

FALLUJA WASTE WATER TREATMENT SYSTEM

A CASE STUDY IN WARTIME CONTRACTING

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PROFESSIONALISM PRODUCTIVITY PERSEVERANCE

For the sources of information used to create this Insert. please see the last endnote in this Quarterly Report.



2011

2014

2004

Before: Sewage in the streets in 2004

After: Completed WWTP in 201

The Falluja Waste Water Treatment System was meant to rid Falluja's city streets of raw sewage, alleviate contamination of essential water sources, and reduce the instances of illness and death linked to poor sanitation. But the project was undertaken in a city wracked with violence, with almost no planning, with minimal understanding of site conditions, with an unskilled workforce and no clear idea about how much the system would cost. Violence was so prevalent that trenches and pipes laid by U.S. contractors were being blown up and workers killed. Several times, the U.S. military had to direct the contractor to stop construction until security could improve. There were so many adverse conditions facing this project, it is hard to understand why it was initiated and pushed forward:

- Necessary site assessments could not be performed before or after award.
- The original task order required FluorAMEC to complete the system in 18 months, but because of late start and security delays, construction did not start until early 2005—leaving less than a year for actual work.
- The 2005 U.S. program shift of \$2.2 billion out of the water sector occurred just as more money was needed to complete the system.
- The choice of a more complicated plant design and the lack of reliable power from the grid made for a costlier solution.
- In mid-2005, the shift from large design-build contracts to smaller contracts carried out by many Iraqi contractors (under the Iraqi First Program) meant that delays or failures of one contractor would compromise the success of the entire project.

Project Cost versus Available Reconstruction Funding, 2004-2011 Available Reconstruction Funding \$108 M 2004 Project cost was set at funds available—not the

amount needed to complete or sustain the system. The cost of water projects was underestimated by at least 25%-50% in the U.S. reconstruction program.

Project Cost, by Fund, as of 7/8/2011

Total: \$108 Million \$1.32 CERP FSF \$7.84 Completed \$100.03

Note: Numbers affected by rounding. Two ESF grants—one to complete house connections and fund two additional trunk lines, and one to provide O&M training for WWTP operators—remain ongoing.

GOI-funded sewer networks and **25.259** house connections for 5 U.S.-funded sewer networks and 9,116 house connections for 3 collection areas **Highway 10** was the only road from Baghdad to the project sites. Contractors traversed a gauntlet of sniper-fire positions and roadblocks through terrorist strongholds. At the height of insurgent activity, the U.S. military required all dump trucks to be emptied and reloaded at checkpoints to search for IEDs. eted Con U.S.-funded Expandable "Backbone" force mail Opened in May 2011, the WWTP ran initially on System to be completed at a cost of generator power but is now connected to the Anbar \$108 million essential services electrical line, which provides 20 hours of power per day. DoS awarded a \$1 million operations Wastewater and maintenance (O&M) grant in September to train Treatment Plant plant operators in the use of purification chemicals. 3 pump stations **Future GOI Components:** Portion of the original project that must be completed by the GOI for approximately \$87 million 9,116 house connections 3 nump stations October Operation al-Fajr: 1,200 insurgents killed,1,000 captured; 70 U.S. troops killed, 609 injured; tanks, heavy machine guns, and air strikes rupture water and sewer lines, and destroy pump stations and electrical infrastructure. 25,259 'The smell of death was house connections

the Euphrates River.

An insurgent sanctuary: **3,000–4,500** insurgent fighters

ambushed; their bodies are hung

from the King Faisal Bridge over

Four Blackwater contractors

"Falluja is the graveyard

for Americans'

Al-Qaeda in Irag and other militants using the city as a

June

FluorAMEC awarded

\$28.6 million

design-build task

procure, construct,

and commission the

system in 18 months

order to design,

60 of **100** mosques used as weapon caches or fighting positions

11 IED factories

terrorist 203 weapon supply center storage areas everywhere."

Ouarterly Security Incidents in Anbar Province, 2004-2007

October Three Iragi The success of the Anbar Awakening/Sons of Iraq and U.S. military surge vastly improved security, but Falluja has been the site of numerous security incidents.

218

IED kills three U.S. reconstruction officials returning from the project site

October-December Project halted by the

U.S. Marines for

security reasons

Late 2004

March -FluorAMEC estimates cost to construct a portion of the project will run

\$51.3 million

September U.S. government de-scopes STOP FluorAMEC contract

February Original completion date of project

August

and Public Works (MMPW) rejects the oxidation-lagoon design of the plant 14 months into the project

Falluja Reconstruction Council requests an

oxidation-lagoon plant to be based on plans designed by a local Iraqi contractor; FluorAMEC required to provide its own security at a time when 151 U.S. soldiers are killed and 1,000 wounded (April-December) The GOI's Ministry of Municipalities

November

U.S. government agrees to mechanical sludge-process plant

By August Funding allocated for the system totals \$84.4 million: U.S. government sees potential obstacle of

delinquent DFI payments

December

The GOI authorizes \$18 million of the Development Fund for Iraq to be used for construction

April

USACE provides four project scope options costing \$55.5 million-\$112.2 million; funds available only for baseline option

STOP

April-June U.S. Marines suspend all project trench threat of IEDs; for security reasons, work stops on 5 of 17 contracts

November U.S. government

finally chooses a project scope; approximately \$97 million excavations due to multiple sources

December

U.S. government terminates DFI contracts and awards new contracts with IRRF funds

August SLOW

As of August 2008, five DFI contracts had outstanding balances of \$2.3 million; from summer 2006 through 2009, project experienced significant construction delays due to Ministry of Finance's non-payment of DFI-funded contracts

October

SIGIR Inspection identifies shortfalls in project scope and

Early 2009

U.S. government holds discussions about terminating the project



Miles of unfinished trench excavations blocked city streets for years. Lack of site assessments led to nightly flooding, and

insurgents used the open ditches to plant IEDs. USACE terminated a contract for additional excavations and expedited completion of existing projects.

Final Project Scope, August 2009:

U.S. government focuses on completing an expandable "backbone" system, decreasing number of homes within the three collection significant sustainment issues areas as well as the number of trunk lines

awards a \$4.6 million grant to the GOI for 9,116 house connections

March

U.S. government

October

MMPW proposes to commit \$87 million to complete full build-out (by 2014) if the U.S. government increases grant by \$3.0 million to cover additional trunk lines