

Canadian PPP Project Directory



Selected Public-Private Partnerships Across Canada

The Canadian Council for
Public-Private Partnerships



Le Conseil Canadien pour
les Partenariats Public-Privé

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November 2006

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Moncton Water Treatment Facility

Model:	Design-Build-Finance-Operate
Location:	Moncton, New Brunswick
Project Sponsor:	City of Moncton
Proponent:	Veolia Water Canada
Capital Cost:	\$25 million
Agreement Value:	\$85 million
Contract Term:	20 years

Project Description:

The water treatment facility opened in October 1999 and serves approximately 90,000 residents in the City of Moncton and adjacent City of Dieppe and Town of Riverview. It processes 50 million litres per day from the Turtle Creek Reservoir with an expansion capability to 136 million litres per day. Six non-unionized employees work at the facility and are employed by the operator.

Project Impetus:

The City of Moncton, New Brunswick, had no central water treatment facility and was finding it increasingly difficult to maintain water quality levels, with several boil-water orders having been issued. After unsuccessfully applying for government grants to pay for the facility, the City looked at other models in the late 1980s and ultimately decided to tender a DBFO contract.

The Agreement:

In 1998, the City of Moncton entered into separate development and operating agreements with US Filter Corporation (now Veolia Water Canada) for a water treatment facility. The first contract involved the design, construction and financing of the facility at a fixed capital cost and within 500 days of the agreement being signed. The 20-year operation and maintenance contract is

also a fixed value, and gives Veolia the exclusive right to supply treated water to the City. The City retained ownership of the water and the treatment facility for the duration of the contract.

The agreement includes strict facility maintenance and operating specifications, including water quality standards that, if not met, result in penalties. There are also provisions that penalize the operator for not having the facility operational. Financial, operational and volume risks were all transferred to Veolia throughout the agreement. The City retains responsibility for source water, the water transmission and distribution system, rates and water quality standards.

Financial Characteristics:

The capital cost of the facility was \$25 million. The City makes volume-based payments to Veolia amounting to approximately \$4.25 million per year (plus inflationary costs), with no minimum volume requirement. Veolia Water Canada originally financed the costs through a local financier (The Hardman Group), but refinanced internally around 2003.

Results & Lessons Learned:

It is estimated that the contract, in real terms, will save \$9 million in capital costs and \$12 million in operating costs



Transparency Checklist:

- PSC
- Process Advisor
- Competitive Procurement

Procurement & Agreement Timeline:

RFP Issued.....	08/1996
RFP Closed	12/1996
Pref Prop.....	end of 1997
Fin'l Close.....	04/1998
Construction.....	10/1999
Contract Exp.....	10/2019

(\$600,000 per year) over the life of the contract. No penalties have been incurred by Veolia over the previous seven years. The staff and management have a good working relationship, which results in an efficient-running system.

Related Website:

www.moncton.org/search/english/Nwatermenu.htm

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