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# Implementation of Nutrient Removal Upgrades in Cranston, RI

A Phased-Approach to Achieving Effluent  
Limits Entering the Pawtuxet River

Helps Control Capital Improvement Costs

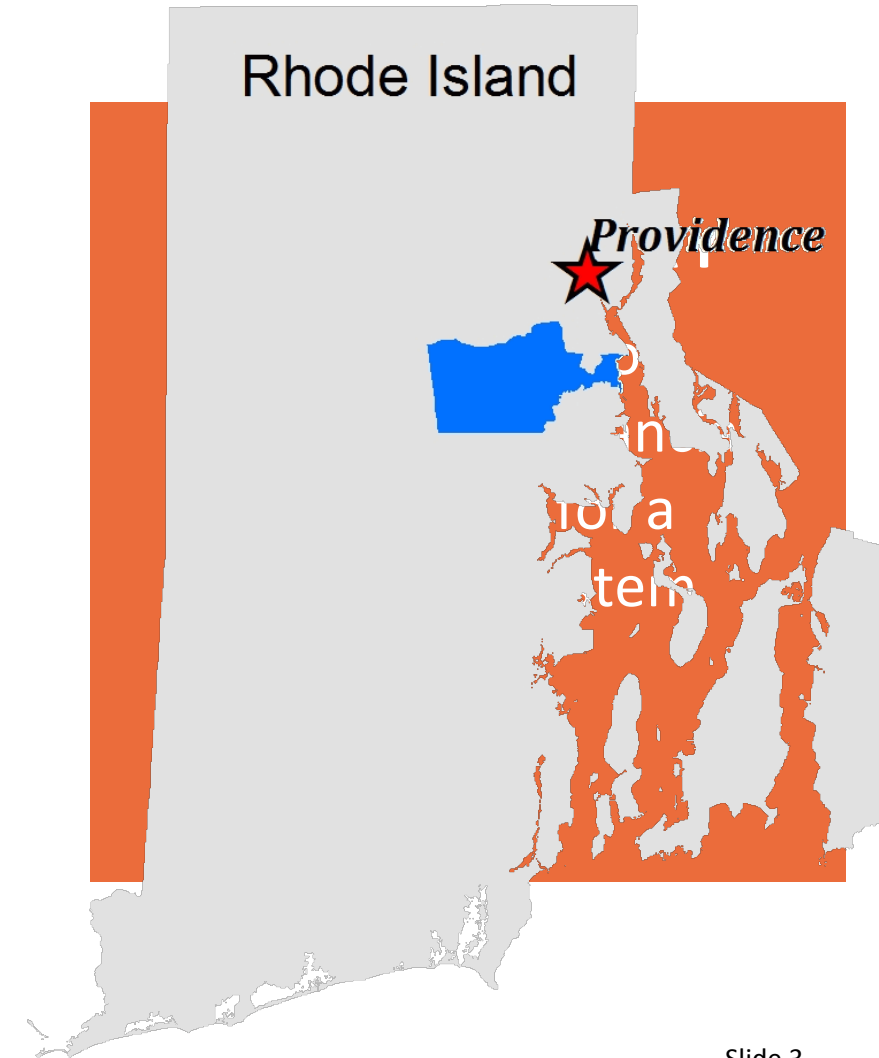
# Presentation Overview

- Project Overview
- Facility Planning
- Technology Selections and Why?
- Design Challenges
- Costs
- Construction and Operation
- Questions & Discussion



## Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF)

- 4th largest plant in Rhode Island
- Advanced secondary wastewater treatment facility
- Services the City and limited areas of Johnston and West Warwick
- Discharges to Pawtuxet River and Narragansett Bay



### WPCF Flow Capacity

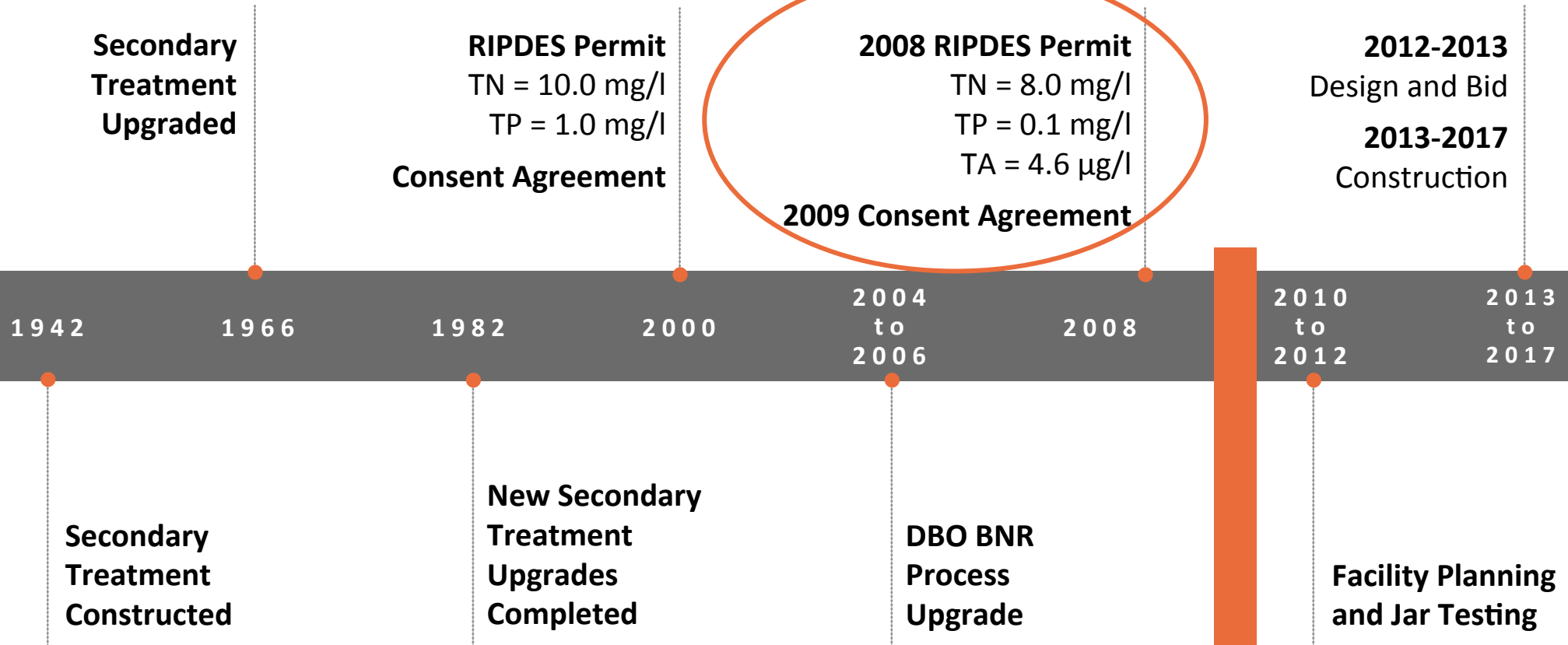
- Licensed Average Monthly Flow = 20.3 mgd
- Design Maximum Daily Flow = 36.0 mgd
- Design Peak Hourly Flow = 44.0 mgd
- Average Daily Flow = 14.4 mgd

### Unique Features

- Merchant Sludge - \$ Revenue
- Septage - ~40,000 gpd (average)
- Effluent reuse – FPL cooling tower (2 - 5 mgd)



# Project Overview History



**MAY 2010**  
Wright-Pierce Hired

- **Secondary Processes Operating at/or slightly above design capacity (BOD<sub>5</sub> and TN)**
  - Stressed process operations!
- **Elevated wet weather flows**
- **Several SIUs have adverse impact on plant performance**
  - Landfill Leachate – no local limit for BOD<sub>5</sub> or TN
  - rDON concentration – future concern?



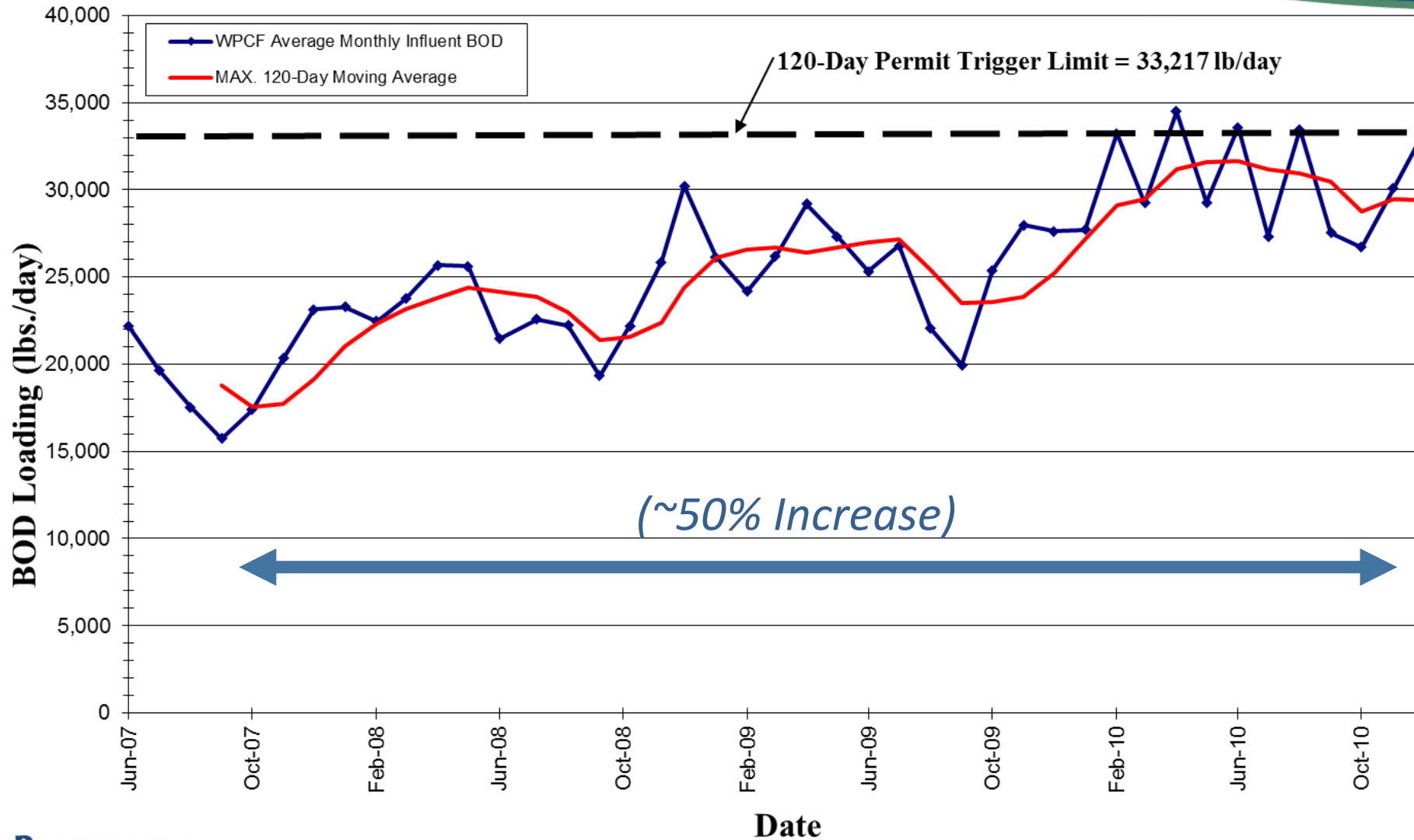
Prior cost estimate for needed WPCF improvements  
~\$50M

### Influent Loads

- Significant influent BOD<sub>5</sub> loading increase
  - Near 50% increase from 2007 - 2010
- Significant influent TKN loading increase
  - Dec. 2009 rapid increase – loading nearly double in three years
- Supplemental Sampling Effort 2010- 2011
- Consent Agreement schedule
  - FPA due June 1, 2011
- Budgetary concerns

# Project Overview

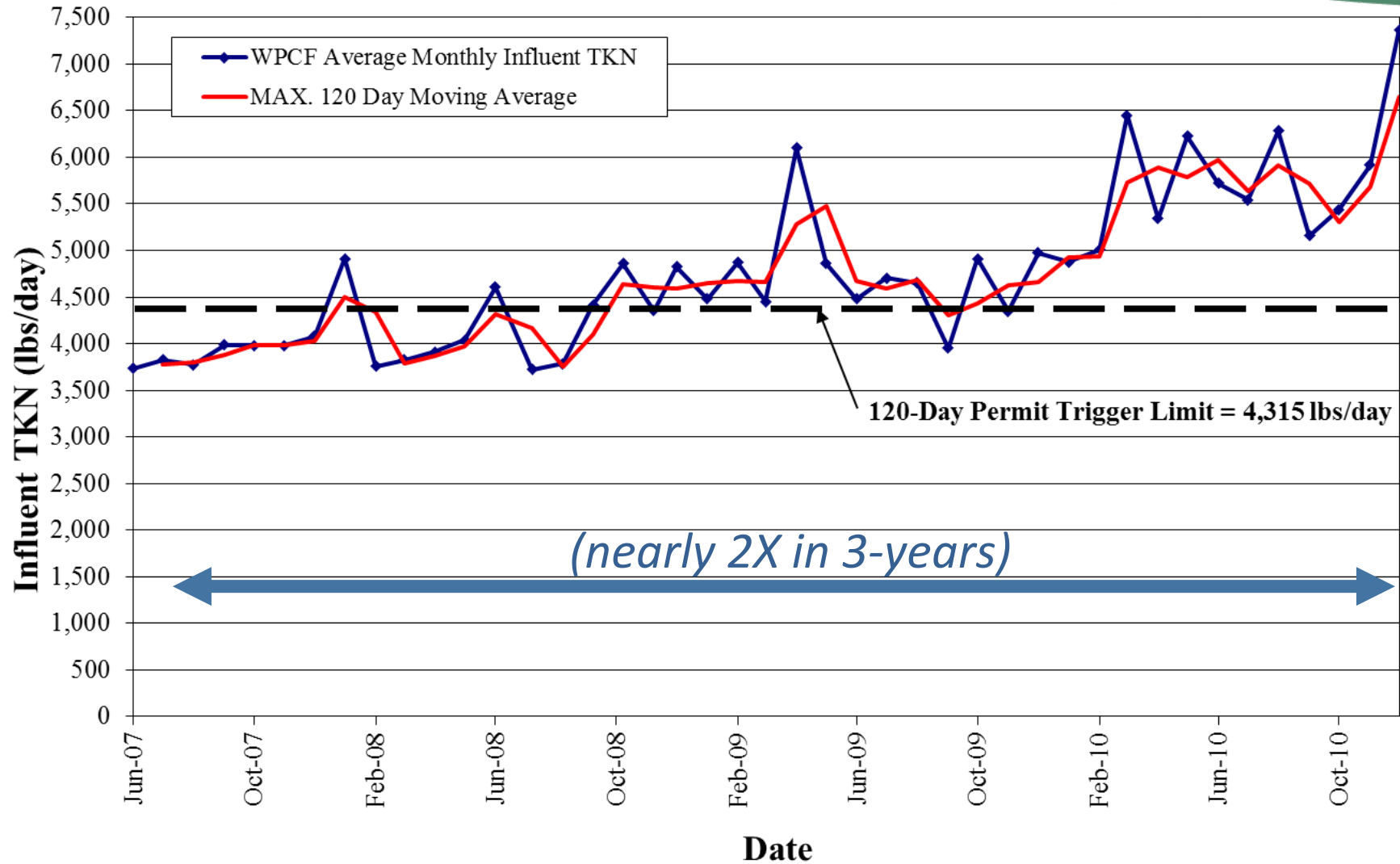
## Influent BOD<sub>5</sub> Loading





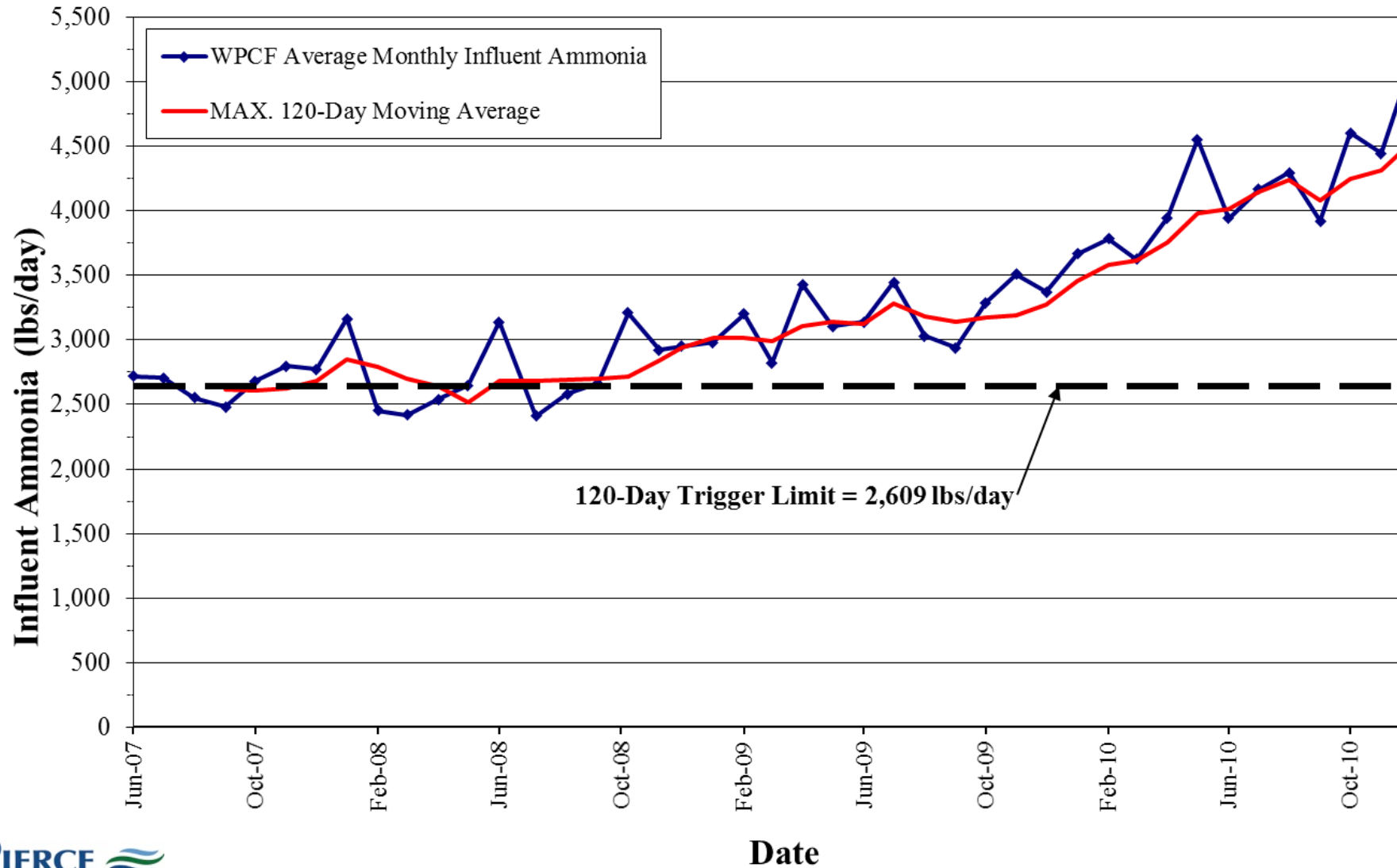
# Project Overview

## Influent TKN Loading



# Project Overview

## Influent NH<sub>3</sub> Loading



### Influent Loading Change

- RIRRC landfill leachate “OUT”
  - December 2010
  - Most significant influent pollutant loading to plant
    - BOD<sub>5</sub> (~ 15 - 25%)
    - Nitrogen (~ 30 - 50%)
    - Arsenic (~ >50%)

✓ **Notable Cost Savings to the City \$\$**

- Identify solutions to meet new permit limits:
  - Total Nitrogen
  - Total Phosphorus
  - Total Arsenic
- *"Our objective was to select the lowest cost technical solutions which satisfy the City's current wastewater needs and can be expandable to address possible future needs"*
- Obtain Regulatory Compliance

# Facility Planning Alternatives Evaluation



## SECONDARY TREATMENT – NITROGEN REMOVAL

### Multiple technologies evaluated

- MLE Process– reuse existing – “No Build”
  - Insufficient capacity
- ✓ Bardenpho (4-Stage) – flexibility for future limits!
  - ✓ Add IFAS Plastic Media (future ) – \$
- Existing MLE combined with Tertiary Denitrification
  - MLE with Moving Bed Bioreactor – \$\$
  - MLE with Biological Aerated Filter – \$\$\$
- Membranes – \$\$\$\$



# Nitrogen Removal “Phased Approach”

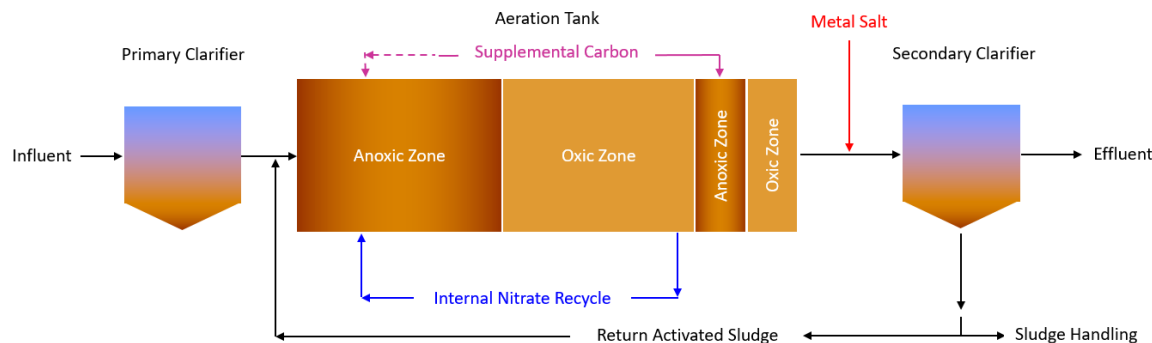
- ✓ Considered projected loads
- ✓ Uncertainty: when will landfill leachate be out?
- ✓ Regulatory coordination/ approvals (RIDEM)
- ✓ Reduces capital costs

# Nitrogen Removal “Phased Approach”

## PHASE 1 IMPROVEMENTS

### Bardenpho (4-Stage Process)

- ✓ Allows for “Phased Approach”
- ✓ Lowest cost (reuse existing tanks)
- ✓ Proven track-record
- ✓ Similar to current MLE process operation
- ✓ Flexibility for future loads/limits (add plastic media)



## PHASE 2 IMPROVEMENTS

- ✓ WPCF influent loads exceed 90% Phase 1 capacity
- ✓ “Trigger Limits”
  - cBOD5 load of 32,300 lbs/day 120-day moving average
  - TKN load of 5,900 lbs/day 120-day moving average

### Enhanced 4-Stage Bardenpho

- IFAS media
- Fine Screen (.6 mm band screening system – Headworks)
- Media Retention Screens (in aeration tanks)
- Medium bubble diffusers
- Additional 525 HP Blower

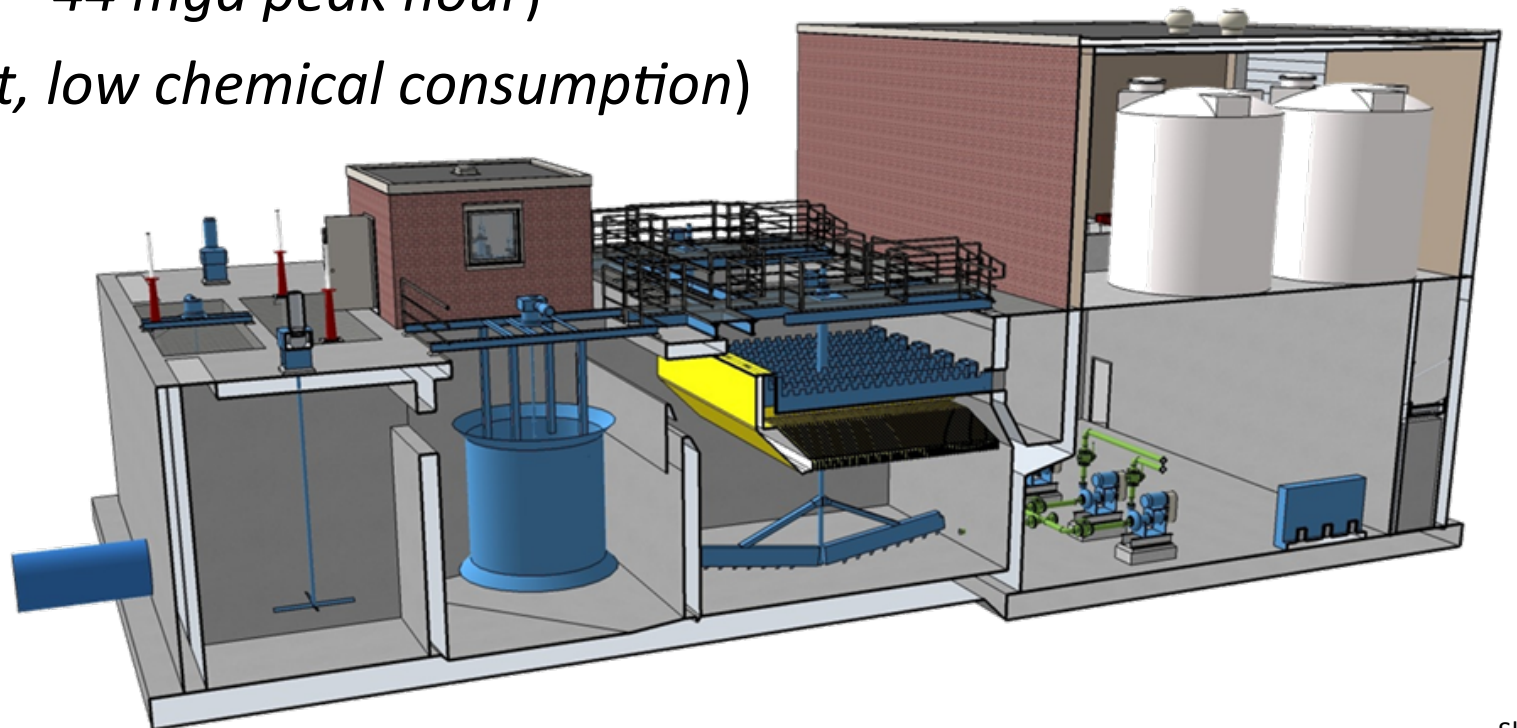




## TERTIARY TREATMENT – PHOSPHORUS & ARSENIC REMOVAL

### Ballasted Flocculation Process

- ✓ Proven track-record
- ✓ Low Headloss (*no pumping – 44 mgd peak hour*)
- ✓ Lowest cost (*small footprint, low chemical consumption*)
- ✓ Flexibility



## General

- Maintain plant operations (chemical deliveries, sludge, septage)
- Construction Sequencing (Landfill still “IN” – access to Aeration Tanks)

## Aeration Tanks

- Deep aeration tanks (25-feet)
- Mixing – *reuse existing mixers (2006)*
- Floatables Control (FOG)
- Medium Voltage Standby Power (existing 480V Standby Power System)

## Tertiary Treatment Facility

- Abandoned WPCF - *unknowns*
- Deep excavation
- Groundwater level

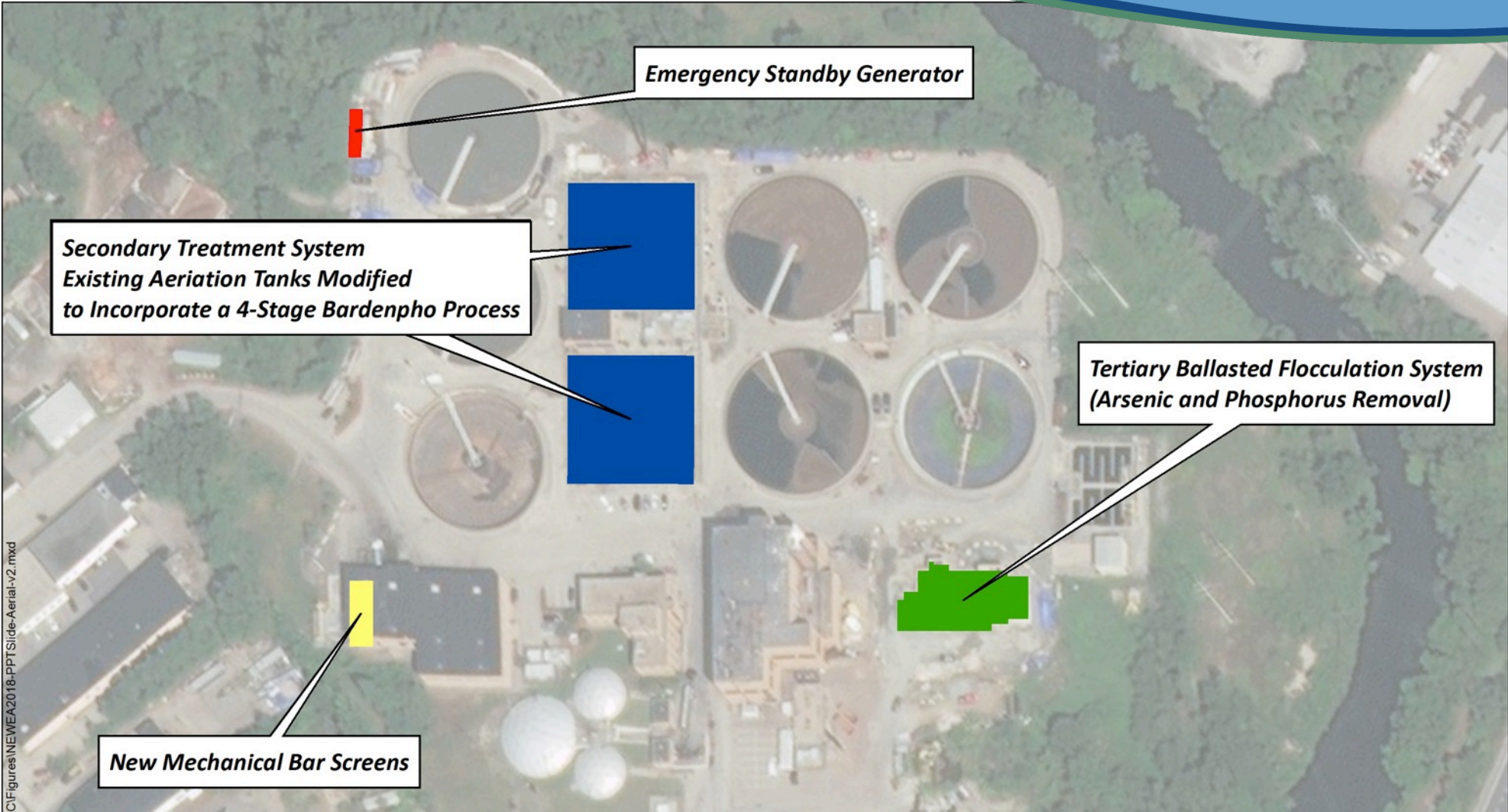
- Nitrogen Removal
  - ✓ Bardenpho (4-Stage)
    - *Most flexible cost-effective solution!*
    - *Pre-anoxic Zones 1 & 2 (existing) retained – ability for 5-Stage Bardenpho if lower TN loading*
      - *Bio-P removal, 30% Ferric reduction – save \$*
- Phosphorus and Arsenic Removal
  - ✓ Ballasted Flocculation – *Robust Technology!*
- Influent Screening System ( $3/8$ -inch screens)
- Medium Voltage Standby Power Generator (Aeration Tank Blowers)
  - ✓ *Consent Agreement*

# Capital Costs

Project	Cost
Original Project Estimate	\$50 million
Phase 1 Upgrades – as Constructed	\$16.8 million
Phase 2 Upgrades (future??)	\$13.4 million

- ✓ “Phased Approach” **Reduced Capital Costs by \$33.2 Million**
- ✓ City qualified for principal forgiveness reduction (additional savings)

# Construction Overview



# Headworks Building Improvements



- Demo'd existing mechanical bar screen racks and belt conveyor system
- Installed 2 mechanical climber screens and 2 washer compactors



## New Medium Voltage Standby Power System

- 1,500 kW diesel generator
- Med. Voltage (4160V) ATS
- Outdoor Walk-In Enclosure



## Phase 1 Improvements

- 4-Stage Bardenpho (4 Aeration Tanks)
- Supplemental Carbon System
- New selector walls
- Relocation of internal recycle pumps and mixers



# Aeration Tank Improvements Supplemental Carbon Facility



# Aeration Tank Improvements Construction



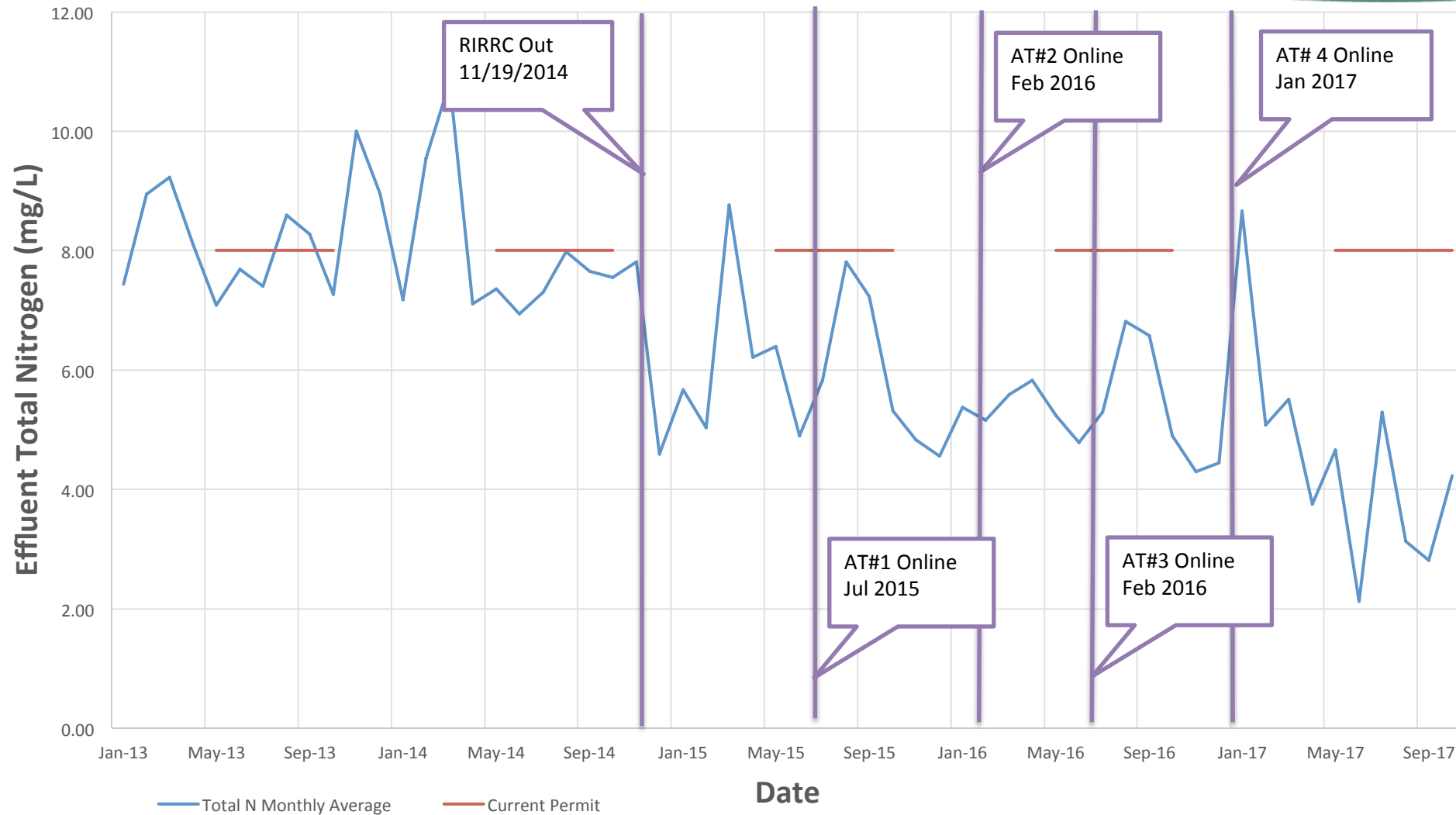
# Aeration Tank Improvements Pre-Construction Hydraulics



# Aeration Tank Improvements Post-Construction Hydraulics



# Aeration Tank Improvements Effluent Total Nitrogen



- Ballasted Flocculation System - redundant treatment trains
- Chemical Feed Systems - TP and TA removal
  - Ferric Chloride (coagulation)
  - Lime (pH adjustment)
  - Polymer (flocculation)
- Kruger ACTIFLO Turbo<sup>®</sup> system
  - compact footprint
  - reduced energy and operational costs

# Tertiary Treatment Facility Construction



# Tertiary Treatment Facility Building Construction





# Tertiary Treatment Facility “Finished Product”



- ✓ “Phased Approach” to Nitrogen Control saved city money
- ✓ Achieved water quality objectives
- ✓ Largest ballasted flocculation system in RI
- ✓ No net increase in construction cost
- ✓ City qualified for principal forgiveness

# Project Team



## OWNER

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**Kenneth Mason, PE**  
Director of Public Works  
**Edward Tally**  
Environmental Program  
Manager



## OPERATOR

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**Earl Salisbury**  
Superintendent, Project  
Manager



## GENERAL CONTRACTOR

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**David Jacques**  
Senior Project Manager  
**Erik Costello**  
Superintendent



## ENGINEER

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**David Bowen, PE**  
Associate, Senior Project  
Manager  
**Andrew Grota, PE**  
Project Engineer

Implementation of Nutrient Removal  
Upgrades in Cranston, RI



**Thank You**

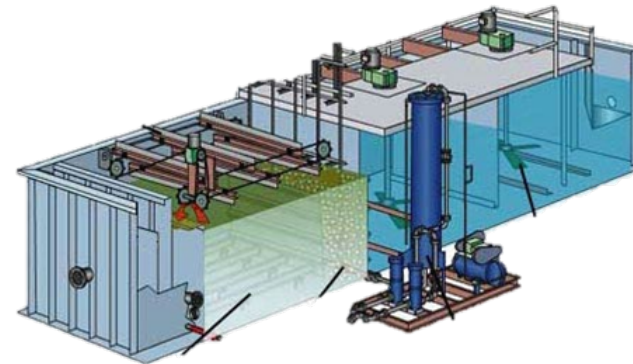
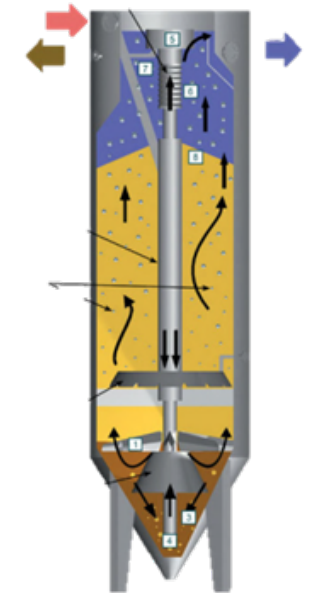
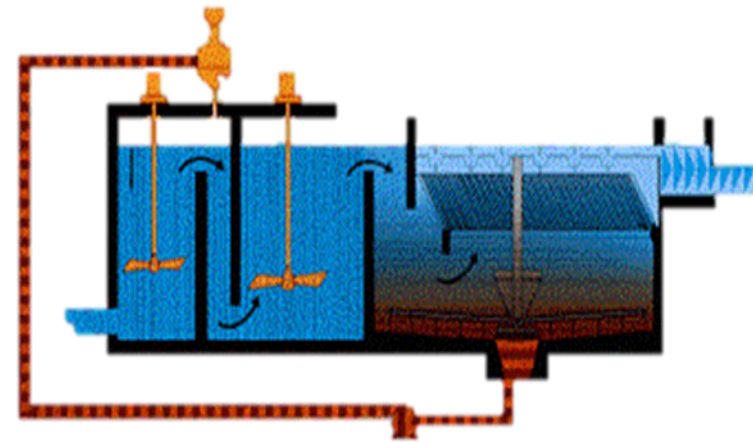
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# Bullpen Slides

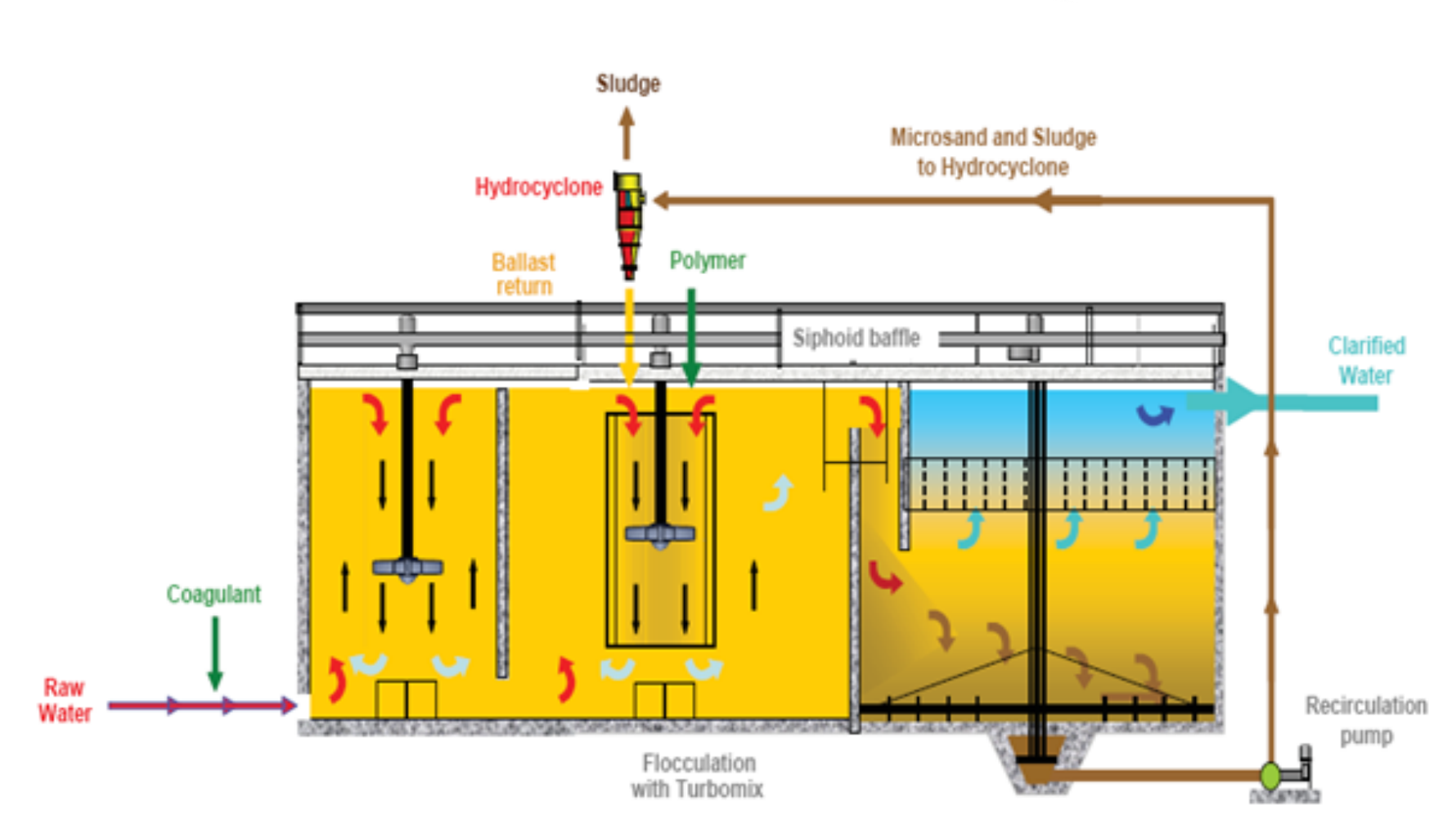
## TERTIARY TREATMENT – PHOSPHORUS & ARSENIC REMOVAL

### Technologies evaluated

- ✓ Ballasted Flocculation
- Activated Filtration - \$
- Dissolved Air Floatation - \$



# Ballasted Flocculation System



# Effluent Flow Meter

- Magnetic flow meter
- Improved hydraulics
- Eliminated downstream pumping





# Tertiary Treatment Facility *Process Tanks*



# Tertiary Treatment Facility *Chemical Feed Systems*



# Tertiary Treatment Facility *Pumping Equipment*



### Unique Features

#### Privatized Operations

- 1997: 25-year lease Agreement - Triton Ocean State, LLC (operated by Veolia)
- Merchant Sludge - *\$ Revenue*
- Septage - ~40,000 gpd (average)
- Effluent reuse – FPL cooling tower (2 - 5 mgd)

