

Great Neck News



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Plant changes save \$108K, district says

BY JOE NIKIC

The Great Neck Water Pollution Control District announced last Thursday that microturbine plant improvements have saved taxpayers more than \$108,000 from January to June 2015.

The district completed microturbine installation in December 2014 at the district's wastewater treatment plant at 236 East Shore Road to reduce the environmental impact of the plant, the plant's operating costs, and the tax burden on taxpayers, according to a press release from the district.

"The district is beginning to realize the savings anticipated when the Board of Commissioners first proposed the microturbine installation project," Great Neck Water Pollution Control District Commissioner Steve Reiter said. "The savings from this initiative are passed directly to taxpayers."

The microturbines use two small jet engines to convert methane gas produced

by the wastewater treatment process into heat and energy, according to the release.

The heat is used in plant buildings during the winter and year-round in the plant process boilers causing the district's heating expenses to drop by 40 percent compared to the same time six-month time period in 2014, according to the release.

The energy created is used to power the plant, which cut electricity costs by 20 percent compared to the same time period in 2014, according to the release.

"The Board of Commissioners constantly strives to establish long-term sustainability in the form of innovative projects like the microturbine installation," district Commissioner Deena Lesser said. "This initiative is a success because it fulfills both the district's environmental and financial objectives."

The Great Neck Water Pollution Control District serves the villages of Great Neck, Great Neck Plaza, Kensington, Thomaston and Saddle Rock as well as parts of Manhasset.

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Steve Reiter

GREAT NECK WATER POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT COMMISSIONER