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LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION PLAN: THE LOS ANGELES WATER LOSS TASK FORCE

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LADWP – The Nations Largest Public Utility



- 473 square miles
- 4 million people served
- 7,327 miles of mains
- 737,583 services
- 113 Pressure Zones
- 60,804 Hydrants
- 430 million gallons of water delivered per day





Why are we doing this project?



- 2013 Water Loss Audit and Component Analysis study recommendations
- State Regulatory Requirements
- Minimize production costs / maximize revenue collection

Saving Water Saves money and property loss!!!

Performance Indicators

Performance		Fiscal Year						
Indicator		10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	Ave
Non-Revenue Water	LADWP	5.2%	8.2%	4.5%	5.6%	5.8%	7.9%	6.2%
	WADI Average	20%	21%	24%	24%	23%	22%	22%
Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI)	LADWP	1.26	2.40	1.00	1.42	1.22	1.81	1.52
	WADI Average	3.49	3.03	3.61	3.61	3.26	3.30	3.38
Real Losses / Connection (gals)	LADWP	23	44	18	26	23	33	24.5
	WADI Average	59	56	70	70	65	64	64

WADI = Water Audit Data Initiative, American Water Works Association



Real Loss Component Analysis Results



- Majority is background leakage:
 - Pressure management
 - Infrastructure renewal and rehabilitation
- Some potential to reduce hidden losses:
 - Active leak detection
- Reported breaks:
 - Reduce leak response time





Action Plan



Action Plan Categories

- 1. System Input Volume
- 2. Database Management
- 3. Meter Testing and Replacement
- 4. Leak Detection and Prevention
- 5. Unmetered and Unauthorized Use



1. System Input Volume

- Reevaluate which meters should be used for accurate system input volume tracking
- Improve supply meter accuracy
- Install meters on remaining unmetered supply sources





Track Volumes Closer to Distribution System

Well Field



LADWP POTABLE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM



Supply Meter Calibration Program

 Develop calibration program for 32 production meters and 20 pressure transducers, cells, floats and totalizers





 Researching feasibility of volumetric or comparative testing



Install Supply Meters



- LA-25 (99 inch dia.)
 - Connection with Metropolitan Water District (MWD)
 - Add full profile insertion magnetic meter
 - Leverage existing corrosion protection project
 - Cost estimated at \$250K





2. Database Management

- Centralize multiple meter and leak databases
- Improve leak reporting practices
- Address discrepancies between different databases



Database Consolidation and Access





Develop Mobile Leak Reporting Demonstration Project

- Real-time communication to management
- Improve customer outage communication
- Eliminate paper reporting
- Improve loss estimates





3. Meter Testing and Replacement

- Replace worst performing meters
- Prioritize meter replacement and analysis







Improve Customer Small Meter Testing

- 1,326 meters tested in FY16/17
- Small meters 96% of total stock
- 98% overall accuracy







4. Leak Detection and Prevention

- Implement pressure management
- Reduce average time to locate and repair leaks
- Implement active leak detection programs



Current Process for Monitoring Pressure

- Manual operation
- Less accurate
- Short-duration
- Data is not available in real-time











Pressure Monitoring Pilot Program

- Pilot began in December 2016
- Worked with vendor to develop logger that can be installed on hydrant's auxiliary nut
- Pressure recorders were installed at four locations







Benefits from Live Pressure Monitoring

- Customer Inquiries: Improve response time and cost
- Hydraulic modeling
- Water Loss Task Action Plan (Lower pressure in the 13 leakiest zones)
- Leak detection (Live alerts, email & computer)
- Identify opportunities to lower system pressure











Leak Detection Pilot Program

Pilot Project Objectives

o Verify Accuracy and Effectiveness
o Evaluate Ease of Use
o Evaluate Large Scale Deployment

- Evaluate Multiple Technologies
 - Phase 1: Fixed leak detection and monitoring (2017)
 - o Phase 2: Manual Leak Survey (2018)







5. Unmetered and Unauthorized Consumption

- Implement measures to improve tracking of theft activities
- Implement measures to improve estimates of authorized unmetered uses





Add AMR/AMI to Fire Services

- 2013 Water Loss Study found significant consumption on fire services
- Planning to pilot AMR/AMI on these services







Tracking Unmetered Uses

- Fire Fighting Methodology
 - Based on fire engine pump hours





Main Flushing Methodology
 Based on annual pipe installations



Thank You!



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