

The Biosolids Digester Facilities Project in San Francisco will replace and relocate outdated existing solids treatment facilities, allowing the plant to smell better, look better, operate more efficiently and protect critical equipment in the event of an earthquake. Malcolm Drilling deployed equipment for many project requirements.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF MALCOLM DRILLING

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By Karin Tetlow

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- Trenchless Technology Certification for Contractors
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- Increasing Below-Ground Infrastructure Security
- Managing Change Orders as "Estimates Within Estimates"

Updating the Largest Wastewater Treatment Facility in San Francisco

At San Francisco's Southeast Treatment Plant (SEP), the city's largest wastewater treatment facility, Malcolm Drilling has begun full operations. The Biosolids Digester Facilities Project will replace and relocate the outdated existing solids treatment facilities with more reliable, efficient, and modern

technologies and facilities that will help update the plant. In addition, the project will locate the new digesters farther away from existing residences, reduce odors, and make visual improvements both in and around the plant.

For Malcolm, this meant deploying an army of construction equipment to carry out multiple tasks at the same time. For the foundation and shoring of the 13 new structures being built, Malcolm is installing cased drilled shafts, continuous flight auger piles (CFA), diaphragm walls and cutter soil mixing walls at the same time. The diaphragm wall consists of a series of 36-in.-wide panels to depth of 158 ft, which are connected by overlapping the primary and secondary panels to form a continuous retaining wall. Every panel includes a 70-ft-long reinforcing steel cage with embedments for three rows of tiebacks to stabilize the 40-ft-deep excavation for the four spherical digester structures. The remaining wall depth provides an underground water cutoff to enable internal dewatering without any potential settlement impacts onto the adjacent very busy Caltrain railroad tracks.

For additional information about Malcolm Drilling, please visit www.malcolmdrilling.com. ♦



Malcolm Drilling masterminded multiple tasks simultaneously for San Francisco's Southeast Treatment Plant replacements.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF MALCOLM DRILLING

“ I see the data in real time. **With paper forms, it could be weeks.** ”

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