

TCEQ Asset Management and Source Assessment Workshop

TCEQ Asset Management and Source Assessment Workshop

New Braunfels, Texas

June 26, 2014

Brent Kostlow – City of Baytown, Engineering Department

Jimbo Ford – City of Fair Oaks, Water & Wastewater Department

Lisa Nelson – Light Mission Community, Belverde, Texas

Planning for Future Needs

Problem: Growth

Brent Kostlow: Our city is expanding really quick due to some plant expansions. We're seeing a large influx of people over a very short time, so we're having to catch up on our infrastructure, so this is allowing us to get some ideas on how to exactly do that and to plan ahead for it.

Jimbo Ford: We are anticipated to have another big growth spurt here in the future yes. We've started to annex, you know, additional property, which is something that was not additionally planned for. We have some pipelines that are, as of right now, they're not large enough to supply water to additional properties that were not originally going to be annexed.

Problem: Aging Infrastructure

Brent Kostlow: The city of Baytown is a fairly old city. We have a lot of AC lines, a lot of ductal line that just breaks over time. That's normal. The other thing is is we have only one water plants, so we only have a certain amount we're making and when the growth is so quick that, you know, we know that here in the future, we're actually going to not be able to make enough water.

Jimbo Ford: Even though we're relatively new, we already have infrastructure issues that we need to deal with.

Problem: Asset Management

Jimbo Ford: The asset management part, it's – I would venture to say that, not only myself, but other entities as well, I don't think they have that program put together because I can tell you that we don't have one put together.

Lisa Nelson: I ran a very small system, but we did not – the system was there when I took it over and just even deciding what all our assets were was a difficult task.

TCEQ Asset Management and Source Assessment Workshop

Brent Kostlow: It's harder because there's so many different layers. You have to not only sell it to the public, you have to sell it to your council, your city manager, your administration, so being at the bottom, like in the engineering department, and trying to move that upward to tell them, hey, we really need to do this, we're going to have to pay for it in five years if you don't, is sometimes real difficult, but this type of stuff, this kind of asset management and when you put numbers in front of people so they can see that, that tends to help quite a bit.

Solution: Plan Ahead

Need Help?

Call TCEQ's Small Business and Environmental Assistance Hotline during business hours: 800-447-2827

[end of recording]