

# Adsorption Technologies

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Presented at the 2005 Arsenic Training Sessions  
Sponsored by the USEPA

# Agenda

- Adsorption Technology
- Application
- System Design
- System Operation

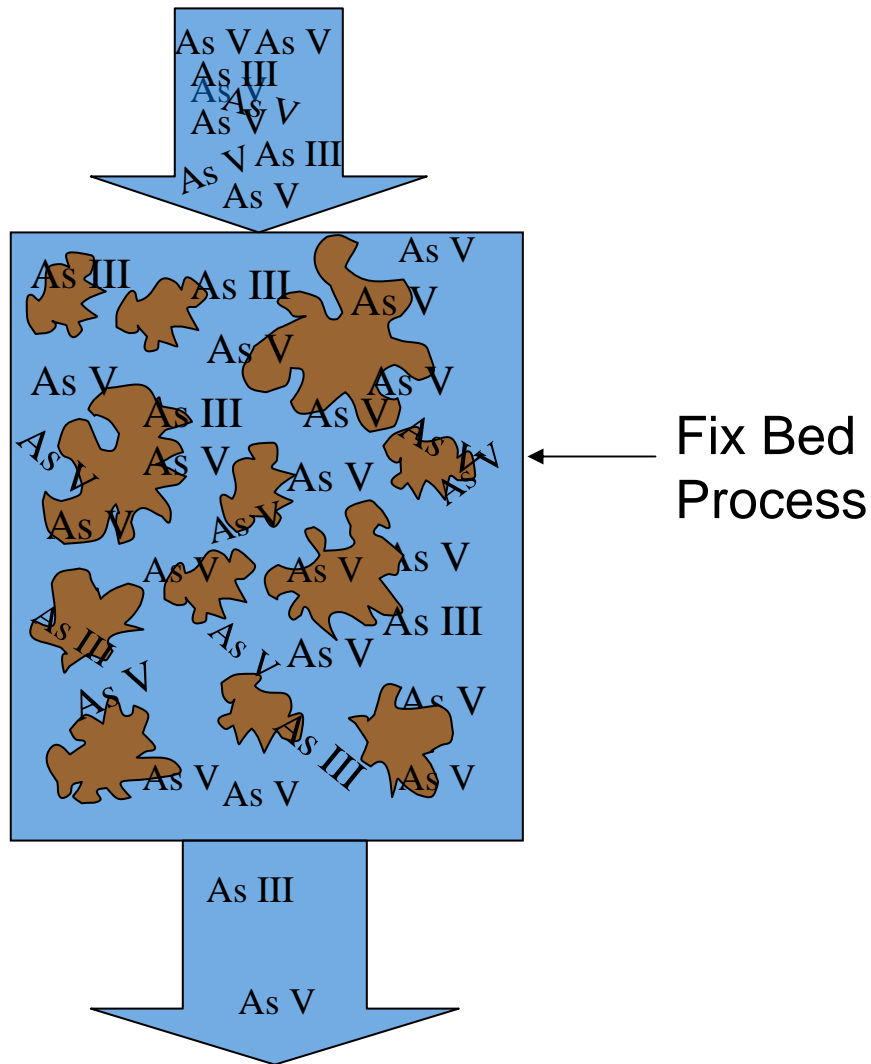


# Agenda

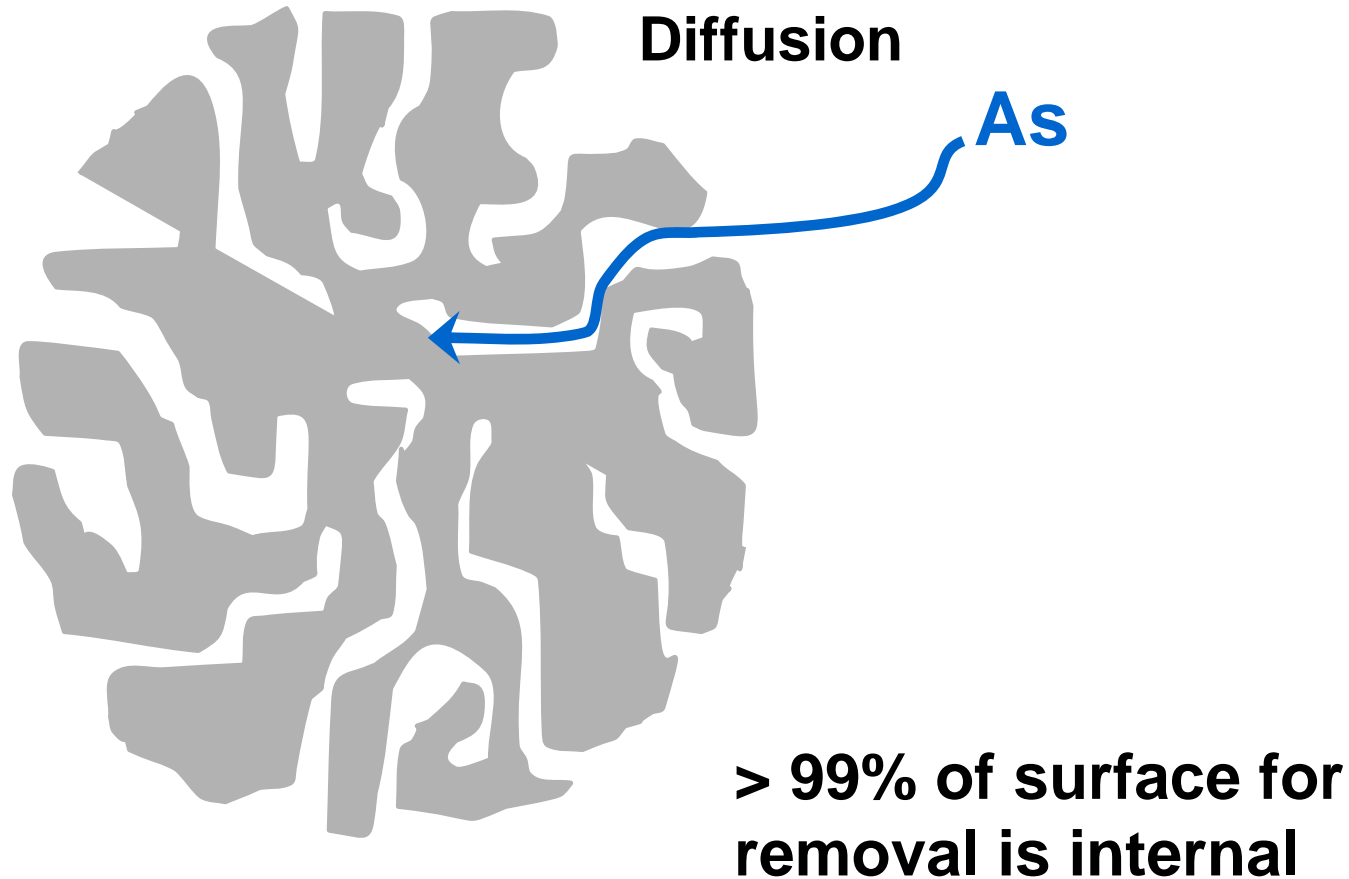
- **Adsorption Technology**
- Application
- System Design
- System Operation



# Adsorption Technology



# Accessible Area of Granular Media



Source: M. Edwards, June 2003



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# Examples of Adsorbent Media



**GFO Bayoxide E33**

**Modified activated alumina**





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# Agenda

- Adsorption Technology
- **Application—Why/Where?**
- System Design
- System Operation





# Application – Why?

**Number One Reason:  
Simple to operate!**



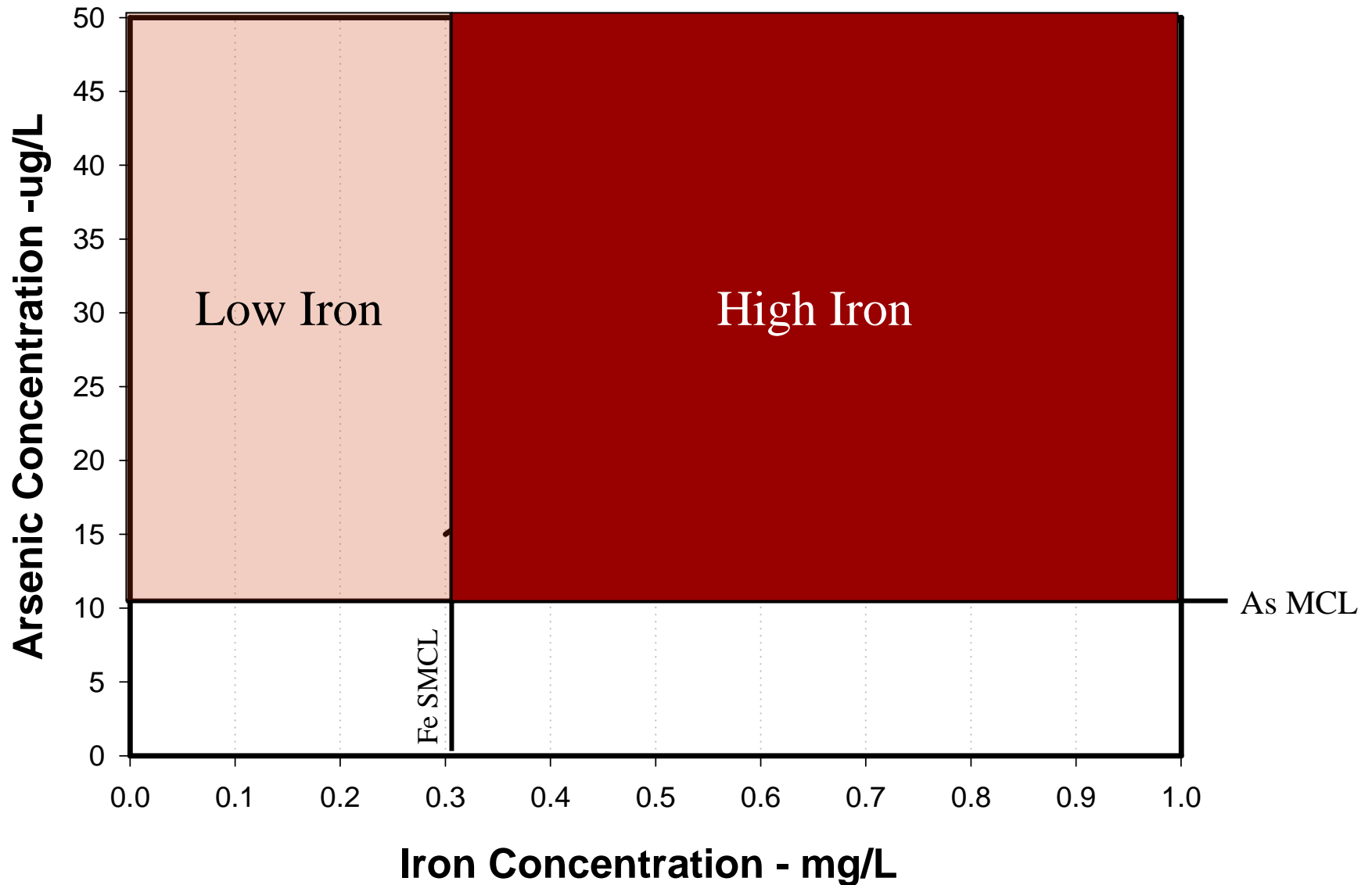
# Application – Why?

## Other Reasons

- Low arsenic in treated water 2-3 ug/L
- Reasonable capital and operating cost
- Small footprint
- Flexibility – use of different media products
- Residual disposal usually not a major issue



# Application – Where?



# Application – Where?

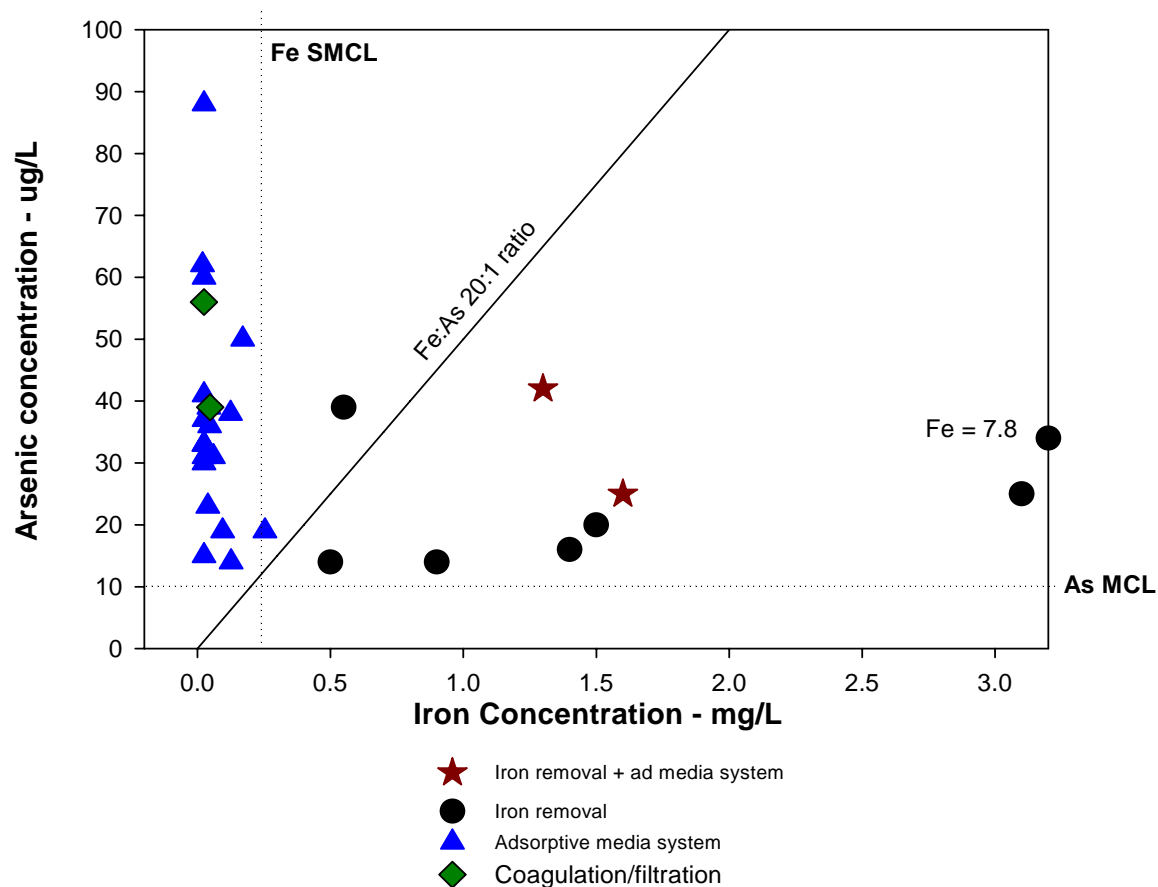
## Low Iron Source Water – Why?

High iron sites normally require pre-treatment



# Application – Where?

## Arsenic Demonstration Technologies: Round 1 & 2 Sites



# Agenda

- Adsorption Technology
- Application
- **System Design**
- System Operation





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# System Design

- System configuration - parallel vs series
- Vessel design – size, materials of construction
- Media selection – performance, EBCT, cost
- Pre-treatment - oxidation, pH Adjustment
- System controls – manual vs automatic
- Residual disposal – backwash water, media
- Costs – capital and operational



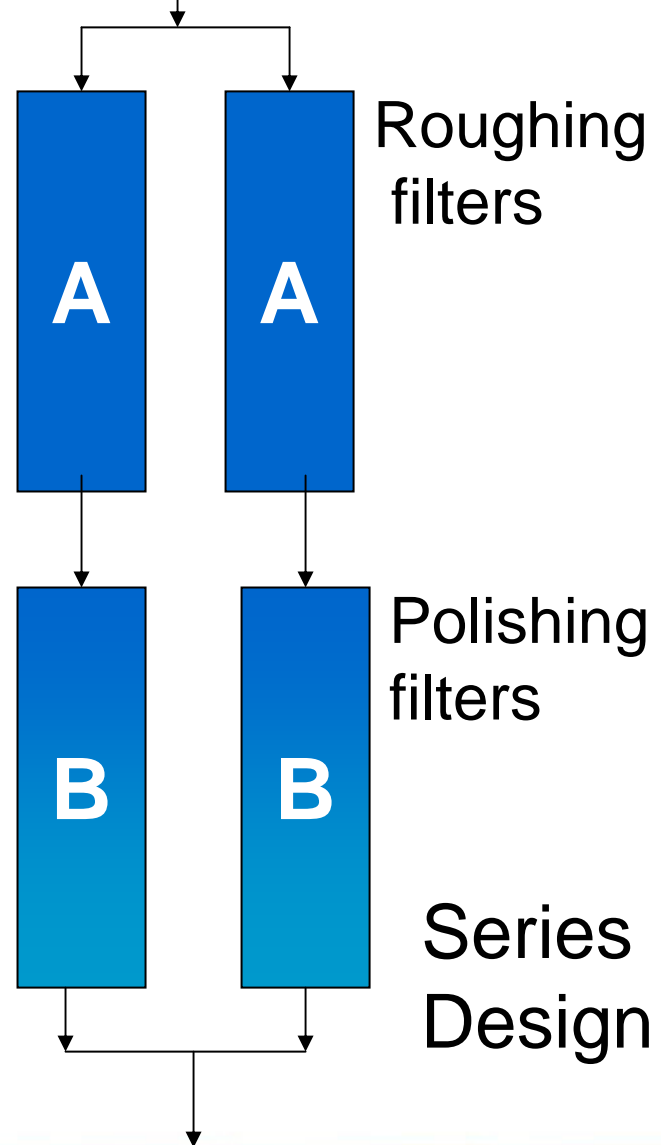
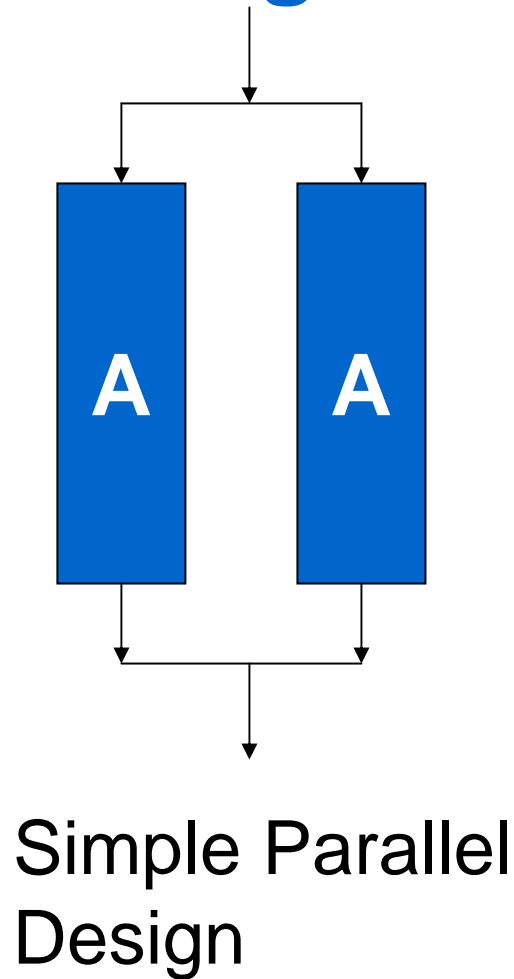


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# Adsorptive Media System Configuration



# System Configuration

## Series - Advantages

- More conservative – added safety
- Maximum use of media – lower operating cost
- More flexible change out schedule

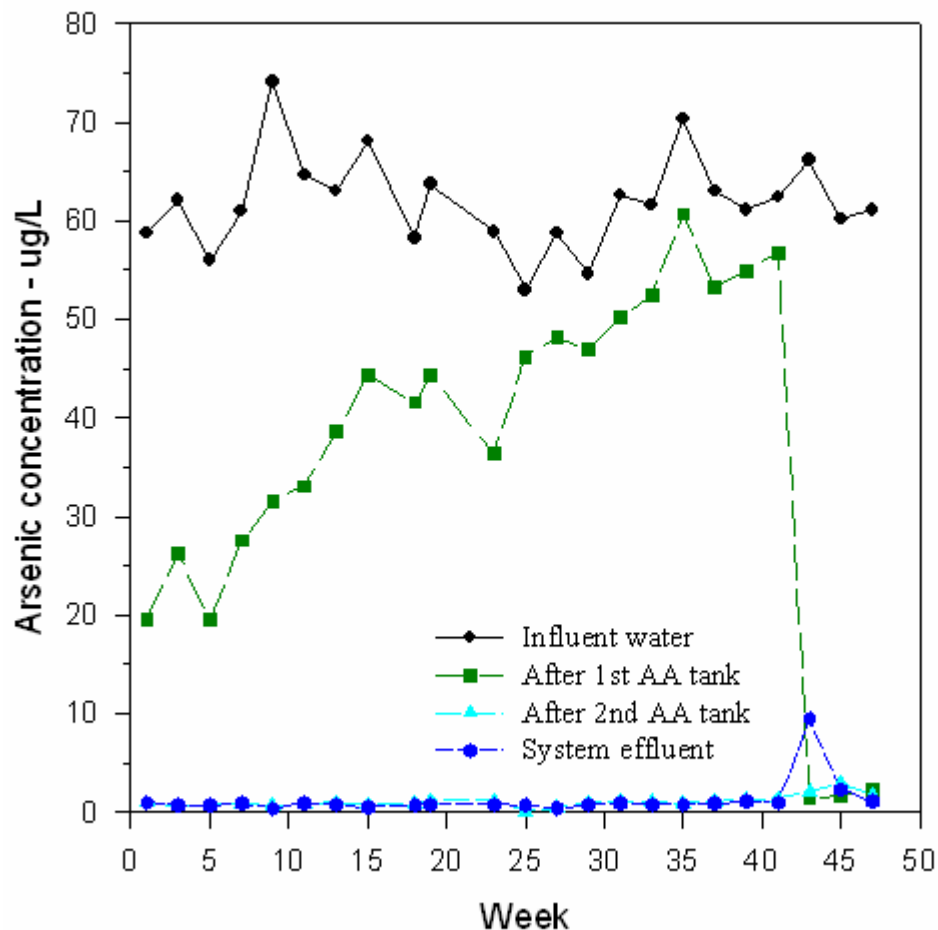
## Series – Disadvantages

- Higher capital cost – more tanks
- Larger foot print
- Higher pressure drop



# Arsenic Removal

## Activated Alumina System (CS), NH—1998-1999

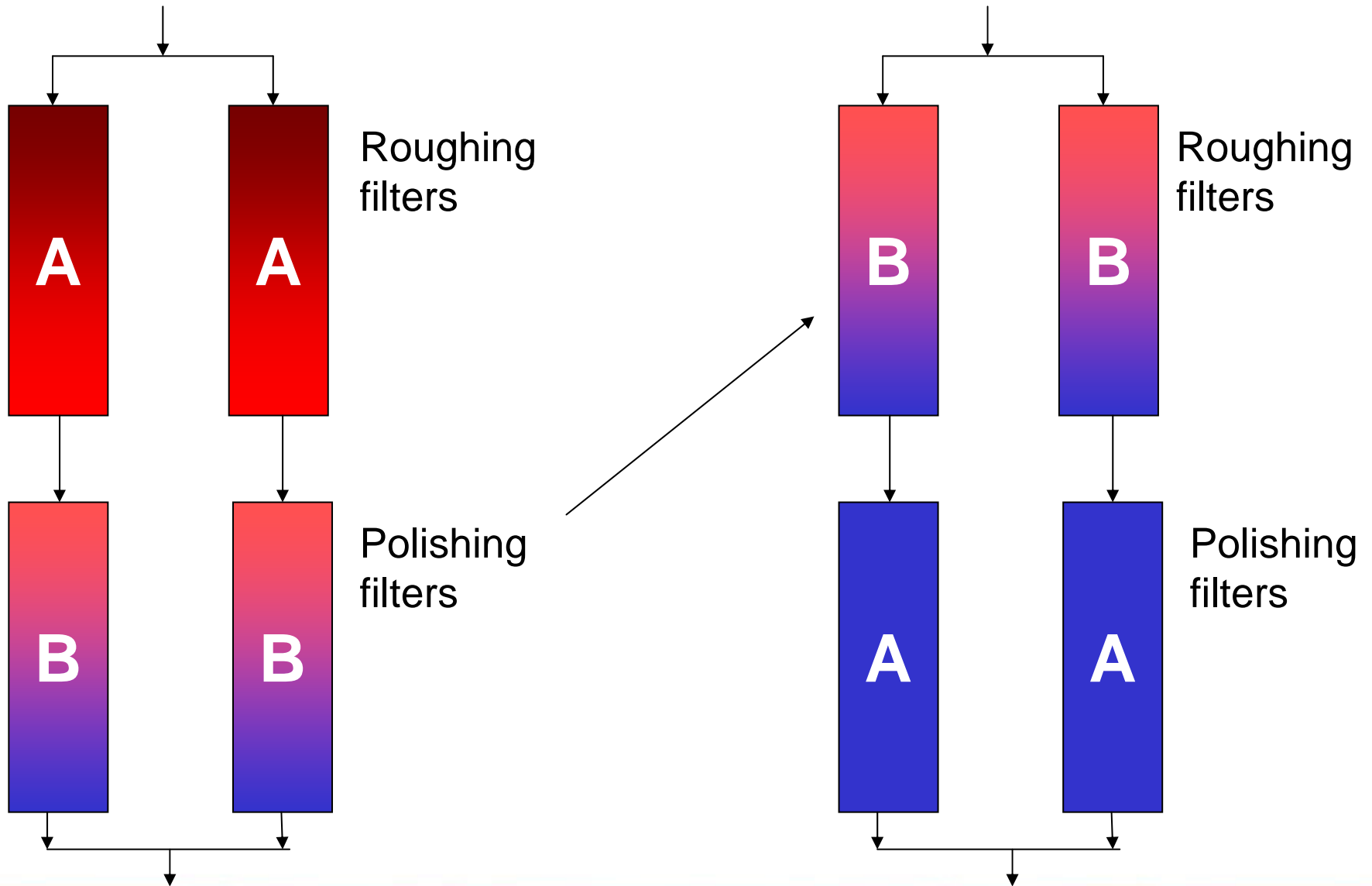


Influent water: pH 8.2, alk 58 mg/L (CaCO<sub>3</sub>), Fe <0.03 mg/L



# Adsorptive Media System Configuration

After media change out of tanks A



## Series Design



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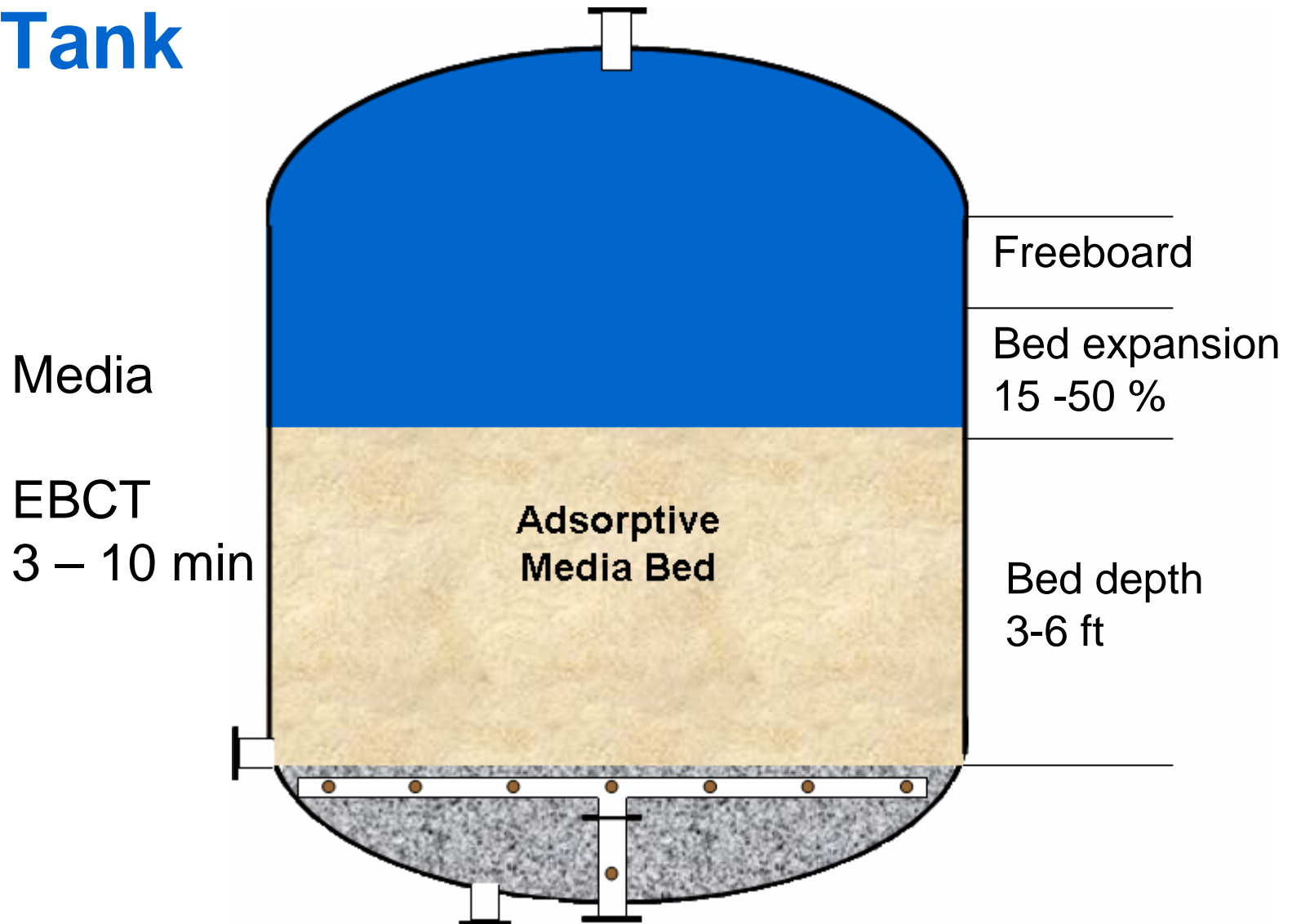
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# System Design

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# Adsorptive Media Pressure Tank





# EBCT

EBCT—3 to 10 minutes

The lower the EBCT

- The higher the unit flow rate
- The smaller the size of the vessels



# Vessel Materials

## *Pressure and Cost Issues*

- Fiberglass (FRP)
- Carbon Steel
- Stainless Steel





FRP Tanks



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SS Tanks

2004 6 30



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# System Design

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# Media Selection Criteria

- Performance – water quality dependent
  - Arsenic form – As III, As V
  - pH, silica, phosphate, vanadium
- EBCT
- Cost of media
- Regeneration of media vs one time use
- Residual Disposal (BW Water and Media) – hazardous vs non- hazardous



# Adsorptive Media Listed in NSF/ANSI STD 61

<u>Company</u>	<u>Base Material</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Material</u>
Alcan (4)	Aluminium	AAFS - 50	Mod AA
Alcoa (2)	Aluminium	CPN	AA
Apyron	Aluminium	Aqua-Bind	Mod AA
Engelhard	Aluminium	ARM 100	AA
Engelhard	Iron	ARM 200	Iron Oxide
ADI	Iron	G2	Iron based
SMI	Iron	SMI III	Iron/sulfur
US Filter	Iron	GFH	Iron Hydroxide
Bayer AG	Iron	E 33	Iron Oxide
WRT	Zeolite	Z – 33	Mod Zeolite
Magnesium Elektron	Zirconium	Isolux	Zirconium Hydroxide



# Adsorptive Media Listed in NSF/ANSI STD 61

<u>Company</u>	<u>Base Material</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Material</u>
ATS (MA)		A/I Complex 2000	
Hydroglobe, Inc	Titanium	MetSorb	Titanium Oxide
Dow Chemical	Titanium	ADSORBSIA	Titanium Oxide
Purolite	Resin	ArsenX	Mod w/Fe
ResinTech	Resin	ASM-10HP	Mod w/Fe







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# EPA Pilot Columns Studies

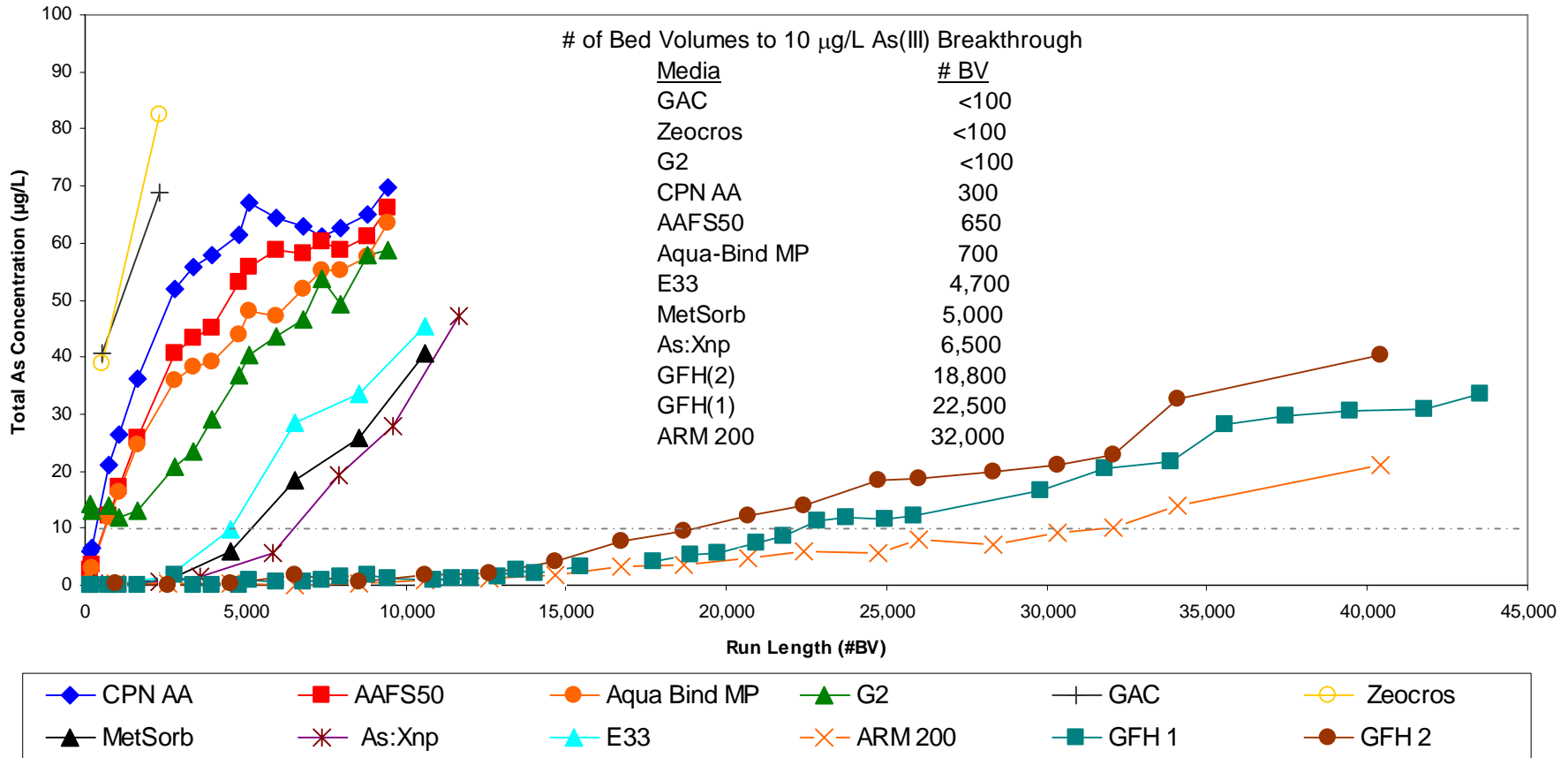
## *Licking Valley High School (LVHS)*



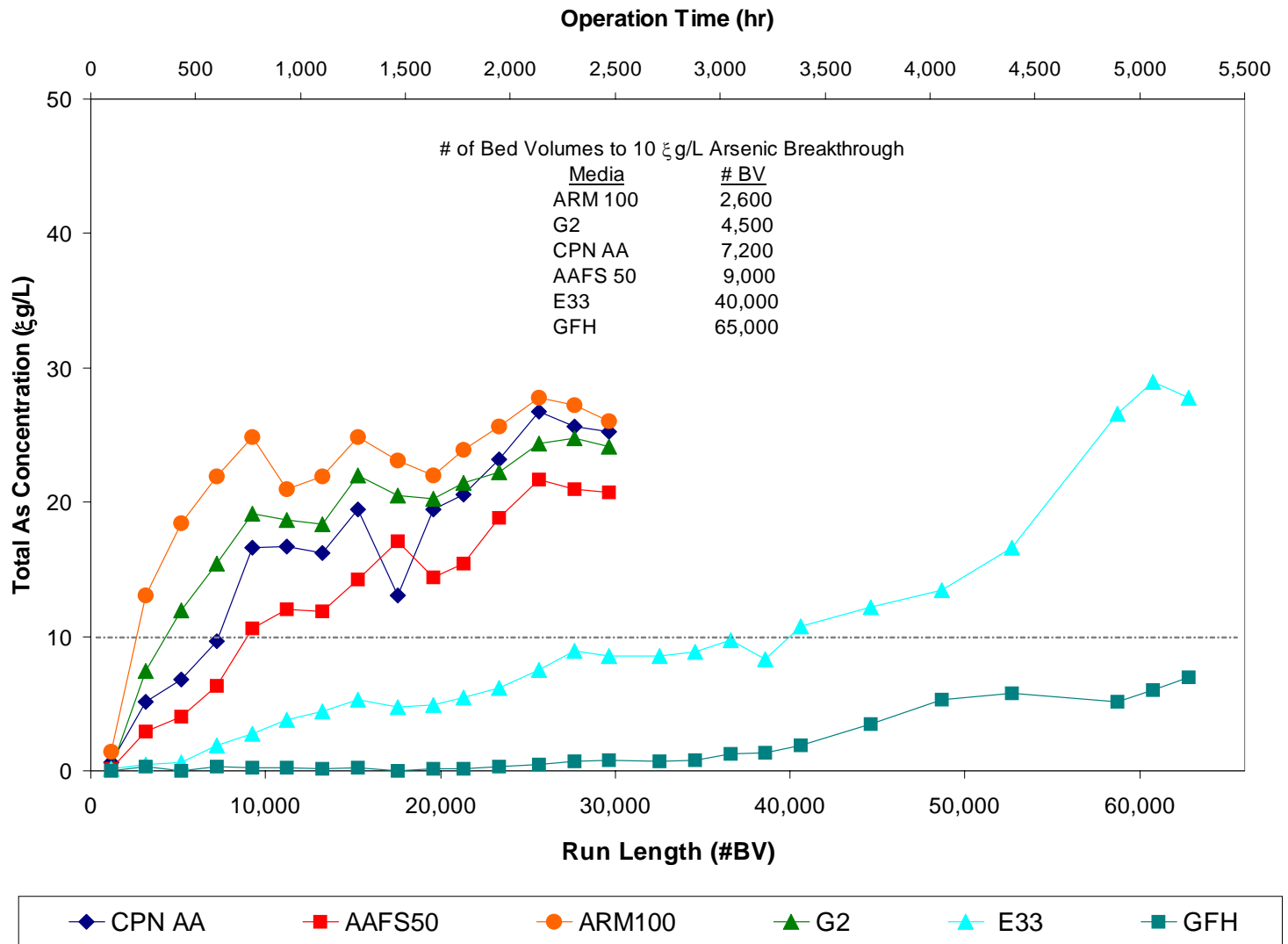
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# LVHS Pilot Plant Tests - As III



# LVHS Pilot Plant Tests - As V



# System Design

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# Pre-Treatment Needs

- Oxidation of As III to As V
- pH Adjustment – pre and post (pH > 8)
  - Acid
  - CO<sub>2</sub>



# Pre-Treatment Needs

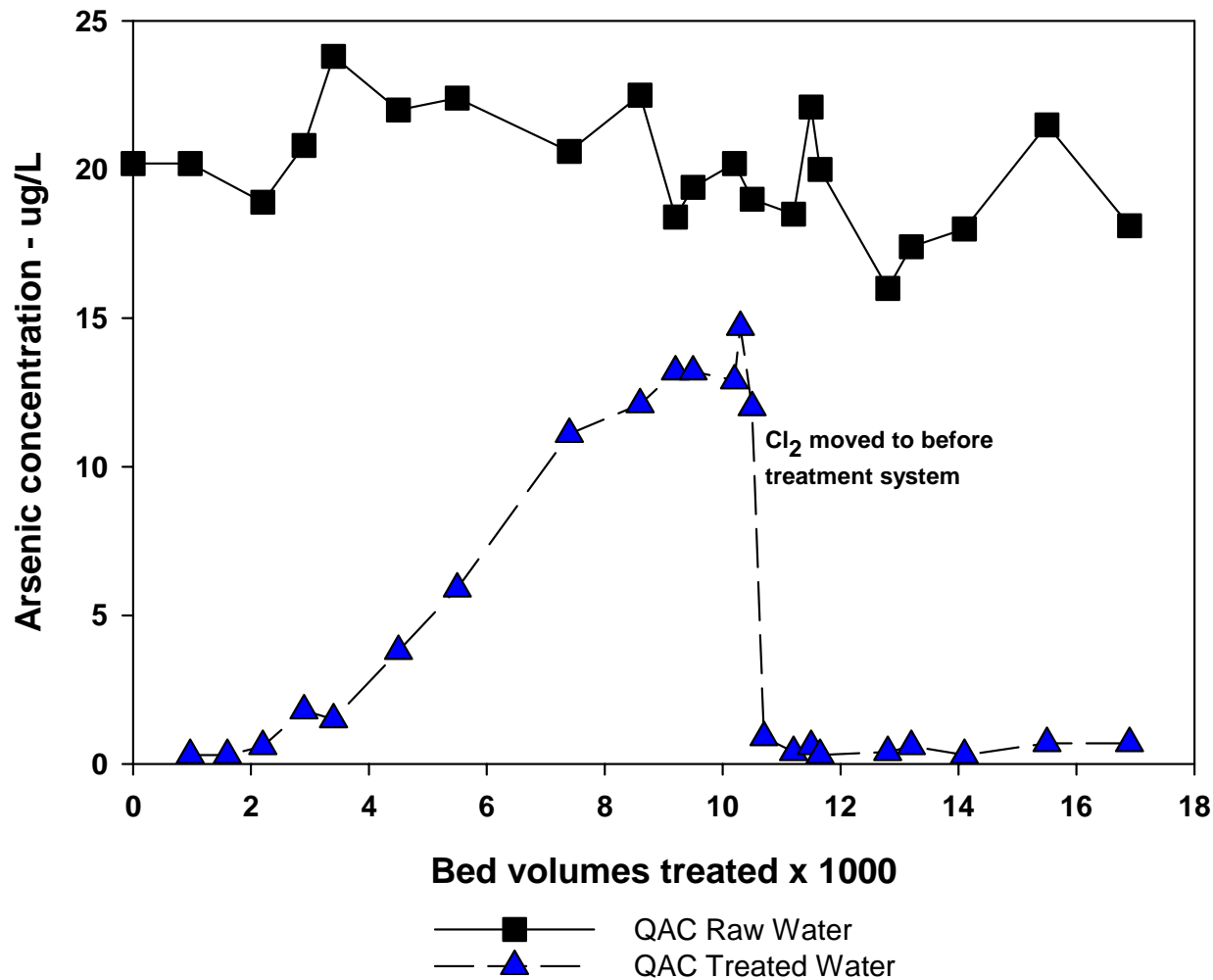
## Oxidation of As III to As V

Most adsorptive media have greater removal capacity for As V than As III



# Queen Anne's County

## Adsorptive Media (E33) Treatment System





# As III Oxidation

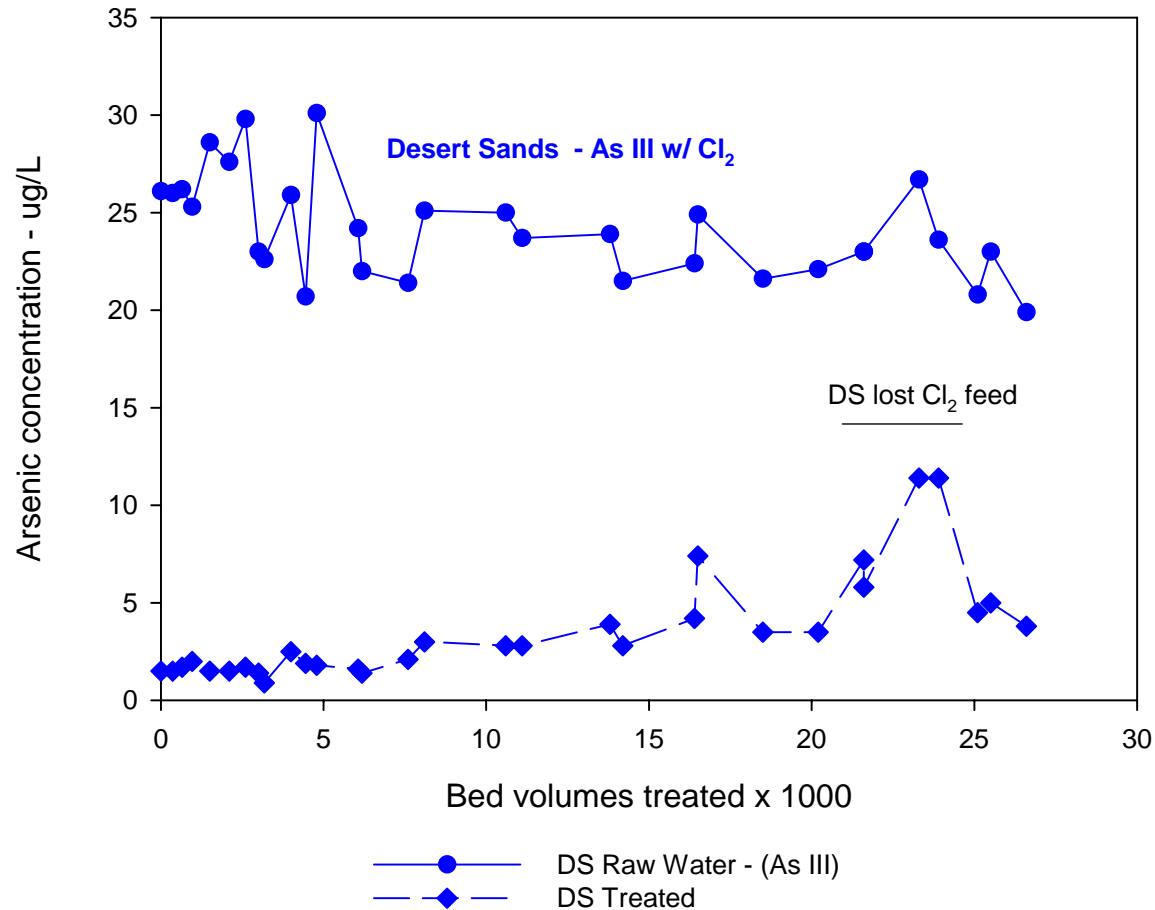
## Caution!

Lose oxidation, arsenic in effluent will likely increase (spike)



# Desert Sands

## Adsorptive Media (E33) Treatment System



# Pre-Treatment Needs

## pH adjustment

Removal performance for many media products (AA & iron based media) is pH dependent.

The lower the pH, the greater the removal capacity.



# pH Adjustment

## Valley Vista, AZ (44-46 ug/L As)

(AAFS 50 media w/acid )

pH 7.8    BVs to 10 ug/L – 8,000

pH 6.8    BVs to 10 ug/L – 25,000



# pH Adjustment

## Arsenic Demonstration Program

Bow, NH – Acid/Cauatic	7.5 – 6.5 – 7.8
Rollinsford, NH – CO <sub>2</sub>	8.2 to 7.2
Valley Vista, AZ – Acid	8.4 to 6.9
Nambe Pueblo, NM – CO <sub>2</sub>	8.3 to 7.3
Taos, NM – CO <sub>2</sub>	9.5 -
Bunni, TX – CO <sub>2</sub>	8.0 -
Wellman, TX – CO <sub>2</sub>	8.2 -
Tohono O’Odhan – CO <sub>2</sub>	8.2 -



# Valley Vista, AZ – AAFS 50 media pH Adjustment w/acid



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# pH Adjustment

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# System Controls

## Backwashing of media

Manual vs automatic

## Instrumentation – gages, etc

(Cost issue!)



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# Residual Disposal

## Backwash water

Disposal – sewer, pond, ground

Recycle liquid

## Spent media

Landfill - hazardous vs non-hazardous



# Rimrock – E33 Media BW Water Recycle Tank



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- **Costs – capital and operational**



# Costs

**Total costs**

Capital

Operational





# Costs

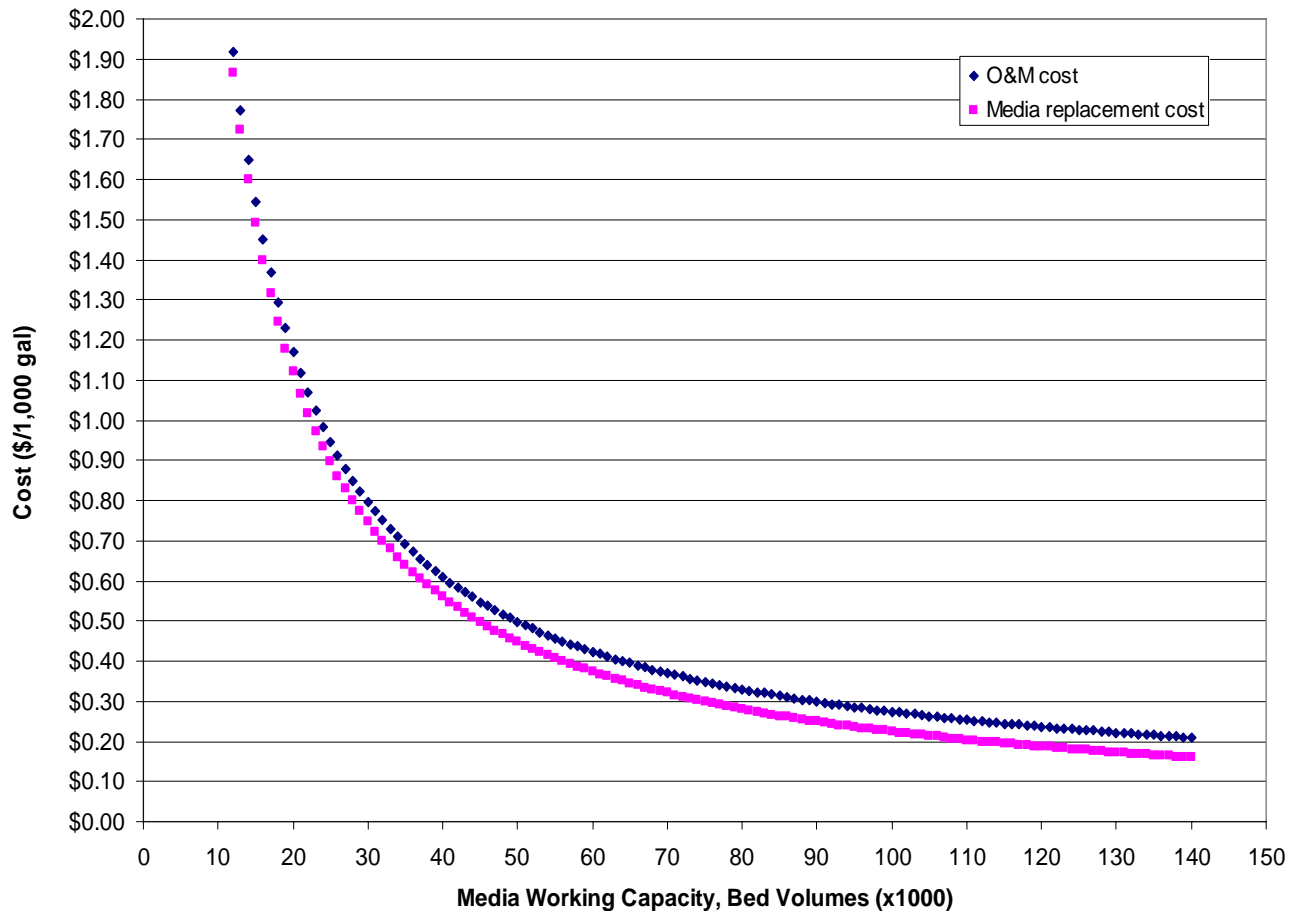
## Operational costs

One time use adsorptive media system—  
Major cost item is media replacement (85-95 %)



# Desert Sands MDWCA Arsenic Removal System

## Media Replacement and O & M Costs



Media:  
160 cu ft,  
\$150/cu ft,  
  
Total Cost  
\$26, 800



# Resource Material

- Design Manual: Removal of Arsenic from Drinking by Adsorptive Media EPA/600/R-03/019—March 2003
- Workshop on the Design and Operation of Adsorptive Media Process for Arsenic Removal from Drinking Water – August 2004 (CD of presentation slides available)



# Thank you for your time. Are there any questions?

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**Arsenic web site**  
**<http://www.epa.gov/ORD/NRMRL/arsenic/>**

