

WSSC

ENSURING DRINKING WATER QUALITY

POTOMAC PLANT IMPROVEMENTS

OVERVIEW

- Working to meet the future clean water needs of Montgomery and Prince George's County residents, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) has embarked on an aggressive \$100 million project to upgrade its Potomac Water Filtration Plant (WFP).
- WSSC's Potomac WFP, originally constructed in early 1960s, produces approximately 75 percent of the water used by its 1.8 million customers in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.
- Currently, the Potomac WFP produces an average of 130 million gallons per day (mgd) of safe, clean water. By 2030, regional planners project the Potomac's average daily production will need to be 183 mgd.
- Along with meeting future water demands, Potomac WFP improvements will enable WSSC to continue to meet ever-increasing U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Safe Drinking Water requirements.
- The multi-phase upgrades began in fall 2002 and are estimated to be complete in Spring 2010.
- Upgrades encompass major operational components to improve plant efficiency, reliability, and security, including: treatment process enhancements; electrical equipment upgrades; and new, state-of-the art disinfection technology.

PHYSICAL / ELECTRICAL

- Constructing two 430,000 gallon surge tanks to help maintain adequate water pressure in the distribution system near the Potomac WFP. The tanks will protect the system from high and low pressure extremes that could be caused by power outages. This work was completed in 2006.
- Installing new chemical mixers and flow meters to enhance treatment processes and improve operational efficiency.
- Constructing new chemical storage and feed facilities to replace existing, older facilities. This work was completed in 2006.
- Replacing and upgrading aging electrical equipment and substations to improve operations and enhance plant reliability. This work was completed in early 2007.

FILTRATION / DISINFECTION

- Installing advanced ultraviolet (UV) disinfection facilities to provide additional protection against source water pathogens.
- Upgrading all 32 filters to increase reliability and capacity to meet future water needs. This work was completed in 2004.

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