



MWFP Conference 2013

Alternatives to Phosphorus Treatment in Food Processing Wastewaters

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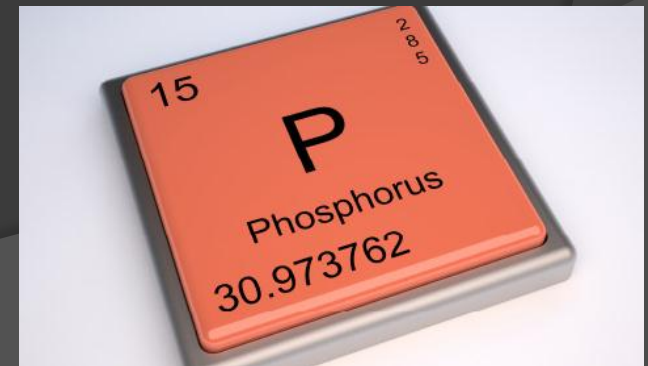
December 4, 2013

Presentation Outline

- ⦿ Phosphorus in Food Processing Waters
- ⦿ Regulations
- ⦿ Treatment Alternatives
- ⦿ Case Study: Del Monte Facility in MN

Phosphorus

- ⦿ Phosphorus an essential nutrient required for proper cell functioning, regulation of calcium, strong bones and teeth, and for making ATP.
- ⦿ Phosphorus is found in almost every food
 - Dairy Products, Meat, and Fish are high in P
 - Polyphosphate food additives including soft drinks (phosphoric acid)



Top 10 Foods Highest in Phosphorus

- #1: Seeds (Pumpkin)
- #2: Spices (Ground Mustard Seed)
- #3: Cheese (Parmesan)
- #4: Nuts (Brazil)
- #5: Cocoa Powder
- #6: Edamame (Soybeans)
- #7: Baker's Yeast
- #8: Bacon
- #9: Liver (Beef)
- #10: Canned Sardines

References

1. *USDA National Nutrient Database for Standard Reference, Release 25.*
2. *Linus Pauling Institute on Phosphorus*
3. *University of Maryland Medical Center Article on Phosphorus*
4. *National Research Council, Food and Nutrition Board. Recommended Dietary Allowances. 10th ed. Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press; 1989:184-187.*

Phosphorus Enters Wastewater

- ⦿ Cleaning production lines
- ⦿ Scraping food preparation vats
- ⦿ Cleaning and rinsing equipment
- ⦿ Disposing of product to the drain, and
- ⦿ Floor cleaning chemicals

Key: Identify your sources



Why Do We Care?

- ◎ Why is Phosphorus regulated?
- ◎ What happens when Phosphorus gets into receiving streams?
- ◎ How is Phosphorus regulated?
 - Standard Effluent Limitations
 - TMDL



Phosphorus TMDL

- ◎ Phosphorus TMDLs are being developed across the nation.
- ◎ Wisconsin tightening Phosphorus TMDL regulations for point source discharges in order to reach 75 - 100 ppb

Treatment Alternatives

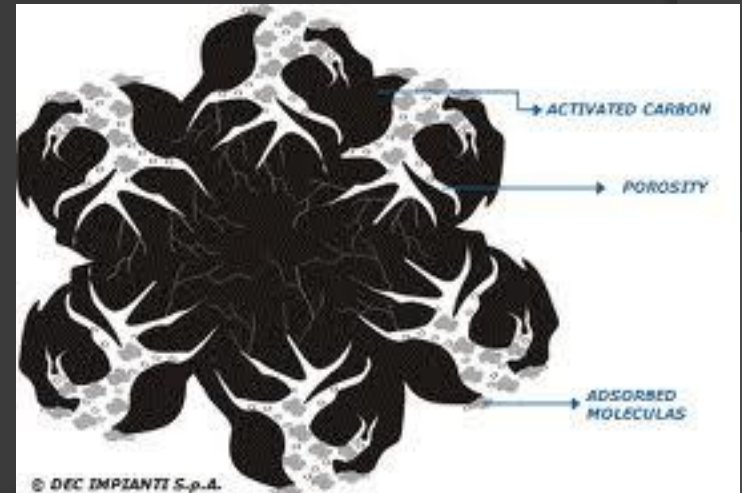
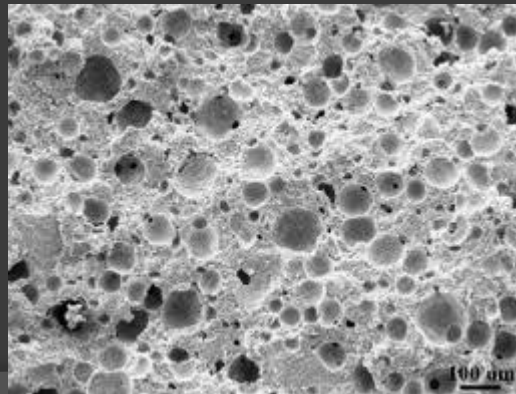
- ⊙ Reduce Source
 - BMP implementation
- ⊙ Physical:
 - filtration for particulate phosphorus
 - membrane technologies
- ⊙ Chemical:
 - precipitation
 - physical-chemical adsorption
- ⊙ Biological
 - assimilation
 - enhanced biological phosphorus removal (EBPR)

Chemical Precipitation

- ⦿ Widely used method for phosphorus treatment
 - Chemical Compounds – Calcium, Aluminum and Iron
- ⦿ Challenges:
 - Chemical costs
 - Solids Management

Physical Chemical Adsorption

- ◉ Removes dissolved Phosphorous, not just a physical filtration process
- ◉ Media Selection and HRT are critical
- ◉ Challenges:
 - Competing Constituents
 - TSS levels



Natural Media Filtration (NMF)

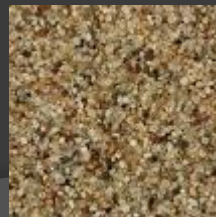
The use of natural materials to filter, adsorb and sequester contaminants from groundwater, process water, and/or stormwater.

Media Types

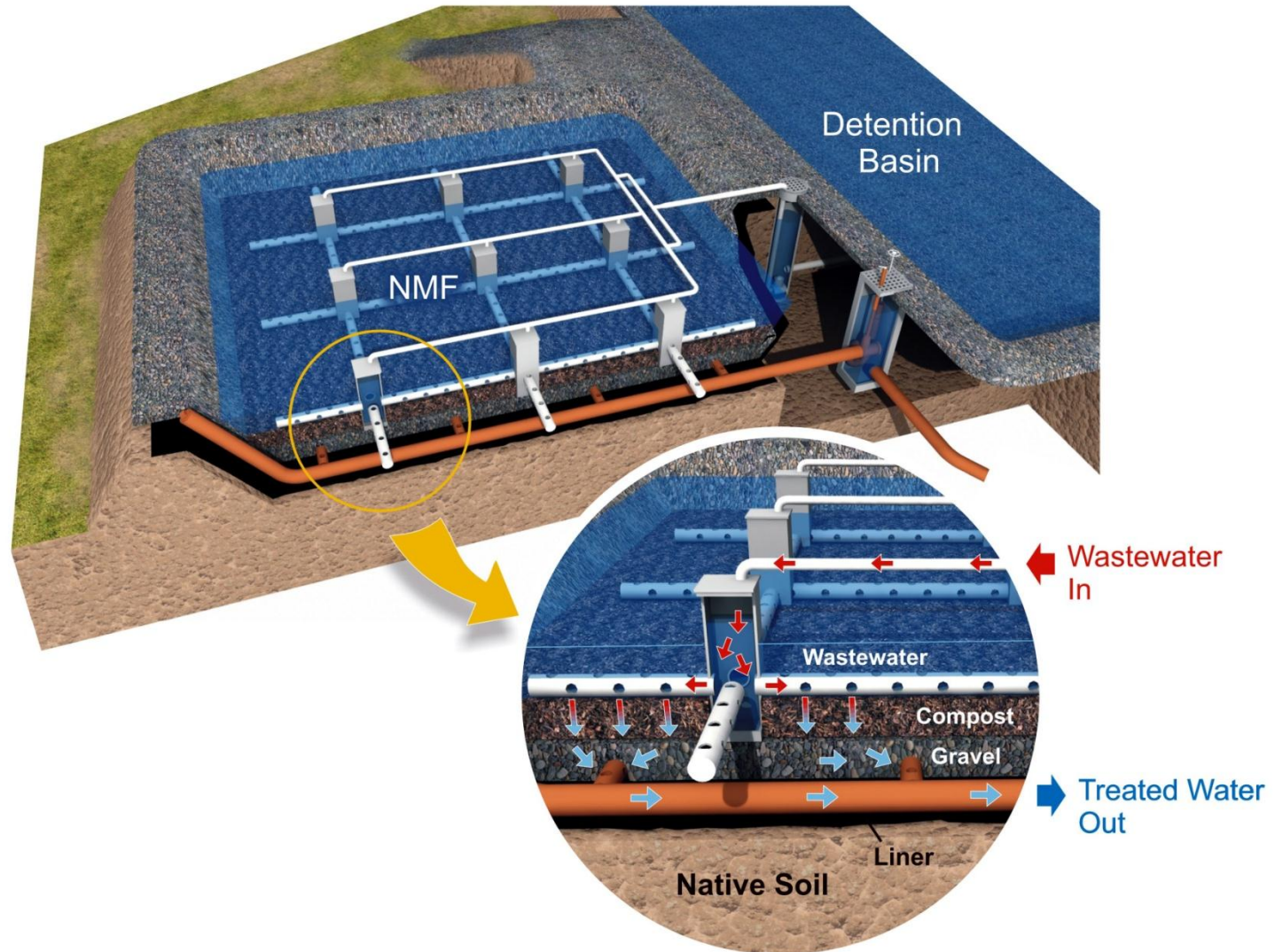
- Compost
- Sand
- Gravel
- Peat

Removal Mechanisms

- Filtration
- Adsorption
- Ion Exchange
- Precipitation
- Decomposition
- Microbial Metabolism



NMF Schematic



NMF in Indiana

ROUX



NMF in Virginia

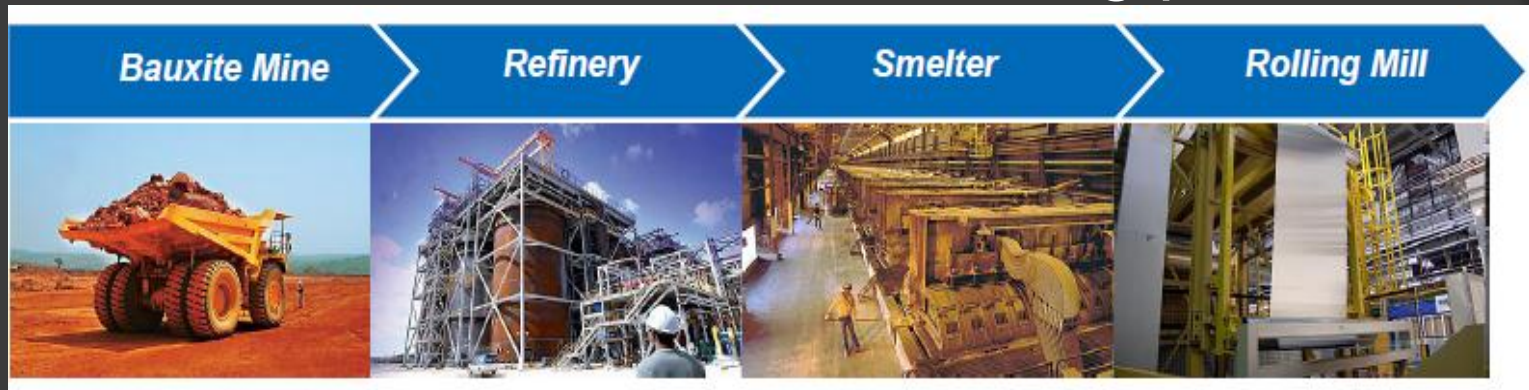
ROUX





Why Bauxite Residue?

- Red Mud or Bauxite Residue is a solid waste of aluminum manufacturing process



- Patents
- Iron content of Bauxite aids in chemical adsorption





Case Study

NMF Bench Testing

Del Monte Process

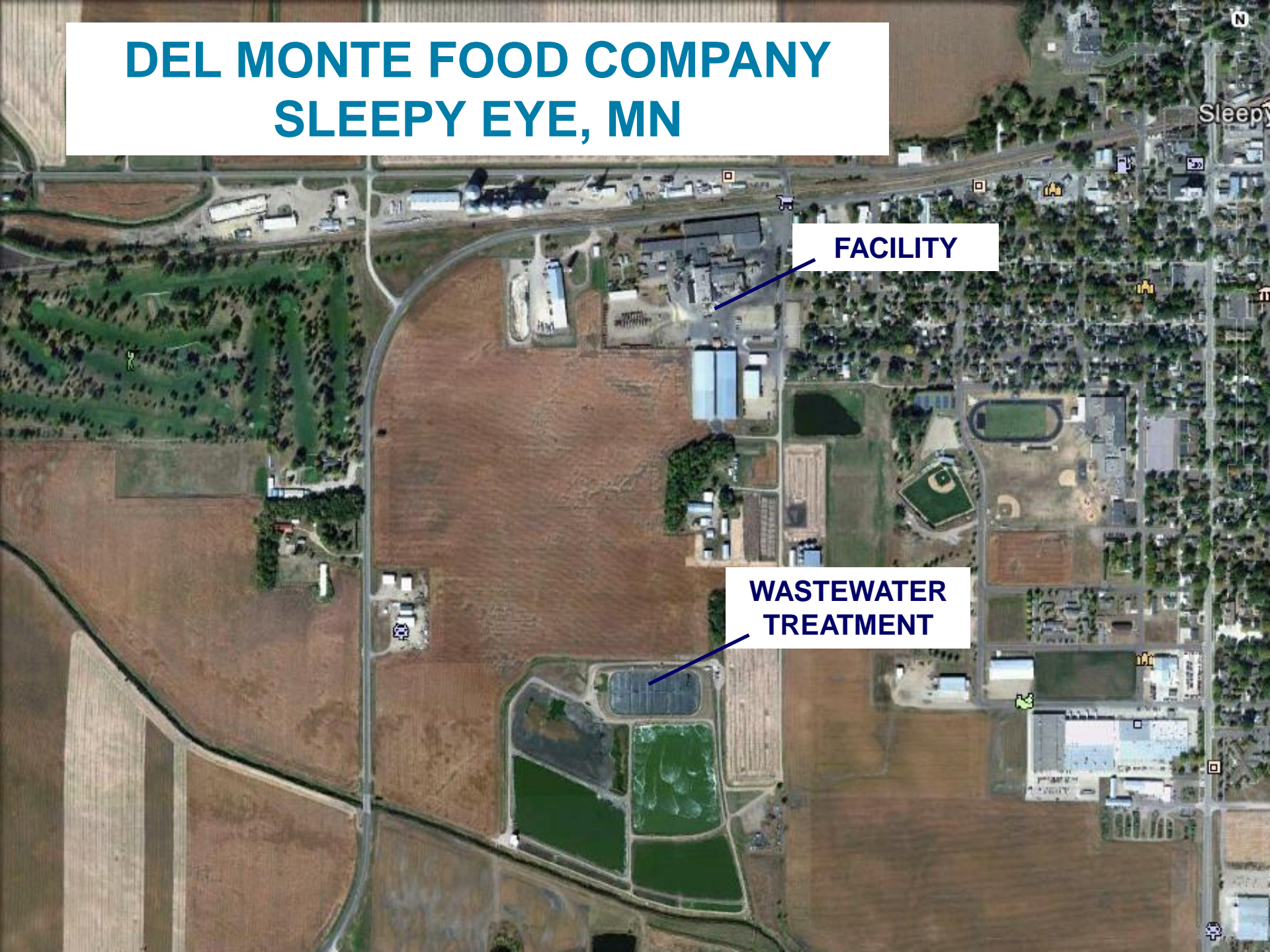
Water



DEL MONTE FOOD COMPANY SLEEPY EYE, MN

FACILITY

**WASTEWATER
TREATMENT**



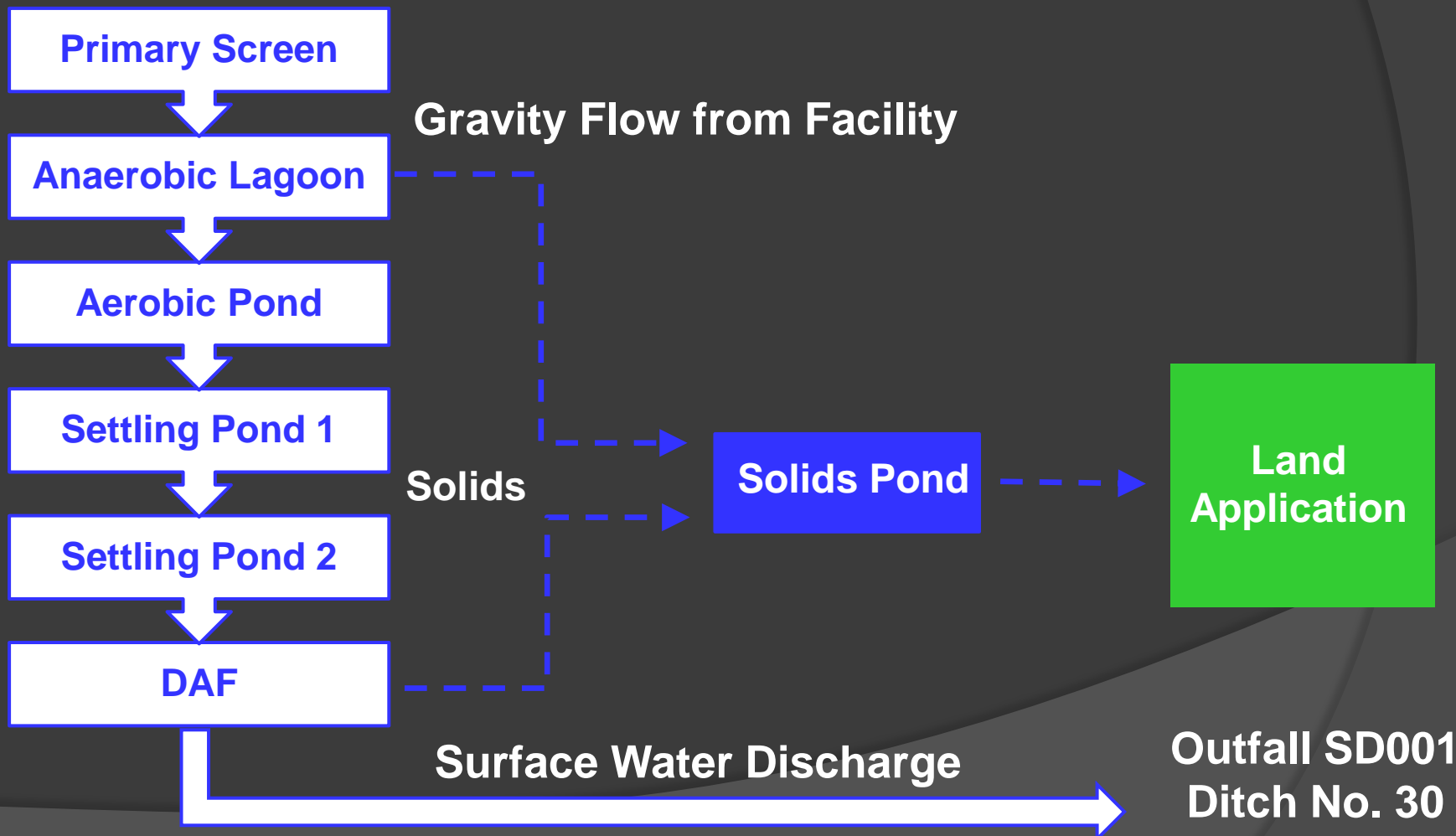
Facility


- Processing and Canning of Peas and Corn
- Seasonal Production - April to November
- High Strength Organic Wastewater
- Process Water Generation
 - Vegetable processing and clean-up water
 - Boiler blow-down and cooling water
 - Non-contact cooling water
 - Storm Water Runoff
- Sanitary wastewater is routed to City of Sleepy Eye WWTF
- Fluctuating Flows
 - Max Daily Flow June to November 250,000 gpd
 - Max Daily Flow April & May 650,000 gpd



Existing Wastewater Treatment Process

Facility





Pond 1
Anaerobic Lagoon
4 acres

This aerial photograph shows a wastewater treatment facility. The facility consists of several large, rectangular ponds and two smaller units. The ponds are labeled with their names and acreage. The water in the ponds has different colors, ranging from dark grey to bright green, indicating different stages of treatment. The facility is surrounded by agricultural fields and a road. The labels are placed over the corresponding ponds in white text on a dark background.

Solids Pond
7.5 acres

Pond 2
Aerobic Pond
8.3 acres

Pond 4
Settling Basin
8.2 acres

Outfall SD001
To Ditch No. 30

DAF Units (2)

Pond 3
Settling Basin
5.5 acres

Site Challenges

- Algal growth in Settling Ponds 3 and 4
- High TSS levels that are difficult to settle
- Fluctuating flows and concentrations
- Flows routinely recycled and stored to meet discharge limits



Focused Constituents of Concern

NPDES Permit MN0001171

● Nitrogen, Ammonia

- 19.4 mg/L (Apr-May), 6.4 mg/L (Jun-Sep), 32.5 mg/L (Oct-Nov)

● BOD

- 25.0 mg/L (Apr-May), 15 mg/L (Jun-Nov) – monthly ave
- 37.5 mg/L (Apr-May), 22.5 mg/L (Jun-Nov) – daily max

● Total Suspended Solids (TSS)

- 45 mg/L month ave, 67.5 daily max

● Phosphorus

- Mass limit – 5 month 967 kg



Minnesota Pollution
Control Agency

Project Objectives

Phosphorus Treatment

- Reduction of chemical use / elimination of DAF units for colloidal particle and phosphorous control
- Final Discharge: Meet NPDES discharge limits BOD, Ammonia, TSS, Phosphorous



Proof of Technology: Pilots

Bench Scale



Small Field



Large Field



Bench Scale Pilot Study

- ⦿ Step 1: Complete water quality analysis
 - Identify any competing constituents
- ⦿ Step 2: Batch Study
 - Isotherm Adsorption Capacity / Rate of Reaction
- ⦿ Step 3: Column Study
 - Evaluate longevity of media
- ⦿ Step 4: Application - System Sizing

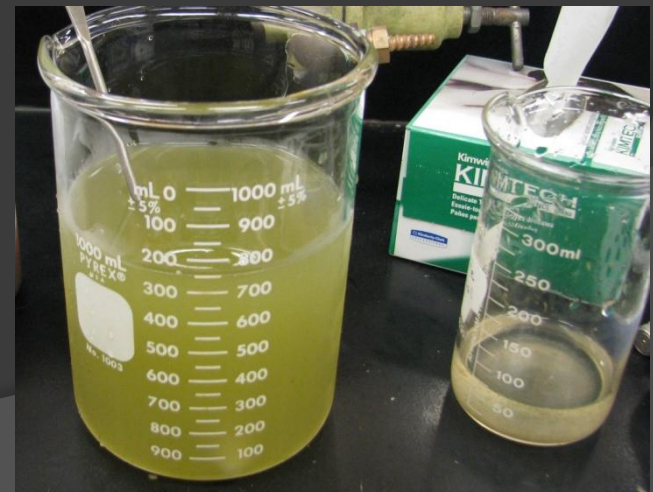
Bauxite Batch Isotherm Study

- 5 batch tests in duplicate
- Water volume constant, Bauxite volume varied
- Neutral and Acidic pH ranges tested
- 2 hr., 4 hr., 6 hr. and 24 hr. HRT evaluated



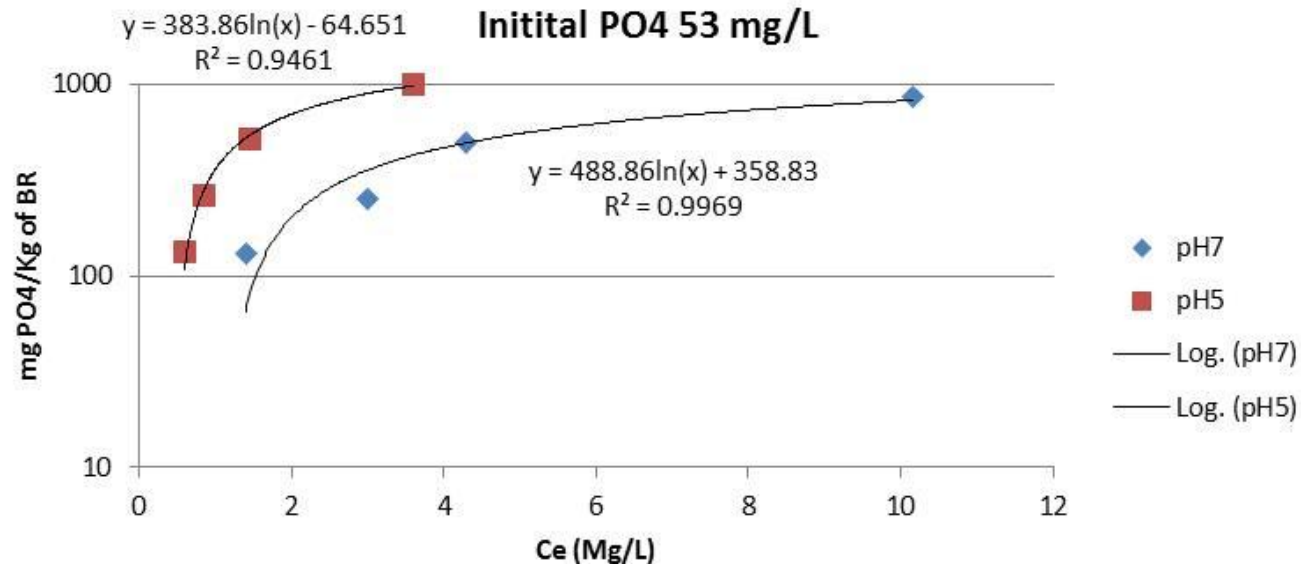
Study Results

- Successful Phosphorus removal
 - Initial: Total PO_4 = 78 mg/L
 - After Filtration: PO_4 = 53 mg/L
 - Max removal: 99% reduction to 0.6 to 1.4 mg/L
- HRT 4 hours to reach equilibrium
- Adjusted pH of solution increased Phosphorus removal



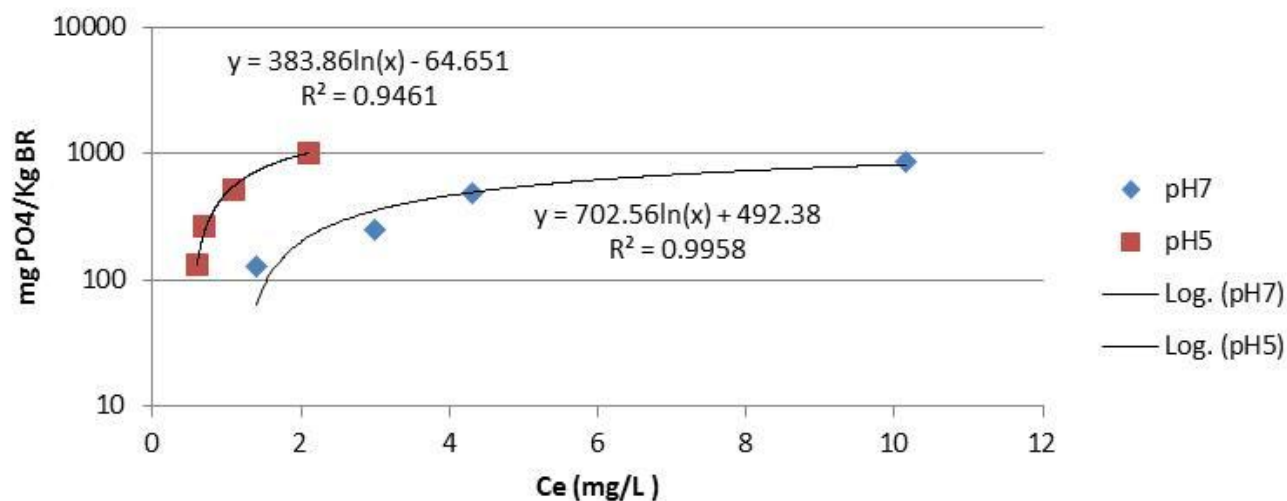
6 Hour adsorption study for PO4/BR isotherm

Initial PO4 53 mg/L



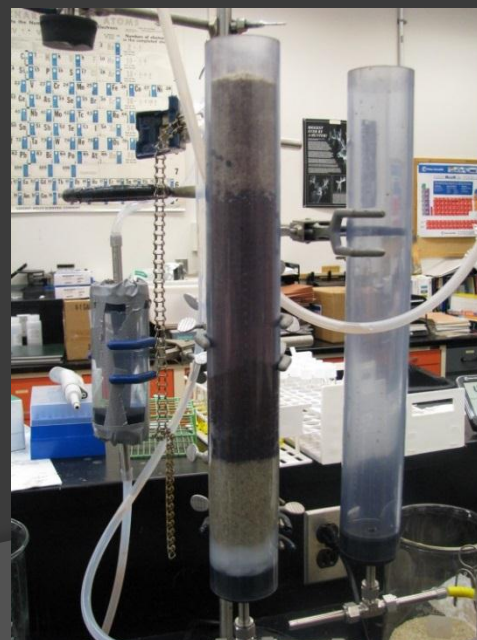
24 Hour adsorption study for PO4/BR isotherm

Initial PO4 53 mg/L



Additional Bench Testing

- ◎ 2 Stage Column Study
 - 2 and 6 inch diameter column, 24 inches high
 - Flow rate between 2.0 and 10 mL/min
 - Test Length ~ 10 days



Field Pilot

Considerations:

- TSS & BOD removal before NMF
- Integration of NMF into existing system





Potential Areas
for Field Pilot

Bauxite Field Pilot System and Full Scale System Sizing and Costs

- Bauxite Field Pilot System treating up to 5,000 gpd installed < \$75,000
- Full Scale System treating up to 250,000 gpd installed ~ \$400,000 - \$600,000

Conclusions

- ⦿ Phosphorus treatment is important, regulations are becoming more stringent
- ⦿ Source identification is essential
- ⦿ Economical treatment alternatives do exist to meet discharge requirements
 - Natural Media Filtration

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