

## **Wastewater treatment plants exceed new national standards**

**Yellowknife, NT** – When Environment Minister Jim Prentice unveiled proposed wastewater systems effluent regulations on February 09 his backdrop was a Membrane Biological Reactor headed for the Northwest Territories.

The announcement was made at Filter Innovations Inc.'s manufacturing plant in Brockville, Ontario. The Membrane Biological Reactor (MBR) featured with the Minister is one of two units on their way to NTPC camps at Taltson and Bluefish hydro plants.

MBR technology supports a high biomass concentration, reducing the required size of biological tanks; this in turn saves space and reduces construction cost.

The technology is a simple, yet effective combination of an activated sludge biological treatment process with membrane filtration. The membrane filter eliminates the need for a secondary clarifier and tertiary filtration.

MBR exceeds new regulations regarding water quality and local stream-specific standards for surface water discharge.

“The technology eliminates the need for wastewater storage (tanks), reduces the risk of effluent spills because it’s self-contained, and eliminates hauling effluent from our remote camp sites,” says Leon Courneya, NTPC’s President and Chief Executive Officer.

MBR’s are operated by automated control systems, easily monitored and controlled over a distance using remote telemetry systems. The Power Corporation’s MBR Systems will be managed and monitored from its system control centre in Yellowknife.

“Protecting the environment is part of our Corporate mission and we take it very seriously,” says Courneya. “Filter Innovations tailored the capacity of each system to our camp sizes and demonstrated that we would have an environmentally sound solution for many years to come.”

Once in force, the new regulations will set standards for discharge from all wastewater facilities in Canada. Over time, wastewater facilities across the country will have to meet these national standards.

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