



Construction on the digesters started last fall and is expected to continue until the end of the year, though the odor is not expected to last that long.

Dettling said the lid of the primary digester was removed earlier this month, leaving the sludge exposed to the open air and causing potential odor for the village. The new lid, however, is supposed to be installed in early July.

Dettling said they are sprinkling a deodorizer on top of the digester in the meantime and making extra hauling trips to control the amount of sludge inside. She said the odor should pose no health risks.

“It’s just a little offensive to the nose, that’s all,” she said.

The larger digester, she said, is currently empty for cleaning and inspection. The replacement of the second lid should not cause an odor, because the sludge will be entirely contained in the primary digester during that time, she said.

The village is funding the project with a low-interest loan through the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality’s Drinking Water Revolving Fund ([http://www.michigan.gov/deq/1,1607,7-135-3307\\_3515\\_3517---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/deq/1,1607,7-135-3307_3515_3517---,00.html)). The fund provides qualifying municipalities with 2-percent interest loans for the construction of water pollution control facilities.

An explosion (<http://annarbor.com/news/dexter/deputies-release-name-of-48-year-old-man-killed-in-dexter-explosion/>) during construction on the project in April caused the death of Brooklyn, Mich. resident **Michael Koch**, who was working on one of the lids. The explosion is currently under investigation by the **Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration**.

Dettling declined to comment on the matter until the final report is released.

“Everybody’s anxious for that report,” she said. “I guarantee you.”

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## Comments

aareader

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Is a little &quot;stink&quot; now better than a potential big mess later? One be inclined to think so.

