

# Wastewater Treatment Efficiency **FACTS AND FIGURES**

## 1 TOP 10 CATEGORIES OF WASTEWATER

O&M Energy Savings

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Control & Optimize DO Levels                  | 6 Optimize Mixing                   |
| 2 Control & Minimize Blower Discharge Pressures | 7 Control Your Odor Control         |
| 3 Optimize Pumps & Pumping                      | 8 Control Your UV System            |
| 4 Non-potable Water: Flow & Pressure            | 9 HVAC & Lights in Unoccupied Rooms |
| 5 Nitrification (needed?) w/o Denitrification   | 10 Record/Standardize/Document      |

## 2 IMPACT OF DO LEVELS ON ENERGY

### Saturated DO

DO in basin = driving force for oxygen transfer  
Driving force UP means Energy goes DOWN

### DO rule of thumb

0.5 mg/l reduction creates ~ 6% energy savings

### DO calibration & cleaning

A probe that reads 10% low (e.g. 2.0 when actual is 2.2) is costing you 2.4% at the blower.

### DO level increases

As mixed liquor temp increases, the impact of elevated DO levels increases.

### IMPACT OF AVERAGE DO LEVEL ON BLOWER ENERGY

Mixed liquor temp		DO sat mg/l	Energy savings potential if DO reduced from ___ to 2.0 mg/l			
°C	°F		2.5	3	4	5
0	32	14.6	4.0%	7.9%	15.9%	23.8%
2	36	13.8	4.2%	8.5%	16.9%	25.4%
5	41	12.8	4.6%	9.3%	18.5%	27.8%
10	50	11.3	5.4%	10.8%	21.5%	32.3%
15	59	10.1	6.2%	12.3%	24.7%	37.0%
20	68	9.1	7.0%	14.1%	28.2%	42.3%
25	77	8.2	8.1%	16.1%	32.3%	48.4%

NOTE Higher impact as elevation increases

## 3 IMPACT OF BLOWER PRESSURE ON ENERGY

Disch. pressure	Reduction in pressure of ___ psig				
	-0.2	-0.4	-0.6	-0.8	-1.0
12	1.3%	2.7%	4.0%	5.4%	6.7%
11	1.5%	2.9%	4.4%	5.9%	7.4%
10	1.6%	3.3%	4.9%	6.6%	8.3%
9	1.8%	3.7%	5.5%	7.4%	9.3%
8	2.1%	4.2%	6.3%	8.4%	10.6%
7	2.4%	4.8%	7.3%	9.7%	12.2%

\*Assumes 70% blower eff & 92% motor/drive eff

### Reduce pressure across blower by

- Clean inlet air filter
- Clean the aeration basin diffusers (which also improves OTE = reduces air demand)
- Use most open valve control strategies
- Reduce or eliminate throttling
- Hold return stream flows (e.g. centrate) until low load conditions at night (lower airflow lowers friction losses)

PSIG	IN H <sub>2</sub> O
0.1	2.8
0.2	5.5
0.3	8.3
0.4	11.1
0.5	13.8
0.6	16.6
0.7	19.4
0.8	22.1
0.9	24.9

1 PSI = 2.31 feet of water

1 foot of water = 0.43 PSI

## 4 PUMPING ENERGY

### Basic equation

$$\frac{\text{GPM} \times \text{Feet}}{3960} \times \frac{1}{\text{Pump Eff}} \times \frac{1}{\text{Motor Eff}} \times 0.746 = \text{kW from utility}$$

Water HP      Brake HP (or Shaft HP)      Motor HP

Input HP x 0.746 = motor input kW\*

### Include transmission loss between motor and machine if not direct coupled:

- Gear box - 92-98% depending on type
- V-belt - 89-95% depending on proper tension
- "cogged" or "synchronous" belt - 98%

### VFD efficiency

$$\text{*Input motor kW} \times \frac{1}{\text{VFD eff}} = \text{VFD input kW}$$

### VFD efficiency = 97%

Running at 100% speed consumes 3% more energy than running without a VFD.

## 5 CALCULATING kWh

It takes 3.14 kWh to lift 1 million gallons 1 foot at 100% efficiency

### Estimating energy from nameplate data

**BHP** ≈ Motor Nameplate HP x 90% (for mixers) x "% of Full Load Power"

**BHP** ≈ Motor Nameplate HP x 80% (for pumps) x "% of Full Load Power"

**BHP** ≈ Motor Nameplate HP x Operating Amps / Full Load Amps (FLA)

$$\frac{\text{Brake Horsepower (BHP)} \times 0.746}{\text{Motor Efficiency}} \times \text{hours} = \text{kWh}$$

### Amp to kWh calculation

For three phase power (be wary of using amps from a VFD panel readout)

$$\text{Amps} \times \text{Volts} \times 1.73 \times \text{Power Factor} \times \frac{1}{1,000} \times \text{hours} = \text{kWh}$$

### Saving energy in pumping

- Reduce the head: static and/or friction
- Reduce the flow: pump only what is needed
- Improve equipment efficiency: new equipment or better operating point

## 6 REDUCING ENERGY AT PUMPS, MIXERS, AND FANS

### Reduce flow

- Put non-potable spray systems on timers; use PRV's & non-clog nozzles to reduce flow
- Run RAS and internal recycle pumps at an "intentional" multiple of plant flow; if pumps are oversized, trim impellers or install VFDs
- Run sludge pumps intermittently to move more solids with less water
- Equalize return stream flows (e.g. centrate) to load aeration basin at night when influent loads are lowest
- Minimize water used for "sluicing" screenings and grit
- Go to intermittent or reduced speed operations on mixers
- Does odorous airflow depend on number of trains on-line?
- Does odor vary seasonally?

### Reduce head

- Increase wet well level on influent, effluent, RAS, WAS, intermediate, and collection system pump stations when possible. A 2-foot increase on a 20' TDH system is a 10% reduction in energy
- Lower non-potable water system pressure to a default low pressure; use timers or SCADA system to boost pressure when needed for washdown; use booster pumps for those single uses that require high pressure (e.g. belt press)
- Use dedicated low pressure blower for channels that are not as deep as aeration basin
- Dampened fans are common; resheave to lower flow and eliminate throttling

### Improve efficiency

- Consider semi-open impellers in lieu of open impellers if influent screens are 1/4" or less
- Check pump operating conditions against factory curve; adjust to maximize gal/kWh
- Run "best" equipment in lead & leave it until it is no longer the best

## 7 USEFUL TIME AND ENERGY CALCS

Constant (24/7) running is 8,760 hrs annually

8 hr/day for 7 days/week = 2,920 hours

8 hr/day for 5 days/week = 2,085 hours

### Runtime reductions

1/24th = 4.2%    1/7th = 14.3%    1/12th = 8.3%    1/52 = 1.9%

### Quick conversions

1 HP = 0.75 kW    100 HP = 75 kW    10 kW = 13.4 HP

Rough kWh    10 HP 24/7 = 65,000 kWh

## 8 DEFINITIONS

NAME	DEFINITION
<b>Efficiency</b>	Energy "Out" divided by Energy "In"
<b>HP</b>	Motor Nameplate Horsepower, this is motor output
<b>BHP</b>	Brake Horsepower, the shaft power at pump
<b>WHP</b>	Water Horsepower, theoretical minimum power required to move water
<b>BTU</b>	British Thermal Unit, enough energy to raise 1 pound of water by 1°F
<b>kW</b>	Kilowatt, unit of power (1,000 watts)
<b>kWh</b>	Kilowatt Hour = Units of energy, kW x hours
<b>kVA</b>	Kilovolt-amps, "Apparent Power" = Volts x Amps x 1.73 / 1,000 (skip x 1.73 if single phase)
<b>kVAR</b>	Kilovolt-amps reactive - "Reactive Power," non-useful power that the utility still has to carry
<b>PF</b>	Power Factor = kW / kVA, or % of power that is "real"

## 9 MOTOR EFFICIENCY

MOTOR NAMEPLATE HP	STANDARD EFF.	PREMIUM EFF.
1	74%	82%
5	84%	90%
10	87%	91%
25	90%	93%
50	91%	94%
100	92.2%	94.7%
250	93.3%	95.2%
500	94.0%	95.5%
1000	94.5%	95.7%

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