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# *WWTP Sustainable Design Opportunities*

## *A Case Study in Dubuque, Iowa*

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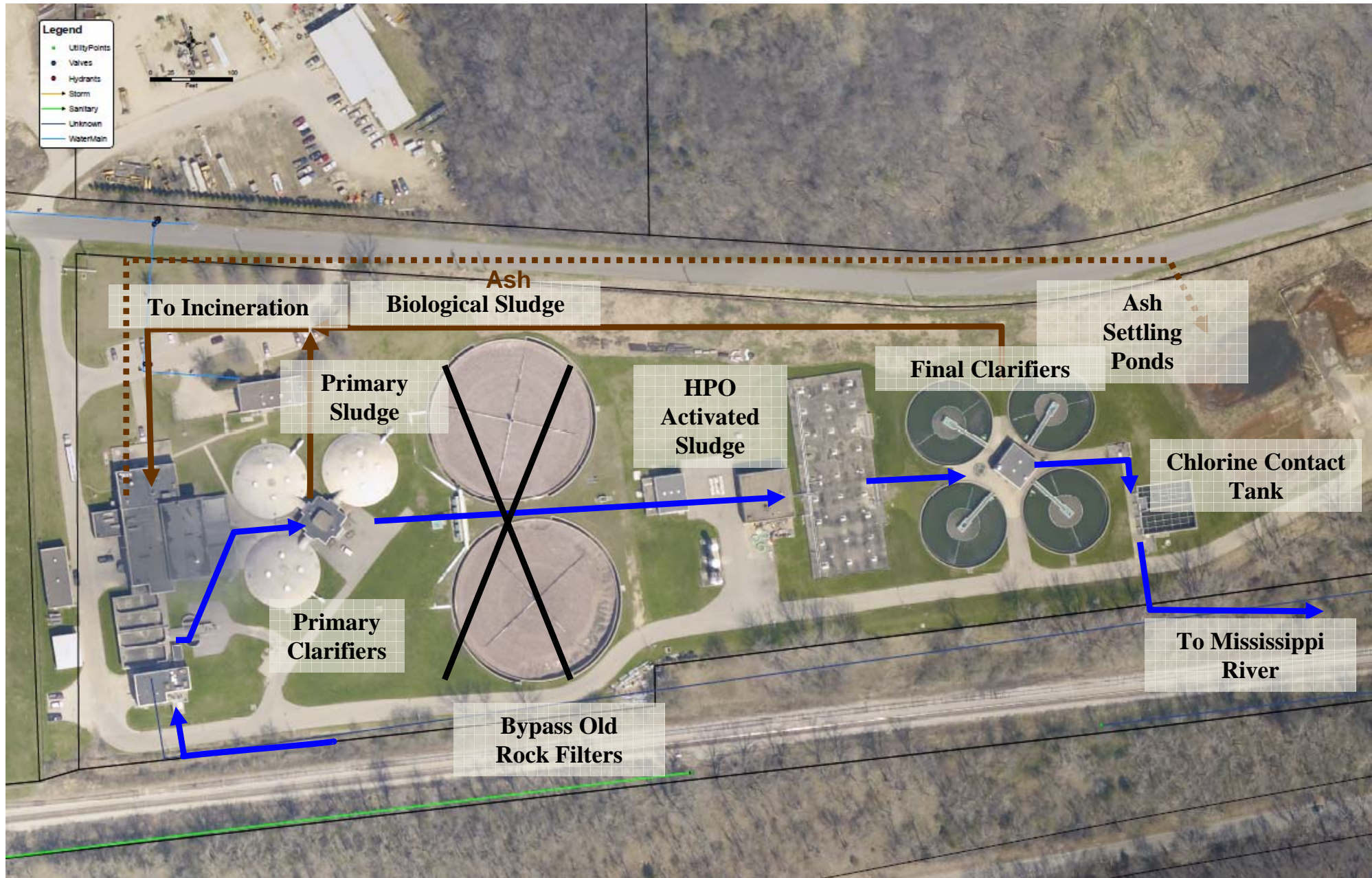
**Randall A. Wirtz, Ph.D.,  
P.E.  
Strand Associates, Inc.**



# **Presentation Outline**

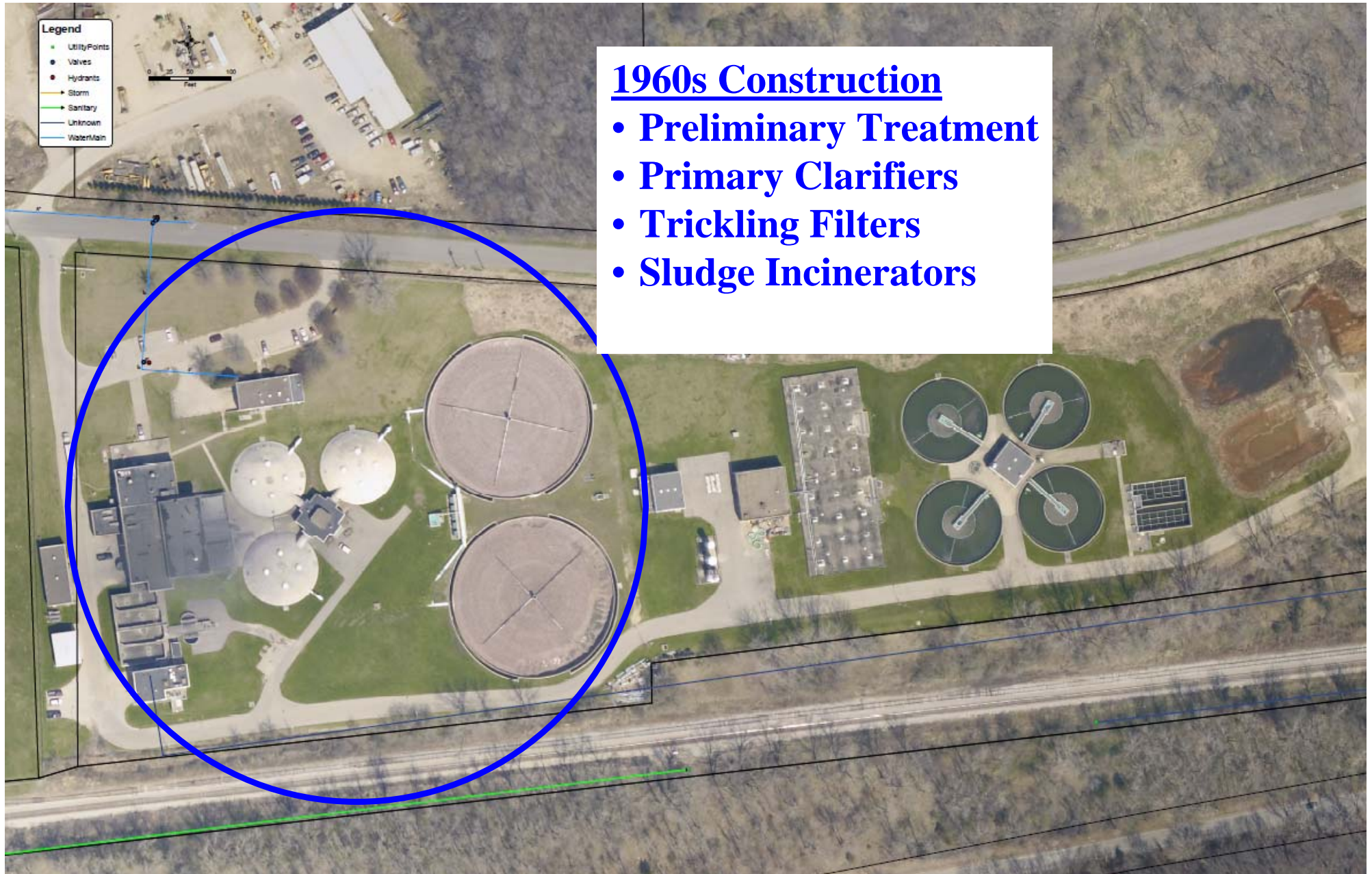
- **Background & History**
- **Project Drivers**
- **Major Project Elements**
- **Sustainability Drivers in Dubuque**
- **Sustainable Project Elements**

# Overview of the Water Pollution Control Plant





# History of the Water Pollution Control Plant

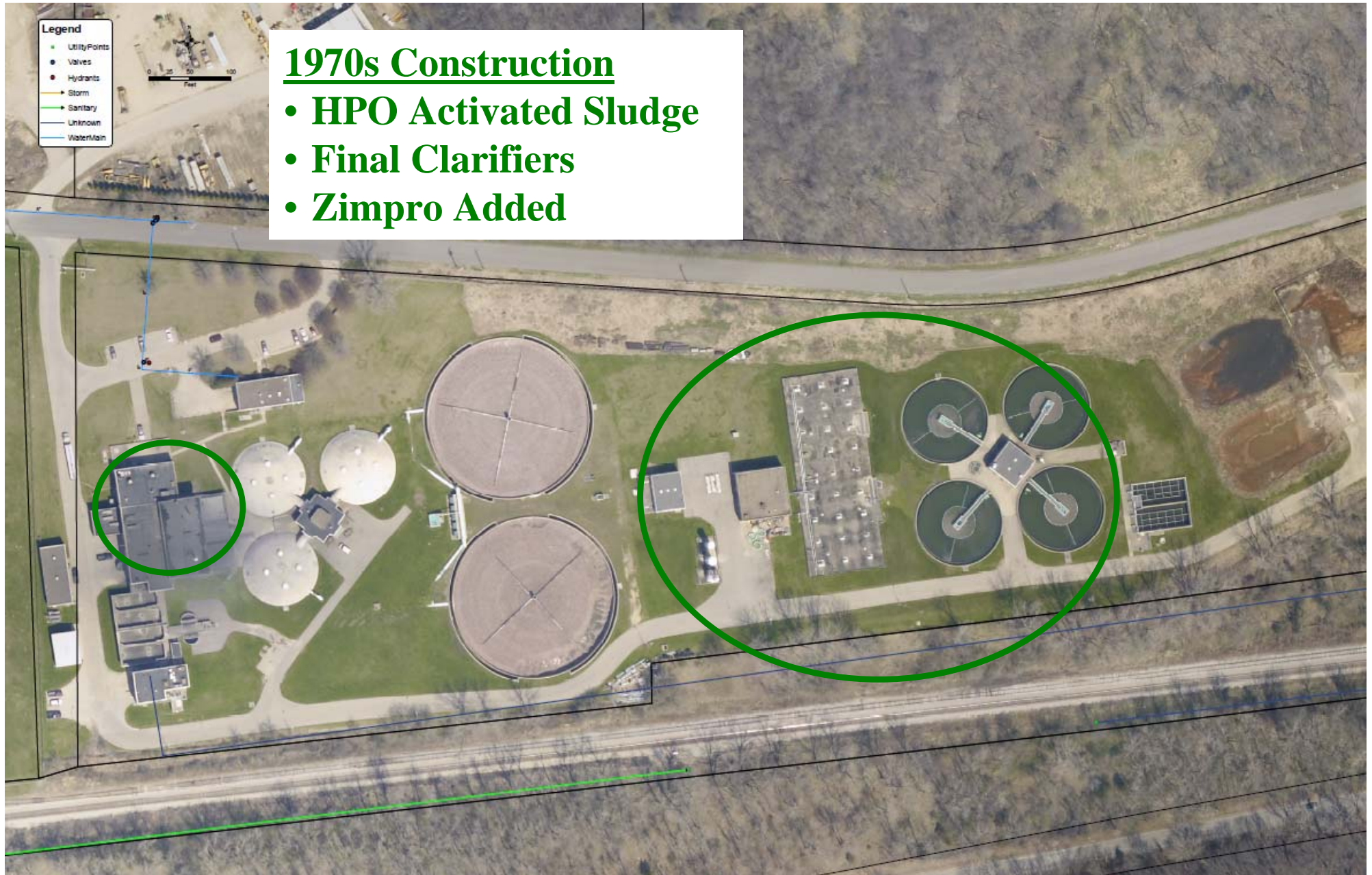




# History of the Water Pollution Control Plant

## 1970s Construction

- HPO Activated Sludge
- Final Clarifiers
- Zimpro Added

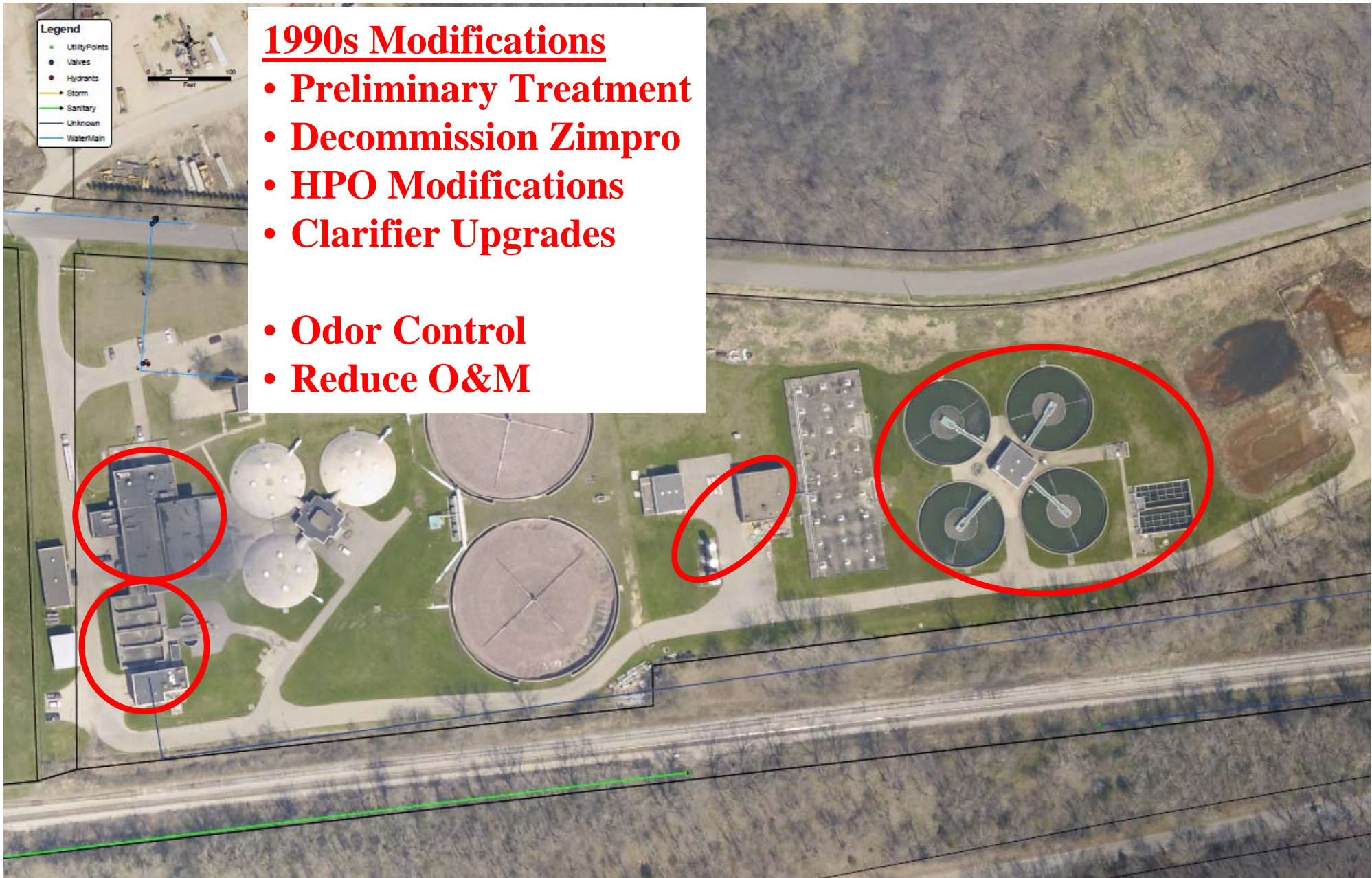




# History of the Water Pollution Control Plant

## 1990s Modifications

- Preliminary Treatment
- Decommission Zimpro
- HPO Modifications
- Clarifier Upgrades
- Odor Control
- Reduce O&M



# **Project Drivers - Concerns & Issues**

- 1. Plant Age**
- 2. Performance**
- 3. Capacity/City Growth**
- 4. Regulatory Changes**

# Project Drivers – Plant Age

- Systems and equipment 30-40 years old
- Reduced efficiencies; high maintenance
- Especially critical for incinerators





# Dubuque WPCP Upgrade Project

- 1. Planning started in 2007**
- 2. Facilities Plan approved December 2008**
- 3. Design complete March 2010**
- 4. Bid date May 20, 2010**
- 5. Bid Amount: \$50 million**
- 6. Construction Completion: 2013**

# Major Project Elements





# Sustainability Drivers



**2006 program to establish Dubuque as a “Sustainable City”**



**2009 announcement to make Dubuque one of the first “smarter cities”**



**Energy Star rating for buildings, lighting, HVAC; possibly entire project/plant**

# Sustainable Dubuque



## 11 Sustainable Principles

- Regional Economy
- Smart Energy Use
- Resource Management
- Community Design
- Green Buildings
- Healthy Local Food
- Community Knowledge
- Reasonable Mobility
- Healthy Air
- Clean Water
- Native Plants & Animals





## Smart City

- “Dubuque will be a living lab...to develop an international smarter sustainable city model and a set of reusable assets...”
  - Transit & Transportation
  - Energy
  - Housing & Urban Development
  - Social Engagement - Public Awareness
  - Health & Wellness
  - Parking - Transit optimization



## **Smart City**

- **Enhance the city's and citizens' understanding of energy consumption and water management**
- **Reduce costs and overall carbon footprint**
- **Implement an IBM platform for real-time integrated “sustainability monitoring”**
- **Energy management and energy use tracking within the electric grid - water system, WPCP, etc.**





# Energy Efficiency

- **Portfolio Manager for WWTPs**
  - Benchmark against other WWTPs
- **Specific Incentives for Energy Efficiency Improvements and Elements**

# **Sustainable Project Elements**

## **Planning Phase**

- **Previous Planning in the 1980s (20 years ago):**
  - **Focused on incinerators**
  - **Air pollution was primary concern**
  - **“Protest” type opposition to incineration**



# **Sustainable Project Elements**

## **Planning Phase**

- **2007-2008 Planning:**
  - Air pollution still primary concern
  - Engaged public and interest groups
  - Discussion vs. protests
  - Two public informational meetings/workshops
  - Industrial/commercial presentation and outreach
  - City council workshops
  - Additional presentations by WPCP staff to interested groups

# **Sustainable Project Elements Planning Phase**

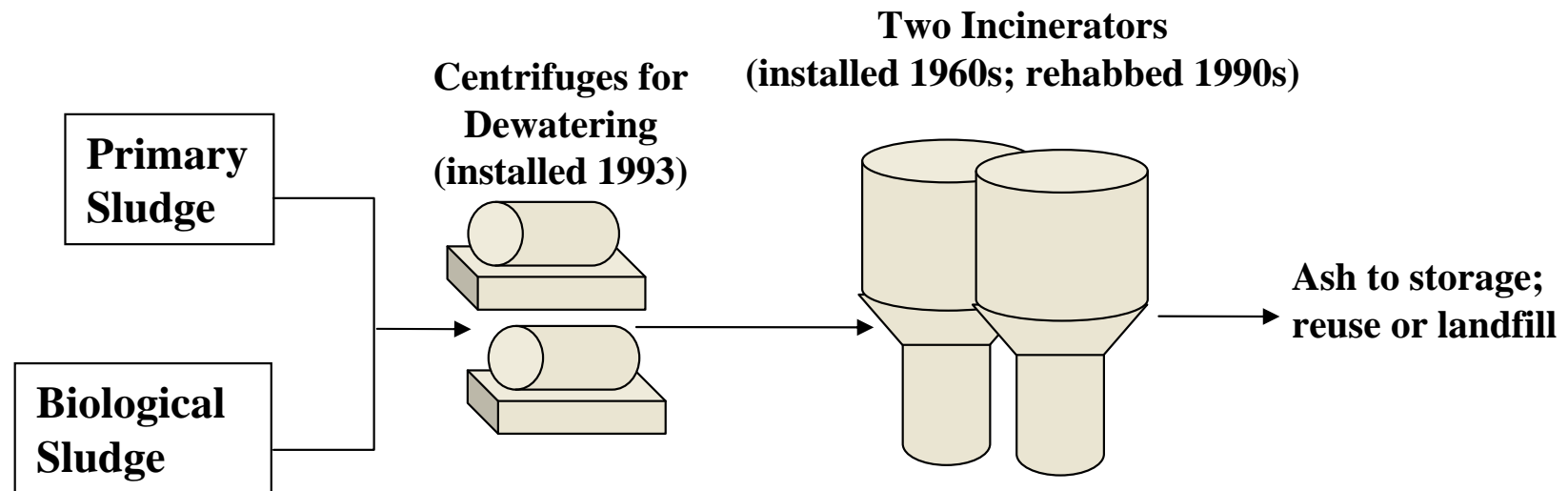
- **Residuals Management Example**



# Example

## Current Solids Management

### Sludge Incineration





# Example

## Solids Management Alternatives

**RM1 Refurbish both incinerators**

**RM2a Refurbish one incinerator; use lime system for backup**

**RM2b One new incinerator; use lime system for backup**

**RM3 Redundant lime stabilization systems; land application**

**RM4 Anaerobic digestion; land application**

**RM5 Anaerobic digestion and composting**

**RM6 Anaerobic digestion and drying; land application**

**RM7 Drying; land application**

# Example

## Capital Costs

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### Opinion of Capital Costs

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Alt. RM1	Rehab Both Inc.	\$ 26,928,000
Alt. RM2a	Rehab. 1 Inc.; Lime Backup	\$ 17,781,000
Alt. RM2b	One new Inc.; Lime Backup	\$ 33,232,000
Alt. RM3	Lime Stabilization	\$ 12,173,000
Alt. RM4	Digestion & Land App.	\$ 26,788,000
Alt. RM5	Digestion & Composting	\$ 26,788,000
Alt. RM6	Digestion, Drying, and Land App.	\$ 42,790,000
Alt. RM7	Drying and Land App.	\$ 26,306,000

# Example O&M Costs

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## Opinion of Annual O&M

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Alt. RM1	Rehab Both Inc.	\$	862,000
Alt. RM2a	Rehab. 1 Inc.; Lime Backup	\$	914,000
Alt. RM2b	One new Inc.; Lime Backup	\$	914,000
Alt. RM3	Lime Stabilization	\$	1,669,000
Alt. RM4	Digestion & Land App.	\$	754,000
Alt. RM5	Digestion & Composting	\$	790,000
Alt. RM6	Digestion, Drying, and Land App.	\$	1,062,000
Alt. RM7	Drying and Land App.	\$	1,391,000



# Example

## 20-Year Present Worth

		Opinion of Present Worth	% of Lowest (Present Worth)
Alt. RM1	Rehab Both Inc.	\$ 37,624,000	126%
Alt. RM2a	Rehab. 1 Inc.; Lime Backup	\$ 29,941,000	100%
Alt. RM2b	One new Inc.; Lime Backup	\$ 45,469,000	152%
Alt. RM3	Lime Stabilization	\$ 33,530,000	112%
Alt. RM4	Digestion & Land App.	\$ 35,601,000	119%
Alt. RM5	Digestion & Composting	\$ 36,054,000	120%
Alt. RM6	Digestion, Drying, and Land App.	\$ 55,453,000	185%
Alt. RM7	Drying and Land App.	\$ 43,838,000	146%

# **Example**

## **40-Year Present Worth Costs**

- **City wished to look beyond the typical 20-year planning window to establish direction and evaluate long-term sustainability**
- **Anaerobic digestion alternatives had lowest 40-year present worth values**

# Example

## Carbon Footprint

Category	RM1	RM2	RM3	RM4	RM5	RM6	RM7
	Incin.	Incin.	Lime	AD	AD	AD + Dry	Drying
Electricity, MWH/yr	1,614	1,614	834	686	686	1,289	603
Nat. Gas, MBTU/yr	0	0	0	0	0	24,500	45,900
Fuel Oil, gal/yr	18,300	18,300	6,000	1,280	1,280	230	430
<b>GHG Emissions, Tons of CO<sub>2e</sub>/yr</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>2,300</b>	<b>3,100</b>

### Notes:

Carbon equivalents from electrical generation = 1.37 lbs CO<sub>2</sub>/kWH.

Carbon equivalents of natural gas use = 117 lbs CO<sub>2</sub>/MBTU.

Carbon equivalents of fuel oil use = 22.29 lbs CO<sub>2</sub>/gallon.

*Source: EPA Climate Change Website*



# **Example**

## **Sludge Processing Direction**

- **Anaerobic Digestion Selected**
  - **Lowest annual O&M cost**
  - **Lowest energy use**
  - **Potential for energy generation**
  - **Reasonable 20-year present worth cost**
  - **Lowest 40-year (and beyond) present worth**
  - **Most “Sustainable” solution**



# **Sustainable Project Elements**

## **Anaerobic Digestion**

- **High-strength industrial wastes/FOG wastes**
  - **Digestion facilities are designed to accommodate**
  - **Receiving station included**
  
- **Food residuals (commercial, institutional)**
  - **Preliminary design complete**

# **Sustainable Project Elements**

## **Renewable Energy**

- **Thorough evaluation of renewable energy opportunities:**
  - Solar
  - Wind
  - Geothermal
  - **Effluent heat recovery**
  - **Biogas**
  - Food residuals
  - Micro Hydropower
- **Include effluent heat recovery and biogas reuse; plan for others**



# Sustainable Project Elements

## Cogeneration

<b>Biogas Production at Design Conditions</b>	<b>260,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/day</b>
<b>Total Energy Content of Biogas</b>	<b>156 MMBTU/day</b>
<b>Electrical Generation Potential (kW)</b> <b>(kWH/day)</b>	<b>400</b> <b>9,600</b>
<b>Net Electrical Generation Value @ \$0.08/kWH</b>	<b>\$768/day</b> <b>\$280,000/yr</b>
<b>GHG Emission Reduction Credit</b> <i>(Biogas used to generate electricity)</i>	<b>4,800,000 lbs CO<sub>2</sub>/yr**</b> <b>~ 2,400 tons/yr</b>

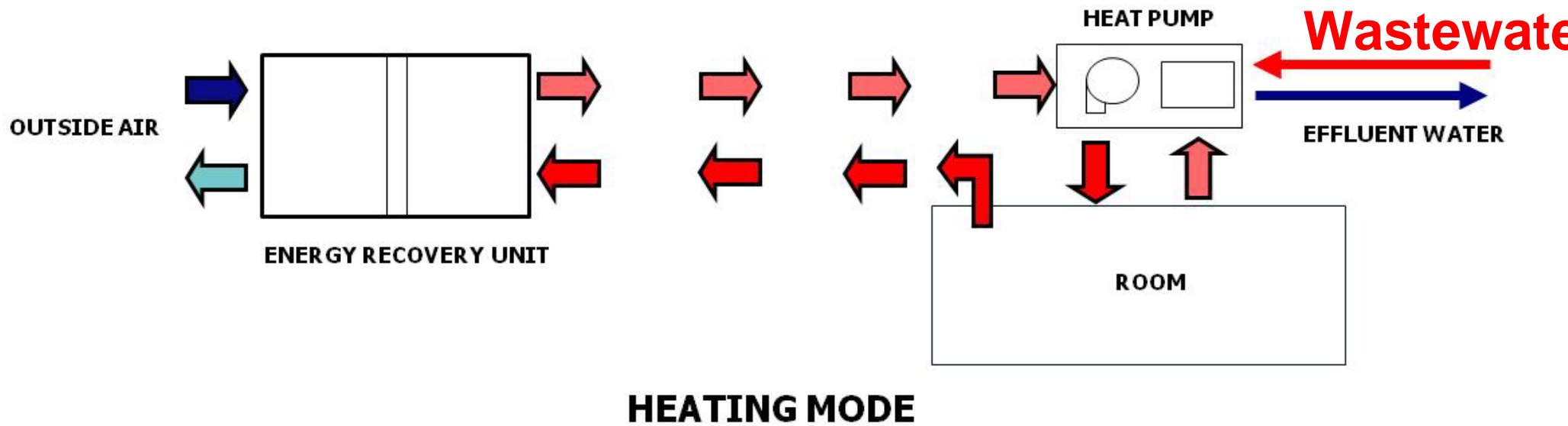
**\*\* 1 kWH ~ 1.37 lbs CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent.**



# Sustainable Project Elements

## Effluent Heat Recovery

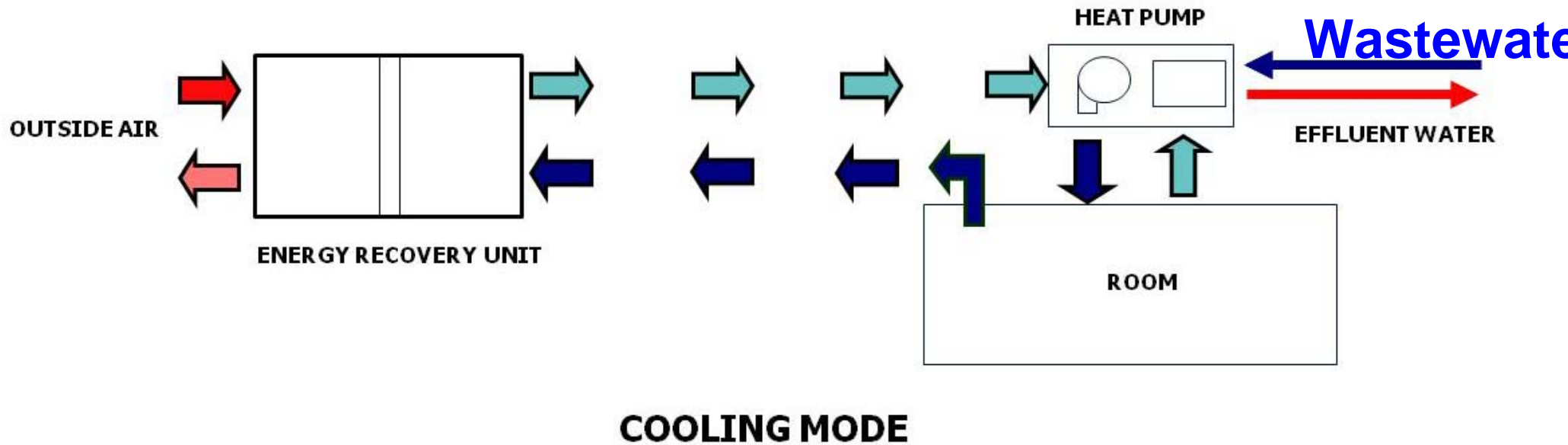
Winter



# Sustainable Project Elements

## Effluent Heat Recovery

Summer





# **Sustainable Project Elements Building Design**

- **Energy Star rating for the Administration Building**
- **Energy Star credits for process buildings**
- **Energy Star rating for plant?**





## **Energy Efficiency (Thermal)**

- **Building Shell R Values (non-process)**
  - **R = 50 for roofs (typical design ~ 24)**
  - **R = 24 for walls (typical design ~ 14)**
  - **Specified wall panel system in lieu of standard infill**
- **Available credits of \$0.60/sq. ft. for thermal efficiency (occupied spaces)**
  - **\$6,000 for Admin. Bldg.**





## **Energy Efficiency (HVAC/Mechanical)**

- **HVAC Modeling**
  - TRACE 700 modeling of all occupied spaces
  - Identify thermal bridging
- **Mechanical/thermal efficiency > ~93%  
(equipment)**
- **Available credits of \$0.60/sq. ft. for mechanical efficiency**
  - Includes process buildings too



## **Energy Efficiency (Lighting)**

- **AGI32 Modeling of All Spaces**
  - Interior and exterior lighting efficiency
- **Available credits of \$0.60/sq. ft. for lighting efficiency**
  - Includes process buildings too

# Sustainable Project Elements

## Building Design

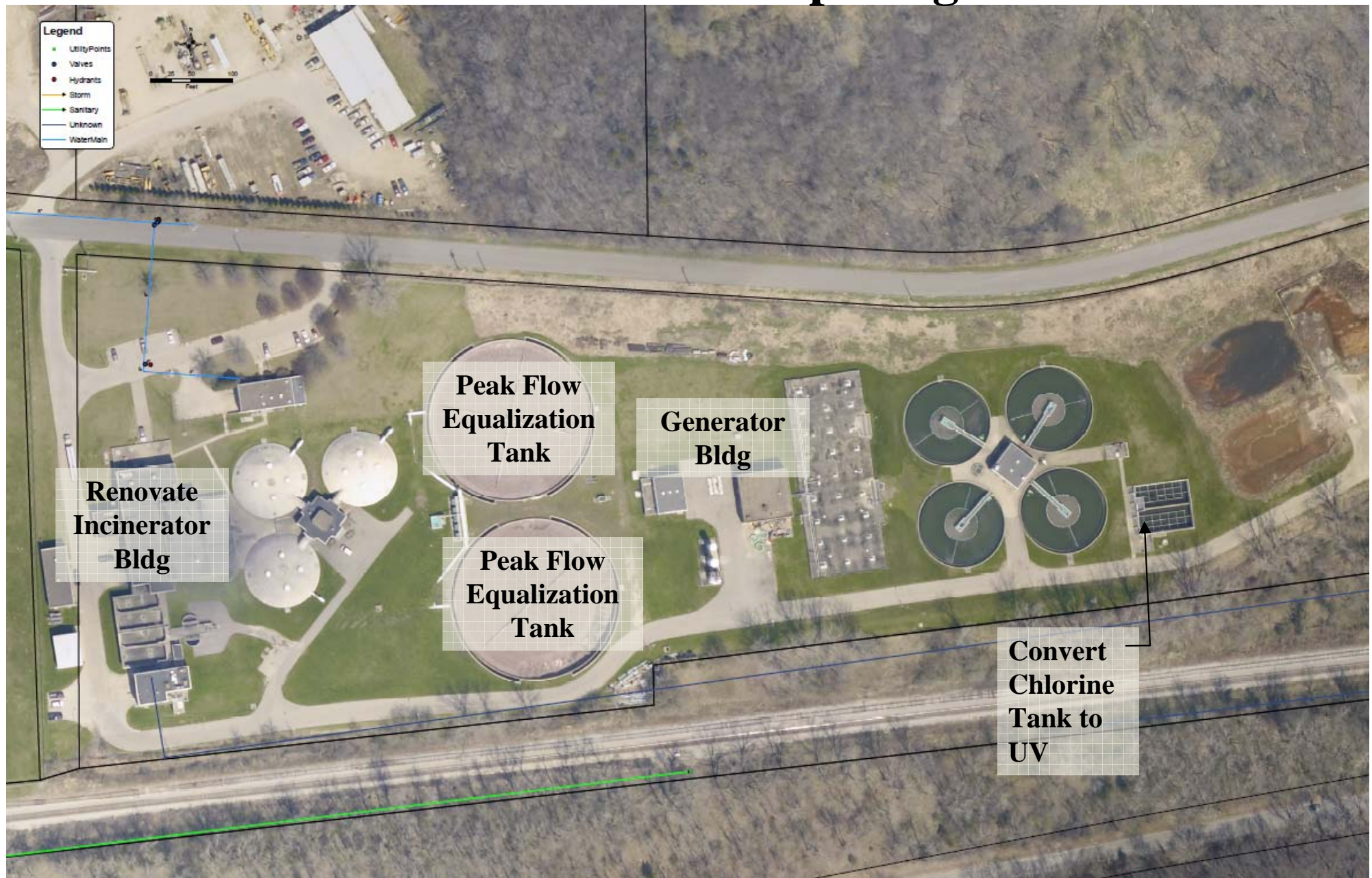
- Utility rebates - materials, appliances, etc. (~\$250,000)
- **Very Significant Design Effort**
- **Design Verification After Construction**





# Sustainable Project Elements

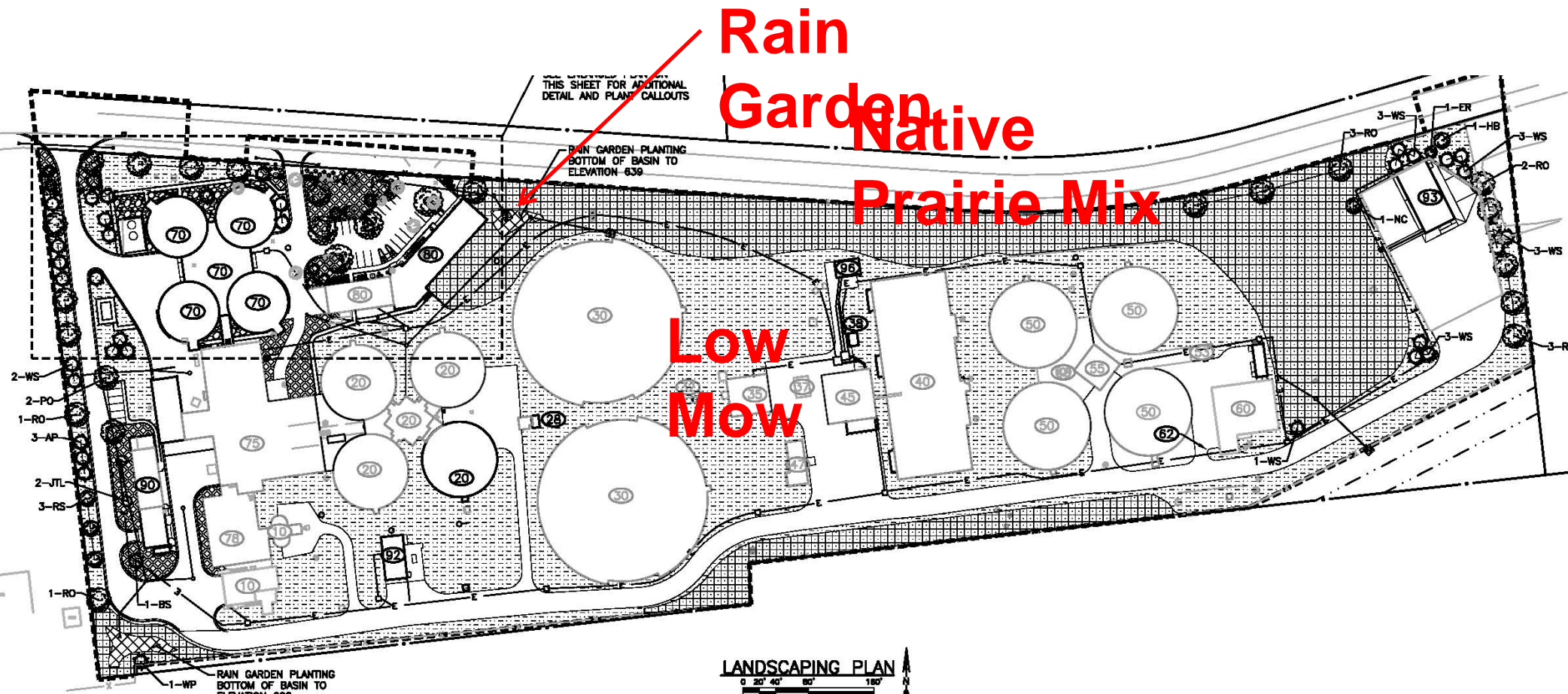
## Structure Re-Purposing

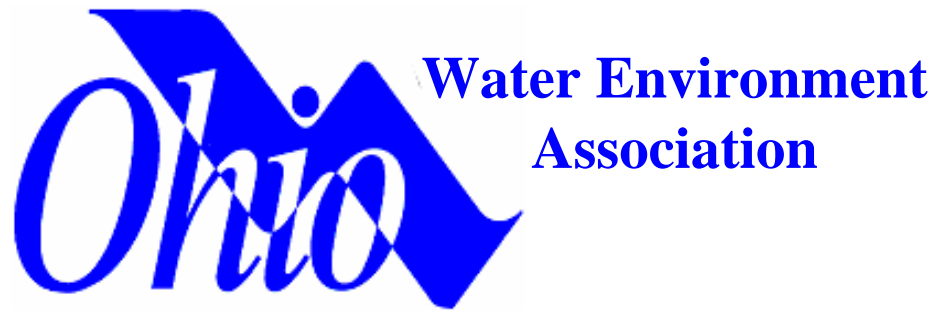




# Sustainable Project Elements

## Site Design





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# *WWTP Sustainable Design Opportunities*

## *A Case Study in Dubuque, Iowa*

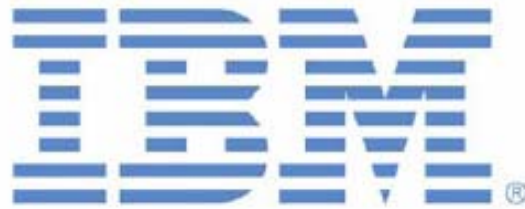
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# **Sustainable Project Elements**

## **Public Sharing/Education**



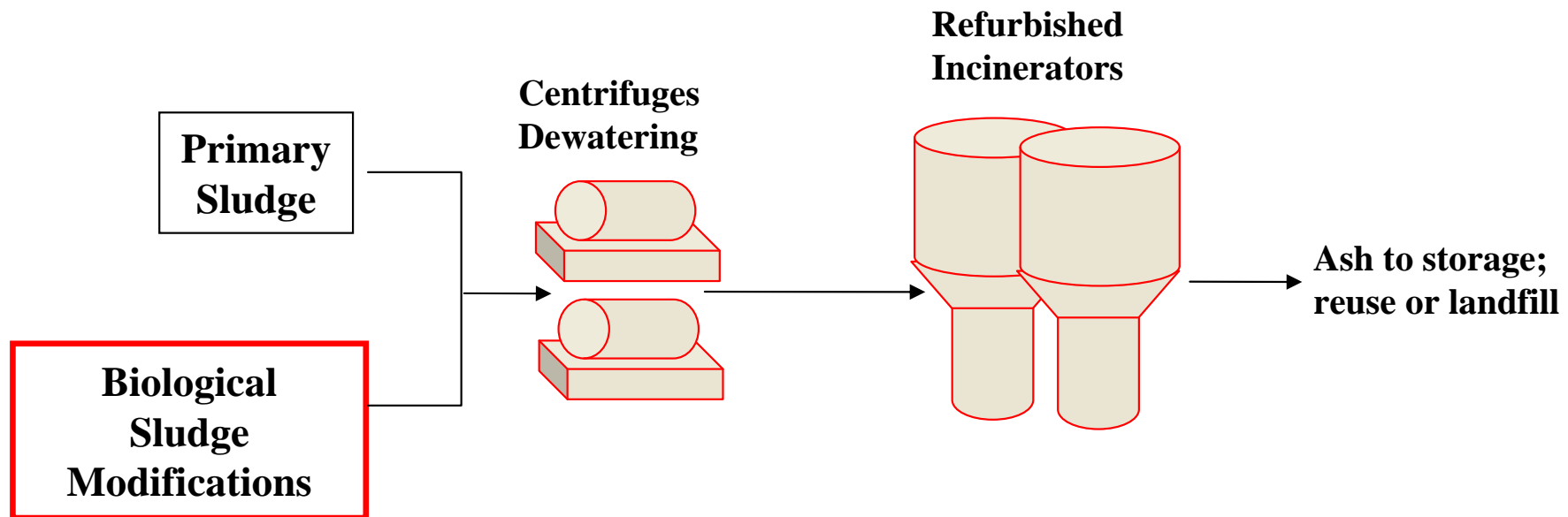
- **Plant operating data and energy use data sharing via the Internet.**



# Major Project Elements



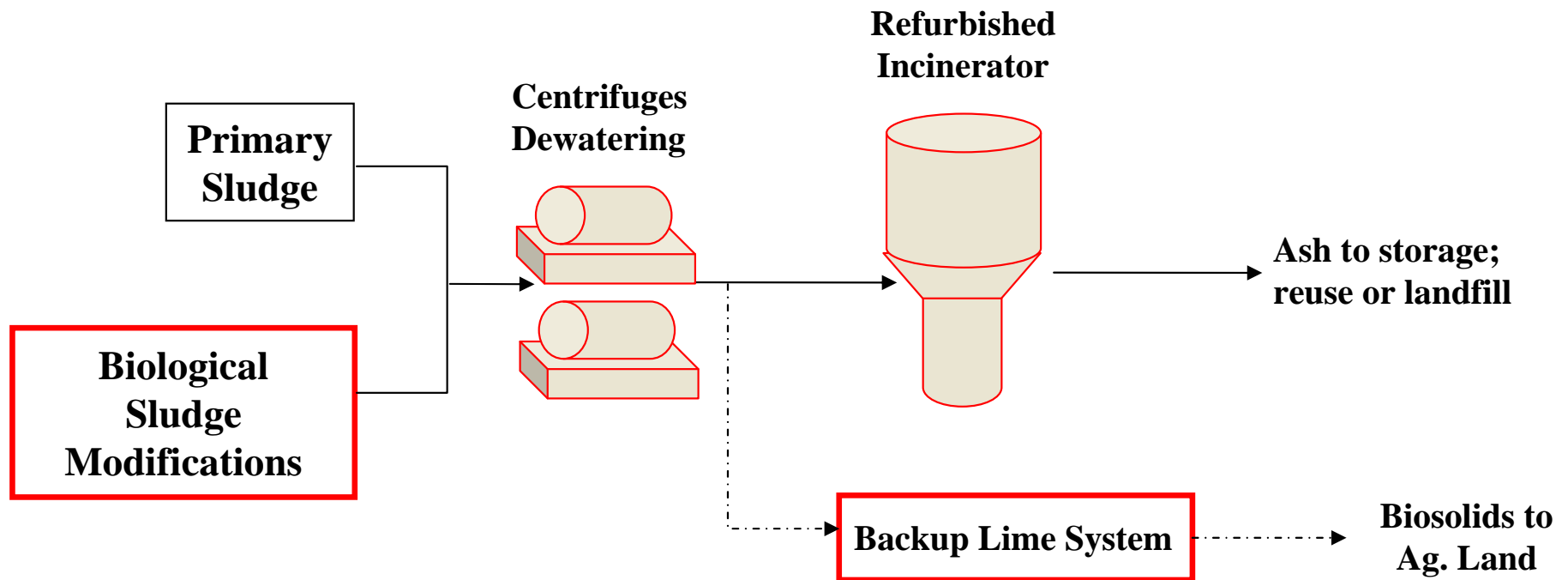
# Alt. RM1 – Refurbish Both Incinerators





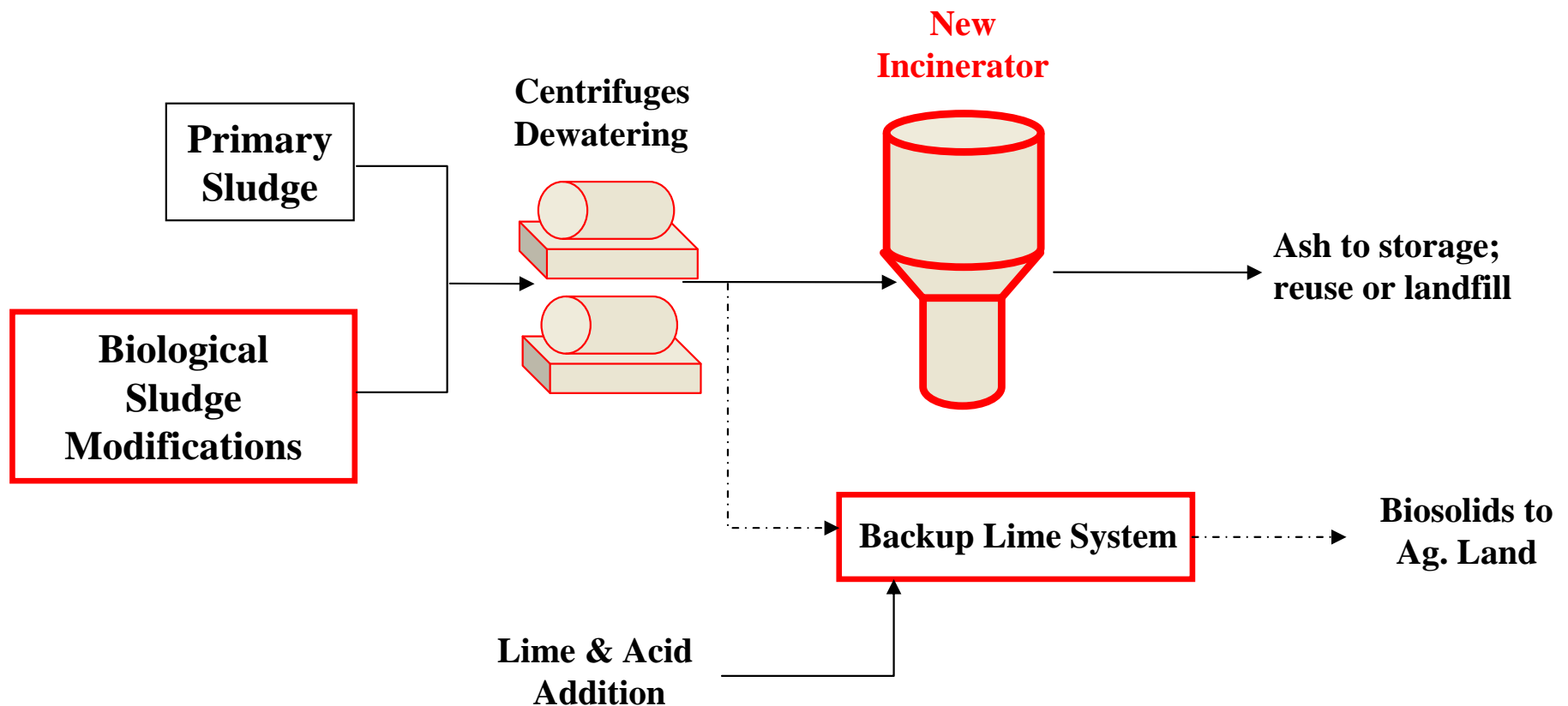
# Alt. RM2a – Refurbish One Incinerator

## Use Lime as Backup

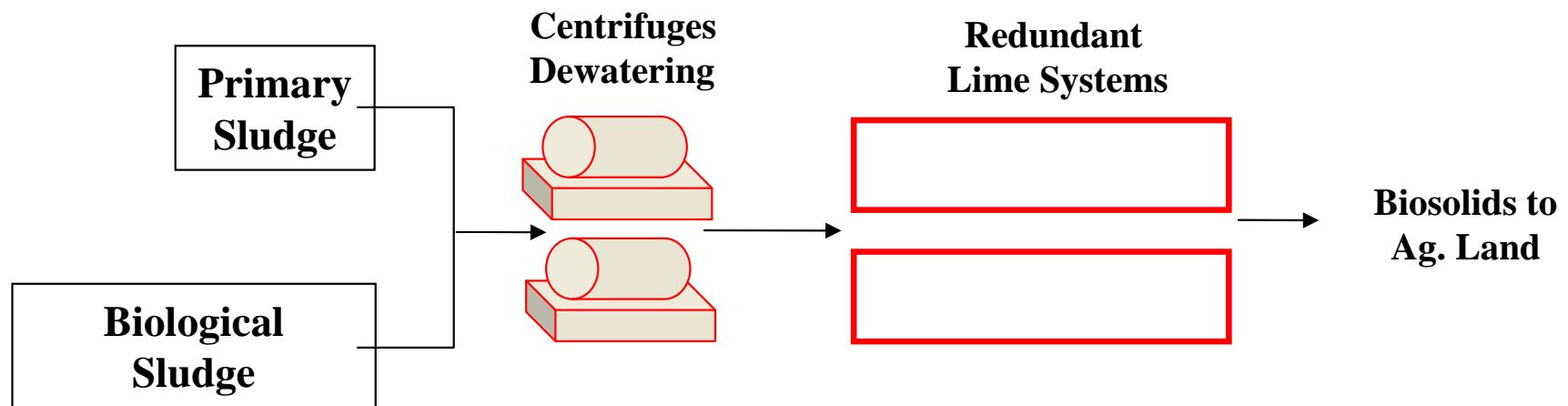


# Alt. RM2b – One New Incinerator

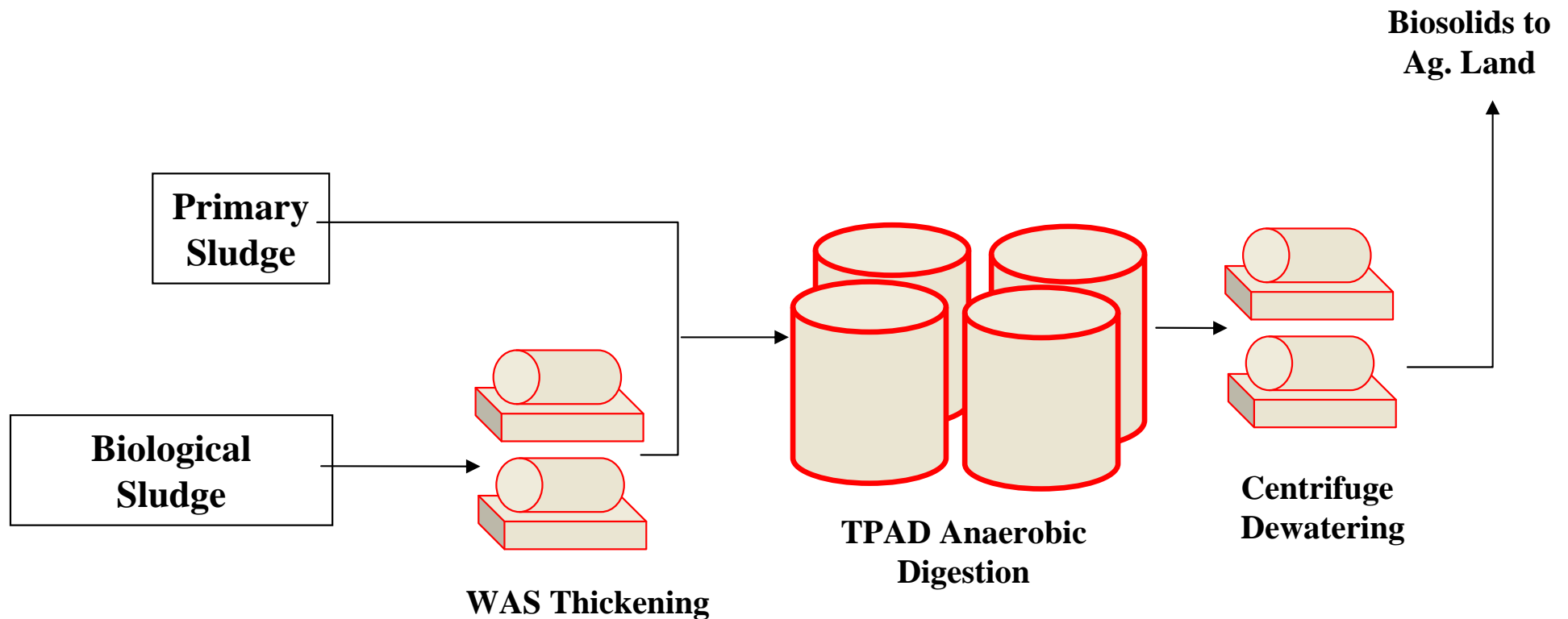
## Use Lime as Backup



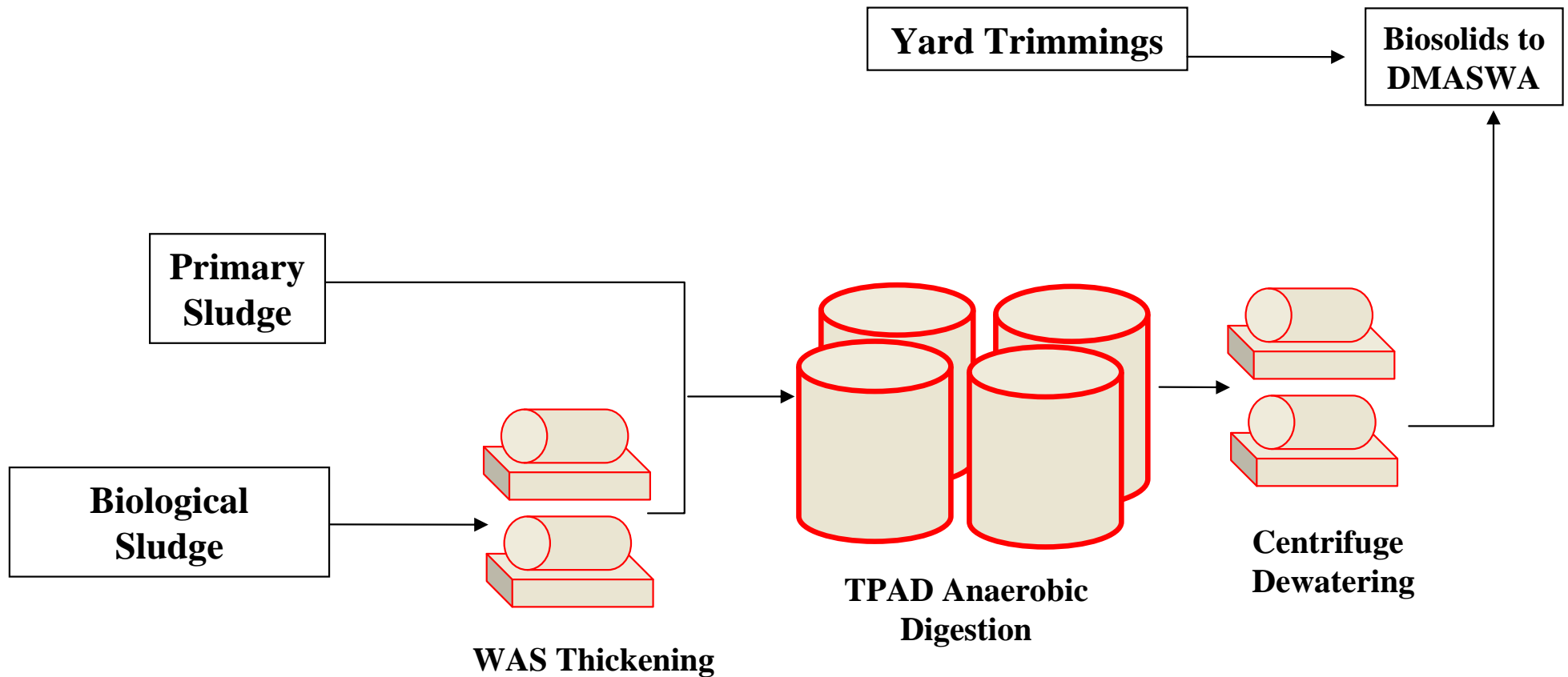
# Alt. RM3 – Lime Stabilization and Land Application



# Alt. RM4 – Anaerobic Digestion with Land Application

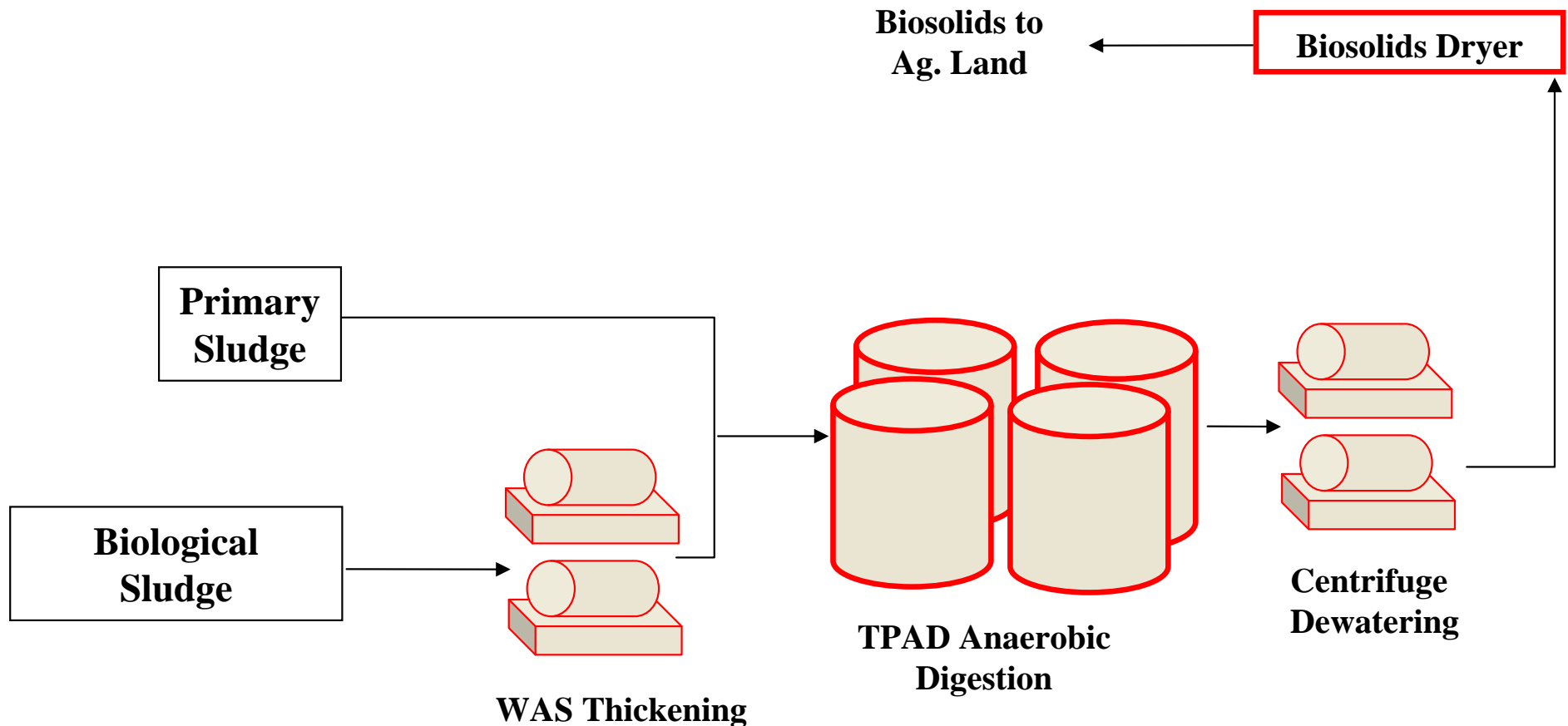


# Alt. RM5 – Anaerobic Digestion with Composting





# Alt. RM6 – Anaerobic Digestion and Drying with Land Application



# Alt. RM7 – Drying and Land Application

