

NERUSA WWTP Expansion Narrative

Polk County Utilities requests a Conditional Use modification of case #CU 08-16, Polk County's Northeast Regional Utility Service Area (NERUSA) Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). This project will expand the capacity of the plant from six million gallons per day (6 MGD) to nine million gallons per day (9 MGD). This expansion will enable the plant to potentially serve another 11,000 to 17,000 residential units in the service area. The Board of County Commissioners approved an expansion of the plant from 3 MGD to 6 MGD through case #CU 08-16 in August of 2008.

Northeast Polk is seeing the highest amount of population growth in the County and Polk is one of the fastest growing Counties in Florida which is one of the fastest growing states. The NERUSA WWTP is prematurely running out of capacity to serve the growth in the area. A plant expansion is imperative for development to continue at the current pace.

The plant expansion not only includes new and larger wastewater treatment components such as oxidation ditches and new ground storage tanks for reclaimed water but new offices for operation and maintenance and new buildings for storage of equipment and supplies for use throughout the Northeast Utility Service Area network. Therefore, there is an increase in the overall land area of the site and an additional site entrance from the I-4 Frontage Road.