

# MABR AT WORK

**Technology Evaluation, Design  
& Construction of the Full-Scale  
MABR System at the Hespeler  
Wastewater Treatment Plant**

March 9, 2021



# Look Who's Talking



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Senior Product Manager  
SUEZ – Water Technologies & Solutions



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Senior Process Engineer  
Stantec Consulting, Ltd.





## **Agenda**

- |                             |        |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| 1. MABR Technology Overview | 15 min |
| 2. Hespeler Case Study      | 20 min |
| 3. Q&A                      | 10 min |

# 1.

## MABR Technology Overview



# ZeeLung\*

## SIMPLE, SUSTAINABLE, PROCESS INTENSIFICATION

### ⇒ PROCESS INTENSIFICATION

Up to 50% more treatment capacity in existing tank volumes

### ⇒ PROCESS RESILIENCE

Resilience to upset conditions

### ⇒ SIMPLE SOLUTION

Installed in existing tanks, no civil works, fast implementation

### ⇒ ENERGY SAVINGS

Up to 50% less energy

\*Trademark of SUEZ; may be registered in one or more countries.



# ZeeLung **solves** treatment challenges

- ⇒ Increase capacity
- ⇒ Augment ammonia removal
- ⇒ Implement nitrogen removal
- ⇒ Implement biological phosphorous removal

# How It Works





ZeeLung is a **biomass carrier** that supports the growth of a biofilm

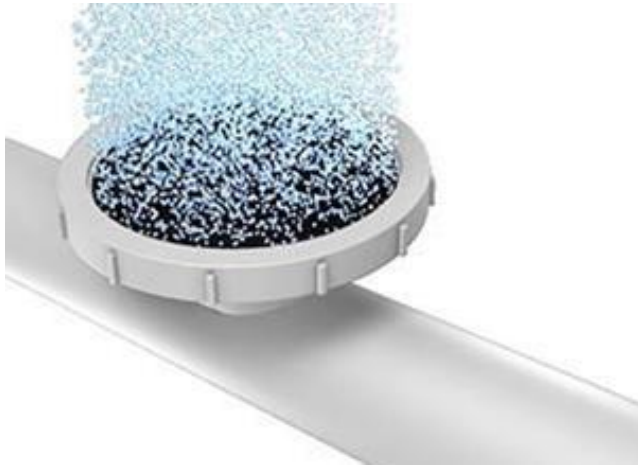
the carrier material “**breathes**” and transfers oxygen to the biofilm at very **high efficiency** without the use of bubbles



# ZeeLung is **not**...

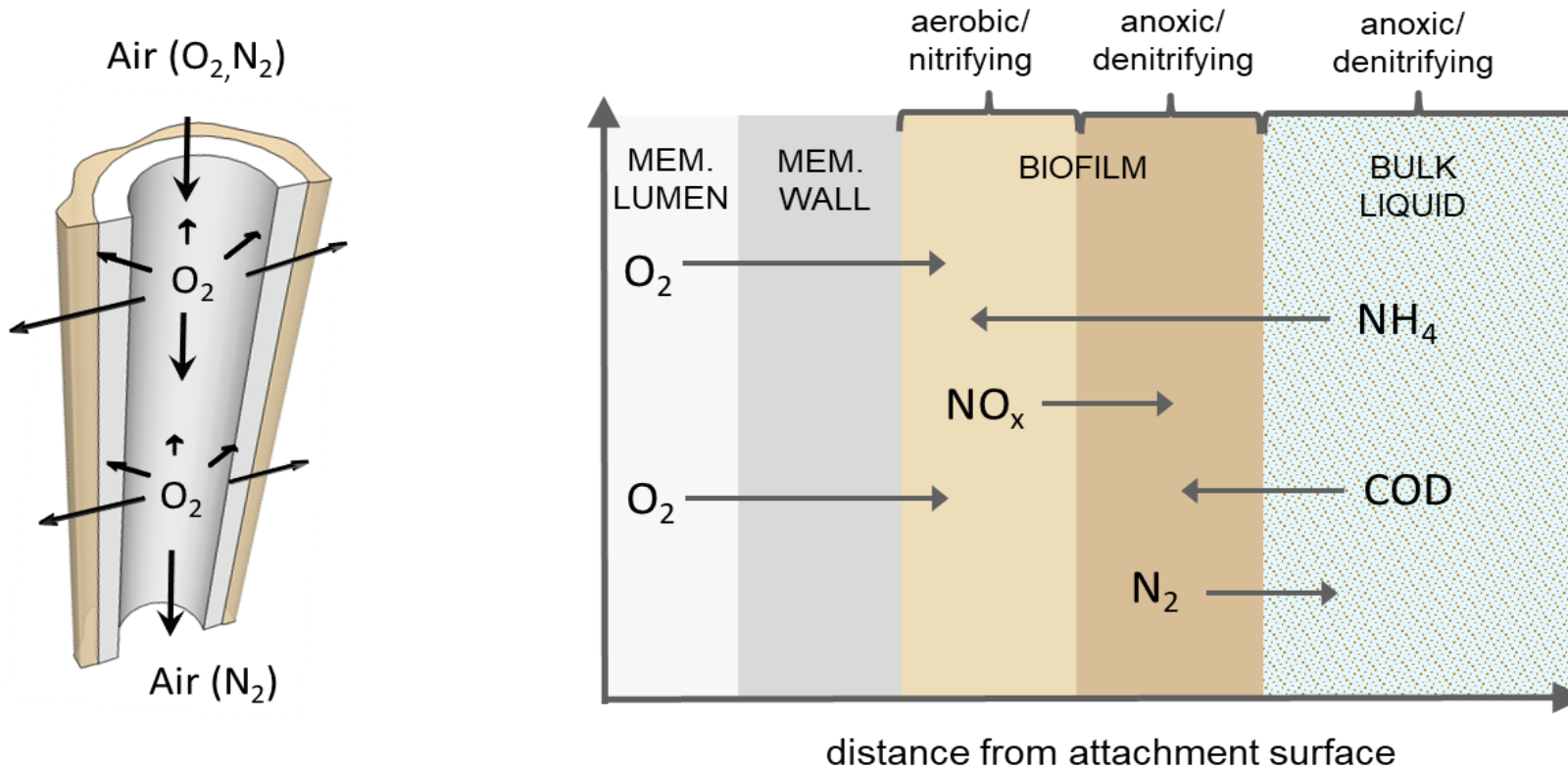


a filter



a fine bubble diffuser

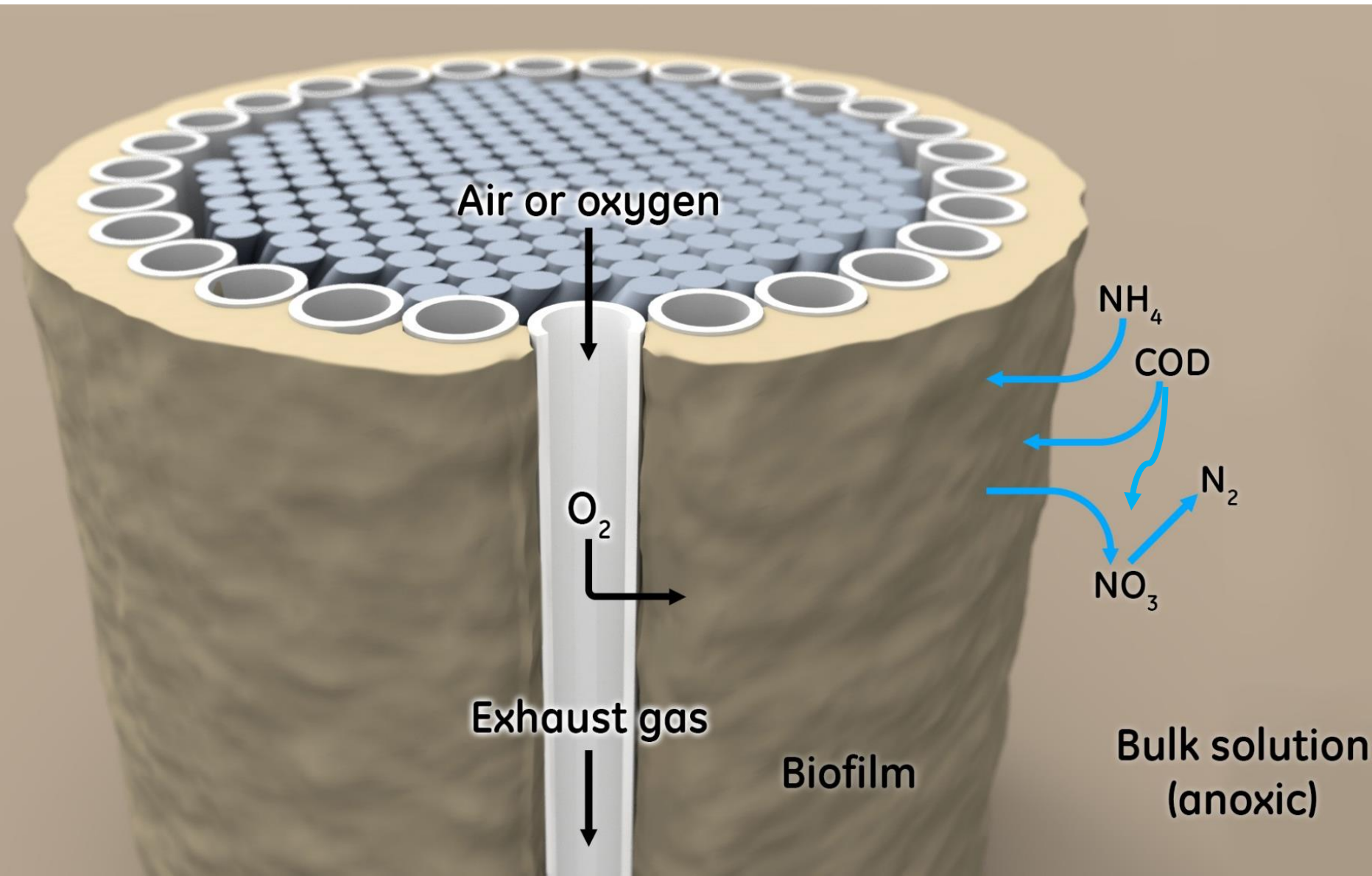
# What is MABR



⇒ Media-supported biofilm with its own built-in  $O_2$  supply

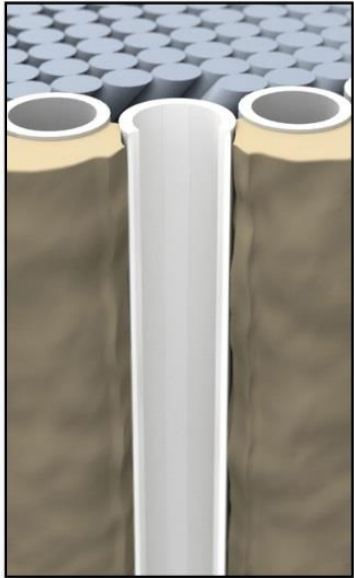
⇒ Counter-diffusional biofilm with “magical” properties

# ZeeLung process

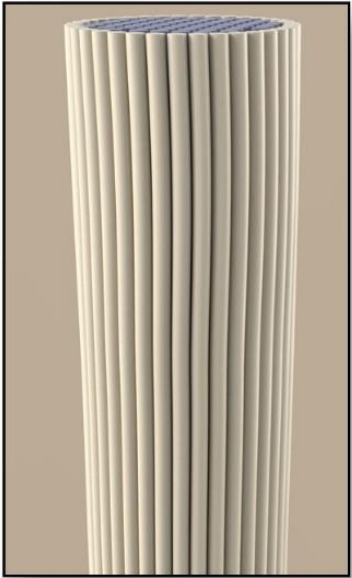


Highest efficiency of oxygen transfer by diffusion of  $\text{O}_2$  into a biofilm

# ZeeLung product



ZeeLung filament



ZeeLung cord



ZeeLung module



ZeeLung cassette

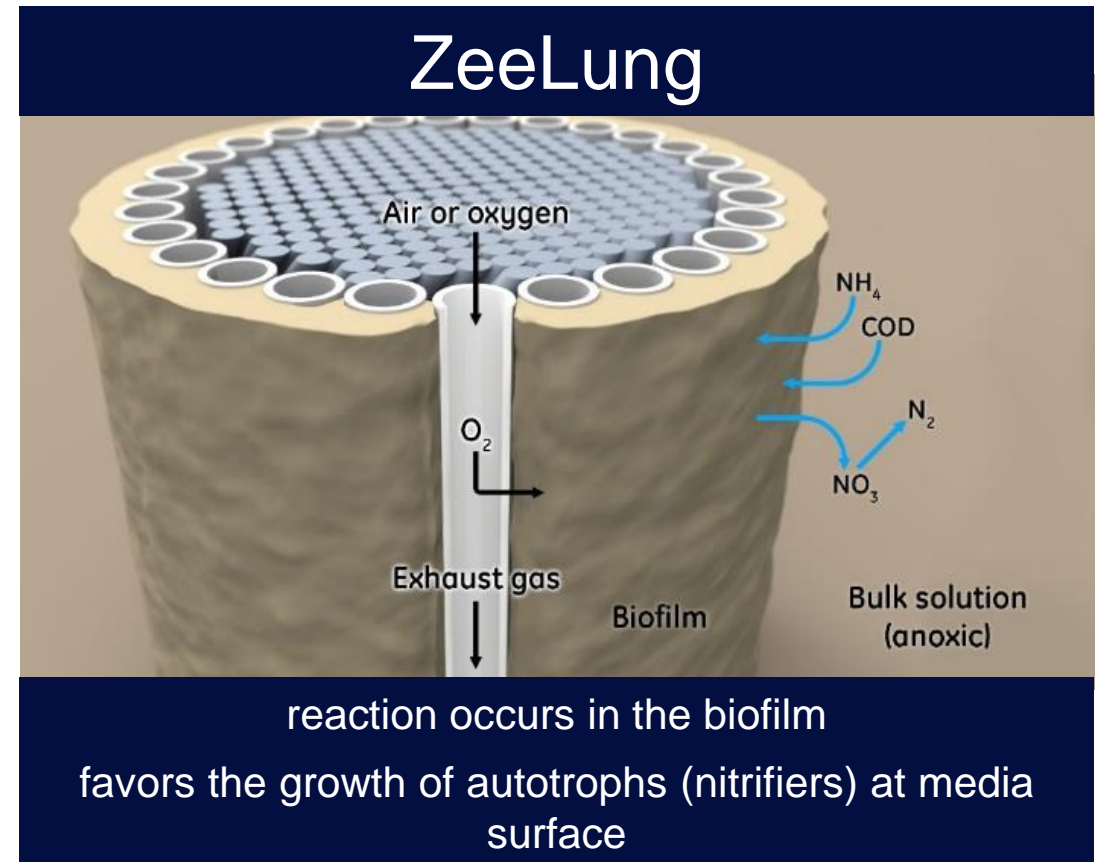
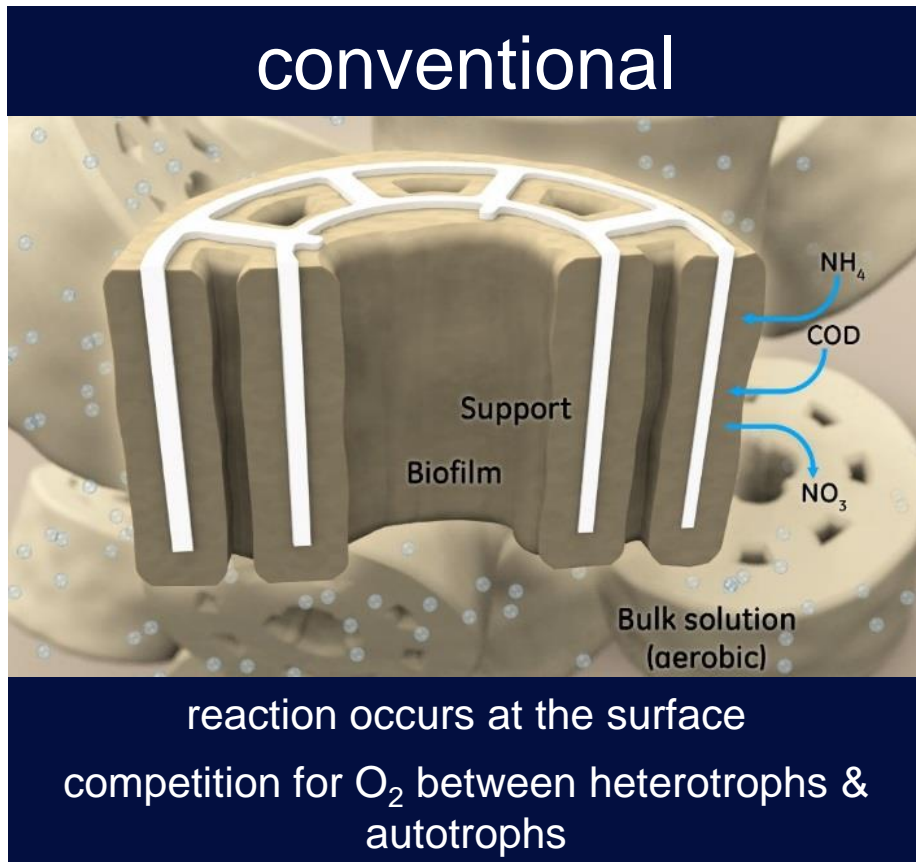




# ZeeLung enables process intensification

⇒  $\uparrow$  bacteria inventory =  $\uparrow$  treatment capacity

⇒ plus... ZeeLung biofilm favors the growth of the bacteria we want – nitrifiers





# ZeeLung offers process resilience

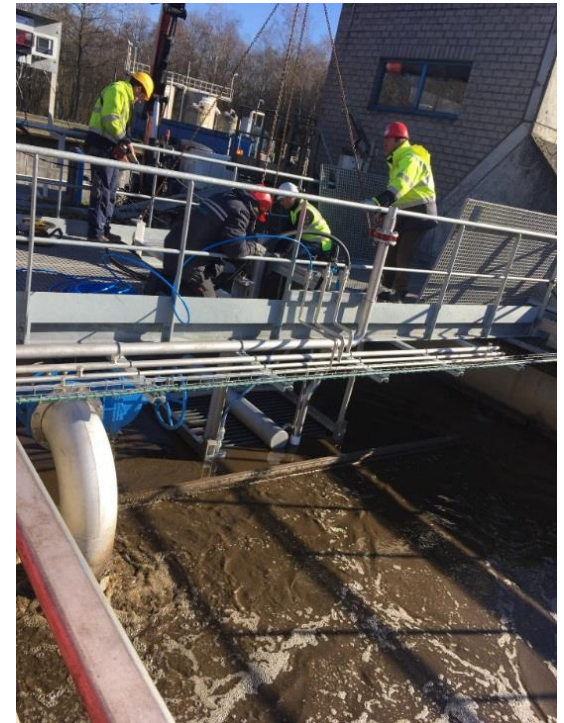


- ⇒ Attached growth bacteria...not susceptible to washout
- ⇒ Rapid response to influent fluctuations
- ⇒ Stable cold temperature performance



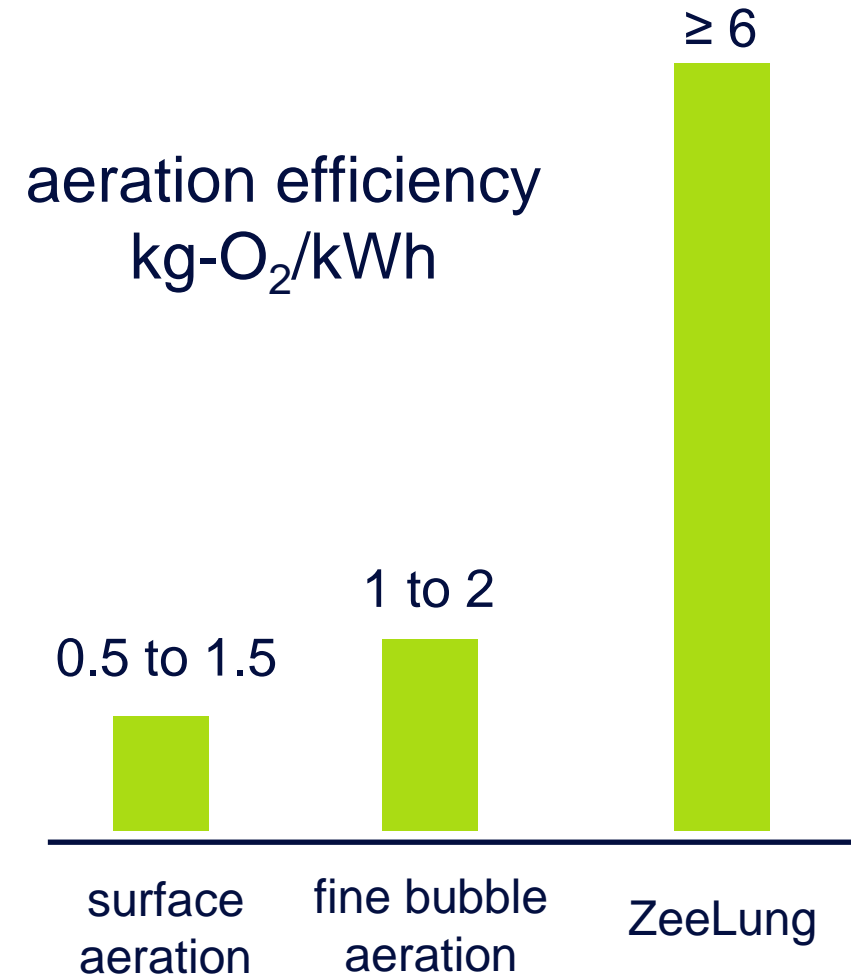
# ZeeLung is a **simple** solution

- ⇒ Installed in existing tanks
- ⇒ Fast deployment
- ⇒ No impact on hydraulic gradeline



# ZeeLung **saves energy**

- ⇒ Transfer O<sub>2</sub> without bubbles
- ⇒ 4X lower energy than bubble aeration
- ⇒ Reduce liquid pumping due to simultaneous nitrification & denitrification





# ZeeLung is a **sustainable** solution

- ⇒ Increase capacity of existing assets
- ⇒ Improve nutrient removal
- ⇒ Reduce GHG's
- ⇒ No plastic pollution



# Innovative & proven

12

full-scale plants,  
3 in operation for >2 years

>30

technology demonstrations

# 2.

## Hespeler Case Study







# MABR Integration at Hespeler WWTP - Ontario, Canada

Olav Natvik, M.Eng., P.Eng  
Stantec Consulting Ltd.

March 9, 2021

Partner Acknowledgements:  
Region of Waterloo  
Ontario Clean Water Agency

## Aerial View Before Upgrades:

- Plant capacity = 9.32 MLD
- Undergoing upgrades: new headworks, sec clarifier, membrane WAS thickening, aerobic digestion, PAA disinfection, MABR

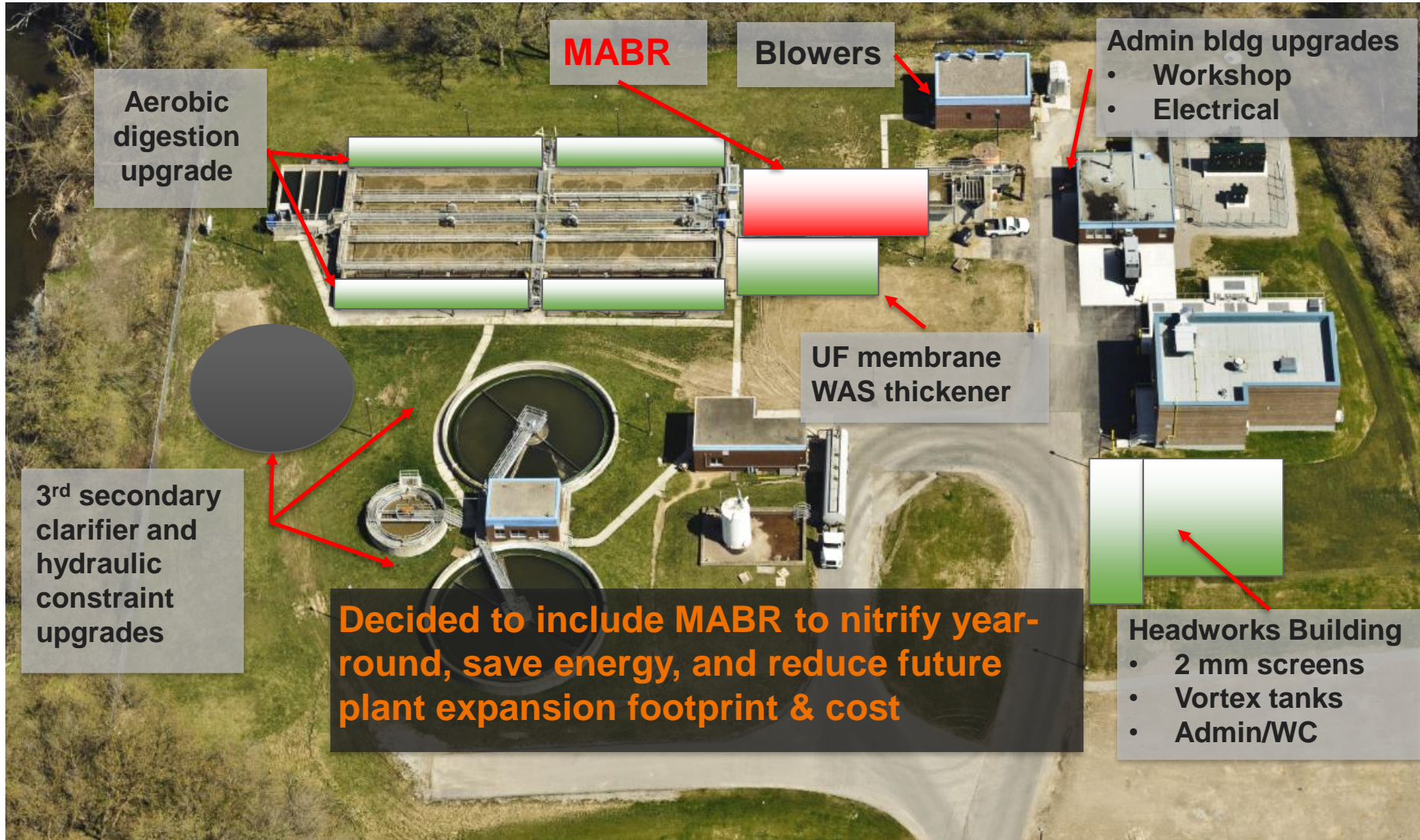






# Background - Plant upgrades

MABR INTEGRATION AT HESPELER WWTP



## Contract #1

3<sup>rd</sup> secondary clarifier – completed

## Contract #2

Headworks, WAS thickener, digester upgrades – on-going

## Contract #2

Change Order to add MABR – on-going with completion Q3, 2021



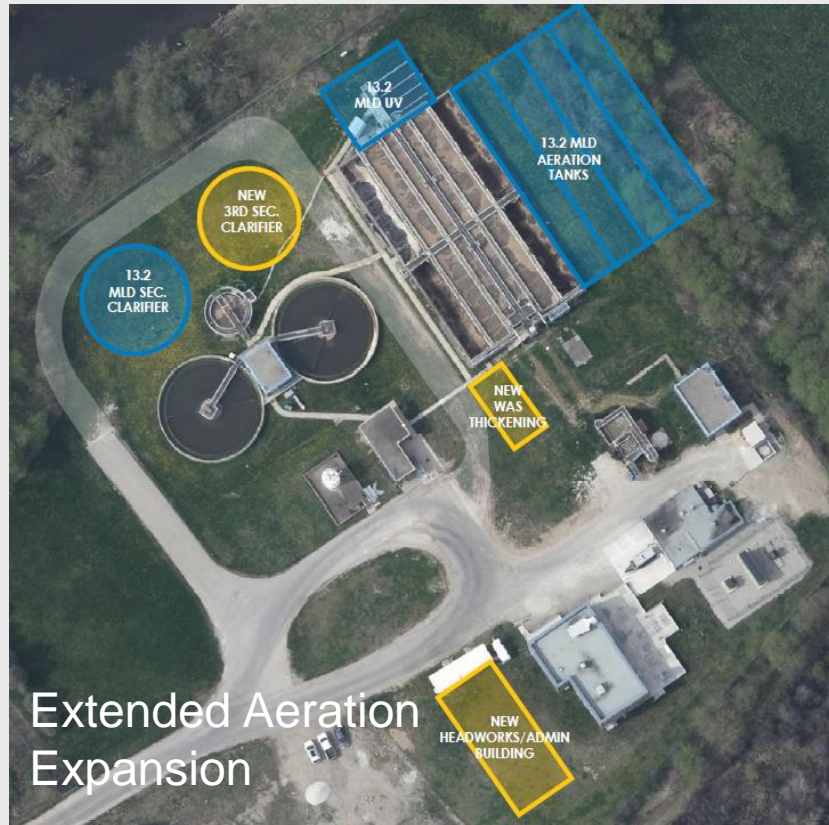


# MABR Drivers for Hespeler



- Need for winter nitrification - *currently suffer winter nitrifier washout*
- MABR capital cost = half of CAS/EA expansion (\$12M vs \$25M for 13.5 MLD)
- MABR compact footprint vs CAS/EA
- Energy saving >30% for aeration

MABR INTEGRATION AT HESPELER WWTP



Vs





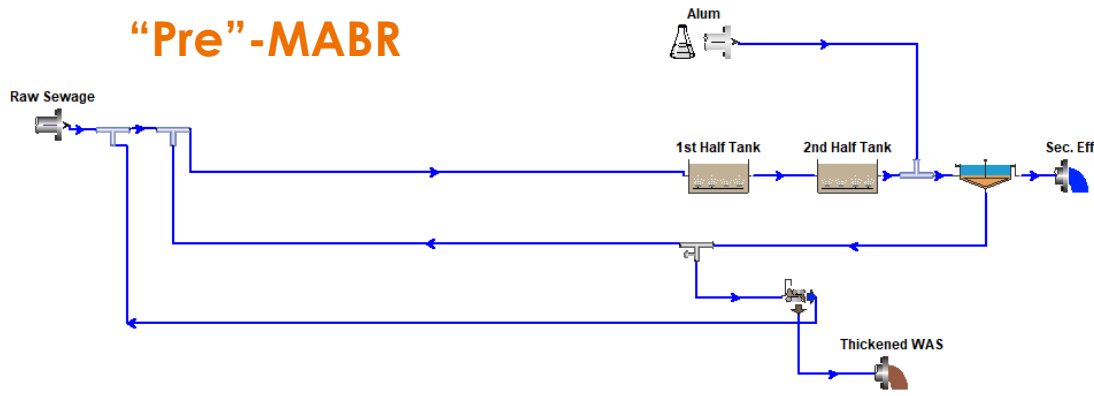
# Hespeler MABR Design Basis

1. PFD – New purpose-built tanks to fit hydraulic profile & space constraints

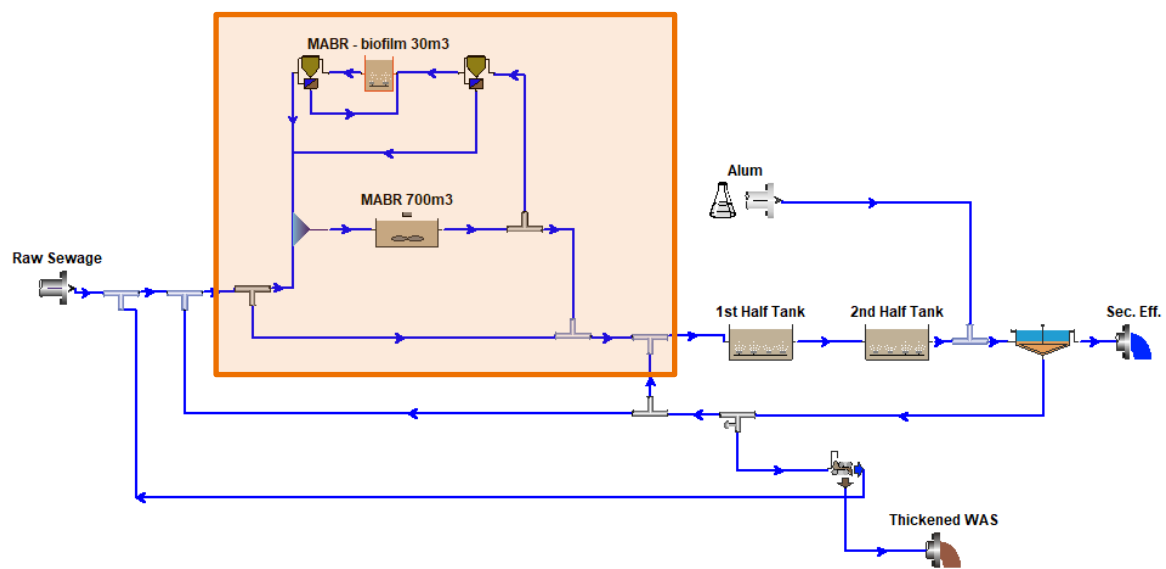
2. Modeling used as basis for estimating MABR effluent NH3 target = 12 mg/L & plant effluent = 5 mg/L, with worst case non-nitrifying ASP

MABR INTEGRATION AT HESPELER WWTP

## “Pre”-MABR



## “Post”-MABR



### Key model settings:

- Flow=9.32 MLD, annual average load equivalent, MLSS srt=4 days, biofilm srt=20 days
- Raw sewage characteristics per updated 2014-2018 data review
- WW temp = 10 C, Biofilm=100%, RAS=100%, alum dose = 700 L/d
- Modeling objective: To assess MABR performance.

### Concentrations (mg/L):

Elements	Flow [m3/d]	CBOD - T [mg/L]	TSS [mg/L]	VSS [mg/L]	N - TKN - T [mg/L]	S_NHx [mg/L]	S_NO3 [mg/L]	S_NO2 [mg/L]	P - PO4 [mg/L]	P - TP [mg/L]
Raw Sewage	9320.00	205.97	216.12	166.12	42.00	27.72	0	0	2.90	5.80
Alum	0.70	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
To biofilm	9226.80	6.28	0.03	0.02	15.00	12.59	0.46	0.07	0.21	0.21
To biofilm (U)	93.20	99698.91	270686.38	177743.17	15158.42	12.59	0.46	0.07	0.21	6910.55
MABR - biofilm 30m3	9320.00	14879.69	31516.36	28141.72	2789.97	0.54	12.37	0.12	0.14	880.61
From biofilm	9226.80	3.22	2.55	2.27	3.00	0.54	12.37	0.12	0.14	0.21
From biofilm (U)	93.20	1487650.51	3151383.83	2813947.01	278700.29	0.54	12.37	0.12	0.14	88039.62
MABR 700m3	27900.43	1003.20	2706.89	1777.45	166.43	12.59	0.46	0.07	0.21	69.31
1st Half Tank	18580.43	980.38	2693.69	1761.98	164.40	7.92	1.40	0.90	0.02	69.31
2nd Half Tank	18580.43	959.91	2677.16	1743.81	162.84	7.92	2.15	1.48	0.00	69.31
Sec. Eff.	9261.13	6.04	10.77	7.00	10.80	7.92	2.15	1.48	0.00	0.28
Sec. Clarifier (U)	9320.00	1907.69	5338.86	3469.53	313.90	7.92	2.15	1.48	0.00	137.91
WAS splitter (U)	373.12	1907.69	5338.86	3469.53	313.90	7.92	2.15	1.48	0.00	137.91
Membrane WAS thickener	313.55	2.22	0.06	0.04	10.19	7.92	2.15	1.48	0.00	0.00
Membrane WAS thickener (U)	59.57	11936.51	33437.78	21729.98	1912.39	7.92	2.15	1.48	0.00	863.71
Thickened WAS	59.57	11936.51	33437.78	21729.98	1912.39	7.92	2.15	1.48	0.00	863.71

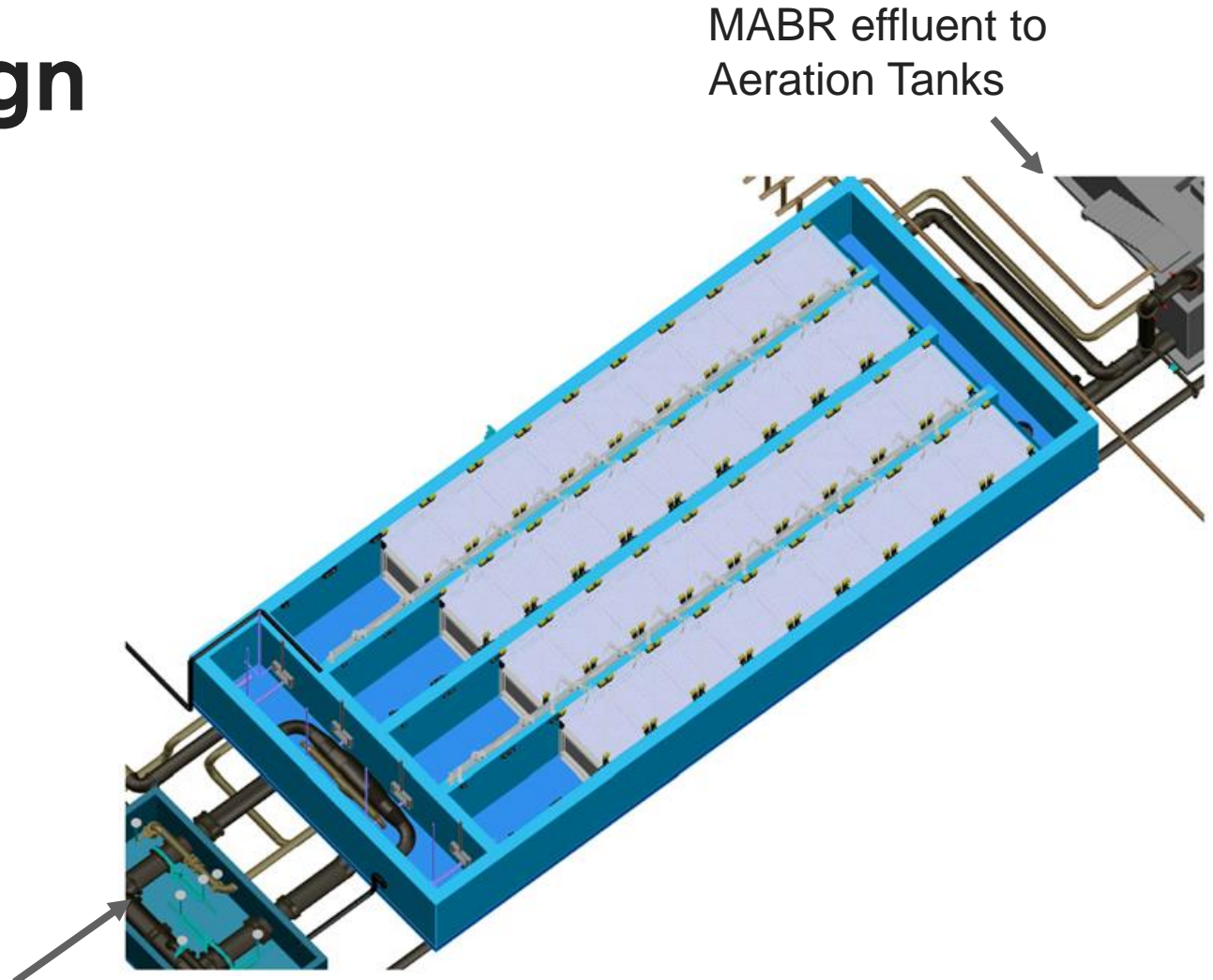




# Hespeler MABR Design

## Unique aspects

- Business case – MABR half cost vs CAS/EA expansion for nitrification
- Scale – Largest full-scale MABR plant in world with 36 cassettes
- Process design – ammonia removal by Zeelung; no MLSS nitrification credit in winter
- Implementation – purpose-built tanks to minimize disruption during construction
- Procurement – Competitively bid preselection
- Design considerations:
  - Headloss
  - Supplemental mixing
  - Testing flexibility – flow routing, instrumentation
  - Future expansions



- Inlet Valve Chamber
- Screened sewage
  - RAS
  - MABR Bypass

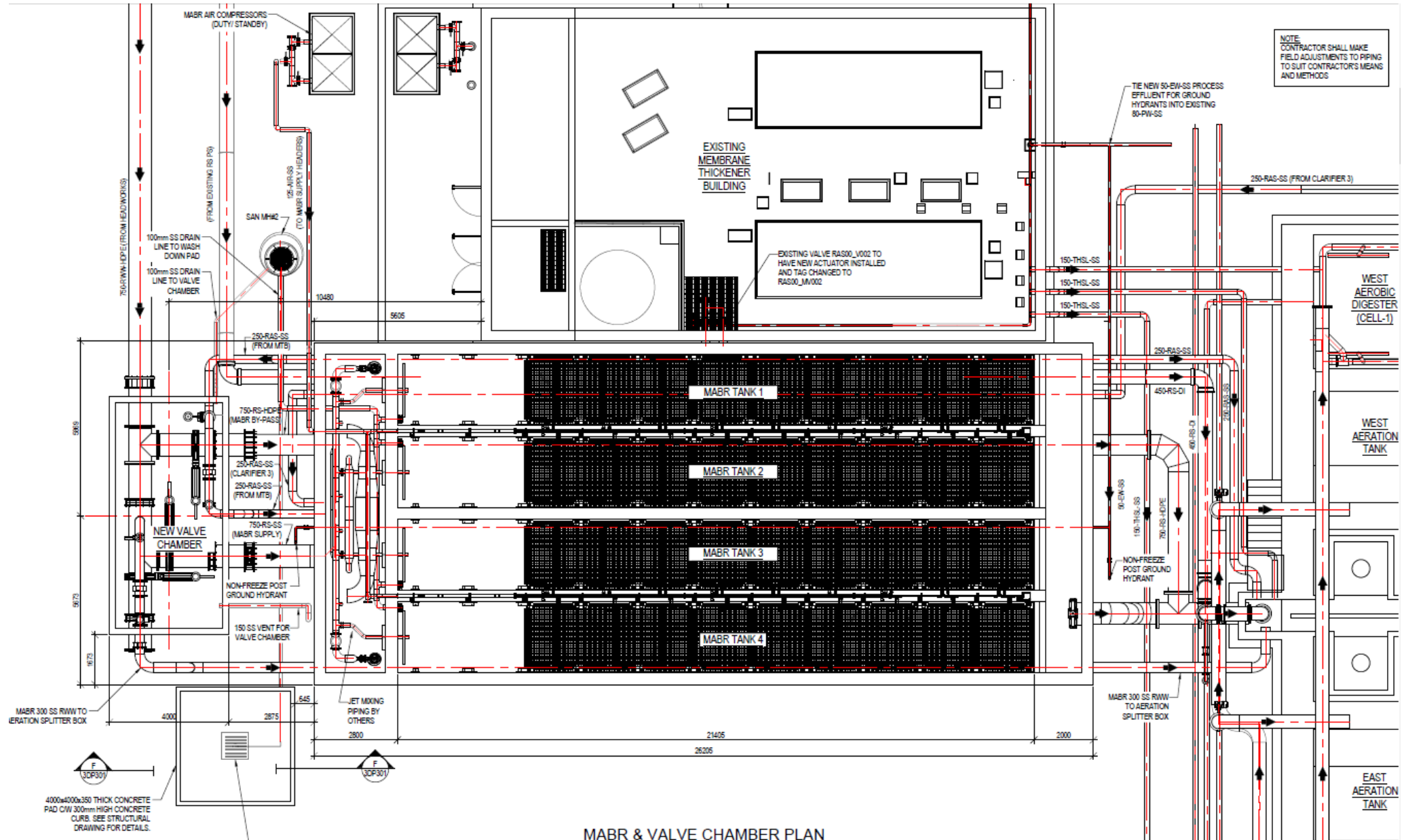




# Hespeler MABR Design Plan View



MABR INTEGRATION AT HESPELER WWTP

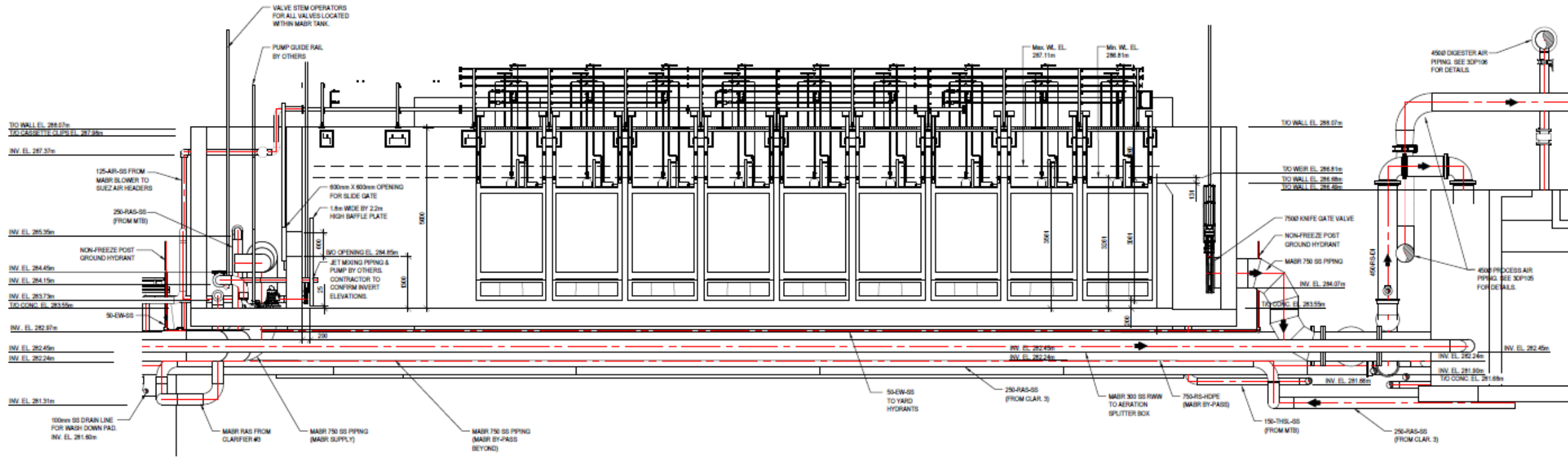




# Hespeler MABR Design

## Section View

MABR INTEGRATION AT HESPELER WWTP





# Hespeler MABR Design **Project Status**



- Construction complete Q3 – 2021
  - Concrete tanks completed
  - Suez equipment on-site Q2
- Biomass acclimatization Q4 – 2021
  - Start-up/transition plan to grow nitrifiers on cassettes
- Performance testing Q1 – 2022
  - 6-week monitoring/sampling period during coldest period of year (temp = 10-12 C)
  - Goal to reduce MLSS SRT=3 days & operate with nitrifier “washout” conditions & meet TAN<5 mg/L in final effluent.

# 3.

## Questions & Answers

Submit your questions via the chat function.  
You can address your questions to just the speakers or to the entire audience.



# THANK YOU!

## CONTACT

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