

TO: Portland Utility Board Members
FROM: Melissa Merrell, PUB Analyst
RE: Response from BES regarding potential effects of cryptosporidium treatment
DATE: July 5, 2017

At the request of the PUB co-chairs, I asked Jonas how the City Council's decision to address the requirements for cryptosporidium treatment may affect BES. Jonas reached out to technical staff at the treatment plant and the lab. Below is their response.

Treatment Plant – No major impact of either UV or filtration option. There may be some long-term maintenance impact from sediment in the water to rotating equipment (particularly pump seals) that could be somewhat mitigated by filtration and wouldn't be with UV.

Pollution Prevention – UVs will have zero impact on existing permits or other discharge-related issues. Filters, however, would need to be backwashed or regenerated, which produces a waste stream that will need to be discharged to sanitary and potentially permitted (including requirements that come with the permit: monitoring, reporting, potential enforcement). Pretreatment for the waste stream may also be required as a condition of the permit. To our knowledge, it is too early in the project development process to know the details, but BES would be engaged with the Water Bureau to determine these details if the filtration option is pursued.

Financial Impact – No direct financial impact of UV option on BES. Either option could have uncertain, but likely manageable, financial impact on BES (vis-à-vis potential permitting and/or maintenance costs, as described above).