

Moving towards sustainable wastewater treatment

Kieran Healey

iWATER & EfW Conference 2012

Cambridge

<http://www.cir-strategy.com/events/water>



1

Introduction

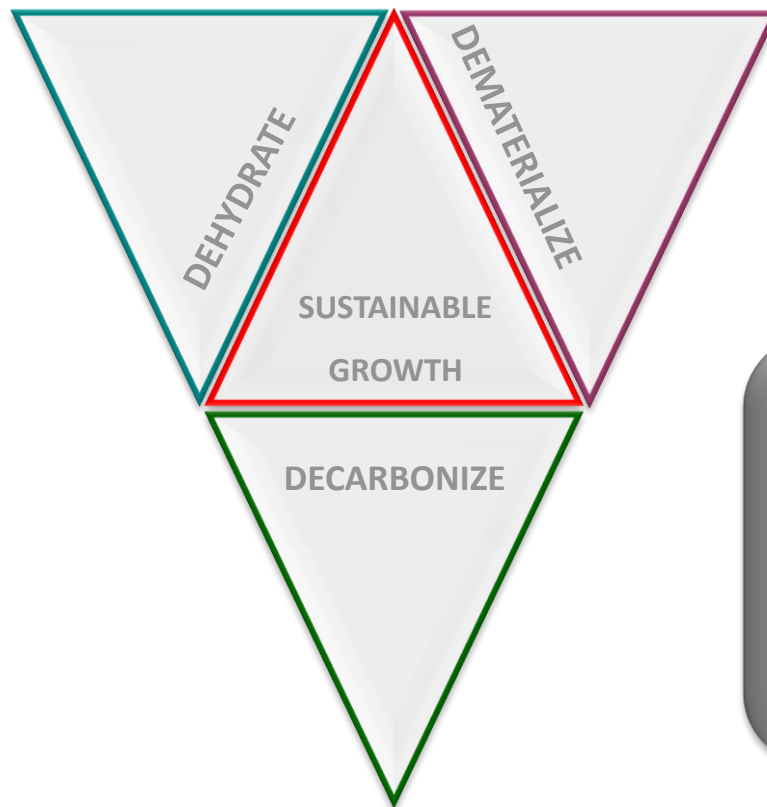


Veolia Environnement ...Vision



*“our collective ambition is to make **Veolia the benchmark for sustainable growth**”*

Antoine FREROT - CEO



“Sustainable growth is that which meets the needs of the present without compromising the needs of the future”

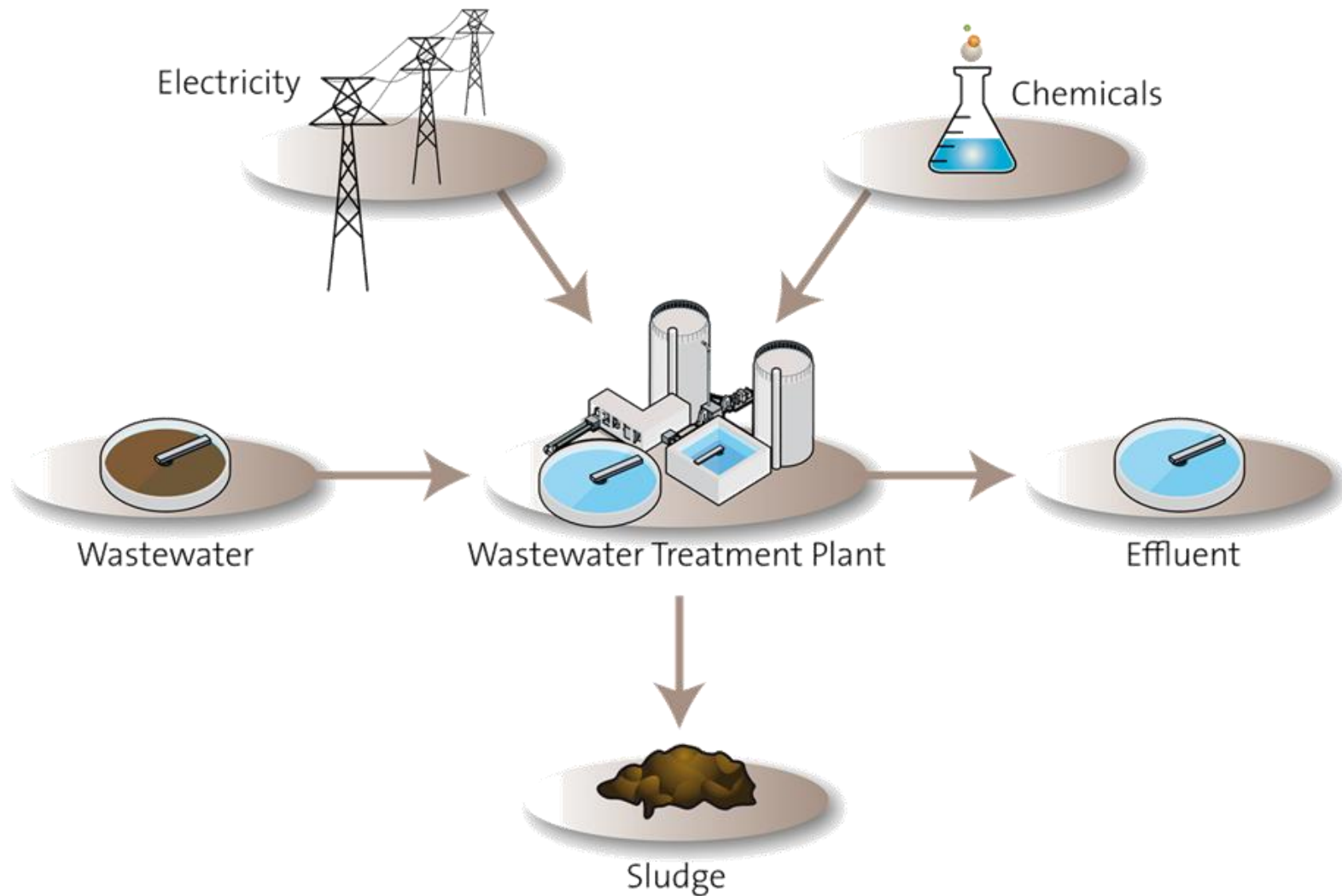
Commitment ...

R & D budget of 150 million euro
3 research centres
800 experts
200 international partners

- Treating wastewater for tomorrow
- Biopolymers from sludge
- Advances in biotechnology and microbiology
- Optimising efficiency
- Life cycle assessment
- Composting biodegradable wastes
- Waste sorting & recycling
- CO₂ capture storage and recovery



A traditional WWTP ...



The challenge...



THE
T
Nati

SALES
(ective)

y in relation to
are wholly in



The challenge:- squeezing every last drop of benefit from our WWTP's
by :-

Reducing energy use

Producing more energy

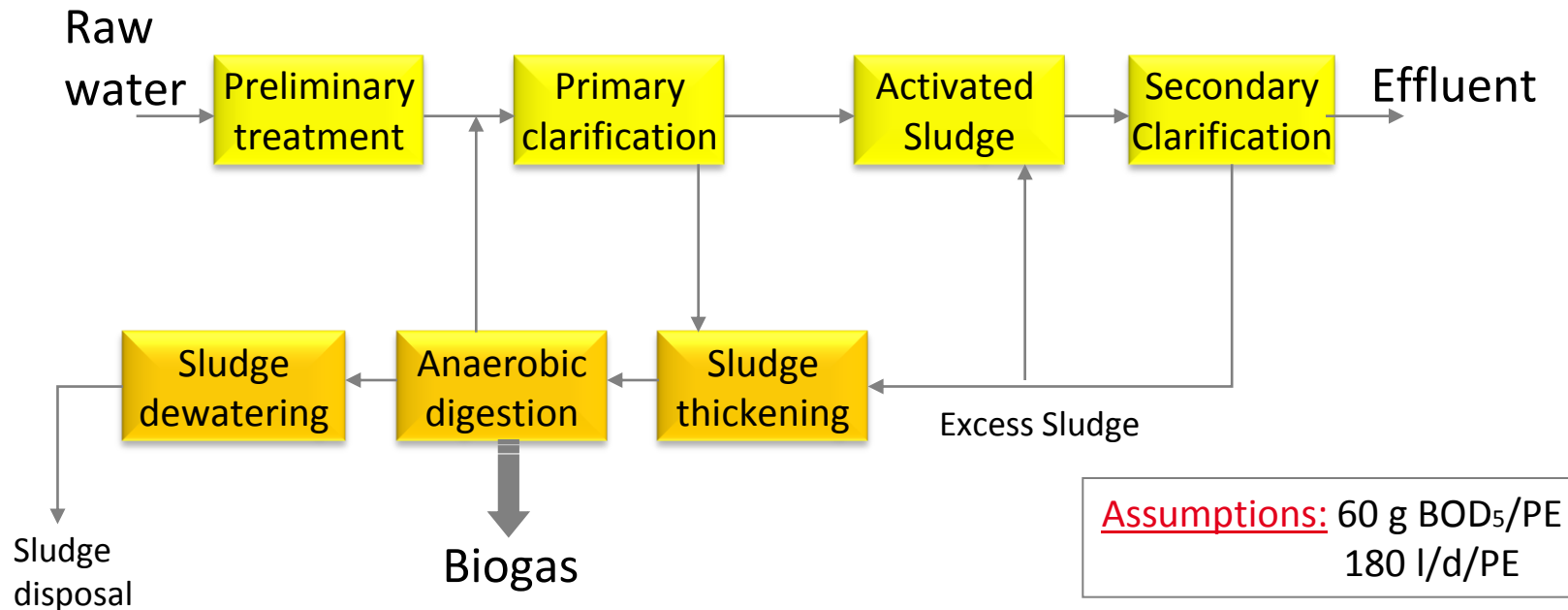
Recovering resources



in the Regulations,

and partly in

Typical WWTP « for Carbon removal »



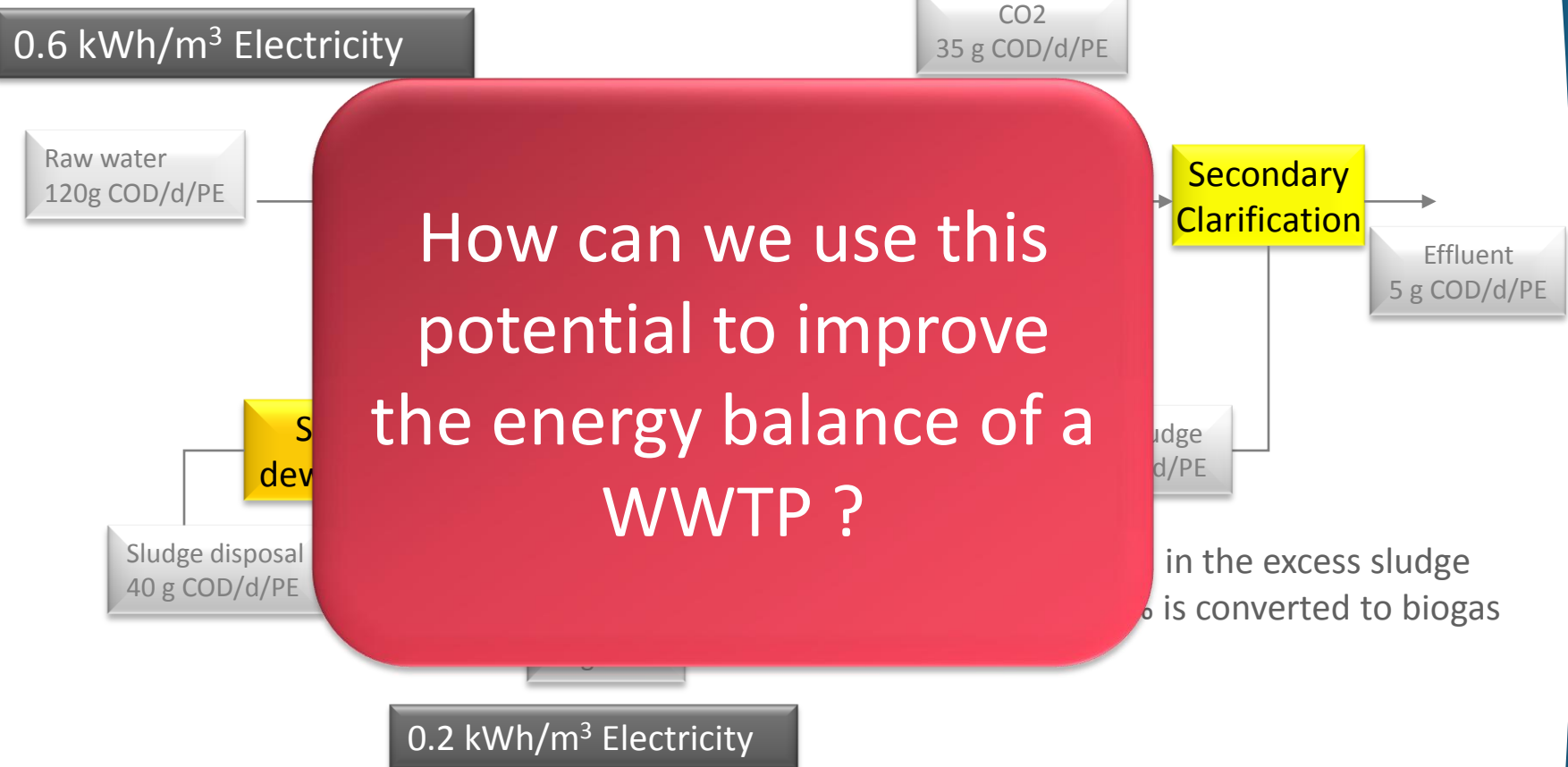
Average electricity consumption:

- **0.3 – 0.4** kWh/m³ or 0,06 kWh/d.pe
- WWTP energy self-sufficient approx.: **50-70%**

Carbon Mass Balance of a WWTP



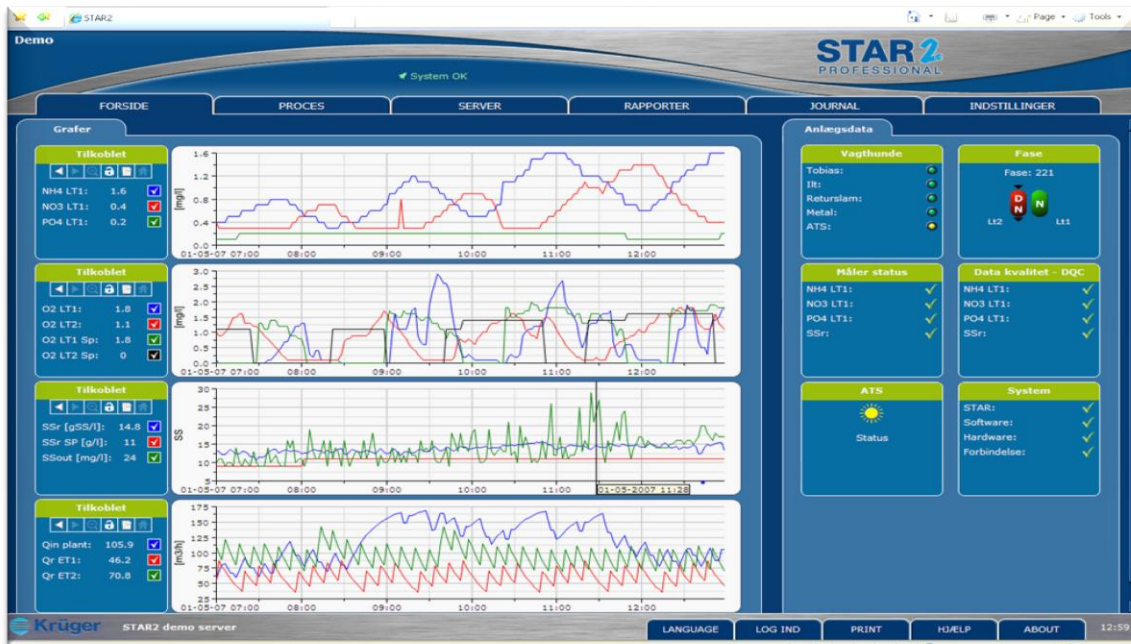
1/3 from the inlet C is consumed in the water line



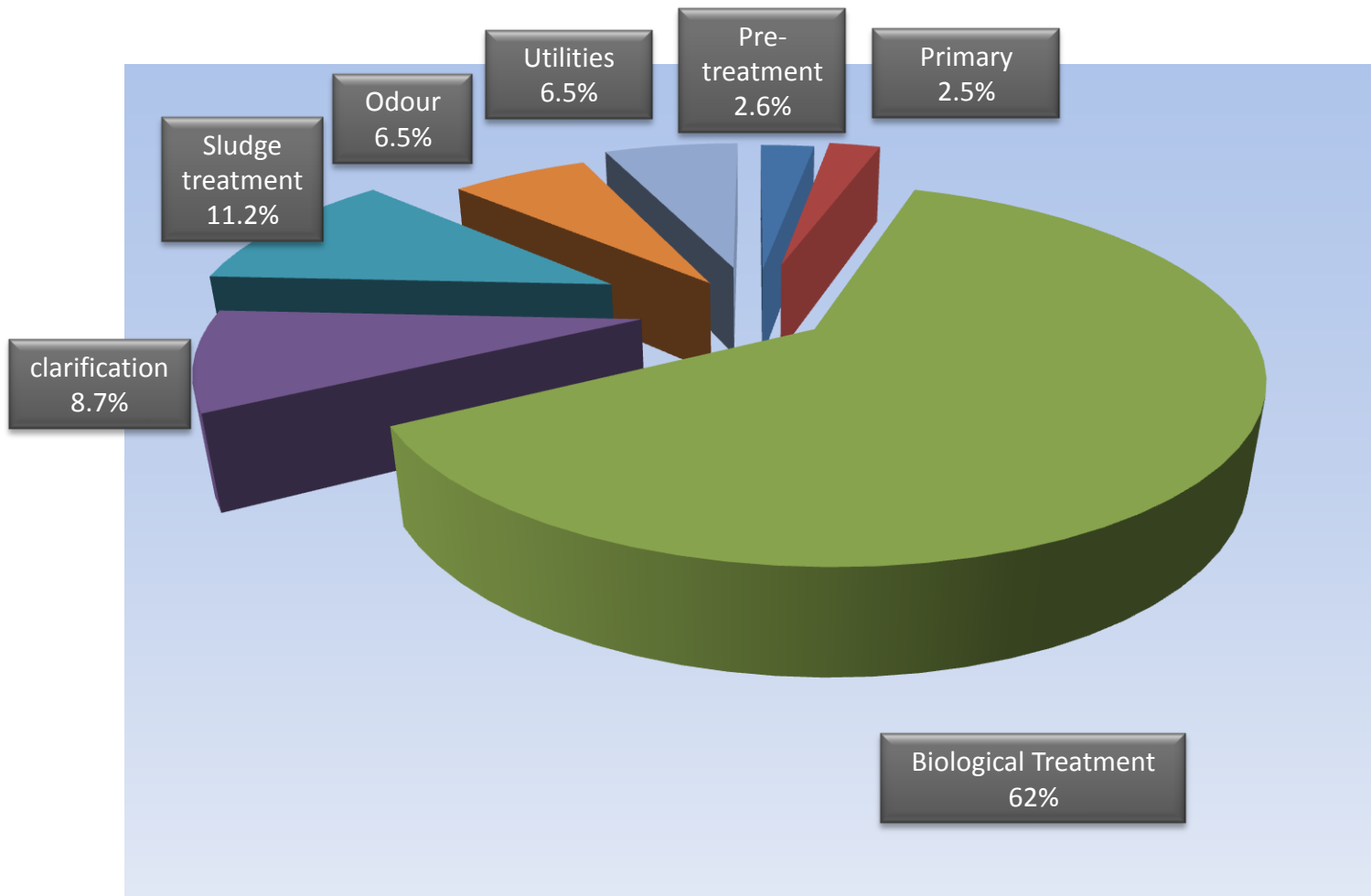
Existing Potential for **x2 electricity** needs for the WWTP with only *half* (**0.2 kWh/m³.d**) of the energy potential from Sludge (**0.4 kWh/m³.d**) being used

2

Step 1 - Process Optimisation



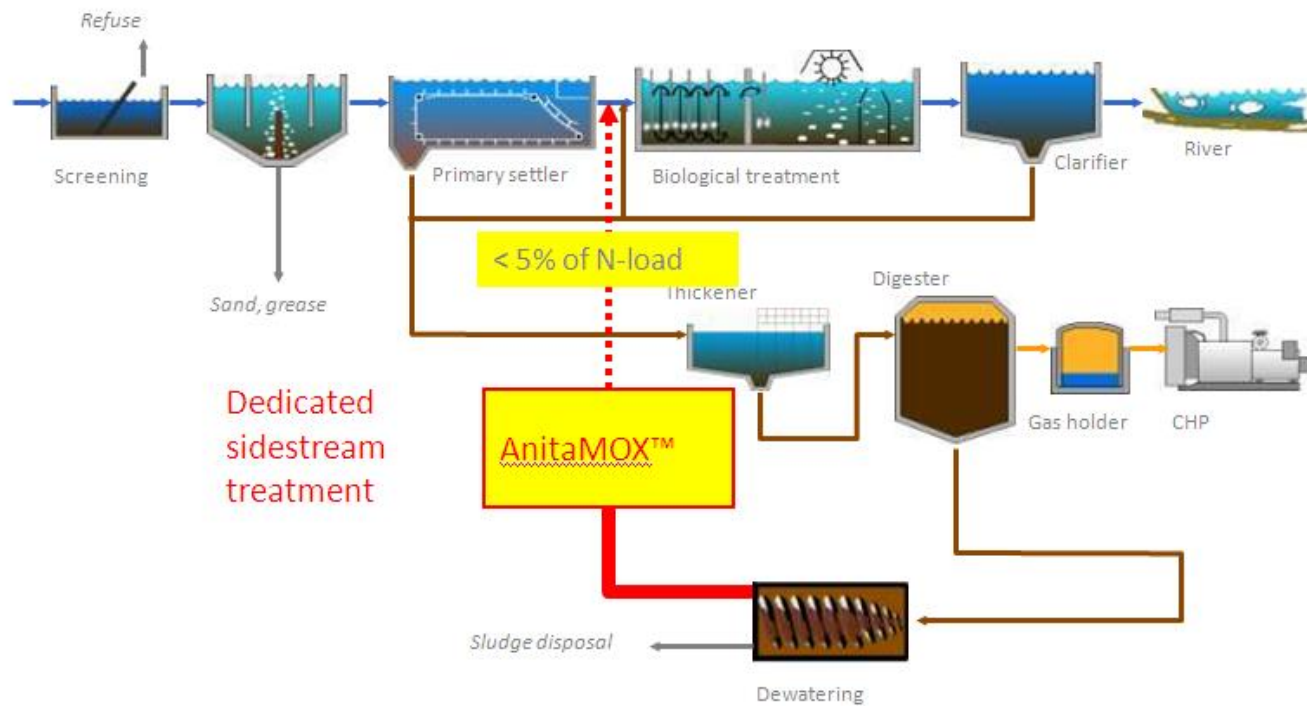
Wastewater treatment plant energy use ...



Process optimisation ...

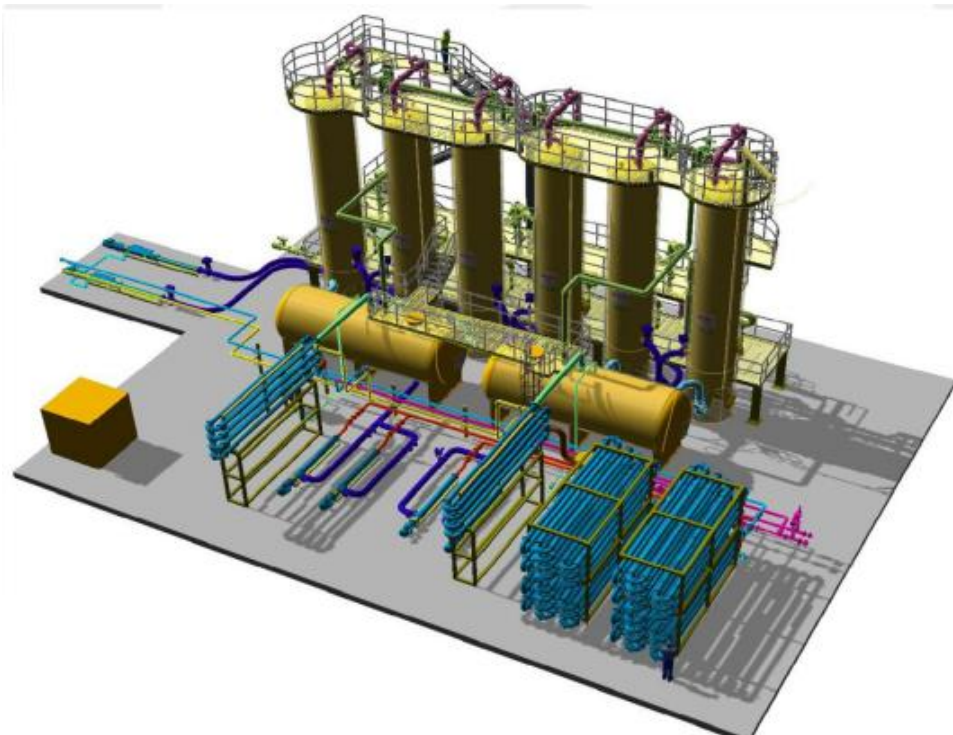


Dedicated sidestream process ...



3

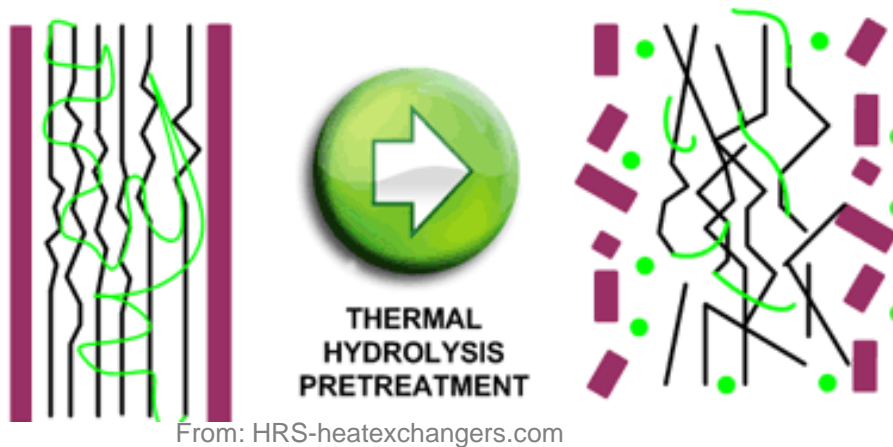
Step 2 – Produce more energy



Thermal Hydrolysis releases energy stored in sludge



- High Temperature & Pressure (150-190 C & 6 -15 bar) to "crack" bio- molecules

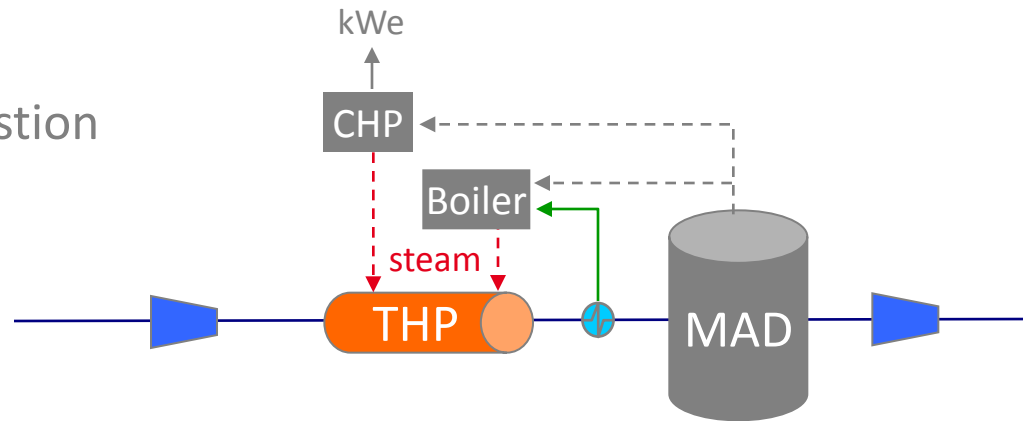


- More bio-active carbon sources available
- Most effective biogas enhancement – more gas + less sludge
- Biosolids Pasteurisation

Classical « LD » concept



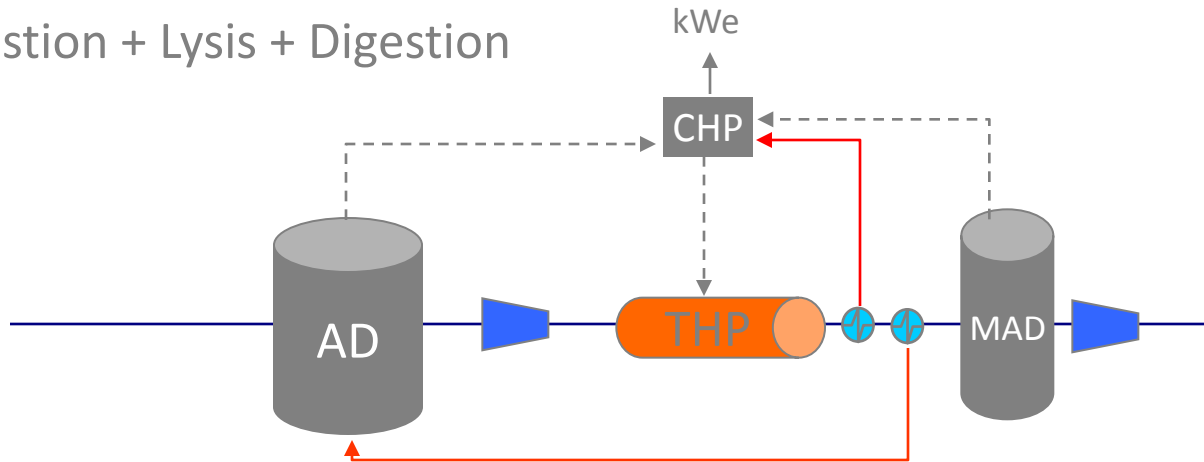
LD Lysis + Digestion



- Thermal hydrolysis increase's the biodegradability of sludge producing more biogas which can be used for steam production by the **boiler and CHP**
- Higher sludge volume **reduction**
- **Smaller** anaerobic digester

« DLD » **New** concept

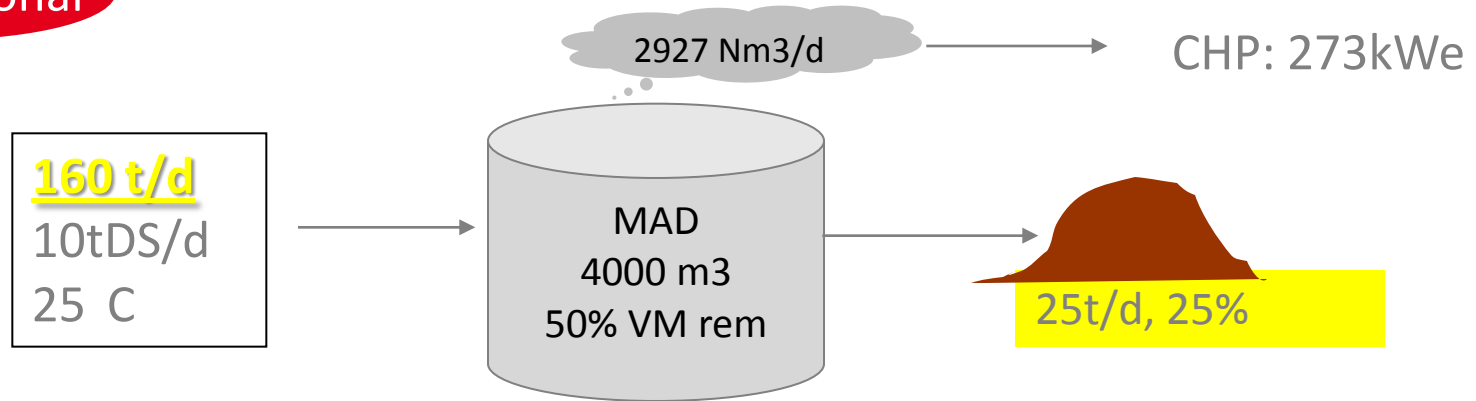
DLD Digestion + Lysis + Digestion



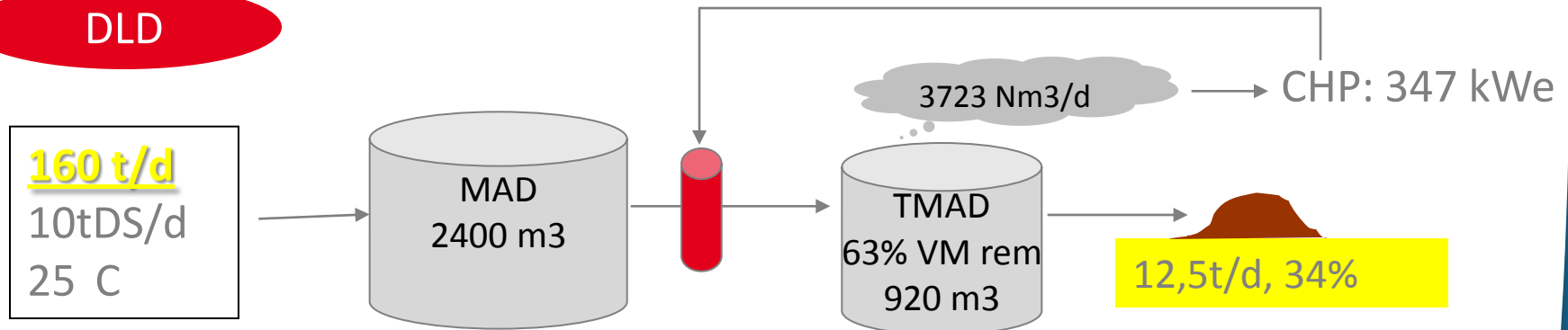
- Let the biology do the work first!
- **THP on digested sludge** -> reduces THP design & steam consumption
- Increase of Biogas production
- **Steam produced only by CHP** -> electricity production optimised

New « DLD » on mixed sludge

Conventional



DLD



+25-30% increase in electricity production &
-50% reduction in final sludge volume

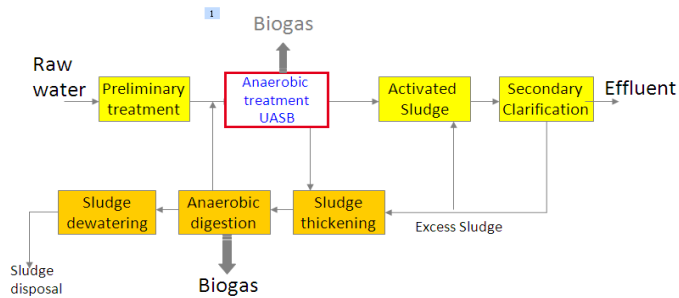
4

Step 3 – Use innovative technologies



VWS Biorefinery ...

Replacement of a primary settler by UASB,
«Carbon Removal Objective »



Electricity consumption reduction from 0.3 to 0.25 kWh/m³
 Sludge production reduction to 30%
 WWTP self sufficient increase from 50-70% to 100-110%

South Pest treatment works, Budapest, Hungary

- Revenue generated through gate fees
- Biogas production – up by 400%
- Subsequent energy generation – up by 300%

5. Bio-polymers

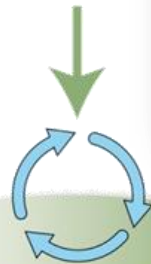
Green chemicals ...

Primary coagulant substitute - Hydrex 3808 – Tannin based product

- Renewable source, recycled bark waste of mimosa tree
- Non toxic, biodegradable
- Low mwt cationic
- No alkalinity consumption, wide pH range
- No additional sludge



Biorefinery



Production of resour
(biofertilizers, bioplas

Micro hydro power



5

OCEAN software tool



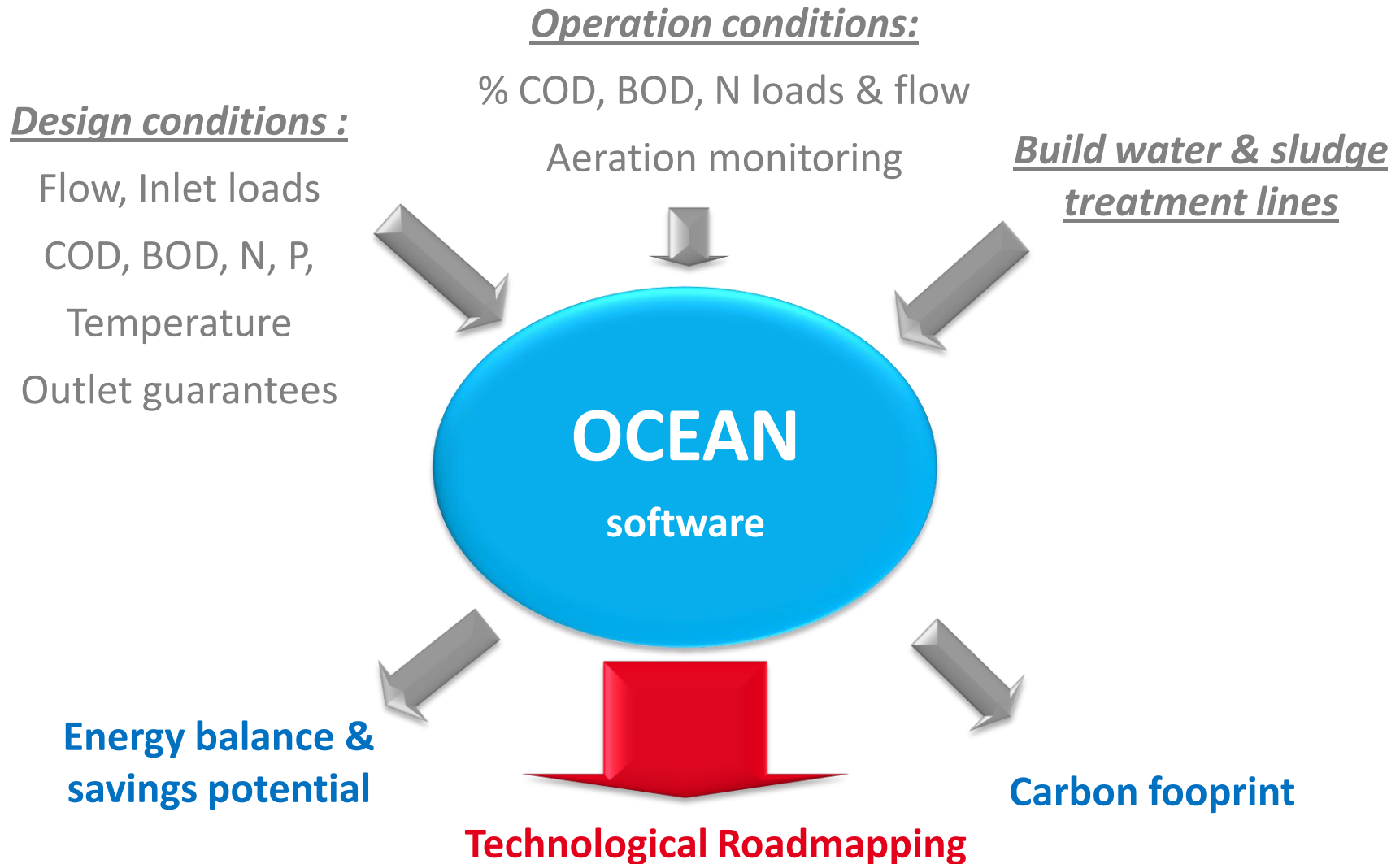
OCEAN software tool for assessing energy efficiency ...



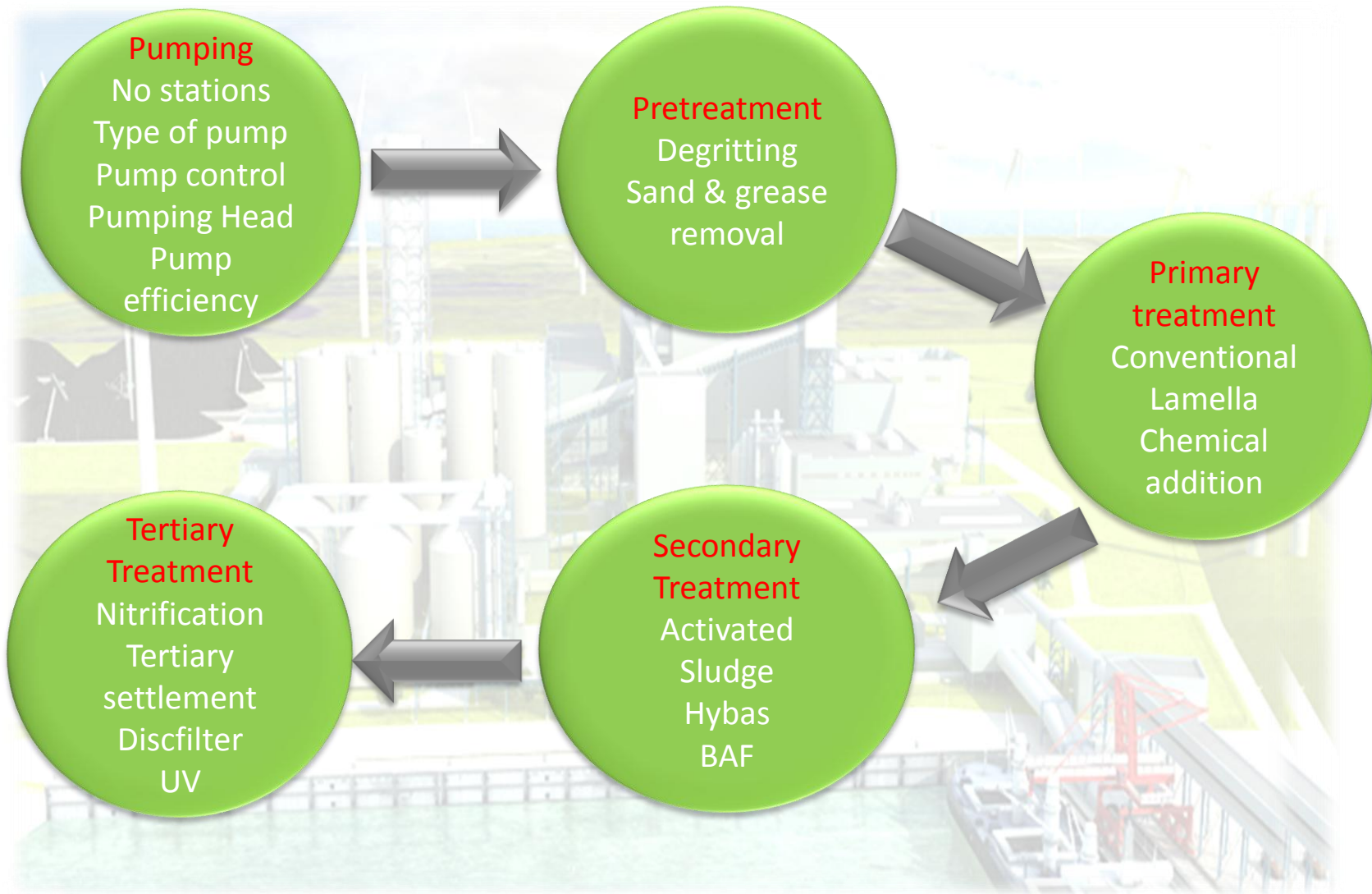
- Veolia has developed a software to enable quick assessments of ways to improve WWTP energy efficiency
 - at tender phase
 - on existing plants
- Based on process design models and plant operational conditions
- Best scenario
 - depending on the thermal energy balance
 - depending on the power energy balance
 - depending on electricity & fuel costs



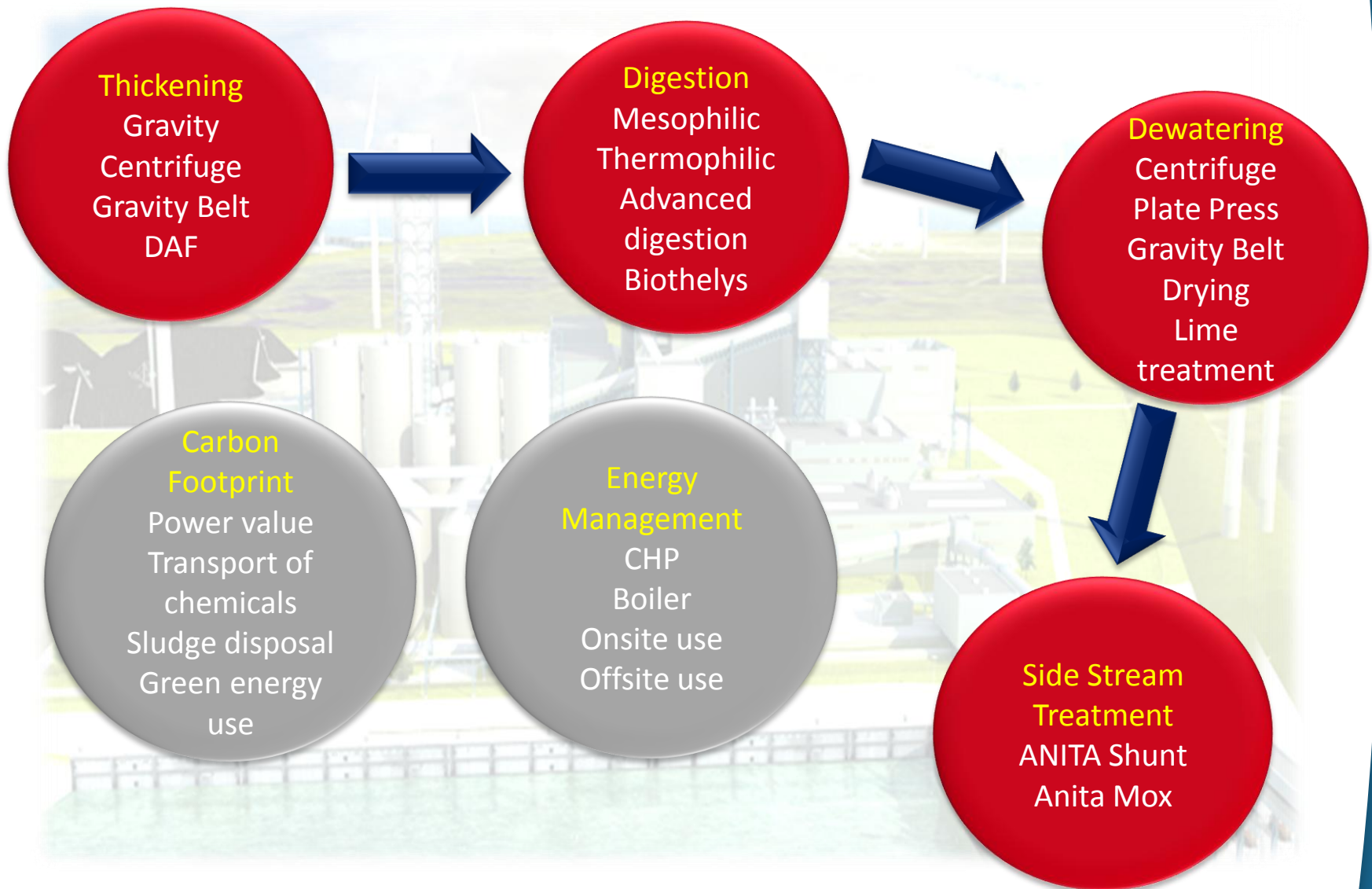
OCEAN overview ...



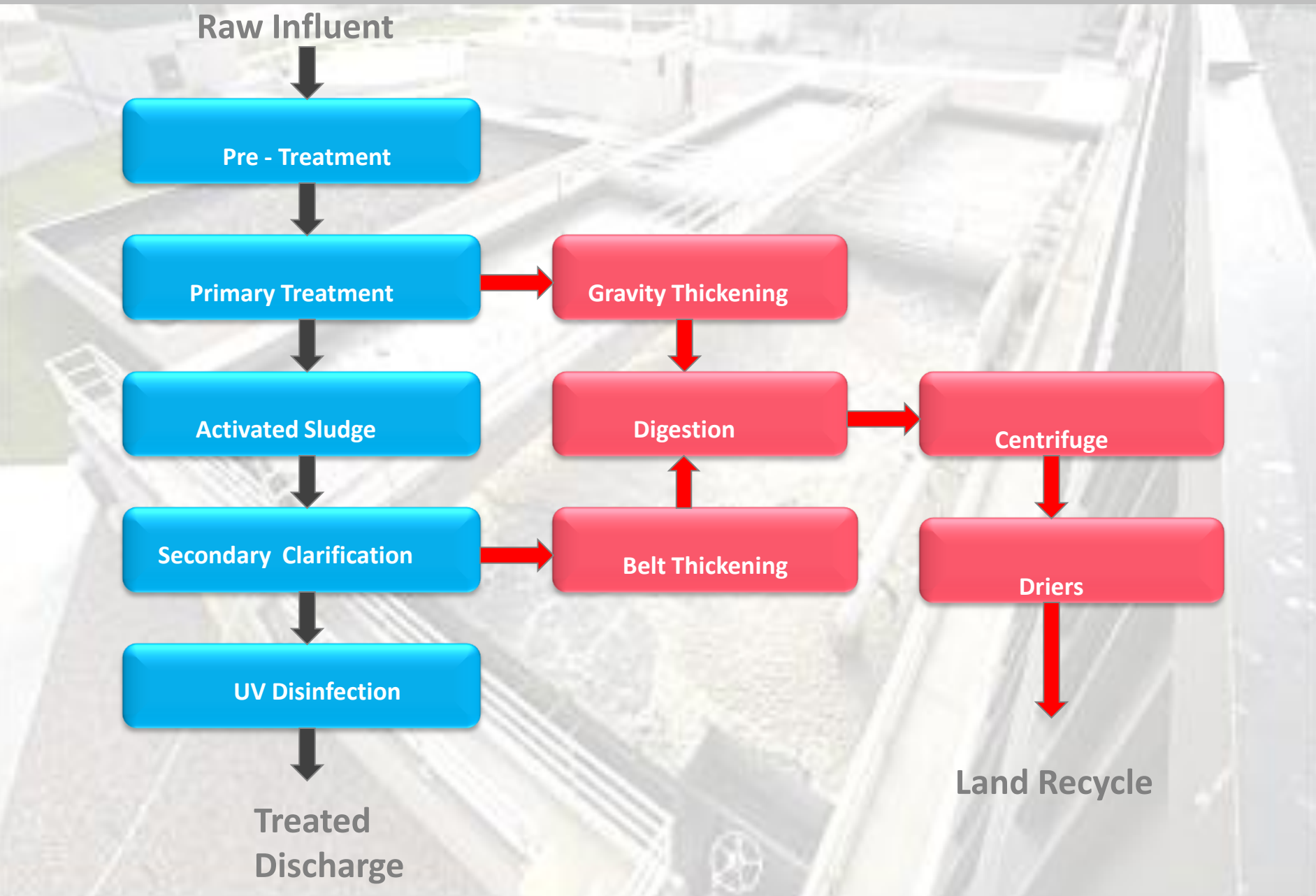
Water treatment line ...



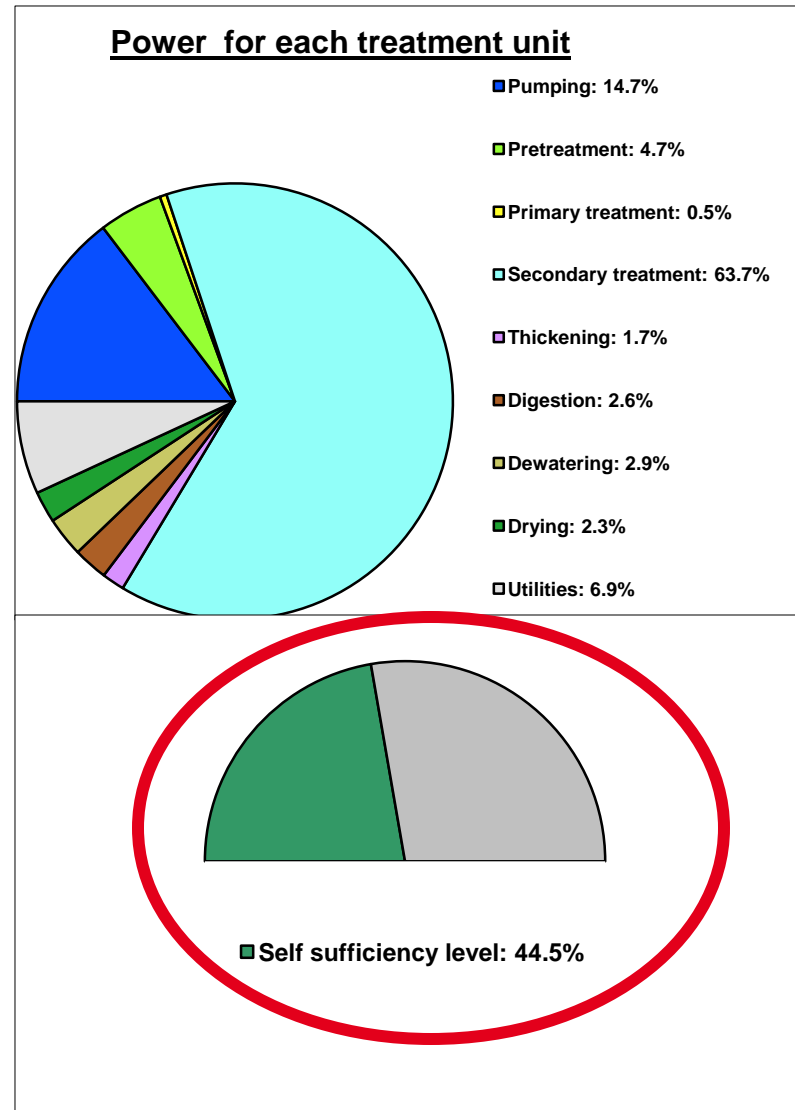
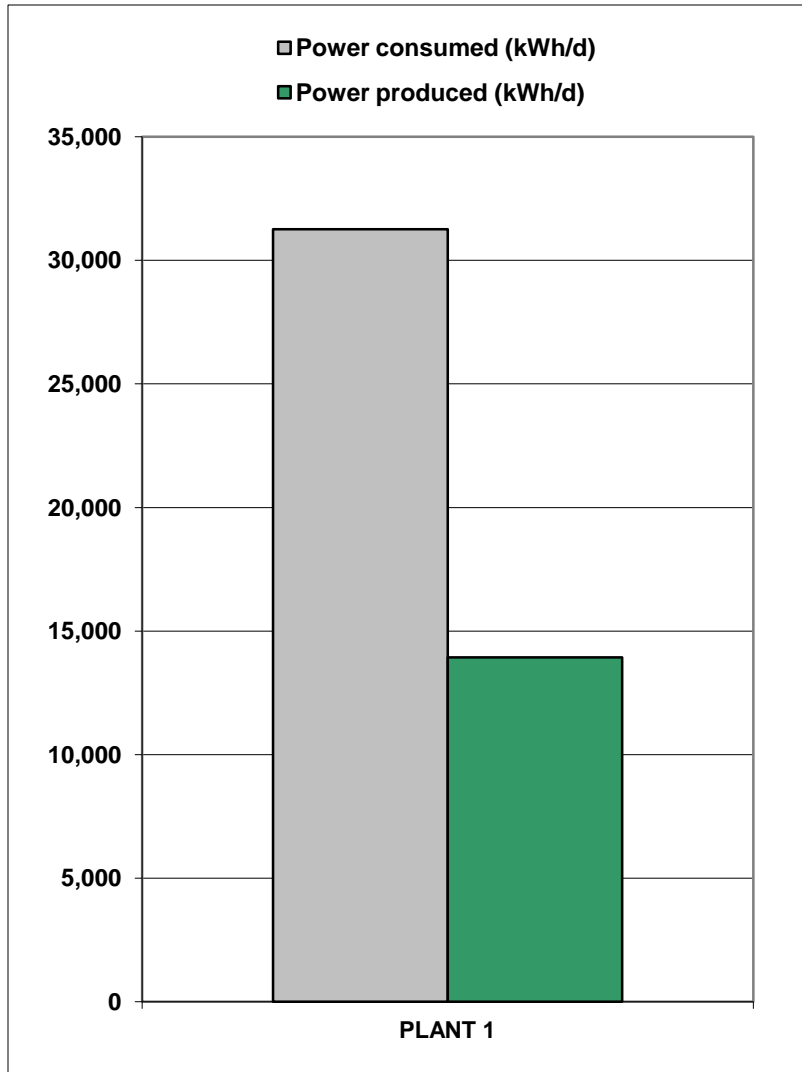
Sludge treatment line ...



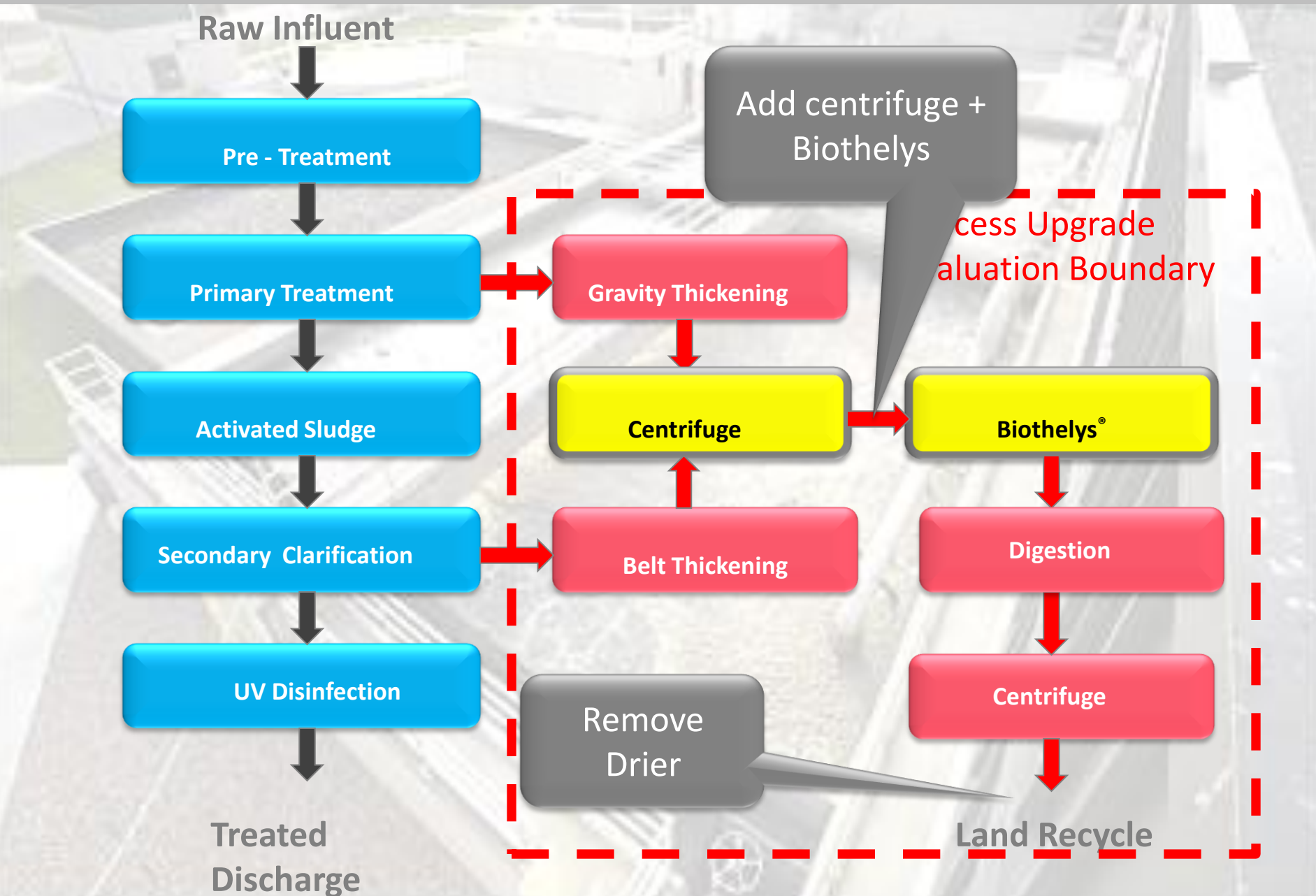
EXISTING 500,000 pe WWTP



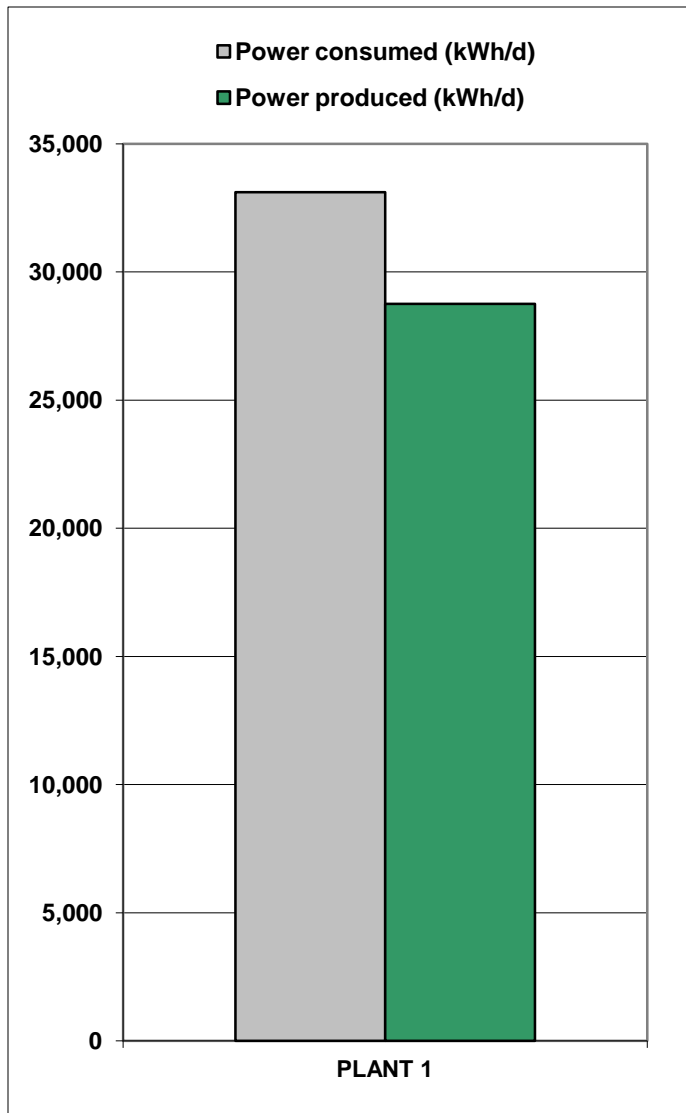
Existing process energy balance ...



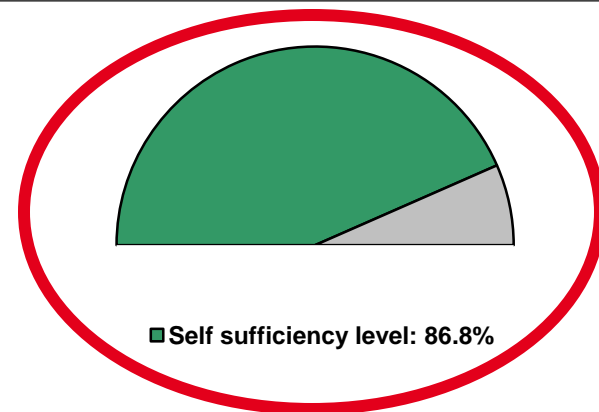
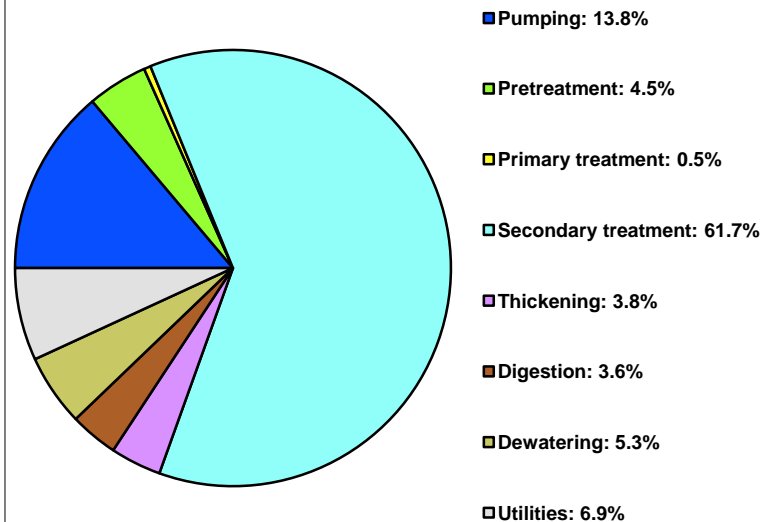
PROPOSED UPGRADE...



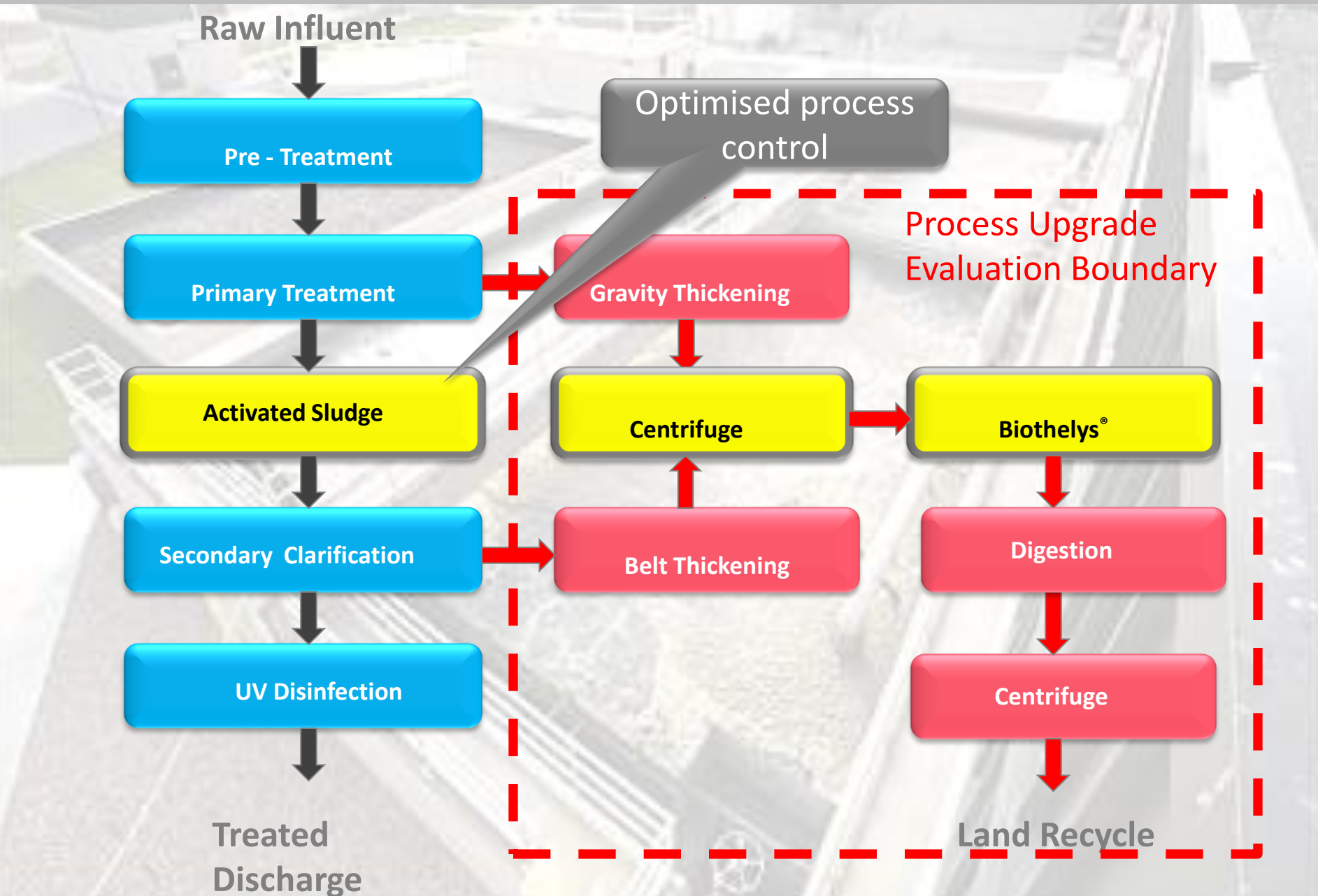
Proposed process energy balance ...



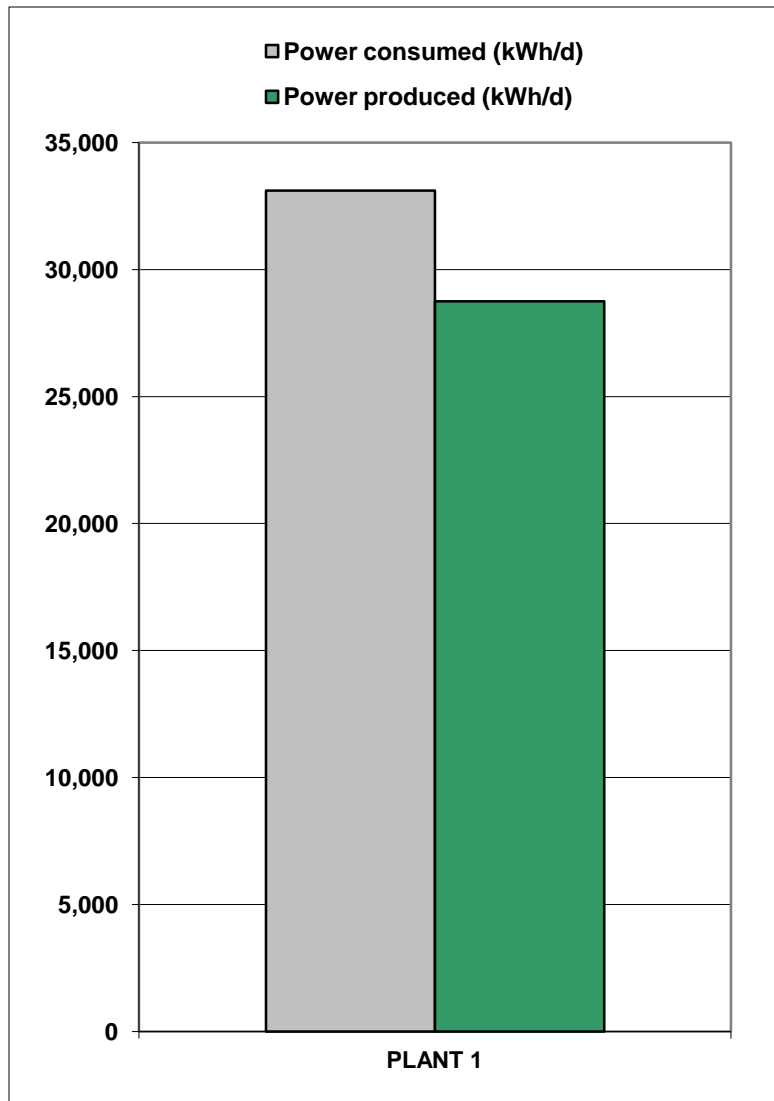
Power for each treatment unit



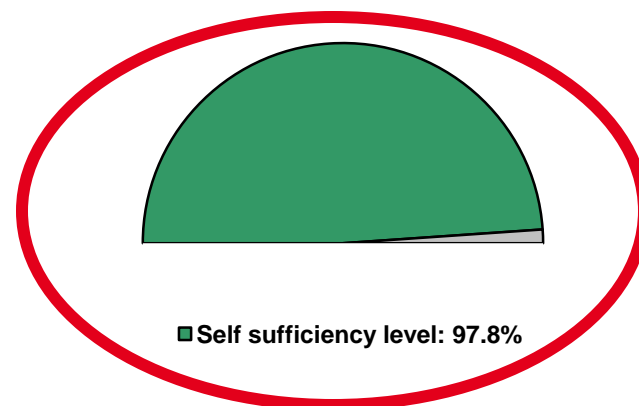
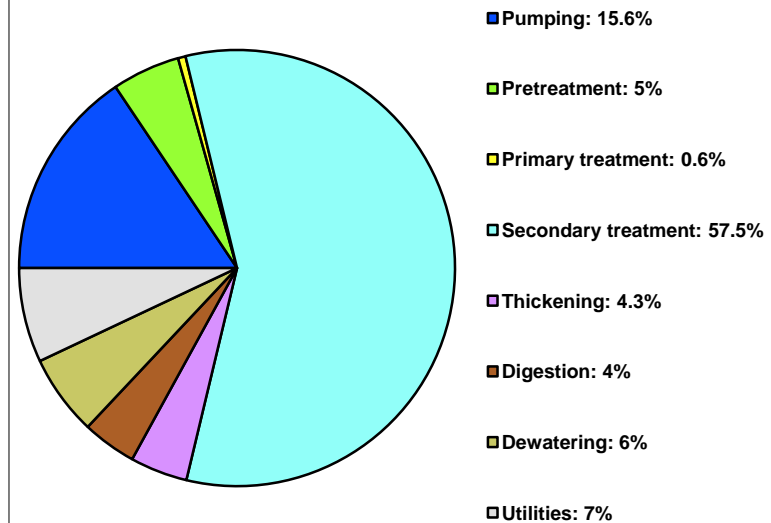
PROPOSED UPGRADE...



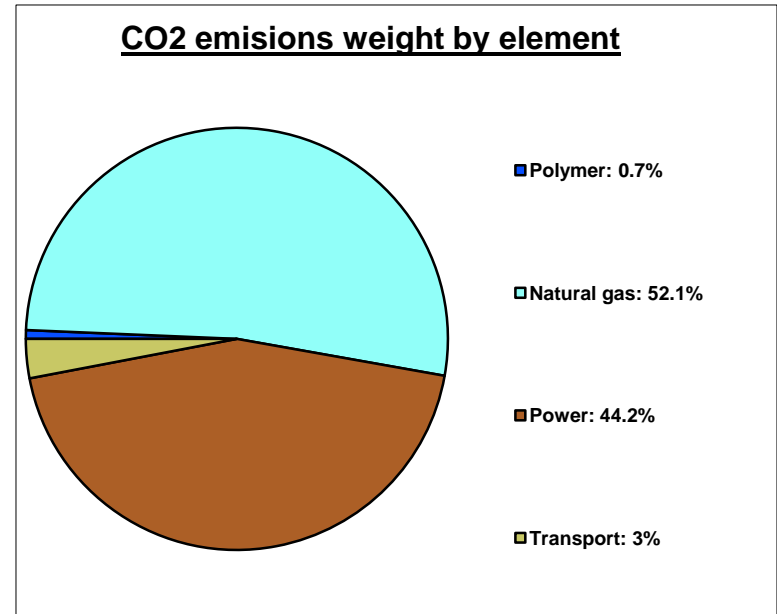
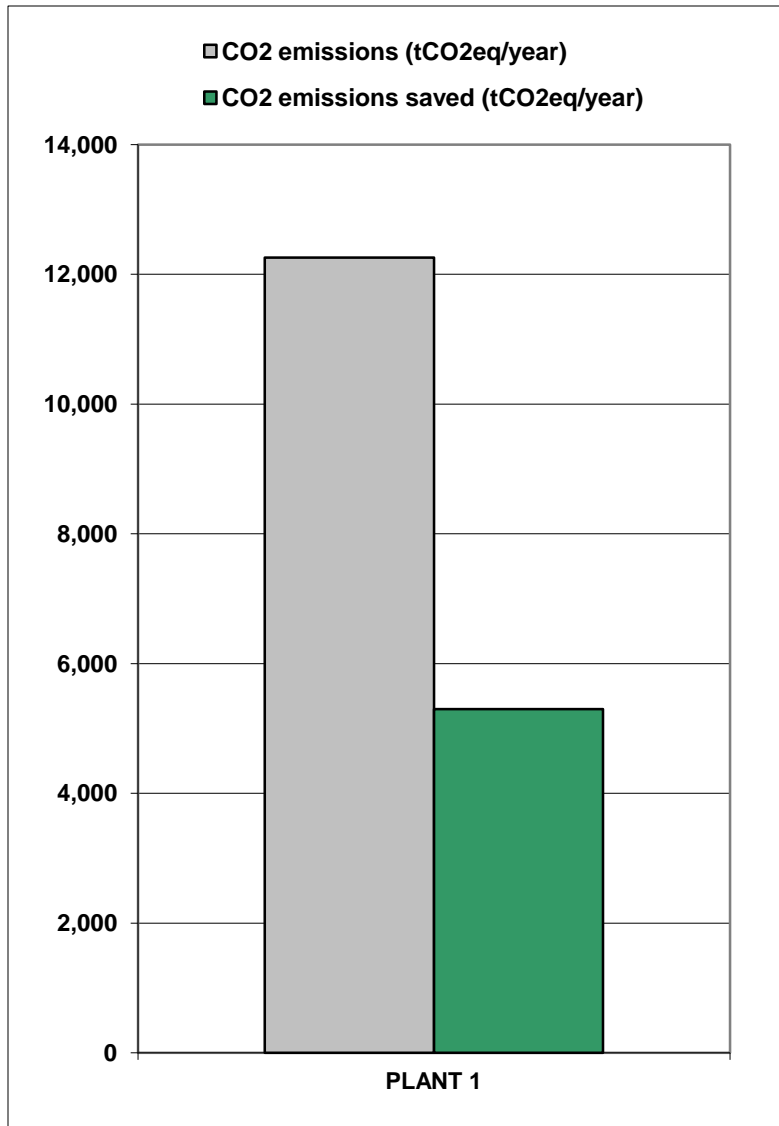
Proposed process energy balance ...



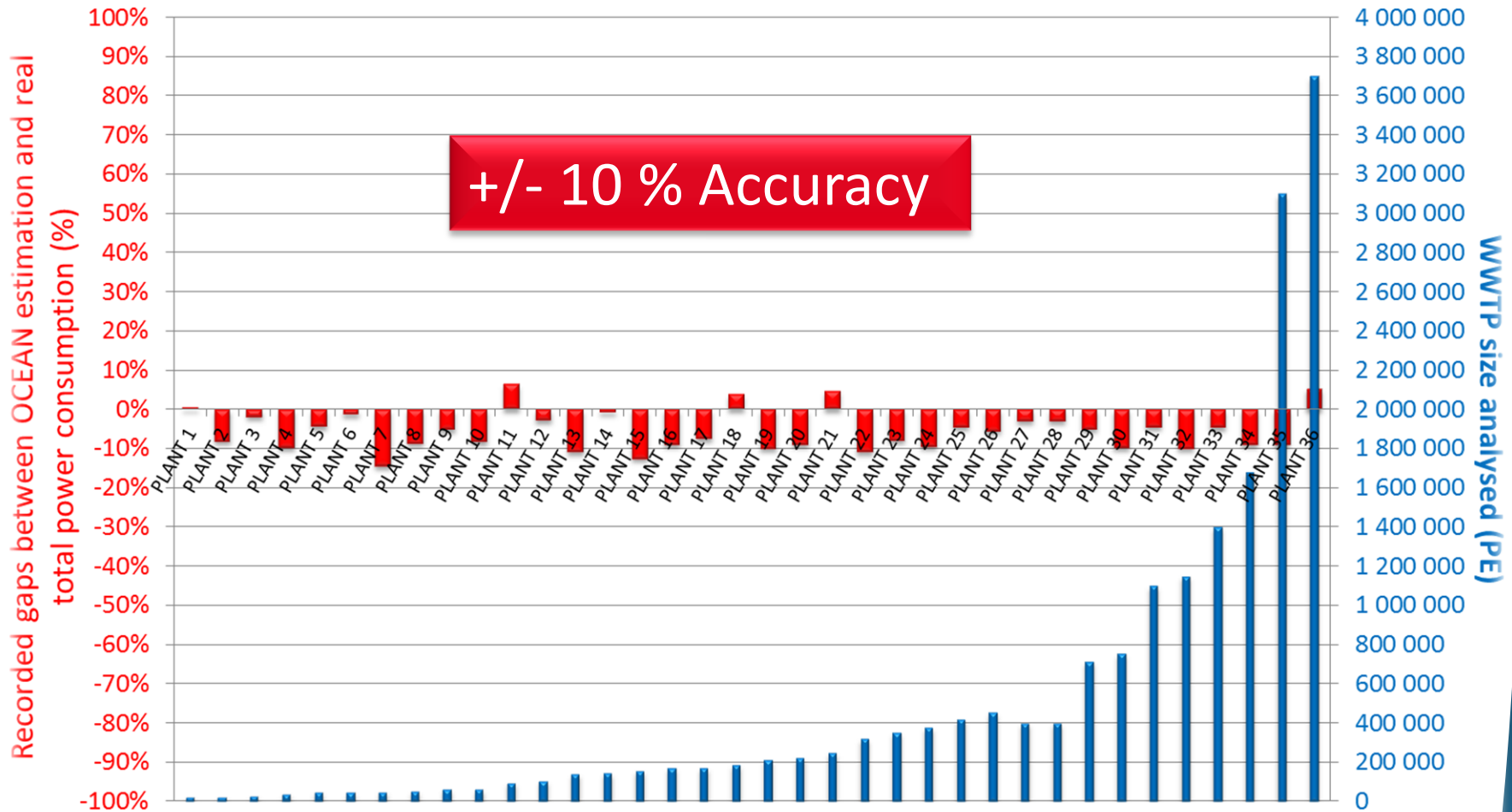
Power for each treatment unit



Proposed process carbon emissions...



Real values & OCEAN calculations ...



Conclusions ...



- To ensure future sustainability of our WWTP's we will need to optimise energy use and energy production
- Technology is currently available to reduce energy use and enable us to move towards energy neutral and net energy generating plants
- Adopting a Biorefinery approach will allow recovery of inorganic's and green organic platform chemicals, further improving sustainability
- OCEAN software provide's a simple and quick management tool to assess the impact of process upgrades and operational changes on energy balance and carbon emissions



6

Questions

