

**New York State
Environmental Investment Program
Capital Project Summary
Perry's Ice Cream Company, Inc.**

Project Background

Perry's Ice Cream Company is a manufacturer of ice cream products marketed under its own brand and several private labels. Based in Akron, NY since its founding in 1918, Perry's employs 285 and produces over 12 million gallons of ice cream annually for consumers in NY, PA and OH. More information, including a list of the many flavors made, can be found at www.perrysicecream.com.

To help cut production costs, Perry's personnel began looking at ways to improve yield and reduce waste. For example, each time the plant would switch flavors, a significant amount of ice cream would be lost. Changing flavors required large amounts of water to flush product remaining in the pipes to Perry's on-site wastewater treatment plant, where additional resources were needed to separate the solids from the liquids. The liquids would continue to the Village of Akron wastewater treatment plant, and the solids would have to be disposed. Improving yield could ultimately reduce Perry's water usage and wastewater treatment needs.

Project Description

This project involved four major components: (1) Increasing storage capacity to hold reclaimed product; (2) Installation of a "pigging system," a Teflon-coated device that pushes product through the piping and creates an effective barrier between flavors without dilution by water; (3) Addition of a

photo-sensing device to consistently determine the optimal time and portion of product to divert to its destination; and (4) Replacement of a chilling system to provide additional cooling for compliant storage of the reclaimed product.

With all components in place, the plant was expected to recover 60,000 gallons of ice cream mix waste for resale. Prior to the project, the mix waste was being disposed of as a wastewater. Secondary goals for the project included reducing water usage by 550,000 gallons per year and reducing wastewater treatment sludge disposal by 250 tons per year.

Project Results

The Perry's Ice Cream project exceeded its performance objectives. Based on outcomes documented between October, 2006 and March, 2007, the business is on-track to reduce its mix waste by 100,000 gallons per year. Additionally, Perry's water consumption is expected to drop by an estimated 2,000,000 gallons per year, and its wastewater treatment sludge will be reduced by 725 tons per year. Combined, the improvements are saving Perry's more than \$900,000 per year.

Several other benefits have been realized as well, including reduced odors at Perry's wastewater treatment plant and less need for wastewater processing at Akron's treatment plant.

Contractor:	Erie County IDA	NYS EIP Investment:	\$230,460
County:	Erie	Contractor Match:	\$563,411
ESD Region:	Western, NY	Total:	\$793,871
ESD Contact:	518/292-5340	Completion Date:	Dec. 2006