

Permian Basin Produced Water Quality Drivers for Treatment and

Produced Water Societ **Reuse** n Basin Summit 2023 Midland – August 14-16, 2023

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WATER SOCIETY WATER SOCIETY PERMIAN BASIN 2023 Southwest Climate History Based on Tree Ring Data



The southern U.S. and the mid-latitudes are in the 100th year of a 300 year arid cycle - which in the past has led to stress of civilizations

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NM PW Research Consortium Objectives

2019 NM Produced Water Act – encourages produced water treatment and reuse to:

- Reduce/eliminate fresh water use in oil and gas sector (OSE-OCD-industry)
- Create new water supplies for the state (OSE)
- Provide new water for economic development (EDDindustry-communities)
- Assure cost-effective treatment and public and environmental safety (NMED-EPA-BLM-SLO-OCD-NGOs)

Consortium – a group that shares a common lot (goals, objectives, timeframe – in harmony)



Water Stewardship in Transboundary Basins

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Significant NM Public Support for Better Fresh Water Stewardship by Produced Water Reuse

- Use inside oil and gas
- Industrial use outside oil and gas
 - Ag uses (non-food crops)
- Multiple ag uses (food crops)
 - Supplement drinking water
- Need more info
 - Do not support any use



(NMPRC Public Surveys - 5 venues to date – 6 more venues by fall 2023)



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PRODUCED WATER SOCIET Relative Permian Water Quality and Treatment Needs



(Based on analyzing for ~300 constituents)

 Mineral recovery interest growing significantly



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Permian Basin Produced Water Quality Driving Treatment and Reuse Based on 46 PW samples from Delaware and Midland Basins

| | | Mean | Max | Min | 25th percentile | 50th percentile | 75th percentile |
|------------|---------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Alkalinity | mg/L as CaCO ₃ | 272 | 870 | 100 | 128 | 207 | 336 |
| Ammonia | mg/L | 432 | 750 | 320 | 330 | 400 | 495 |
| COD | mg/L | 1,626 | 3,100 | 930 | 1,250 | 1,400 | 1,950 |
| рН | SU | 6.6 | 8.1 | 3.9 | 6.3 | 6.7 | 7.0 |
| TDS | mg/L | 128,641 | 201,474 | 100,830 | 113,441 | 122,280 | 134,525 |
| тос | mg/L | 103.5 | 248.1 | 2.4 | 28 | 90.6 | 173.3 |
| TSS | mg/L | 342.9 | 790 | 85 | 142.5 | 375 | 422.5 |
| Turbidity | NTU | 116.4 | 200 | 23 | 36 | 110 | 200 |
| MBAS | mg/L | 1.10 | 2.1 | 0.047 | 0.92 | 0.97 | 1.33 |

Highlighted values show constituents that drive pre, post



and treatment processes of produced water for safe and cost-effective reuse Produced Water's Impact in the Permian 🛔 Energy 🛽 Land 🕈 Conservation

PRODUCED Results of Permian 'Clean Brine' pre-treatment





| Value | Results |
|----------------|--|
| Reported | n/A |
| 6.0-8.0 | Passed (ozone only) |
| >350 mV | Passed (ozone only) |
| <25 NTU | Passed (ozone + filtration) |
| Non-Detectable | Passed (ozone only) |
| < 25 micron | Passed (ozone + filtration) |
| <10ppm | Passed (ozone + filtration) |
| < 5ppm | Passed (ozone only) |
| <200 pg/ml | Passed (ozone only) |
| | Value Reported 6.0-8.0 >350 mV <25 NTU Non-Detectable < 25 micron <10ppm < 5ppm <200 pg/ml |

Permian Basin -100,000 TDS PW (left) w/membrane pretreatment to remove TOC, TSS (right) Permian Basin -100,000 TDS PW (left) w/membrane pretreatment and concentrate (right) Permian Basin -100,000 TDS PW with ozone/filtration pretreatment

PWS 'Clean Brine' pretreatment cost < \$0.20/bbl target Creates a high quality water for desalination

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Thermal Treatment w/o Pretreatment for Organics but w/ Post Treatment for Organics



| | Distillate Pre- Carbon Filter | Distillate Post Carbon Filter | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Parameters (mg/L) | Representative Sample | 12/00/21 | | |
| Benzene | 0.501 | <0.000214 | | |
| Toluene | 0.548 | <0.000500 | | |
| Ethylbenzene | 0.0214 | <0.000515 | | |
| Xylenes | 0.377 | <0.000330 | | |
| TPH (C6 to C12) | 1.51 | <0.840 | | |
| TPH (>C12 to C28) | 1.53 | <0.819 | | |
| TPH (>C28 to C35) | <0.860 | <0.819 | | |
| TPH (C6 to C35) | 3.04 | <0.840 | | |
| Fluorene | <0.00163 | <0.00163 | | |
| Naphthalene | 0.00993 | <0.000542 | | |
| Phenanthrene | 0.00145 | <0.00142 | | |
| 2-Nitrophenol | 0.007 | <0.00167 | | |
| Phenol | 0.026 | 0.000693 | | |

TDS good, but carry over of organics and ammonia required post treatment to meet TOC and Whole Effluent Toxicity requirements

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Permian Produced Water Treatment Performance Trends vs Disposal

- Pre-treatment 'Clean Brine Standard'
 - Several technologies showing good performance at <\$0.20/bbl
 - Likely needed to provide high quality feed for treatment systems
- Treatment
 - \$0.20 \$0.30/bbl in San Juan Basin
 - \$0.75 \$1.20/bbl in Permian Basin
- Post-treatment
 - Likely required for ammonia or organics removal depending on pre-treatment and application
 - Likely required to meet Whole Effluent Toxicity criteria requirements
 - Likely absorption process for trace constituents
- Human cell-line data
 - Post-treatment possible depending on application and pre-treatment



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Produced Water Disposal Costs in the Permian Basin in \$/bbl



Produced Water Disposal Costs in The Permian as a % of Oil Price/bbl



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PRODUCED 2023 Affiliated Permian Testing Support – TX and NM

| E | Company | Process | Land Discharge | Location and Dates | PW Quality | PW Volume/ Duration | Current Status |
|---|----------------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|---|
| | Hilcorp (1) | Membrane distillation treatment field-pilot | No - closed loop | San Juan Basin, near Bloomfield Summer 2023 | 40K TDS | 20 bbls/day 1-2 months at a couple of sites | NMED and BLM permits, waiting on OCD approval |
| | Kanalis Resources (2) | Small green house pilot of treated PW for pine seedlings | No - closed loop w/in green house | San Juan Basin, near Ojo Encino Chapter House SW of Cuba NM Fall 2023 | 10K TDS, previous bench testing shows ve | 20 bbls/day for 9 months | NMED permits, OCD approval with additional info, waiting on BLM approval. |
| | Infinity Water (3) | Pre and thermal treatment and green house study | No - closed loop w/in green house | Permian Basin , Lea/Eddy County line Summer 2023 | 120K TDS | 200-1000 bbls | NOI to NMED in May |
| | Hydrozonix(4) | Enhanced Evap at SWD | No - closed loop w/in existing pond | Permian Basin near Carlsbad, Summer 2023 | 120K | | NOI to NMED and OCD in May |
| | Apatech /5-e Water (5) | Produced water treatment | Yes - at OCD permitted sites | Permian Basin <mark>R</mark> oswell/ Artesia Area Second half 2023 | Abandoned wells plugging and closure | 200-300 bbls/day | Coordinating with OCD on NOIs and permits |
| | Encore Green (6) | Produced water treatment | No - closed loop | Permian June and July 2023 | 115K TDS | 2000 bbls/day | Near Midland TX |
| | Bechtel (7) | Thermal treatment system (c | No - closed loop | Permian Basin Summer 2023 | 120 K TDS Permian Basin | 500 bbls/day for 6 months | Near Midland TX mobilization in July 2023 |
| | Industry JIP (8,9,10) | Three pre-treatment, treatment, and post- treatment, | No - closed loop | Permian Basin Summer - Fall 2023 | 120K TDS | 500 bbls/day | Near Midland TX |
| | Texas Pacific Water (11) | Physical/ membrane treatment with green house | No - closed loop w/in green house | Permian Basin Late fall | 100K TDS | 10-20 bbls/day | In Midland TX |
| | Sun Vapor (12) | Solar distillation Small pilot-scale | No - closed loop | Permian Fall 2023 near Hobbs/ Lovington | 100K TDS | 20-50 bbls/day | NMED permit, need BLM and OCD permits |
| | Colorado School of Mines (13) | Bioreactor/membrane treatment | No - closed loop | Permian Fall 2023 near Hobbs/ Lovington | 100K TDS | 20-50 bbls/day | No NOIs submitted yet |
| | Solmem (14) | Solar membrane distillation | No - closed loop | BRNDRF and Permian Near Hobbs | Up to 100K TDS | 20 bbls/day | Bench-scale permit submitted to NMED |
| | Intrepid (15) | Sustainable solution mining pre-treatment pilot-testing | No - closed loop w/in existing ponds | Permian Basin Near Carlsbad Fall/Winter 2023 | 170-250K TDS | 50 bbls/day - focus on using 300,000 bbls per day at full-scale | |

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PRODUCED Water Quality Risk and Toxicology Analysis Challenges

Standardized Collaboration Approaches:

- Standardized Sampling Protocol w/USEPA
- Standardized NPDES+ Analysis (~300 analytes)
 - Certified Lab, NMSU, and USEPA
- TIC/Unknown Analysis HR-LCMS @ NMSU
- Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing
 - Certified lab and NMSU
- Human cell-line analysis
 - USEPA and NMSU
- State of the Art Risk and Tox Analysis
 - Predicted Env. Conc. (PEC)
 - Predicted No-effect Conc (PNEC) supported and coordinated by ExMo and UofDE



- TIC/Unknown Analysis of raw PW difficult for HR-LCMS (mass balance of treated vs raw water)
- Analysis turnaround how to improve
- NPDES+ and WET analysis over \$40K for full suite analysis
- Do we need bio-assays and refugia to better assess safety?









Produced Water Reuse Moving Forward

- New Water is one of 8 policies (Dec 2022)
 - "The need to augment supply regionally, through such tools as brackish groundwater desalination, wastewater reuse, and treated or recycled produced water."
 - Policy aligns with EPA's National Water Reuse Action Plan
- NM Legislature funded \$35 M in 2023 to support the characterization and use of nontraditional waters
 - \$30M to the State Engineer to characterize brackish aquifers
 - \$3 M for NMED to develop fit-for-purpose treatment and reuse rules.
 - Public meetings in fall 2023 for non-traditional waters, with hearings in April 2024 focused on industrial uses (non-discharge green houses, hydrogen, cooling, etc.)





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Pursuing Common Western State Treated Produced Water Discharge Standards

- Current ag standards developed by western ag research centers
 - NMSU, Utah State, Texas A&M, Colorado State, UC Davis
- Integrated treatments for Permian produced water can meet <u>current</u> western state fit-for-purpose discharge standards
- Working with TX on PW treatment requirements for ag, rangeland, and surface discharge considerations for limited pilot projects in the Permian Basin

Current Ag Discharge Criteria

NM - 15-20 Constituents CO, WY, OK, CA, BofRec- 36-43 Constituents

Current Pecos River Discharge Criteria

NM – 41 aquatic impact constituents
 110 - human impact constituents
 Artesia quality – 2600 ppm TDS
 State line quality – 3600 ppm TDS

TX – 45 aquatic impact constituents
110 – human impact constituents
Red Bluff quality – 4000 ppm TDS





Ag Examples of Treated PW Quality Needs



Local irrigation water application criteria:

- Less sensitive crop can be lower quality
- Greater depth to groundwater can be lower quality
- Lower fresh groundwater quality can be lower quality
- Sandy or alkaline soil or both higher SAR and TDS allowed

| Parameter | Units | General | Permian | Irrigation Water | | | |
|---|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|---------|---------|--|
| | | Treated PW Quality | Treated PW Quality | Class 1 | Class 2 | Class 3 | |
| pН | | 6.5-8.0 | 6.5 - 8.0 | | | | |
| Temperature | °C | 20-30 | 20 - 35 | | | | |
| Turbidity | NTU | <30 | <30 | | | | |
| Total Suspended Solids | mg/L | < 20 | < 20 | | | | |
| Total Dissolved Solids | mg/L | 200-1000 | < 1,000 | <700 | <2000 | >2000 | |
| Chlorides | mg/L | <100 | < 200 | | | | |
| Sodium | mg/L | <100 | < 200 | 400 | 800 | >1000 | |
| Calcium | mg/L | - | < 200 | | | | |
| Magnesium | mg/L | - | < 300 | | | | |
| Sulfate | mg/L | - | < 150 | | | | |
| Nitrogen | mg/L as N | <10 | 10-30 | | | | |
| SAR | | 10-15 | 6 -10 | | | | |
| Total Metals | mg/L | <15 | - | | | | |
| Barium | mg/L | - | < 0.5 | | | | |
| Strontium | mg/L | - | < 0.5 | | | | |
| Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) | pCi/L | <30 | - | | | | |
| Adjusted gross alpha | pCi/L | <15 | < 15 | | | | |
| Radium 226+228 | pCi/L | <30 | < 30 | | | | |
| Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons | mg/L | <10 | < 10 | | | | |
| Total Organic Carbon | mg/L | <10 | < 10 | | | | |
| Total Ammonia | mg/L as N | <5 | < 2 | | | | |
| Silica | mg/L | - | < 2 | | | | |
| Sulfide | mg/L | - | < 0.5 | | | | |
| Benzene | ppb | - | < 10 | | | | |



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NMPWRC Priorities on Produced Water Reuse

- OCD Reuse of treated produced water in plugging and abandoning orphan wells
 - Treated water for cement/concentrate for 10 lb brine
 - Roswell and Artesia, \$25 M in federal funding
- NMED public meetings input in fall 2023, and WQCC hearings in April 2024
 - NMPWRC providing support and contact information
- Working with Lea County on a "produced water authority"
- DOE 2023 FOA proposals 5 treatment proposals and one Pareto optimization proposal with three NM companies
- Cooperate/team with State of TX and TPWC on testing and standardizing risk and tox approach for produced water
- Western InterState Hydrogen Hub (WISHH) produced water supplies, ESG, EEEJ, and social economic modeling
- Raw produced water quality collection raw quality drives treatment, costs, and reuse application opportunities



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