

## Regional Wastewater Services MEETING MINUTES

Date:	<b>4 December 2025</b>
Subject:	<b>Customer Liaison Group meeting – Moa Point Wastewater Treatment Plant</b>
Time:	<b>17:30 pm</b>
Location:	<b>Ākau Tangi Sports Centre -Wellington</b>
Attendees:	<b>Facilitator</b> – Darryn Gray <b>GWRC</b> – Qurat Mahmood, Josh Knowles <b>Veolia</b> - Nico Robins, Alex Phelan, Wayne Murphy <b>WWL</b> - Blair Johnson, Jeremy McKibbin, Craig Shuttleworth(mins), Sean Pathmanathan, Sharon Pereira Linda Fairbrother, John Donnachie, Sheil Priest, Talia Rei (Pou Tūhonohono Māori) <b>WCC</b> – Gerry O’Neill, Jonny Osborne (Cr) <b>Community members</b> – Yvonne Weeber, Jim Mikoz, Jeremy Edwards (Strathmore Residents Association), Liz Steer (Kilbirnie, Lyall Bay and Rongotai Residents Group)
Apologies:	

### Welcome & Introductions by WWL

Darryn opened with a Karakia welcoming everyone to the meeting, advising Health and Safety instructions, informing the attendees of his role as an independent facilitator. Brief introductions were made by all attendees.

### Wellington Water WWTP Compliance and Performance Update (2024/25)

Blair (Head of Wastewater Contracts, Wellington Water) began with a presentation detailing the wastewater treatment process of the plant and explained the challenges with compliance due to the large volume of work on replacing ageing assets. The discharge events that had occurred during the previous reporting period (2024/25) were acknowledged.

### GWRC Commentary

Darryn thanked Blair for the opening segment and invited Qurat Mahmood (GWRC) to provide some comments based on GWRC’s Compliance Monitoring Assessment Report.

Qurat and Josh explained to the attendees how GRWC had come to the decision to grant the plant’s compliance rating as ‘Poor’ or Significantly Non-compliant. The details for the non-compliance notices issued in the 24/25 financial year were provided e.g, Abatement and Infringement Notices relating to effluent quality, short outfall discharges and odour emanating from the plant.

### Major Capital Projects & Sludge Minimisation Facility (SMF) update

Major Project updates were provided by Linda (Project Director, Wellington Water) on further slides in the presentation which detailed the upgrade of the UV Disinfection System which is currently under construction.

Linda explained the challenges the project faces including access to the UV room, which is two stories below the plant’s ground level, along with difficulty in breaking out the abnormally strong concrete that has been in place since the plant’s inception in 1998. With no redundancy UV system, the team can only upgrade one half of the UV system at a time which halves the full treatment capacity to 1500 litres per second until the project is completed in mid-2026.

Sean presented some further slides detailing some other significant plant projects that have been completed or are underway including the Electrical Instrumentation and Controls (EIC) Upgrade project which is due to be completed in mid-2026.

Blair spoke about the range of minor capital projects in the future noting that some have been purposely arranged to coincide with the UV project for efficiency whilst the plants full treatment capacity is reduced to half (1500 L/s).

On behalf of Wellington City Council, Blair briefly presented some slides on the SMF including delivery timelines and key future milestones in the project acknowledging that all community members present were likely already up to date with the latest information.

### Community Questions/Concerns

Questions were raised both during the presentation segments and after in the allotted agenda time slot. The following key matters were discussed:

- Where is this GW compliance report and are we able to see it? – Yes, it is uploaded on the Moa Point webpage on the Wellington Water website every year along with the minutes and slides of this meeting.
- What is the construction noise going to be like over the summer and what will access to the airport look like? – The SMF project will have a period of down time over Christmas, but they will know more, this meeting is about the treatment plant.
- Why are there no trends displayed to show the community whether things are getting better or worse? – WWL will aim to try and incorporate some trends compared to previous years maybe including it in the bi-monthly newsletter to help the community better understand the excellent work that is being undertaken at the plant. Note though that trend statistics will be distorted by the project work that has reduced treatment capacity.e. IPS renewal and UV treatment upgrade.
- Can you please explain what constitutes an ‘unconsented discharge’? – The unconsented discharges relate to the periods wherein the plant’s treatment capacity was reduced due to the unavoidable planned works to the clarifiers and was therefore not able to treat the consented requirement during those periods.
- Have there been any ‘emergency overflows’ at the plant? – Yes, there was one short outfall discharge from the inlet pumping station, in the reporting period which has been acknowledged in the presentation.
- What is being done about the rainwater entering the plant from the sewer network, are WWL not aware? – WWL is aware of the increased flow to the plant from ingress and infiltration into the sewer network, it is not just a local problem it is truly a global issue which every developed country faces.
- Is there enough financial support from councils for all the projects? – Funding is a challenging environment. WWL aims to use the funding received in the best way possible regardless of any potential shortfalls.
- What was the cost of the penalties imposed by GW? – Infringement Notice costs are \$750 per infringement.
- Are there any plans to install technology that removes endocrine chemicals from the wastewater, like seen in the U.S? – Not currently, all the upgrades that are being done will serve to be more energy efficient and disinfect the effluent to a higher standard.
- Does the plant have backup power and a UPS? – Yes, the is fully backed up with a large generator and UPS.
- How will the new aeration system reduce costs? – The new blowers, that supply the oxygen through the diffusers into the biological process, will be a lot more energy efficient, run cooler and be much quieter.
- Has future access been thought of with the design of the SMF, to avoid similar access issues experienced currently by the UV project? – Yes, the SMF has been designed in such a way that key pieces of equipment will be able to accessible should they require extensive maintenance or removal.
- Will the 8km sludge pipeline from Moa Point to Careys Gully Sludge Dewatering Plant be removed once it is decommissioned when the SMF goes live? – The pipe will likely remain underground; removal cost would be exorbitant plus old pipes (once disinfected) offer a good conduit protection option for other underground services e.g, power cables.
- Can the meeting be earlier next year and in the Lyall Bay area? – WWL have always waited for the GW compliance report to arrive before arranging the meeting, but both an earlier meeting and location that is closer proximity to the plant can be explored next year.

Closing Remarks & Karakia
Darryn thanked all for attending and closed the meeting with a Karakia.
Attachments: Wellington Water Presentation
<b>MEETING CLOSED: 19:00pm</b>

4 December 2025





# Agenda

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1. Health and Safety
2. Introductions
3. Plant Background and Compliance
4. GWRC Performance Report
5. Projects Update
6. Sludge Minimisation Facility Update
7. Final Q&As

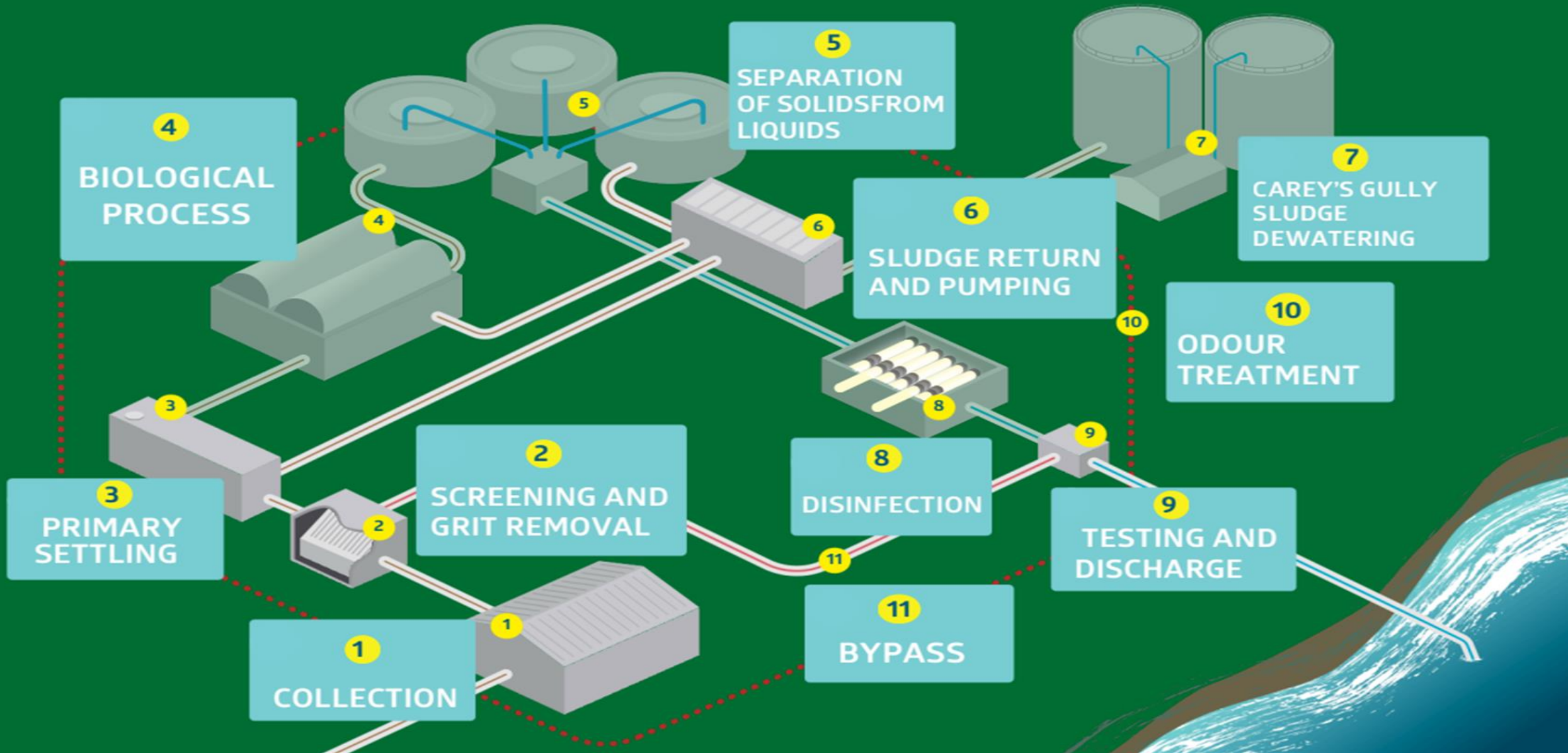
# Background

Each day the Plant cleans and disinfects wastewater - serving 180,000 people

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- The Moa Point Plant and assets are aging, and prone to more service interruptions and unplanned maintenance
- This makes Plant compliance challenging, and we are clear with our regulator and the community about these issues
- A multi-million-dollar programme of work is planned over the next seven years to renew and upgrade equipment at the plant to improve its operation, subject to funding

# Moa Point Wastewater Treatment Process



# Compliance 2024-25

## Plant compliance – July 2024 to June 2025

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- We monitor the Plant constantly to ensure efficient processing of wastewater and compliance with consent conditions
- Each year we compile data into our Annual Compliance Reporting and supply this to Greater Wellington Regional Council
- They review this and rate our performance
- Compliance reports are on our website

# Effluent compliance – July 2024 to June 2025

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## Faecal coliforms



Non-compliant

Exceeded geomean and percentile limit until early 2025, exceeded percentile limit in mid 2025.

## cBOD



Compliant

90-day geometric mean was compliant and 90-day 90th percentile was non-compliant

## Suspended solids



Non-compliant

Exceeded geomean and percentile limit until early 2025, exceeded percentile limit

# Plant performance – July 2024 to June 2025

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3 consented  
discharges due to  
wet weather



16 unconsented  
discharges due to  
mechanical works

2 odour complaints



8 Non-  
compliances for  
TRS

Average daily flow



Compliant

Average  
volume below  
consent limit





Questions?



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# GWRC Report



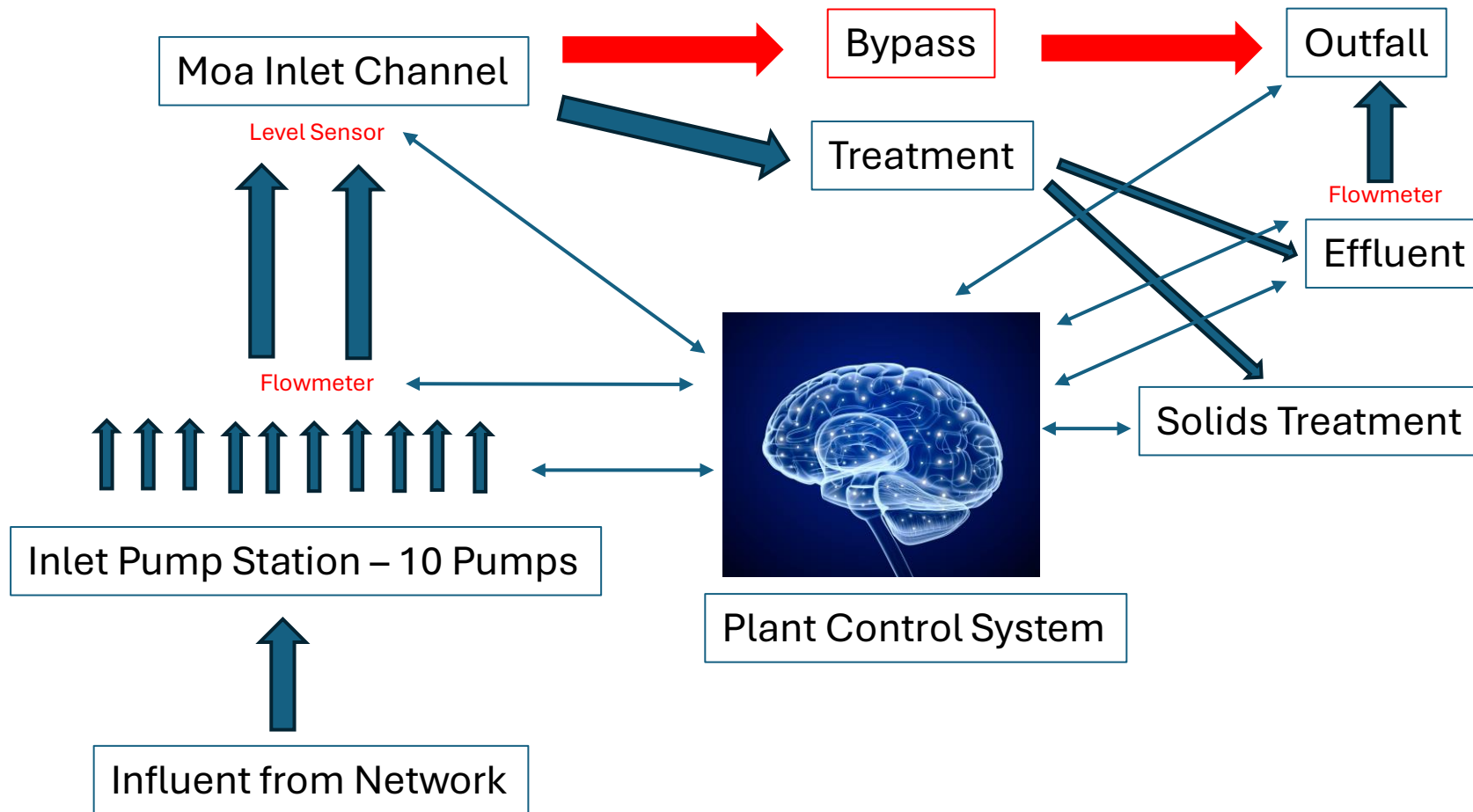
# Projects update

# UV System Renewal - Plant discharges

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- To safely replace the UV disinfection equipment one of the two UV channels must be taken offline at a time
- The Plant's treatment capacity has been reduced by 50% to around 1500 litres per second - the maximum flow that can be fully treated with one UV channel in operation
- When peak flows exceed 1500 L/s - partially treated (screened) wastewater bypasses treatment and is mixed with fully treated wastewater and discharged via the 1.8km long outfall
- This safeguard is built into the Plant's design to prevent flooding within the Plant and avoid any discharge via the short outfall, which would pose a potentially greater environmental and public health risk
- For Moa Point, discharges are calculated by the Plant Control System and this system has been incorrectly calculating dry weather discharges when no physical discharge has occurred

# Discharge Calculation



Penstock Gate



# UV System Renewal - Overflows

Public health advice:  
Avoid swimming for two days after rain, as  
stormwater and partially treated wastewater  
may increase bacteria levels in the ocean.



<https://www.lawa.org.nz/explore-data/swimming>



# UV System Renewal

- UV is the final stage of wastewater treatment before discharge to the environment.
- This proactive upgrade will replace the Plant's 27 year old UV system, reducing the risk of equipment failure and unplanned maintenance.
- The UV treatment equipment is two stories below ground – even accessing the area is a challenge



# UV System Renewal

- Our Contractors started work on site in September 2025.
- The new UV equipment is on site after being manufactured in Canada
- Demolition of the first channel is underway to create space for the new equipment
- We are planning to commission the first stage of the new UV in early 2026









# Electrical, Instrumentation and Controls (EIC) Renewal Project

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- Project underway to upgrade mechanical and electrical assets
- These components are essentially the brain and nervous system of the Plant and are key to ensuring plant compliance with current standards
- This activity requires careful planning and implementation to avoid disruption to Plant's daily operations. Works will be completed by June 2026



Moa Plant Motor Control Centre

# Significant Plant Refurbishments in 2024-25

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- Ongoing multi-million dollar works programme to improve the reliability and effectiveness of the Plant's treatment process
- Inlet Pump Station – 10 riser pipes and eight pumps replaced ahead of schedule – completed March 2025
- All three Plant clarifiers upgraded including - mechanical parts and main drive bearings. (#2 June 24, #3 November 24, #1 July 25)
- This work reduces the risk and frequency of untreated wastewater discharges to the environment during heavy rainfall



# Future Minor Capital Projects

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- Odour Treatment Refurbishment (\$1.2m)
- Clarifier #2 Cathodic Protection and minor mechanical renewal (\$1.5m)
- IPS to Moa Riser Pipes and Valves (\$1m)
- Washpactor replacement (\$1m)
- PST refurbishment (\$800k)
- Clarifier walkways and platforms replacement (\$500k)
- Channel remediation (\$1m)
- CST covers (\$200k)
- RAS pipework joints replacement (\$1m)
- Security fence and gate (\$1m)

# Future Projects at Moa WWTP

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- **Aeration System Renewal**

Works scheduled to begin August 2026. This will improve consistency in treatment performance, reduce costs and energy consumption

- **Odour & Ventilation Renewal**

Investigations into issues and resolutions are ongoing. The longer-term renewal project is on hold until funding is available after 2027/28

- **Roof Replacement**

Design March 26 to Jan 27 - Construction - July 2027 - Sept 2028

# Moa Point Complaints Procedure

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- Veolia Duty Manager (First Point of Contact): **Call 0800 928 371.**
- Veolia's duty manager contact number operates 24/7 as such complaints can be directly forwarded to them especially if the complaint is urgent and/or happened after office hours.
- Wellington Water: Call **04 912 4470** or email [customer.notifications@wellingtonwater.co.nz](mailto:customer.notifications@wellingtonwater.co.nz)
- For Environmental and Pollution 24-hour hotline, call GWRC Hotline at **0800 496 734.**
- Complaints shall be actioned within 24 hours upon receipt and the records being written to the plant's operational incident log.
- Odour and/or wastewater discharge complaints are forwarded to the regional council.



# Information and Contact Details



## Moa Point Wastewater Treatment Plant Refurbishment Projects



We're refurbishing the Moa Point Wastewater Treatment Plant on behalf of Wellington City Council to improve the performance and efficiency of the plant and reduce the risk of discharges. Click the background tab to find out more.

**Start Date**  
4/10/2023

### Latest Updates

20 October 2025

On Thursday, October 16, during dry weather, there was a short discharge released via the long outfall pipe, located 1.8km offshore.

[Read More](#)

26 September 2025 UV system renewals

16 April 2025 Moa Point Clarifier #1 Refurbishment

### To receive regular Plant updates

Email [customer.notifications@wellingtonwater.co.nz](mailto:customer.notifications@wellingtonwater.co.nz)

### There is a dedicated website page

<https://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/resources/topic/wastewater/wastewater-treatment-plants/moa-point-wastewater-treatment-plant/>

### For specific information on projects

<https://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/projects/moa-point-wastewater-treatment-plant-refurbishment>

### To receive the Moa Point WWTP Newsletter

[Community@wellingtonwater.co.nz](mailto:Community@wellingtonwater.co.nz)



Questions?

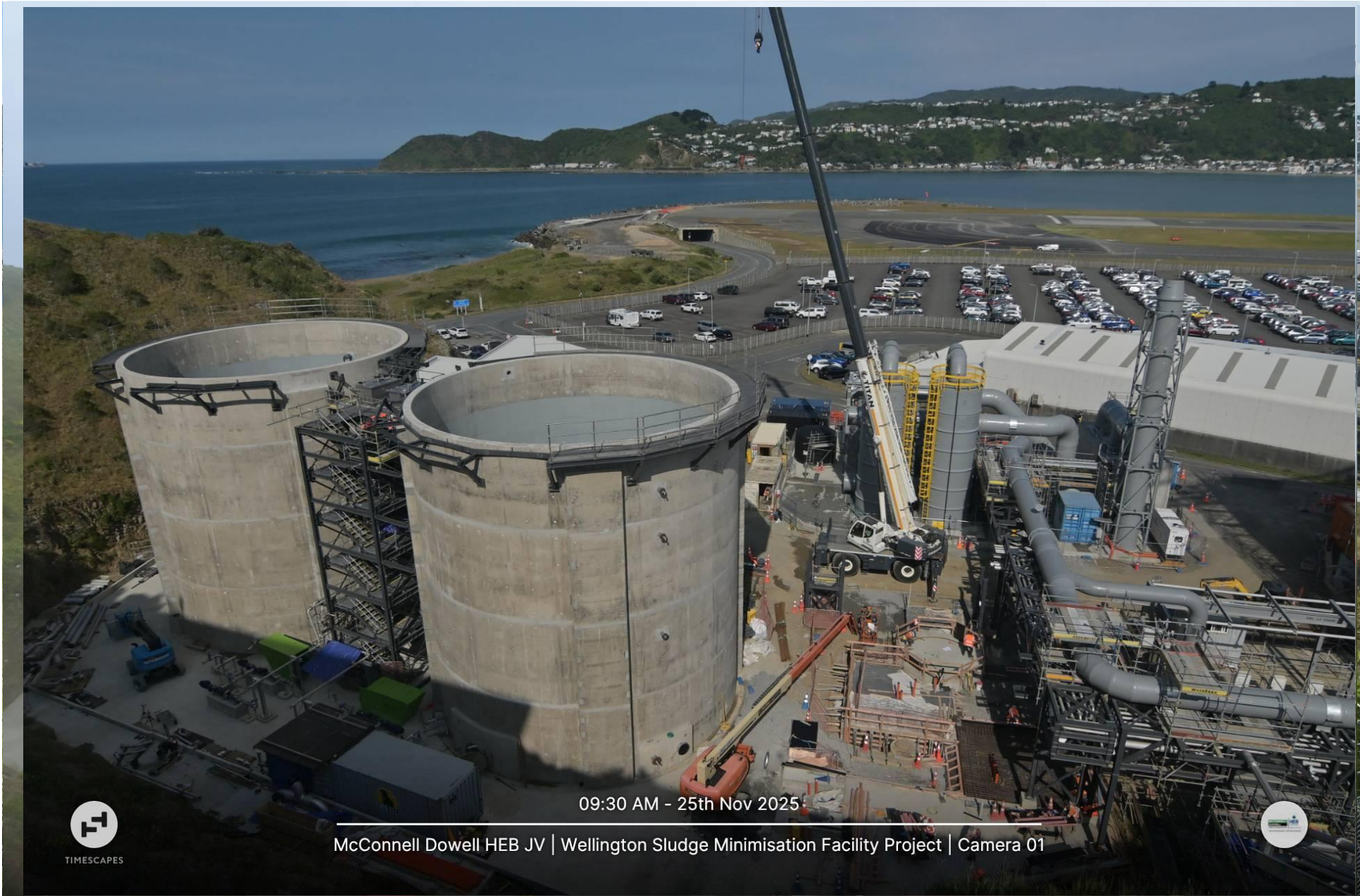
# WCC Sludge Minimisation Facility



- Main process building external cladding and roof recently completed
- This new facility will reduce the volume of sludge by up to 80 percent - currently piped across Wellington to Southern Landfill
- Efficient treatment processing and energy source (biogas) for more sustainable environmental outcomes.



# Progress – Moa Point Digesters



09:30 AM - 25th Nov 2025

McConnell Dowell HEB JV | Wellington Sludge Minimisation Facility Project | Camera 01





# Progress – Main Process Building

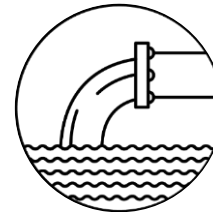
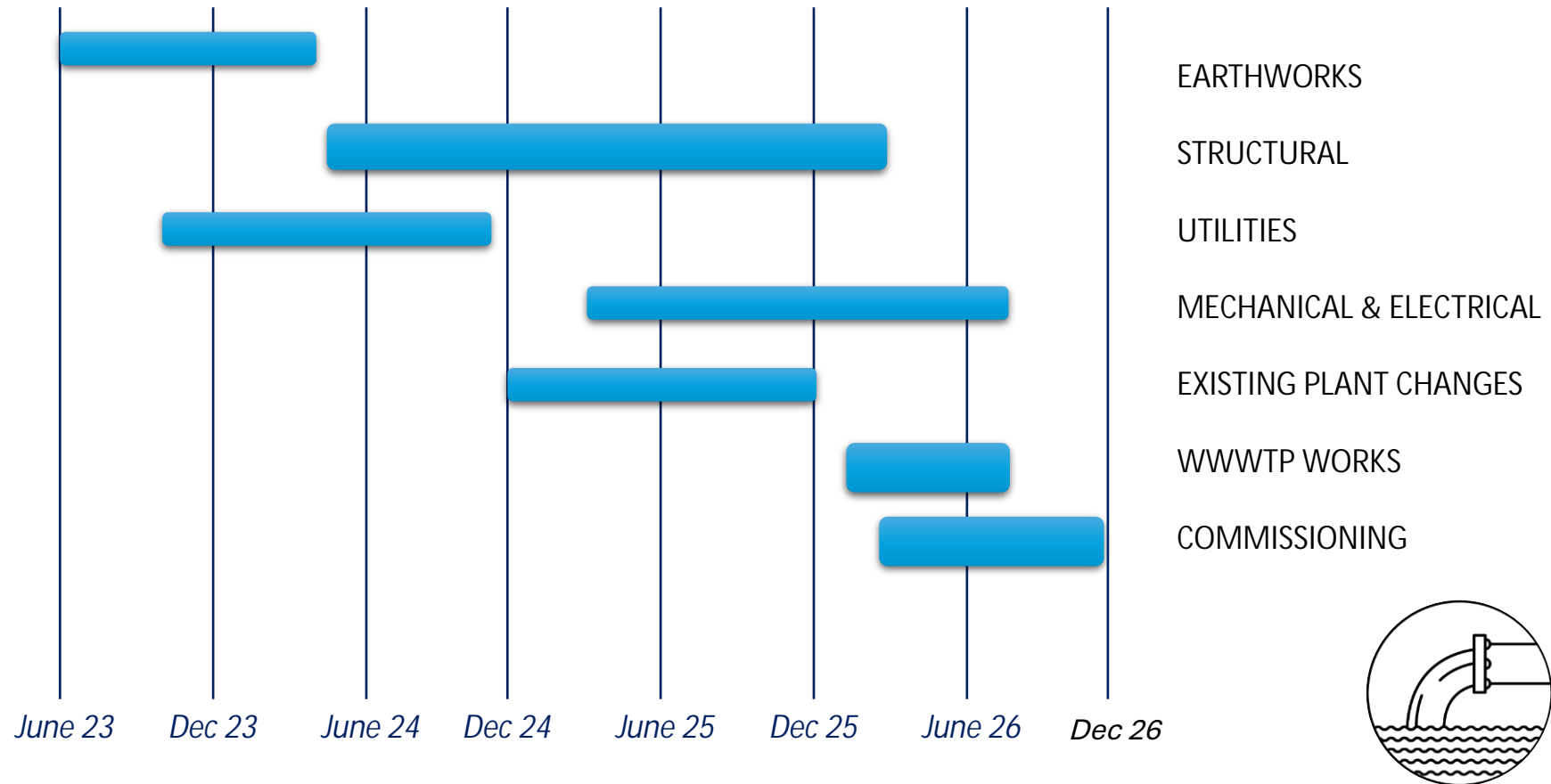


10:15 AM - 25th Nov 2025

McConnell Dowell HEB JV | Wellington Sludge Minimisation Facility Project | Camera 02



# Delivery Approach





# Milestones to Come

## Current programme

- New Odour Control online – completed
- Process building weather tight – Feb 2026
- Gas Bags installed – Feb 2026
- Commissioning starts (testing plant for readiness) – April 2026
- SMF Mechanical equipment install complete June 2026
- Biosolids in production and diverted from landfill October 2026
- Project handover Dec 2026





Questions?



