

Sustainable PFAS Resin Technology Applied at Multiple Locations for Military Base Aquifer Remediation



RemTech 2021 Symposium Paul Newman, PG

#### **Presentation Outline**

- **Background and Objectives**
- Treatment process
- Multiple PFAS removal systems
  - Surface water remediation
  - Groundwater remediation at two locations
  - System performance
- Centralized regeneration
  - Concept and benefits
- Key takeaways



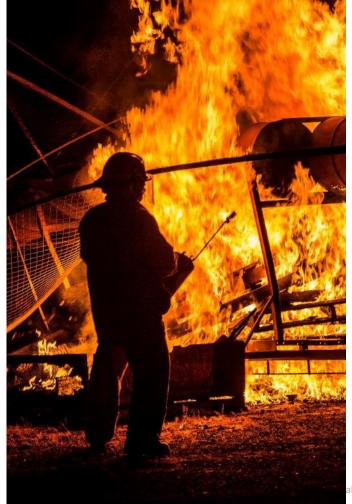


## Background

- RAAF Base Williamtown (WLM): Historical use of aqueous film forming foam (AFFF)
- Resulted in PFAS impacts to the surface and groundwater
- Both have vectors to migrate off base
- Defence has defined nature and extent of PFAS impact
- High profile site

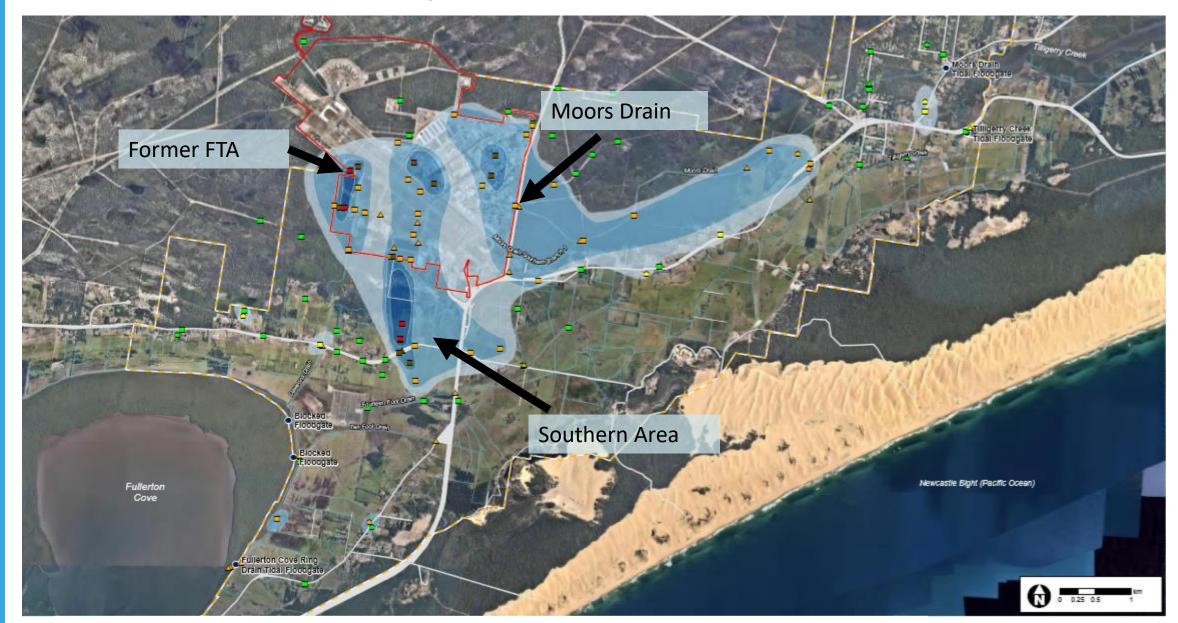








# Extent of PFAS Impact at RAAF Base WLM





## **Objectives**

- ECT2's multi-stage approach to mitigate PFAS impacts
  - Stage 1: Moors Drain stormwater
  - Stage 2: Former fire training area
  - Stage 3: Groundwater flowing off base to the south
- Reduce PFAS migration offsite in surface and groundwater
- Remove PFAS mass from source areas
- Treated water criteria Australian Health Based Guidance Values (HGBV)
  - PFOS + PFHxS: < 0.07μg/l</li>
  - PFOA: < 0.56μg/l



# SORBIX<sup>TM</sup> RePURE Full-Scale **Hub and Spoke System**

#### Williamtown Australia

Source water:	System 1: Surface water (stormwater) Systems 2&3: Groundwater
System flowrate:	System 1: 130 gpm Systems 2&3: 200 gpm each
Process train:	Pretreatment Regenerable IEX resin Polish IEX resin
System startup date:	System 1: June 2017 System 2: July 2018 System 3: April 2019
Target treated water criteria:	PFOS + PFHxS: < 0.07μg/l PFOA: < 0.56μg/













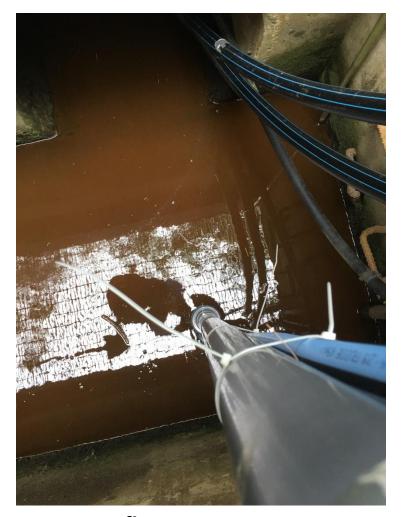
### **Moors Drain Site**

- Surface water treatment prior to water migrating offsite in extensive drainage network
- Commenced operation in June 2017
- Originally 50-gpm flow rate capacity -**Demonstration**
- Upgraded to 130-gpm in April 2019 to capture full flow
- First ECT2 treatment system installed in Australia
- Installed and operating within 4 months of contract award





# The Importance of Pretreatment



**Influent stormwater** 

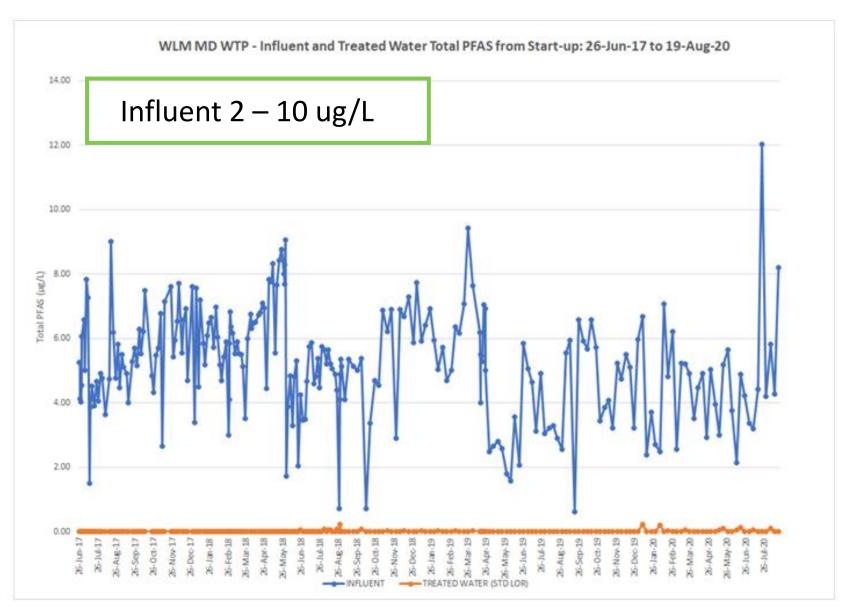


Influent bag filter



Influent pipe

### **Moors Drain Performance Data**







## Former Fire Training Area (FTA)

- Significant source area from years of training
- Groundwater remediation
- Shallow groundwater table
- PFAS removal system commenced operation in July 2018
- PFAS concentration design basis 10 to 500 μg/L
- Operates at 200-gpm capacity
- Treated water returned to ground via sprinkler system



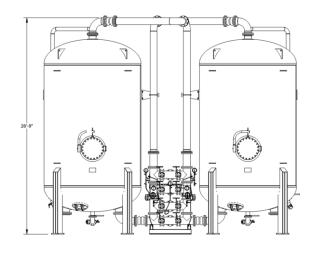
# Former FTA Treatment System



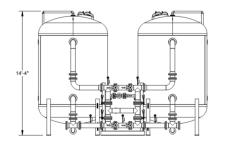


# GAC vs. Regenerable Ion Exchange Footprint

27 ft.



14 ft.



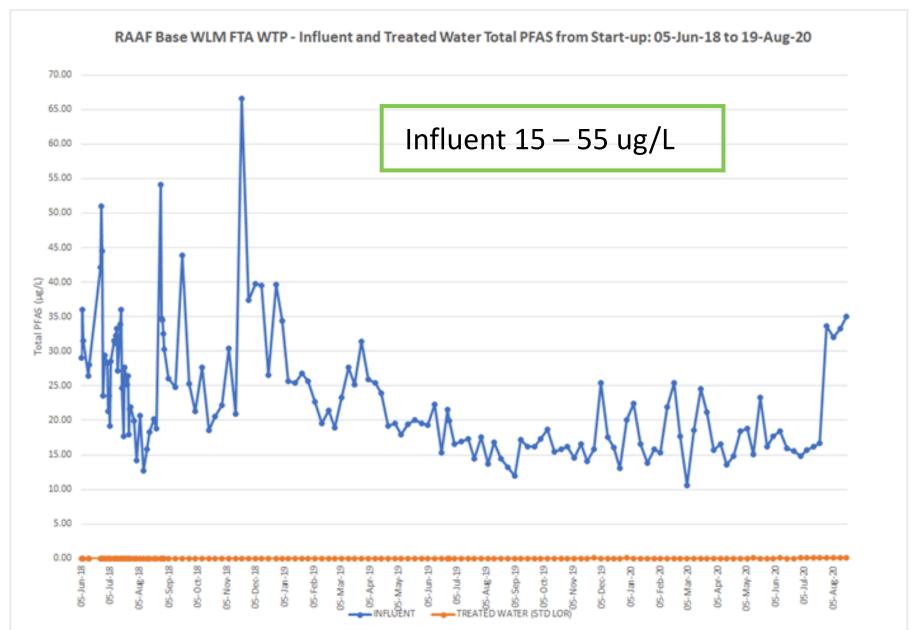
Surface water Source: Flow rate: 190 gpm **PFAS Influent:** 6.6 µg/l Waste Generated: 914 tons Treatment Criteria:  $0.07 \, \mu g/l$ 

	The sales	
N. Calledon	Source:	Groundwater
	Source: Flow rate:	Groundwater 180 gpm
Name and Address of the Owner, where the Owner, which is the Owner, where the Owner, which is the Own		
No. of Lot, House, etc., in case of the lot, the	Flow rate:	180 gpm

Plant Layout (200 GPM)

Yes – these are the same scale

### Former FTA Performance Data







# Southern Area Treatment System



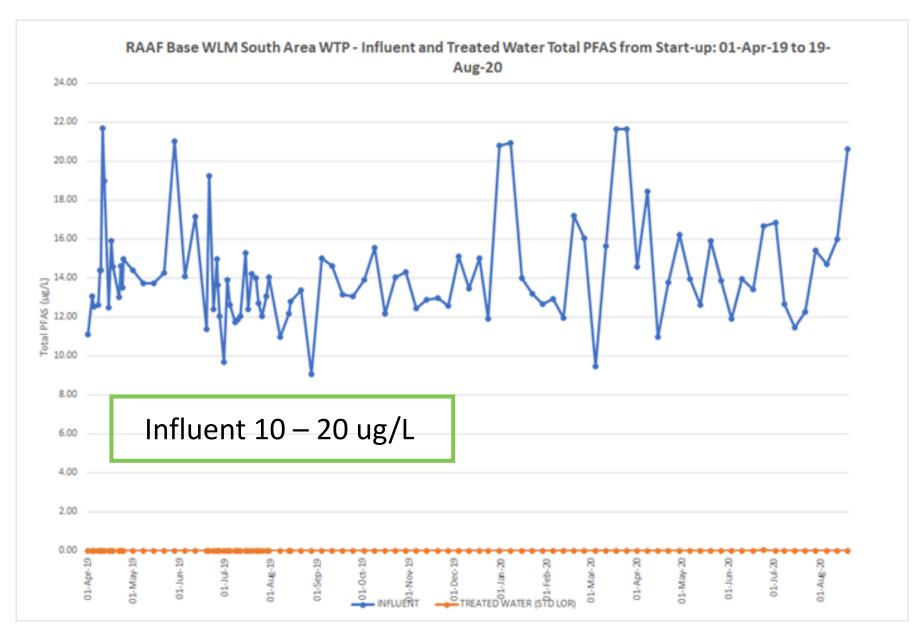


#### Southern Area

- Groundwater remediation
- Installed to cut off plume that could migrate to the South of the site
- Commenced operation in April 2019
- PFAS concentration design basis 10 to 500 μg/L
- 200-gpm capacity
- Located adjacent to former Fire Training Area treatment system
  - Optimize shared capabilities and utilities
  - Minimize footprint, capital and operating costs
- Treated water returned via sprinkler system



### Southern Area Performance Data





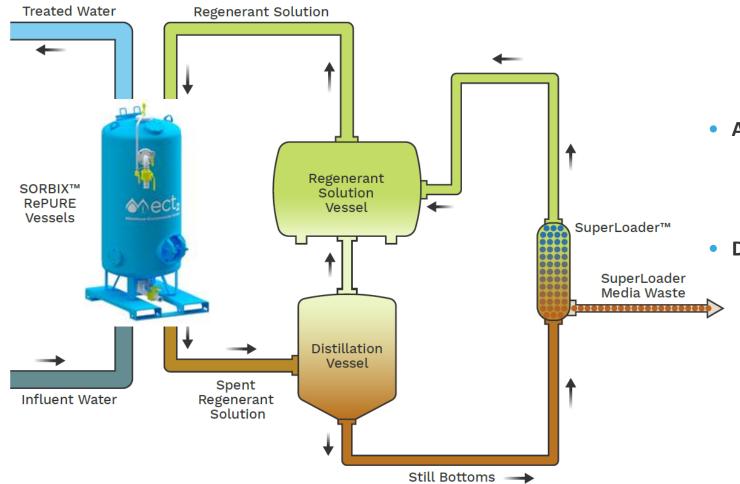


# Resin Regeneration - Central Regen System





# SORBIX<sup>TM</sup> RePURE Regenerable IX PFAS Treatment



- Patented Industry leading waste reduction technology
- Efficient removal with High Concentration PFAS

#### Applications

- Total PFAS > 10 ppb
- Multiple "hotspot" sites in one region/client

#### **Disposal Options**

- Incineration
- Landfill SuperLoading
- **Destruction** Plasma, Electrochemical, others



## Central Regen System Benefits

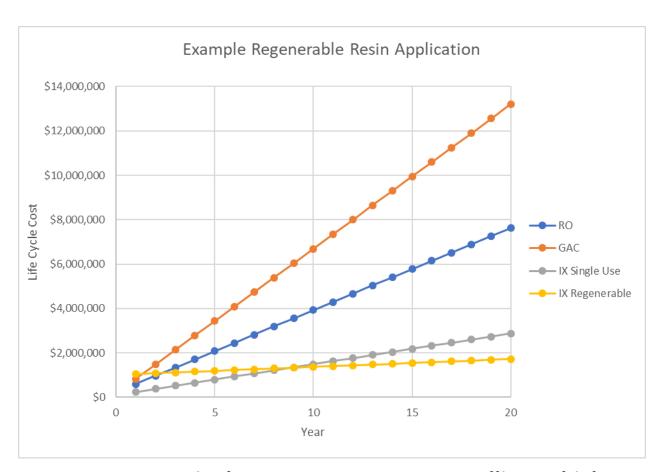
- Services all 3 treatment systems on the WLM base
- Distillation and super-loading processes facilitate recovery/reuse of regen solution
- Waste minimization: process generates approximately 1 gallon of waste per million gallons of water treated





# Lifecycle Costs – Four Proven Technologies

- Groundwater remediation at former firefighting training area
- Total influent PFAS concentration =  $50 \mu g/l$
- Treatment objective: Total PFOS + PFOA < 70 ng/l
- Client wants to minimize waste transport off site



Note: economics become even more compelling at higher PFAS concentrations or when using central regeneration



## **Key Takeaways**

- Regenerable IEX resin has both high capacity and rapid kinetics, e.g., small vessels and extended run time between regens (small footprint)
- Centralized IEX resin regeneration concept demonstrates capability to consistently meet performance standards with very low waste production and reduced lifecycle cost
- Optimizing pretreatment has allowed our system to maintain > 98% uptime across all three water treatment systems
- Robust treated water management system enables on-site water reuse



## Questions?



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#### **ECT2 delivers PFAS solutions...**





...and we'll put them in a plane if you need us to.

