, Texas, and approximately 30 miles due north of the Gulf of Mexico. It is the state’s easternmost city and home to the Orange Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP). Located along the Sabine River, this municipal wastewater treatment plant with a peak capacity of 24 MGD serves 18,000 residents and comprises of the following unit processes: bar screens, grit removal, primary treatment, trickling filter followed by sedimentation and finally, UV disinfection. The Sabine River is 510 miles long and in its lower course, empties into Sabine Lake, which is an estuary of the Gulf of Mexico.

In early 2010, it was determined that the 20-year-old disinfection system at the Orange WWTP - a TrojanUV3000™ - was no longer able to meet the new Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) 217 Regulatory Requirements. During this time, the TCEQ was in the process of changing the permit of several plants that had an ultimate impact on the coastal discharge. As a result, Orange WWTP’s (old) E.coli permit was changed to a new and more stringent Enterococci limit with the requirement to meet a daily maximum limit. Given the aging UV system and the new regulatory requirement imposed by the TCEQ, a disinfection system replacement was in order. In addition to selecting a system that was cost-effective and energy efficient, it also needed to be able to withstand flood events because the Orange WWTP is uniquely located a mere 8 feet above the mean sea level.

THE TROJANUV SOLUTION

The TrojanUV3000Plus™ system met all the specified criteria, including automatic lamp sleeve cleaning. The prior UV system was not equipped with this feature, and lamp sleeves were being cleaned manually by a third-party company, at a cost of approximately $35,000 per year.

The ActiClean™ sleeve cleaning system uses mechanical wiping in conjunction with a cleaning solution contained within wiper canisters surrounding the quartz sleeves. This advanced in-situ cleaning system operates automatically, without operator involvement, reducing maintenance and ensuring maximum UV output every day.

TrojanUV worked with Schaumburg and Polk Engineers (Orange WWTP’s design engineer), ALLCO Constructors, and Newman Regency Group (Trojan’s Manufacturer’s Representatives in Texas) to install the TrojanUV3000Plus system. The installation is composed of 64 UV modules, each containing 6 (six) lamps for a total of 384 installed lamps, which represents a 67% reduction in total lamps compared to the first generation UV system.

The new UV system was placed into operation in late 2016. Greatly satisfied with their new TrojanUV System, little did the plant operators know that in the summer of 2017 the system would be put to the ultimate test.
CASE STUDIES

SYSTEM PERFORMANCE IN HARSH ENVIRONMENT

On August 26, 2017, Hurricane Harvey dumped more than 60 inches of rain on Orange. Due to its close proximity to the Sabine River, the treatment plant was flooded with over four feet of water, spanning the entire plant and completely submerging the UV system’s ballasts, lamps and lamp sleeve cleaning system.

The robustness of the UV system to withstand the extreme flooding without any permanent damage was attributed to the Type 6P rated seals on each UV module and plant staff providing proper O&M to the UV system.

The entire plant including the UV channels remained under water for 10 days, and while the system control panel and hydraulic system center remained untouched by the flood water, the site remained without power for nearly five days, as there was no backup generator.

Once the flood waters receded, a certified service technician from Newman Regency Group evaluated the overall condition of the UV system. From this evaluation it was determined that damage was very minimal, with damage noted on only two ballasts and no major issues associated with any of the electrical panels. A follow-up visit with two Trojan technicians to thoroughly inspect all 64 UV modules found no evidence of moisture intrusion.

The service recommendation was to replace the PDC enclosure gaskets and the two ballasts (the failure of these components is not believed to be related to the flood). The robustness of the UV system to withstand the extreme flooding without any permanent damage was attributed to the Type 6P rated seals on each UV module and plant staff providing proper O&M to the UV system.

SYSTEM DESIGN PARAMETERS

PEAK FLOW CAPACITY: 24 MGD (90,850 m³/d)
AVERAGE FLOW CAPACITY: 7.0 MGD
ULTRAVIOLET TRANSMITTANCE (UVT): 55% at 254nm
DISINFECTION REQUIREMENT (NEW): 104 Enterococci/100 mL (Daily maximum grab) 35 Enterococci/100ml (30 day geometric mean)

About TrojanUV
TrojanUV designs and manufactures pressurized and open-channel UV disinfection systems for municipal wastewater and drinking water, as well as UV-oxidation systems for environmental contaminant treatment and potable and non-potable reuse applications. We have the largest municipal UV installation base in the world and are proud to play an important role in continually advancing UV disinfection technology. TrojanUV is part of the Trojan Technologies group of businesses.

Head Office (Canada): 3020 Gore Road, London, Ontario, N5V 4T7 Canada | Telephone: (519) 457-3400 Fax: (519) 457-3030
Trojan Technologies Deutschland GmbH: Aschaffenburger Str. 72, 63825 Schöllkrippen, Germany | Telephone: +49 6024 6347580 Fax: +49 6024 6347588

www.trojanuv.com | For a list of our global offices, please visit trojanuv.com/contactus.

Copyright 2019. Trojan Technologies London, Ontario, Canada. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means without the written permission of Trojan Technologies. The products described in this publication may be protected by one or more patents in The United States of America, Canada and/or other countries. For a list of patents owned by Trojan Technologies, go to www.trojantechnologies.com. (1019)