

# NJWEA 108th Annual Conference

## Session: Air Pollution & GHG

### Atlantic City, NJ May 9, 2023

## PONC-H2O - Advanced Wastewater Resource Recovery for Enhanced Carbon Reduction at WRRFs

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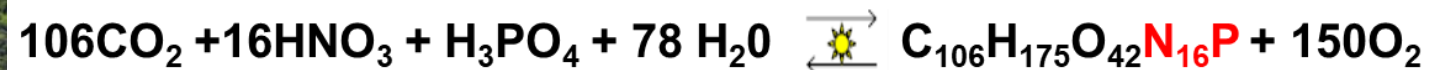


# Presentation Outline

- ❖ Meet **PONCH-H<sub>2</sub>O** (**P**hosphorus, **O**xygen, **N**itrogen, **C**arbon, **H**ydrogen for enhanced **H<sub>2</sub>O** & air quality)
- ❖ Focus on **C**arbon Capture & Utilization and Nutrient **N** & **P** Recovery/Reuse
- ❖ GHG **CO<sub>2</sub>** Biogas Reduction Driven by Microalgae
- ❖ **PONC-H<sub>2</sub>O** Outcomes, Key Takeaways

# WRRF CO<sub>2</sub> Capture and Reuse Project C, N & P, O<sub>2</sub>

## Mass Cultivation of Microalgae in Photobioreactors – Net Negative C Operations



# Why Algae? - Host of Bioproducts

➤ Algae and algae oil is used in the following products (partial list)

✓ Nutraceutical products, eye nutrients, Omega-3 Fatty Acids

✓ Skin conditioners

✓ Cosmetic and paint thickeners

✓ Bioplastics



✓ Animal and human food supplements - **PROTEINS**

✓ The HY-TEK Bio algae *s.HTB-1* can bring as much as **\$40/lb** from an algae brokerage house

✓ 90-95% Oxygen from photosynthesis is a reusable marketable commodity

✓ Direct replacement for Palm Oil

✓ Fertilizer/Soil Amendment



# Carbon Reuse via Microalgae

- **Biofuels**

- Biodiesel, Renewable Diesel, and SAF

- **Bioproducts**

- *Carotenoids* → *Pigments*, *Nutraceuticals*
- Proteins
- Sugars/Starches
- *Soil amendment/fertilizer* - *Biochar*

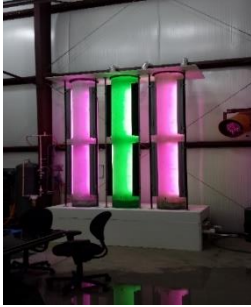


# CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Sources




- Raw Biogas/Landfill Gas Feedstock – 35% - 65% CO<sub>2</sub>
- Biogas **CHP** - 8% - 12% CO<sub>2</sub>
- Biogas/NG Industrial Steam **Boiler** - 5% - 6% CO<sub>2</sub>
- Biogas **Sludge Drying** - 8% - 10% CO<sub>2</sub>
- Purified Biogas **RNG** - 97% - 99% CO<sub>2</sub>
- Solar **Sludge Drying** - 400 ppm – 1000 ppm CO<sub>2</sub>

# Waste Heat Recovery

- Optimum Algae Cultivation =  $\sim 85^{\circ}\text{F}$ ; Engine Exhaust =  $\sim 1000^{\circ}\text{F}$



- **Three Choices of WHRUs**

- ORC (Electric Power)  Offset LED Lighting
- Waste Heat Chiller (Cooling)  Gas Cooling or Chilled Water
- Waste Heat Boiler (Heating)  Drying or Pyrolysis of Wet Algae



# Algal System Technology/Flue Gas Conditioning



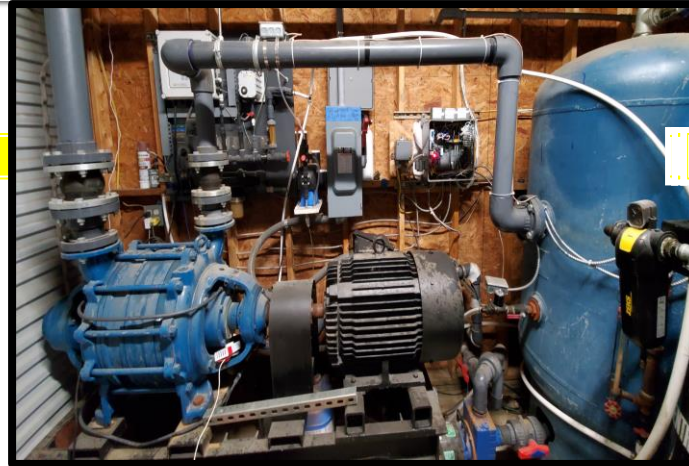
**FLUE GAS**

Flue gas is captured using a slipstream and cooled using Waste Heat Recovery Units (not shown)



**FLUE GAS FILTRATION**

A simple H<sub>2</sub>O quench trap cools the water to 85F and traps any particulates



**FLUE GAS COMPRESSION**

Flue gas is fed to a Liquid Ring Compressor to minimize heat of compression. The water is separated from the flue gas which is then directed to the photobioreactors (PBRs)

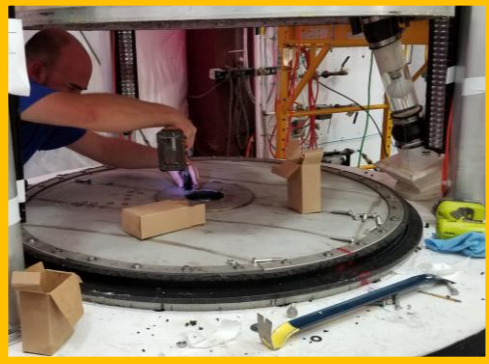


**WATER CONDITION**

Compressor recirculating water is neutralized to pH 7, nutrient and makeup water added and cooled to <70F for re-use through the compressor.



# Microalgae Cultivation Technology/Process



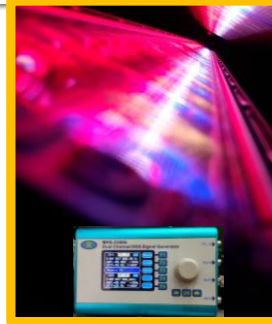
**FLUE GAS INJECTION**

A special gas sparger was developed in-house to ensure rapid transfer of gas chemistry to the culture using micro-bubbles that increase light penetration and enhance tall column mixing throughout



**GROWTH ENHANCEMENT**

Advanced LED lighting technology developed in-house to enhance growth and nutritional value of the algae via proprietary lighting strategies that “photo-stress” the algae and reduce energy consumption



**CULTURE HARVEST**

When the algae gets too dense for light penetration, the automation drains 10% of the tank to thin out the culture to get more light



**CULTURE HOLDING**

Harvested algae is centrifuged (not shown) to concentrate the algae into paste product for conversion. Centrate is recirculated to the PBRs.

# THE BUSINESS PLAN



**CLIENTS**



**INVESTORS**



**PONG-H2O Facilities**



Rent/Lease Space; Electric Bills  
**PROJECT CREDITS**  
(RECs, RINs, Carbon Credits)

**O&M**



**PROFIT**



s.HTB1  
**ALGAE**

**ONCE THE INVESTOR IS PAID BACK,  
THE PONG-H2O FACILITY IS TURNED  
OVER TO THE CLIENT AT NO COST  
ALONG WITH % OF THE REVENUE  
STREAM FROM THE SALE OF THE  
ALGAE TO PAY FOR O&M PLUS  
CONTINUED REVENUE STREAMS  
THAT MAXIMIZE RETURN.**

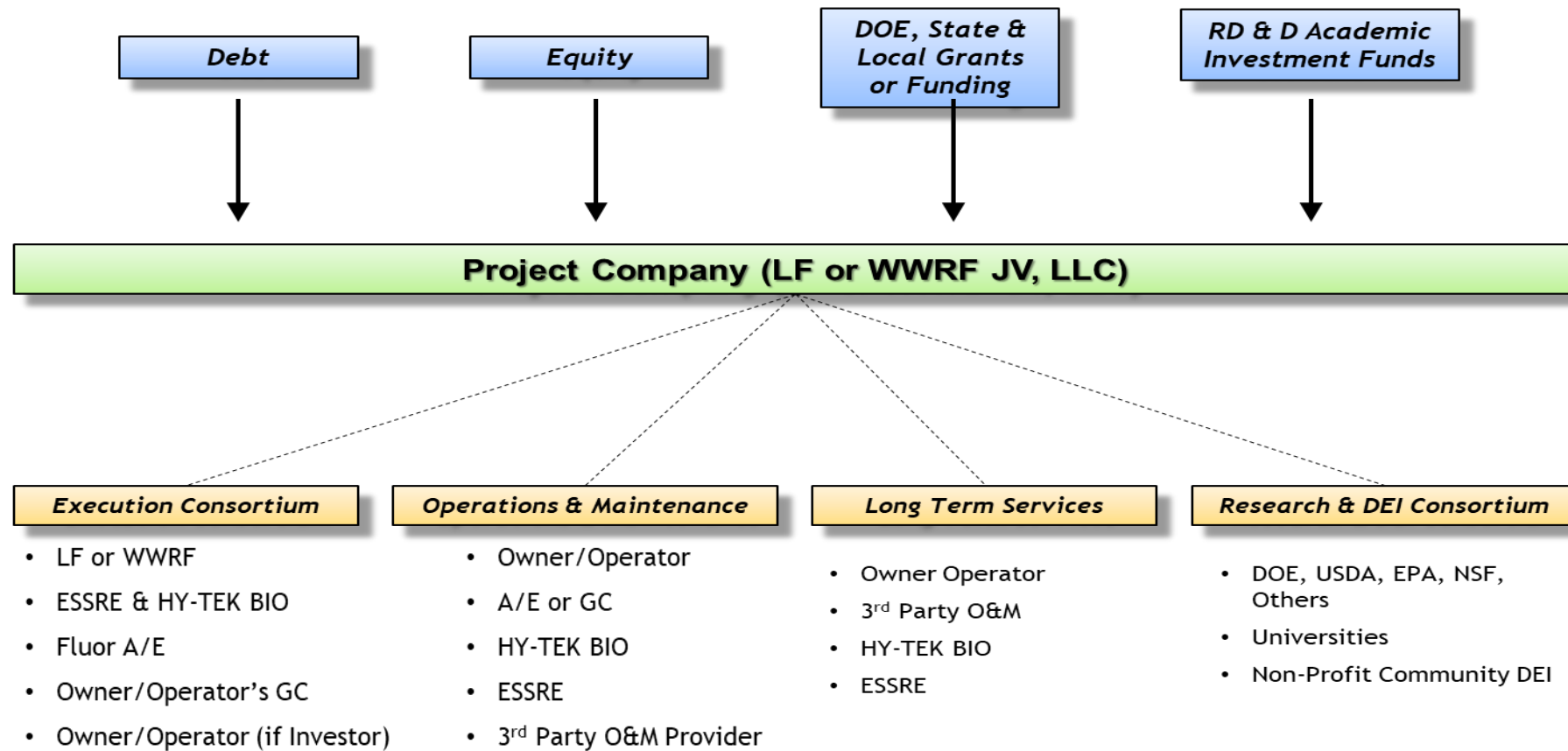
# 10-Year Algae Production & Financial Projections

- **EXAMPLE: Containerized Algae Facility Adjacent to Biogas Engine Room**
- **PRODUCTION: 1149Tons Algae p.a.**
- **DETAILS: 10 PBRs; Capital Initial Investment \$4.375M;  
Breakeven Payback by Yr. 3 of operation;  
Total 10-Yr Revenue ~ \$39M  
NPV ~\$6.25M; IRR% 40.7**
- **INVESTOR OUTCOME: If 15% of Capital Cost, Investor net profit ~\$2.8M**
- **CLIMATE OUTCOME: Total Carbon Dioxide Removed, 2095 Tons, p.a**

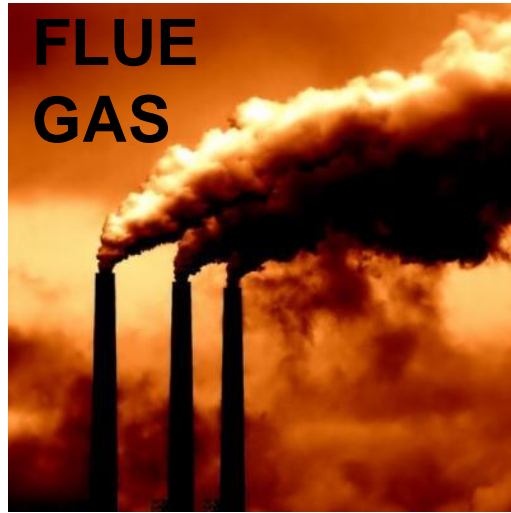
Note: Assume a system availability factor of 75% during year one, otherwise 90% availability factor

# PONC-H2O PROJECT ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

## Commercial Demonstration Project (Alpha, Beta, etc.) Structure Overview



# PONC-H<sub>2</sub>O Review



Digesters/Landfills  
Biogas Engine Exhaust  
LFG Engine Exhaust  
RNG Waste CO<sub>2</sub> Tail Gas

500 L Pilot Scale Photobioreactors



Recycled N & P  
from Manure,  
Wastewater,  
Digestate &  
Landfill



Net Negative C Ops



# Key Take Aways

- **PONC-H<sub>2</sub>O = WRRF & Industrial Decarbonization**
  - Complete CO<sub>2</sub> removal from Biogas, LFG Utilization while maximizing returns
  - Net Negative Carbon, O<sub>2</sub> reuse, and “Closing the N, P Loop” for WRRFs
- **Regenerative Ag - Carbon Markets**
  - PONC-H<sub>2</sub>O: Transfers Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and Sequesters C into Soil for Maximum Impact on Climate Change
- **Net Zero GHG Emissions**
  - **ESG Scope 1, 2 or 3 Emissions** wherever fossil fuel is combusted

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**Acknowledgement: Robert Mroz**  
**HY-TEK Bio, Founder & CEO**

**Questions**

