

# Innovative Approaches for PFAS Destruction

2024 Spring Conference  
SW Louisiana Chapter  
Air & Waste Management Association

March 7, 2024

Rick Gillespie

Chief Commercial Officer

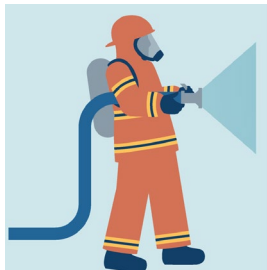


# Revive Environmental: Snapshot

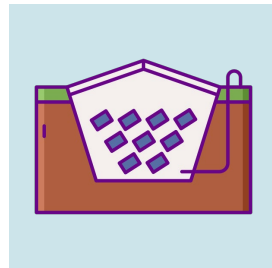
- Water Technology company created in December 2022
- Structure: Founded by Battelle and Viking Global Investors
- Technology: Global Patents on PFAS Annihilator® and GAC Renew™
- Headquarters: Columbus, OH / CEO: David Trueba
- <https://revive-environmental.com/>



## Target Markets and Applications



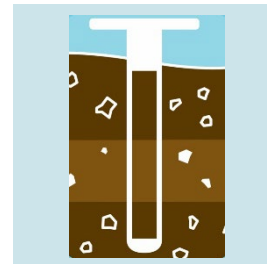
**AFFF**



**Landfill  
Leachate**



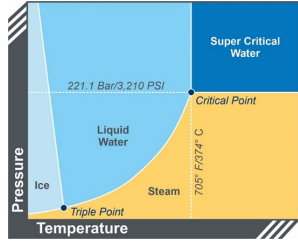
**Industrial  
Water**



**Groundwater  
Remediation**



# Learning Objectives



Review capabilities and commercial readiness of SCWO

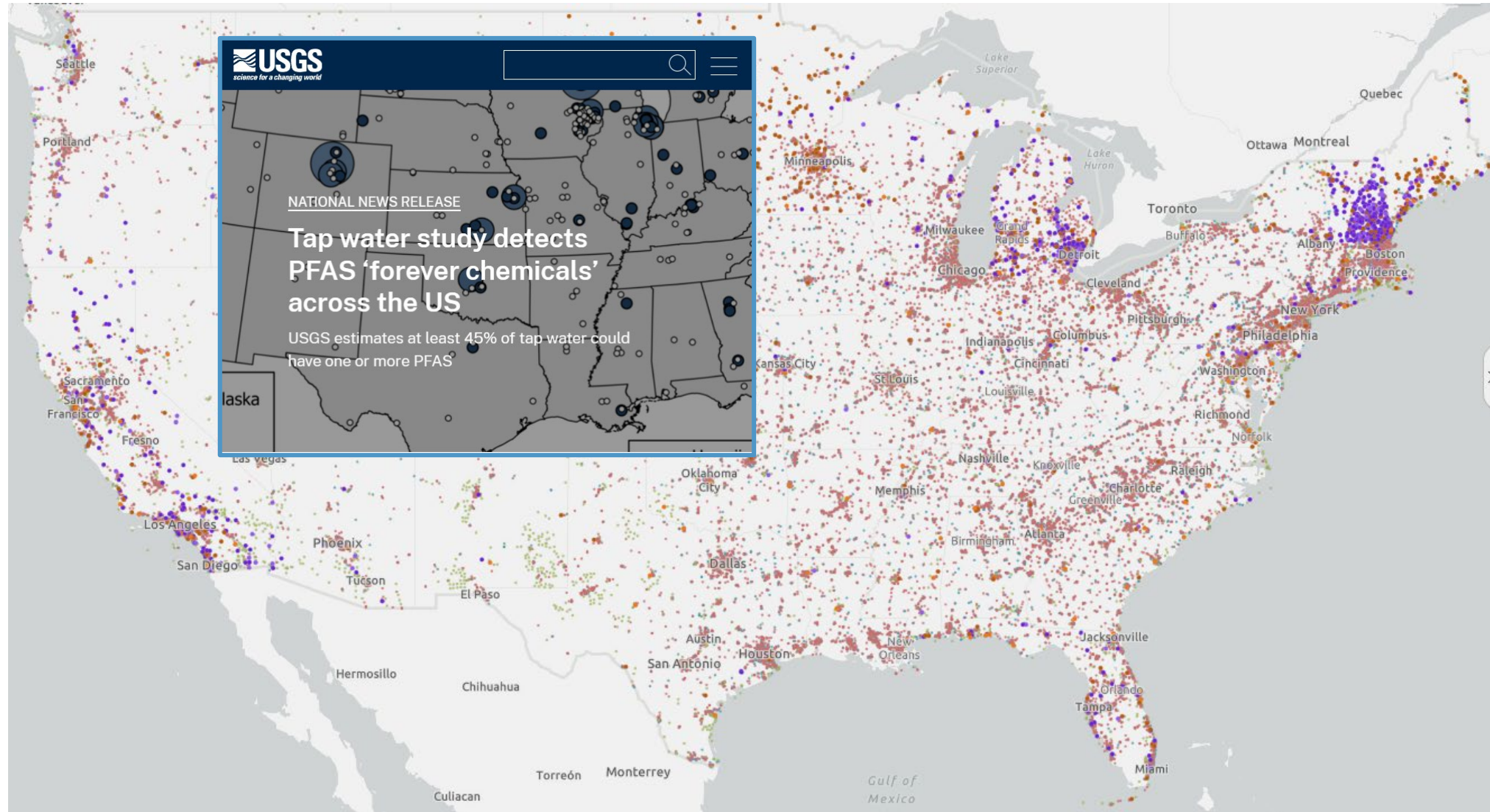


Review application scenarios



Lessons learned in the deployment, commissioning, and ongoing operation and optimization of a SCWO unit

# Not just 'forever' but 'everywhere' chemicals



Source: Presumptive Contamination Sites from [PFAS Sites and Community Resources map](#)

# Proposed MCLs could require 99.9999% removal

Compound	Proposed MCLG	Proposed MCL (enforceable levels)
PFOA	Zero	4.0 parts per trillion (also expressed as ng/L)
PFOS	Zero	4.0 ppt
PFNA	1.0 (unitless) Hazard Index	1.0 (unitless) Hazard Index
PFHxS		
PFBS		
HFPO-DA (commonly referred to as GenX Chemicals)		

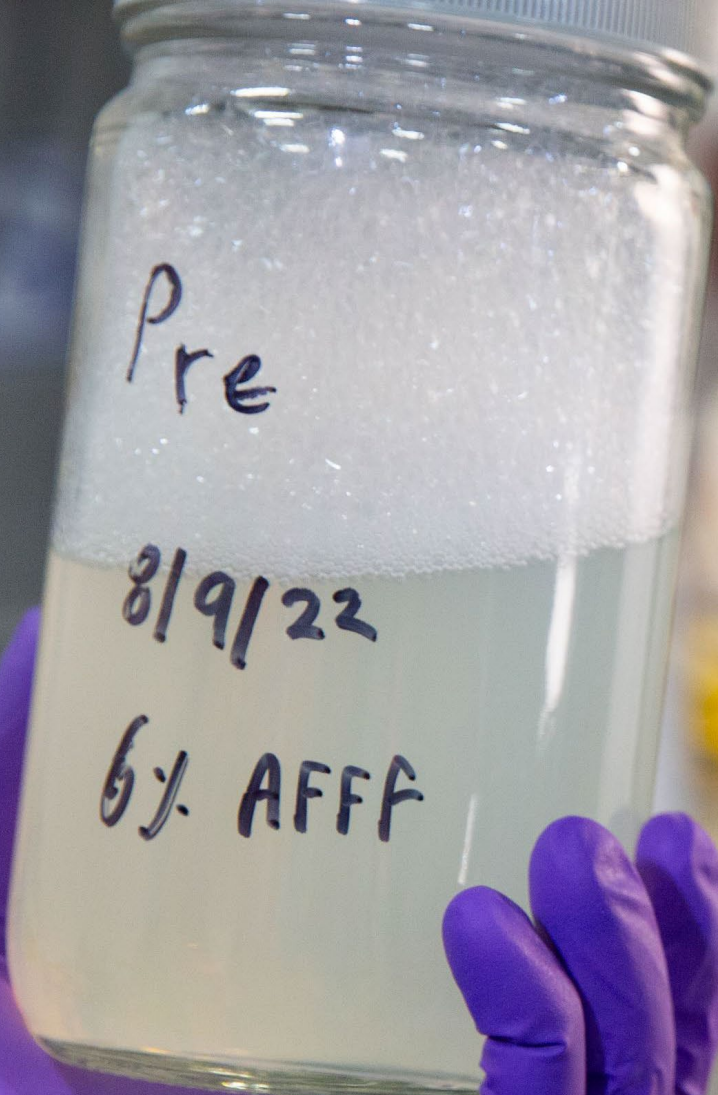
Using PFOA as example...

If source contains **3,000 ppb**  
(or 3,000,000 ppt)

Achieving discharge of **4 ppt**  
(or 0.004 ppb)

Requires **99.9999% removal**  
( $4/3,000,000 = 0.0001\%$ )

Source: EPA, Proposed PFAS National Primary Drinking Water Regulation  
<https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>



Overview of Disposal/Treatment of PFAS Waste Streams

# Existing Methods of PFAS Disposal



## Landfill Disposal

- Non-destructive
- AFFF mixed with stabilizer
- Immobilized and encapsulated
- Not all landfills take PFAS
- Readily available, low cost



## Deep Well Injection

- Non-destructive
- Injected into tectonically stable strata
- Not available in all states



## Incineration

- Destruction
- Products of Incomplete Combustion (PICs) still being studied
- State Moratoriums



## On-Site Storage

- On-Site Storage
- Evaluating alternative disposal options
- Exposure and Spill Risk

# Innovative Technologies – Destruction

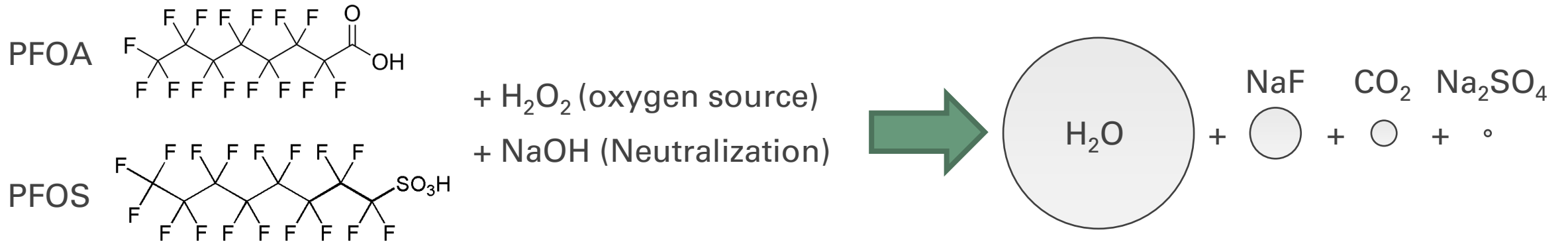
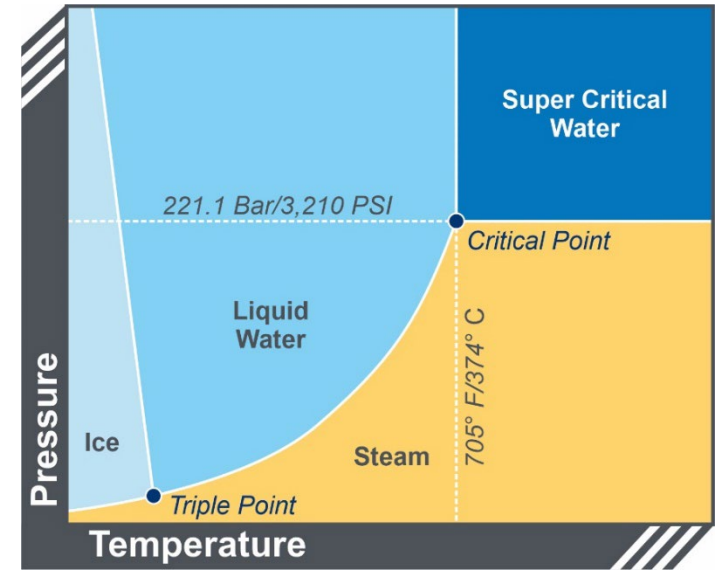
	<b>SCWO</b> (Supercritical Water Oxidation)	<b>HALT</b> (Hydrothermal Alkaline Treatment)	<b>ECO</b> (Electrochemical Oxidation)	<b>Plasma</b>
Readiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commercial, Permitted</li> <li>• &gt; 20 years Operational Success</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilot + Designing scaled-up system for testing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilot</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design + Initial field pilot</li> </ul>
Strengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most comprehensive depth and breadth of PFAS destruction</li> <li>• Can handle wide variety of contaminated aqueous matrices</li> <li>• Short residence time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very effective on long chain PFAS</li> <li>• Lower corrosion vs SCWO given lower temperatures</li> <li>• Short residence time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobile unit</li> <li>• Effective on PFOA and PFOS</li> <li>• Multiple Providers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highly mobile, low-cost unit</li> <li>• Low energy consumption for PFAS destruction</li> <li>• Can handle PFAS-containing air streams</li> </ul>
Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Susceptible to salt plugging</li> <li>• Susceptible to corrosion given high temperatures</li> <li>• Readiness being established for solid matrices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Susceptible to salt plugging</li> <li>• May require long residence time to address short-chain PFAS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Difficulty handling foam fractionated / concentrated waste streams</li> <li>• Effectiveness on short chain PFAS not yet proven</li> <li>• Long residence time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited breadth and depth of PFAS destruction</li> <li>• Impacted by water quality</li> <li>• Long residence time</li> <li>• Potential for air emissions</li> </ul>

Sources: TME: The Military Engineer, Society of American Military Engineers (July • August • Vol 115 • No 46), <https://online.fliphtml5.com/fedq/opti/#p=55>; Revive internal analysis

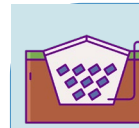
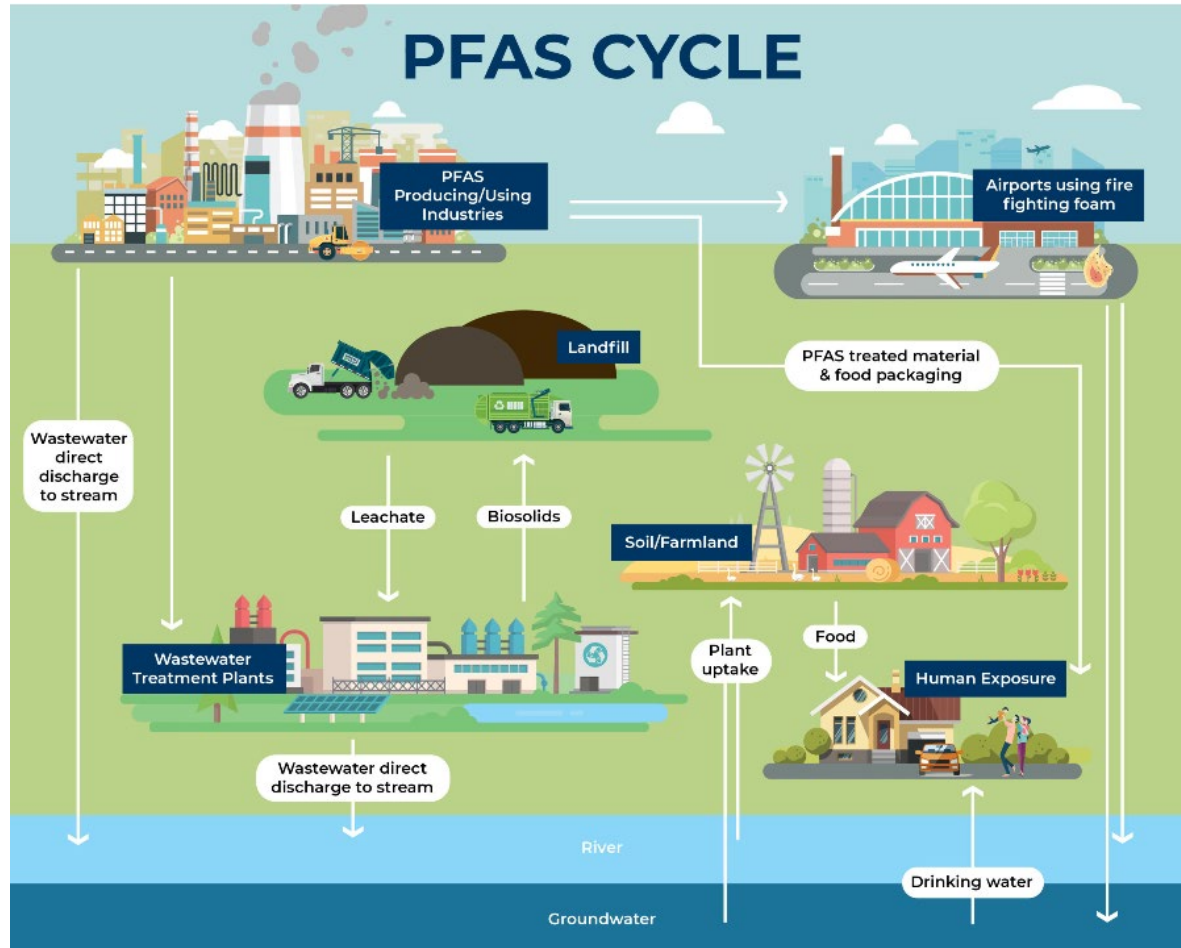


# What is Supercritical Water Oxidation?

- Supercritical water exhibits unique properties
  - Gas and liquid phases become indistinguishable
  - Density is about 10% of water above the supercritical point
  - Water no longer behaves as a polar solvent
  - Oxygen is fully soluble
- High temperature in an oxidizing environment overcomes activation energy to break C-F bond



# Challenges will differ by application/source



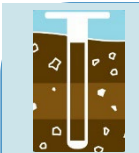
## Landfill Leachate

- High Volume
- Recurring - Continuous
- High amount of co-contaminants



## AFFF

- Lower Volume
- Very High PFAS (ppm)
- Concentrate vs Rinsewater



## Soil / Ground Water Remediation

- High Volume
- Lower PFAS Concentrations
- In-Situ vs Ex-Situ

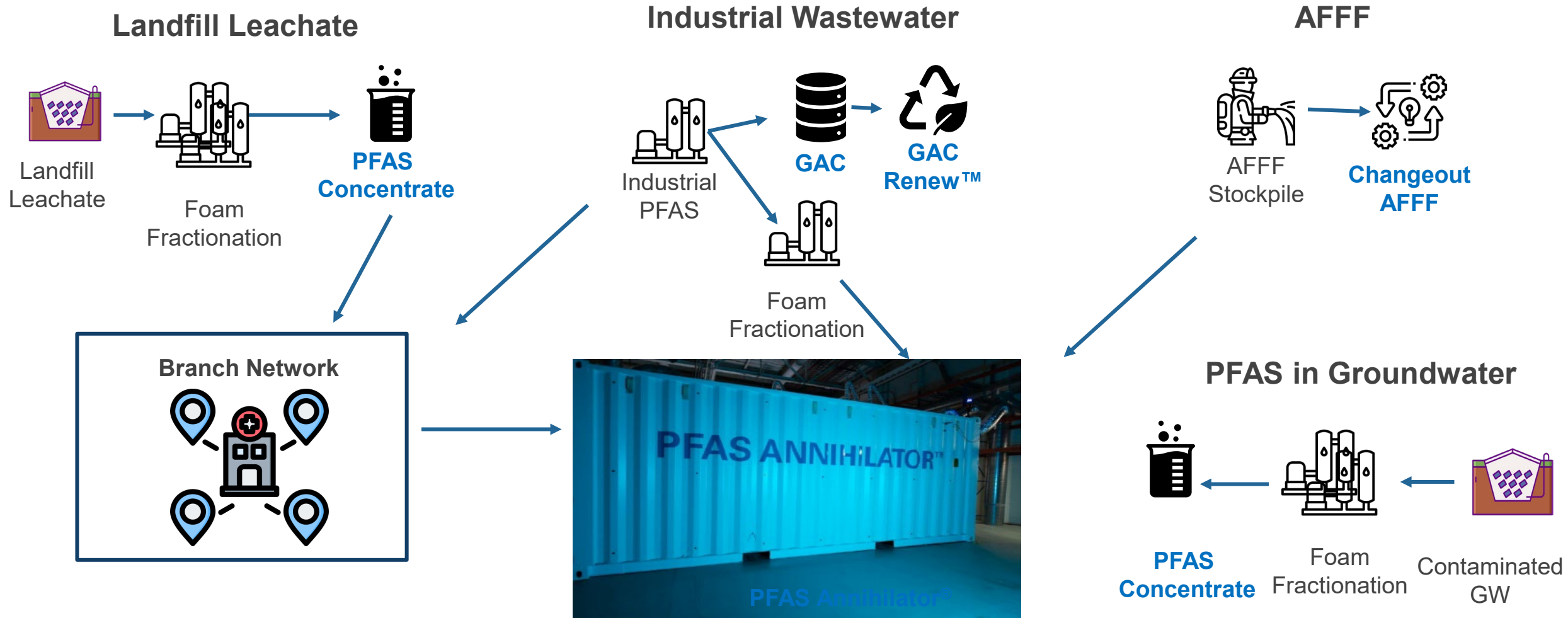


## Industrial Wastewater

- Very High Volume
- Recurring - Continuous
- Low PFAS Conc
- PFAS concentration required

Source: Walnut Valley Water District, <https://walnutvalleywater.gov/your-water/your-drinking-water/water-quality/>

# Current Commercial Application of SCWO

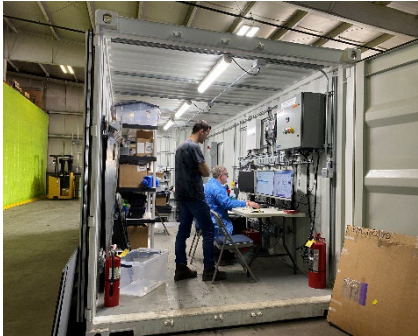


# Commercial Operations



## 1<sup>st</sup> PFAS Destruction Technology to Commercialize in N America (March 2023)

- Treated over 55,000,000 gallons combined of landfill leachate, AFFF, industrial wastewater, and groundwater in 2023
- All discharge compliant with local and state regulations and validated by 3<sup>rd</sup> party analytical data prior to discharge



## Establishing Central Facilities close to Customer Needs

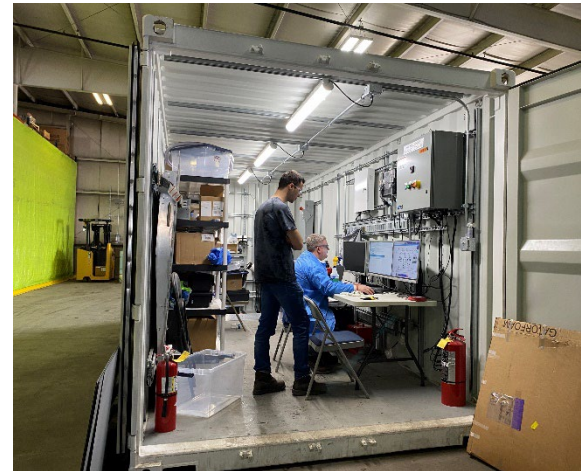
- For Customers with one-time waste streams (e.g., AFFF) or low volume recurring waste streams (e.g., likely aggregate from multiple landfills)
- Work transparently with local and state regulatory partners to explain the technology, demonstrate destruction, and establish permits and monitoring



## Deploying Mobile Units to Customers that require Onsite operations

- DOD field studies where comparing head-to-head vs other technologies
- Customers with sensitivity over transport offsite / out-of-state

# Know your site requirements



- Power
- Water
- Shelter
- Footprint

Footprint: 40' x 40' for 2 CONEX boxes + equipment

# Annihilator Operational Requirements

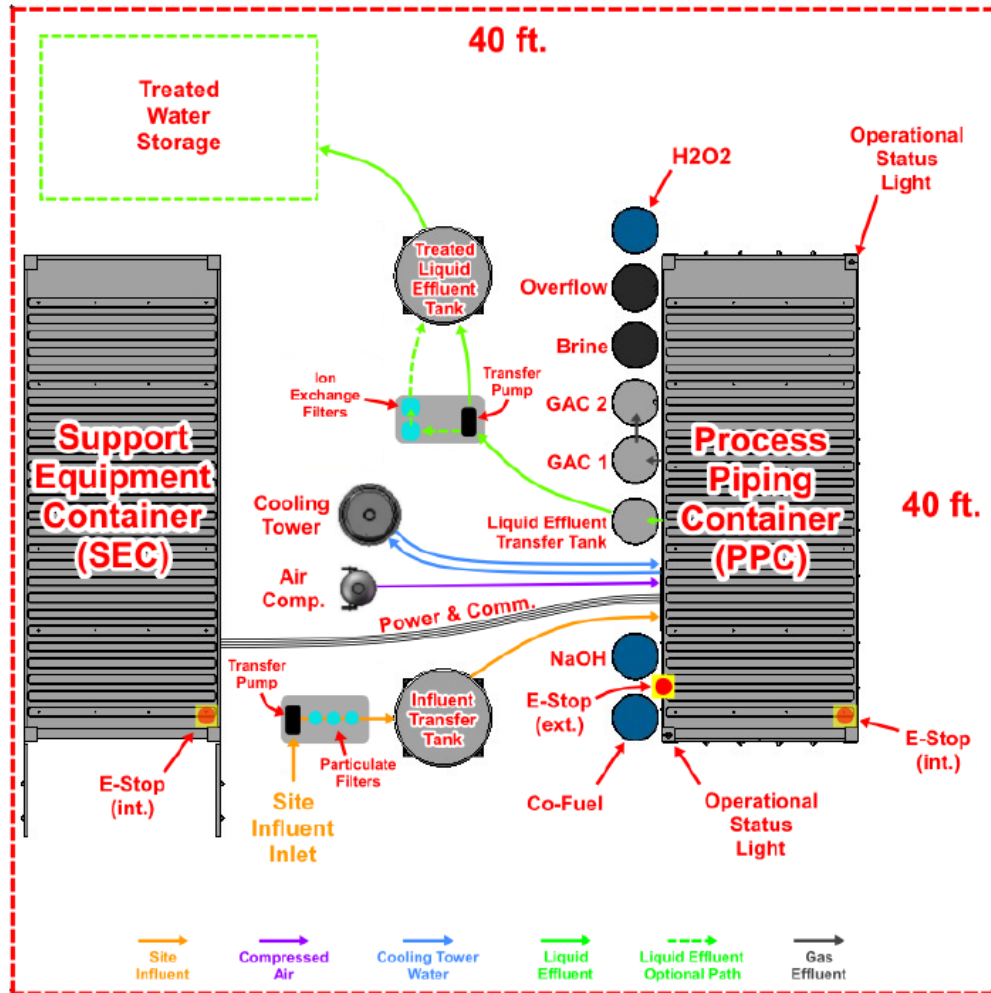




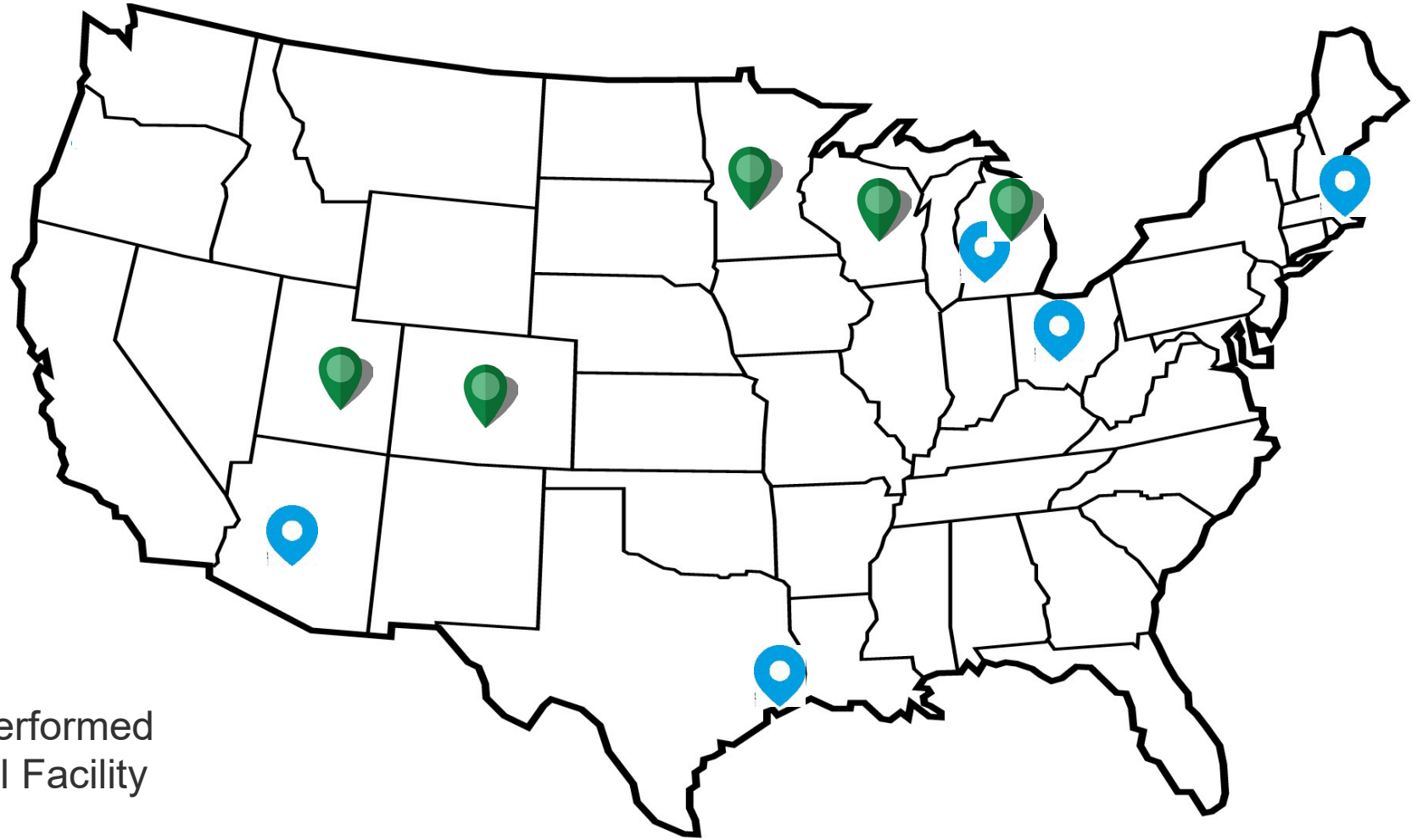
Figure 3. Typical M2 System Operational Configuration

- 40 ft x 40 ft x 12 ft
- Electrical – 480V, 3-phase, 100 A Service
- On-Site Water – 30 gph, >40 psi
- Operational Temp > 35 deg F
- Will require air and liquid discharge permit.
- Pad: Concrete or rock
- Winterization ready

# 2024 PFAS Annihilator<sup>®</sup> Deployments

 **Regional Facility Deployments**

 **Customer Deployments**  
(may ship to Regional facility)



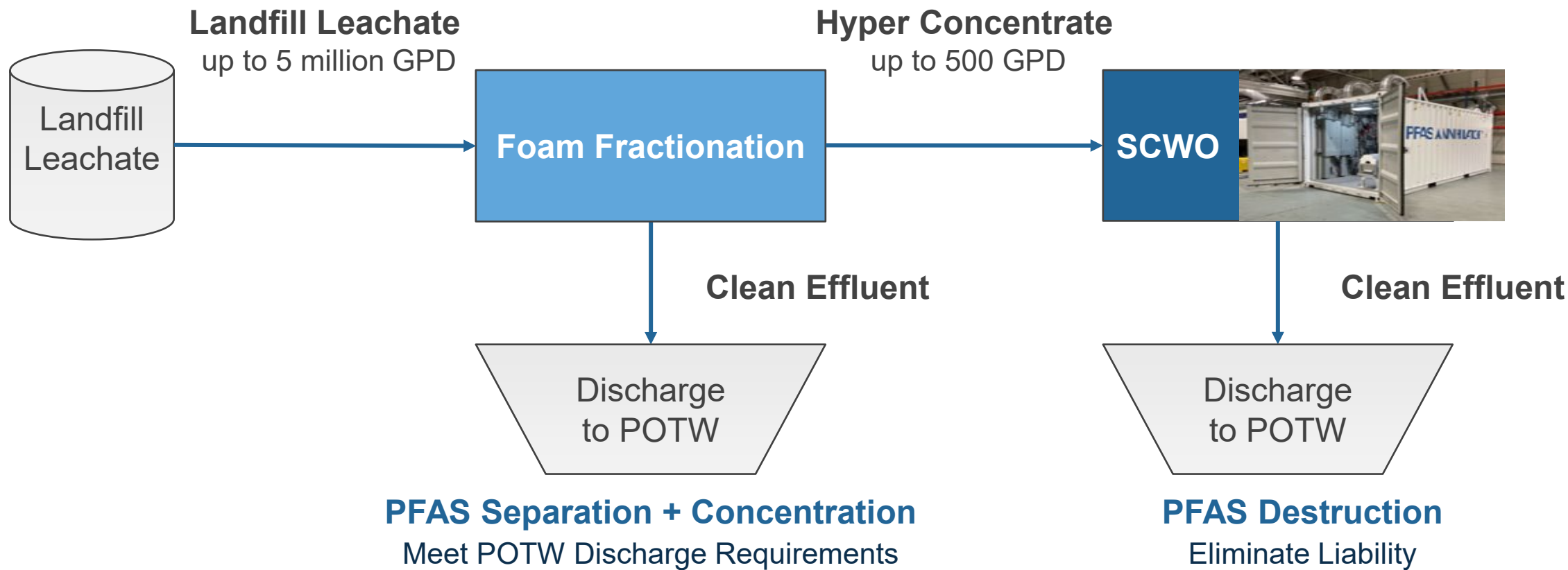
Does not include Treatability Assessments which can be performed in Ohio or at another Regional Facility



**PFAS Destruction – Landfill Leachate**

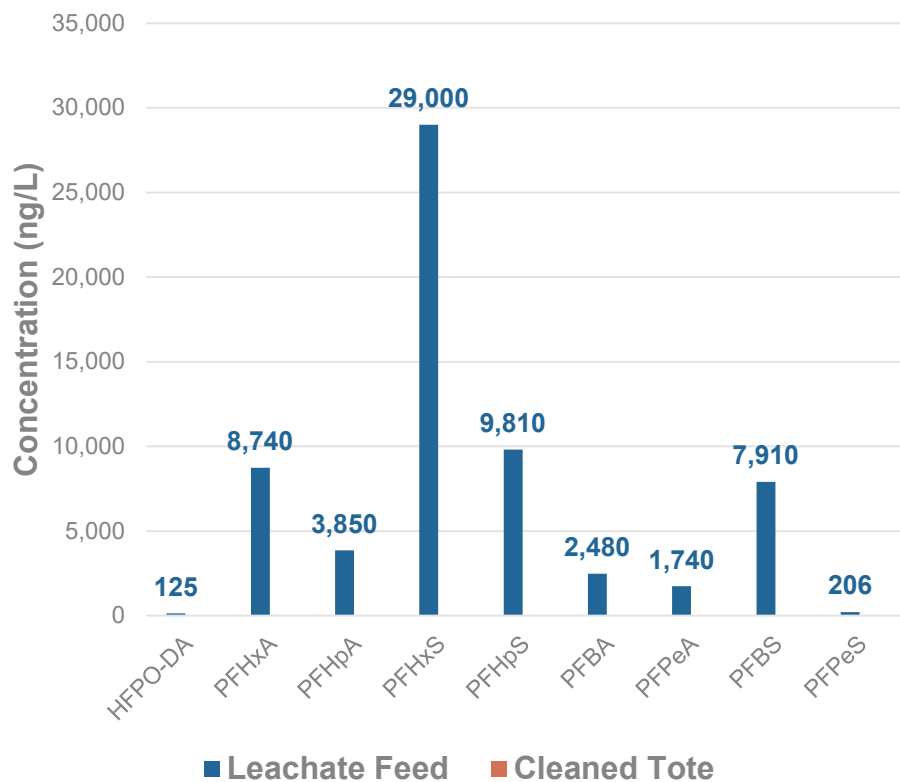


# Process Flow: Landfill Leachate via FF then SCWO

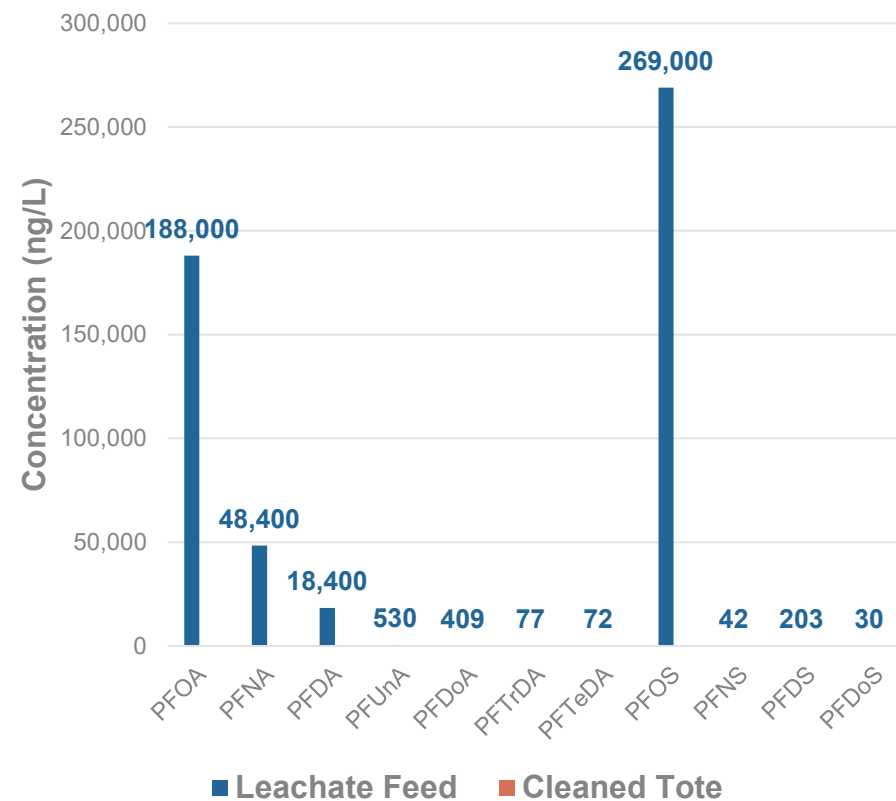


# Landfill Leachate: Short and Long Chain Destruction

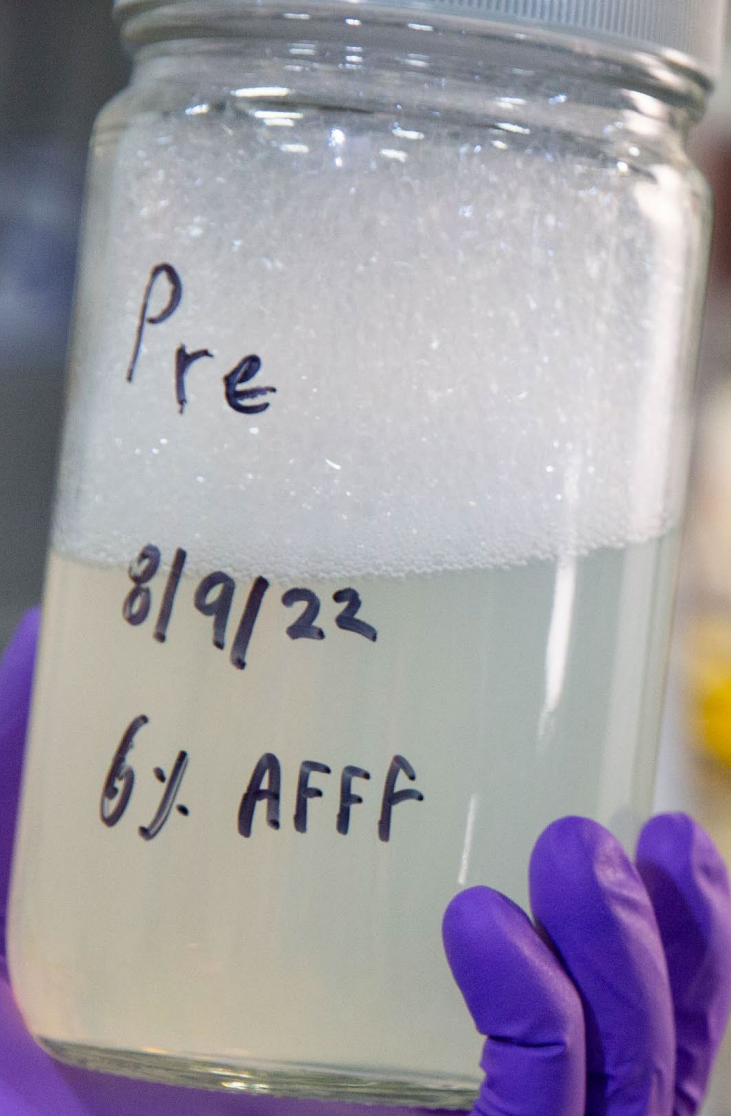
## Landfill Concentrate Short Chain Destruction Efficiency



## Landfill Concentrate Long Chain Destruction Efficiency



Destruction Efficiency >99.99% when starting value above 2000 ng/L



**PFAS Destruction – Aqueous Film-Forming Foam (AFFF)**

# Multiple Waste Streams - Different Challenges



## Concentrate

- Very high concentration of PFAS
- Diversity in Carbon content of formulas
- Estimated 15M+ gallons across DOD, Airports, Civil (incl. O&G/AST)



## Rinsate

- High volume (typically 3x system capacity)
- Lower PFAS concentration
- Potential use of special rinse agents



## Firewater + Groundwater

- Very high volume
- Lower PFAS concentration
- Co-contaminants incl other hydrocarbons

# Treatment Scenarios for AFFF Waste Streams

Scenario

PFAS Concentration

Pre-/Treatment

Transport

Destruction



Concentrate

Very High

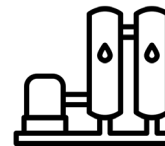
None



Rinsate

High

Separation +  
Concentration



Discharge Clean Effluent  
to POTW

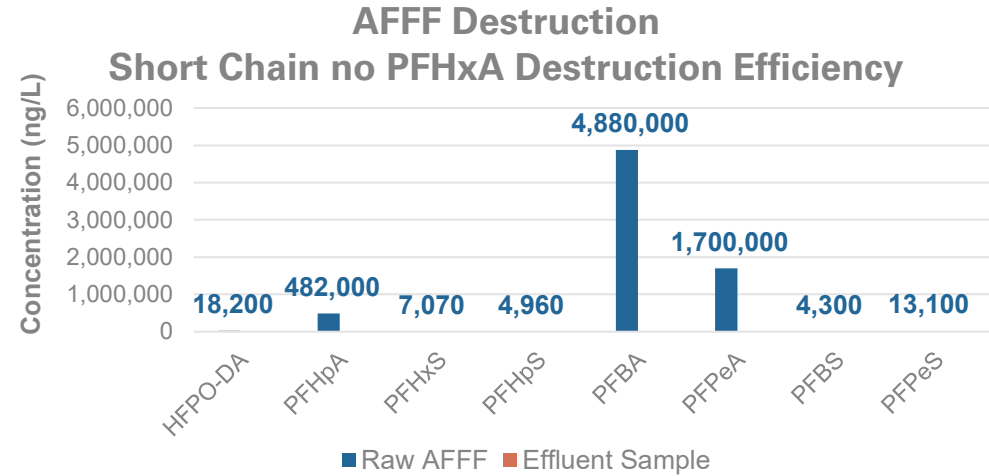
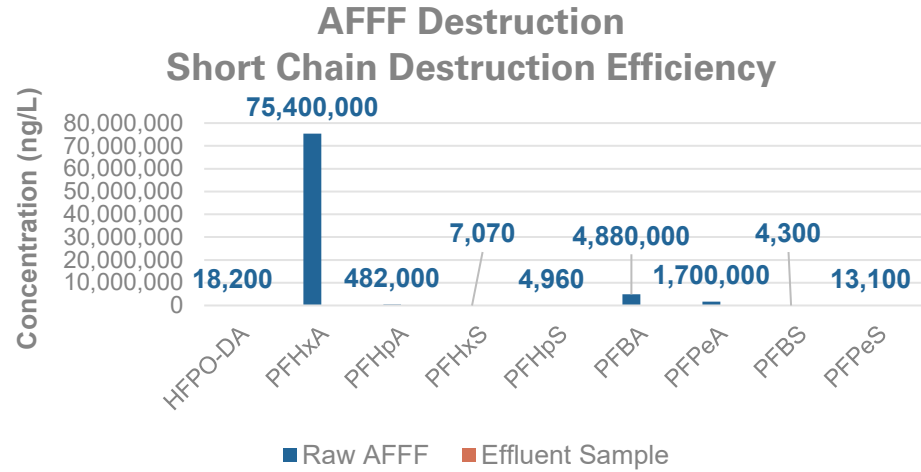


Firewater/  
Groundwater

Moderate to  
Dilute

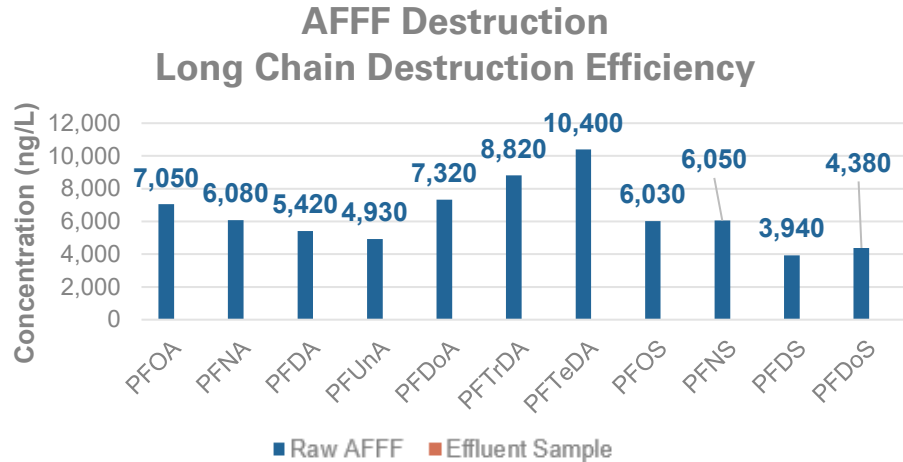
- Foam Fractionation (FF)
- Reverse Osmosis (RO)
- Granular Activated Carbon (GAC)
- Ion Exchange Resin (IX)

# AFFF: Short and Long Chain Destruction

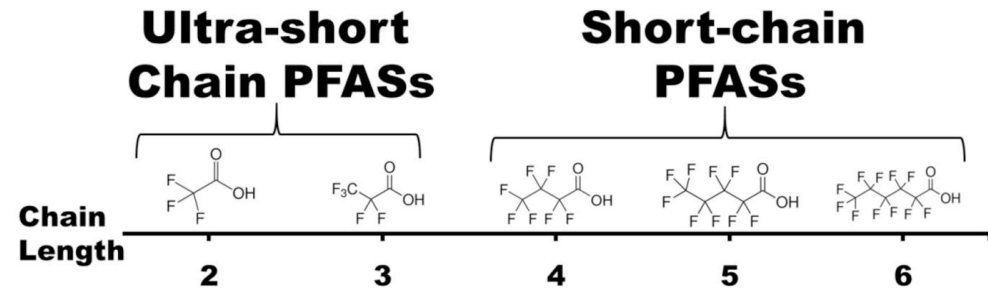


ANSULITE 6% AR-AFFF

Destruction Efficiency >99.99% when starting value above 1000 ng/L



Destruction Efficiency >99.99% when starting value above 2000 ng/L



# AFFF Concentrate: SCWO Destruction Results

## ANSULITE 6% AR-AFFF

			AFFF Production (ng/L)		
			Raw AFFF	Effluent Sample	% Destruction
	Classification	More Information			
PFBA	Carboxylic Acid	Short Chain	4,880,000	2.41	99.9990%
PFPeA	Carboxylic Acid	Short Chain	1,700,000	2.27	99.9973%
PFHxA	Carboxylic Acid	Short Chain	75,400,000	3.14	99.9999%
PFHpA	Carboxylic Acid	Short Chain	482,000	0.698	99.9971%
PFOA	Carboxylic Acid	Long Chain	7,050	1.17	99.6681%
PFNA	Carboxylic Acid	Long Chain	6,080	1.01	99.6678%
PFDA	Carboxylic Acid	Long Chain	5,420	0.899	99.6683%
PFUnA	Carboxylic Acid	Long Chain	4,930	0.819	99.6677%
PFDoA	Carboxylic Acid	Long Chain	7,320	1.21	99.6694%
PFBS	Sulfonic Acid	Short Chain	4,300	0.714	99.6679%
PFPeS	Sulfonic Acid	Short Chain	13,100	0.52	99.9206%
PFHxS	Sulfonic Acid	Short Chain	7,070	1.17	99.6690%
PFHpS	Sulfonic Acid	Short Chain	4,960	0.823	99.6681%
PFOS	Sulfonic Acid	Long Chain	6,030	1	99.6683%
PFNS	Sulfonic Acid	Long Chain	6,050	1	99.6694%
8:2FTS	Fluorotelomer	Fluorotelomer	22,300	3.69	99.6691%
PFDS	Sulfonic Acid	Long Chain	3,940	0.653	99.6685%
PFDoS	Sulfonic Acid	Long Chain	4,380	0.726	99.6685%
4:2FTS	Fluorotelomer	Fluorotelomer	1,680,000	5.32	99.9937%
6:2FTS	Fluorotelomer	Fluorotelomer	188,000,000	22.4	99.9998%
PFTTrDA	Carboxylic Acid	Long Chain	8,820	1.46	99.6689%
PFTeDA	Carboxylic Acid	Long Chain	10,400	1.73	99.6673%
PFOSA	Carboxylic Acid	Fluorotelomer	4,570	0.758	99.6683%

## ANSULITE 6% AR-AFFF

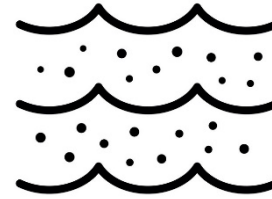
			AFFF Production (ng/L)		
			Raw AFFF	Effluent Sample	% Destruction
	Classification	More Information			
NMeFOSA	Carboxylic Acid	PFCA and PFSA precursor	4,840	0.802	99.6686%
NEtFOSA	Carboxylic Acid	PFCA and PFSA precursor	2,430	0.402	99.6691%
NMeFOSAA	Carboxylic Acid	PFCA and PFSA precursor	15,900	2.64	99.6679%
NEtFOSAA	Carboxylic Acid	PFCA and PFSA precursor	13,900	2.3	99.6691%
NMeFOSE	Carboxylic Acid	PFCA and PFSA precursor	40,100	6.65	99.6683%
NEtFOSE	Carboxylic Acid	PFCA and PFSA precursor	35,200	5.85	99.6676%
HFPO-DA	Carboxylic Acid	Gen X	18,200	3.02	99.6681%
Adona	Carboxylic Acid	3M	16,900	2.8	99.6686%
PFMPA	Carboxylic Acid	UNK	15,300	2.53	99.6693%
PFMBA	Carboxylic Acid	UNK	14,600	2.42	99.6685%
NFDHA	Carboxylic Acid		18,500	3.06	99.6692%
9CI-PF3ONS	Sulfonic Acid		17,900	2.82	99.6849%
11CI-PF3OUdS	Sulfonic Acid		26,900	4.4	99.6729%
PFESA	Carboxylic Acid	UNK	5,150	0.855	99.6680%
3:3 FTCA	Fluorotelomer		40,600	6.73	99.6685%
5:3 FTCA	Fluorotelomer		919,000	18	99.9608%
7:3 FTCA	Fluorotelomer		127,000	21	99.6693%

# Lessons Learned



## Lead with Safety + Transparency

SCWO is established but new to our Customers and Regulatory Partners and to their sites



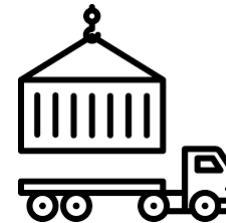
## High Salts need to be Managed

Precipitation across heat exchangers on way to SCWO reactor can cause plugging if not addressed proactively



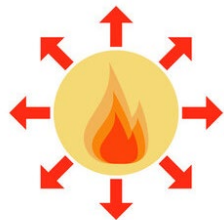
## Every Influent is Different

Analysis critical to design optimal operational parameters and any needed pretreatment



## Not all Challenges are Technology

Transport, weather, local vendors, site readiness, and other factors need to be addressed to deliver success



EXOTHERMIC

## More PFAS/Organics the Better

AFFF and other concentrated organic streams provide best economics and generate heat that is recovered

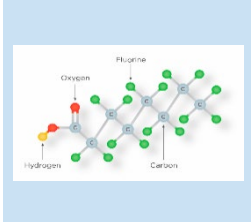


## People > Technology

Revive model is to bring best talent to safely and effectively operate wherever we deploy

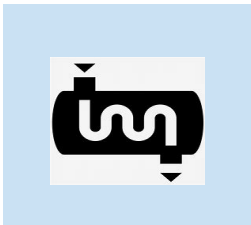


# Summary



## >99.99% Destruction

- Short- and Long-chain compounds
- Dilute or Concentrated streams



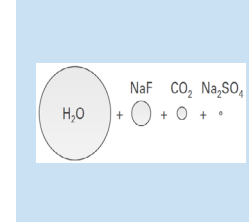
## Highly Efficient

- Short residence time (<30 seconds)
- Heat Exchangers for influent/effluent



## Complementary

- Works well with pre-concentration
- Not inhibited by organic co-contaminants



## Minimal Waste

- PFAS is mineralized not moved
- By-products: Water, Inert salts, CO<sub>2</sub>



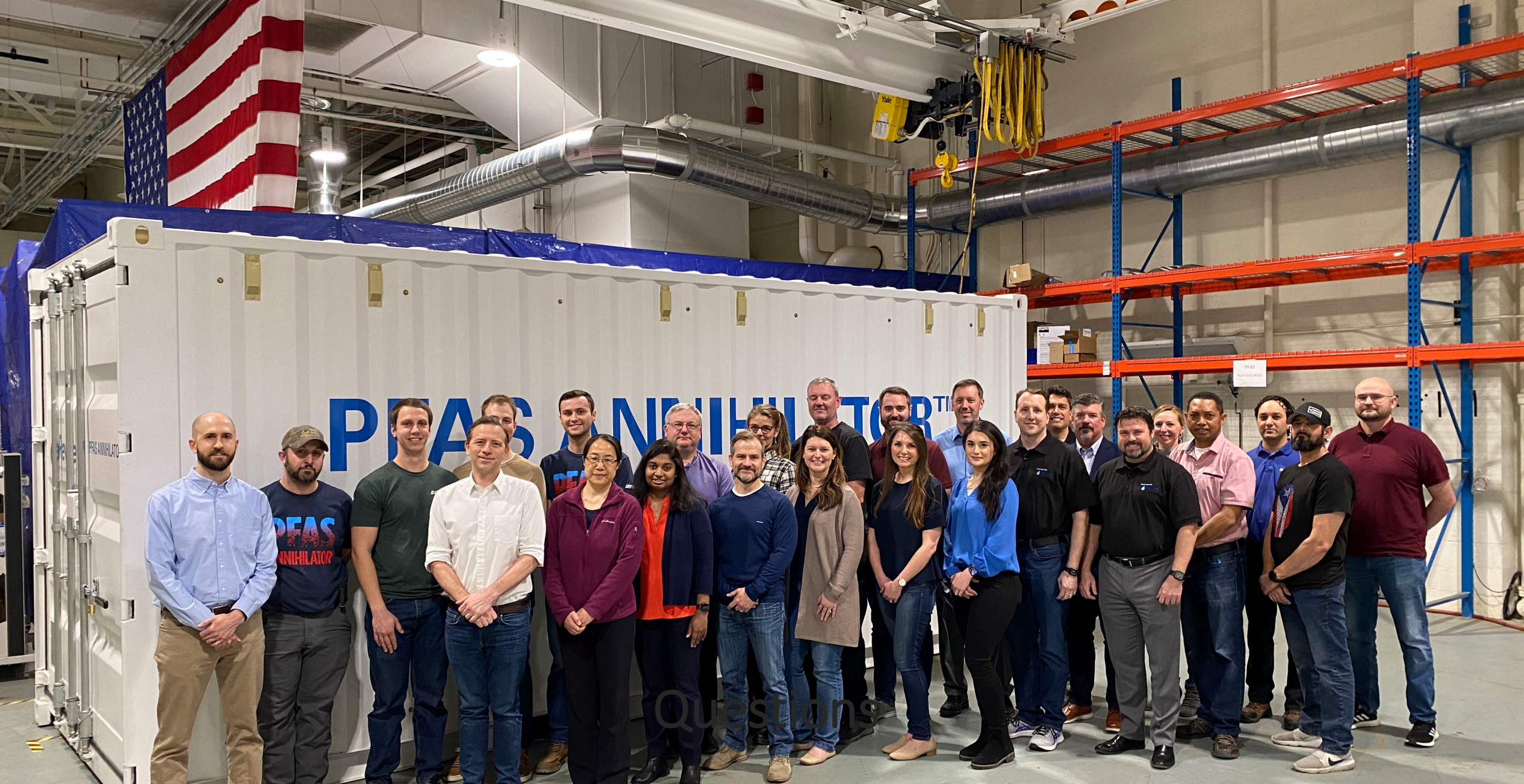
## Permit Ready

- Effluents below 12 ppt Michigan permit thresholds
- Process underway across other states



## Commercial Ready

- Full-scale commercial operation at permitted facility
- Multiple influence waste streams
- Regional deployments across US



**Thank You and Questions**



**Revive Environmental Technology**  
(833) END-PFAS  
[www.revive-environmental.com](http://www.revive-environmental.com)



**Rick Gillespie**  
Chief Commercial Officer  
[rgillespie@revive-environmental.com](mailto:rgillespie@revive-environmental.com)  
972.654.2629