AWT: ELECTROCHEMICAL FOR COOLING TOWERS

#### **OPPORTUNITY**

How much water do cooling towers use?



## OF WATER IN COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

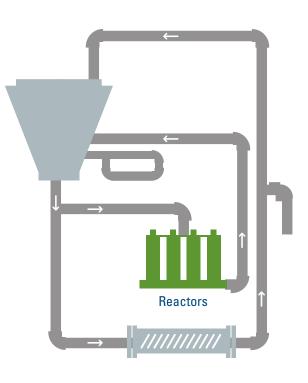
IS USED BY COOLING TOWERS OR OTHER HEATING AND COOLING SYSTEMS<sup>1</sup>

### TECHNOLOGY

How does electrochemical water treatment work?

## ELECTROLYSIS SEQUESTERS SCALE IN REACTOR TUBES

AND CREATES CHLORINE, A NATURAL BIOCIDE



#### M&V

Where did Measurement and Verification occur?

**NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY** (NREL) assessed an alternative water treatment (AWT) system provided by Dynamic Water Technology for two 150-ton cooling towers in Savannah, Georgia.

### RESULTS

How did electrochemical water treatment perform in M&V?

**32%** WATER SAVINGS

reduction in blowdown<sup>2</sup>

# **50%** MAINTENANCE REDUCTION

Small cost increase in annual O&M contract<sup>3</sup>

**100**% CHEMICAL SAVINGS

Technology generates chlorine; reduced slime<sup>4</sup> YEAR PAYBACK @ GSA avg. water/sewer

\$16.76/kgal<sup>5</sup>

2.5

### **Electrochemical Water Treatment Return-On-Investment**

Rebates for AWT systems are available through some local water utilities

	Testbed (Before)	Testbed (After)⁺	GSA Normalized (After)*
Equipment (S)	N/A	\$30,340	\$30,340
Installation (\$)	N/A	\$29,029	\$15,000
Maintenance (yr)	\$5,280	\$6,000	\$6,000
Maintenance Savings (yr)	N/A	-\$720	-\$720
Water Consumption (Gallons/yr)	3,588,156	2,454,299	2,454,299
Water Savings (Gallons/yr)	N/A	1,133,857	1,133,857
Water Savings (\$/yr)	N/A	\$7,529	\$19,003
Simple Payback (yrs)		8.7	2.5
Savings to Investment Ratio		1.7	6.0

\* Savannah testbed water/sewer \$6.64/kgal \* GSA average water/sewer \$16.76/kgal, normalized installation cost

#### DEPLOYMENT

Where does the study recommend deploying electrochemical water treatment?

# **CONSIDER FOR ALL COOLING TOWERS**

Most cost-effective in areas with high water costs or where water is excessively hard, has high pH values and/or large amounts of total dissolved solids

<sup>1</sup>Electrolysis Water Treatment for Cooling Towers, Gregg Tomberlin, Jesse Dean, Jimmy Salasovich (NREL), December 2018, p.9 <sup>2</sup>Ibid, p.21 <sup>3</sup>Ibid, p.23 <sup>4</sup>Ibid, p.24 <sup>5</sup>Ibid, p.26



The GPG program enables GSA to make sound investment decisions in next-generation building technologies based on their real-world performance. **www.gsa.gov/gpg**