



South Bay Water Reclamation Plant

About the Plant

The South Bay Water Reclamation Plant (SBWRP) is located at Dairy Mart and Monument roads in the Tijuana River Valley. The plant relieves the South Metro Sewer Interceptor System and provides local wastewater treatment services and reclaimed water to the South Bay. The plant opened in May 2002 and has a wastewater treatment capacity of 15 million gallons a day. The plant design incorporates the newest technologies and meets strict odor control standards.

Hours of Operation

The SBWRP Operations Building houses the Control Center which monitors and controls every phase of the treatment process. The facility is staffed from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Outside these hours, control of the South Bay plant is transferred to Public Utilities' Communications Center in Kearny Mesa. The SBWRP Operations Building also houses Process Control Laboratories where samples of wastewater from every stage of treatment are analyzed.

Treatment Process

Untreated wastewater (Influent) enters the plant's Headworks from the South Bay region. In the Headworks, the wastewater passes through large, rake-like Bar Screens to remove solid debris and floating material (called "Rags") such as cloth, wood, and plastic material. These "rags" are dewatered and trucked to a landfill.

Odor control is an important part of the overall wastewater treatment process. Odor is caused primarily by hydrogen sulfide gas. Throughout the plant, fans draw the foul air off the flow of wastewater and deliver it to Odor Control "Scrubbers." The foul air passes through a bleach solution spray which neutralizes odor-causing sulfide compounds. The "scrubbed" air then passes through carbon filters which remove any additional foul air before being released into the atmosphere.

