

Ozone Pretreatment in High Pressure Membranes

Conner C. Murray, Hooman Vatankhah, Chris L. Bellona Civil and Environmental Engineering, Colorado School of Mines, Golden CO Conner Murray Undergrad Environmental Engineering ccmurray@ncsu.edu

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Background:

- Potable water reuse is becoming an important component of water resource management.
- Current approach involves microfiltration (MF) followed by nanofiltration or reverse osmosis and utilities have included pre-ozonation to reduce fouling of membrane components.
- Ozone may breakdown organic compounds to the extent that limits the effectiveness of membrane filtration.

Experimental Overview:

- Raw and Ozonated Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) Effluent
- Water Quality Characterization
 - Total Organic Carbon (TOC), 3D-Flourescene
 - Ultraviolent Absorbance
- High Pressure Membrane Filtration
 - Nanofiltration, Reverse Osmosis



Results and Conclusions:

- Ozone testing shows a significant transformation of organic compounds after the introduction of ozone as a pre-filtration disinfectant.
- Total organic carbon and UV_{254} absorbance exhibited a sharp decline after membrane treatment while decreasing at a lower degree through nanofiltration and reverse osmosis with the addition of ozone.
- While ozone is a reliable oxidant, the applied ozone dose and use of NF filtration downstream were not able to meet some states' potable reuse standards.

Future Work:

- Examining the impact of ozone pretreatment on the fouling potential of high pressure membrane systems.
- Introducing an ozone retention system into a pilot scale treatment train with biologically active filtration followed by granular activated carbon to meet potable water quality standard.

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SEM Image NF Membrane



