

Request: \$300,000 to conduct a Wastewater Pre-Treatment Study for heavy waste water load users (wet industries) such as food and dairy processors.

Description: Engage an engineering consulting firm specializing in waste water pre-treatment solution to provide solutions, alternatives, and cost analysis for wet users/industries wanting to locate in the City of Merced. Scope of Services would include the following (not all inclusive):

- Project Management
- Environmental and Regulatory Analysis
- Identify pre-treatment options for wet users with a focus on food and dairy processing
- Identify on-site and off-site solutions for
- effectively and efficiently processing BODs, TSS, and other wastewater constituents
- Identify cost and return on investment and roles of the primary user and utility provider
- Review of Alternative Scenarios and Options
- Recommend a schedule for monthly service charges depending on discharge, load, and staff time.

Necessity: The City of Merced, California recently expanded its waste water treatment plant from 10 Million Gallons per Day (MGD) to 12 MGD. The expansion was constructed to accommodate the projected residential growth. The last recession brought the housing market and construction industry to a halt. The waste water plant was not designed to take on heavy load (wet) users such as food and dairy processors. Due to this dilemma, the City has been bypassed by food and dairy processors. Two recent processors noted that the City's challenge to process the BODs and TSS in a cost effective manner weighed heavily on locating the projects to another community. Merced County is one of the highest yielding agricultural counties in the United States. Food and dairy processing should be an anchor in the community. The City has chronic double digit unemployment of 12% to 15%, and is needing to attract industrial jobs to prosper the community and its residents.



Beneficiaries:

- Merced residents and businesses
- Unemployed persons and families
- Farmers, ranchers, and the agricultural community
- Educational and job training agencies

CONTACT:

Frank Quintero
Director of Economic Development
City of Merced
(209) 385-6827
quinterof@cityofmerced.org