

City of Visalia

Visalia Water Reclamation Facility

**Facility Plan Update
Council Presentation**

2/20/2024

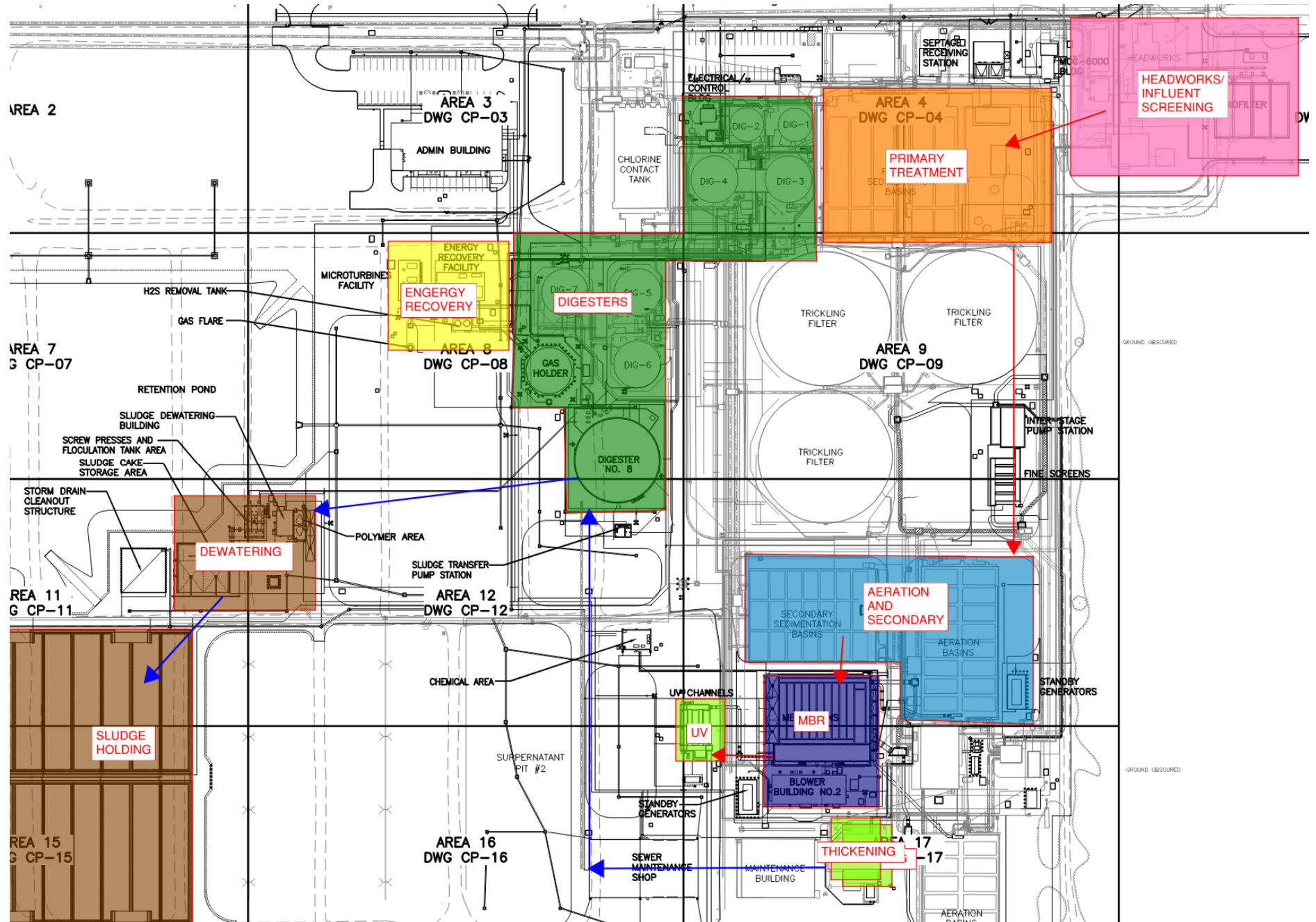


01

Background and Purpose



WRF Overview



Treatment Photos



Project Background and Severity

- The WRF was upgraded in 2017 due to increased regulations
- Improvements were made for a rated capacity of 22 mgd, however to save costs some improvements were not implemented leaving the total design capacity at 18 mgd.
- In recent years, increased industrial loads along with water conservation efforts have increased influent wastewater concentrations and as a result put increased strains on the facility.
- This study is an effort to update current treatment process capacities using a biological process model.

02

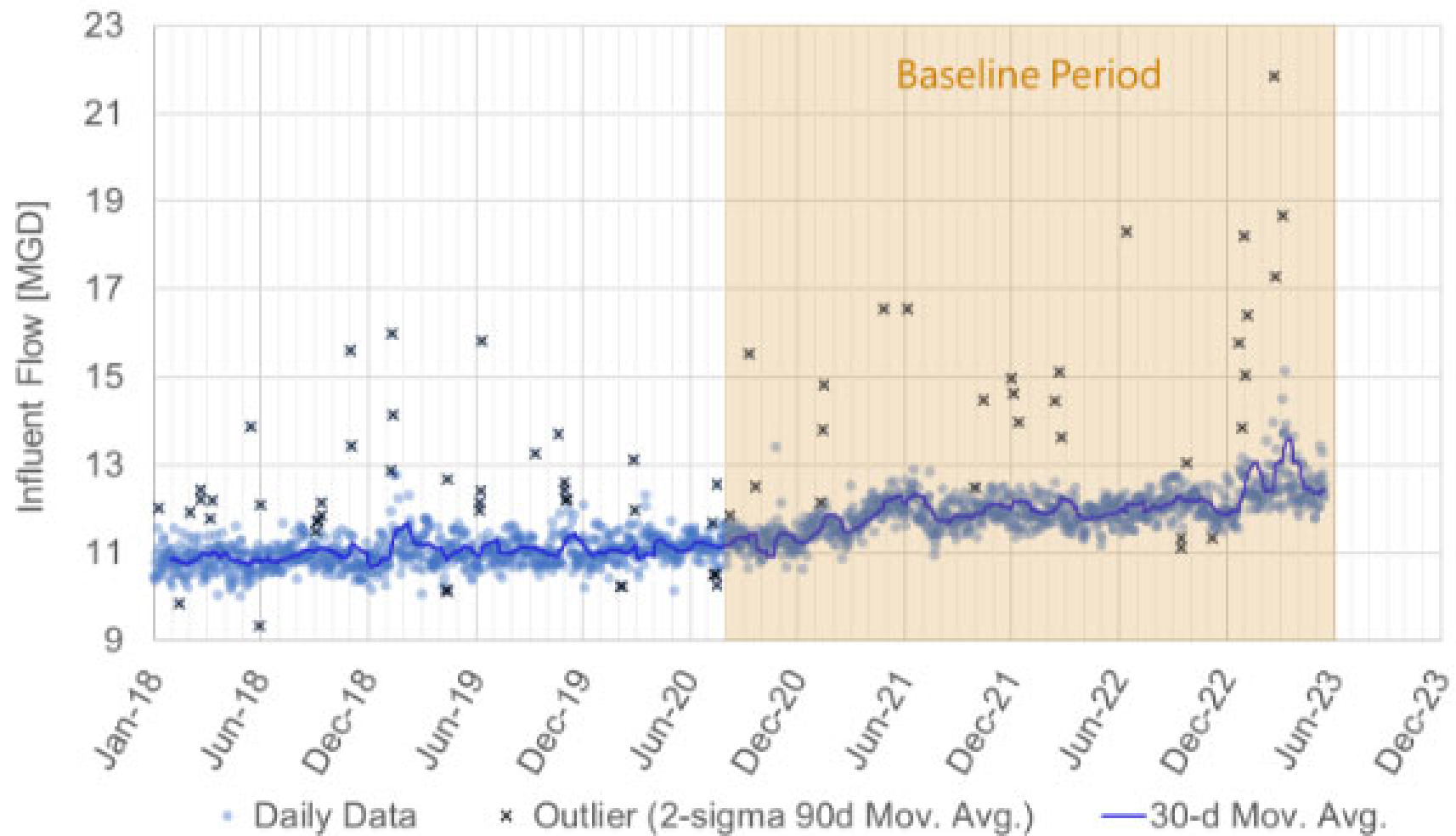
Treatment Process Performance



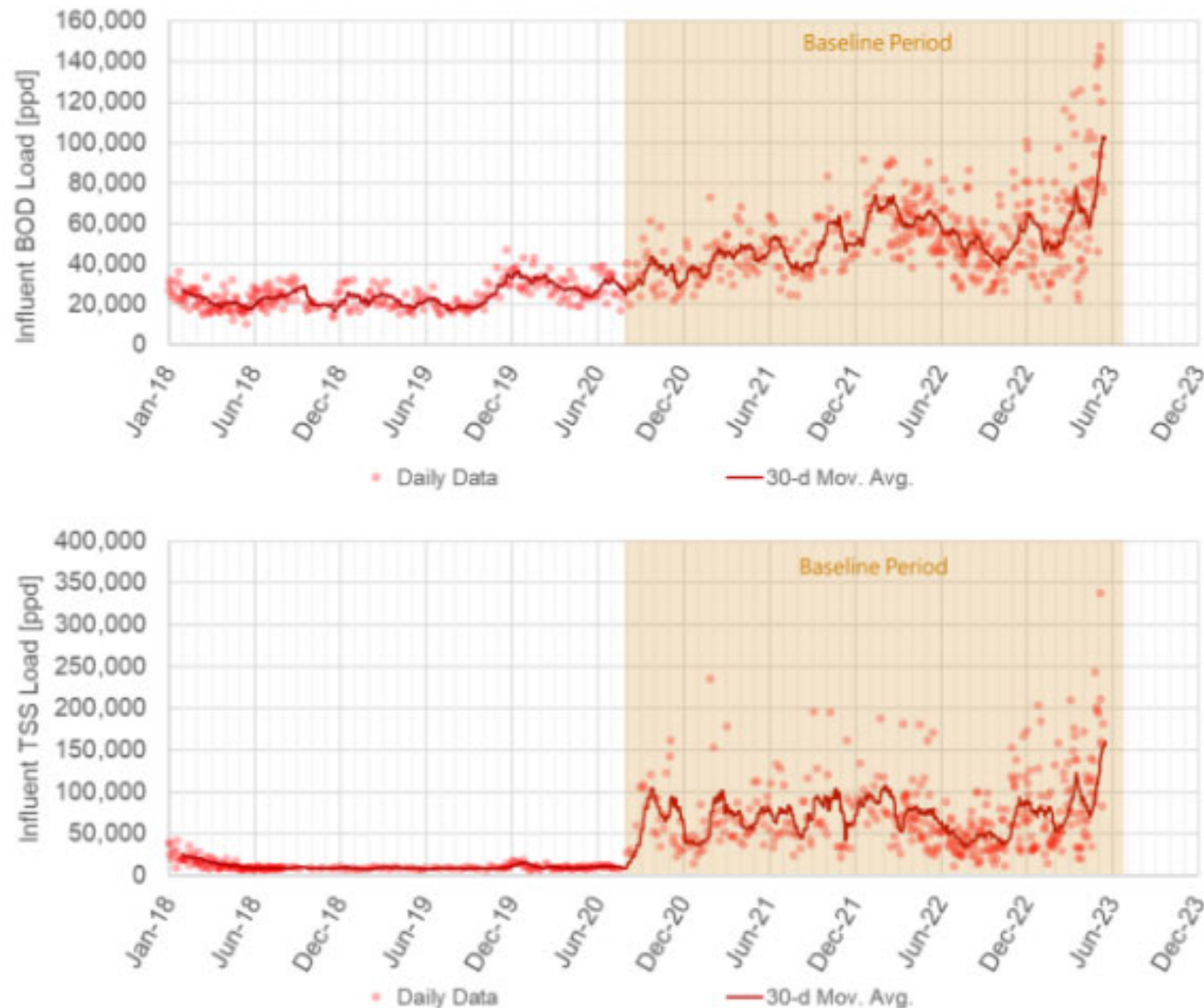
Solids Handling Facilities are Struggling

- Digesters are operating at very low HRTs and are currently being overloaded during peak loading periods
- PS and TWAS pumping is limited to 2-3%, which exacerbates HRT limitation
- Digesters are overloaded with Grit causing reduced volume (est 20% by volume filled)
- City does not have sufficient redundancy with dewatering equipment due to no standby dewatering screw press

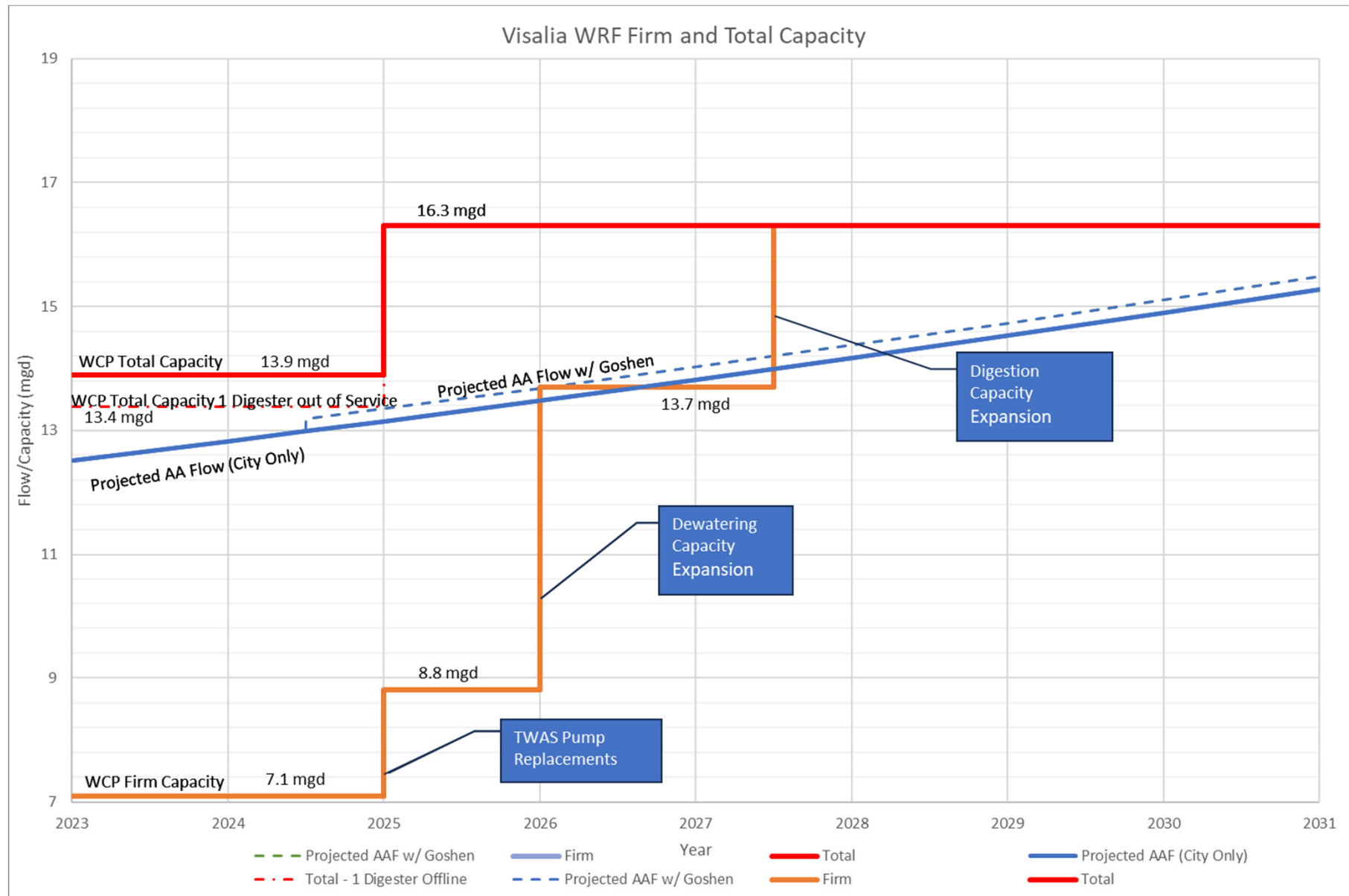
Historical Influent Data



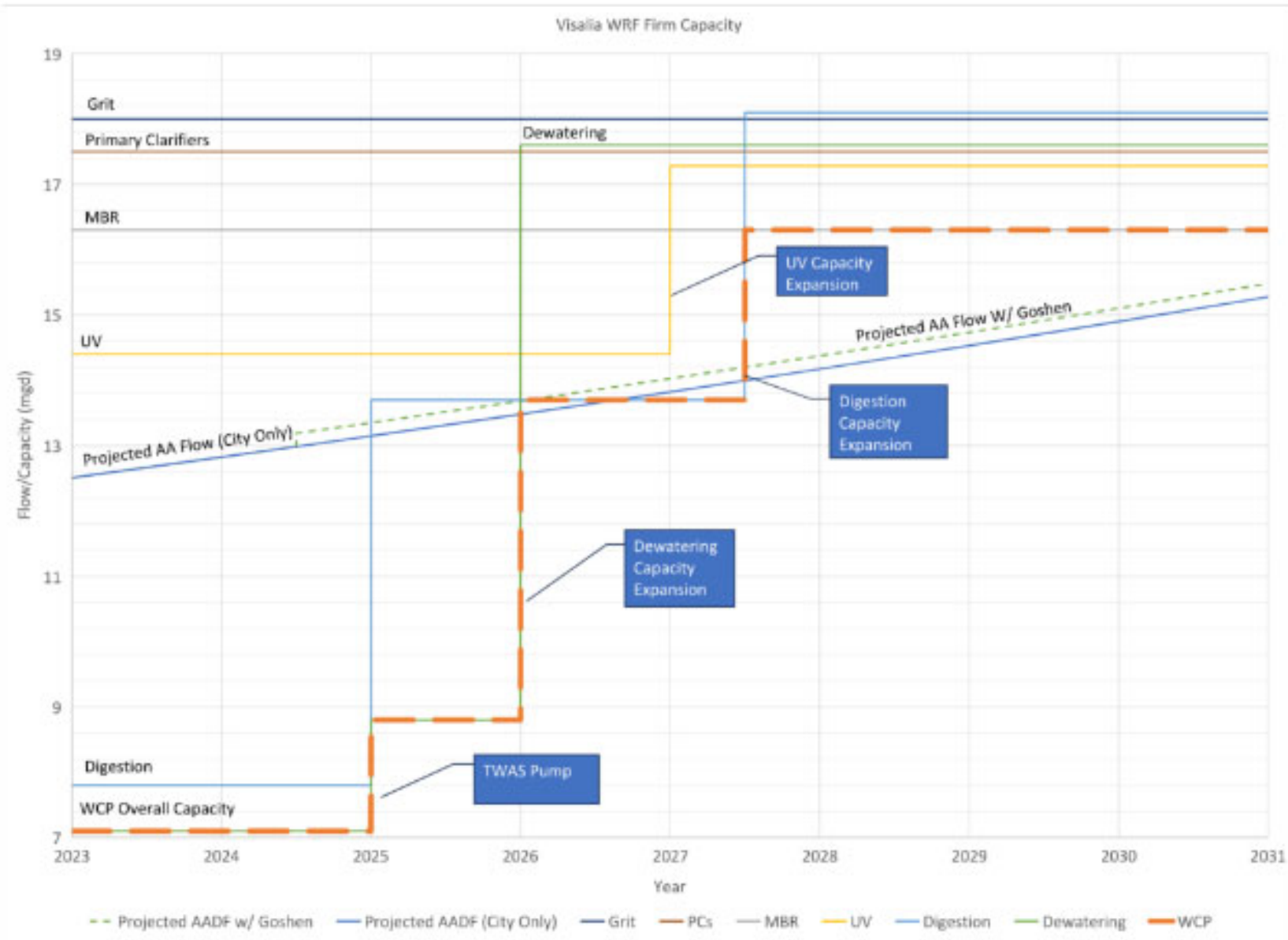
Biological Oxygen Demand and Total Suspended Solids Loadings



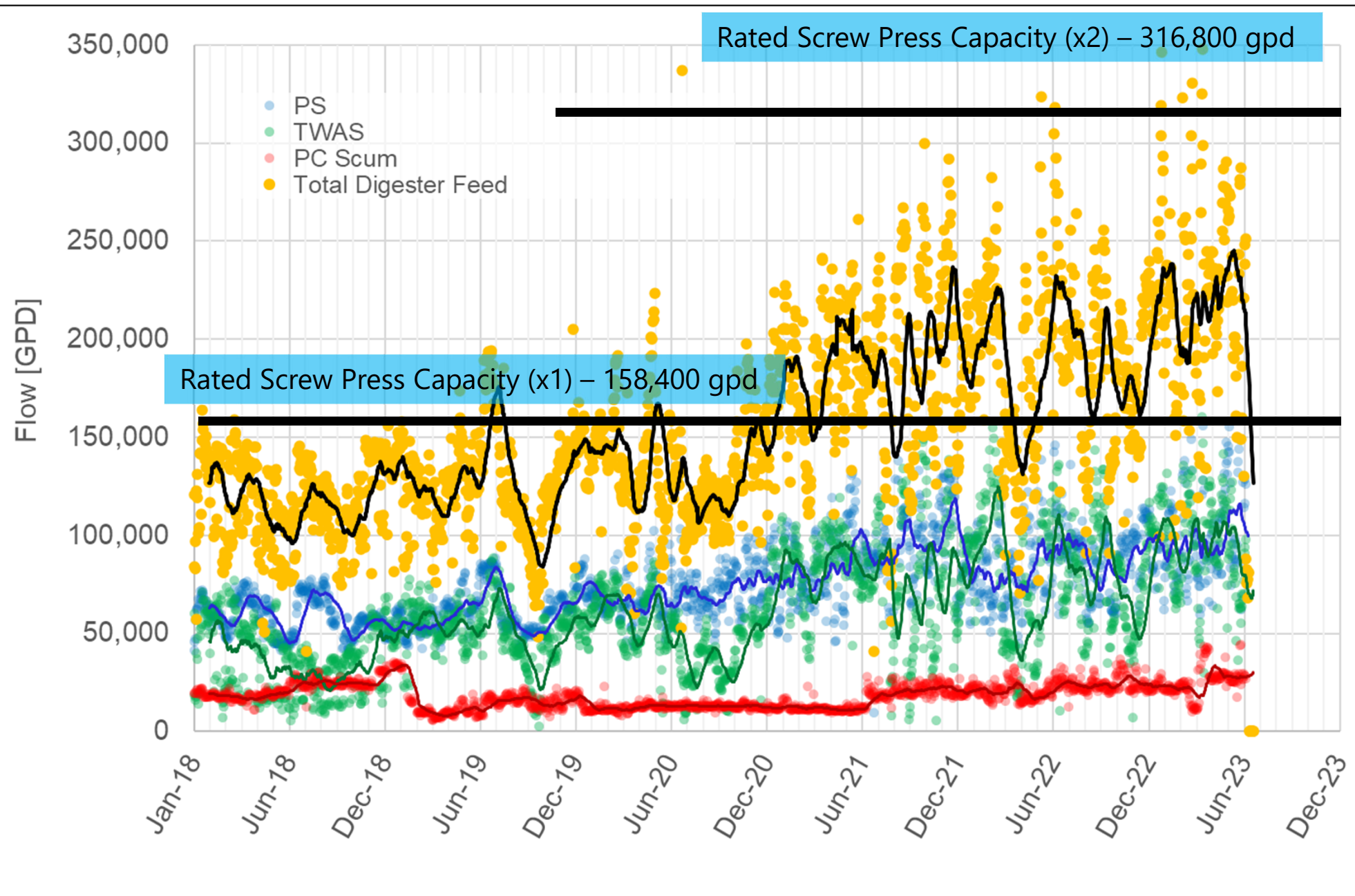
Capacity/Firm Capacity Analysis



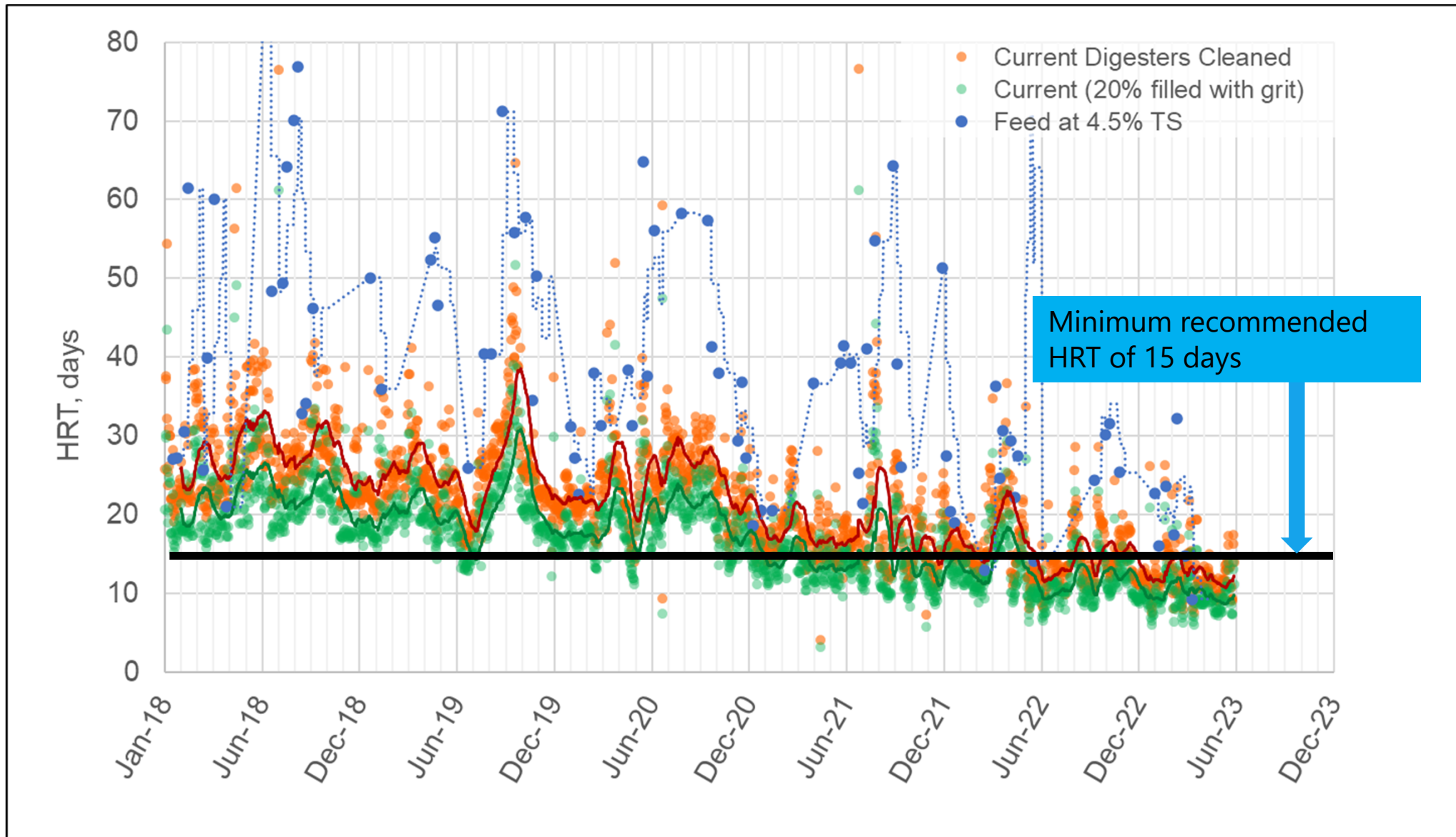
Process Area Capacity



Sludge Flows & Dewatering Capacity



Impact of higher feed concentration (4.5%) on Digester SRT



03

Condition Assessment



Condition Assessment Findings

- In general the equipment at the WRF is in good condition
- There were significant upgrades in the last improvement project and all of this equipment is in good condition
- The following areas need some attention:
 - » Headworks
 - » Digesters
 - » Sludge Drying beds
 - » Misc. piping/pumps/valves

Site Photos



04

Environmental Opportunities



Environmental Opportunities

- Engine Generators
- Microturbines
- Gas Turbines
- Fuel Cells
- RNG to Pipeline Injection
- R-CNG to Vehicle Fuel



05

Near-Term Improvements



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Near-term capacity related projects

- Now:
 - » Replace PS and TWAS pumps to allow thickening of the sludge more
 - Goal: 3% PS and 6% TWAS
 - » Add one screw press for firm capacity/redundancy
 - » Add one digester with same capacity as Digester No. 8
 - » Add additional UV Bank to provide firm capacity/redundancy

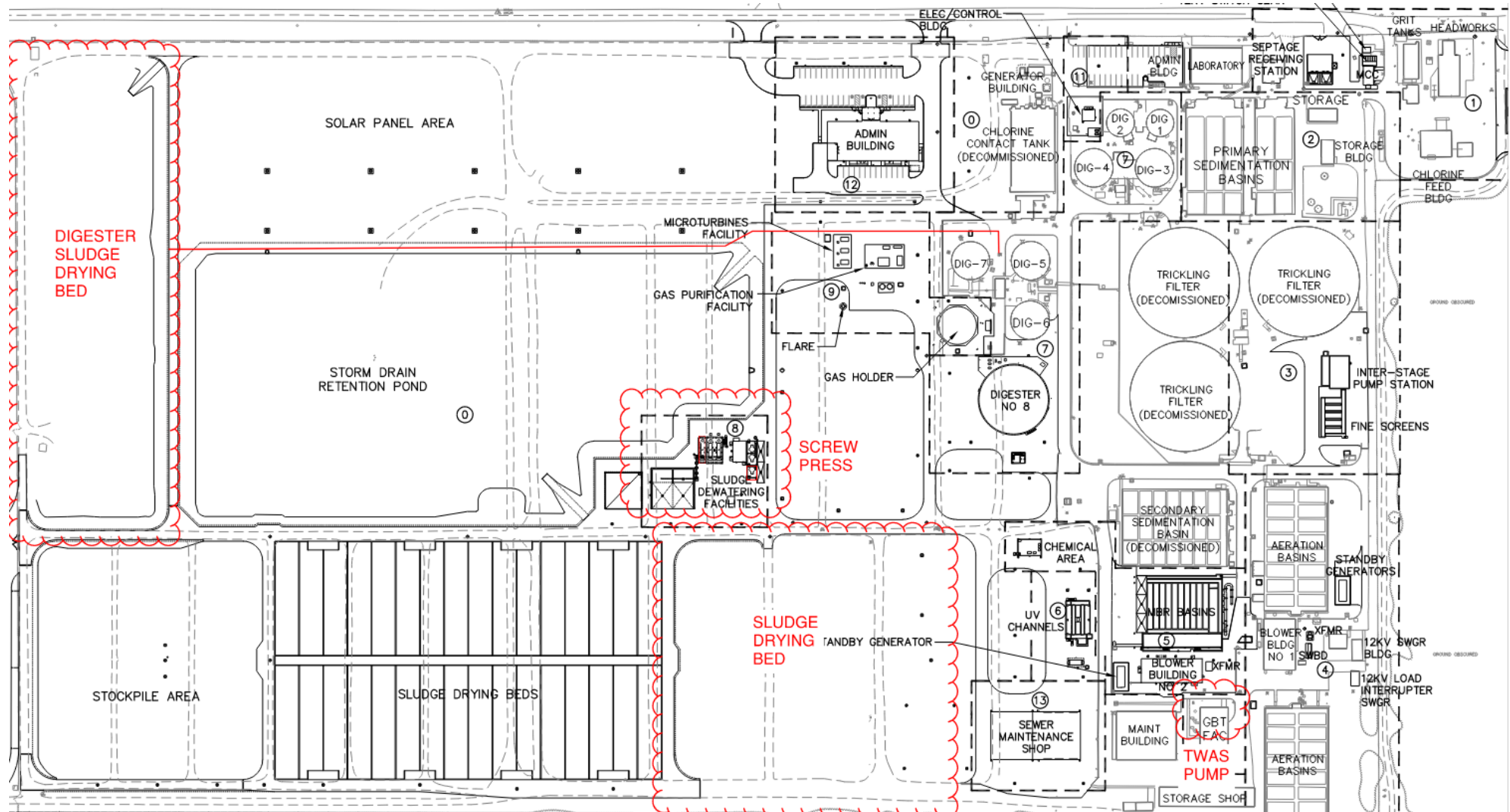
06

Summary and Recommendations

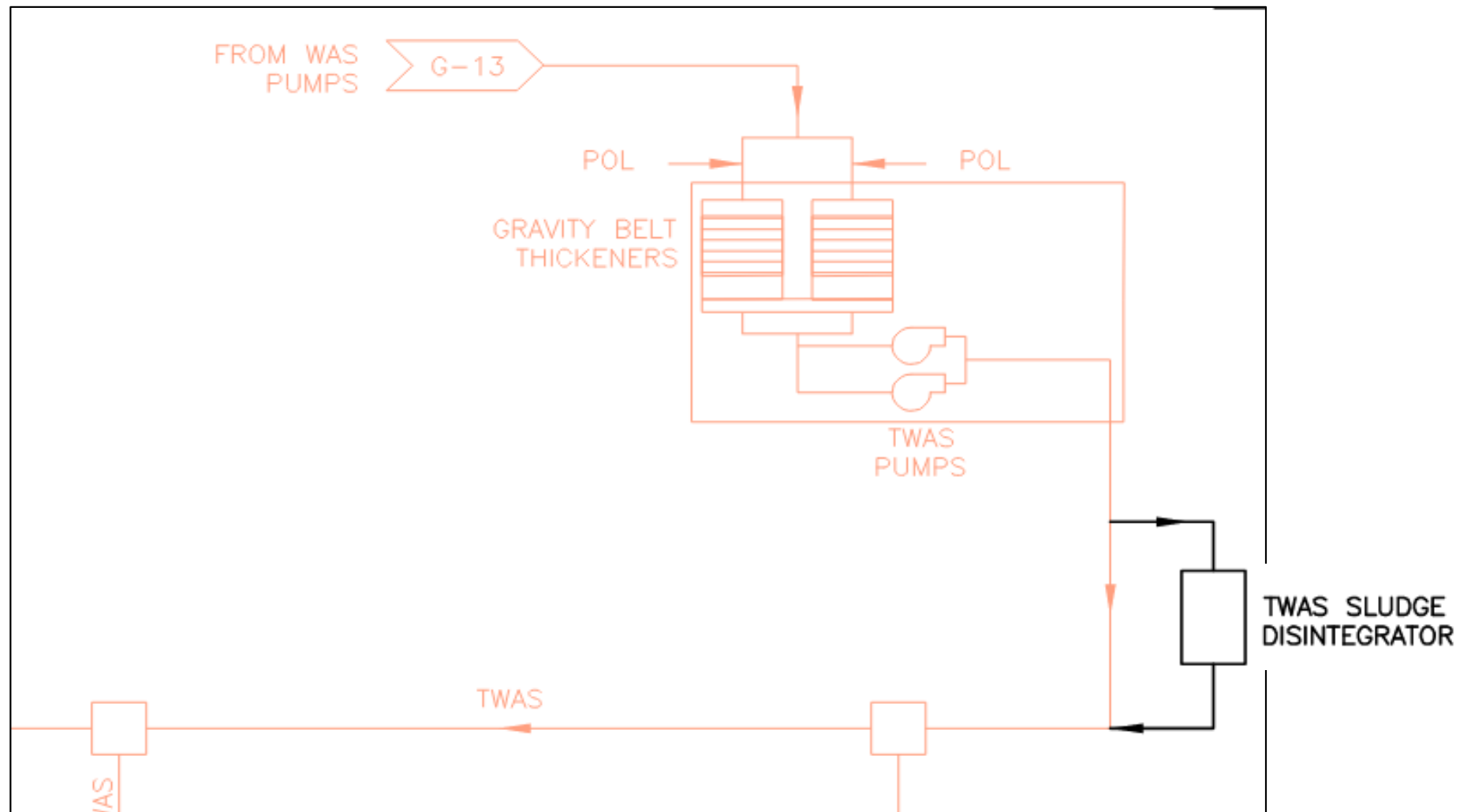
Immediate Recommendations for Digesters

- Place Dig No. 4 back in service (waiting on piping)
- Continue tracking digester health parameters and develop response plan for early signs of failure
- Clean/de-grit digesters that have not been cleaned recently (i.e. last 2-4 years)
- PS and TWAS pumping modifications and/or replace discharge piping
- Re-purpose Dig #8 as a primary digester (Currently used as 70% storage)
- Additional digester volume likely needed to accommodate future growth to buildout

Solids Handling Improvements



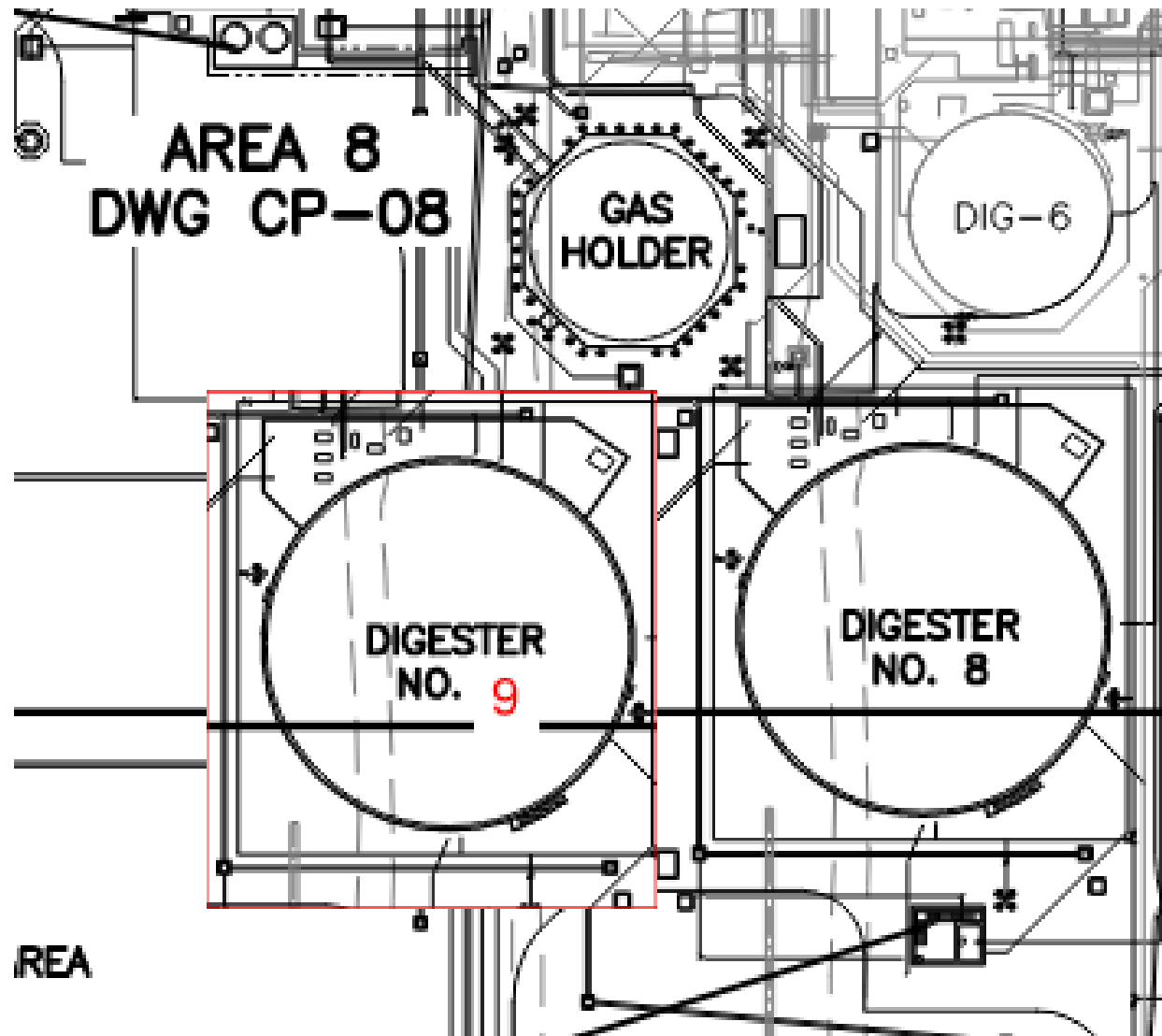
TWAS Pumps



TWAS Pump Station Upgrades



Digester Upgrades



Digester Upgrades



Near Term Dewatering Recommendations

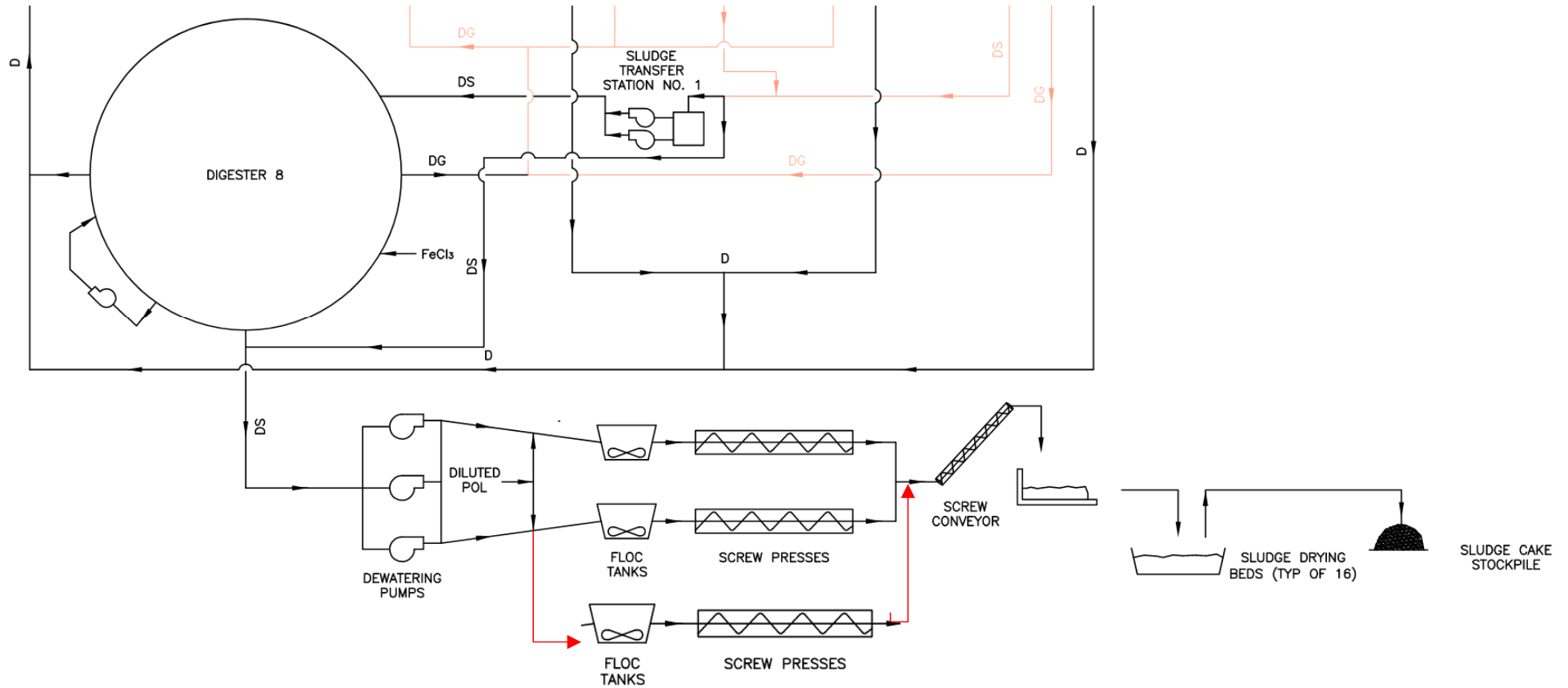
- Additional dewatering unit needed to provide redundancy/standby
- Provide additional drying beds and sludge storage if dewatering maintenance or down time is experienced

Dewatering Unit

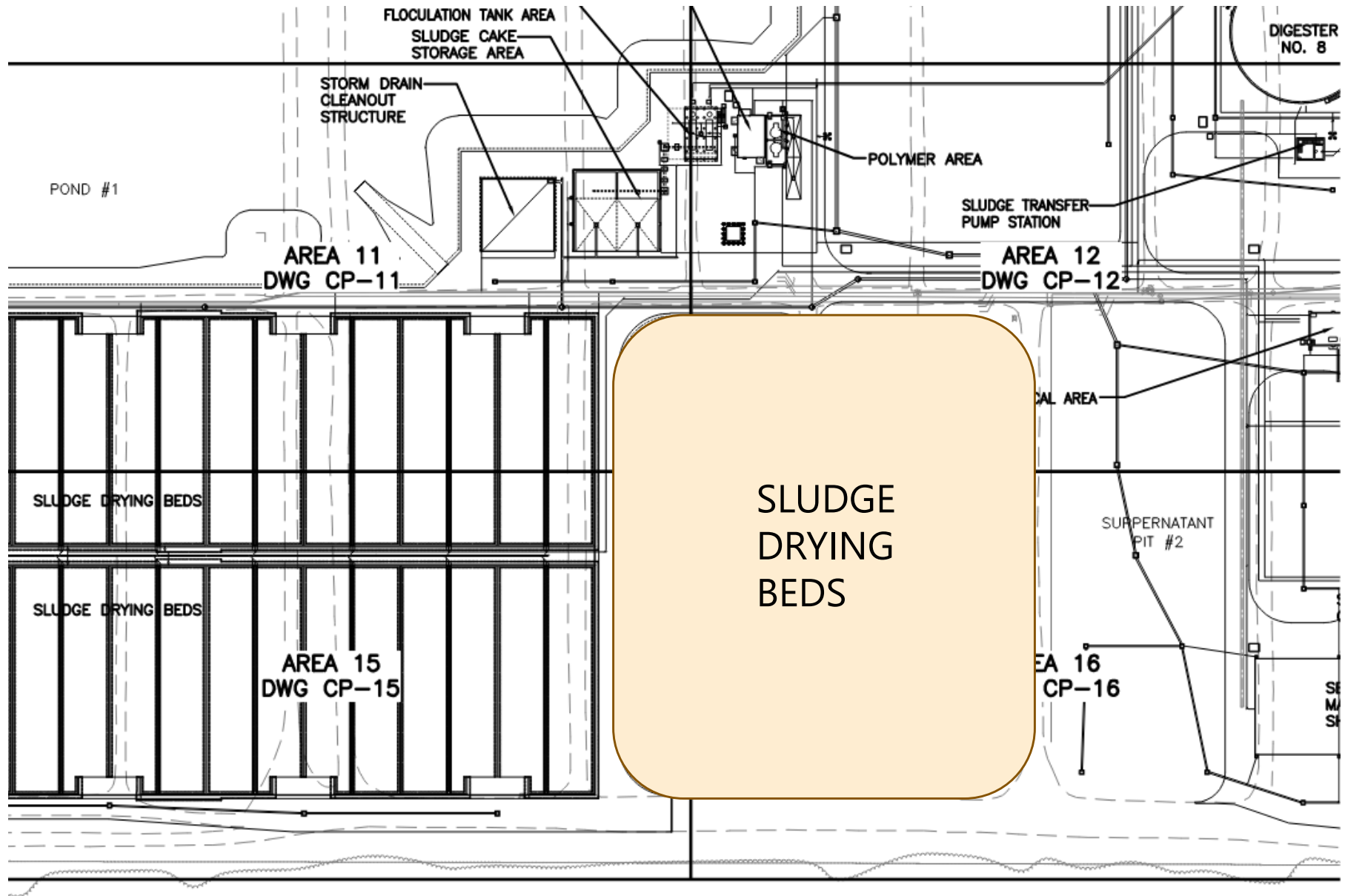
- Add photo



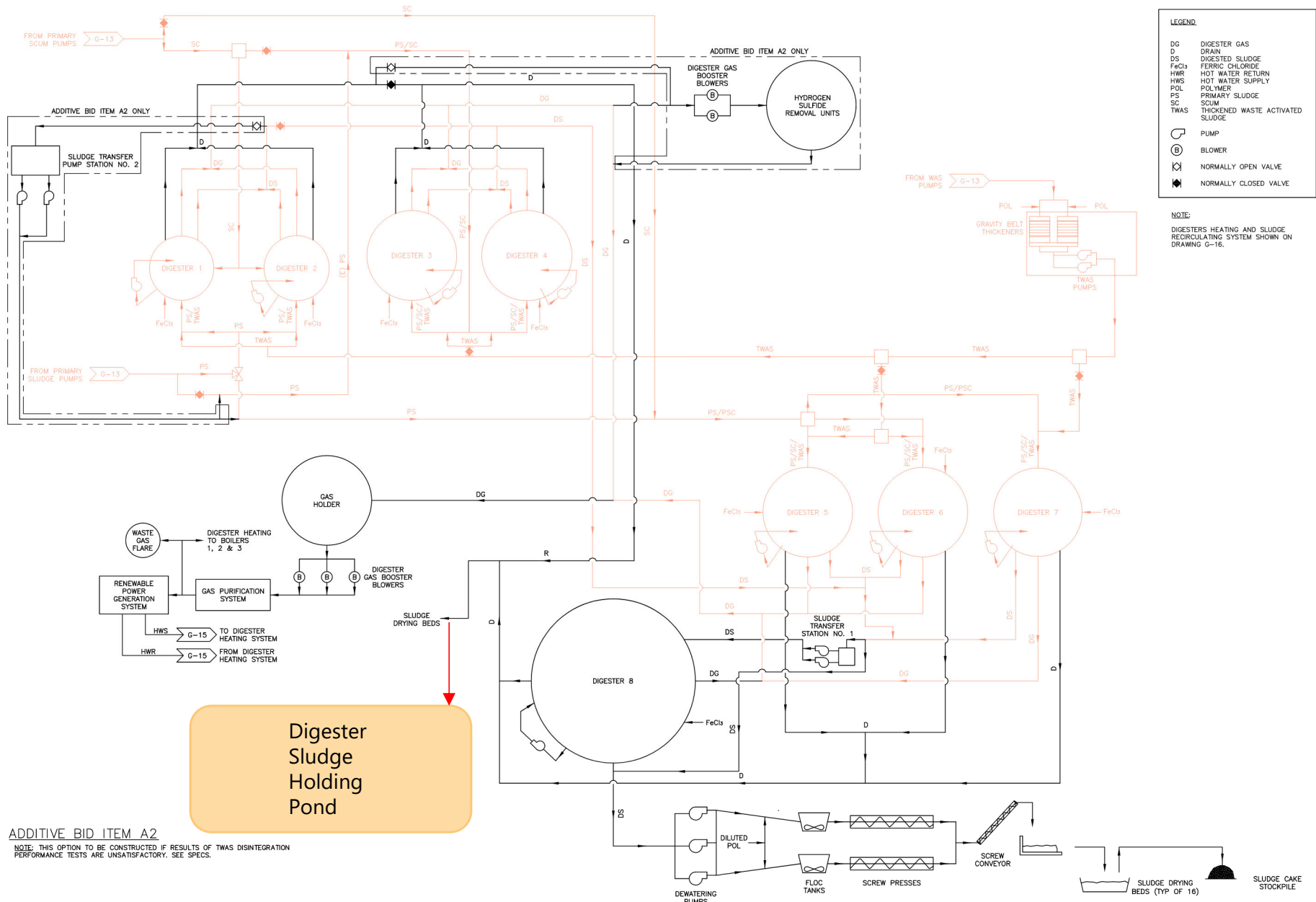
Screw Press



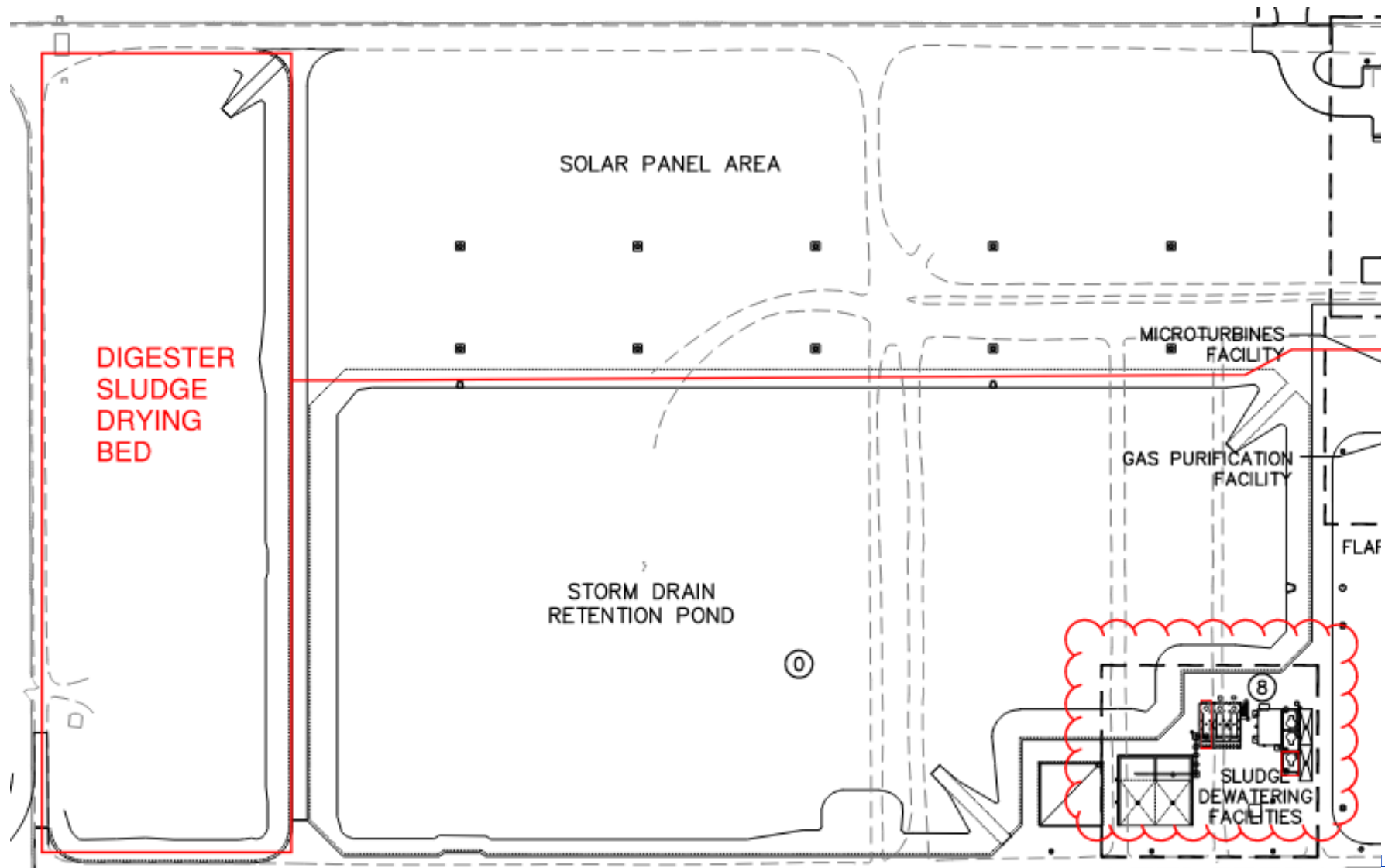
Sludge Drying Beds



Digester Sludge Holding Pond



Digester Sludge Holding Pond



Near Term UV Recommendations

- Additional UV bank unit needed to provide redundancy/standby

