

Q&A Report: Advanced PFAS Treatment Technologies in Practice

#	Question	Answer	Answer Name
1	Are the concerns around thermal treatment of waste and PFAS destruction able to be addressed as we head towards energy from waste in NSW?	live answered	AWS Admin
2	How confident are we in current monitoring methods?	live answered	AWS Admin
3	How reasonable are latest guidelines in relation to treatment capabilities and health requirements? Is it driven just by fear?	The recent guidelines have some very low targets that need to be achieved. I would not say they are driven by fear, however, there is significant health concerns regarding PFAS in our environments and feel the response, ie limits are possibly adequate.	Micheal Wicks
4	How is StormFilter Medium material treated or destroyed?	live answered	Micheal Wicks
5	Isn't it true that the sources are still legal (such as non-sticky cookware)? Can we find fault in Councils for releasing PFAS into the waterways?	We are seeing PFAS being phased out to the consumer, but, yes products are still commercially available with PFAS!	Micheal Wicks
6	How long (typically) do cartridges last eg. at an airport?	It really depends on the initial size of the system and flow volume. This can be varied depending on the background data available.	Micheal Wicks
7	Can Radial treatment filter be used for GW treatment? Keen to hear about cost effective treatment options for groundwater used for TWS.	The study site for OP was a product of ground water and surface water runoff into as pond and then pumped into the treatment system.	Micheal Wicks
8	What is the longevity of the Storm Filters?	Its depends on the influent load and number of filters employed on the site. Our research has determined the sorptive capacity of the media so we can effectively estimate the longevity of a system for a given site.	Micheal Wicks
9	If treated PFAS waste is sent to landfills, is there any risk it could circulate back into environment? any thoughts about this	Possible. This would depend on a range of factors.	Micheal Wicks
10	Are Council's taking up implementing treatment measures across LGAs currently? How do the presented methods like the Jellyfish and StormFilter compare in lifetime costs to other methods?	Councils are still working out what to do in regard to PFAS. Our pilot site reference in this webinar show a at least a 50% reduce in OPEX cost for the stakeholder!	Micheal Wicks
11	How do you treat / dispose cartridges when they are "saturated"? Can you regenerate the media?	Cartridges are disposed of in land fill.	Micheal Wicks
12	Will the cartridges end up in landfill or is there is another form of disposal treatment I don't know of?	At this stage we are disposing at land fill, however, this is an area of further investigation. Has to be cost effective if councils are to use this. Be great if there was a remediation process rather than encapsulated waste.	Micheal Wicks
13	What happens to the waste cartridges / filter media?	Hi, when maintenance is required a subsample of the media is taken and sent to a laboratory for analysis. Depending on the results we follow our O&M manual (independently prepared for our use by Optimal Stormwater). The media is either a double lined landfill or sent for destruction.	Blake Allingham
14	it is stated that PFAS are not present in manufacture of common poethylene water piping in Australia.... is that guaranteed? or are we to expect the next asbestos like health concerns in the future due to theat piping system use? Plumbers and suppliers believe there is no PFAS in these piping systems and sell them as such, are we certain that there is no cover-up?	live answered	AWS Admin
15	Will the TSS and other particulates captured by the jellyfish filters contain PFAS also?	Yes. Jellyfish main role is for pretreatment and reduce the amount of competing contaminants for the media filters	Micheal Wicks
16	What are the end of life containers made of?	Steel mesh, HDPE and ABS are the main components	Micheal Wicks
17	If cartridges that are used are placed into landfill is this just moving the problem "downstream"?	live answered	AWS Admin
18	In terms of expensive, do those statements just made (RE substantially lower cost than other technologies) include transport and disposal costs etc?	live answered	AWS Admin
19	What are the typical life of the media? And what is the replacement method?	live answered	AWS Admin
20	Hi Brad and Blake, thank you for the nice presentation. What is the anticipated operational lifespan of the cartridge under typical design conditions?	live answered	AWS Admin
21	Has anyone tried using ecology to concentrate PFAS, given it accumulates in the food chain?	live answered Thanks, yes, maybe fish more efficient take up?	AWS Admin
22	Are there many landfills that will accept the used cartridges / media, or is this a restriction? Will this get harder in the future?	Yes, a sample is required to be sent to the Lab to determine the concentration of PFAS (mg/kg). From there the appropriate landfill can be selected, our O&M has these outlined for our team to use.	Blake Allingham
23	Thanks for the presentation. I understand that the spent cartridges are currently being disposed of to landfill. Given the increasing challenges associated with PFAS in landfill leachate, particularly from concentrated adsorption media, has any consideration been given to the long-term management or alternative end-of-life pathways for these highly PFAS-laden materials?	live answered	AWS Admin
24	Are there potential reuse options for the material or research into this?	live answered	AWS Admin