Discussion by

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This paper provides an excellent post-construction review of problems that occur in retrofitting existing facilities. It took a cooperative effort by the owner, operator, contractor, and engineers to bring this job online and on budget.

I would like to ask the authors to identify the actual downtime required from the beginning of construction to the start-up operation on the MSW and provide the lost revenue from MSW processing and energy during the construction of each boiler.

I would also like to ask that the authors provide more details on the safety/OSHA problems they faced on the following issues:
• Where and how did they design and construct the changing rooms?
• Did you have to conduct ambient monitoring in the ESP?
• Was blood monitoring for workers required?
• How was disposal of the Tyvec suits, personal protection equipment, and shower water handled?

AUTHOR'S REPLY
Outage periods lasted from 179 to 104 days. The four units were taken out of service consecutively. Since this facility was designed with a spare combustion train, there was no lost revenue from MSW processing.

The Contractor whose scope included ESP demolition constructed the changing and shower facilities on site. A bathroom and office trailer were modified to meet OSHA requirements.

Ambient monitoring as well as personnel monitoring was required in the affected work areas during demolition and erection.

Blood monitoring was conducted for workers in the affected area and was conducted upon the employees’ entrance and exit to the project.

The plant was responsible for disposal of exposed materials and did so using established procedures.