



Frequently Asked Questions: Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Odours

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Why is the Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant in New Minas smelling?

The Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant in New Minas is a biological plant that requires oxygen for bacteria to thrive. As water temperatures rise, biological processes speed up, which results in a decline in dissolved oxygen in the treatment lagoons. Reduced dissolved oxygen levels results in obtrusive odours being released. Two of the five lagoons are currently experiencing reduced dissolved oxygen levels.

What is being done to address the odour issue?

In recent years, Regional partners have invested in 20% more air diffusers for the system, purchased new blowers and increased desludging activities throughout the plant. These interim steps were all to provide more air into the treatment process to operate the system at a reasonable level until a complete plant upgrade can be engineered.

Regional operations are adding oxygen-promoting agents to help supplement the level of dissolved oxygen in the treatment system.

What are the next steps?

A plant upgrade design has been contracted to an experienced design consultant. The next preliminary design report is due this summer, which will provide the Regional Partners with a long-term solution. For more about the work that has been completed so far and future plans, please visit www.countyofkings.ca/regionalsewerupdates

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