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INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 21, 1984

TO: A. M. McKinnon, Director of Public Works

FROM: Eugene Downs, Public Works Superintendent

SUBJECT: SEWAGE LIFT STATION - WHISMAN & FAIRCHILD DRIVE

The recent installation of the new motors and impellars in the Whisman-Fairchild Sewage Lift Station has certainly solved the pumping problem, but is has been noted that the filters supplying water to the double mechanical seals were being plugged solid with a black substance. A visual check of sewer main revealed the black substance to be coming from the Fairchild Building No. 2. A sample of the sewage disclosed the discharge to contain activated charcoal.

The discharge of the charcoal is well within the quantity allowed in our sewage ordinance and is in no way harmful to the sewer lines or to the operation of the Treatment Plant. In discussing the problem with the maintenance engineer, Mr. Frieberg of Fairchild Corp., I have learned that the activated charcoal is used as part of an intricate filtering system for cleansing the rinse water in the metals section. Their filtering system is backflushed and cleaned every 12 hours; consequently, our sewer system receives about 30 lbs. of waste at the end of each cycle.

I have requested information from the Smith & Loveless Corp. as to whether they have different types or sizes of filters. Also, if they could supply a reverse flush type of filter that would correct our present problem.

At such time as I receive information from the manufacturer as to what changes might be necessary, I shall consult with you.

Eugene Downs

EUGENE DOWNS

ED/jr

City Manager
Asst. Dir. Public Works
Public Works Superintendent
Cole
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