BioAugmentation in Force Mains, Gravity Sewers and Pumping Stations



Presentation Outline

- Who, What, When, How of BioAugmentation
- Collection Systems Basic Chemistry/Biology
- Industry Studies, Videos and Tests
- DC Water Main Pumping Station Project
- WERF CAPS Study
- Path Forward

How does it happen?



What is **BioAugmentation**

The addition of:

- Micro organisms
- Oxygen, Hydroxyl Radials (Ozone)
- Surfactants

In to the flowing sewage to eliminate bio-slime on sewer walls, FOG above the water in particular and the formation of toxic gases

How They Work - Microbes

- Micro Organisms Eat Organic Matter
- Tiny Trillion Can siton the Head of a Pin
- Are Cultured by Manufacturer to Destroy Typical Organic Matter
- Safe to Humans, Effective Against FOG and BioSlime



How They Work – Microbes Cont'd

Aerobic Organisms

- Require Oxygen
- Bi-products are
 - Water
 - Carbon Dioxide
 - Ammonia

Anaerobic Organisms

- Environment Free of Oxygen
- Bi-Products
 - Hydrogen Sulfide
 - Methane
 - Water
 - Carbon Dioxide

How They Work – Oxygen, Hydroxyl Radicals Addition

Increasing Dissolved Oxygen Provides Life Sustaining Oxygen to normally Oxygen Depleted Sewage.

- Aerobic Organisms Multiply
- Convert Organic Matter to Water, Carbon Dioxide

Adding Ozone Oxidizes Organic Matter

How They Work – Oxygen cont'd

ECO₂ Technology

Nano Air Bubbles Aeration System (NABAS)





Before starting BGS systems

After starting BGS systems (Nano Bubble Aeration Image)

How They Work – Hydroxyl Radical

Parkson-OHxy Phogg

NABAS Bubble System





STX Catalytic – Source Technologies delivers Hydroxyl Radicals Not Shown

How They Work – Hydroxyl Radical

- Free Radicals oxidize organic matter by removing electrons from the compound to achieve stoichiometric balance, therefore, reduction/oxidation is the result
- This method can be mixed directly into the water or introduced as a 'fog' on top of the water.

How They Work - Surfactants

- Surfactants make water wetter and break up dirt, grease, grime, etc.
- Generally are chemically based such as soaps, dishwashing liquids, etc.
- In early 70's generally banned from use in sewers when the contained phosphorous.

How They Work – Surfactants -

Accell

Gulf Oil Spill Demo

Sao Paulo Brazil – RiverTest



How Is Chemical Addition

Different From BioAugmentation

- Chemicals maybe toxic Ozone is only Biological product that can be hazardous if inhaled
- Chemicals are noteasily portable
- Require Frequent Tanker Truck Deliveries
- Difficult to Locate in Cities



Key Collection Systems Terms

- pH if pH is above 8.5 H₂S will not begenerated
- Interfacial Tension (IFT) measures the spreading effect between water and anything floating on the top
- O.R.P. Oxidation Reduction Potential measures the effectiveness of water to oxidize or "clean" itself or in case of treated wastewater assist in cleaning the body of water it has entered.

Leading Industry Studies

- WERF Nov 8, 2007 Minimization of Odors and Corrosion in Collection System, Phase 1
- Studied science of Bio Slime
- Reviewed 4000 papers on subject
- Defined ORP (oxidation reduction potential) as key element to overcoming hydrogen sulfide



Leading Industry Studies – cont'd

- American Water Co WEFTEC 2010 Sioux Falls Study
- Introduced Microbes in Collection System
- Reduced BioSolids by 15%
- Increased BOD
- Speculated BOD Easier to Treat

DC Water 2011 Summer Accell3

Research Project

- Thanks to Howard University's Charles Glass, PhD and his students
- Add Accell3 at a different rates at Main Pumping Station – 0.1, 0.2 and 1.9 ppm
- Track Performance at 6 Sites on the East Outfall Sewer
- Take Samples
- Measure ORP, DO, pH, TSS, VSS, H_2S , COD, NH_3 , PO $-\frac{3}{4}$

Location of Sites



Average Hydrogen Sulfide Concentration at Six Sites



Data Analysis

 Reduction in TSS and VSS during the summer may have been due to the uncoupling of microorganism reproduction from energy use.



ORP Results: All Locations

- H₂S gas is produced at
 -50 to -250 mV.
- ORP values reached
 -300mV during 100+
 weather



WERF Manuscript: DC Water's

Sewer-Methane Carbon Footprint

- John Willis1, 2*, Haydee DeClippeleir3, Walter Graf4, Akshay Kumar5, Barry Lucas3, Sudhir Murthy3, Chris Peot3, Pusker Regmi1, Abhiram Satyadev6, Charles Sweeney3, Keshab Sharma2, Hiram Tanner3, and Zhiguo Yuan2
- 2 The University of Queensland
- 3 DC Water
- 4 Water Environment Research Foundation (WERF)
- 5 RK&K Engineers
- 6 Arcadis
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DC Water's Potomac Interceptor



Results – Summer Baseline







- Atmospheric CO₂ should be ~400ppmv
- Observed headspace CO₂ values averaged
 5,200ppmv; for an increase of 4,800ppmv
- Would expect ~ 1 -to-1 CO₂ to CH₄ ratio
- Suggests >20 times aerobic than anaerobic
- CO₂ is more soluble in water than CH₄

Chemical Addition of FeSO₄ Did Not Effectively Control H₂S



Path Forward

- Addition of Microbes to remediate FOG blockages
- BioAugmentation best used for Routine Maintenance of Mains & Pumping Stations to avoid FOG, Corrosion and Hydrogen Sulfide and to Protect Workers
- To Track Benefits/Need for BioAugmentation Test for O.R.P.
- Perform Additional Research to Enhance Collection Systems Natural Aerobic Activity.