

It has been a productive year at KC Water's Blue River Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). Crews have been hard at work at the Blue River Biosolids Facility to keep this massive plant upgrade on time and on budget. Take a look at the progress made throughout 2022.

FIRST QUARTER



At the beginning of 2022, crews finished demolition work of the former KC Water Blue River Solids Processing Building and incinerator stacks to make room for a new, state-of-the-art building that will utilize the Thermal Hydrolysis Process (THP).



As part of the demolition process, materials were carefully separated and approximately 98 percent of the old building was recycled. A total of 1,600 tons of materials will be reused - that weighs the same as 16 blue whales or 30 African elephants!

SECOND QUARTER

East Holding Tank roof demolition began, and was completed in the third quarter



Once the site was cleaned up, it was time to start building the new Biosolids Processing Building from the ground up. Crews installed 246 helical piles to support the Cake Loadout Structure, THP System and the new Biosolids Processing Building.

THIRD QUARTER



On August 17, 2022, KC Water hosted a site tour to show local and congressional leaders firsthand the importance and need for federal infrastructure investments. The new facility is being paid for through a combination of state and federal money. Featured guests included US Water Alliance Chief Executive Officer Mami Hara, Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 Water Division Director Jeff Robichaud, and Mayor Quinton Lucas.

FOURTH QUARTER

Construction began on the new sludge wet well. The 26-foot-tall structure will hold roughly 340,000 gallons of raw sludge where it is then pumped to sludge screens before it moves on to the THP Process. The sludge wet well serves double-duty, because it also is a wall of the new Biosolids Processing Building



As foundation and basement work continued, the new THP equipment was delivered and installed. This is the biggest upgrade at the Blue River Primary Wastewater Treatment Plant since the plant began operating in the 1960's.