



The New Jersey Water Environment Association  
The John J. (Jack) Lagrosa 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference and Exposition



# AAEES WORKSHOP ENERGY MANAGEMENT FOR WATER AND RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITIES

## The Sustainable Wastewater Facility



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# Agenda

- Discuss what makes a facility sustainable
- Review energy use at a typical facility
- Discuss opportunities for improved energy management
- Highlight case studies to demonstrate success



# What does Sustainable Mean?

- Environmentally sustainable
- Financially sustainable
- Organizationally sustainable
- Physically/functionally sustainable



**Effective Energy Management Supports All of These**



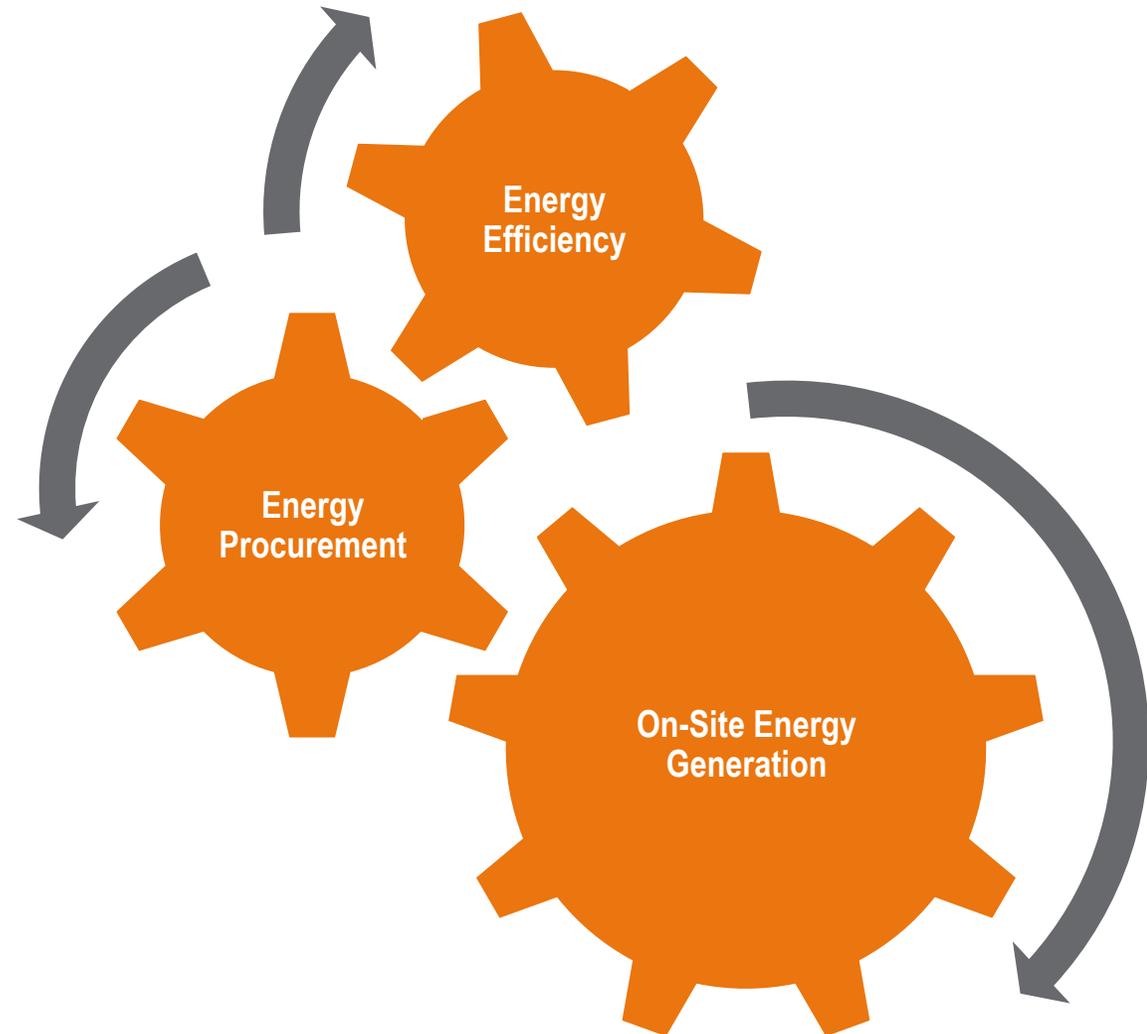
# Defining Energy Management

*Energy management includes planning and operation of energy production and energy consumption units. Objectives are resource conservation, climate protection and cost savings, while the users have permanent access to the energy they need.*

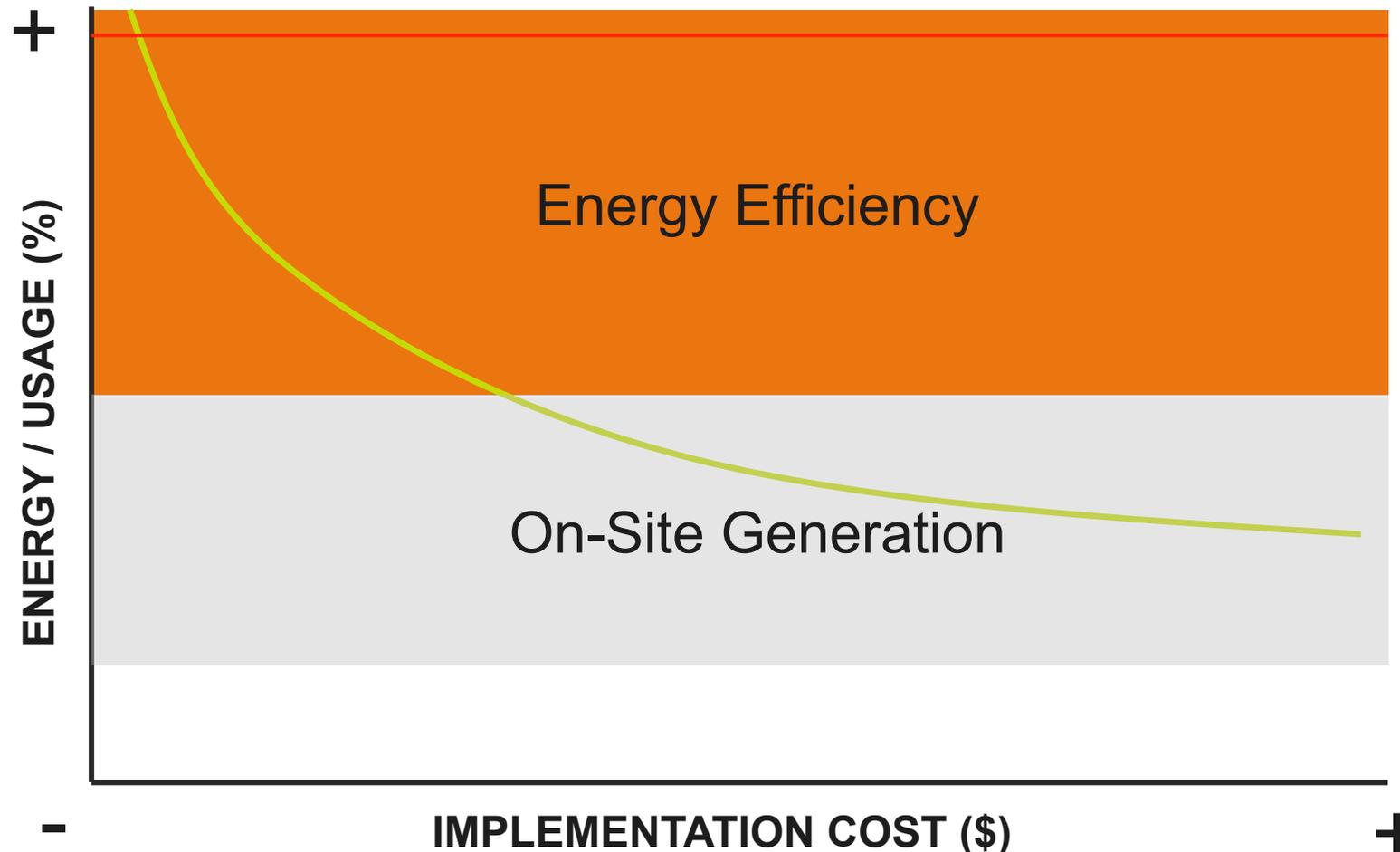


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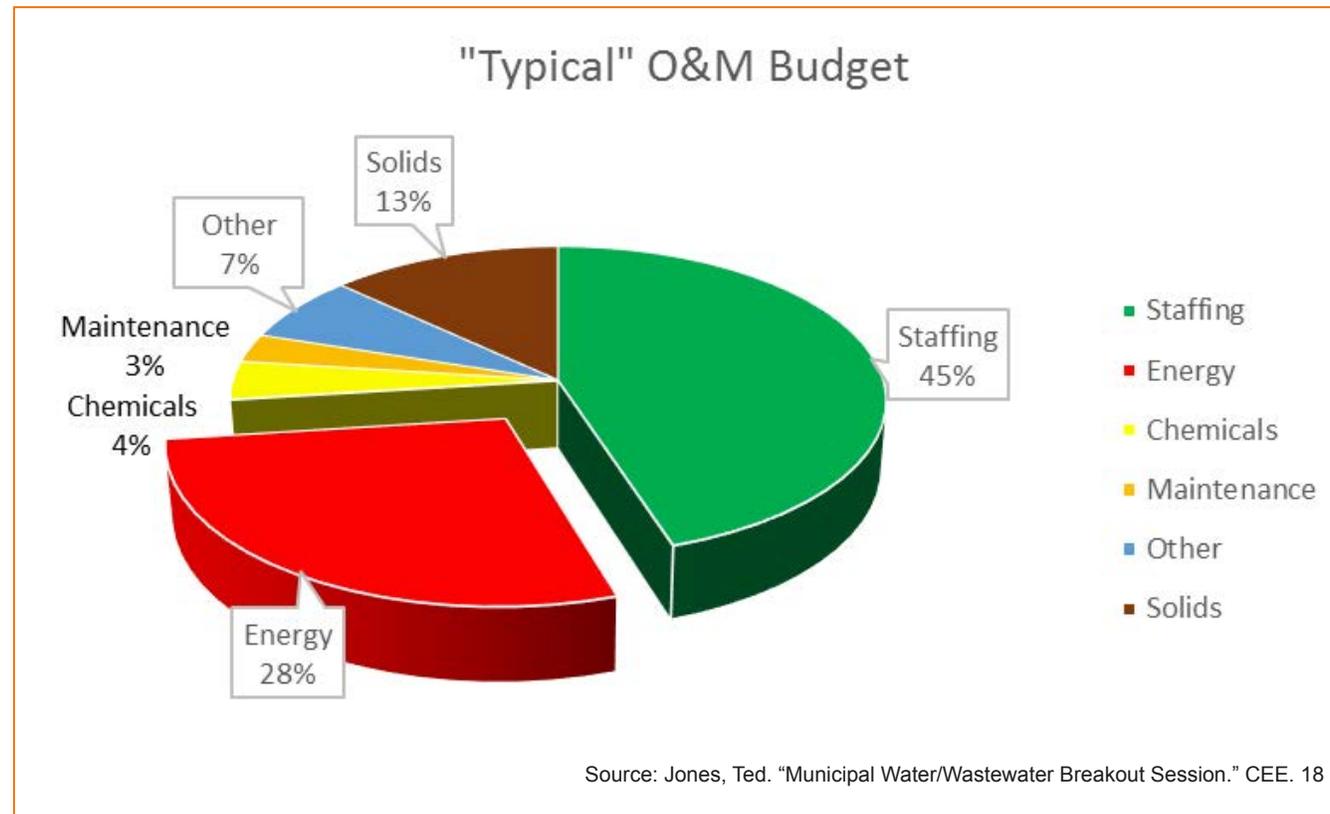
# As initiatives mature, considerations change



# Overview of Energy Use in Wastewater Sector



# Energy Costs Represent a Significant Portion of the Operating Budget



# Narrow Focus Can Create Unintended Consequences

- A focus solely on energy reduction may miss other opportunities
- Acceptance of feedstocks may affect downstream treatment and solids handling processes
- Not fully addressing authority/legal control can significantly affect outcomes
- Project delivery models can affect realized savings
- Overly aggressive designs may affect future flexibility and operations
- Focusing solely on short-term payback projects may limit magnitude of benefits
- Not understanding utility interconnection requirements may affect distributed generation

**Keep the “Big Picture” In Mind with All Projects**



# Typical Electricity Usage <sup>1</sup>

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Biological Aeration     | 39% |
| Aerobic Digestion       | 35% |
| Pumping                 | 14% |
| Lighting / Buildings    | 6%  |
| Thickening / Dewatering | 3%  |
| Clarifiers              | 2%  |
| Headworks               | 1%  |
| Chlorination            | <1% |



<sup>1</sup> Water Environment Federation MOP 32 Energy Conservation in Water and Wastewater Facilities 2009. Appendix C Table C.2. Activated Sludge WWTP – 5 MGD.



# Common Demand-Side Strategies

## Energy Efficiency

- Aeration upgrades (blowers, diffusers, controls)
- Pumping system upgrades (pumps, VFDs, controls)
- Biological process improvements/modifications
- Improved ultraviolet disinfection system controls
- Motor replacement, ventilation, lighting

## Chemical Savings

- Conversion to biological phosphorus removal
- Optimized chemical feed system operation
- Odor control system replacement
- Conversion to UV Disinfection
- Process conversion/upgrade to eliminate carbon use

## Solids Thickening, Dewatering, and Disposal

- Improvements to dewatering or thickening
- Mechanical dewatering or drying
- Improved digestion (aerobic or anaerobic)
- Alternative solids destruction processes/preconditioning
- Upgrade to Class A biosolids



# Common Generation/Recovery Strategies

## Waste Heat/Heat Recovery

- Economizers on ventilation systems
- Effluent geexchange
- Engine heat recovery
- Incinerator heat recovery

## Other Generation

- Effluent hydroelectric generation
- In-process hydrokinetic generation
- Photovoltaic electrical or thermal production
- Wind electrical generation
- Battery storage
- Fossil fuel-based on-site cogeneration
- “Green Power” purchase agreements

## Digester Gas Opportunities

- Boiler fuel
- Engine driven equipment
- Combined heat and power
- Pipeline injection
- Compressed natural gas for fueling
- CO2 recovery
- Augmentation with FOG or feedstocks



# Case Study: Pump Station

## Lift Station Variable Speed Operational Changes

### Existing

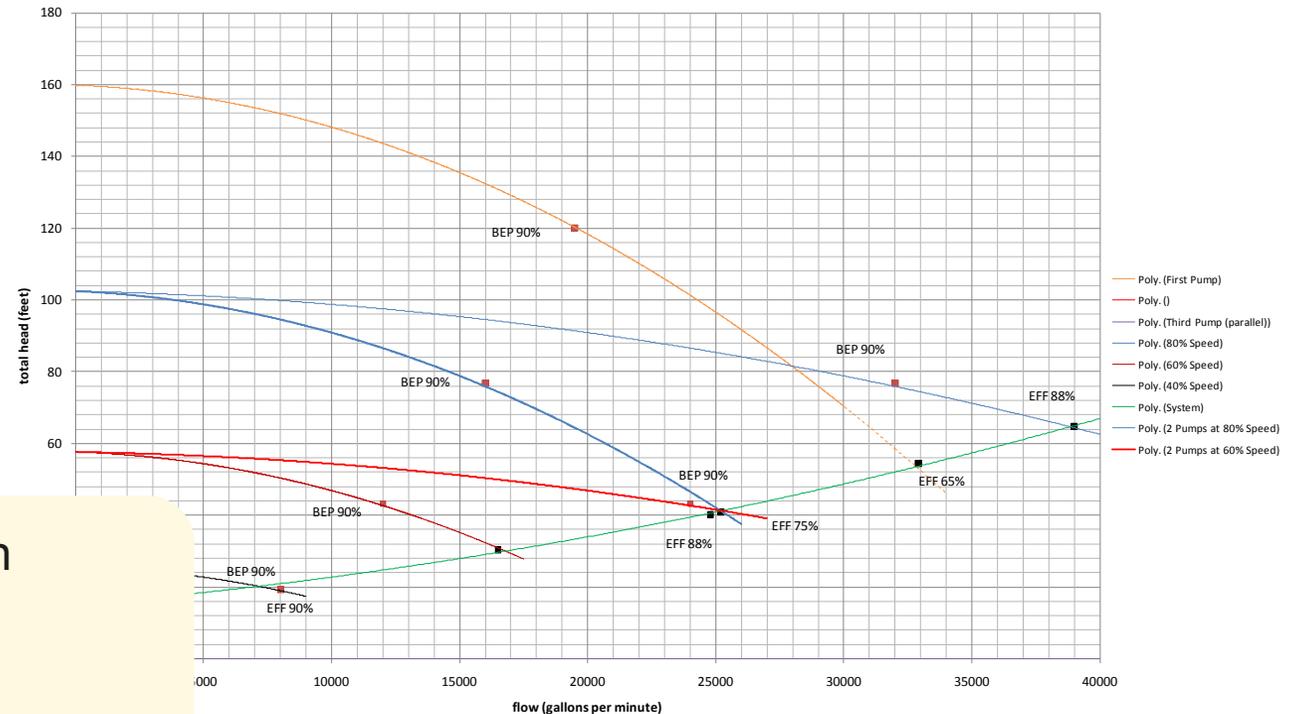
- 1 pump @ 100% speed:  
72% efficiency

### Energy Upgrades

- 2 pumps @ 65% speed:  
85% efficiency

|                             |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Annual Energy Reduction:    | 460,000 kWh |
| Annual Energy Cost Savings: | \$46,000    |
| Capital Cost:               | \$0         |
| Simple Payback:             | Immediate   |

Figure 3-4  
Pump Station #536 Proposed Conditions



# Case Study: 6 MGD WWTP

## *Aeration System Improvements*

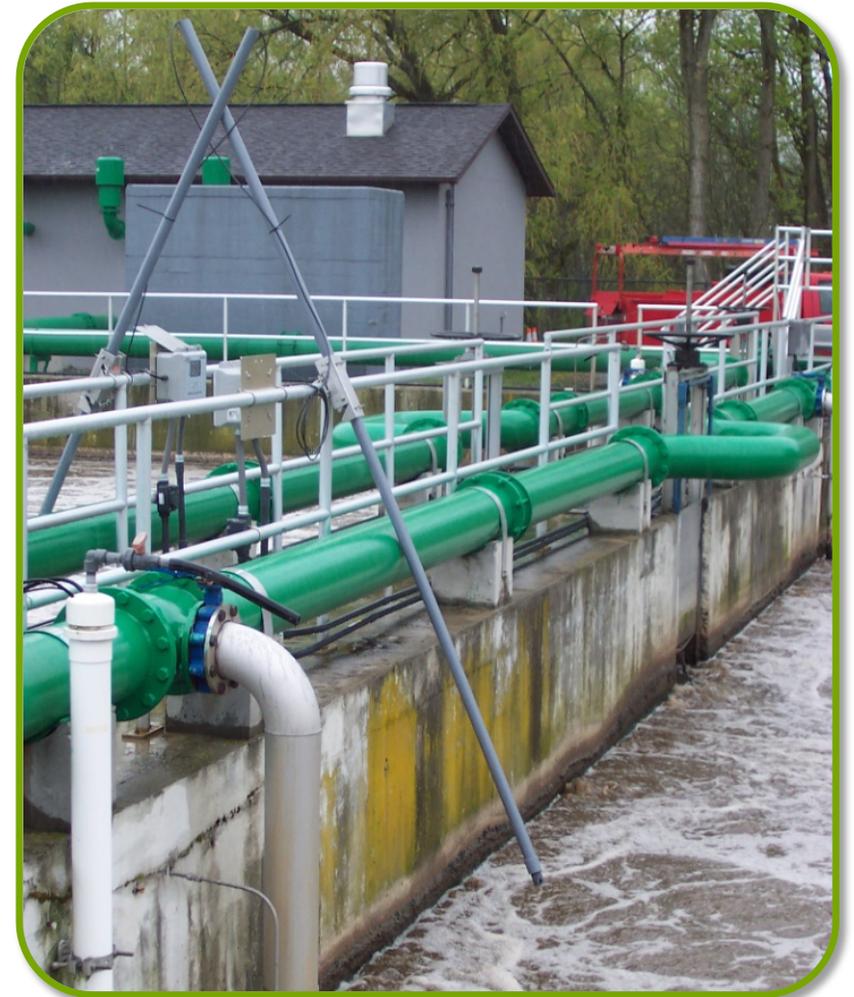
### Existing

- Two 100-HP constant speed multi-stage centrifugal blowers
- Oversupplying air at normal conditions

### Energy Upgrades

- 150-HP turbo blower, VSD, DO controls

|                             |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Annual Energy Reduction:    | 458,000 kWh |
| Annual Energy Cost Savings: | \$64,000    |
| Capital Cost:               | \$334,000   |
| Simple Payback:             | 5.2 years   |

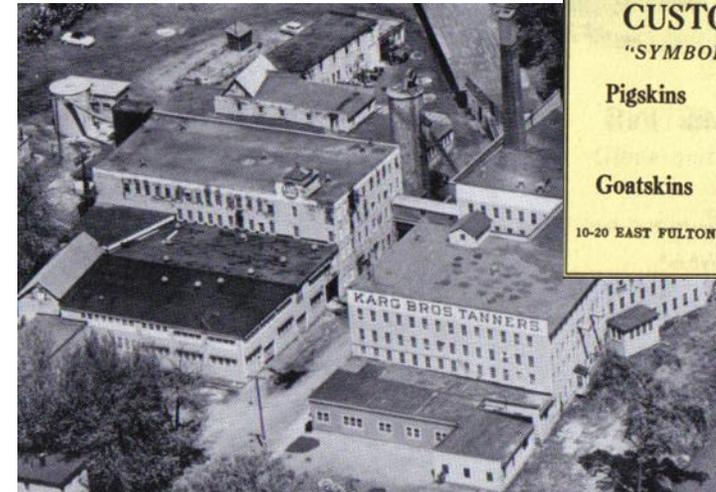
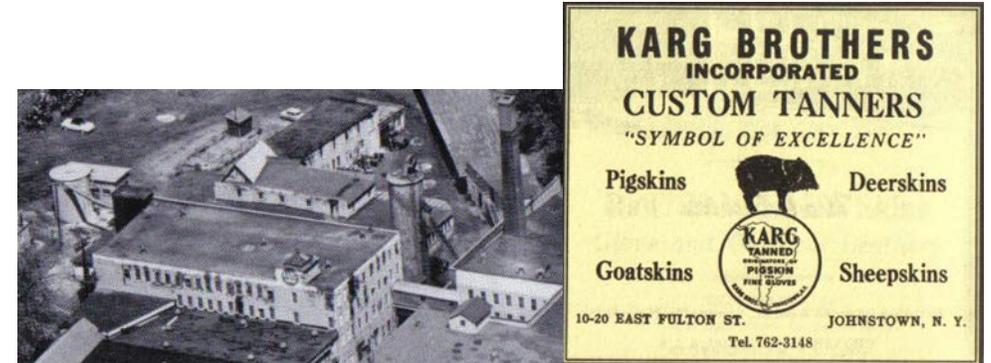


# Case Study: Gloversville-Johnstown Joint WWTF

- Low median household income area
- Shrinking industrial user base
- Desire to stabilize user rates at the same time significant capital investment was needed
- Desire to become more sustainable – environmentally & financially
- Desire to be a catalyst for regional economic development and growth



# Case Study: Gloversville-Johnstown Joint WWTF



## Over a 10-Year Period, Net Neutrality Achieved!



# Steps Taken to Achieve Energy Neutrality

## Aeration System Upgrades

- Right size blowers, diffusers, DO controls, improved flow equalization

## Anaerobic Digestion Optimization

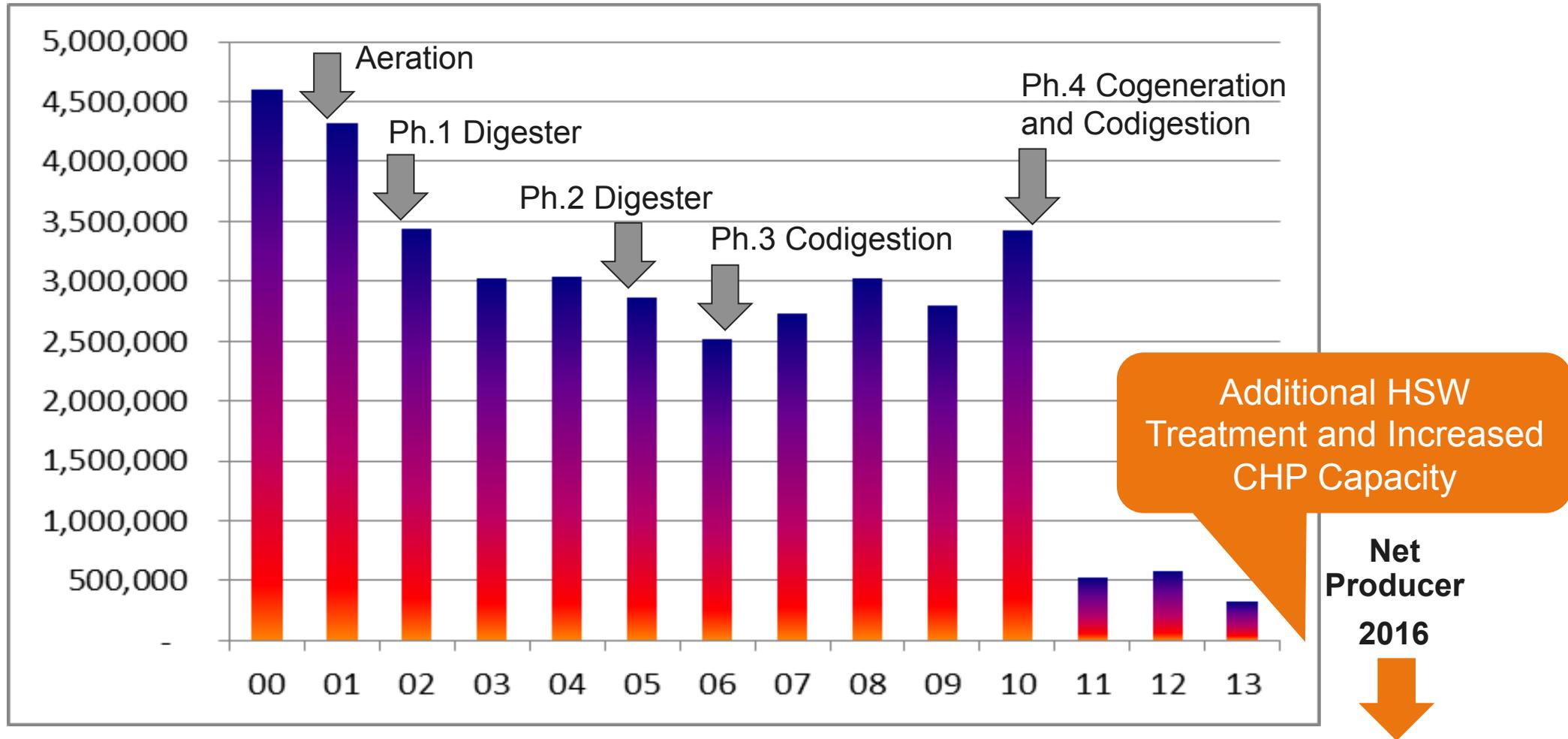
- Phase I: biogas piping and AD mixing system, overhauled ICE generators
- Phase II: biogas storage, safety equipment

## Co-digestion

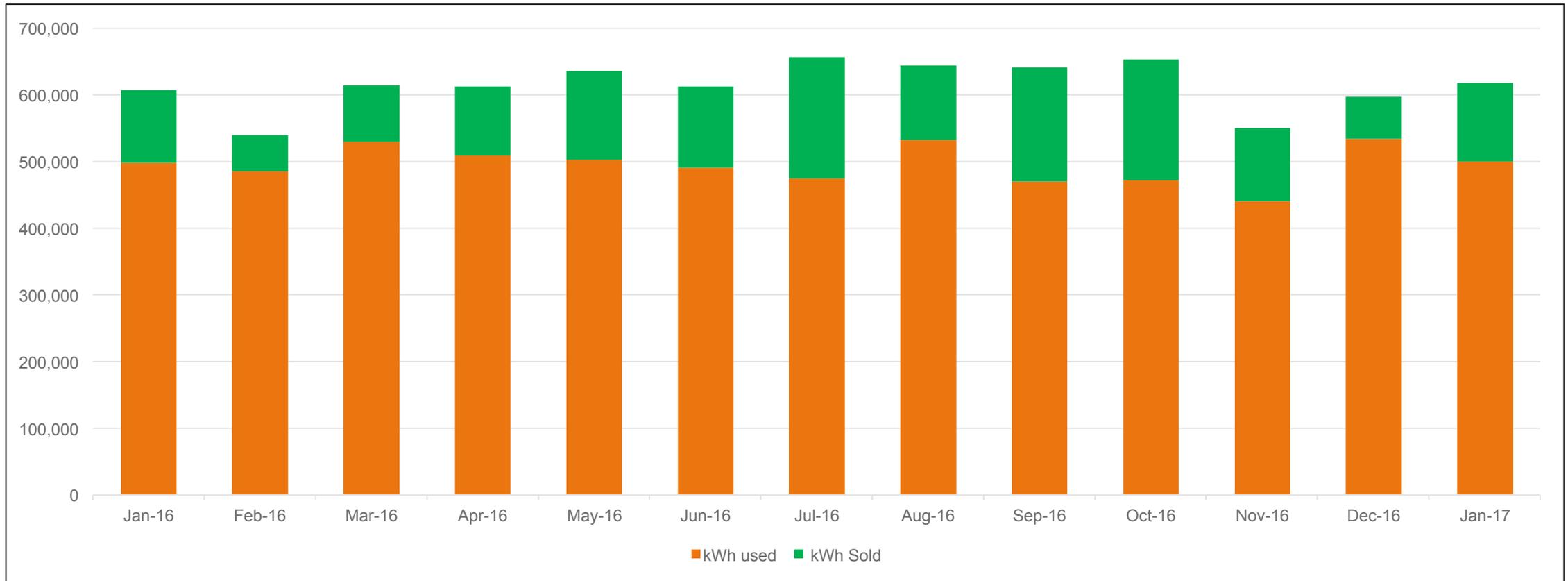
- Phase III: accepting dairy whey, whey equalization
- Phase IV: increased CHP to 700 kW, sludge thickening, sludge dewatering upgrade, dairy washwater daft pretreatment, recuperative thickening
- Currently 1 MW of on-site generation and net exporter of electricity



# Purchased kWh Reduction

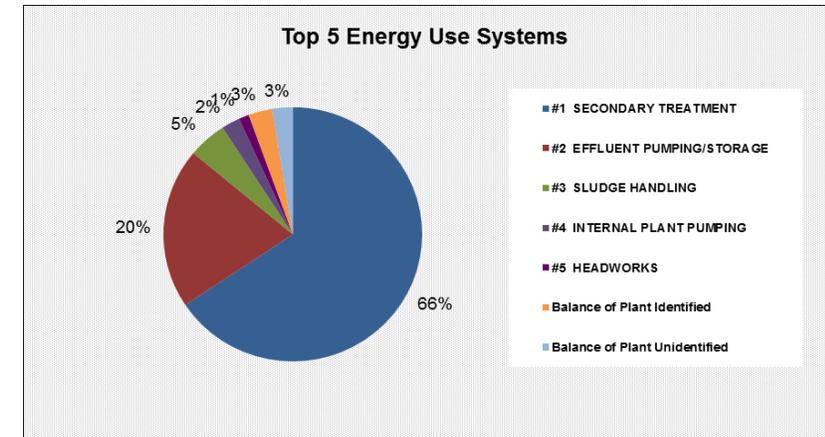


# 2016 Electricity Generation



# Conclusions

- Environmental sustainability is only a portion of what makes a utility sustainable
- Effective energy management can support all aspects of utility sustainability
- Energy efficiency, generation and procurement all play a role in effective energy management
- To avoid unanticipated consequences, it is essential to maintain a broad perspective when evaluating and implementing improvements



| Major Process/Top Energy Use Systems | Electric Energy Use (%) | Electric Energy Use (kWh) | Electric Energy Cost (\$) |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| #1 SECONDARY TREATMENT               | 65.62%                  | 6,959,534                 | \$728,780                 |
| #2 EFFLUENT PUMPING/STORAGE          | 20.41%                  | 2,164,851                 | \$226,696                 |
| #3 SLUDGE HANDLING                   | 4.83%                   | 512,590                   | \$53,677                  |
| #4 INTERNAL PLANT PUMPING            | 2.31%                   | 245,266                   | \$25,683                  |
| #5 HEADWORKS                         | 1.28%                   | 135,726                   | \$14,213                  |
| Balance of Plant Identified          | 2.99%                   | 316,761                   | \$33,170                  |
| Balance of Plant Unidentified        | 2.56%                   | 271,308                   | \$28,410                  |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>100.00%</b>          | <b>10,606,036</b>         | <b>\$1,110,630</b>        |





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# Questions

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