



For Immediate Release

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Synagro's Design-Build-Operate Approach Delivers Schedule Acceleration Needed to Maintain Environmental Compliance at Honolulu's Sand Island Wastewater Treatment Plant

Award of This Complex Project Underscores the Long-Term Customer Relationship and Trust Built by Synagro and the Capability to Complete Final Design, Construction, Commissioning and Operations

BALTIMORE, Maryland, April 4, 2023 – A subsidiary of [Synagro Technologies, Inc.](#), the preeminent provider of biosolids and residuals solutions services in North America, has announced the award and notice to proceed for a design-build-operate, anaerobic digestion capacity expansion at the Sand Island Wastewater Treatment Plant (SIWWTP) in Honolulu, O'ahu, Hawai'i.

The contract awarded to Synagro by the City and County of Honolulu (CCH) is the In-Vessel Bioconversion Facility capacity upgrade. Begun in 2022 and running through 2028, the next steps are underway toward final design and mobilization including demolishing an abandoned effluent screening and pumping structure to make space for the construction of two 2.35 million-gallon (MG) digesters, two 0.54 MG sludge storage tanks and a digester control building connecting to the existing digestion and thermal drying facility. The preliminary design, under a prior CCH/Synagro contract, was initiated in January 2021, and resulted in establishing the scope and costs in April 2022, and this year's early-January award.

"This project is outstanding because it points to Synagro's ability to understand and work with our existing customers and provide large-scale projects to meet their needs," said John Goodwin, senior vice president, Engineering, Synagro. "The City's Consent Decree requires full secondary treatment by 2035. As the City's first construction phase, 20 MG per day will be online by 2027. To meet these mandates, our approach was to expand our team to include R.M. Towill Corporation – our engineering partner – and Hensel Phelps – our general contractor. This expanded team, including our local Honolulu operations team, was key to providing design input to this project."

"The SIWWTP has the largest flows and loads of the nine CCH wastewater treatment plants," said Brian Cataldo, senior project engineer, Synagro. "The plant serves the residential population from Niu Valley to the Aliamanu area including Downtown Honolulu and Waikiki, and one-fifth of the load is due to the tourism industry. Future increases in wastewater solids production and material handling needs at the SIWWTP have led to the need for additional digestion capacity."



About the Sand Island Wastewater Treatment Plant

In 2007, the CCH partnered with Synagro to develop a system to recycle and reuse the biosolids produced in their main wastewater treatment plant, thus providing a model for a closed-loop environmental system. CCH contracted with Synagro to design, build and operate an in-vessel bioconversion facility located at the Sand Island Wastewater Treatment Plant. The facility consists of an egg-shaped anaerobic digester, centrifuge dewatering and a heat-drying and pelletization facility to produce an Exceptional Quality designated product. The pellets – Granulite® fertilizer – produced provide a natural, organic substitute for synthetic fertilizer to O‘ahu’s agricultural and landscaping communities. Historically, 93% of the pellets have been marketed to beneficial use annually. The remainder comprises trash pellets rejected from the system and occasional landfilling of product when wet weather prevents beneficial use.

The SIWWTP’s Phase I Secondary Treatment anaerobic digester annual average day solids design loading rate is a blend of primary and secondary up to 64.5 dry tons per day.

About Synagro

Founded in 1986, Synagro Technologies, Inc. works to turn waste into worth by helping more than 1,000 municipal, industrial water and wastewater facilities, and agricultural partners in North America move toward safer, cleaner and more environmentally beneficial practices. For some, it’s simply cleaning the water supply. For others, it’s much more – we partner with them to process their waste for compost or energy pellets, creating healthy soil and sequestering carbon in the process. As the largest recycler of organic by-products in North America, we’re trusted because we remove risks while keeping the logistics clean. Because we have the most experienced team in the industry, we can offer tailored solutions that ensure no waste goes to waste. Much of our work isn’t pretty. But it’s a greener world emerging from a cleaner one – worth coming from waste – and we think that’s pretty beautiful. Visit www.synagro.com to learn more.

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