Infrastructure self-audit checklist

Sewerage

Are some of your network pumping stations showing signs of wear or failure, guide rails showing signs of significant corrosion, or other potential issues?

Consider lifting and checking pumps prior to the busy season! If the pumps cannot be rapidly and safely removed in controlled conditions, then consider and plan for how this could be done in more difficult conditions under time pressures (e.g. design back-up solutions or specialist contractors if necessary).

Do you know if there are any leaks in your sewer mains?

Check your pumping stations for excess flow from areas that shouldn't have any. You can also check your flowmeters and see if they match with pump run times. Any discrepancies should be investigated and addressed if this is impacting the ability to provide sewerage services and a safe customer experience.

Are all the major pieces of equipment at your STP functioning properly?

This includes pumps, blowers, mixers and the automatic control systems e.g. level, pressure and flow transmitters and water quality instruments. Make plans to have a regular inspection by licenced professional trades-people or process/mechanical engineers, so you can identify assets and equipment that are at most risk of failure and plan to replace these, or keep critical spares as most appropriate.

Do you have the appropriate Operations & **Maintenance Manual?**

Does the plant operate according to this description? If not, does the manual need updating to match changes in the process, or do process upgrades or retrofits need to be conducted to improve plant operation?

Does your plant require ramping-up or artificial feeding prior to the busy season?

An experienced process engineer will be needed to help you determine this but there are things you can do to assist them calculate the amount of food required to get your plant ready for the higher loads of a busy season. Gather any data you have on daily flows to the STP and if possible, the population figures to match these periods e.g. daily flow to STP 20 m³ with resort population of 100 people. If you have raw water quality data for the STP then gather this and include this with your request to S&B to provide you with a feeding program to get your sewage treatment "bugs" up to peak physical condition and match-fit ahead of the busy season.

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