

## Shock & Drop vs Floc & Drop - An Evaluation of Spent IX Brine Treatment

Brine Disposal –  
*Options for Potential  
Waste Stream  
Management from  
CRRF*

Presenters:

Mr. Steve Bigley, Director of Environmental Services, Coachella Valley Water District

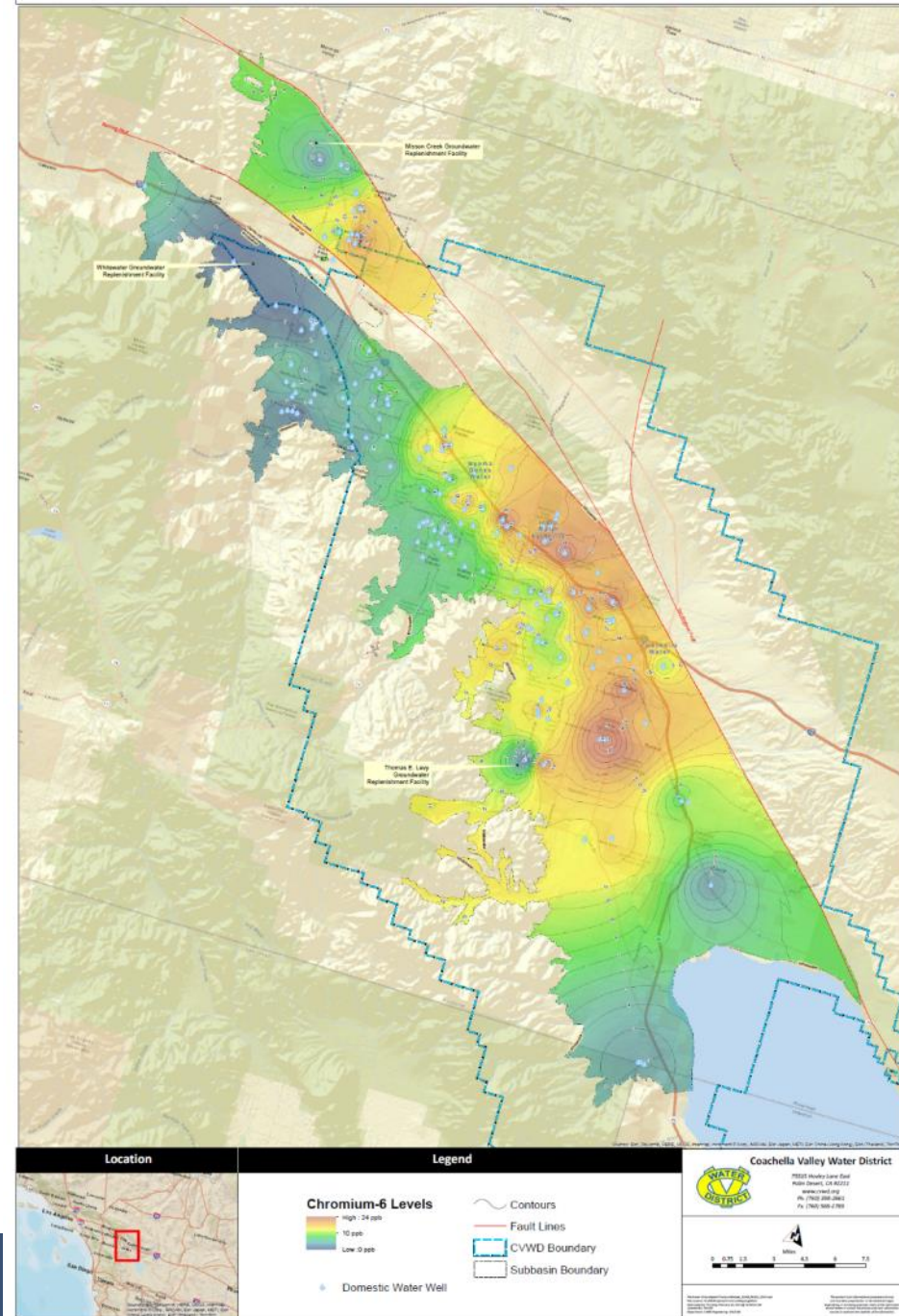
Mr. Eric Dole, PE, Western Regional Energy Efficiency Lead, Hazen & Sawyer

1. Project background
2. Central Resin Regeneration Facility
3. Waste Classification / Regulations
4. Brine Treatment Testing
5. Brine Management Options
6. Cost comparison
7. Recommendation

# Project Background – Local Cr6 Occurrence

- ❑ Found naturally in Coachella Valley groundwater
- ❑ Levels from <1 to 21 parts per billion (ppb) – new regulation of 10 ppb
- ❑ Cr6 levels below detection in Colorado River water used for aquifer replenishment

Coachella Valley Groundwater Chromium-6 Occurrence



## Project Background (cont.)

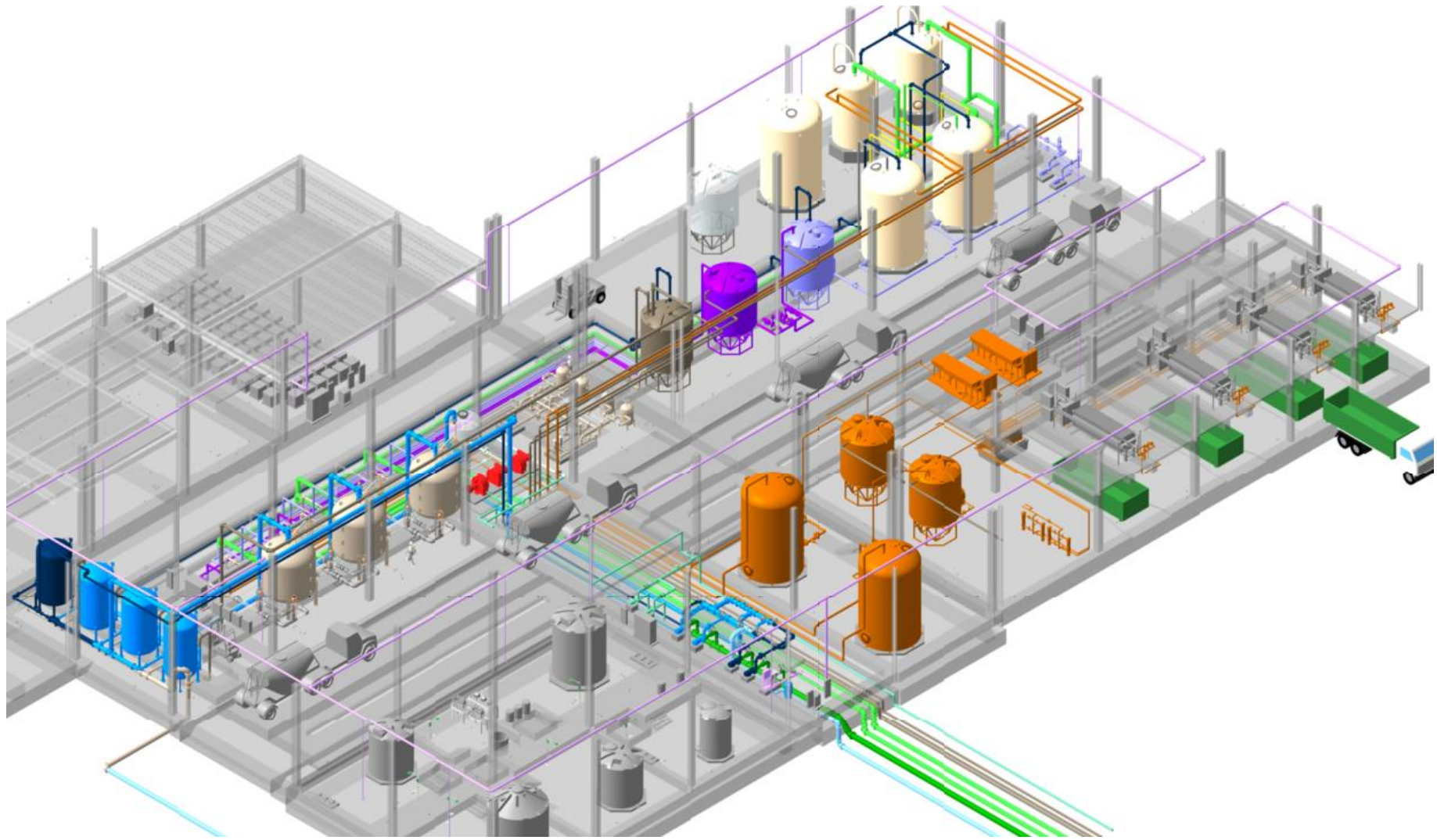
- ❑ 30 of CVWD's 96 requiring Cr6 treatment – 78 MGD
  - CA Dept. of Drinking Water new MCL = 10 ppb
  - SBA / WBA Treatment results in 99.95% water recovery (0.05% loss)
- ❑ 6 wells combine at 2 separate centralized Weak Base Anion (WBA) treatment systems...1 well is blended
  - 11.5 MGD capacity with 7,200 cubic feet of resin
  - Throw away resin lasts 1 - 2 years
  - Used for higher sulfate wells

## Project Background (cont.)

- ❑ 23 wells equipped with Strong Base Anion (SBA) treatment systems
  - 66.5 MGD capacity with 27,600 cubic feet of resin
  - Require regeneration every 2 to 3 months @ CRRF – 600 cf / day
  - Regenerated with a 10-12% NaCl solution



# Central Regen Regeneration Facility (CRRF)

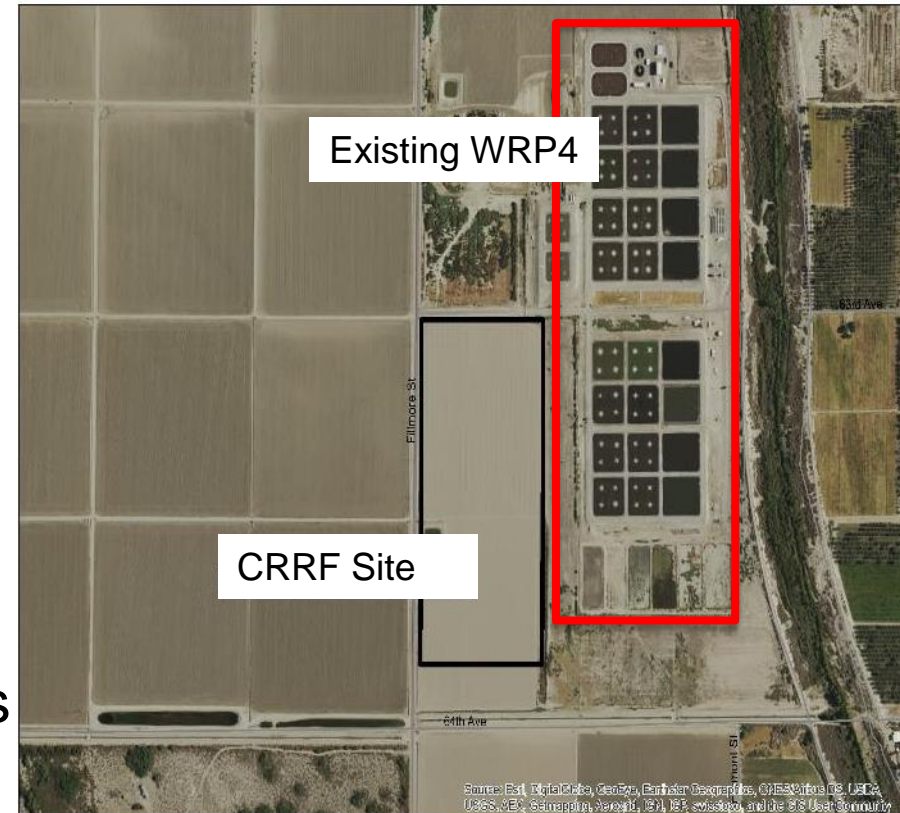


# Central Regen Regeneration Facility (CRRF)



# Central Resin Regeneration Facility (CRRF)

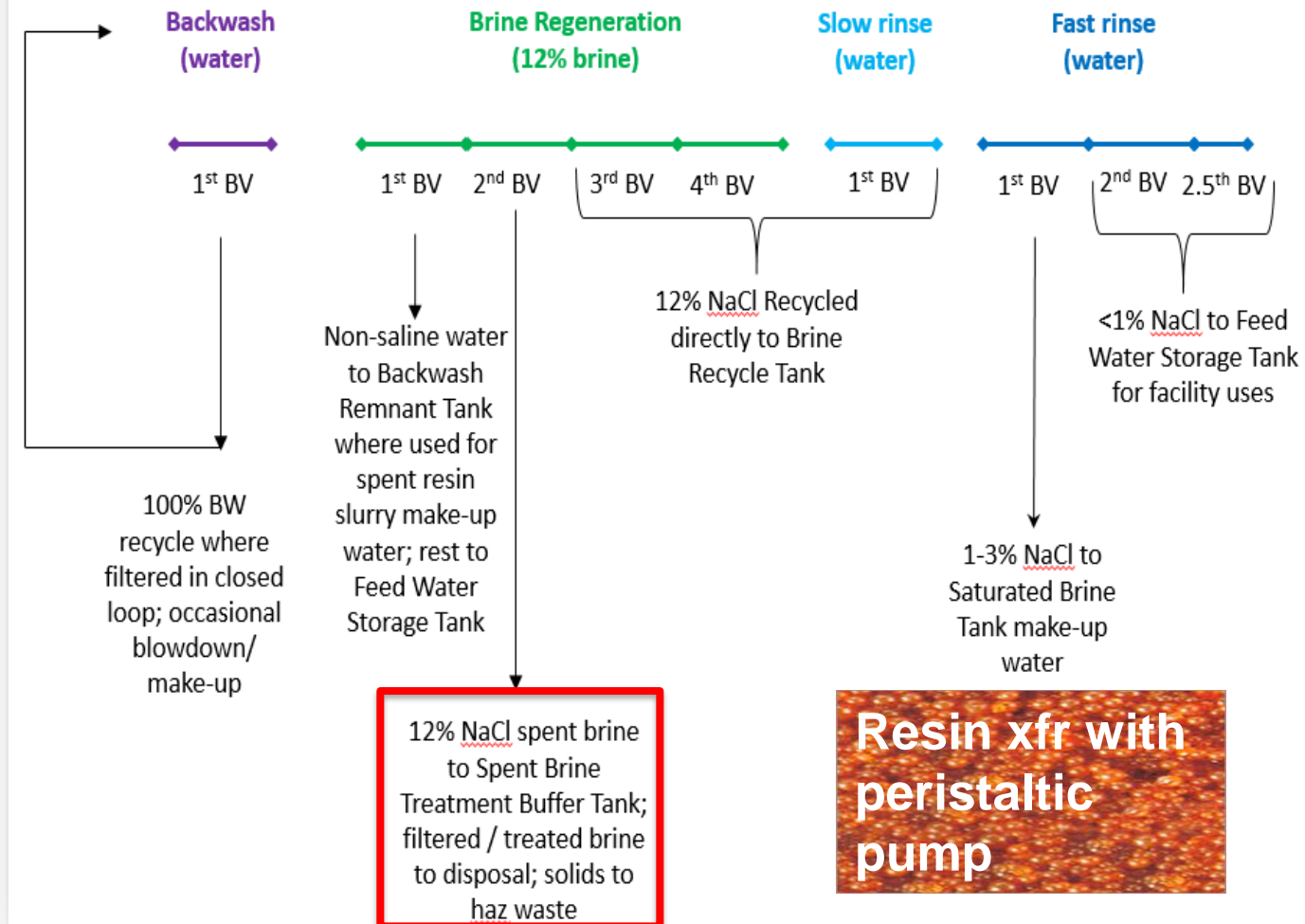
- ❑ The SBA resins must be regenerated when they are saturated with Cr6
- ❑ Centralizing the regeneration process achieves:
  - Cost savings
  - Increased reliability
  - Operational efficiency
  - Reduced footprint at well sites
- ❑ Resin is extracted from vessels at well sites and transported to CRRF, then returned to well sites after regeneration





# Central Regen Regeneration Facility (CRRF)

1 BV = 600 cf = 4,488 gal



# Waste Handling Operational Modes

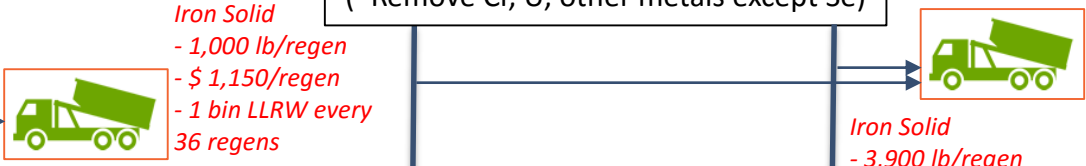
Spent Brine 4,500 gpd



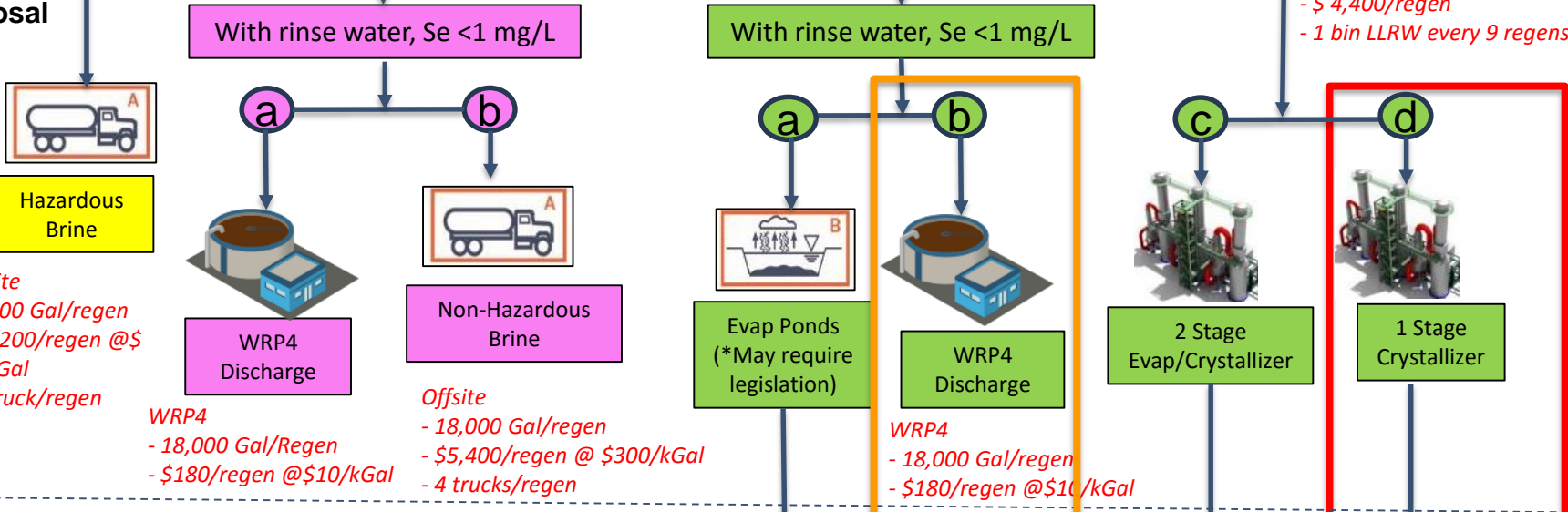
## Pretreatment



## Iron Solids Disposal



## Brine Disposal



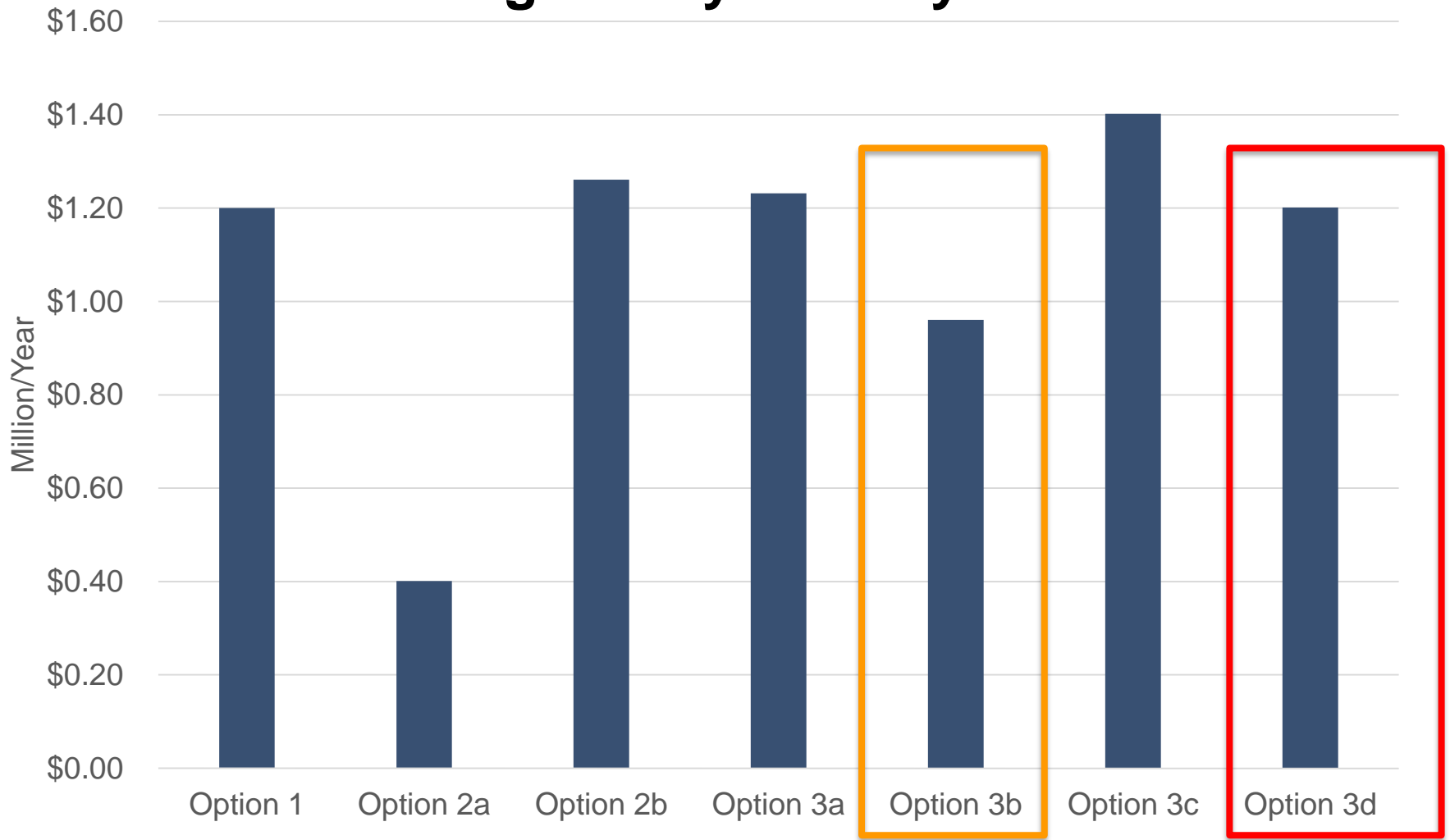
## Salt Cake Disposal

## Approx. total cost

\$7,200/regen	\$1,350/regen	\$6,550/regen	\$5,080/regen	\$4,630/regen	\$4,850/regen	\$4,850/regen
---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------

# Central Resin Regeneration Facility (CRRF)

## Brine Mgmt 20 yr Life Cycle Costs



# Waste Classification

**STLC**

**Title 26 California Regulation (liquid)**

---

- Liquid sample is filtered, and the filtrate is captured for analysis
- No leaching process is needed with solid content < 0.5% (mg/L)

**TTLC**

**Title 26 California Regulation (solid)**

---

- Solid sample goes through a digestion process prior to analysis
- Analysis for total concentration in wet waste (mg/kg)

**TCLP**

**Federal Regulation (solid)**

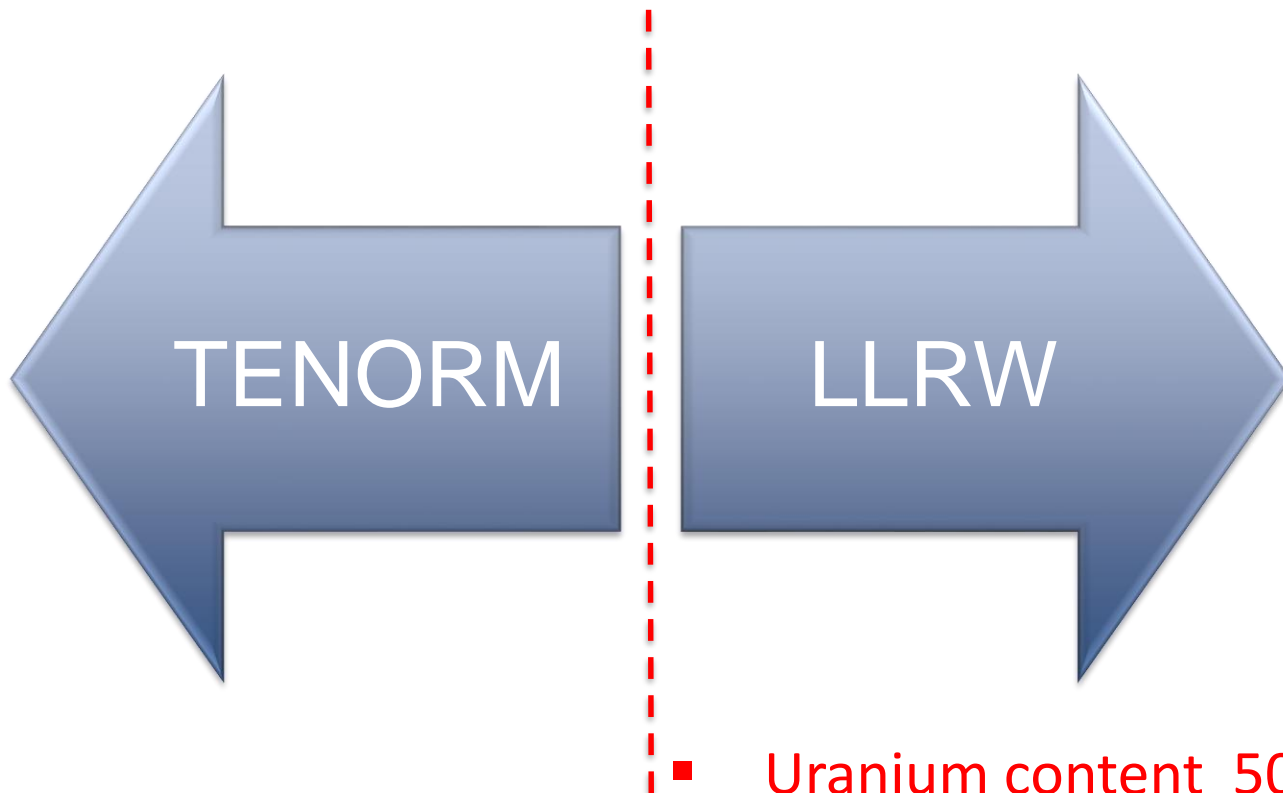
---

- Solid sample goes through the leaching condition mimics the landfill
- 100 g wet solids leached in 2L of solution (mg/L)



# Waste Classification – Radioactivity (U)

0.05% (or 500 mg of U / kg ) = solids disposal

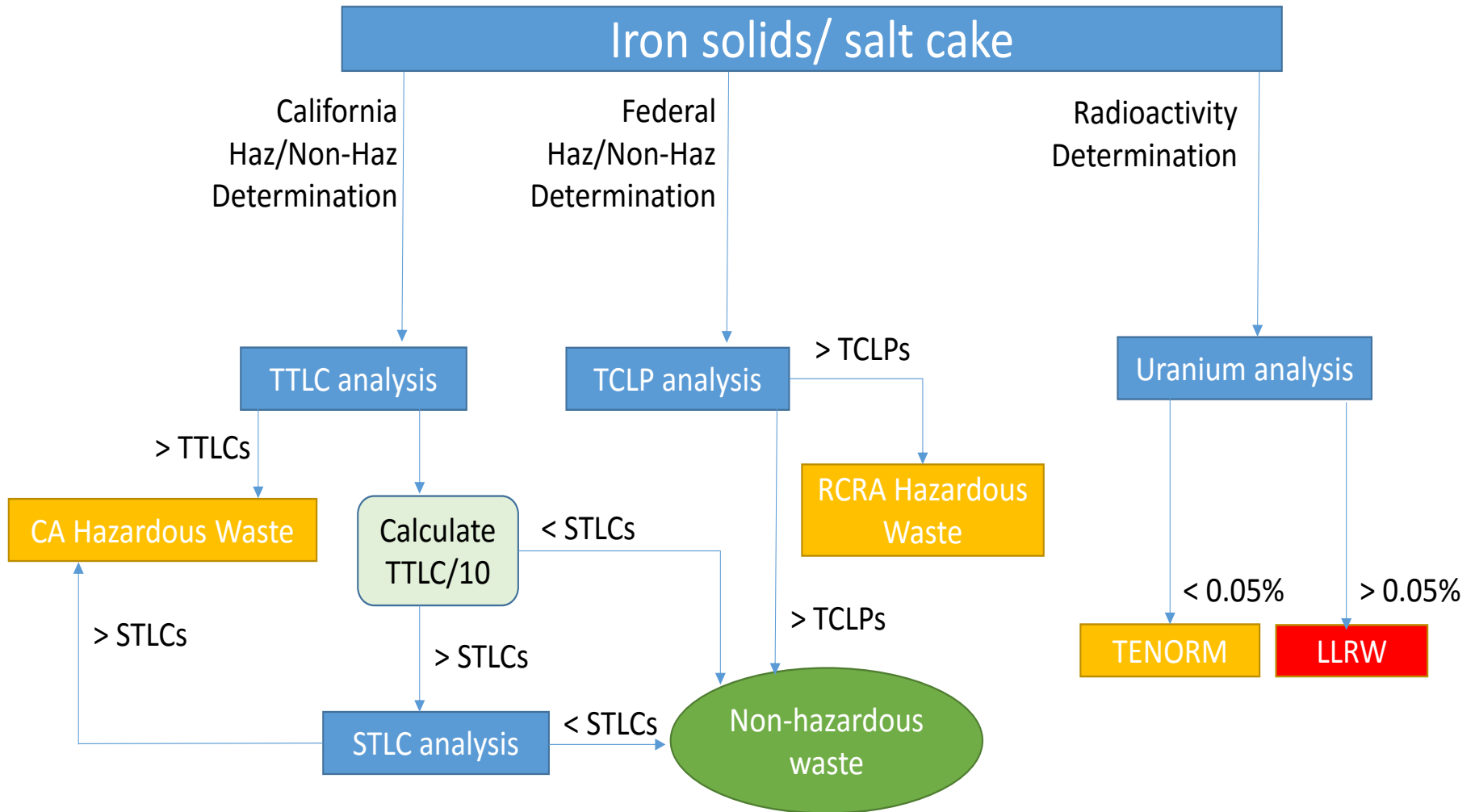


- Uranium content 5000 mR/yr = OSHA/NRC

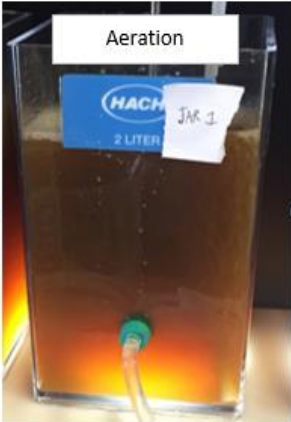
# Waste Regulatory Limits

Inorganic Compound	STLC, mg/L	TCLP, mg/L	TTL, mg/kg, wet weight	LLRW limit mg/kg, wet weight
Arsenic	5.0	5.0	500	N/A
Chromium	5.0	5.0	500	N/A
Molybdenum	350	N/A	3,500	N/A
Nickel	20	N/A	2,000	N/A
Selenium	1.0	1.0	100	N/A
Vanadium	24	N/A	2,400	N/A
Uranium	N/A	N/A	N/A	500

# Waste Classification Decision Tree

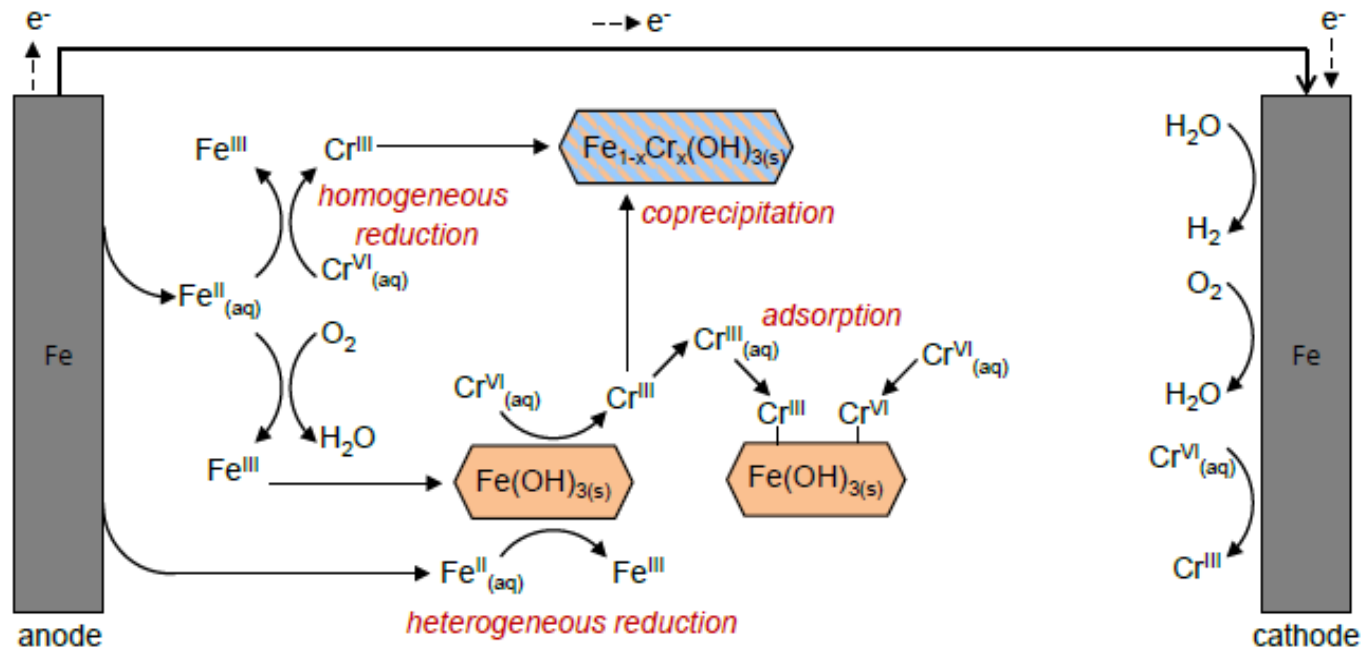


# Brine Treatment Field Tests– CC





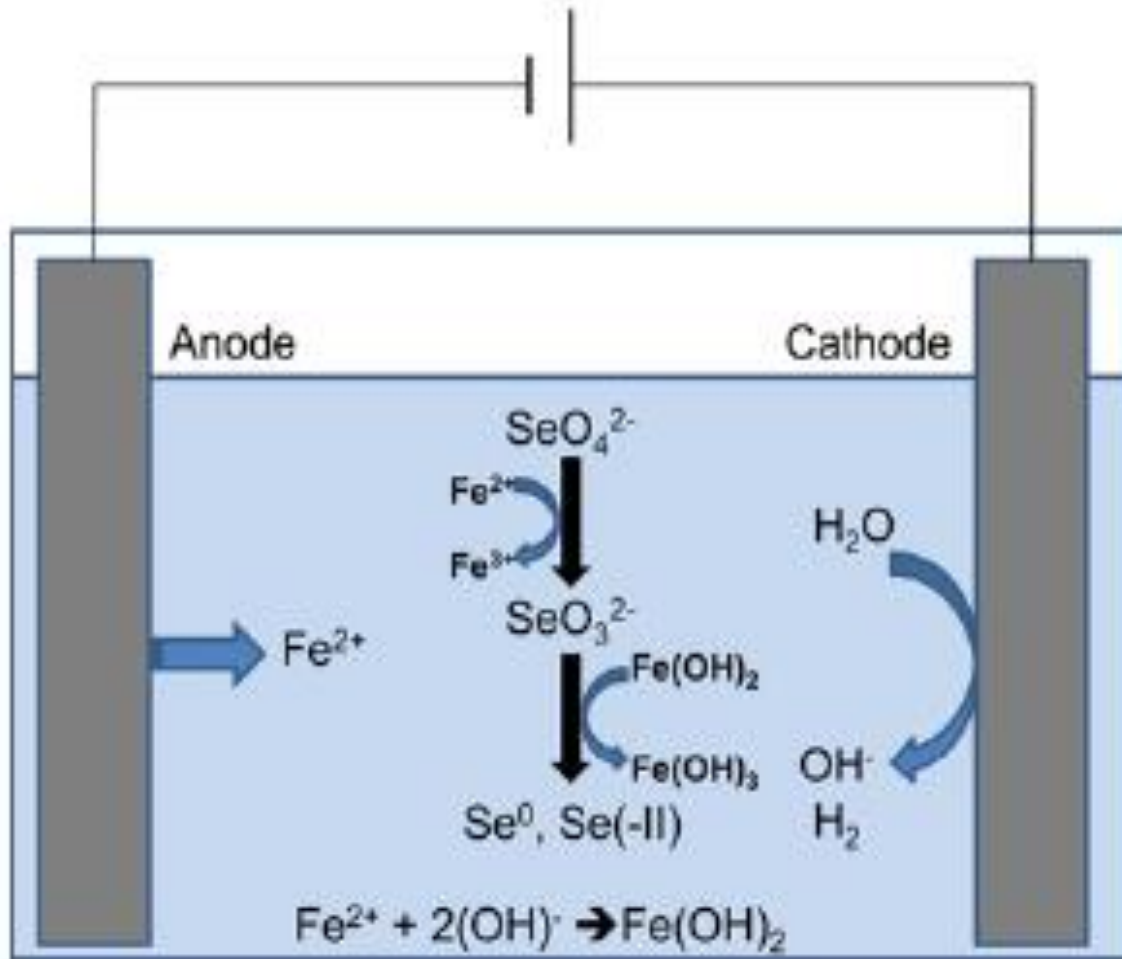
# Brine Treatment Field Tests – Electro-coagulation (EC)



(Source: 1.) Washington University Presentation "Contaminant Removal from Water through Oxidation-Reduction and Adsorption of Iron Oxides Generated during Electrocoagulation" March 25, 2015, 249<sup>th</sup> Annual American Chemistry Society Meeting, Denver CO; 2.) Powell Water Solutions, Inc.)

- ❑ Already established spent brine treatment for industrial
- ❑ Reduce Cr6 to Cr3 with ferrous iron from anode and natural reduction at cathode, settle, filter
- ❑ Removes Se at high iron doses...lots of Fe solids

# Brine Treatment Field Tests – EC

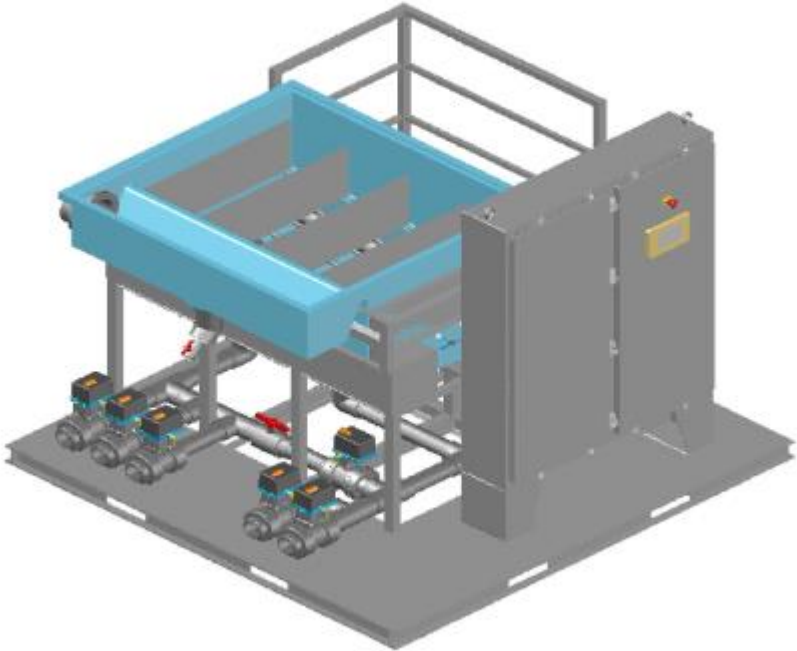


(Source: Chemical Engineering Journal "Electrochemical Removal of Selenate from Aqueous Solutions" May 2, 2012)

# Brine Treatment – EC Full Scale Unit



600 gpm Powell EC System



135 gpm Powell EC System

# Brine Treatment Field Tests– EC





# Brine Treatment Field Tests– EC

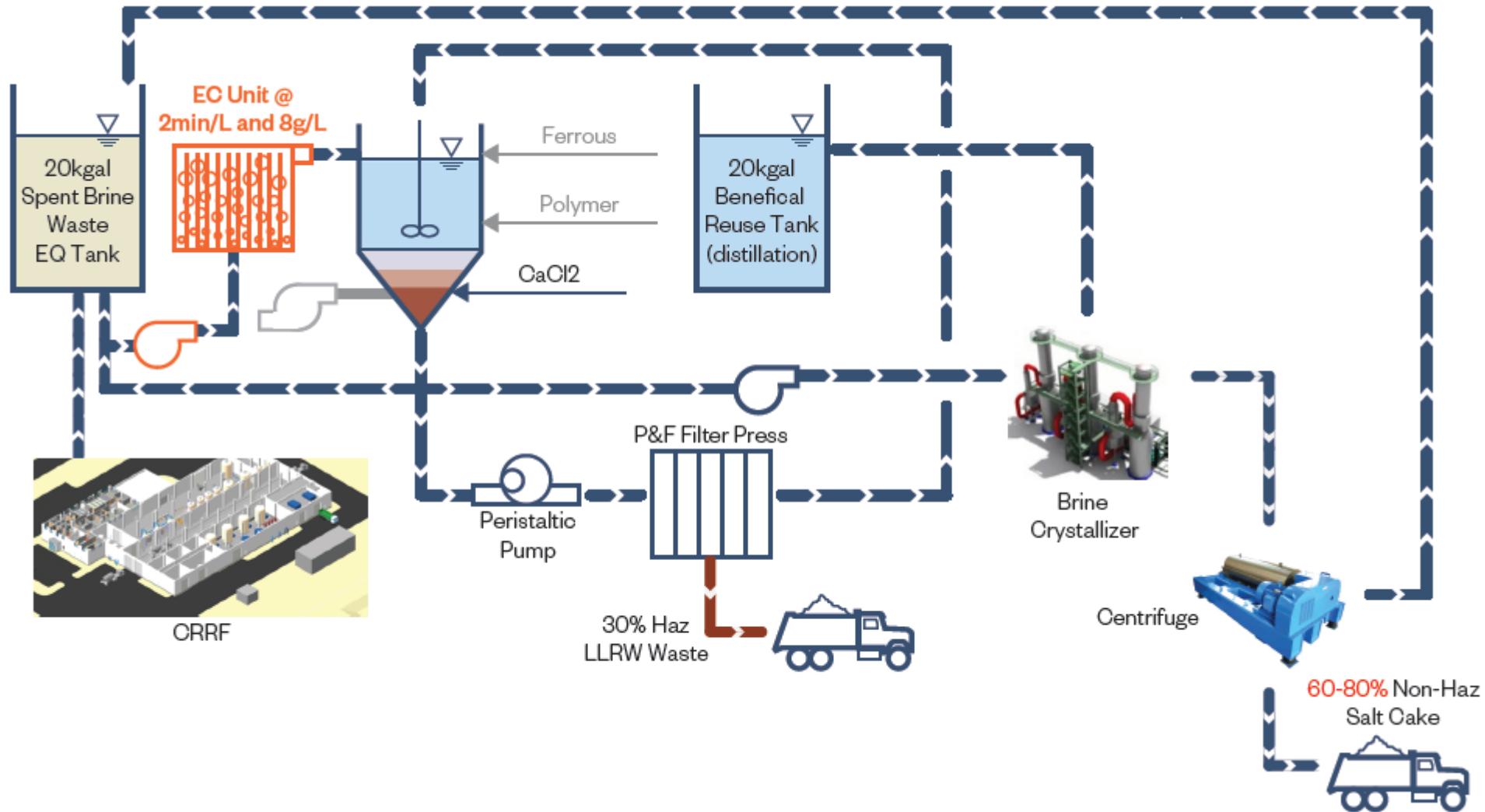


# Brine Treatment Field Tests– EC



# Brine Treatment – ZLD (EC + BC)

- Back-up Treatment = CC – grey components



# Brine Treatment Field Tests – 5-um filtered brine

Parameter	Unit	STLC Limits	Untreated Brine	CC Test 1	CC Test 2	CC Test 3	EC (30 s/L)
Fe Dose	g/L	-	-	1.4	0.9	1.2	2.0
Antimony	mg/L	15	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02
Arsenic	mg/L	5	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1
Barium	mg/L	100	0.066	0.044	0.029	< 0.02	< 0.02
Beryllium	mg/L	0.75	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02
Cadmium	mg/L	1	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02
Chromium	mg/L	5	180	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2
Cobalt	mg/L	80	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02
Copper	mg/L	25	0.15	0.073	0.041	0.14	0.076
Lead	mg/L	5	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02
Mercury	mg/L	0.2	0.00025	0.00022	0.00021	0.0002	0.00025
Molybdenum	mg/L	350	87	26	81	48	92
Nickel	mg/L	20	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02
Selenium	mg/L	1	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.3	1.7
Silver	mg/L	5	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02
Thallium	mg/L	7	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02
Vanadium	mg/L	24	28	< 0.3	< 0.3	< 0.3	< 0.3
Zinc	mg/L	250	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2
Uranium	mg/L	500	150	99	130	110	110



# Brine Treatment Field Tests – 5-um filtered brine

Parameter	Unit	STLC Limits	Untreated Brine	1st stage EC 15 S/L	1st stage EC 30 S/L	1st stage EC 2 min/L	2nd stage EC 6 min/L	2nd stage EC w/ chem
Antimony	mg/L	15	< 3	< 3	< 3	< 3	< 3	< 3
Arsenic	mg/L	5	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1
Barium	mg/L	100	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20
Beryllium	mg/L	0.75	< 0.15	< 0.15	< 0.15	< 0.15	< 0.15	< 0.15
Cadmium	mg/L	1	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2
Chromium	mg/L	5	160	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1
Cobalt	mg/L	80	< 16	< 16	< 16	< 16	< 16	< 16
Copper	mg/L	25	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5
Lead	mg/L	5	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1
Mercury	mg/L	0.2	< 0.0017	< 0.0017	< 0.0017	< 0.0017	< 0.0017	< 0.0017
Molybdenum	mg/L	350	< 70	< 70	79	< 70	< 70	< 70
Nickel	mg/L	20	< 4	< 4	< 4	< 4	< 4	< 4
Selenium	mg/L	1	1.7	2	2	2	1	0.63
Silver	mg/L	5	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1
Thallium	mg/L	7	< 1.4	< 1.4	< 1.4	< 1.4	< 1.4	< 1.4
Vanadium	mg/L	24	19	< 4.8	< 4.8	< 4.8	< 4.8	< 4.8
Zinc	mg/L	250	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50	< 50
Thorium	mg/L	500	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2
Uranium	mg/L	500	78	64	69	0.25	< 0.06	0.10

# Summary

- ❑ Residuals disposal is one of the most challenging aspects of CRRF chromium treatment
- ❑ Chemical coagulation and electrocoagulation provided good removal of chromium, uranium and most other metals
- ❑ Selenium remains a challenge and can be reduced with very high EC doses and/or chemical addition
  - but waste production and operational requirements are high...potential for iron doped gypsum generation
- ❑ Brine crystallizer used to manage EC filtrate = true ZLD facility
  - Solid make-up – majority NaCl and Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

## Steve Bigley

Director of Environmental Services

Coachella Valley Water District

Post Office Box 1058

Coachella, California 92236

Phone: (760) 398-2661, ext. 2286

Mobile: (760) 393-7792

Email: [sbigley@cvwd.org](mailto:sbigley@cvwd.org)

# Questions?

## Eric Dole, PE

Associate | West Regional Energy

Efficiency Lead | Hazen and Sawyer

Highlands Ranch, CO 80126

602-881-0186 (cell)

[edole@hazenandsawyer.com](mailto:edole@hazenandsawyer.com)

