



# Blowers for Large Treatment Facilities

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September 2023 | TACWA

# OUR AGENDA

01. Overview of SMCWRC  
Primary and Secondary  
Treatment Expansion Project
02. Blower Technology  
Evaluation
03. Blower Recommendation  
and Path forward for SAWS





# The Wastewater Facilities Master Plan identified significant needs at the SMCWRC

- ✓ Overall vision for a 30-yr planning period (2020-2050) for the liquid and solid streams
- ✓ Throughput treatment volume limited to 250 MGD (current permitted 2-hr peak flow)



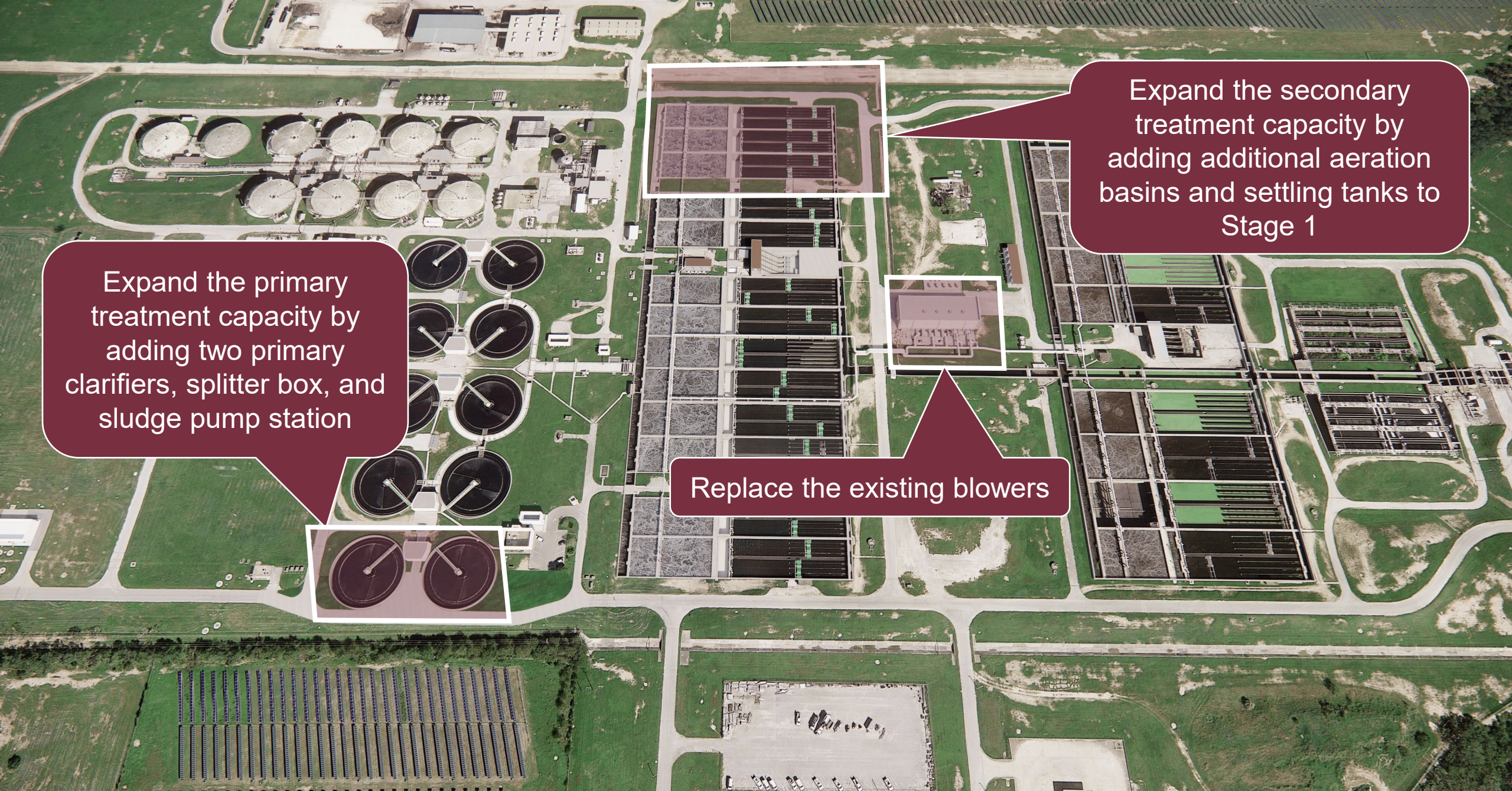
# The following table shows the current SMCWRC flows and the projected flows from the Master Plan

Year	Annual Average <sup>(1)</sup> (MGD)	Wet Weather Annual Average <sup>(1)</sup> (MGD)	Dry Weather Annual Average <sup>(1)</sup> (MGD)	Max Month (MGD)	Peak 2-Hour Flow (MGD) <sup>(2)</sup>
2022	96	123	89	116	297
2050	128	163	114	154	396

(1) Flow rate projections have been adjusted to reflect residential indoor conservation.

(2) Peak 2-hour plant throughput flow is to be limited to 250 MGD through the use of FEBs.





Expand the primary treatment capacity by adding two primary clarifiers, splitter box, and sludge pump station

Replace the existing blowers

Expand the secondary treatment capacity by adding additional aeration basins and settling tanks to Stage 1



# The existing blowers were installed over 35 years ago and keeping the blowers operational has been challenging

Technology: Horizontally Split Centrifugal Compressors

5 Blowers

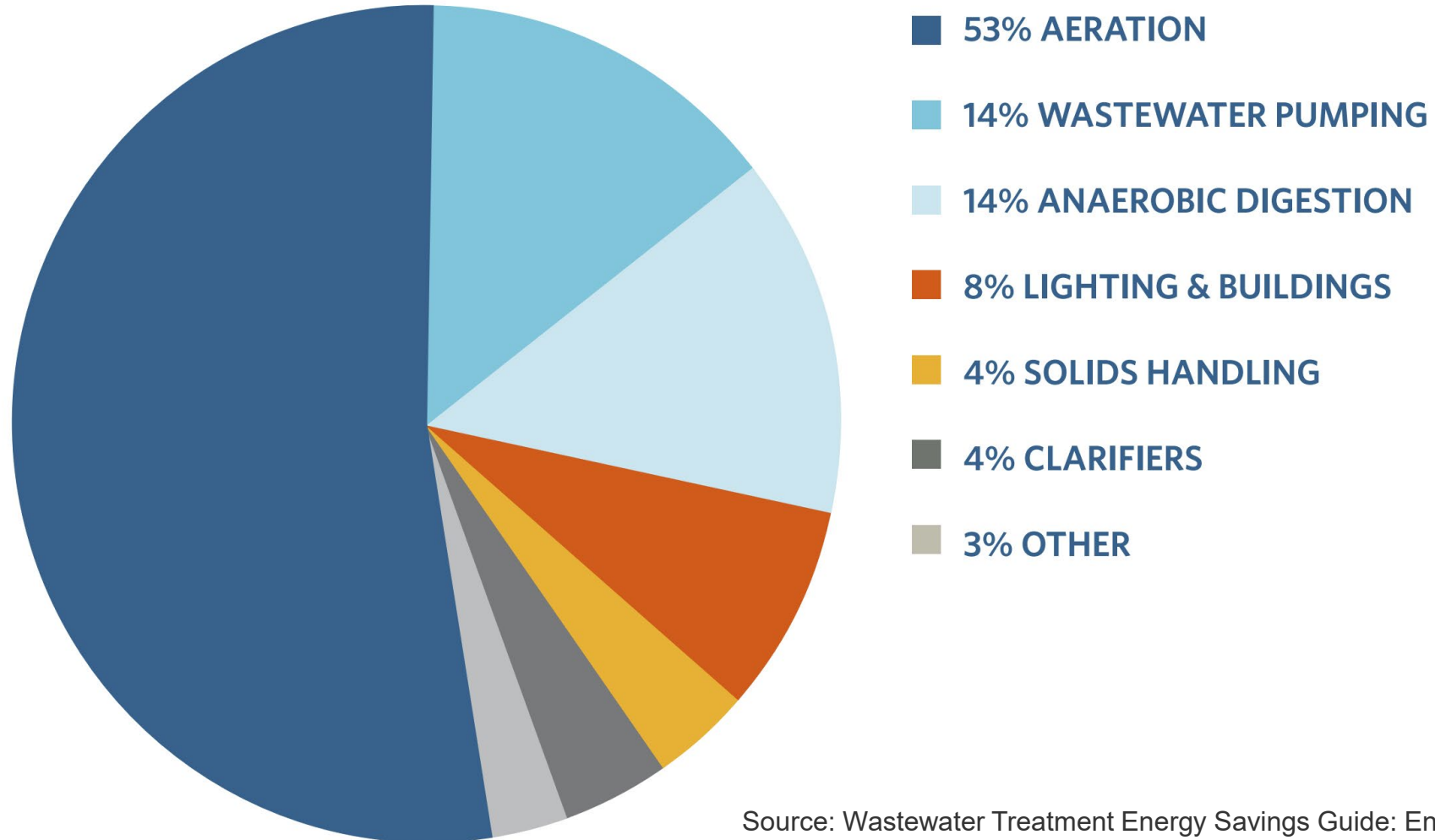
3 – 3,000 HP Units - 50,000 scfm

2 – 1,500 HP Units - 25,000 scfm

Blower 1 (3,000 HP) and Blower 5 (1,500 HP) inoperable due to motor issues

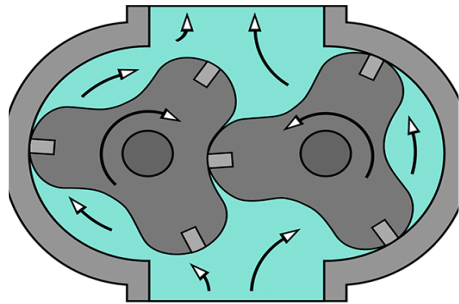


# Aeration accounts for the majority of the energy consumption at conventional WWTPs



Source: Wastewater Treatment Energy Savings Guide: Energy Trust of Oregon

# There are many blower types to consider when selecting a new blower technology



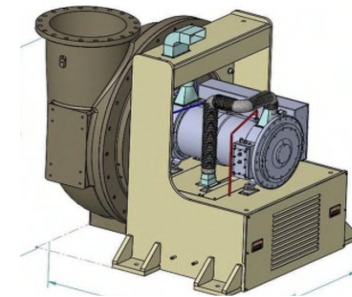
Positive Displacement



Multi-Stage Centrifugal



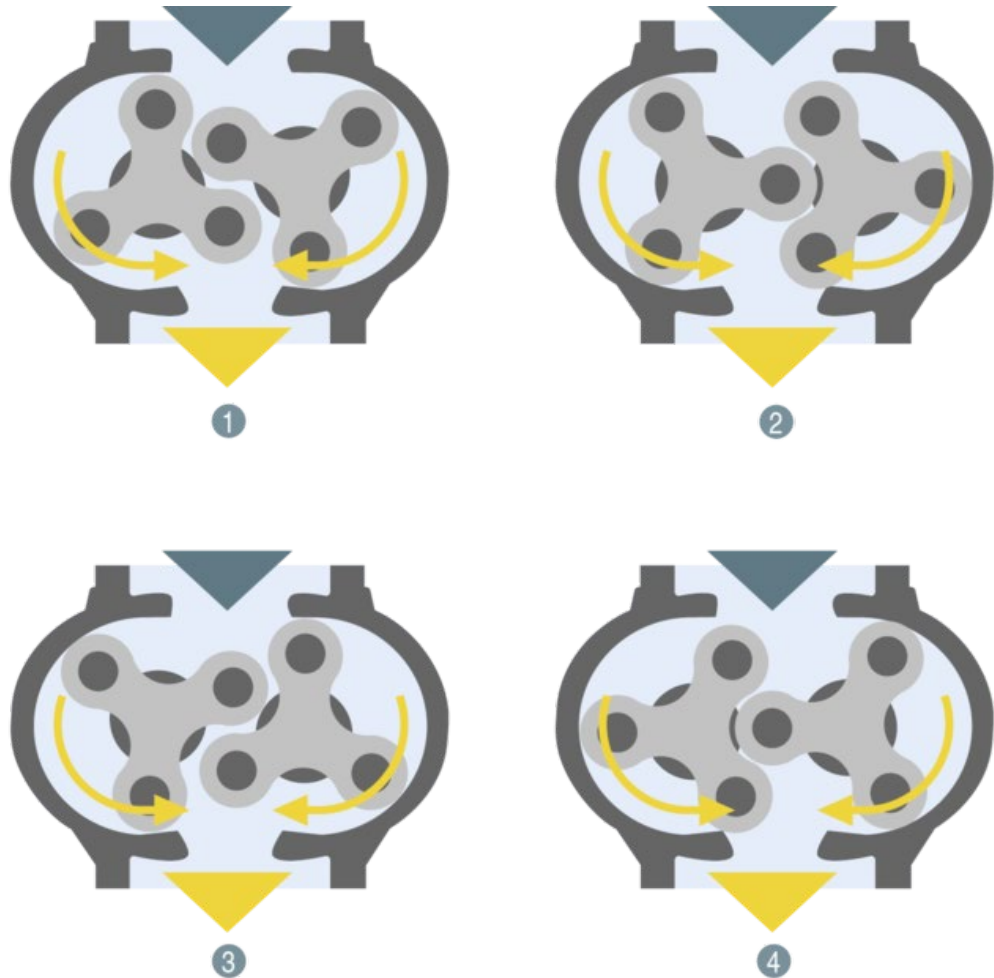
Geared Single Stage



Direct Drive Single Stage (High Speed Turbo)



# Positive displacement blowers are better suited for applications with lower air flow requirements



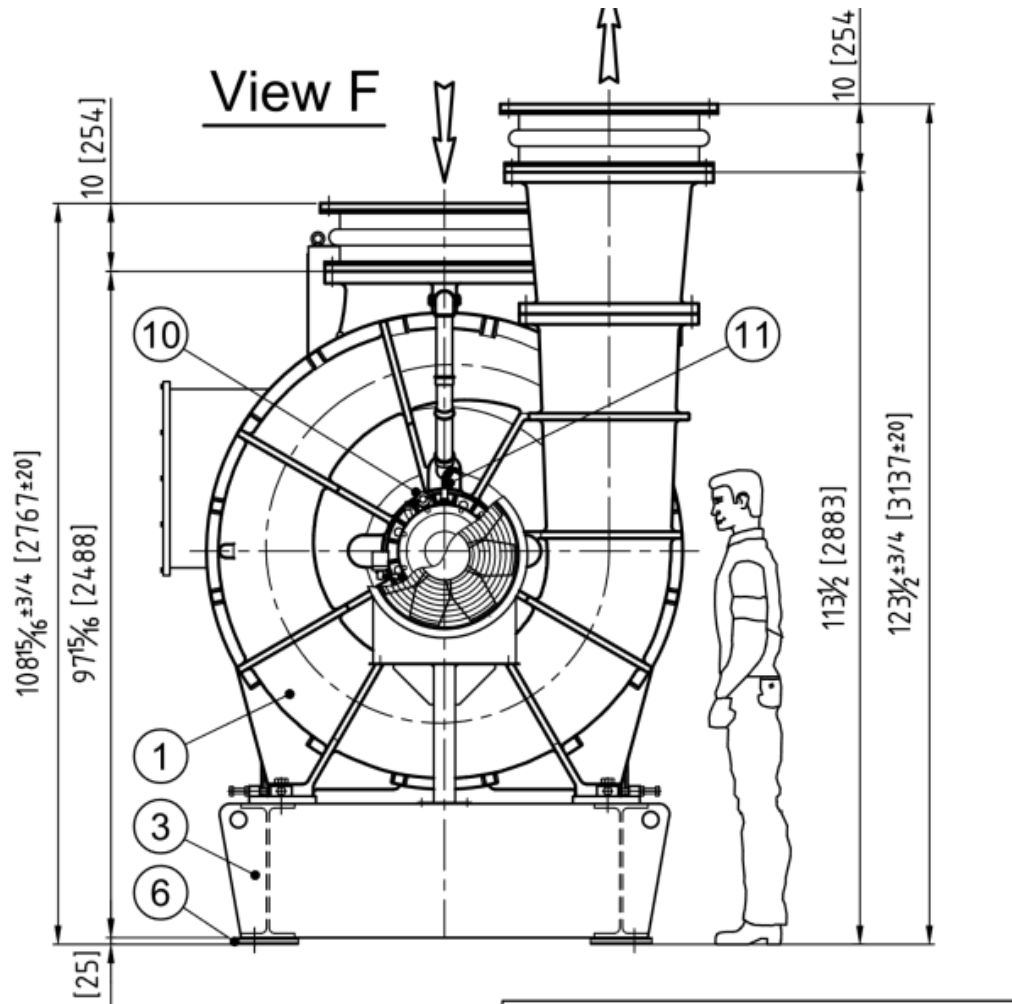
Output not as impacted by discharge pressure

Low efficiency

Limited turn-down

Noisy

# Multi-stage centrifugal blowers have been the industry standard for years



More efficient than PD blowers.

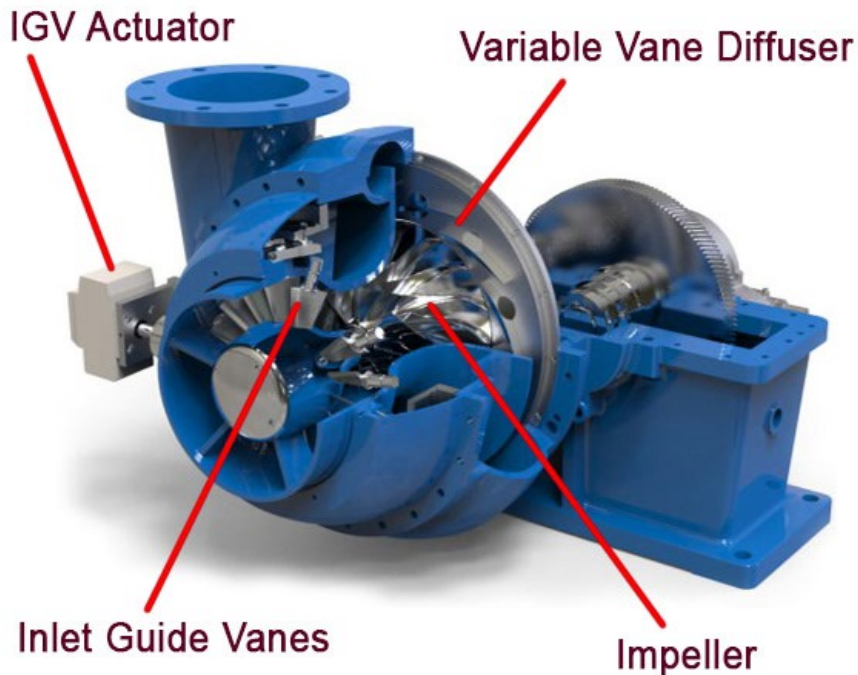
Limited turn-down when compared to high-speed units

Frame size limits capacity in a single unit.

SAWs application: 8 – 22,000 scfm units required



# Geared single stage blowers have traditionally been used in applications with high air demands



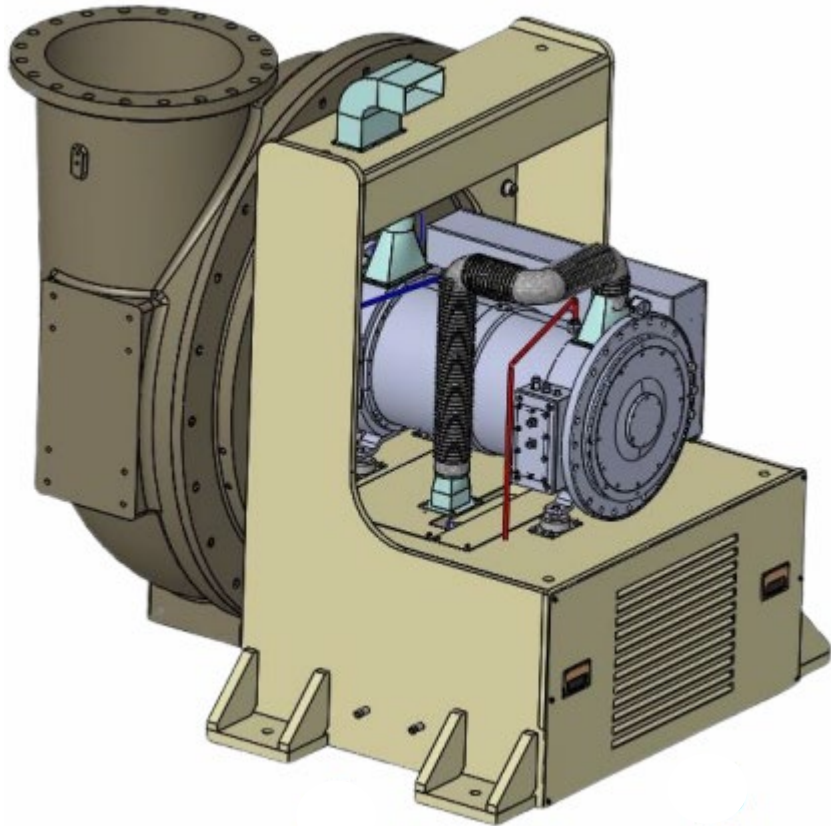
More efficient than multi-stage

Integrally geared for higher speed operation

High turndown and utilizes inlet guide vanes for control

Established technology with numerous large blower applications

# High speed turbo blowers are one of the newer technologies in the market



Technology in the US for 15+ years.  
Large blower installations (>1MW) in  
last 5 years

High turndown with maintained  
efficiency through use of VFD

Much smaller footprint and lower  
maintenance costs

Electrical gear part of vendor package



**In the analysis of blower technologies, two technologies were identified that fit the needs of the SMCWRC**

- **Baseline: Existing Technology – Horizontally Split Centrifugal Compressor**
- **Alternative 1 – Geared Single-Stage**
- **Alternative 2 – High Speed Turbo (HST)**





# Each blower technology has been sized to provide a firm total capacity of 153,000 scfm.

Parameter	Unit	Value
Blower Type	-	-
Quantity <sup>1</sup>	-	Five or Six
Firm Aeration Capacity	scfm	153,000
Rated Capacity (each)	scfm	38,500 <sup>2</sup> or 31,000 <sup>3</sup>
Rated Turndown Capacity	-	50%
Rated Blower Discharge Pressure	psig	11.5
Inlet Pressure	psia	14.46
Inlet Temperature	°F	105

**Notes:**

1. Quantity listed is the total required number of blowers with one unit out of service.
2. 4 duty + 1 standby
3. 5 duty + 1 standby



# The high speed turbo blower requires less installed horsepower as compared to the geared single-stage

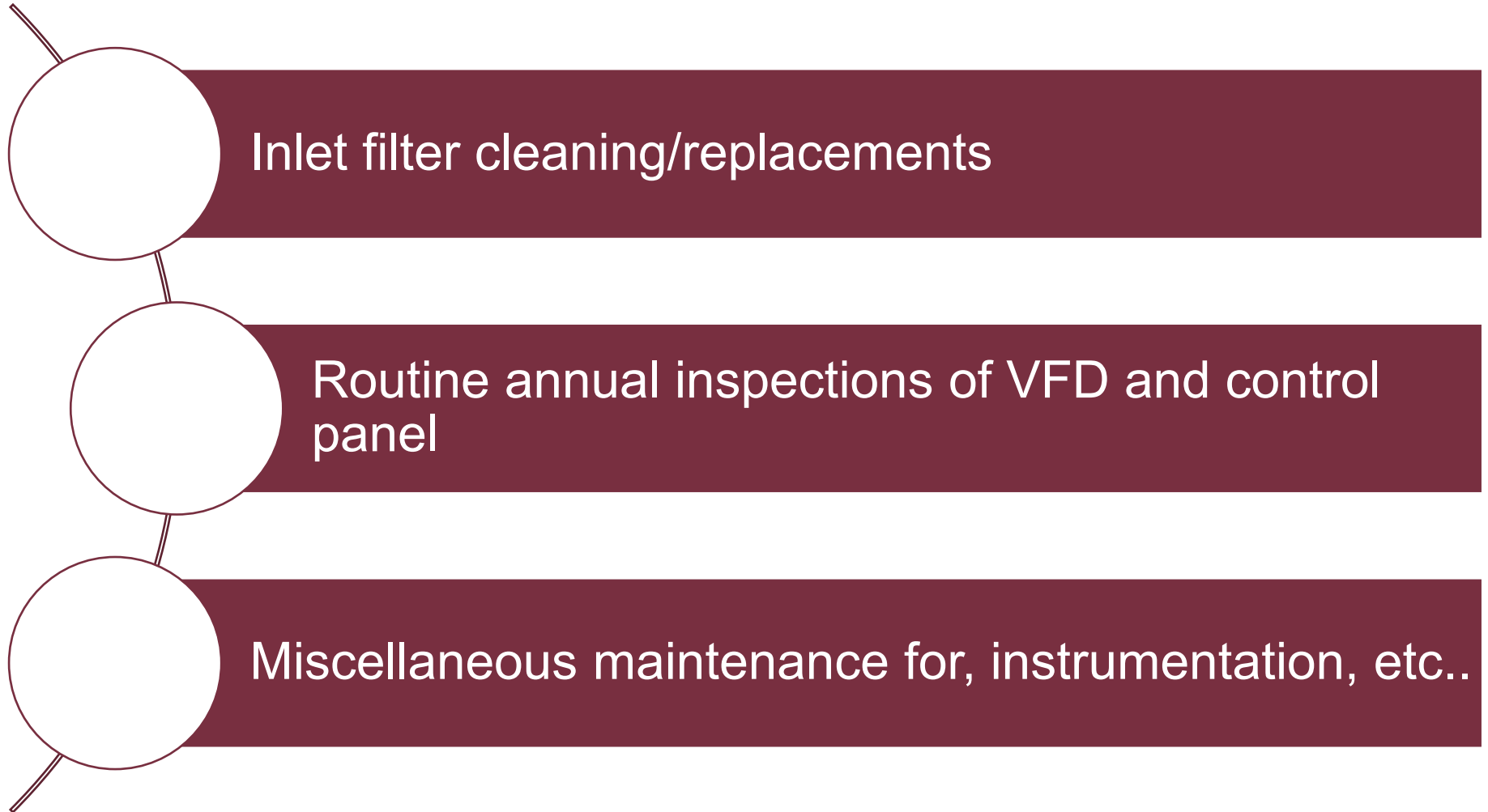
Parameter	Alternative 1A: Geared Single-Stage	Alternative 1B: Geared Single-Stage	Alternative 2: High Speed Turbo
Blower Quantity (N+1)	5	6	6
Air Flow Range (scfm)	17,330 – 38,500	14,000 – 31,200	16,700 – 33,575
Rated Turndown Capacity (%)	55%	55%	50%
Rated Motor Output Power (hp)	2,500	2,000	1,650
Wire-to-Air Aeration Efficiency (scfm/hp)	18	18	20

# The OM costs assumptions for the geared single stage include:

- Dual – stage inlet filter cleaning/replacements
- Cooling oil replacement
- Class 1 Service (every 3-5 yrs)
- Class 2 Service (every 12-15 yrs)
- Miscellaneous maintenance for guide vane, actuator, oil pump, instrumentation, etc..



# High speed turbo blowers require less routine maintenance

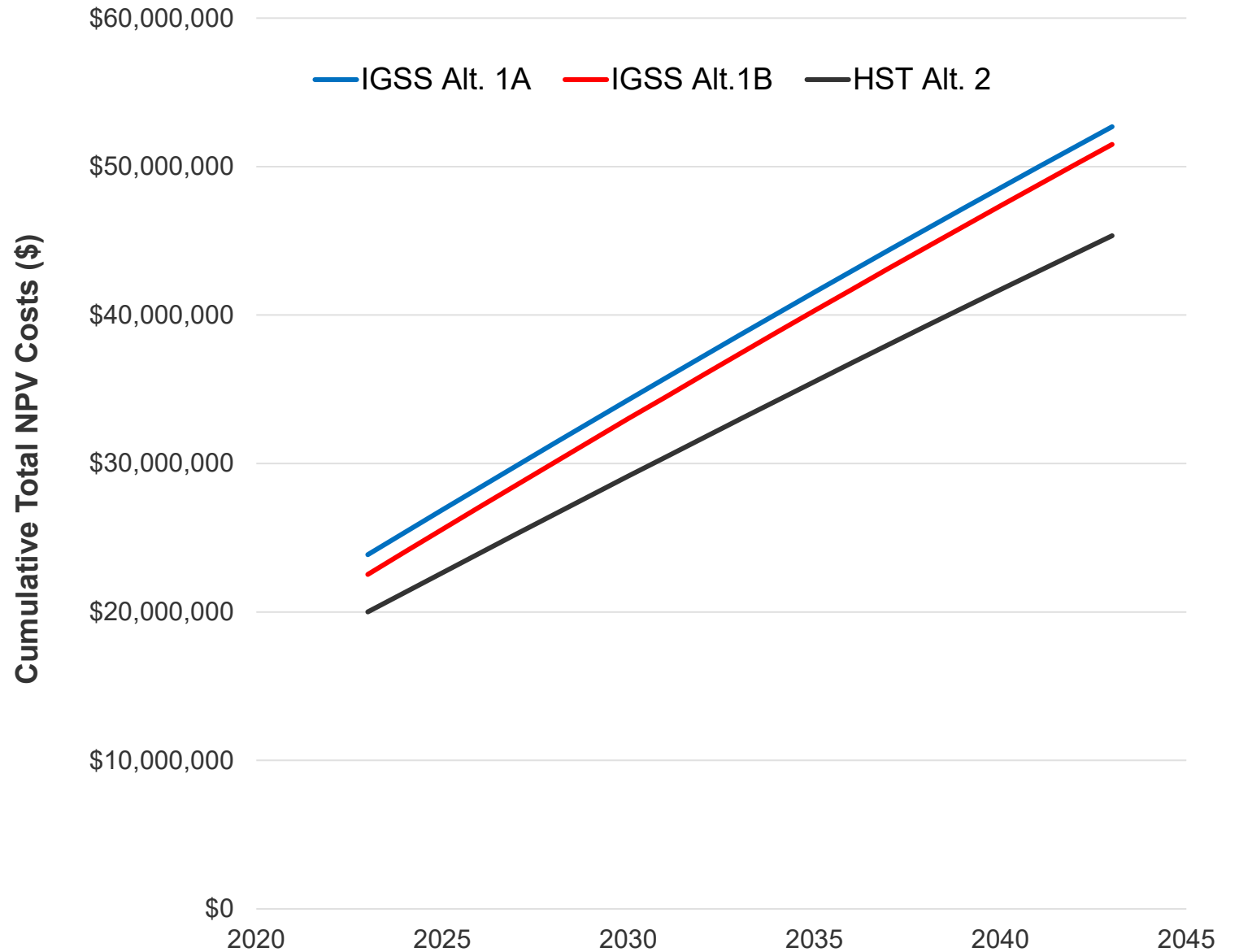


# Annual operation and maintenance (O&M) costs were developed to determine the 20-year lifecycle costs of each blower alternative technology

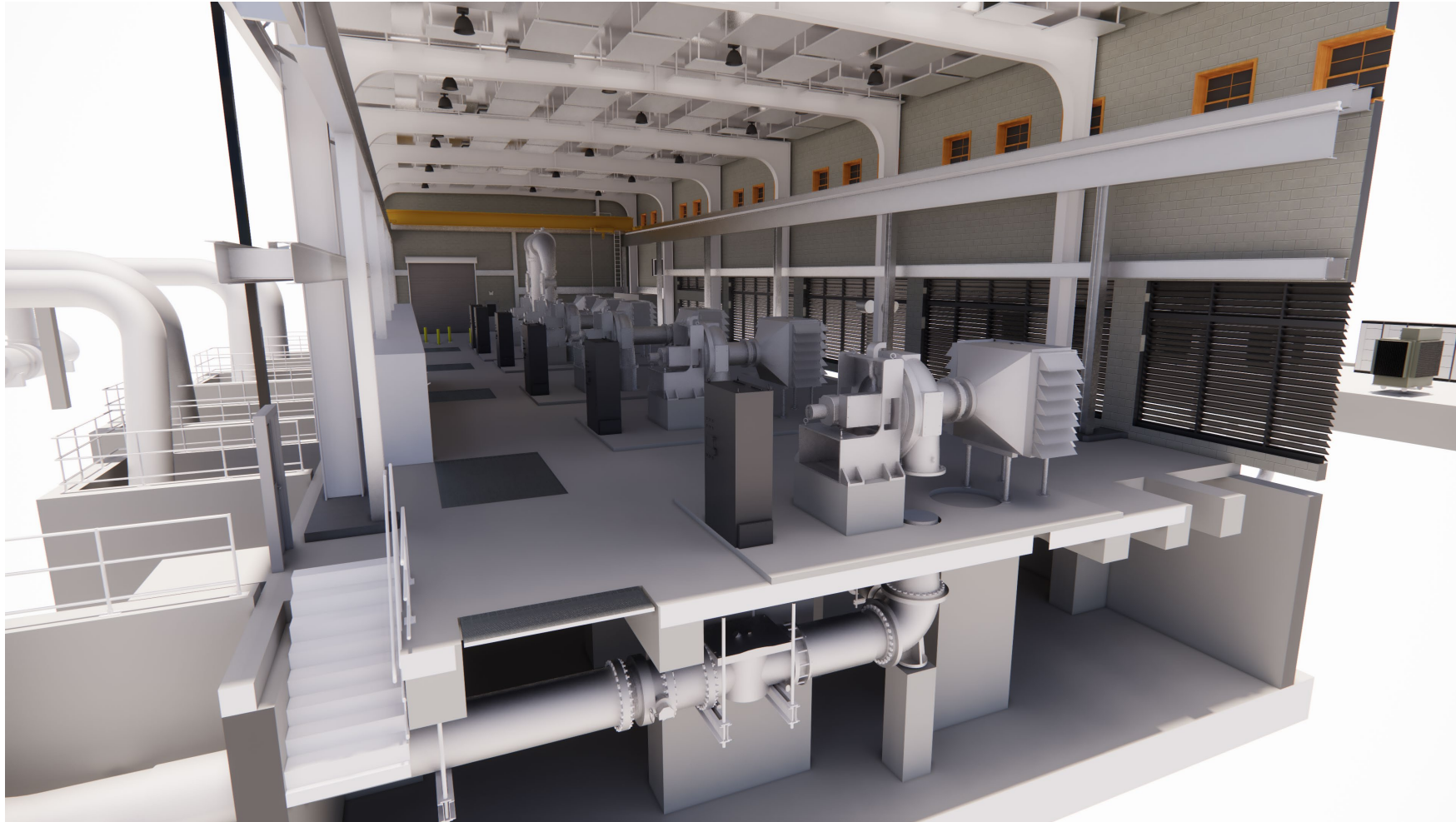
Component	Alternative 1A: Geared Single-Stage	Alternative 1B: Geared Single-Stage	Alternative 2: High Speed Turbo
Blower Maintenance	\$57,000	\$66,000	\$15,000
Electrical Cost	\$1,454,000	\$1,454,000	\$1,308,000
Total O&M Cost (April 2023)	\$1,511,000	\$1,520,000	\$1,323,000



The estimated OPCC and annual O&M costs were used to determine the net present value (NPV) of each blower alternative technology



**High speed turbo blowers were recommended as they provided the lowest capital cost and 20-yr NPV**





**There are two manufacturers that currently sell and market the 1+MW high speed turbo blowers**



**APG Neuros –  
Turbo Blower**



**Kawasaki – M55  
Mag Turbo Blower**

# Neuros has a presence and installation base in the North American market while Kawasaki is trying to get established

Parameter	Neuros	Kawasaki
Quantity	6 (5 duty + 1 standby)	6 (5 duty + 1 standby)
Motor Size	1,650 hp (1,200 kW)	1,864 hp (1,390 kW)
Blower Unit Footprint	66" x 68"	94" x 121"
Electrical Gear Size	196" x 48"	179" x 45"
PLC Panel	48" x 24"	Not Provided
Equipment Budgetary Cost	\$	\$\$



**The project is currently wrapping up the preliminary design phase with detailed design kicking off soon**

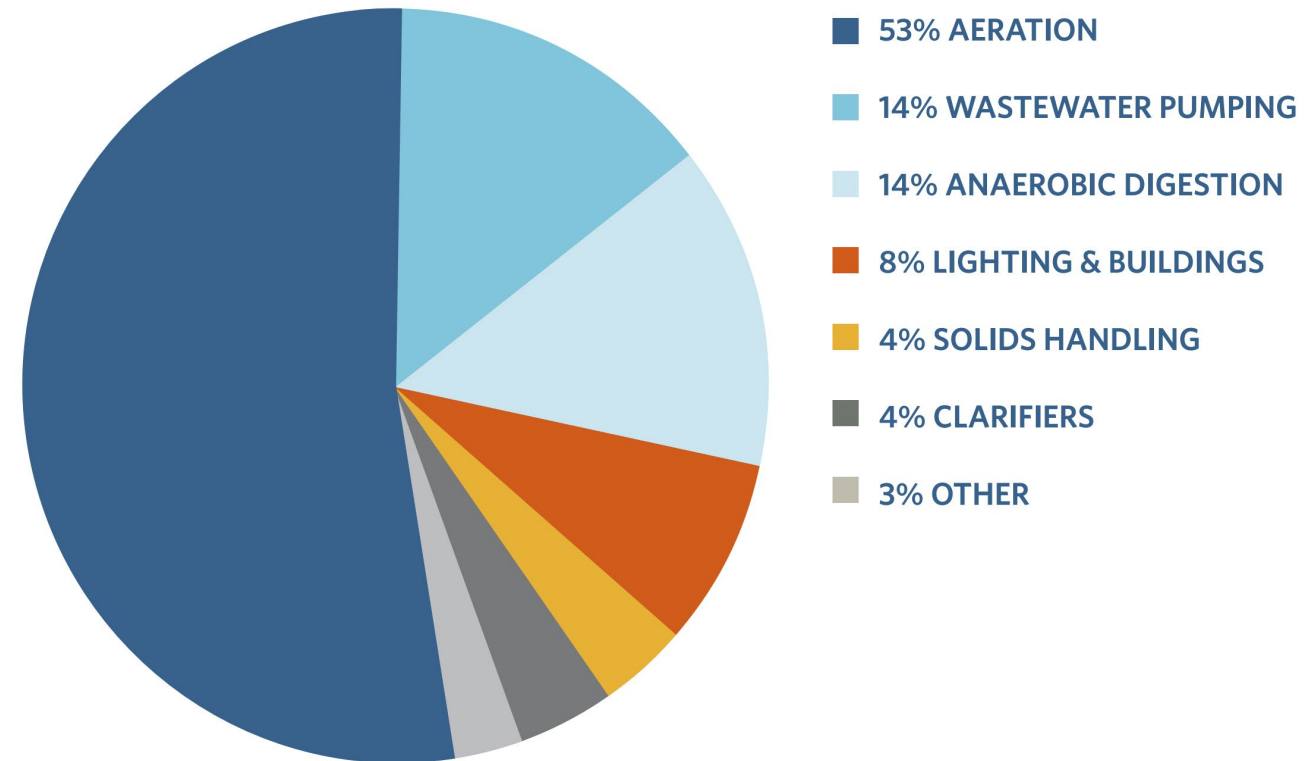


# A wastewater treatment plant will only be as efficient as its blower technology and aeration control system!

Efficiency is key for large blowers

Geared single stage and high-speed turbo blowers are the most efficient technologies on the market

An aeration control system should be considered to maximize the OM savings







**Questions?**

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