

**THE CURRENT USE OF HOLLOW  
FIBRE ULTRAFILTRATION AS  
PRE-TREATMENT FOR  
REVERSE OSMOSIS**

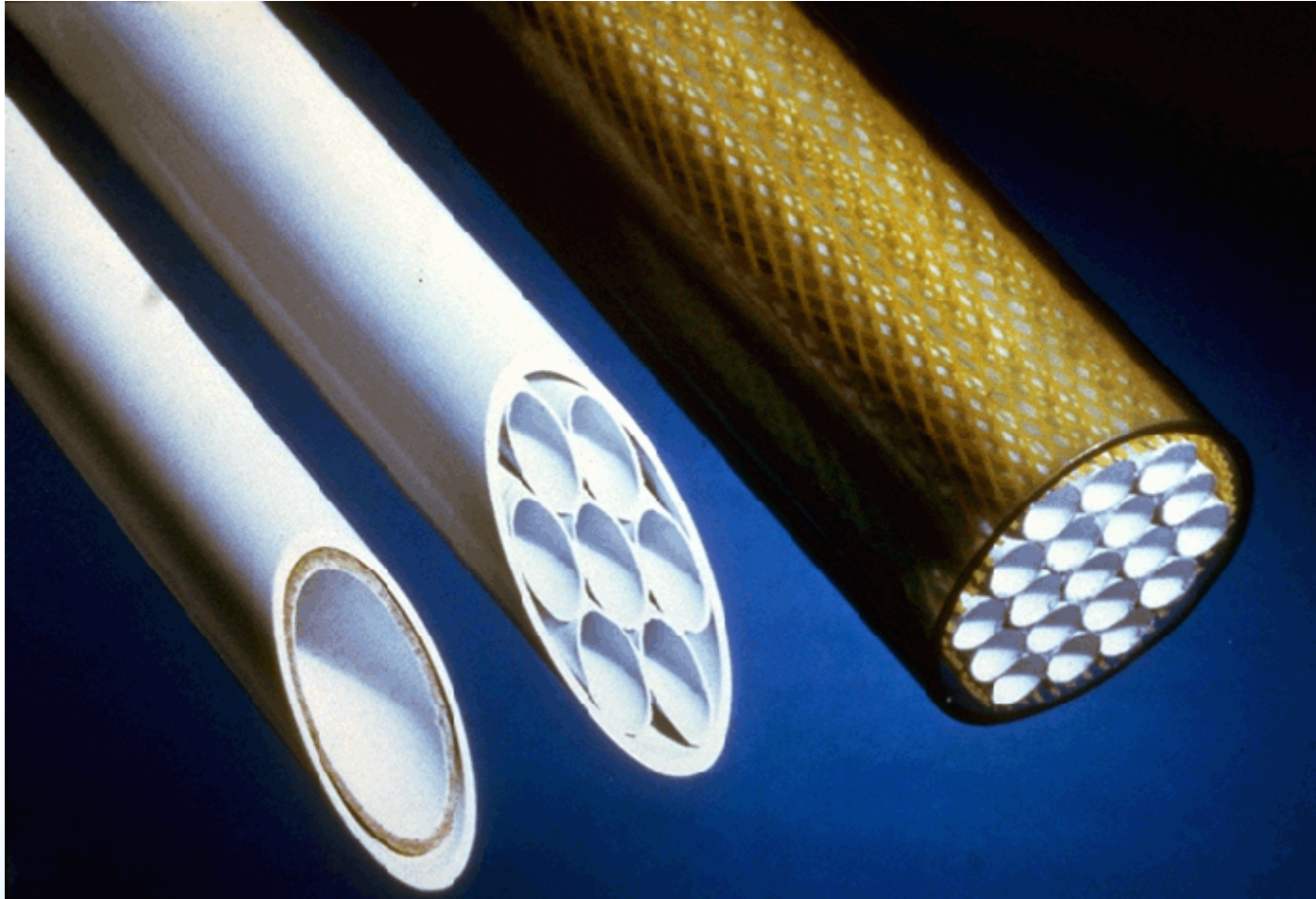
# Membrane Processes

- Lower Pressure Membrane Processes
  - ◇ Microfiltration (MF)
  - ◇ Ultrafiltration (UF)
- Higher Pressure Membrane Processes
  - ◇ Nanofiltration (NF)
  - ◇ Reverse Osmosis (RO)

# Membrane Configurations

- Open Feed Channel Configuration
  - ◇ Tubular
  - ◇ Hollow- Fibre
- Narrow Feed Channel Configuration
  - ◇ Spiral (Flat Sheet)

# Tubular Membranes



# Tubular Membrane System



# Spiral Membrane Elements



# Spiral Membrane System



# Hollow Fibre Membrane Cartridge





# Hollow Fibre Membrane Cartridge

## Year 1990

5 inch (diameter) x 43 inch (length)

Membrane Area = 82 ft<sup>2</sup> (7.6 M<sup>2</sup>)

Nominal Capacity = 4.8 gpm (1.1 M<sup>3</sup>/h)

## Year 2000

8 inch (diameter) x 72 inch (length)

Membrane Area = 544 ft<sup>2</sup> (50.5 M<sup>2</sup>)

Nominal Capacity = 32.1 gpm (7.3 M<sup>3</sup>/h)

## Year 2003

10 inch (diameter) x 72 inch (length)

Membrane Area = 871ft<sup>2</sup> (80.9 M<sup>2</sup>)

Nominal Capacity = 51.4 gpm (11.7 M<sup>3</sup>/h)

# Hollow Fibre Membrane Stage



# Hollow Fibre Membrane System



# Hollow Fibre Packaged System



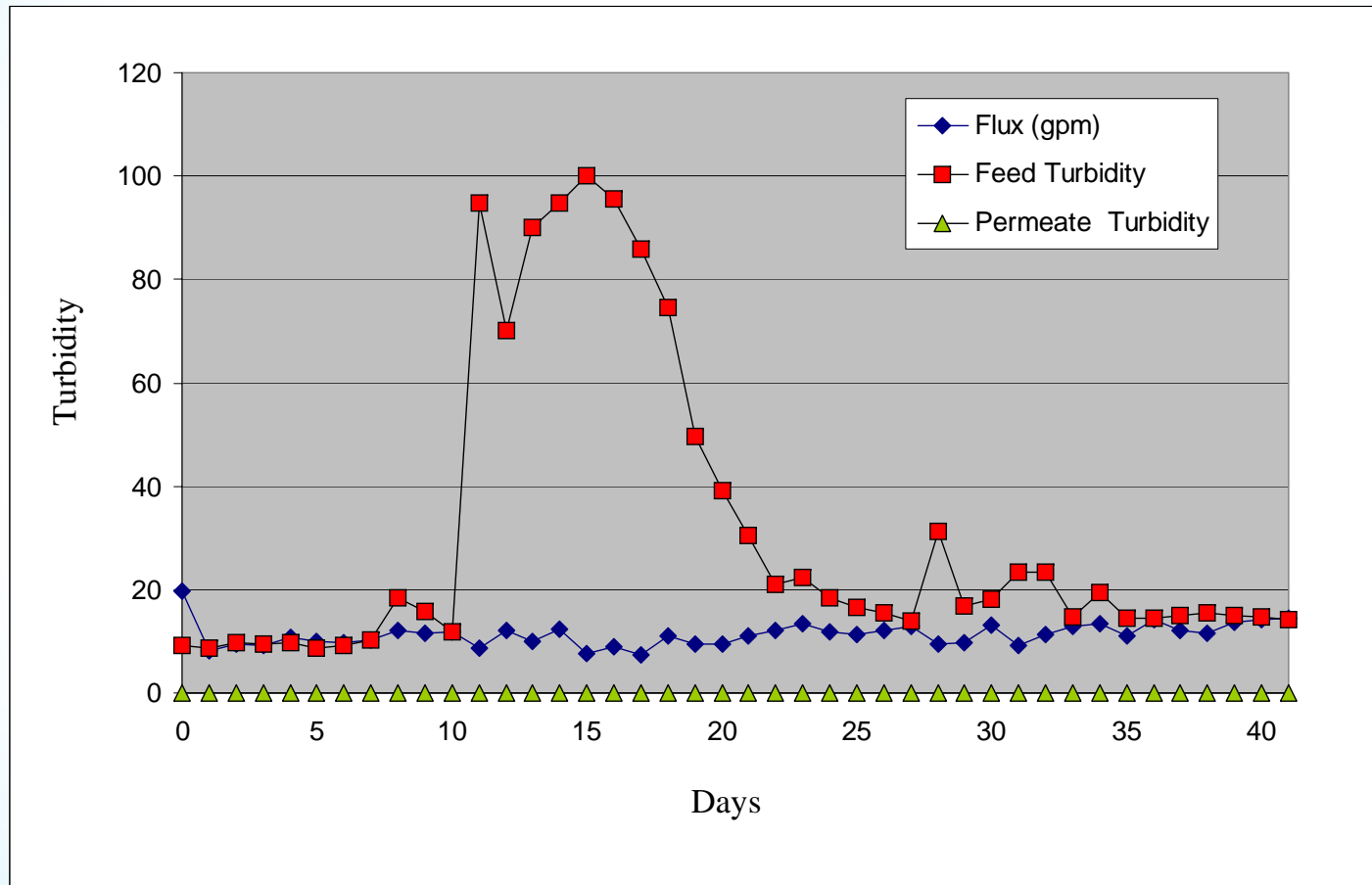
# Membrane Processes

## Compared to Conventional Treatment

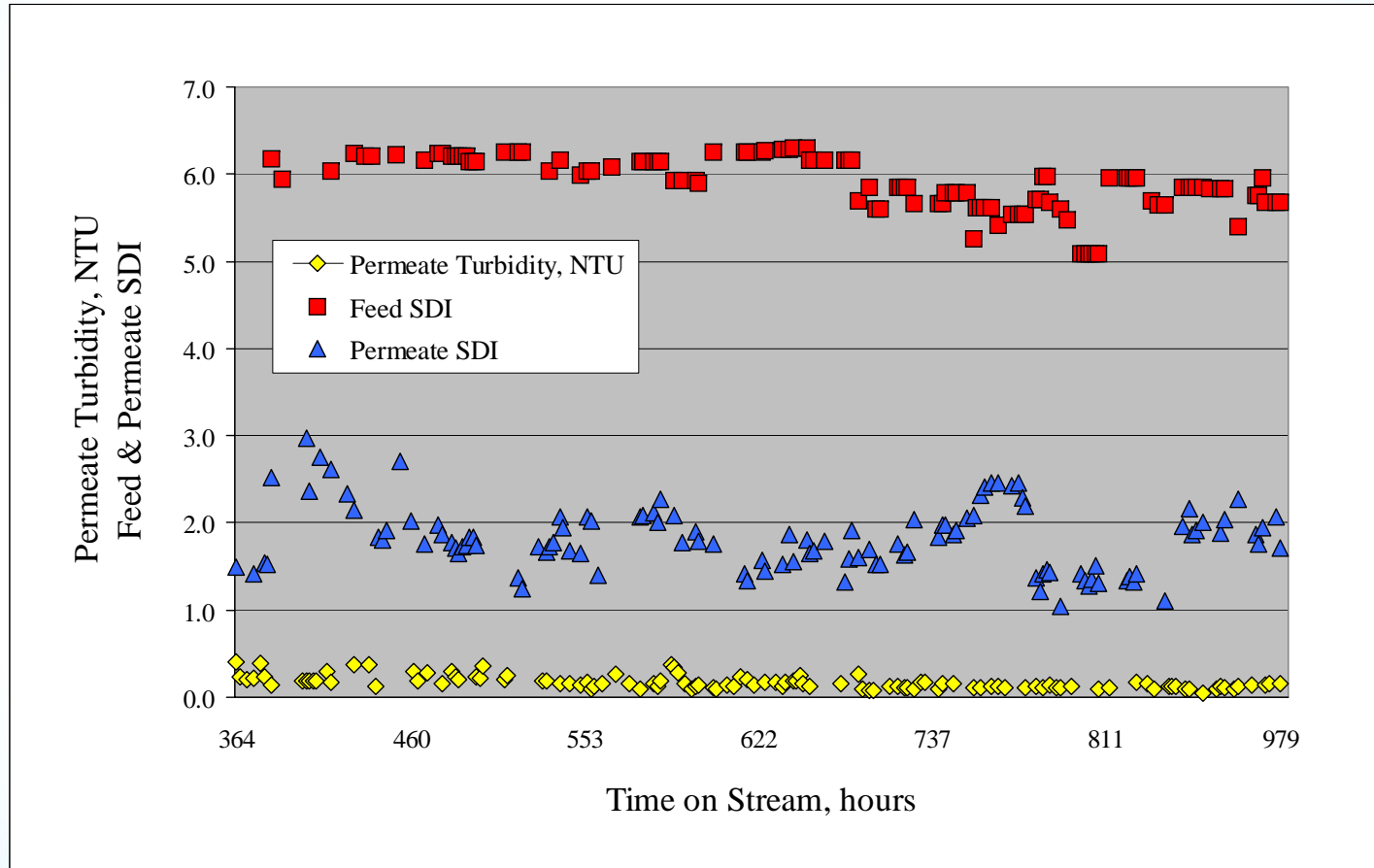
- Membrane processes produce consistent and high quality filtrate regardless of feed water quality
- Membrane processes have smaller footprint
- Membrane processes are fully automated to allow remote operation and minimum operator support.
- Membrane processes have comparable costs to conventional pretreatment depending on the feed water quality and site specific conditions

# Surface Water

## Feed Vs Filtrate NTU – UF Pilot Plant



# Open Inlet Seawater Feed Vs Filtrate SDI – UF Pilot Plant



# Hollow Fibre Membrane Compared to Spiral Membrane

- Hollow fibres have open feed channels
- Spiral membranes have narrow feed channels
- Hollow fibres can be backflushed
- Spiral membranes can not be backflushed



# Case Studies

## Wastewater Reclamation and Reuse

- Tangshan Steel Works
  - ◇ Abandoned Coal Mine Wastewater
- Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL)
  - ◇ Municipal Wastewater
- CAPCO
  - ◇ CPI Wastewater/Cooling Tower Blowdown
- Caoyang Steel Company
  - ◇ Cooling Tower Blowdown

# Project Incentives

## 5 Year Program - Industry Water Saving

- Water Law - 2002
- Industries regulated to conserve and reuse water
- City water and ground water sources used for the operation of the existing steel production plant
- Existing water sources not available for expansion of the steel production plant
- Wastewater from abandoned mine was available for expansion of the steel production plant

# Project Background

## Description of Wastewater

- Water collected in abandoned coal mine
- Rainwater, groundwater and mine leachate
- High in suspended and dissolved solids

## Use of Reclaimed Water

- Steel Manufacturing Operations
- Boiler Makeup Water

# Wastewater Treatment

## Integrated Conventional and Membrane

- Conventional
  - ◇ Coagulation, Flocculation, Sedimentation
- Membrane
  - ◇ Ultrafiltration (UF)/Reverse Osmosis (RO)
  - ◇ Ultrafiltration System Production Capacity
    - 680 m<sup>3</sup>/h (4.3 MGD)
  - ◇ Reverse Osmosis System Production Capacity
    - 500 m<sup>3</sup>/h (3.2 MGD)
- Ion Exchange Polishing

# Ultrafiltration System

## Description

- Purpose
  - ◇ Reduce suspended solids and turbidity
- Process Arrangement
  - ◇ Three parallel cartridge racks
  - ◇ Single pass/Circulation (SS > 30 mg/liter)
- UF Cartridges
  - ◇ 8 inch x 72 inch pressure cartridges
  - ◇ Inside to outside permeate flow direction
  - ◇ 3 trains x 46 cartridges = 138 cartridges (total)
  - ◇ 50.5 m<sup>2</sup> (544 ft<sup>2</sup>) membrane area per cartridge

# Reverse Osmosis System

## Description

- Purpose
  - ◇ Reduce hardness and dissolved solids
- Process Arrangement
  - ◇ Three parallel trains
- RO Elements
  - ◇ TFC Membrane
  - ◇ 8 inch x 60 inch (long) elements
  - ◇ 108 elements per train (18/9 array)
  - ◇ 324 total element
  - ◇ 54 m<sup>2</sup> (575 ft<sup>2</sup>) per membrane element

# Operating Data

## Ultrafiltration System

- Flux = 85 l/mh (50 gfd)
- Feed Pressure = 0.5 – 2.0 bar
- Backwash Frequency = 30 minutes
- CIP frequency = 4 to 8 weeks
- Feed Water Turbidity = 14 NTU (average)
- Product Water Turbidity = < 0.5 NTU
- Product Water SDI < 2.0

# Operating Data

## Reverse Osmosis System

- Flux = 30 l/mh
- Feed Pressure = 9.5 bar (1st array)
- Feed Pressure = 8.4 bar (2nd array)
- CIP frequency > 6 months
- Product Water Conductivity = 4.5 - 10.0  $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$



# Summary

Integrated UF/RO membrane treatment of coal mine wastewater has been successfully used to provide a high quality, reliable and secure water source where no other practical water source was available for the expansion of the Tangshan Steel Works.

# Operating Data

## Process Stream Description

	Process Stream	Item			
		Turbidity (NTU)	SS (ppm)	Conductivity (μS/cm)	SDI <sub>15</sub>
1	Raw Water	50 - 500	250	450-800	
2	UF Feed	7 - 50 Average 14	10-50	450-800	
3	RO Feed	ND	ND	450-800	< 2
4	RO Product	ND	ND	4.5-10.0	

# Wastewater Treatment

## Integrated Conventional and Membrane

- Site: CPCL, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India
- Start-Up: December 2004
- Feed Water: Secondary Clarified Municipal Wastewater
- Product Water: Process and Cooling Tower Makeup Water
- UF Pretreatment: Coagulation, Media Filter and Cartridge Filter

# Wastewater Treatment

## CPCL

- **Ultrafiltration System**

- ◇ Capacity: 430 m<sup>3</sup>/hr (2.7 MGD)
- ◇ Cartridges: 10 inch x 72 inch (80.9 m<sup>2</sup>/cartridge)
- ◇ Configuration: 6 x 18 (108 cartridges)

- **Reverse Osmosis**

- ◇ Capacity: 320 m<sup>3</sup>/h (2.0 MGD)
- ◇ Elements: 8 inch x 40 inch TFC
- ◇ Configuration: 4 trains (14/7) = 504 elements total

# Wastewater Treatment

## Integrated Conventional and Membrane

- Site: Caoyang Power, Liao Ning Province, China
- Start-Up Date: December 2004
- Feed Water: Cooling Tower Blowdown Water
- Product Water: Boiler Makeup Water
- Pretreatment: Fibre Filter

# Wastewater Treatment

## Caoyang Power Company

- Ultrafiltration System
  - ◇ Capacity: 160 m<sup>3</sup>/hr (1.0 MGD)
  - ◇ Cartridges: 10 inch x 72 inch (80.9 m<sup>2</sup>/cartridge)
  - ◇ Configuration: 2 x 16 (32 cartridges)
- Reverse Osmosis System
  - ◇ Capacity: 120 m<sup>3</sup>/hr (0.75 MGD)
  - ◇ Elements: 8 inch x 40 inch TFC
  - ◇ Configuration: 2 trains (9/5) = 168 elements total

# Wastewater Treatment

## Integrated Conventional and Membrane

- Site: CAPCO, Kaoshing, Taiwan
- Start-Up Date: June 2001
- Feed Water: Biologically Treated CIP Organic Wastewater  
Cooling Tower Blowdown Water
- Product Water: Process and Cooling Tower Makeup Water
- Pretreatment: Coagulation, Carbon, Media Filter, Cartridge Filter

# Wastewater Treatment

## CAPCO

- Ultrafiltration System
  - ◇ Capacity: 375 m<sup>3</sup>/hr (2.4 MGD)
  - ◇ Cartridges: 6 inch x 48 inch (11.2 m<sup>2</sup>/cartridge)
  - ◇ Configuration: 5 x 110 (550 cartridges)
- Reverse Osmosis System
  - ◇ Capacity: 275 m<sup>3</sup>/hr (1.7 MGD)
  - ◇ Elements: 8 inch x 40 inch TFC
  - ◇ Configuration: 6 trains (6/3) = 324 elements total



# Conclusions

- Integrated conventional and membrane processing for reclamation and re-use is used on a variety of wastewaters
- Hollow Fibre UF provides a consistent and high quality filtrate for spiral RO
- Feed water quality and consistency, and site conditions will determine the project economics