



CITY OF NORTH SALT LAKE

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Update on South Davis Sewer District Odors in NSL

For the last few months, the South Davis Sewer District has been emitting obnoxious odors from its south plant that have impacted the quality of life for nearby residents. Although the Sewer District has responded to complaints of the odors and made significant investments to solve the problem, the odor issues continue. In response to the problem, the City issued a Notice of Violation on May 5th to the Sewer District in an attempt to force a resolution to the odor issues.

The District has responded quickly in all cases of being informed of smells. Dal Wayment, District Director, has invited the public to call his personal cell phone at any time that they notice odors. Timely notification of these incidents by calling immediately is helpful and can add important data to the resolution. The District has made many improvements to their plant and some of those changes have reduced the problem. At present, they believe the main source of the problem is a trickling filter which is a biological process to treat waste. It is believed that a toxic discharge from a serviced business destroyed many of the bacteria that make the process work and they have problems reestablishing the bacteria to necessary levels. The District is upgrading the trickling filter to improve the efficacy of the bacteria as well as making other attempts to improve process. This work will be done by the end of May. The city has agreed to this timetable as part of the Notice of Violation.

The District believes that the trickling filter has been a principal source of recent odors, but are not completely certain yet. Because of the plant's complexity and in an effort to completely remedy the problem, the District has informed the City that they have engaged the services of Jacobs Engineering, an international engineering firm with expertise in these types of systems. Experts from Jacobs have already inspected the plant and it is estimated that their evaluation may take up to thirty (30) days to complete. An implementation plan will be required for any additional problems that Jacobs uncovers.

The District and the City are very anxious to remedy the problem. We truly hope that we are on a path to resolution and that in the near future, these noxious odor incidents will disappear. In the meantime, the District continues to invite the public's participation when these smells occur by calling Dal Wayment directly at (801)580-3889.