How Low Can We Go? Full-Scale 4-Stage Bardenpho Pilot

Town of Durham, New Hampshire



Presented by:

Dan Peterson, Town of Durham, NH Tim Vadney, PE, Wright-Pierce



Presentation Overview

- WWTF Background
- Project Overview
- Dewatering Upgrade



- Implementation of 4-Stage Bardenpho
- Early effluent TN results
- Operation of the 4-Stage Bardenpho
- Challenges of running a WWTF in a University Town

Durham WWTF – A Brief History

- 1932 the original facility was constructed (primary treatment only).
- 1977 major upgrades to provide secondary treatment and sludge management (storage/ dewatering/compost).
- 1990's series of upgrades to improve the aeration and sludge management systems
- 2000's Baseline Improvements and MLE conversion



Durham WWTF – A Brief History



Project Drivers

Great Bay Issues

Pending TN Limit

Facility Planning Efforts

Project Overview

- Wastewater Facilities Plan
 - Equipment Assessment
 - Building System Assessment
 - Alternatives for removing TN

- Prioritized Improvements
 - Dewatering Upgrade
 - Pilot Program to lower effluent TN



JULY 2012

WRIGHT-PIERCE *Engineering a Better Environment*

Project Overview

Dewatering Upgrade







Return Activated Sludge









Return Activated Sludge

Aeration Tanks Demolition and Modification



Construction Phase (2014-2015)



Effluent TN - 2010 thru 2015



Effluent TN – 2010 thru 2015



Effluent TN - 2010 thru 2015



Presentation Overview

- WWTF Background
- Project Overview
- Dewatering Upgrade



- Implementation of 4-Stage Bardenpho
- Early effluent TN results
- Operation of the 4-Stage Bardenpho
- Challenges of running a WWTF in a University Town

IN 2004 Wright-Pierce Engineers Designed an MLE system to recoup alkalinity for ongoing pH issues. At the Time, Nitrogen was still a non issue for the Great Bay, but within time we new we had the best of both worlds.

Aeration Tanks



Aeration Tanks



Making an MLE system work, not so easy.

Why not so easy you ask?

Durham Resident Population – 15,000 **UNH Student and Faculty** Population – 17,000 That's More Than **Double the Population** of Partying Students.

Sooooo, just imagine what happens to the Treatment Plant when the students come and go on breaks.

Variation of Flows

If your just looking at just flows, your looking at it wrong. Here's why.

Plant Loading Lbs. BOD

Great system, great removal, but wanted better Nitrogen removal and more flexibility with rollercoaster loadings

4 stage Flexibility

Questions / Discussions

