



NEWS RELEASE No.: 202100716-001

New water treatment facility on Cherry Point

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CHERRY POINT, N.C. (July 16, 2021) — MCAS Cherry Point leaders cut the ribbon to reveal its new state-of-the-art Water Treatment Plant (WTP) on Friday, July 16. The \$51.7 million contract was fulfilled by Garney Construction, the nation's leader in water and wastewater systems. The primary goal of the new WTP is to improve production, distribution, and enhance the quality of water to service members, families, and civilians that rely on the station for potable water.

"A major improvement is the membrane bypass filtration system that allows filtered raw water to be blended with finished water, adding alkalinity and hardness back into product water," said Robert Godwin, the Water Treatment Plant's supervisor, during a tour of the facility. "This minimizes post treatment chemicals and improves water stability."

In addition, the nanofiltration system has three independent trains, each has the capability to treat 2.8 million gallons a day (MGD). A single train covers the daily average consumption rate, meaning the additional two trains bolster the plant's ability to produce more water in an emergency or when a higher demand is required. The new facility has reduced distribution from 4 MGD to 2.75 MGD, saving water and energy.

"It's a pleasure and privilege to officially open this facility, and recognize all the hard work over the last four years that has gone into making this happen," said Col. Mikel Huber, MCAS Cherry Point commanding officer. "The Water Treatment Plant is a prime example of how we take care of our personnel by providing quality water by responsible and efficient means."

Construction of the WTP began in 2017, and replaces a three-decade old facility that relied on disinfection byproducts in the distribution system. According to a Garney spokesperson, the project employed over 1,400 personnel from several organizations, including Garney, 81 subcontractors, 29 small business partners, and government officials.

The WTP is one of many of the major construction projects that has been underway to upgrade facilities and technology on the air station.

-end-