

5/3/2026 - There has been much debate on the proper operating conditions for our Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) blowers. Below are 4 responses from industry experts.

Ed Klaczak compiled the following emails/discussions.

[e.klaczak@yahoo.com](mailto:e.klaczak@yahoo.com)

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### **Janet Bolivar Engineer for General Utilities**

On Monday, April 27, 2026 at 12:35:59 PM EDT, Janet Bolivar <[jbolivar.guc@gmail.com](mailto:jbolivar.guc@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hi Ed,

I spoke to Tom Felton about the blower. **DEP requires that plants have a duplex system.** The blowers are set up to switch back and forth using an alternating relay in the control panel. **Only one blower should be running at a time.** This should alleviate the noise issue that the residents are complaining about.

**The plant is and has been in compliance. I hope this answers your questions.**

Best regards,

**General Utilities Corporation**

Janet Bolívar, P.E.

C: 352-516-7843

[jbolivar.guc@gmail.com](mailto:jbolivar.guc@gmail.com)

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### **Tom Felton, owner of General Utilities, Waterwood's contracted WWTP Operator**

On Monday, April 20, 2026 at 06:45:31 PM EDT, [generalutilities@aol.com](mailto:generalutilities@aol.com) <[generalutilities@aol.com](mailto:generalutilities@aol.com)> wrote:  
Ed

**Only one blower runs at a time, ever!**

The problem is that one blower has a check valve that is not closing which makes the other blower turn backwards when the opposite blower is running. Marquis told Patrick about it, but haven't seen any progress on that front.

**(Added NOTE:** the next email from FMS indicates the check valves were replaced 7/2025).

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**Tom**

**General Utilities Corporation**

**715 W. Main Street**

**P.O. Box 491221**

**Leesburg, FL 34749-1221**

**O: 352-787-2493**

**F: 352-326-8756**

[generalutilities@aol.com](mailto:generalutilities@aol.com)

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### **Force Main Solution – Patrick R is owner of contracted maintenance services**

On Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 09:50:17 AM EDT, Patrick Rioux <[forcemainsolutions@outlook.com](mailto:forcemainsolutions@outlook.com)> wrote:

The two check valves were replaced on **7/21/25** to allow the blower system to properly alternate. **Prior to that, both blowers were running simultaneously due to failed check valves, which prevented proper alternating operation.** It's possible earlier discussions or proposals referenced this scope during that time.

As for system operation, **Force Main Solutions continues to stand behind that the blower system is intended to operate on an alternating basis, with one unit running at a time. This approach supports equipment longevity, efficiency, and redundancy in the event of a failure.**

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Florida Rural Water Assoc. (FRWA) Tim Plymel is Waterwood's representative for WWTP functionality.

Tim verbally said that the majority of the clients that he serves run their WWTP with alternating blowers due to FDEP's system redundancy requirements. He said that if our Dissolved Oxygen level was compliant to spec, then 1 blower running is fully adequate. The General Utilities 4/27 email above indicates Waterwood's WWTP is operating with specification.