

## ***FOX and City of Charles City Receive Engineering Achievement Award***

FOX Engineering Associates, Inc. of Ames, Iowa and the City of Charles City, Iowa, received the American Consulting Engineers Council of Iowa (ACEC/Iowa) Engineering Achievement Award for engineering excellence for the **Phase III Improvements Project** at the Water Pollution Control Plant located in Charles City, Iowa. FOX Engineering is an environmental engineering firm specializing in water, wastewater, and solid waste projects.



The American Council of Engineering Companies of Iowa is a statewide association of independent consulting engineering firms. The candidate projects were judged by an independent panel of experts on the basis of the following five criteria: innovative application of technology; future value to the engineering profession; social, economic, and sustainable design considerations; complexity of the problem; achievement in meeting the needs of the client.



By 2000, growth and development in Charles City had increased to the extent that the city's Water Pollution Control Plant was becoming overloaded and was unable to consistently treat the amount of wastewater which was being discharged by residences, businesses, and local industries. The city council hired FOX Engineering to evaluate the wastewater facilities, develop a plan for upgrading the treatment system, and provide the engineering design and construction phase engineering services to implement the plan. FOX has been the city's consulting engineer at the water pollution control plant for over ten years and had completed two improvement projects at the plant prior to this latest need.

FOX Engineering Associates, Inc. provided all the civil and environmental planning, design and contract administration services. Electrical power and control design and mechanical engineering were provided by KJWW Engineering Consultants of Des Moines, Iowa. Structural engineering and architectural design was provided by Structural Engineers, P.C. of Marshalltown, Iowa. This engineering team, with valuable input from City staff members Don Lorsung, Dan Nicholson and Tracy Meise, were responsible for providing a cost-effective design capable of meeting the Project goals on a continuing basis.

Design was completed in January 2003. Construction began in April 2003 by Story

Construction Company of Ames, Iowa. The City financed the project with a State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan. When the project was completed in December 2004, the final construction costs totaled \$2.52 million, or almost \$400,000 less than anticipated during the planning stages.

As a result of the project, operation and control flexibility of the plant was greatly improved. The city has regained extra capacity at the water pollution control plant needed for economic development and Charles City has been able to remain in full compliance with state regulations.