

Client

Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District

Location

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA

Budget

Undisclosed

Project Completed

February 2009



The Need

The Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District decided to conduct one of the first comprehensive greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories for a large scale wastewater treatment system. The inventory was to prepare for anticipated regulations including cap and trade programs and included all of their operations and facilities.

CH2M HILL Solutions

CH2M HILL was selected to perform the inventory estimating emissions from each source of the six types of greenhouse gasses listed in the Kyoto Protocol. The inventory looked at all the facilities, buildings, pipelines, and operations and maintenance throughout the district that were emitting GHG. These included two large facilities with 600 million gallon-a-day capacity, a 200 dry tons per day fertilizer facility, buildings, vehicles, and the entire metropolitan sewage system.

The Result

The Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District now has a full accounting of its GHG that is transparent and verifiable—a critical component if there are regulations—because it is based on established protocols and standards. This is especially helpful, as it is particularly challenging to provide GHG estimates on wastewater treatment facilities. The inventory presented provides the District the ability to develop its GHG strategy and comply with a broad range of any future GHG and sustainability issues including reporting, emission reductions, and emission trading.