



**Comprehensive Environmental Inc.**

A scenic landscape photograph of a lake or river at dawn or dusk. The sky is a mix of blue and white clouds, and the water is calm, reflecting the sky and the surrounding trees. The trees on the far bank are in various shades of green and yellow, suggesting autumn. In the foreground, there are tall, dark reeds or grasses. The text is overlaid on this image in a white, sans-serif font with a slight drop shadow.

**Manganese Removal  
in a State of the Art  
Treatment Facility  
Town of Kingston, MA**

**NEWWA Spring Joint Regional Conference**

**April 1, 2015**

**Michael Ohl, P.E., CFM, Principal**



# Overview

Background Information



Design Considerations and Challenges



Construction and Facility Operation



# Aesthetic Issues

- Discolored Water
- Stained Laundry / Fixtures
- Leaves Dark Brown to Black Stains
- Unpleasant Taste (metallic)
- Customer Dissatisfaction

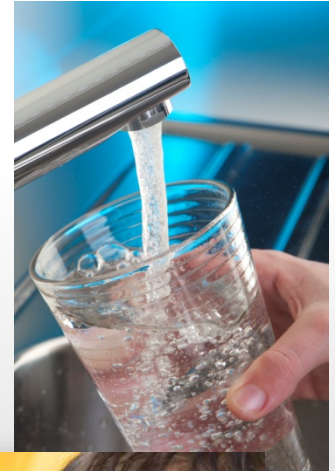




# Health Issues

- Neurological Impacts
- Hyperactivity (2007)
- Intellectual Impairment (2011)
- Sensitive Population (Children)

Recent Studies by Boucher et al. (Quebec and Boston)





# Health Issues (cont.)

Research | Children's Health

## Intellectual Impairment in School-Age Children Exposed to Manganese from Drinking Water

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**BACKGROUND:** Despite the complexity of exposure routes, drinking water and manganese exposure concentration.

**OBJECTIVES:** Drinking water and manganese exposure concentration.

**METHODS:** The study was supplied by groundwater in children's hair and food frequency.

**RESULTS:** The mean MnW in children's home tap water was 34 µg/L (range: 1–2,700 µg/L). MnH increased with manganese intake from water consumption, but not with dietary manganese intake. Higher MnW and MnH were significantly associated with lower IQ scores. A 10-fold increase in MnW was associated with a decrease of 2.4 IQ points (95% confidence interval: -3.9 to -0.9;  $p < 0.01$ ), adjusting for maternal intelligence, family income, and other potential confounders. There was a 6.2-point difference in IQ between children in the lowest and highest MnW quintiles. MnW was more strongly associated with Performance IQ than Verbal IQ.

**CONCLUSIONS:** The findings of this cross-sectional study suggest that exposure to manganese at levels common in groundwater is associated with intellectual impairment in children.

**KEYWORDS:** children, intellectual quotient, manganese, neurotoxicity, water. *Environ Health Perspect* 119:138–143 (2011). doi:10.1289/ehp.1002321 [Online 20 September 2010]

**“The findings from our study support the hypothesis that low-level, chronic exposure to manganese from drinking water is associated with significant intellectual impairments in children.”**

water containing manganese presenting with intellectual impairments (Woolf and colleagues) with neurologic symptoms, including stuttered speech, and fine motor impairment.

in drinking water in the United States. The current MCLs for manganese in drinking water are 30 µg/L by the U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (2004) and at 400 µg/L by the World Health Organization (WHO) (2008).

To date, no epidemiologic study has examined possible neurotoxic effects at manganese concentrations common in North American aquifers. In the present study, we assessed the relationship between exposure to manganese from drinking water and IQ of school-age children living in communities relying on groundwater. In addition, we



# Regulatory Issues

- MassDEP and MassDPH issue notice to Health Professionals on Manganese Concerns in 2013
- MassDEP adds baseline monitoring for manganese to 2014-2016 sampling schedules
- MassDEP issues CCL language specific to manganese health concerns in 2014





# Mitigation Efforts

- Flushing Water Mains
- Cleaning Wells
- New Source Development
- Blending Source Waters (2 service zones)
- Resting Wells (6 active sources)
- Reduced Pump Rates (1000 gpm to 300 gpm)

Proactive Decision to Remove Fe/Mn





# Design Challenges

- Aggressive Design Schedule
- Site Constraints
- Planning for Future
  - Future filter for additional source
  - Future clearwell
  - Future booster pump station

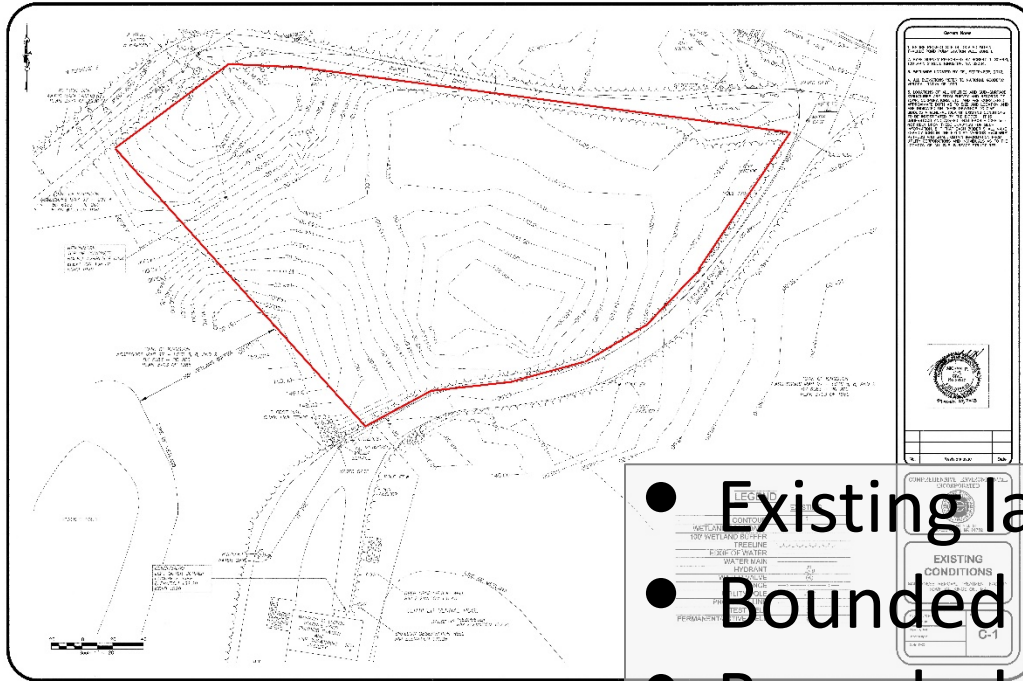


# Schedule Constraints

- Piloting completed in May 2012
- RFQ/Proposals in August 2012
- CEI selected in September 2012
- Design documents submitted October 15<sup>th</sup> (SRF)
- Archeological Survey in Nov/Dec 2012
  - Notified in Nov 2012 by MHC of status (sensitive area)
  - MHC approval of report in March 2013
- Bid as 2 separate contracts in early 2013
  - Solar Panels (bid Jan/Feb, NTP by March 30<sup>th</sup>)
  - Treatment Facility (bid March/April)



# Site Constraints/Considerations



- Existing land adjacent to PS
- Bounded by roads/driveways
- Bounded by wetland buffers
- Usable area limited to 1 acre
- Building orientation for PV

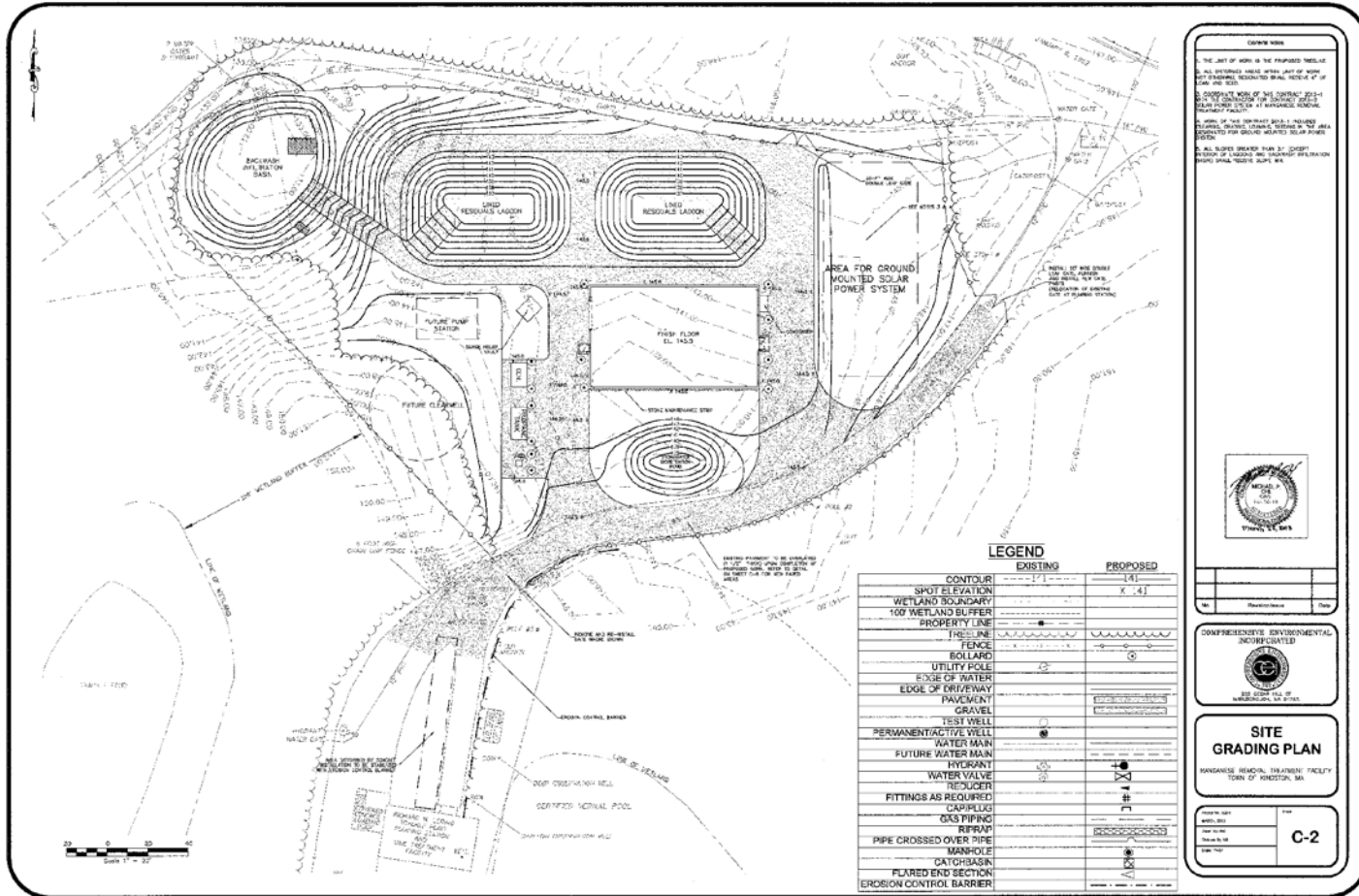


# Planning for Future

- Future filter for additional source  
(capacity increase 1.5 MGD to 3.0 MGD)
- Future clearwell tank and booster PS  
(potential future GWUDI and GWR issues)
- Additional PV panels (ground mounted)



# Planning for Future (cont.)





# Key Design Issues

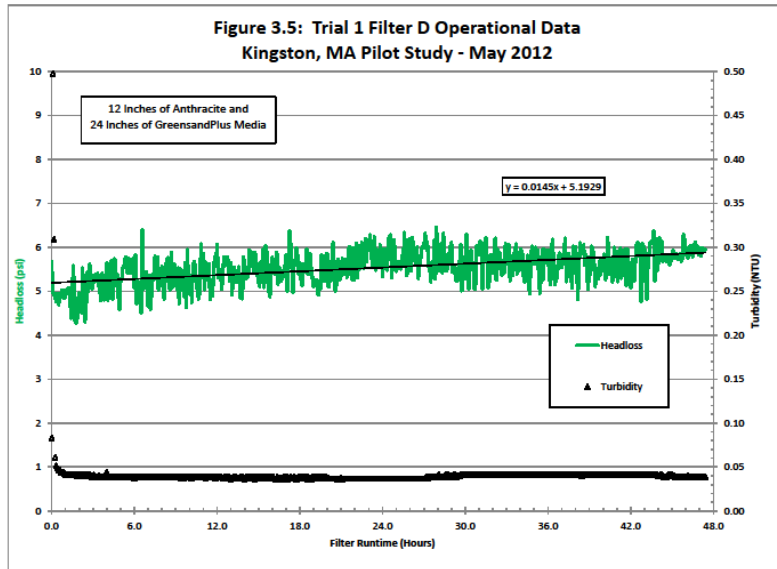
- Media Selection
- Building Type (structure and materials)
- Conversion of existing facilities (NaOCl feed)





# Media Selection

Figure 3.5: Trial 1 Filter D Operational Data  
Kingston, MA Pilot Study - May 2012



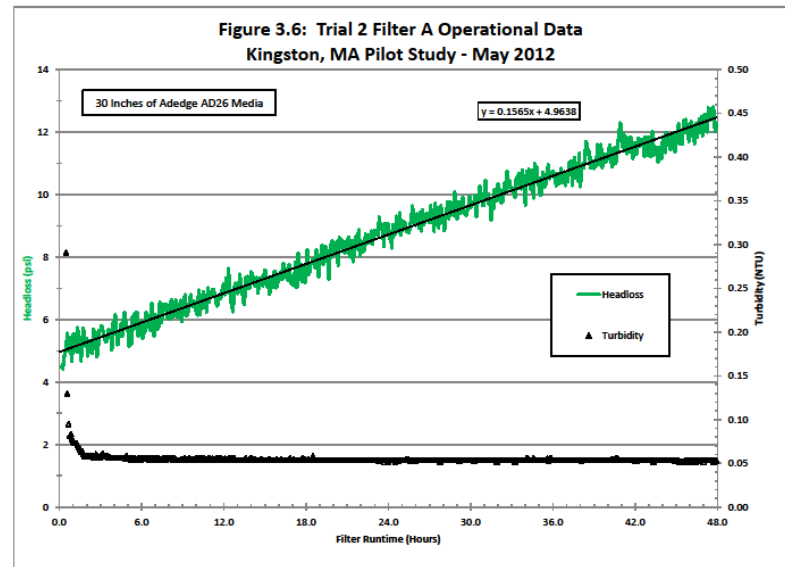
Final selection:

- Anthracite
- Greensand Plus

Selection criteria included:

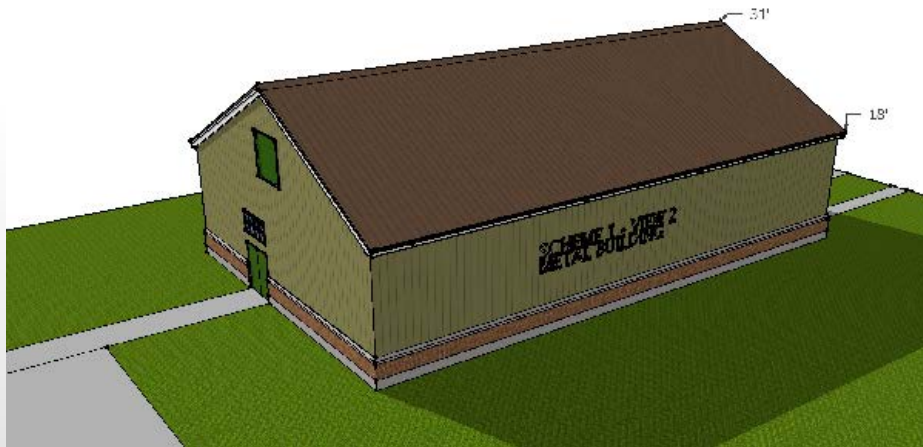
- Pilot performance
- Proprietary vs competitive
- Best return on investment

Figure 3.6: Trial 2 Filter A Operational Data  
Kingston, MA Pilot Study - May 2012





# Building Type



Salt-box style benefits:

- Optimum PV angle
- Optimum ceiling heights







# Design Details

- Pump-through Facility (upgrade 75 HP to 100 HP)
- Slab-on-grade (approx. 4,500 sf)
- Oxidation/disinfection (NaOCl)
- pH adjustment
  - Convert from lime to KOH
  - Raw 5.8 / Pre-filter 6.8 / Finished 7.5
- SCADA upgrade (shift from proprietary system)
- Overhead door (installation of future filter)



# Construction

- Solar PV System (Green Community)
  - 20 kW roof mounted system \$90K
  - Additional 30 kW planned (ground mounted)
- Treatment Facility
  - Bid Price \$3.96M
  - Final Construction Cost \$3.95M
- Start Summer 2013, Complete Fall 2014



# Construction





# Construction





# Construction





# Construction





# Completed Facility





# Completed Facility







# Completed Facility





# Facility Operation

- Online in November 2014
- Facility increased system classification to T-2
- Finished Water non-detectable Fe and Mn



# Questions?

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