

SOLIDS & LIQUIDS TREATMENT UPGRADE

STATE PROGRAM: Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority

ASSISTANCE RECIPIENT: City of Reading

ASSISTANCE AMOUNT: \$149M



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

EPA Region 3's largest CWSRF project undertaken to date is a complete upgrade of the sludge handling facility for the City of Reading's wastewater treatment plant. With a service population of 137,800 residents, Reading is Pennsylvania's fifth largest city and a financially distressed municipality. PENNVEST, Pennsylvania's infrastructure investment authority, financed this CWSRF project for \$149 million at 1 percent interest for 20 years, which produced a calculated subsidy value of more than \$21 million. The existing trickling filter plant is being upgraded to an extended aeration activated sludge plant that will use energy efficient variable speed motors and linear Motion Mixers in the digesters that use 70 percent less power than conventional mixers. This project will replace the previously overloaded system and will improve the water quality for the Schuylkill River and the Delaware Estuary which are both important culturally, economically, and recreationally for the distressed area.

To read more about this case study, please visit https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2018-11/documents/pisces_2018_compendium_0.pdf.