



## JENSEN PRECAST PUMP STATION EFFICIENTLY UNCLOGS WET WIPES BACKUP FOR WINE COUNTRY COMPLEX

Blue Oak Apartments in Paso Robles, California, faced an urgent plumbing crisis. Residents of the 142 unit luxury complex in the heart of wine country were flushing an increasing amount of fibrous wet wipes down their toilets, leading to severe clogging in the onsite pump station that disposed solids into the community wastewater treatment system. Blue Oak needed a fast, affordable, and efficient solution to unclog the situation before matters got worse and impacted the entire complex.

Jensen Precast engineers offered three possible options to quickly and affordably remedy the crisis based on how well the current Blue Oak pump station was amenable to upgrades. The Jensen Pump Stations team ultimately delivered the most affordable solution by installing new nonclogging pump hydraulics into the existing setup.

### PROJECT OWNER

Blue Oak Apartments

### ARCHITECT/ENGINEER

ARRIS Studio Architects and Civil Design Studio

### CONTRACTOR

A & R Corporation

### PRODUCTS

Jensen Pump Stations AMS Pump Hydraulics, including impeller, volute, and wear ring





## CHALLENGES

When the pump station at Blue Oak Apartments began to significantly clog due to excessive fibrous sanitary wipes being flushed from its 142 residential units, the apartment complex management needed to act quickly with the most cost efficient and lasting solution to address the situation. A determination needed to be made on whether the existing pump station and control panel needed replacing or upgrading.

## SOLUTIONS

"We suggested three options," says Jayme Salo, Jensen Precast Pump Stations Product Manager. "First, install improved, nonclogging style pump hydraulics into the existing pump. Second, replace the current pumps with new pumps using a vortex impeller and modify the existing control panel for higher horsepower requirements. Third, install a new wall mounted environmental sewage grinder and top concrete slab with access hatch for installation and removal of pumps and dedicated sewage grinder."

"We ended up going with option one, which was the least invasive and the most cost efficient method."

## RESULTS

- New pump hydraulics expediently installed by Jensen Precast at Blue Oak Apartments jobsite.
- Startup, testing, and commissioning of new equipment performed by Jensen Precast Pump Stations technicians.
- Field testing and computational fluid dynamics software assessed possible clogging points.
- Since installation, no clogging issues have been reported.

### Related Resources

- > [cnn.com/wipes/pipes/problems](https://www.cnn.com/wipes/pipes/problems)
- > [jensenprecast.com/pumpstations](https://www.jensenprecast.com/pumpstations)
- > [AMS.com/HOMA/pump/hydraulics](https://www.ams.com/HOMA/pump/hydraulics)
- > [arrisstudioarch.com](https://www.arrisstudioarch.com)
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