

GOLD BAR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT COMMUNITY UPDATE

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Craig Bonneville

Director, Edmonton
Wastewater Treatment Plant

A NOTE FROM CRAIG

At this time of year we would like to take a moment to not only say Happy New Year but to also reflect on the past 12 months - what a challenging year it was. We sincerely hope everyone is doing well and keeping safe during these difficult times.

2020 was a busy time for us at the Gold Bar Wastewater Treatment Plant (GBWWTP). Here are some of the accomplishments we achieved over the past year:

- Creation and adoption of Architectural Guidelines and a Landscaping Master Plan for the facility.
- Improvements across the GBWWTP to improve the safety of pedestrians on site.
- Continued rehabilitation of diversion structures (large chambers that receive and distribute sanitary flows). One final winter construction project running from 2021-22 will complete this project.
- Completion of the above-ground Pipe Rack Project within our existing fenceline. We've provided information about this project to the community in the past.

I would also like to thank those residents who got involved in our virtual community engagement efforts in 2020, despite the many challenges we all faced due to COVID-19.

EPCOR's engagement activities serve as an important connection to the community and allows us to incorporate valuable public feedback and input into our plans for the GBWWTP.

We appreciated your continued involvement, commitment, and adaptability as we transitioned our consultation and engagement activities to an online format.

LOOKING FORWARD IN 2021

We're already into 2021 and it's going to be a busy year for us again at the facility. Here is a high-level summary of the work we currently have planned:

- An amendment to our Approval to Operate to allow for construction of the Renewable Natural Gas project and upgrades to air scrubber operations in our continued efforts to protect the environment and improve quality of life.
- Completion of pedestrian walkways to provide safe pathways for visitors and workers.
- Continued work on maintenance hygiene facilities within our fenceline to provide our employees with lockers and shower facilities, to improve health and safety conditions on site.
- Digester Square 1 Biogas System Upgrades, which include relocating compressors to separate enclosures to improve worker safety.
- Various structural rehabilitation projects throughout the plant.

As always, we continue to strive to be a good neighbour in all that we do. We will continue to provide updates and engage in alignment with the Public Engagement framework created by EPCOR and the community.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In 2020, we transitioned our engagement activities to an online platform. We held a virtual open house in September and hosted a couple of meetings with the Gold Bar Community Liaison Committee (CLC) over Zoom. The virtual open house offered opportunities for participants to learn about our projects and provide feedback through our website or attend a virtual engagement session over Zoom. Thank you again to everyone who participated in these activities.

Over the past year, your feedback has helped us complete maintenance activities and plan new projects in alignment with the Shared Outcomes and Design Principles collaboratively created by EPCOR and the community in 2019. There were several projects included in our virtual open house that we wanted to provide an update about.

Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station

Project Background

EPCOR is required by Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) to install a continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (AAQMS) adjacent to the GBWWTP. The AAQMS will help us obtain additional data on the operational and environmental scenarios that result in odours coming from the facility. Although EPCOR continues to proactively incorporate changes at the facility to reduce odourous emissions, the data from the AAQMS will provide the opportunity to better monitor and manage emissions.

Listening to Your Feedback

After gathering public input from our virtual open house and discussions with our CLC, EPCOR assessed how this feedback could be incorporated into the design of the project. Most of what we heard from the community related to the AAQMS building, which is shown on the conceptual rendering below and is approximately 3 m x 5 m x 2 m in size. The majority of participants thought EPCOR could incorporate educational information into the façade of the building.

After also discussing the project with several Indigenous communities, EPCOR thought the AAQMS provided an

opportunity to share part of the history and culture of the Indigenous peoples who used these lands and adjacent waters long before Edmonton became incorporated as a city. Our history is interwoven with the development of Edmonton, the histories, and legacies of interaction between settlers and Indigenous peoples, and the siting of our facilities within Edmonton. The banks of the North Saskatchewan River, where our two water treatment plants and our wastewater treatment plant are located, have been gathering places since time immemorial.

We respect the histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all Indigenous peoples across North America, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community. We also recognize that we need to work collaboratively and in the spirit of reconciliation with Indigenous governments and peoples as long as we continue to operate in areas that hold these significant ties.

In support of recognizing these important Indigenous ties to this area, EPCOR will be issuing a request for proposals to adorn the site with Indigenous art and landscaping that will enhance the site and inform those who use the area.

Do you have any amenities you would like to see incorporated into the design of the AAQMS? If so, send us an email with your ideas to goldbarproject@epcor.com.

Schedule

EPCOR will begin constructing the AAQMS in early summer 2021. The AAQMS must be installed and operating by December 31, 2021 to be compliant with EPCOR's Approval to Operate under the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act. Incorporating Indigenous art and landscaping will likely occur after the in-service date, but will also depend on the proposal process. EPCOR will continue to provide updates to the community throughout construction.

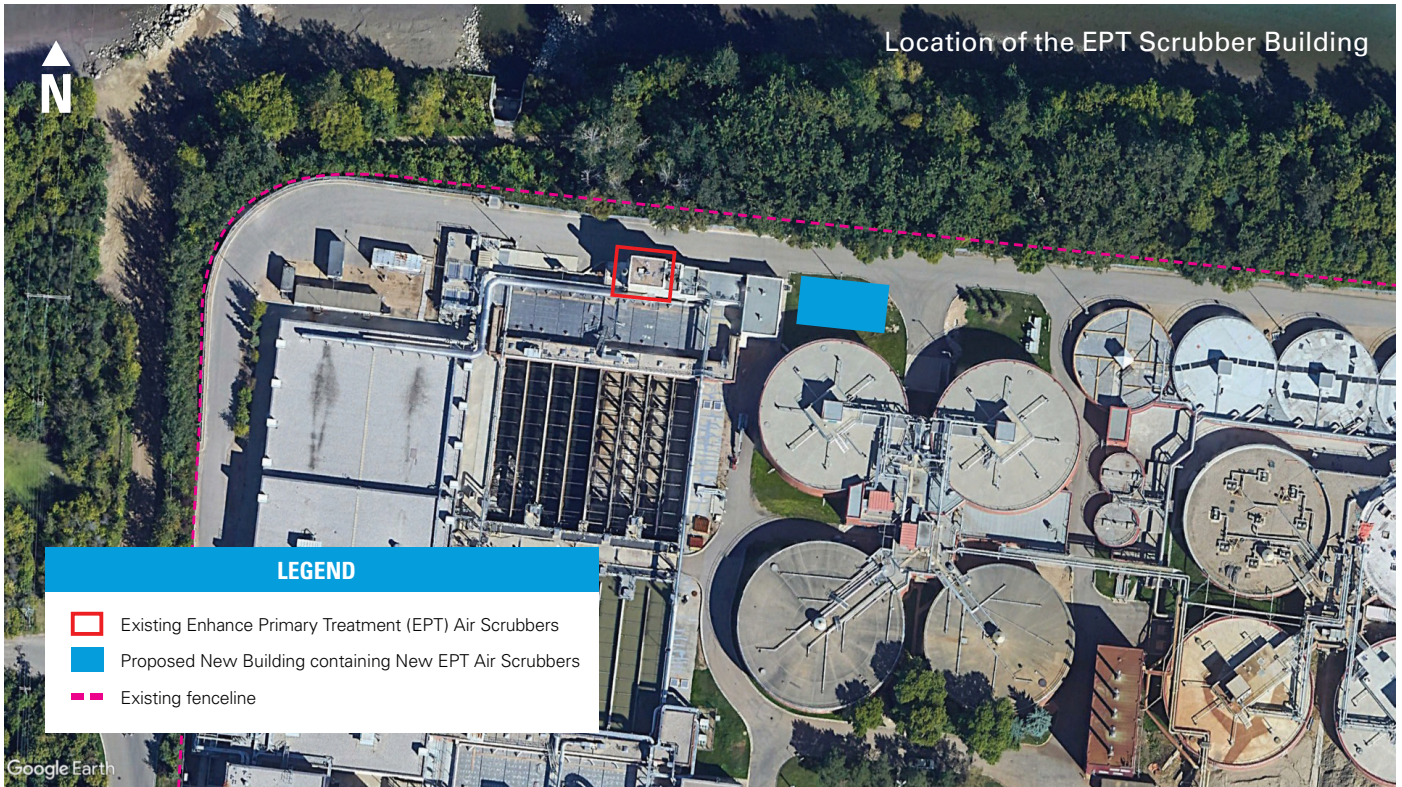


A bird eye's view of the conceptual AAQMS, showing approximate size and location.

Enhanced Primary Treatment New Air Scrubber

EPCOR is installing two additional Enhanced Primary Treatment (EPT) scrubbers in a new building as shown on the images below. The new building will align with the standards and recommendations included in the Architectural Guidelines created for the GBWWTP so it complements the rest of the facilities on site.

The new EPT air scrubbers will allow EPCOR to continue reducing odours in the area and provide redundancy for other scrubbers for additional reliability. The existing EPT scrubber will remain in service. This project aligns with our long-term plans and commitment to odour mitigation and reduction from site. We anticipate that construction will start in spring 2021 and will be complete by the end of 2021.



Renewable Natural Gas (RNG)

The RNG project will allow EPCOR to capture a byproduct called biogas, which is otherwise used for process and plant heating or flared at the plant, upgrade it and transform it into renewable natural gas. This will reduce flaring, greenhouse gas emissions, and noise at the facility. Regulatory approvals for the RNG project (as shown on the image below) were granted in the fall of 2020.

We plan to initiate construction in spring 2021; the majority of construction will occur this year. The buried injection line shown in yellow below is underground and no trees will be removed outside of the fenceline to accommodate this project. Limited tree removal may be required inside our fenceline and revegetation will occur in alignment with our Landscaping Master Plan.



THE GBWWTP WEBPAGE

Did you know that we regularly share facility updates about the GBWWTP, information about odours, and advertise future engagement activities on our website? Check it out at www.epcor.com/goldbar. We've also been advertising engagement opportunities on our EPCOR Canada Facebook page.

 twitter.com/EPCOR

 facebook.com/EPCOR

 [@EPCOR](https://www.instagram.com/EPCOR)

We believe in listening to and engaging with participants. Community input and involvement is an important part of our decision-making and we want to hear what you think about our initiatives.

LET'S TALK

Phone: (780) 412-3599

Email: Goldbarproject@epcor.com