

A sample from one of my editing assignments.

**Background:** *A senior manager approached me with a draft of his company's newsletter, asking me what needed to be done to make it readable (i.e., not only informative, but interesting). Each article, he said, had been written by an engineer or other technical person who was not a writer. The technical content, therefore, was good, but the articles needed help—they weren't written to capture and hold a reader's interest. This sample represents just one of several articles I reworked for the newsletter.*

#### FIRST TWO PARAGRAPHS **BEFORE** EDITING

### **The Greening of Kuwait**

Reclaimed water from the newly designed 100 mgd tertiary treatment plant will be used for farm irrigation and the extensive landscaping that has been proposed for Kuwait City. Pasteurized sludge will be used to condition the soil.

Parsons Engineering Science, in a joint venture with Gulf Consult of Kuwait, recently completed the detail design of the treatment plant and delivery facilities that will replace the overloaded plant in Ardiya, Kuwait. After completion of the new facilities, which will be located in the remote area of Sulaibiya, the existing treatment plant will be abandoned to allow for future expansion of Kuwait City....

#### FIRST TWO PARAGRAPHS **AFTER** EDITING

### **The Greening of Kuwait**

In a region of the world known for its vast oil reserves lies a small nation that has long prospered from its propitious location. The oil-generated wealth of Kuwait has, among other beneficial changes, transformed its capital into one of the most modern cities in the Middle East. Today Kuwait City serves as an important oil port and financial center. It saw serious damage, however, during the Gulf War of the early 1990s. But, since those trying times, Kuwait has been rebuilding.

To allow for future expansion of its principal city, Kuwait has undertaken the construction of a new 100 mgd wastewater treatment plant. Parsons ES, in a joint venture with Gulf Consult of Kuwait, recently completed the detail design of the tertiary treatment plant and delivery facilities that will replace the overloaded Ardiya plant. After completion of the new facilities, to be located in the remote area of Sulaibiya, the existing treatment plant will be abandoned....