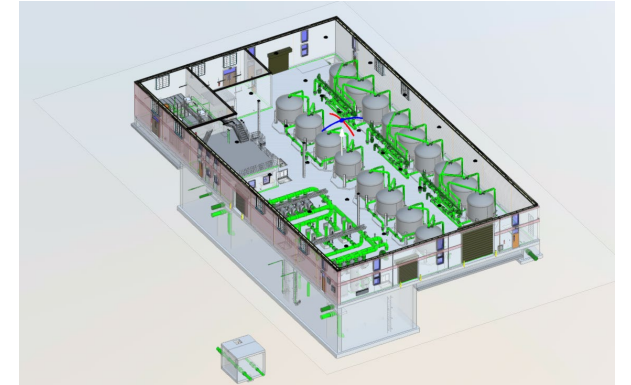


May 3, 2023

Planning and Design of an 18 MGD IX PFAS Treatment Plant



Laurie Sullivan, PE
303.968.2034
lsullivan@BrwnCald.com

Joanie Stultz, PE
206.749.2215
jstultz@brwnCald.com

Agenda

- Background
- Treatment Alternatives Evaluations
- Pilot Testing Results
- Treatment Selection
- IX Design Highlights



South Adams County Water & Sanitation District



South Adams County Water and Sanitation District

67,000

Approximate population served

13.5 mgd

Current treatment capacity

18 mgd

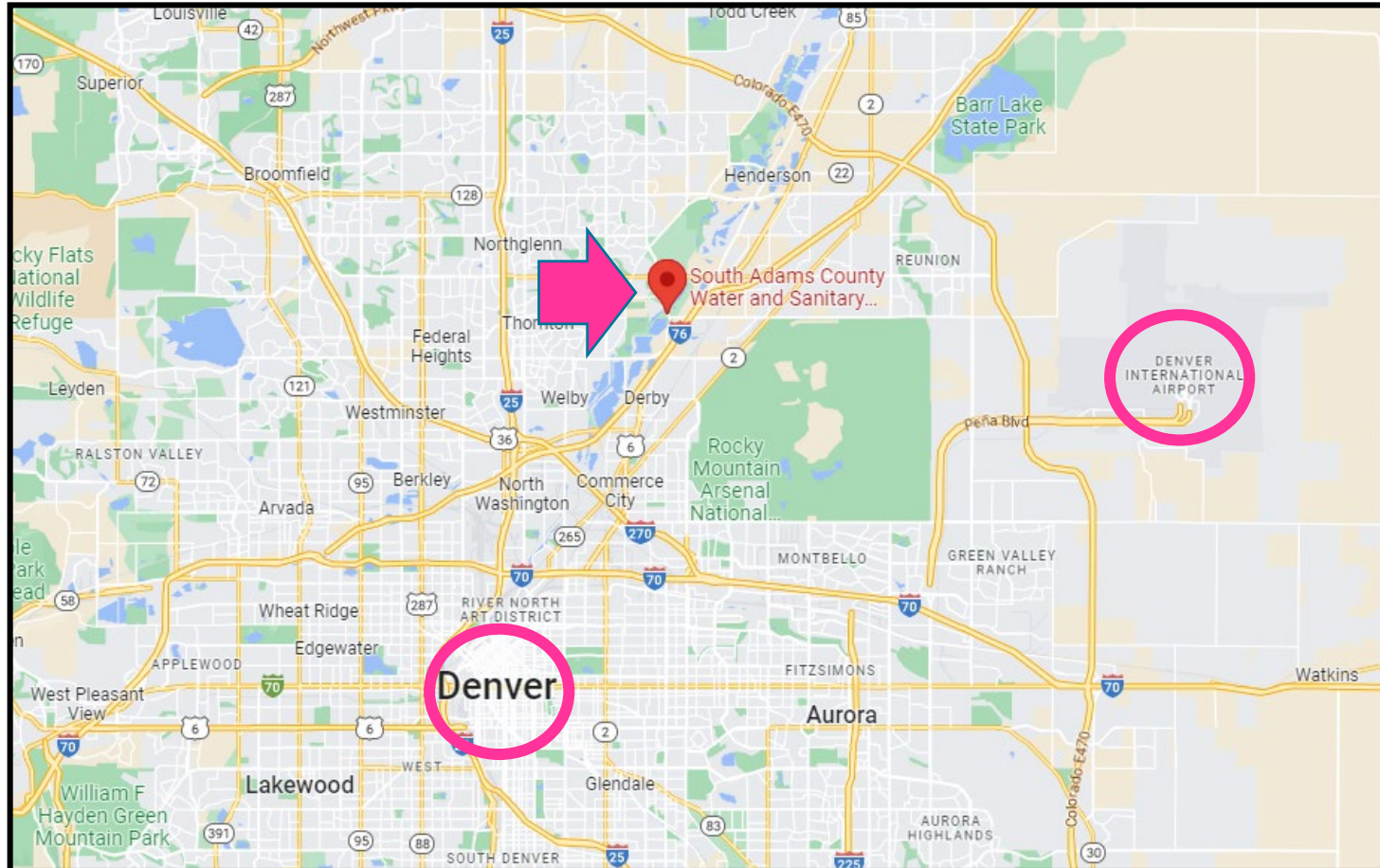
Design water treatment capacity

~80%

Local potable water supply (groundwater) and ~20% Denver Water

11 alluvial wells with a combined production capacity of 21 MGD provide local potable supplies

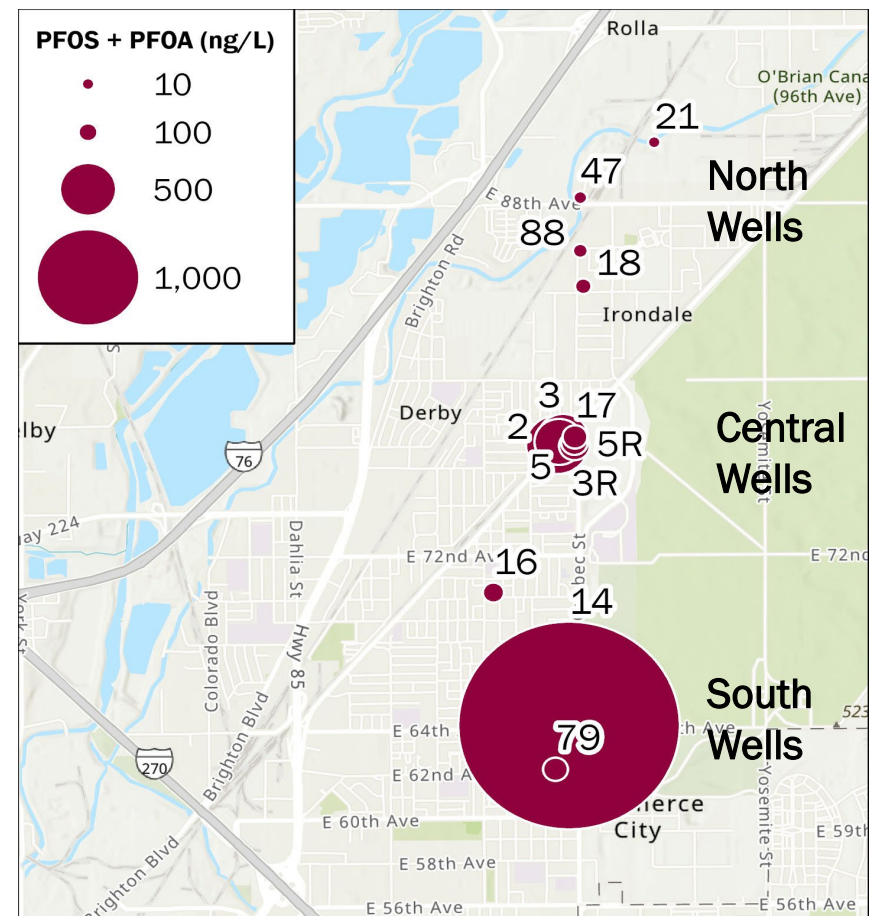
Location ~ 10 miles Northeast of Denver



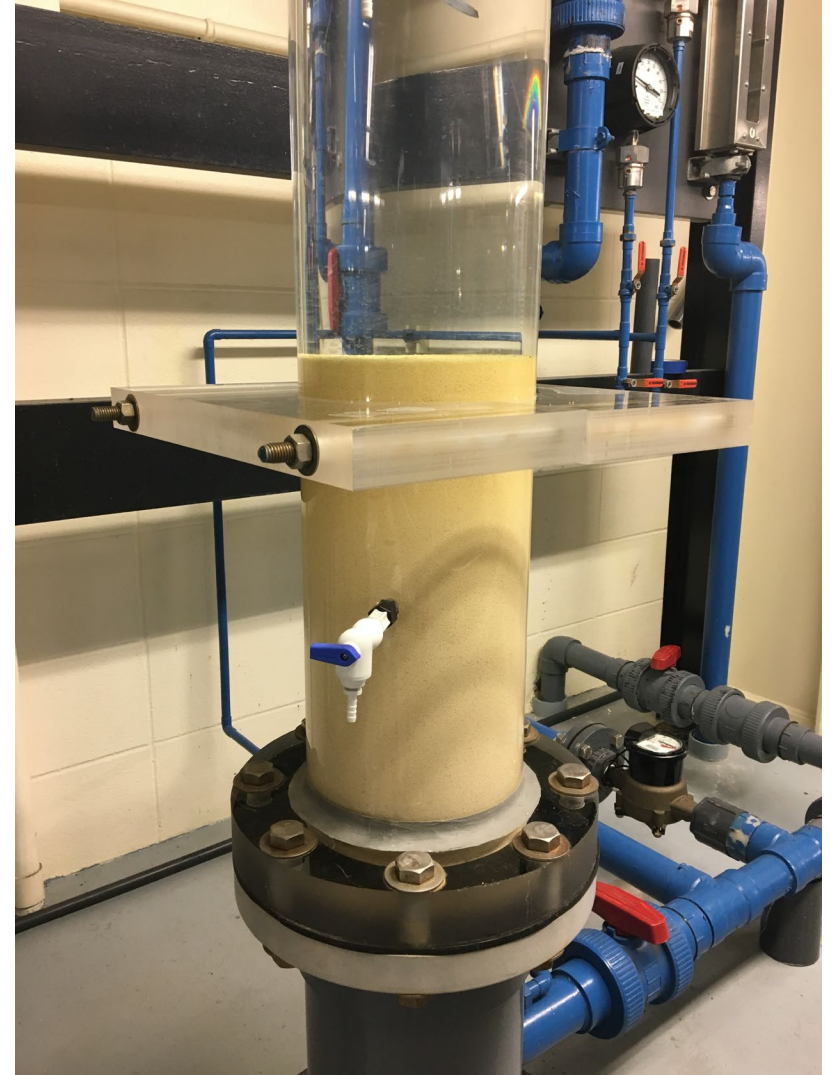
- Rocky Mountain Arsenal
- Firefighting training facility
- Stapleton airport

Water Quality

- Water served to customers meets all current Safe Drinking Water standards
- PFAS and 1,4-Dioxane found during CCL sampling
- Highest concentration in the south wellfield
- All water is treated at Klein Water Treatment Plant



What are the best options for South Adams for removing PFAS pollutants from drinking water?



Approach to studying PFAS at SACWSD

Full Scale



Evaluate performance of existing GAC system



Bench Scale



Test alternative carbon media



Pilot Scale



Pilot test IX resins on-site



Pilot Testing Results



Pilot testing of IX

- January 2019 – March 2020
- Side by side evaluation of 3 resins
- Pilot testing objectives
 - Assess performance of IX at treatment goals of 35 ng/l and non-detect (<2 ng/L)
 - Determine life cycle capital and O&M costs

- Resin
 - Purolite PFA694A
 - Purolite A592
 - Evoqua DOW PSR2+



IX Pilot Testing Results

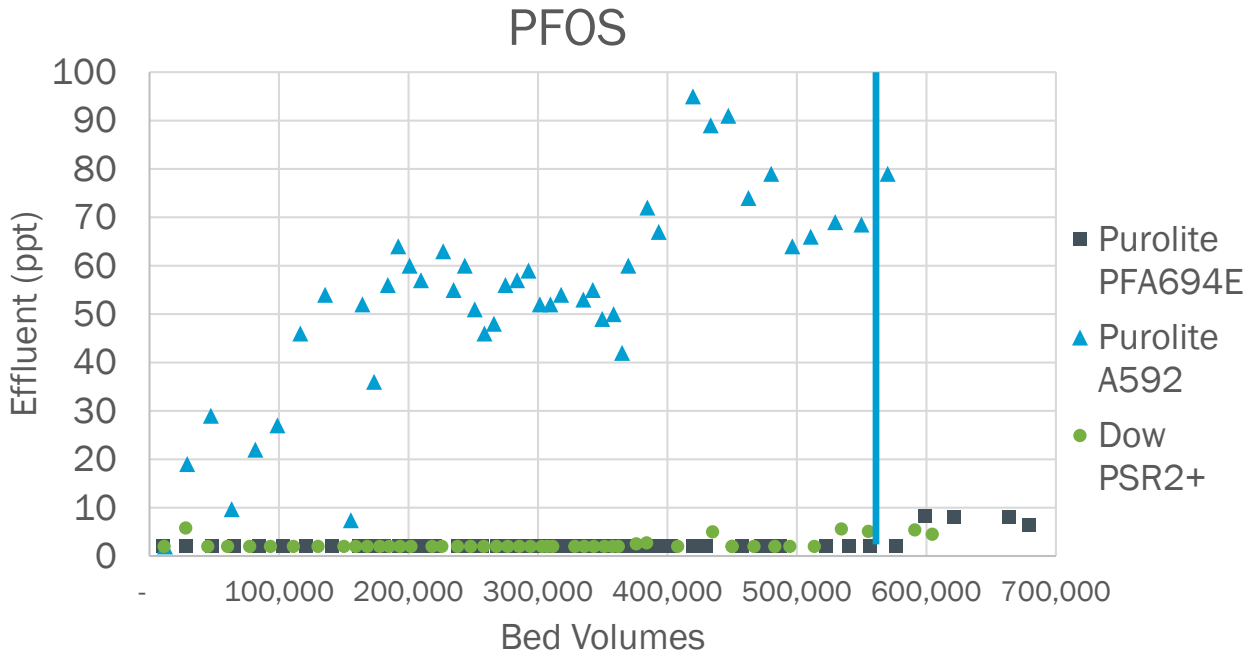


Figure 4-1. PFOS Effluent in IX Pilot

PFOS breakthrough 500,000+ BVs

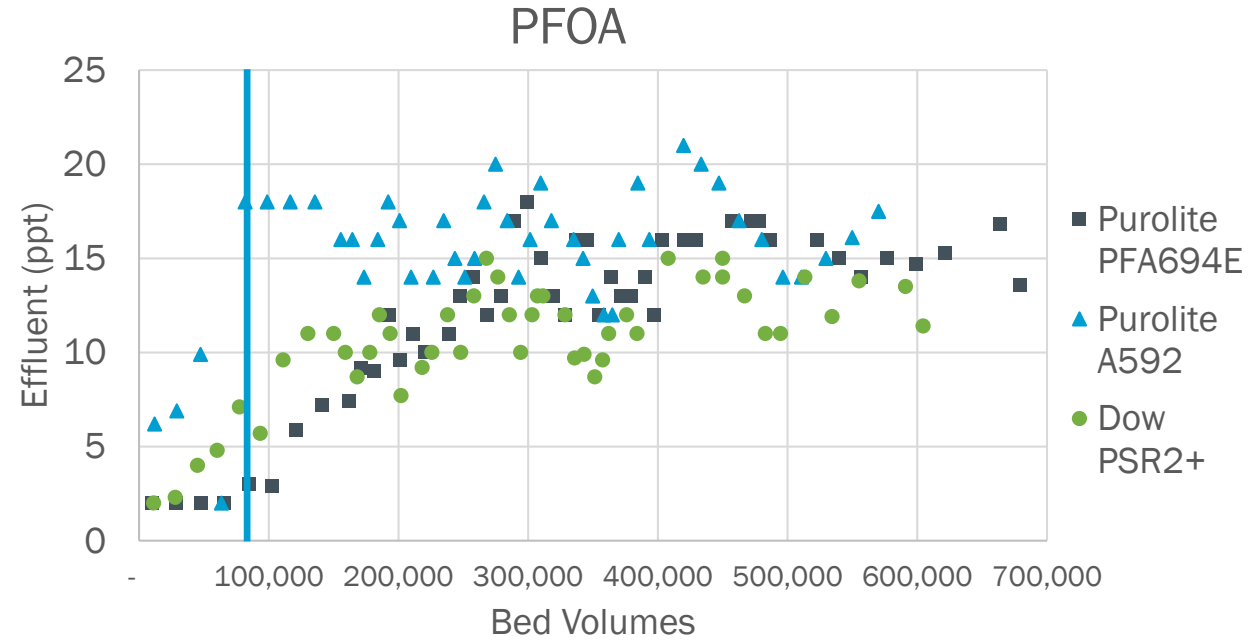


Figure 4-1. PFOA Effluent in IX Pilot

PFOA breakthrough ~60,000 BVs

How was the proposed
treatment selected?



Alternatives considered



Add new ion exchange (IX)
treatment



Enhance existing
activated carbon (GAC)
treatment



Different water sources

Alternatives comparison



Ion Exchange Treatment



Activated Carbon Treatment



Different Water Sources

Pros



- Lower cost to maintain
- Efficient PFAS removal

- Builds on existing technology
- Operator familiarity

- Different water sources, such as purchasing from Denver Water, were explored. However, this was not found to be an affordable or sustainable alternative.

Cons

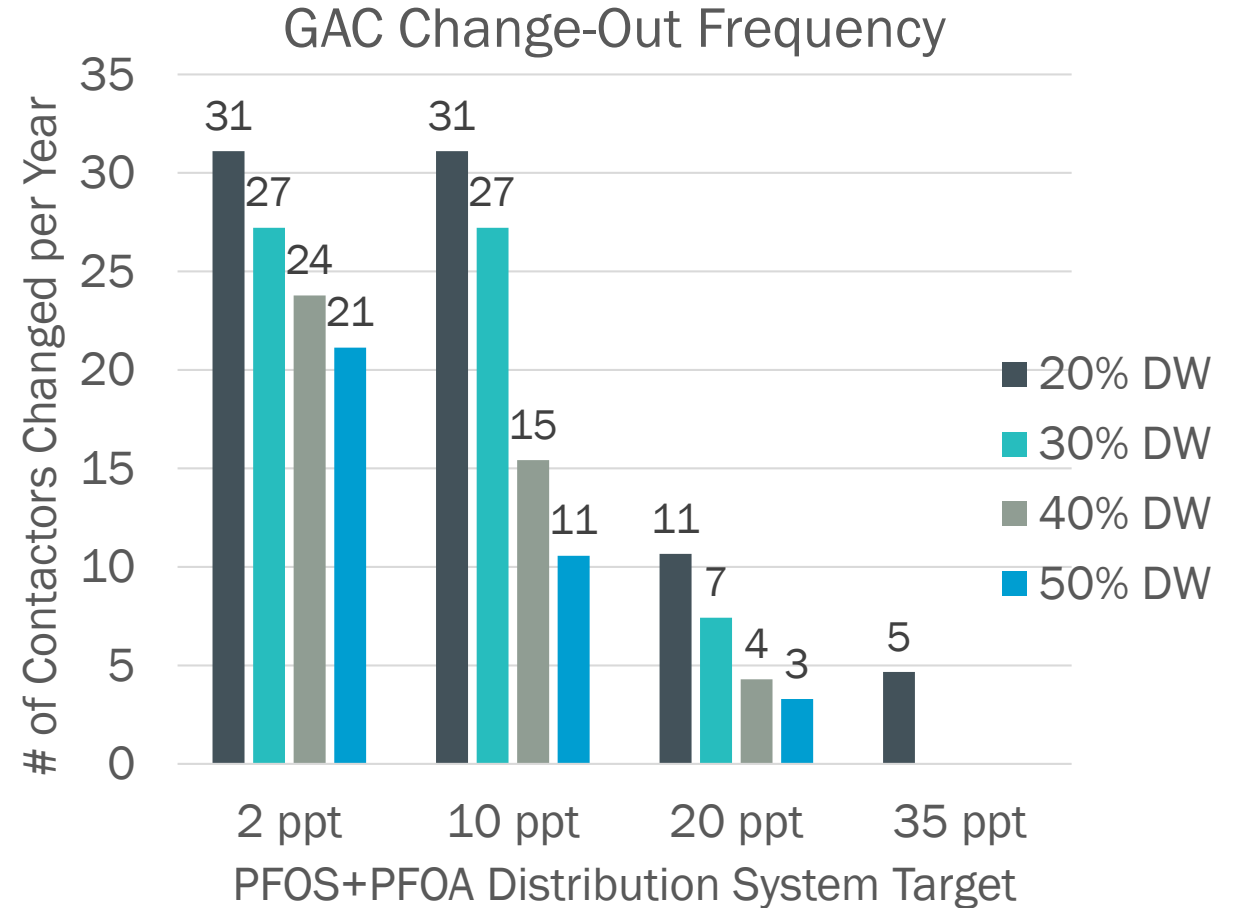


- Capital cost
- New technology for staff
- Operational costs

- Capital cost
- Limited effectiveness for treating PFAS to low levels
- Higher operating costs for media change out

Cost Analyses Performed -

- GAC only
- GAC + Increased use of Denver Water
- GAC followed by IX polishing
- IX followed by GAC polishing
- IX for selected wells only



Proposed approach – IX followed by GAC – Online 2026

SHORT-TERM

1 - 4 years

- Increase Denver Water supplies
- Use water from wells where concentrations of PFAS is treatable with current technology
- Use existing activated carbon (GAC) to treat water as needed
- Regularly monitor levels in treated water

LONG-TERM

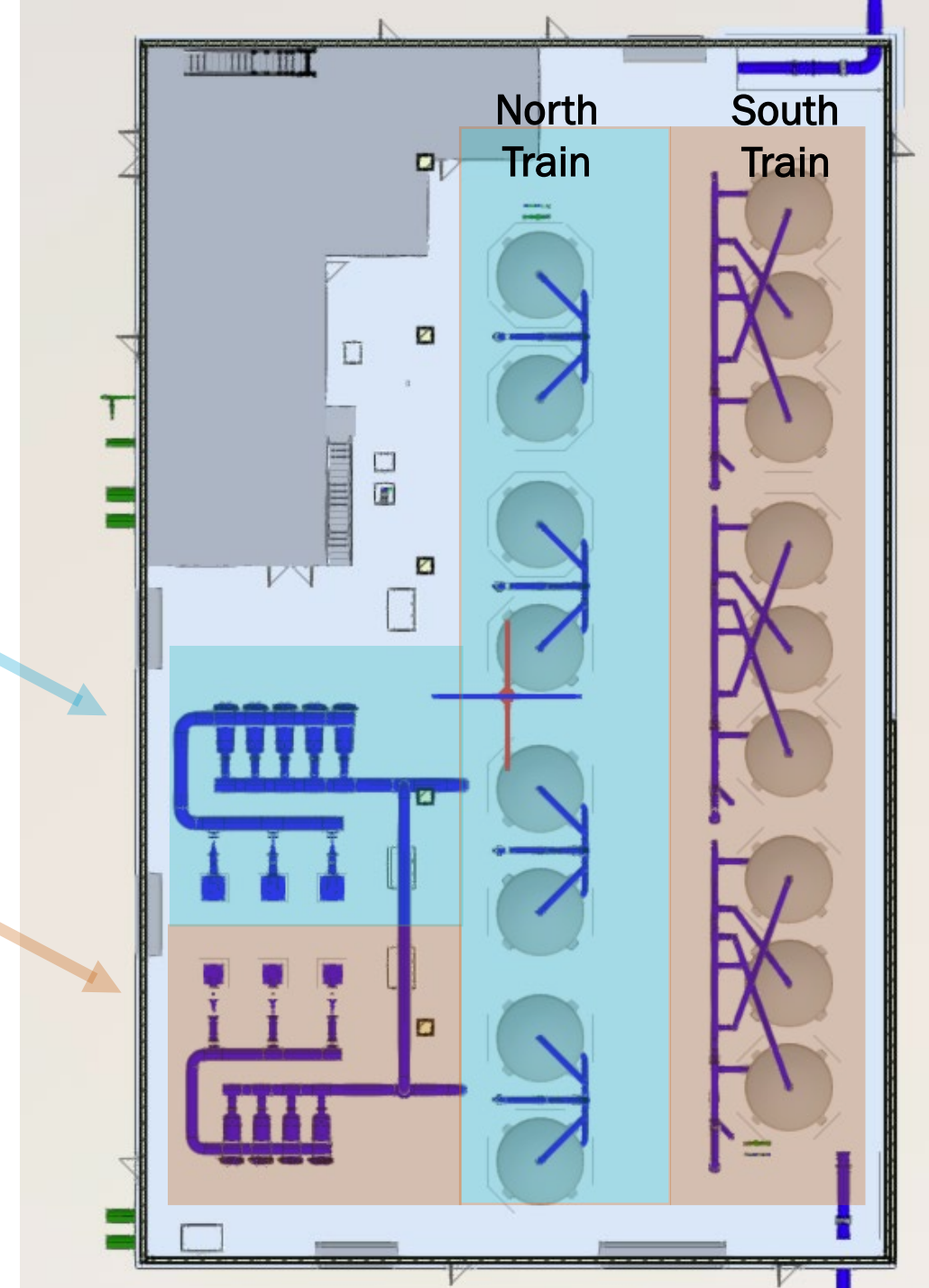
- Install ion exchange (IX) treatment facility capable of treating wells where PFAS has been identified and meet future regulations

IX Treatment Design Status

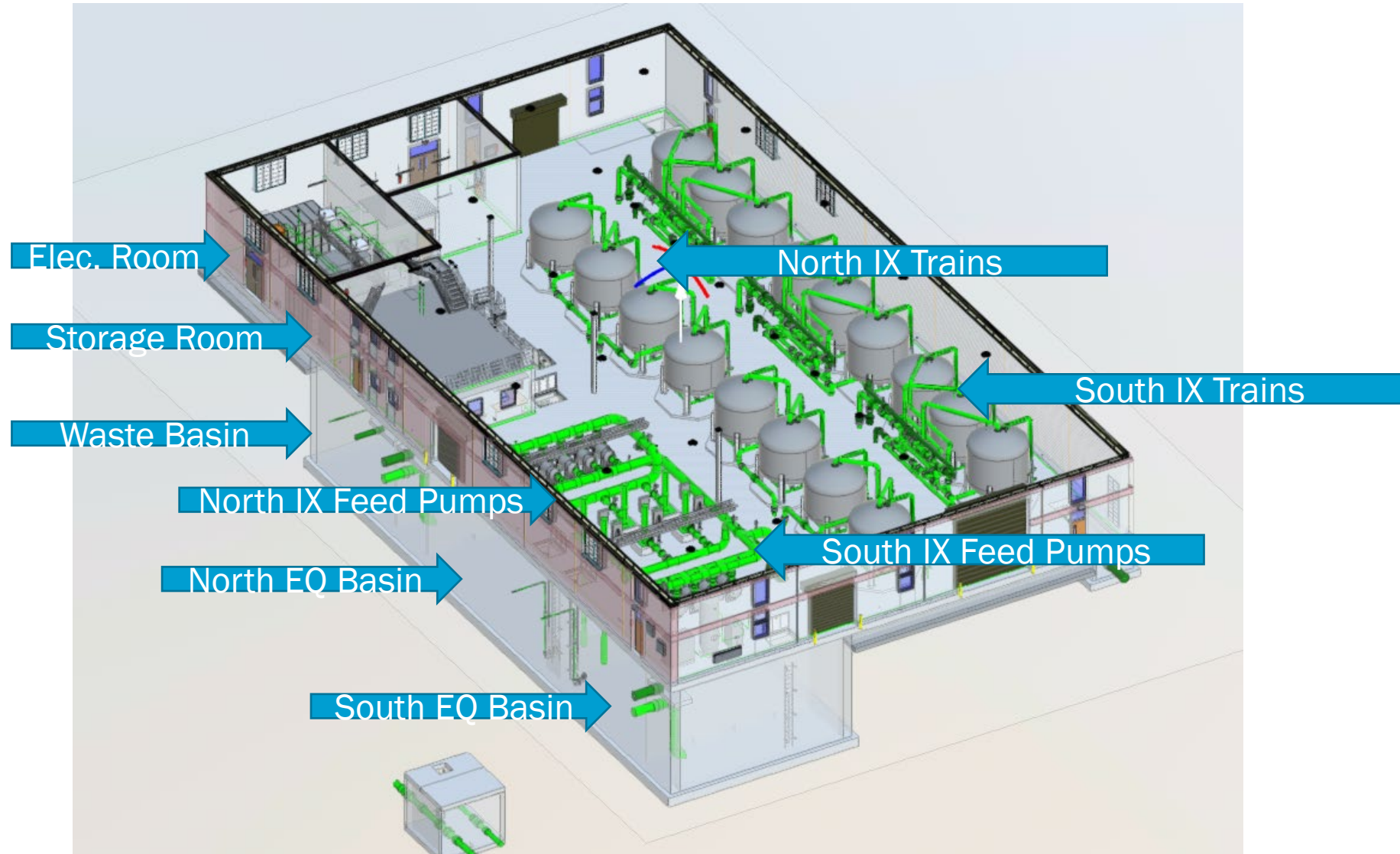


IX System Overview

- Separate treatment trains for different well fields
 - **North IX train (lower PFAS, 10 MGD)**
 - 330,000 gal EQ Basin
 - (3) 300 hp feed pumps (lead/lag/stdby)
 - (5) cartridge filters (1 stdby)
 - (4) lead/lag IX vessel pairs
 - **South IX train (higher PFAS, 8 MGD)**
 - 260,000 gal EQ basin
 - (3) 300 hp feed pumps (lead/lag/stdby)
 - (4) cartridge filters (1 stdby)
 - (3) lead/lag/polish IX vessel trains

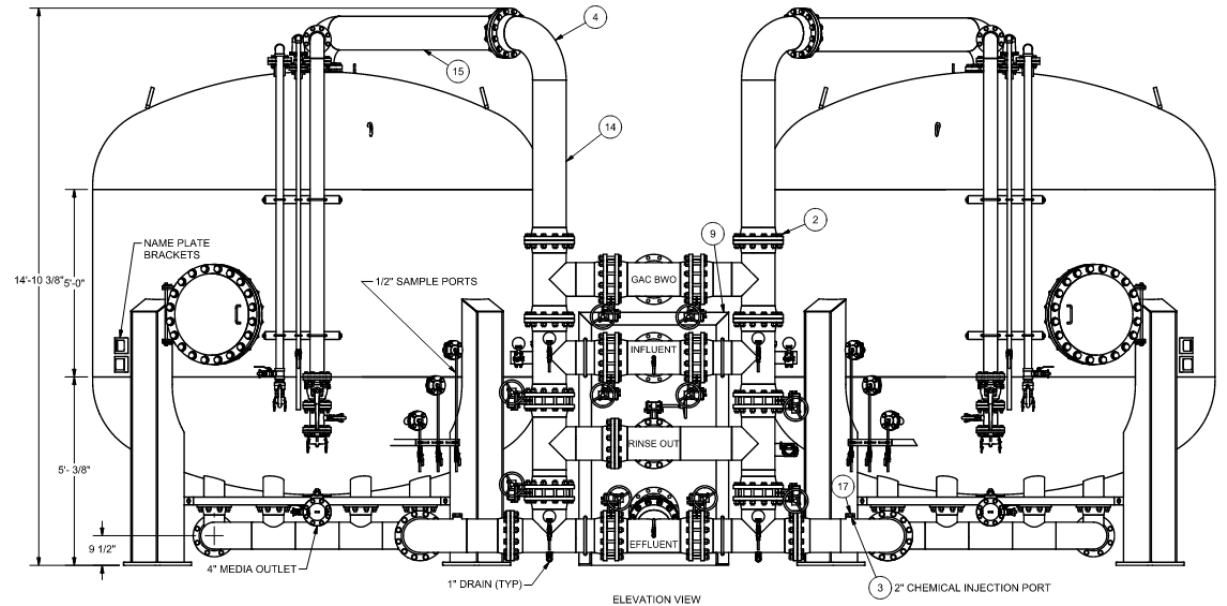


PFAS Treatment IX Site Layout



Key Considerations – IX Vessels

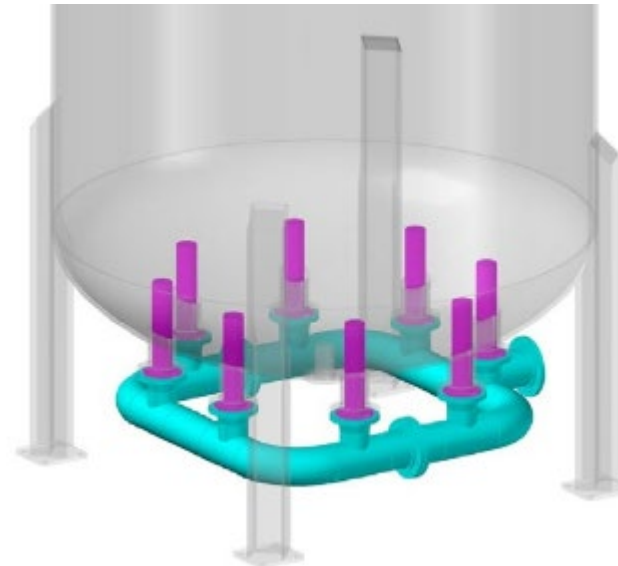
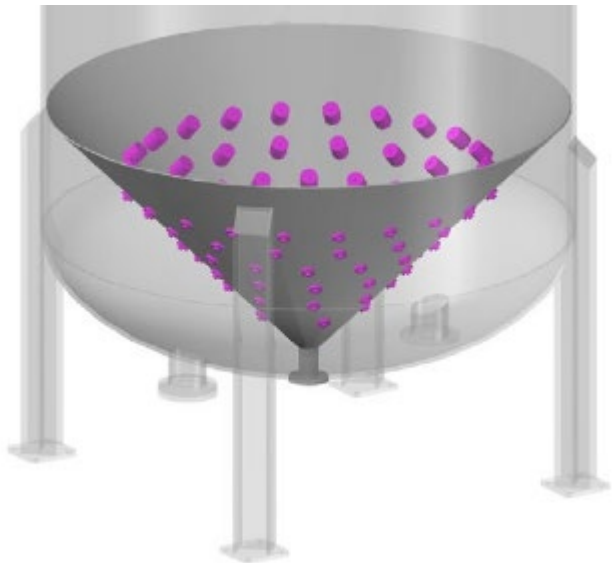
- Empty Bed Contact Time (EBCT) = 3 min
 - Treatment goal = ND
 - Utilize larger volume of resin
 - Slight adjustment to vessel sidewall (& overall) height
 - Can also operate with lower resin bed volume
- Flexibility for other media, though not enough EBCT for GAC to treat equivalently



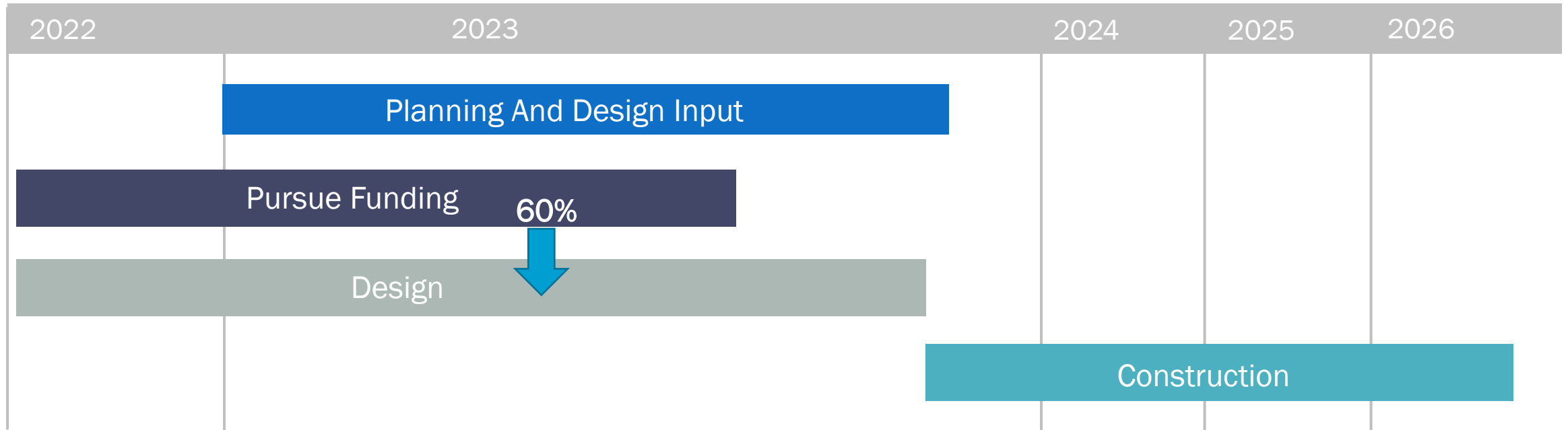
Source: AqueoUS Vets, 'Operations Manual – PF 12-520 LP IX.pdf', received 22 Dec, 2022.

Key Considerations – Underdrains

| Internal cone | External header |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improved hydraulics and flow distribution• Taller vessels• Additional welding and potential interior coating and corrosion challenges• Difficult maintenance access | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shorter vessels• Continuous interior coating and fewer welds• No interior access needed to remove header• Spent media can be more difficult to completely remove |



Project schedule and next steps



Community Outreach in 2023

- Customer Newsletter Updates
- Community Meetings

Continuous Community Outreach Through the Project

Thank you. Questions?

For additional questions:
Laurie Sullivan
lsullivan@brwnald.com

Joanie Stultz
jstultz@brwnald.com

Brown AND **Caldwell** :

