

## Town approves study at wastewater plant

*By Amanda H. Miller, Jackson Hole News  
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The Jackson Town Council has approved up to \$51,200 for a study to make the wastewater treatment facility more efficient.

Public Works Director Larry Pardee recently told councilors that the efficiency to be gained from making improvements to the water treatment facility could make a huge dent in the town's efforts to cut its energy use 10 percent by 2010.

Improvements could get the town 15 percent closer to its goal, Pardee said. They would reduce energy use at the plant by about 2 million kilowatt hours, which represents a 33 percent reduction in energy use at the plant. And replacing or installing aerators, pumps and other equipment could save taxpayers \$90,000 to \$100,000 a year, Pardee said.

He recommended contracting with Ameresco, a company that focuses on helping industrial plants become more environmentally sound, to audit the facility and develop a potential energy-savings contract.

Pardee said he expected to be able to negotiate the price of the audit with Ameresco and asked the council to give the project a green light with a "not to exceed" price tag of \$51,200.

Councilors approved the measure unanimously.