



# **Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago**



**WELCOME  
TO THE MAY EDITION  
OF THE 2019  
M&R SEMINAR SERIES**

# BEFORE WE BEGIN

- **SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**
  - PLEASE FOLLOW EXIT SIGN IN CASE OF EMERGENCY EVACUATION
  - AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) LOCATED OUTSIDE
- **PLEASE SILENCE CELL PHONES OR SMART PHONES**
- **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WILL FOLLOW PRESENTATION**
- **PLEASE FILL EVALUATION FORM**
- **SEMINAR SLIDES WILL BE POSTED ON MWRD WEBSITE (www.MWRD.org: Home Page ⇒ Reports ⇒ M&R Data and Reports ⇒ M&R Seminar Series ⇒ 2019 Seminar Series)**
- **STREAM VIDEO WILL BE AVAILABLE ON MWRD WEBSITE (www.MWRD.org: Home Page ⇒ MWRDGC RSS Feeds)**

# Wendy Anderson, P.E.

Ms. Wendy Anderson is a Professional Engineer in the State of Colorado with a B.S. & M.S. in Civil Engineering from Colorado State University in Fort Collins.

Wendy is currently a Senior Engineer at Metro Wastewater Reclamation District in Denver advising the Operations Director and Superintendent on wastewater process unit operations at a 140 MGD wastewater treatment plant. Wendy oversees a 6 MW combined heat and power generation facility and is a project manager of energy-related projects.

Wendy is a Class A Wastewater Operator in Colorado and a Certified Energy Manager.

# Taking Ammonia-Based Aeration Control to the Next Level

Real World Experience and Lessons Learned



Robert W. Hite Facility  
Denver, Colorado

# Agenda

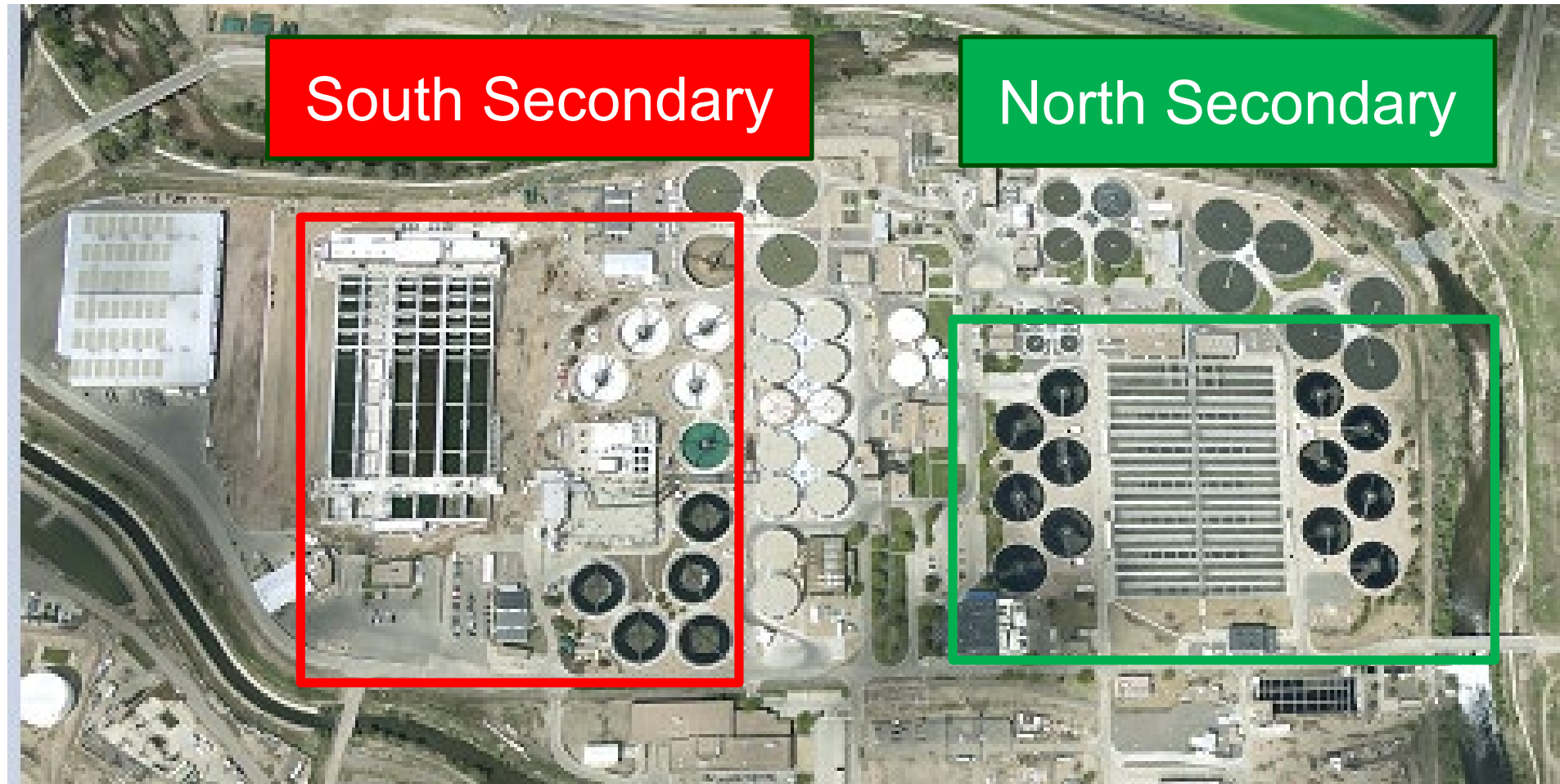
- 1) MWRD - Denver
- 2) Ammonia-based aeration control at MWRD-Denver
- 3) Feedback control system testing
- 4) Comparison of feed-forward versus feedback controls
- 5) Control system selection
- 6) Relate this to Stickney's ABAC system?



# Robert W. Hite Treatment Facility

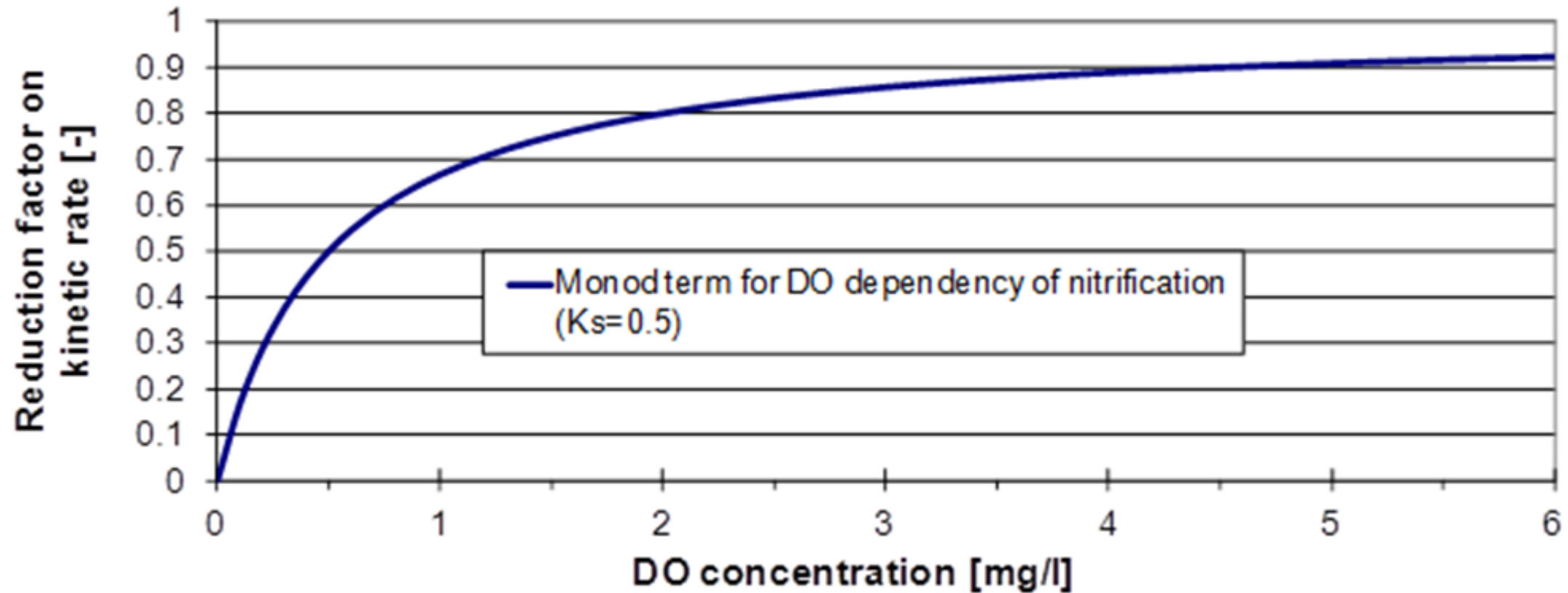


# Two Secondary Treatment Areas



# Why ammonia-based aeration control (ABAC)?

- Reducing energy consumption





# Testing and Application of ABAC

## Pilot-testing two feedback systems

- 1) *Direct ABAC*
- 2) *Cascade ABAC*

Later:

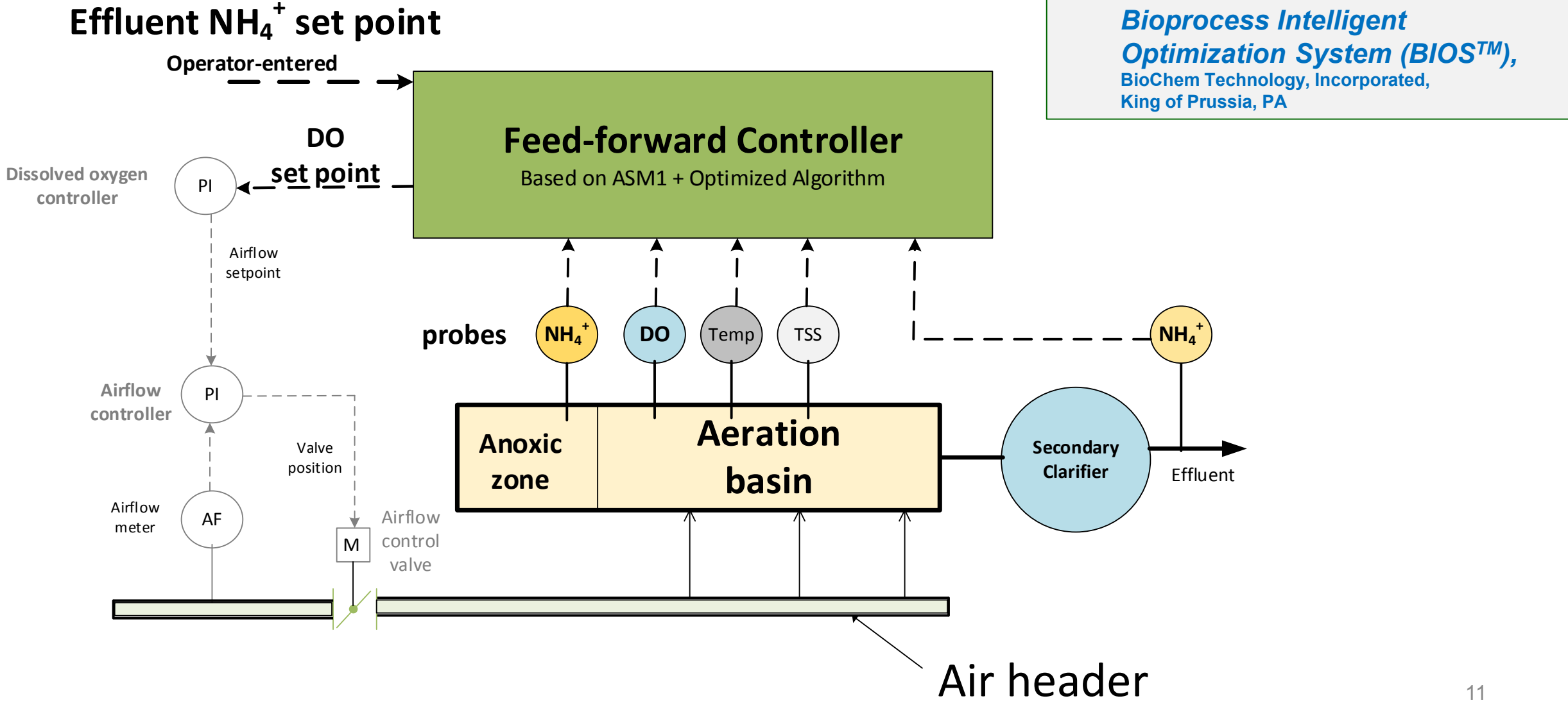
## Full-scale use of two aeration control systems:

- 1) *Cascade (feedback) ABAC*
- 2) *Feed-forward ABAC*

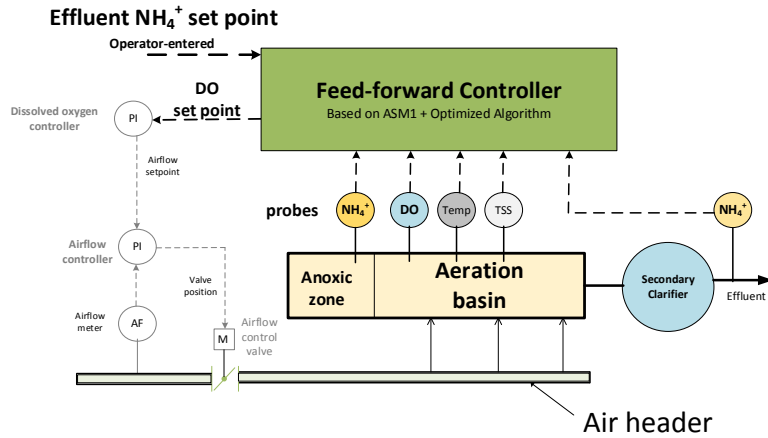
# A Little Background

What's the difference between feed-forward and feedback ammonia-based aeration control?

# Feed-forward ABAC (BIOS™) – North Secondary



# Feed-forward ABAC (ASM1) – North Secondary



Ammonia removal rate,  $\left(\frac{mg_{NH_3}}{L \cdot hr} \cdot g_{MLSS}\right) =$

$$-\left(f_{NH} + \frac{1}{Y_A}\right) \mu_A \cdot \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NH} + S_{NH}} \cdot \frac{S_{DO}}{K_{DO_A} + S_{DO}} \cdot X_A + k_a \cdot S_{ND} \cdot X_H - f_{NH} \cdot \mu_H \cdot \frac{S_S}{K_S + S_S} \cdot \frac{S_{DO}}{K_{DO_H} + S_{DO}} \cdot X_H$$

Autotrophic Uptake
Nitrification
Ammonification
Heterotrophic Uptake

$$-\left(\cancel{f_{NH}} + \frac{1}{Y_A}\right) \mu_A \cdot \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NH} + S_{NH}} \cdot \frac{S_{DO}}{K_{DO_A} + S_{DO}} \cdot X_A + \cancel{k_a \cdot S_{ND} \cdot X_H} - \cancel{f_{NH} \cdot \mu_H \cdot \frac{S_S}{K_S + S_S} \cdot \frac{S_{DO}}{K_{DO_H} + S_{DO}} \cdot X_H}$$

Insignificant
Modified to use measurable variables
Incorporated into measured NH<sub>4</sub> adjustment

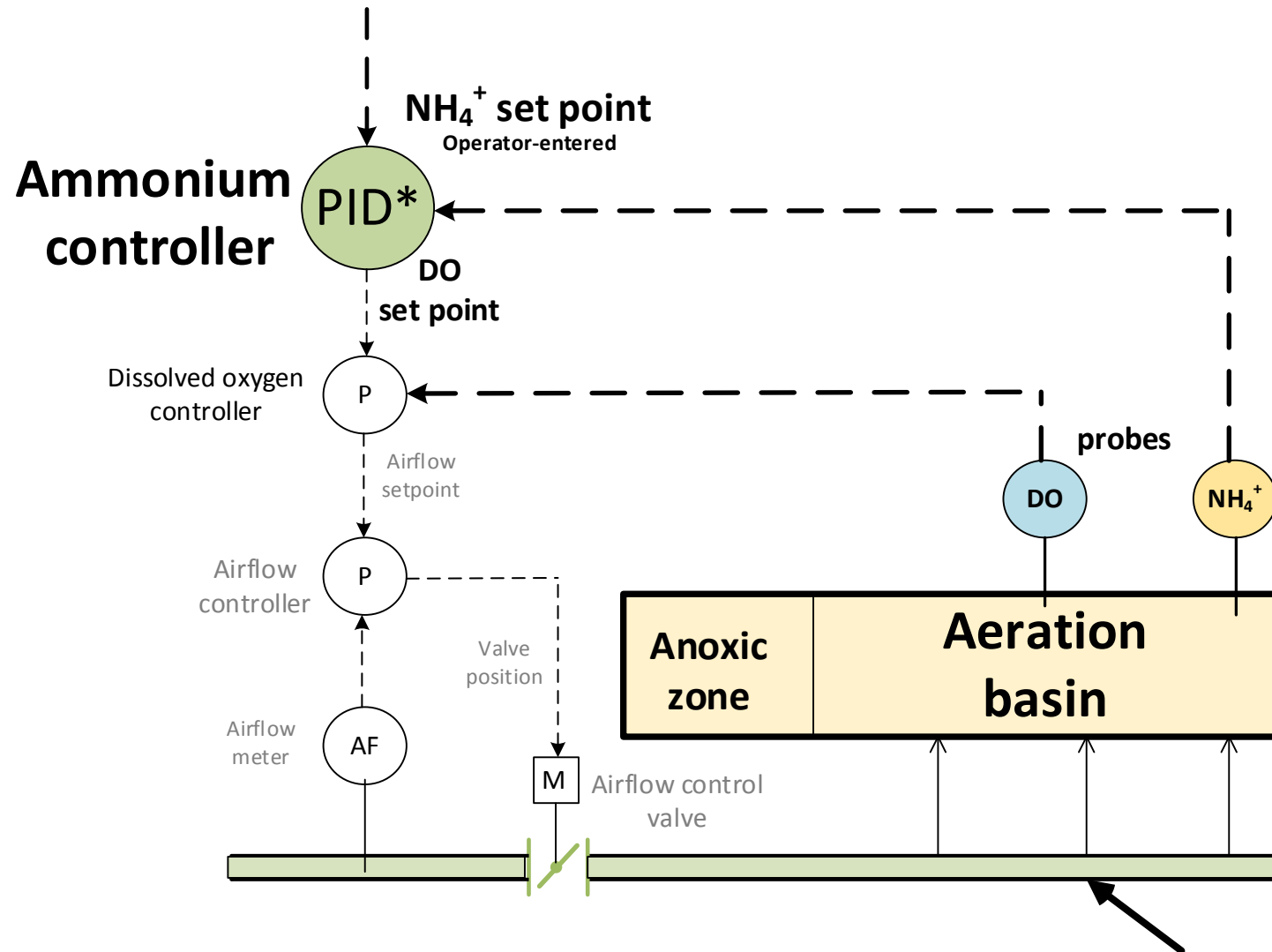
$$SARR \cdot \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NH} + S_{NH}} \cdot \frac{S_{DO}}{K_{DO_A} + S_{DO}} \cdot X_{MLSS}$$

Specific Ammonia Removal Rate  
(mg NH<sub>4</sub> removed per g of TSS)
Mixed Liquor Suspended Solids  
(g of TSS)

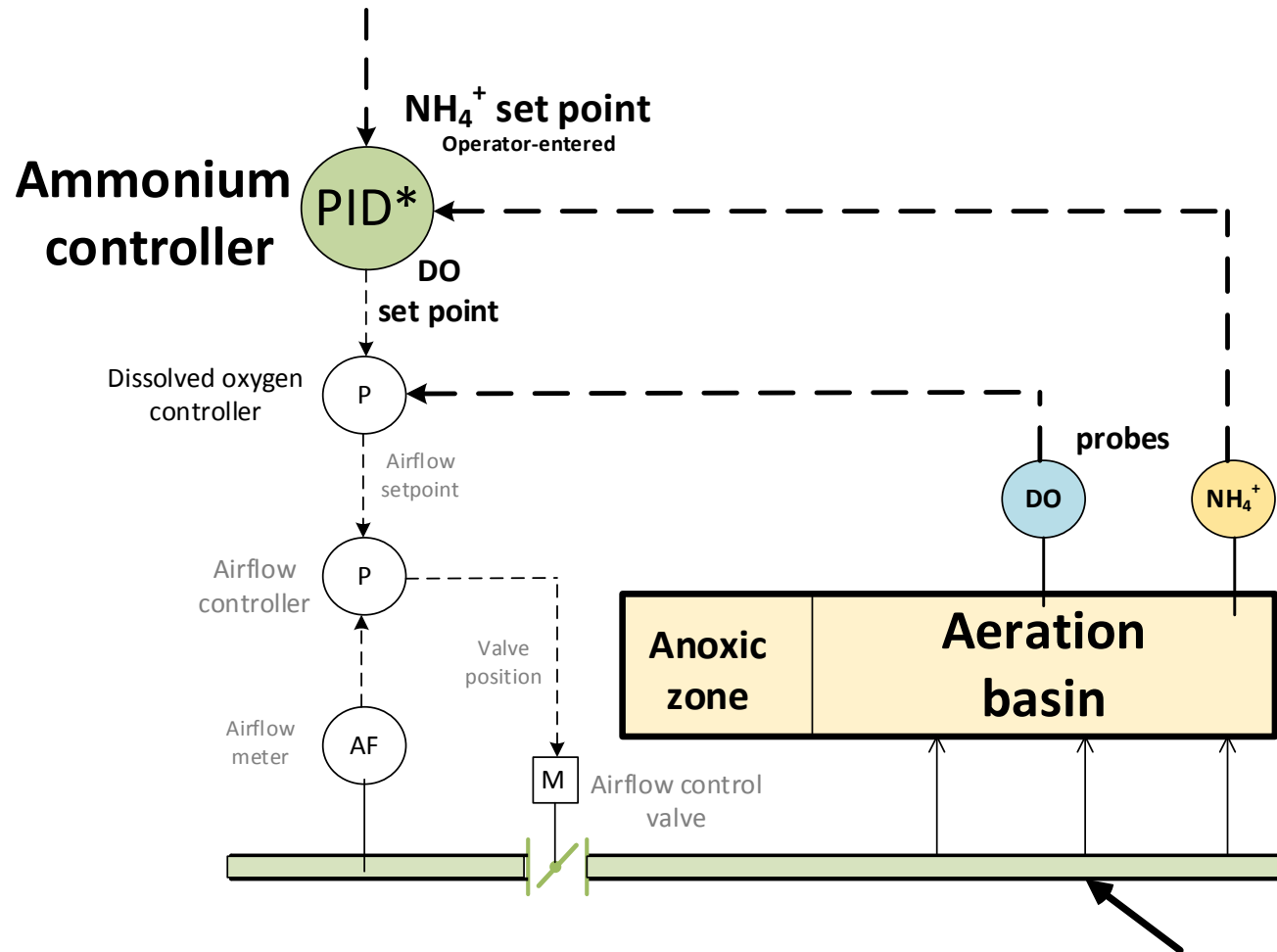
## Drawbacks

- 1) Complicated (?)
- 2) Proprietary
- 3) Needs lots of analyzers/probes

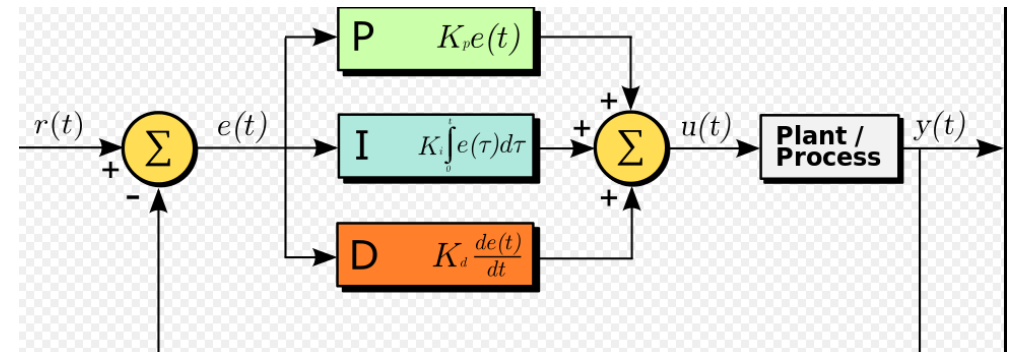
# Feedback (PID) ABAC – South Secondary



# Feedback ABAC (PID) – South Secondary



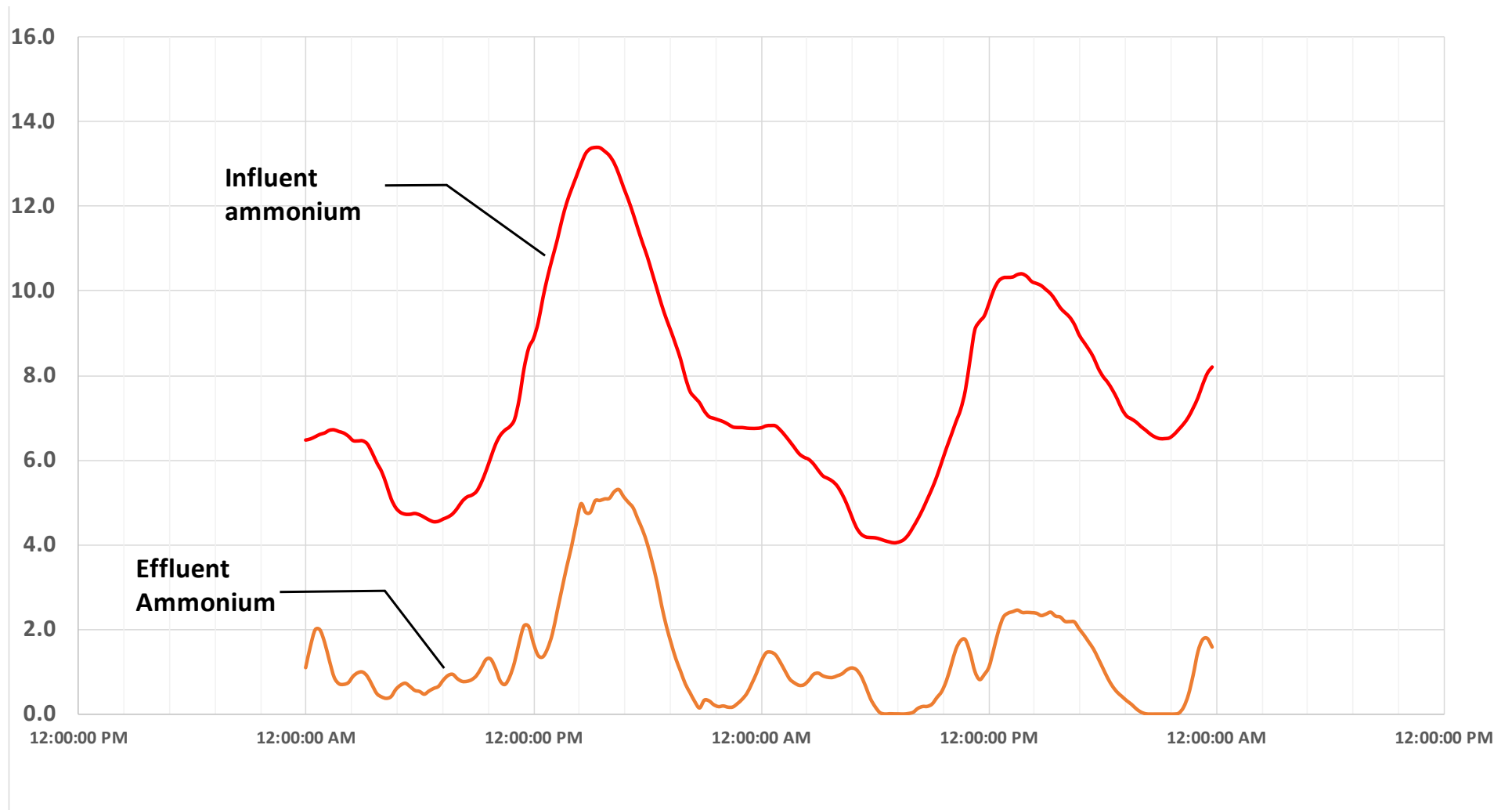
$$u(t) = K_p e(t) + K_i \int_0^t e(t') dt' + K_d \frac{de(t)}{dt}$$



## Drawbacks

- 1) Complicated (?)
- 2) Reactive/time lag
- 3) Oscillations
- 4) Seasonal adjustments

# MWRD Denver - Ammonia Loading Profile



# Testing of Feedback ABAC

## Pilot-testing two feedback systems

- 1) *Direct ABAC*
- 2) *Cascade ABAC*



# Goals for PID ABAC Demonstration Test

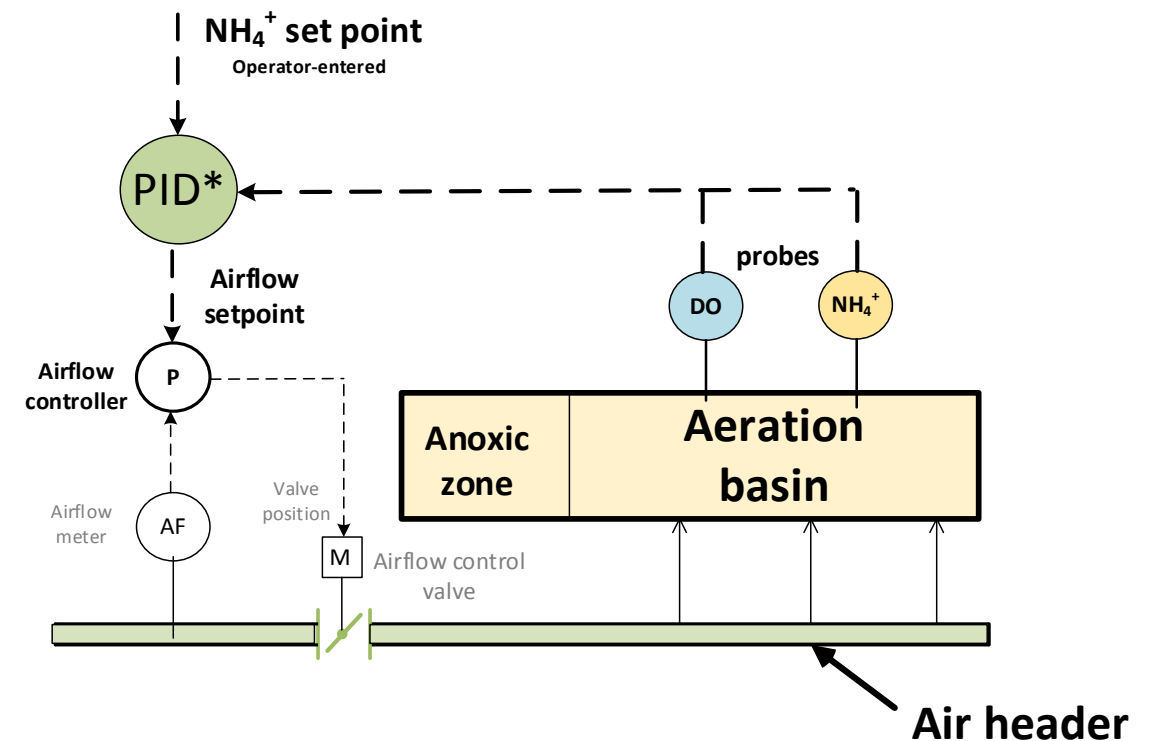
- Implementable by District staff
- No reduction in nitrogen removal efficiency (at as good as DO control)
- Reduce power consumption

# Feedback (Direct) ABAC

$\text{NH}_4$  set point → DO set point → Airflow set point → Valve Position

## Features:

- Simple – control airflow directly from ammonia measurement
- Has been applied successfully at a number of facilities.
- Limits on DO and airflow can be applied in the logic.
- Improved energy efficiency over DO control

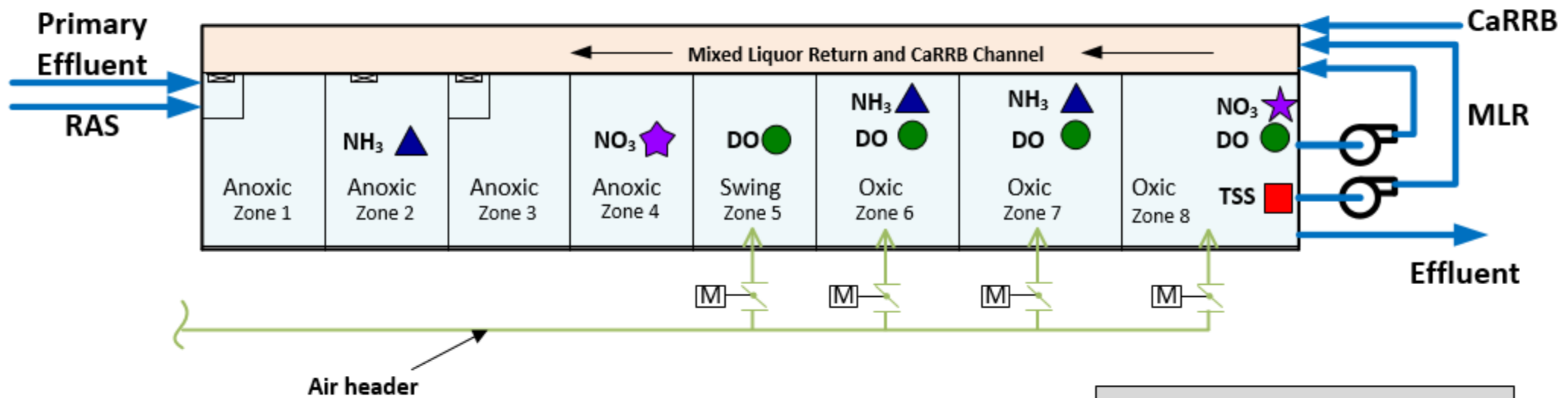


\*Proportional integral derivative

# Direct ABAC Instrumentation

## South Secondary

6 Parallel Basins – Modified Ludzack Ettinger process



Two duplicate basins in parallel, one test basin and one control

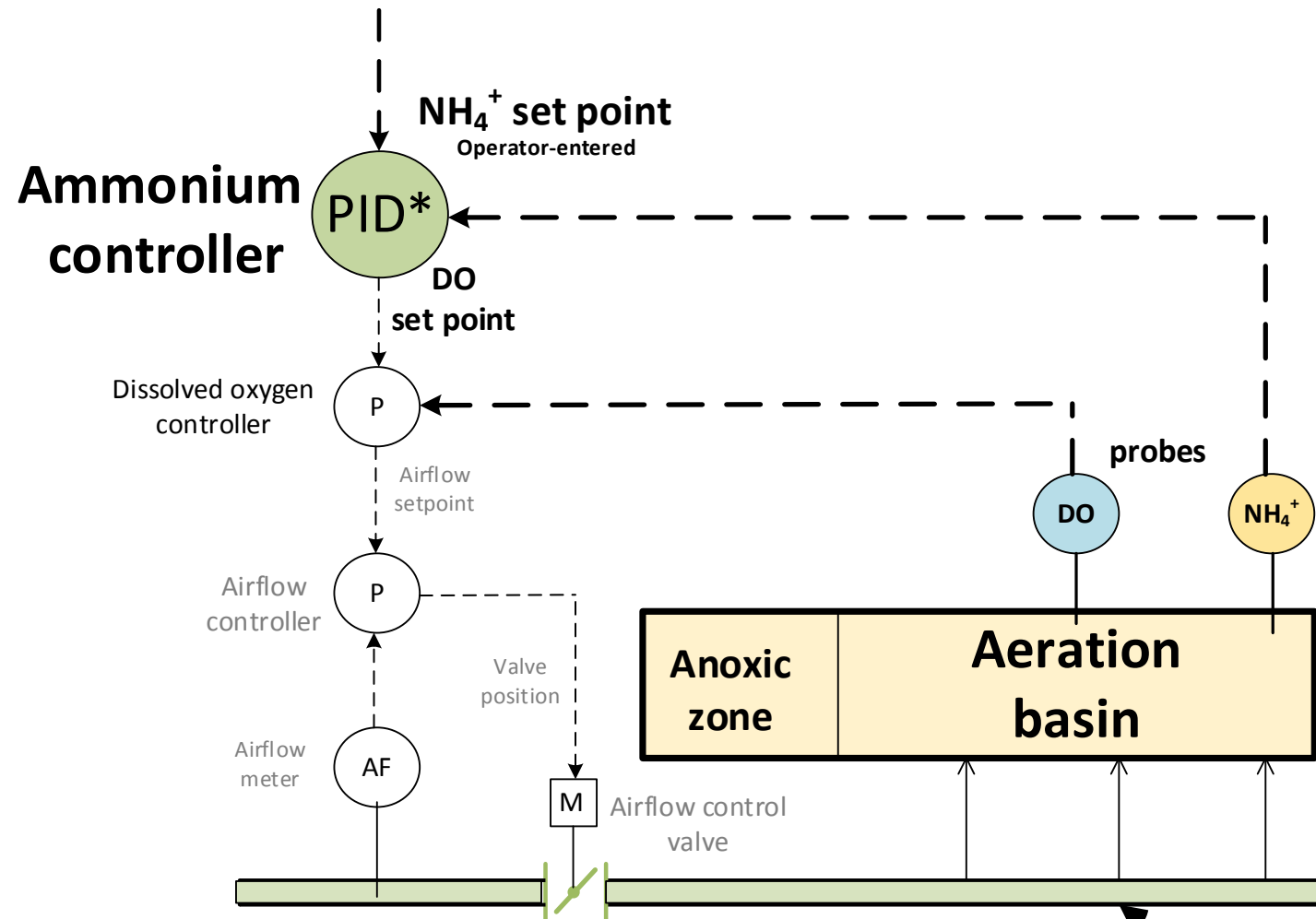
Analyzers			
▲	NH <sub>3</sub>	★	NO <sub>3</sub>
●	DO	■	TSS

# Results from Direct Control

- Testing period – 3 months
- Average 10% decrease in airflow compared with DO control
- Too much oscillation/instability – DO would vary too rapidly
  - Rise and fall to undesirable levels
  - Control valves moving frequently
  - Preferred to have slower ammonia control manipulate the set point of the faster DO control (cascade control)
    - Simplifies control system tuning
  - No fail safe condition if the controller or analyzer fails – difficult to establish

# Feedback (Cascade) ABAC – South Secondary

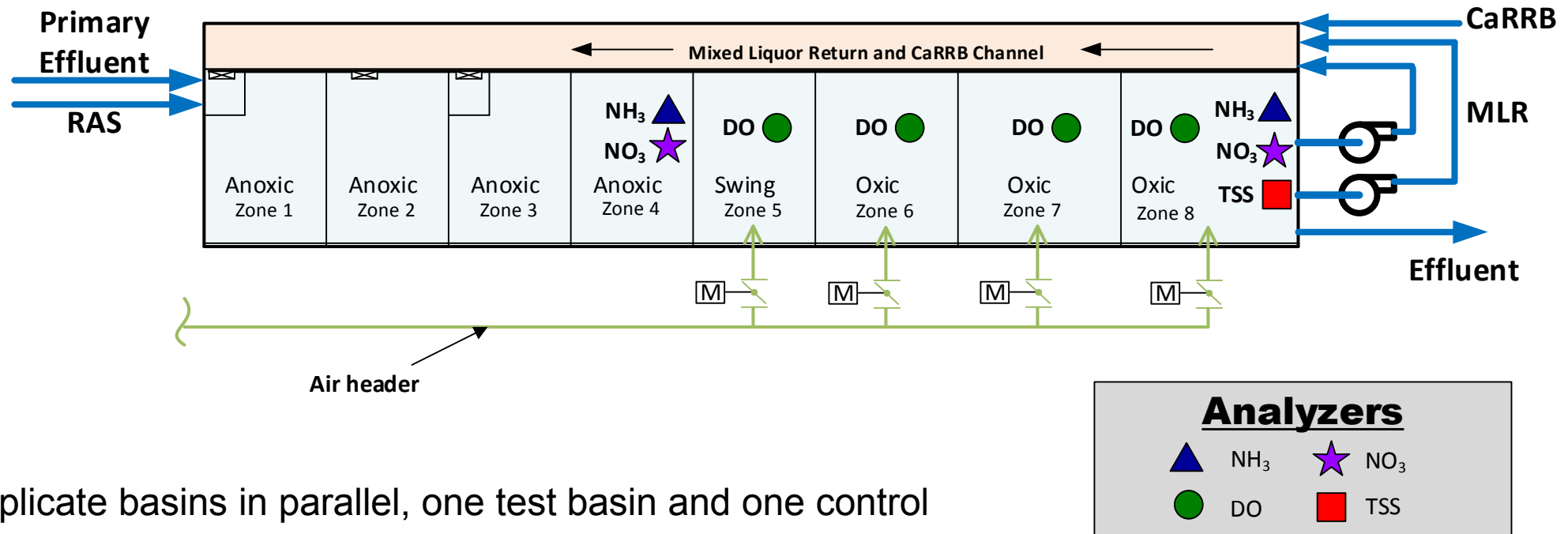
**NH<sub>4</sub> set point** → **DO set point** → **Airflow set point** → **Valve Position**



# Cascade ABAC Instrumentation

## *South Secondary*

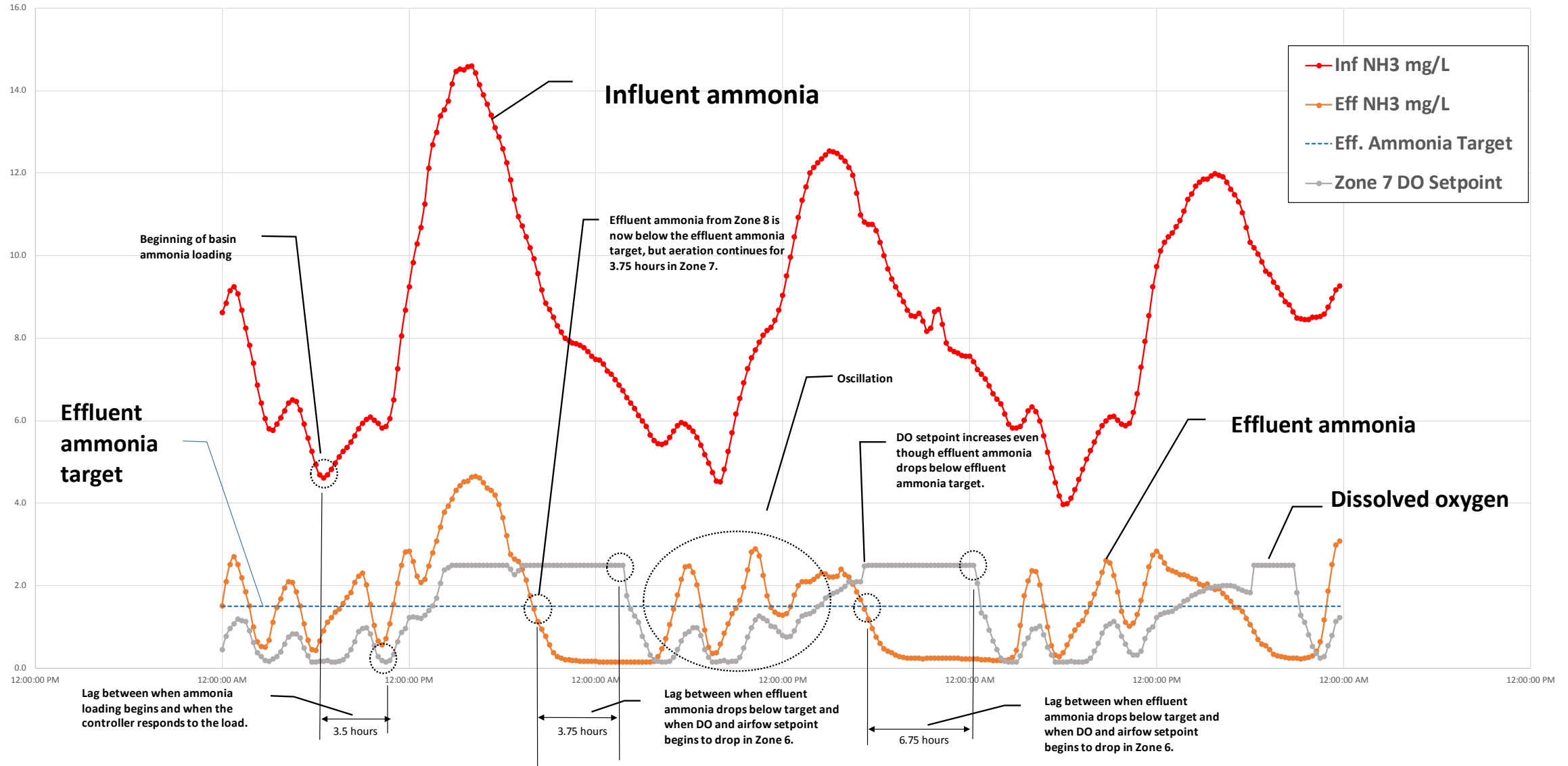
6 Parallel Basins – Modified Ludzack Ettinger process



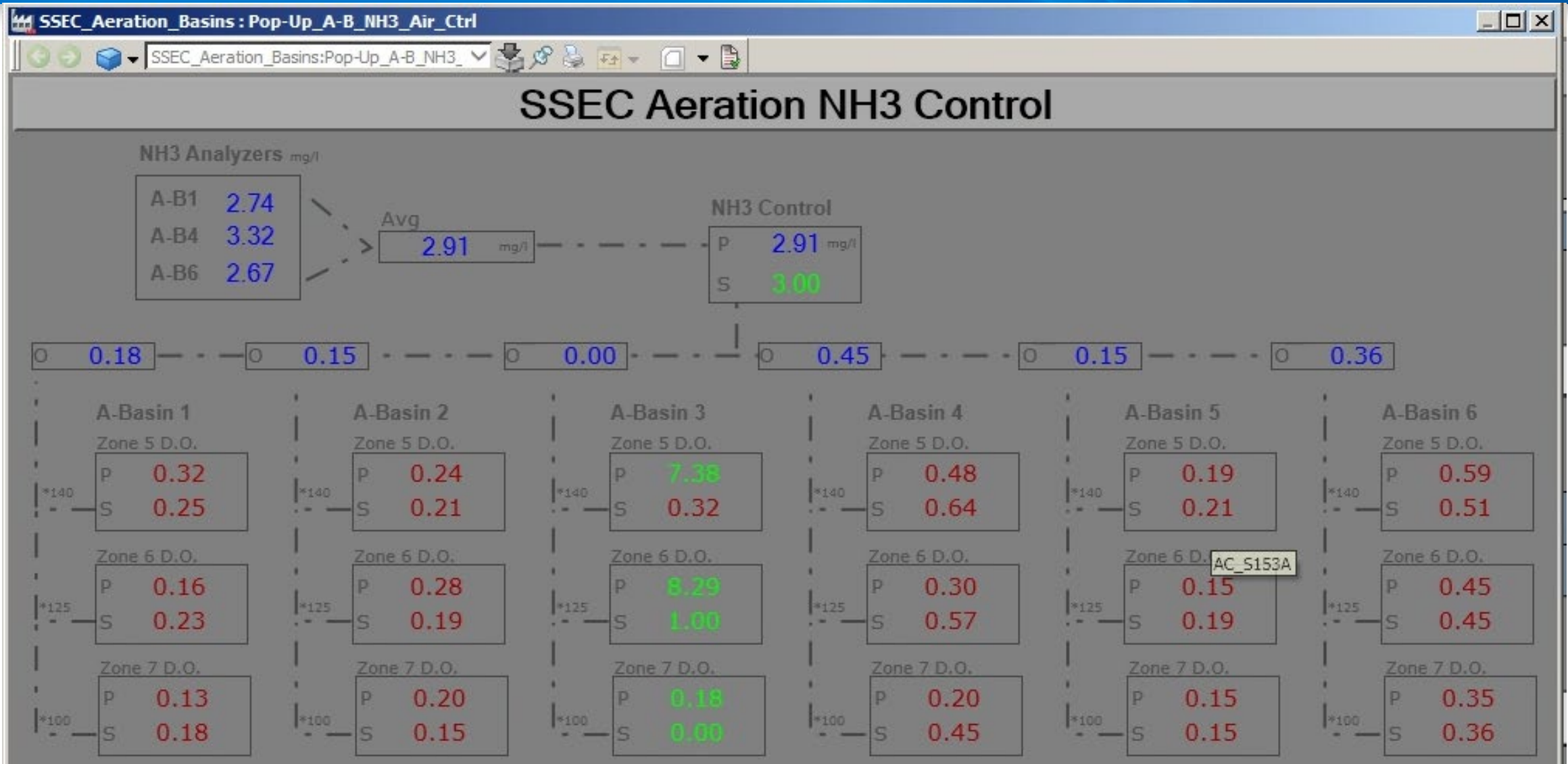
Two duplicate basins in parallel, one test basin and one control

# Findings - Feedback Cascade ABAC

SSEC Controller Performance  
Basin 6, Zone 7  
Sunday, Feb 17 & Monday, Feb. 18, 2019  
50:50 flow split between NSEC & SSEC



# SCADA Control Panel





# Compare: Direct versus Cascade Feedback Control

OK

- Direct Control - too much oscillation/instability – DO would vary rapidly
  - Rise and fall to undesirable levels; control valves moving frequently

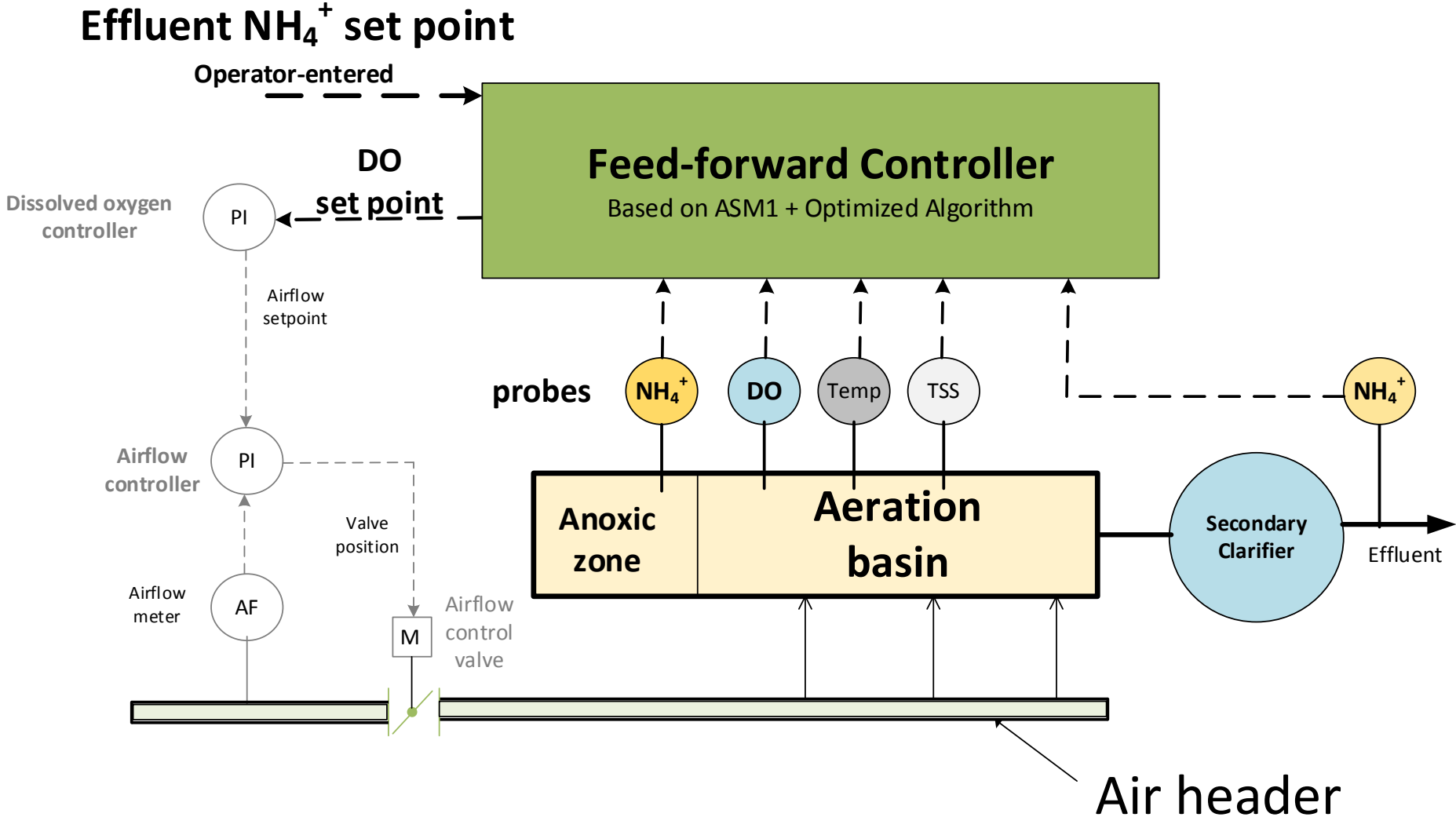
Better

- Cascade control – NH<sub>3</sub> concentration dictates DO set point, keeping DO concentration from varying rapidly
  - This simplifies PID control system tuning
- DO controller is the fail safe for an cascade feedback failure;
  - Fail safe system for a direct controller is more difficult to develop.

# Effective use of the feedback cascade controller

- Need more steady-state conditions for PID controller
- Need to activate extra aerated volume (i.e. swing zone) when peak load is anticipated
  - Might use additional ammonia probe or program swing zone activation for a specific time of the day
- Tuning to minimize windup and oscillation
- ISE probe can be unstable at low NH<sub>3</sub> concentrations
  - Colorimetric NH<sub>3</sub> analyzer may not sample frequently enough
- Periodic adjustment of tuning constants (every four months?)
  - Not a “smart” controller; requires intensive and frequent(?) tuning

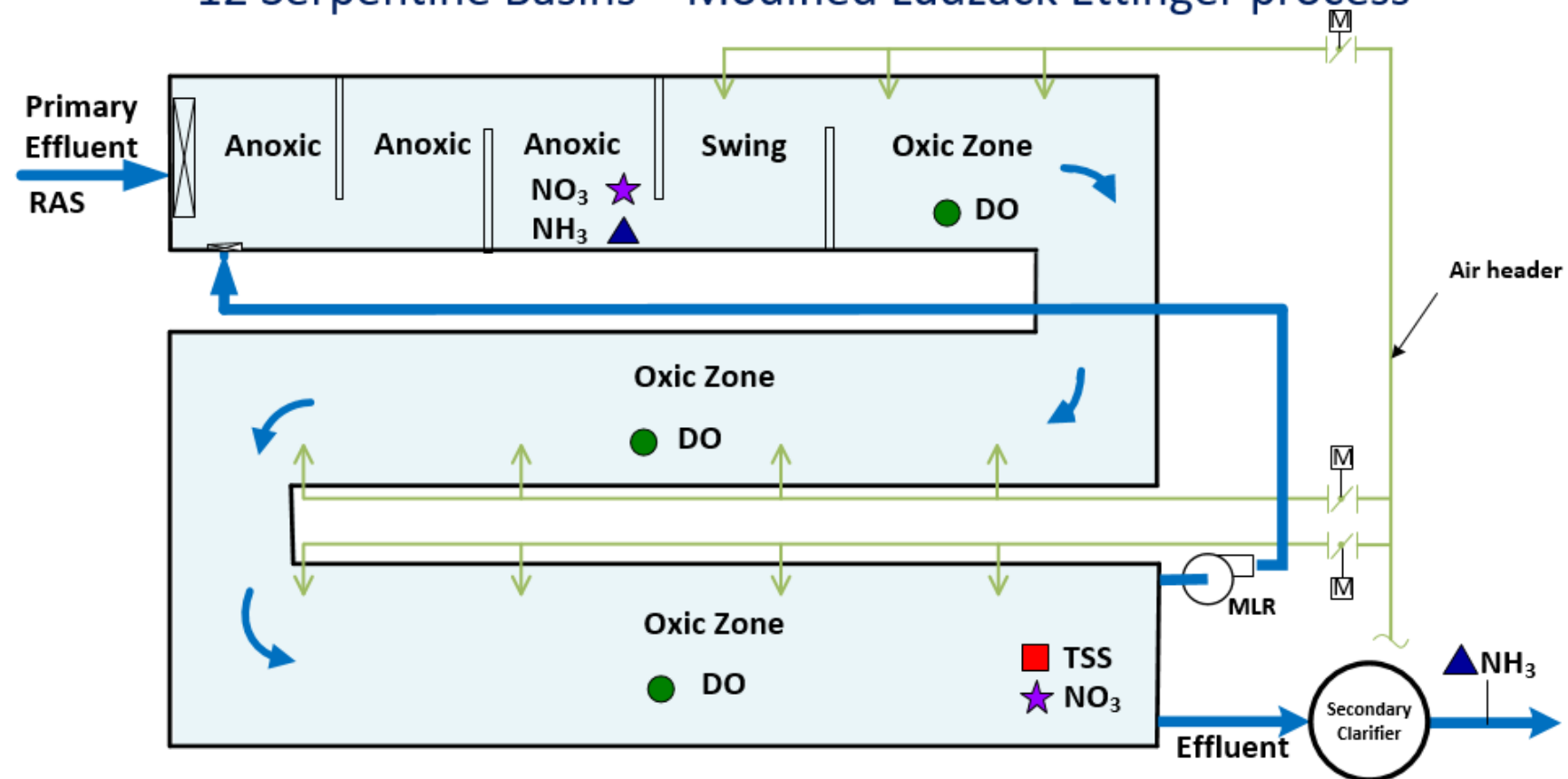
# Feed-forward ABAC (BIOS™) – North Secondary



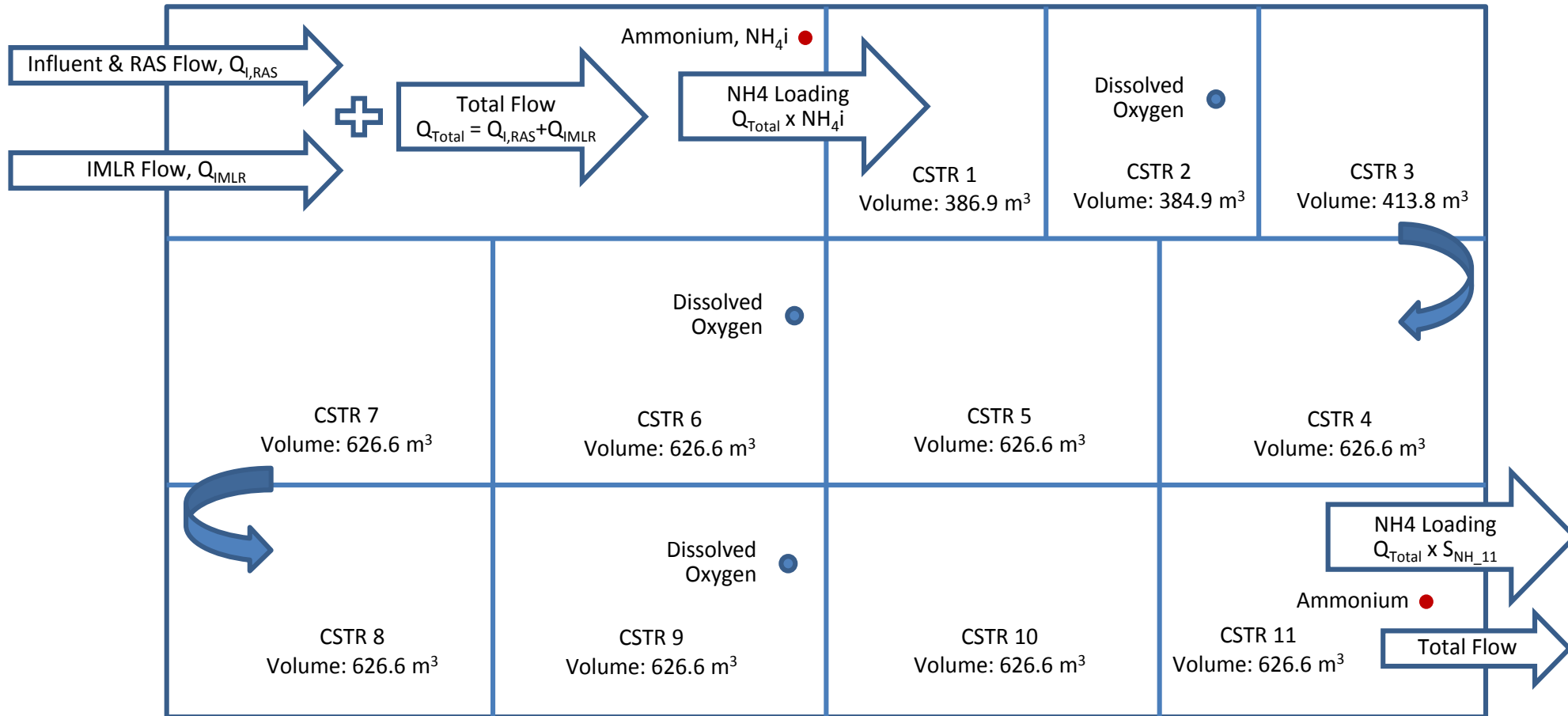
# Feed-forward ABAC Instrumentation

## North Secondary

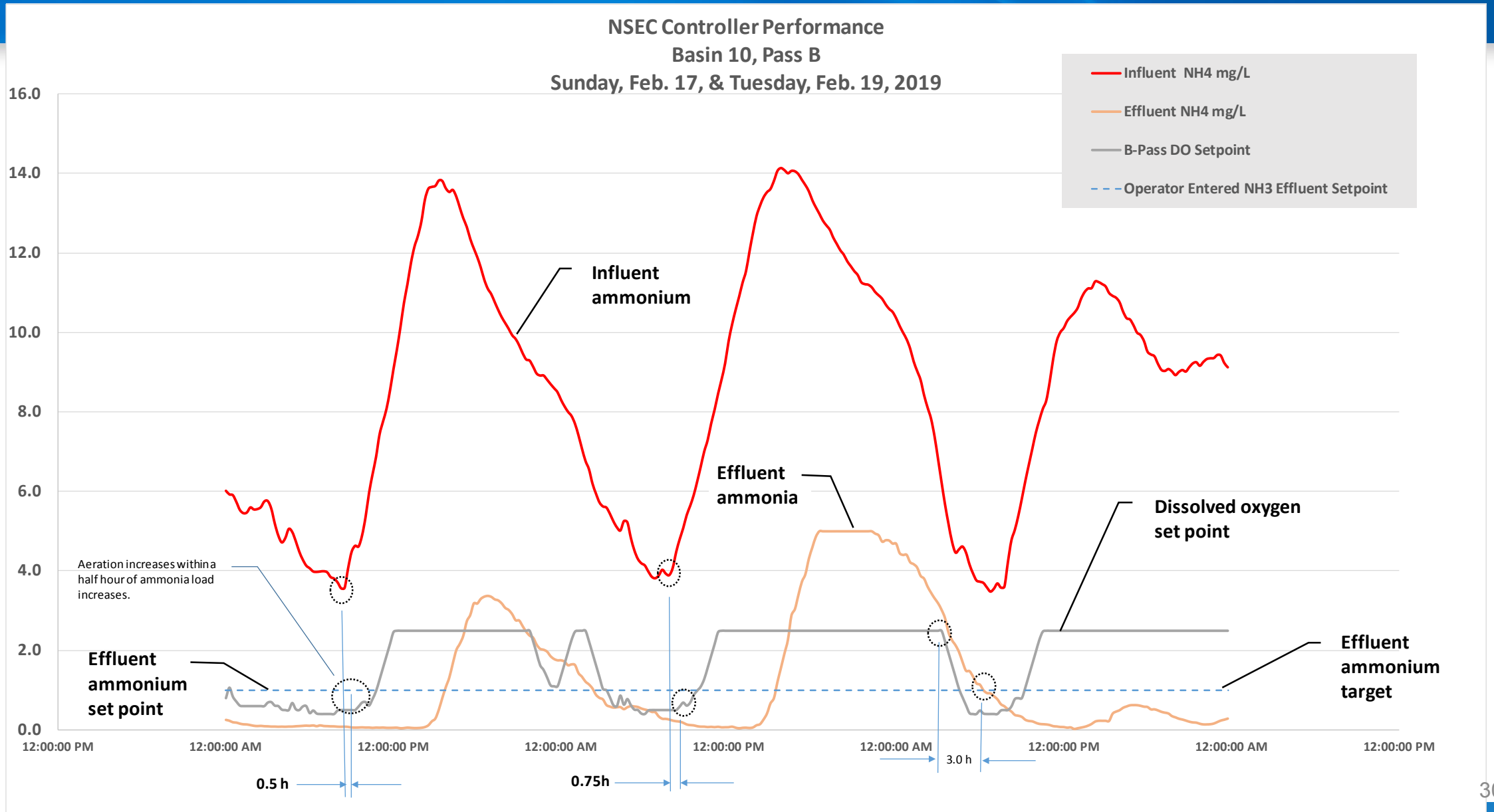
12 Serpentine Basins – Modified Ludzack Ettinger process



# Virtual Zone Control – DO Profiles



# Feed-Forward Control



# Features: Feed-forward Auto Tuning

- The BIOS software includes the ability to automatically update the specific ammonia removal rate – every 24 hours.
- BIOS compares the predicted effluent NH3 to the measured
  - The specific ammonia removal rate is adjusted to align these values (10%).

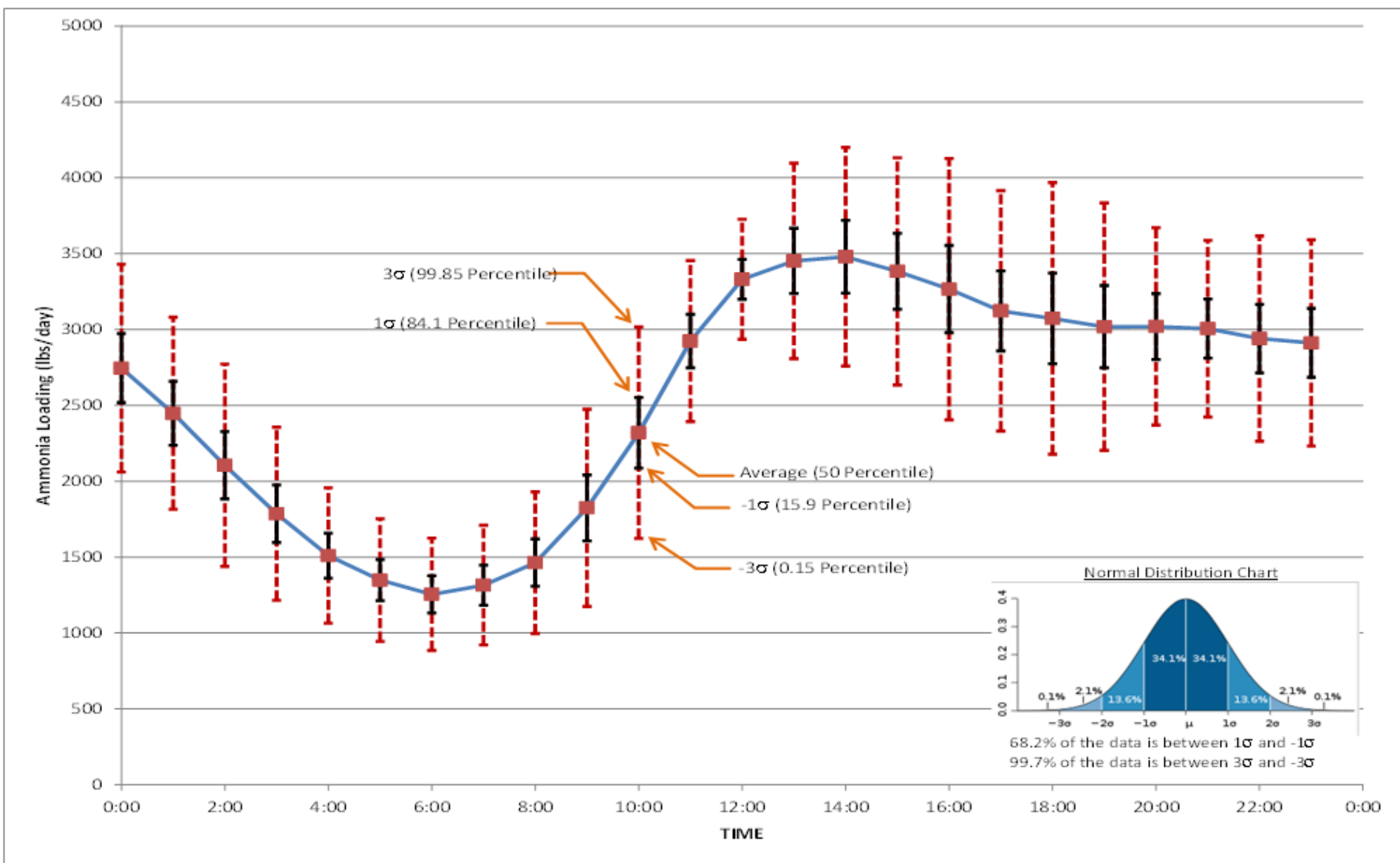
Ammonia removal rate,  $\left( \frac{\frac{mg}{L} NH_3}{hr * g_{MLSS}} \right) =$

$$SARR \cdot \frac{S_{NH}}{K_{NH} + S_{NH}} \cdot \frac{S_{DO}}{K_{DOA} + S_{DO}} \cdot X_{MLSS}$$

Specific Ammonia Removal Rate  
(mg NH4 removed per g of TSS)

Mixed Liquor Suspended Solids  
(g of TSS)

# Features: Analyzer Fault Detection





# Final Controller Comparison

<b>Feature</b>	<b><i>Feedback</i></b>	<b><i>Feed-forward</i></b>
<b>Transport lag</b>	Can be significant	Minimal
<b>Oscillation</b>	Can be significant	Acceptable level
<b>Proprietary software</b>	No	Yes
<b>Instrumentation</b>	Two analyzers	Five analyzers
<b>Tuning</b>	Recommended periodically	Self-tuning
<b>Failsafe</b>	DO controller	Archived NH3 load data
<b>DO prediction accuracy</b>	Acceptable	Acceptable

# Aeration Control at MWRD – Going Forward

- Both systems are saving money (10% - 20% over DO control alone)
- Ammonia control not always superior to DO control
- Future upgrade – which controller will we settle on?
  - MWRD diurnal peaks are probably too large for PID control;
    - Too much lag time
    - Instability (oscillation) equals system inefficiency
  - Feed-forward: no lag, no oscillation, self-tuning capability
    - No of required analyzers for feed-forward was not a drawback
- Future Upgrades the NSEC
  - Probably standardize on the feed-forward system
  - Maybe look at integrated package that include blower controls
  - Design whole aeration system in conjunction with the control system

# Thank you



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Denver, Colorado**

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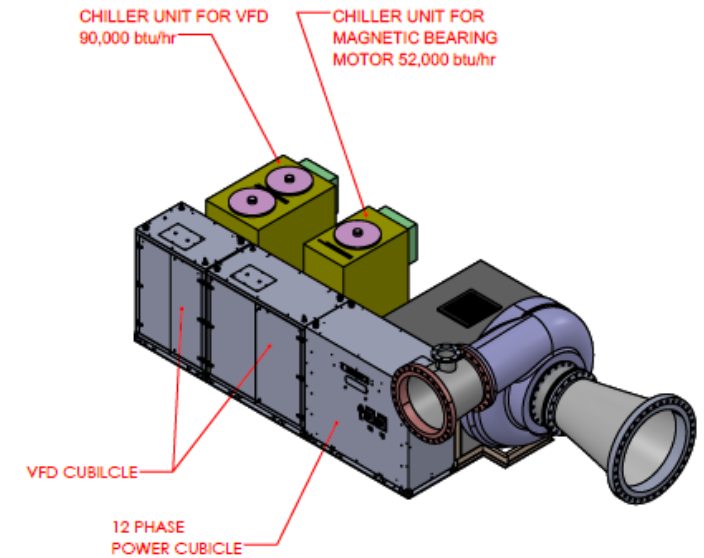
# Direct-Drive Turbo Blower Demonstration

- Blower manufactured by APG-Neuros
- Largest direct-drive turbo blower available on the market
  - 1 MW (1,340 HP), 23,000 scfm
- First full-scale demonstration of this blower
- Frictionless shaft rotation with magnetic bearing system



1MW permanent magnet synchronous motor

1MW VFD and power panel assembly



# Typical Aeration Tank at Stickney

