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**water reuse 3.0**

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**Project website: [www.iwec-water-reuse.eu](http://www.iwec-water-reuse.eu)**

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# MONITORING REPORT

## 1. SUMMARY

The commissioning of the water reuse installation at production site Wierden was in February 2015. Aim of the installation is to get (bacteriological) reliable water out of backwash water, with a low energy consumption and chemical use. The first results shows that making of reliable water is possible with the installation (good reduction of micro-biology and metals). The energy consumption of the installation itself is comparable with the amount of energy necessary for the extraction of groundwater, but there is also a same amount of energy necessary to keep the backwash water mixed in the storage tank. Tests will be done to look if mixing will be necessary in the future.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

Since February 2015 the backwash water at production site Wierden is not longer treated by sedimentation (see figure 1) but treated with (ceramic) membrane filtration (figure 2). . The monitored period in this report is from February till the end of April 2015.

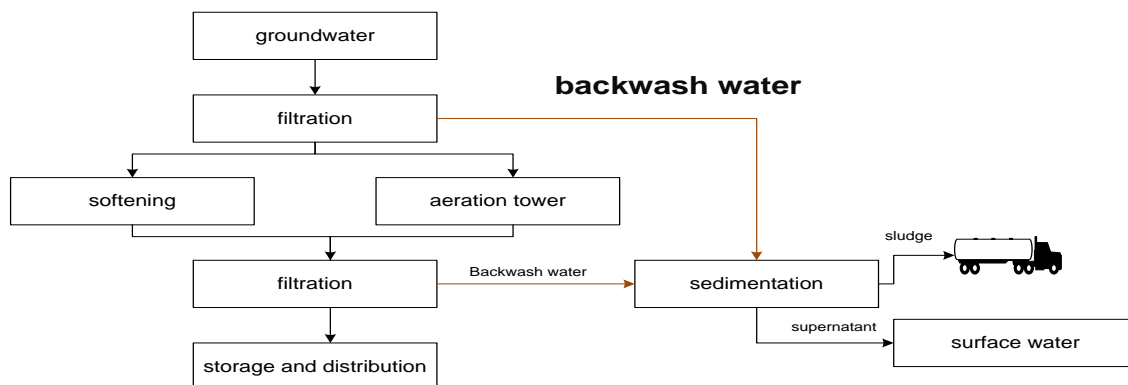


Figure 1; simplified PFD WTP Wierden, situation until February 2015

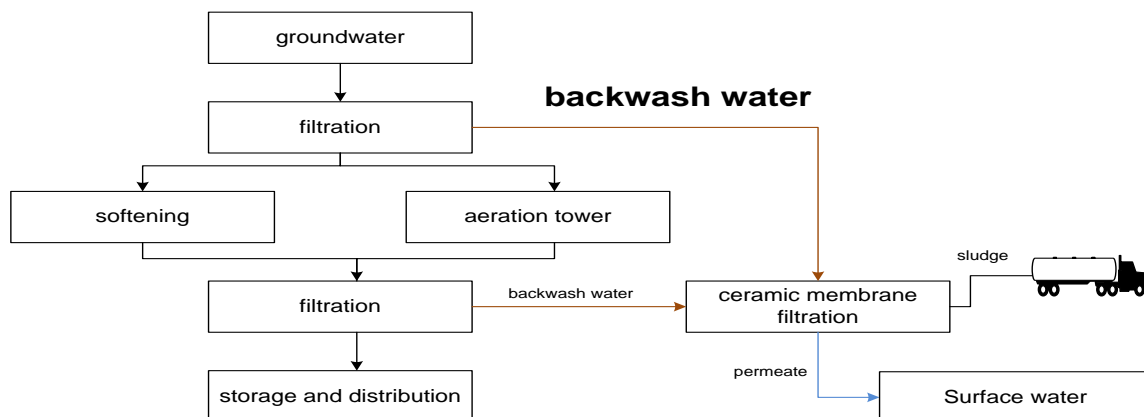


Figure 2; simplified PFD WTP Wierden, situation since February 2015

Until April 2015 the permeate of the ceramic membranes is not re-used, but discharged to the surface water. The main reason that the permeate is not reused is that some (hardware) modifications are not yet realized to make reuse possible. Since the commissioning of the installation about 55,000 m<sup>3</sup> of backwash water is treated with the installation. The average recovery of the installation in this period is 99%.

## 3. MONITORING ENERGY

Although the backwash water is yet discharged to the surface water, the amount of energy needed for the re-use installation is similar to the situation with re-use. The energy consumption of the total installation can be divided in 2 main parts: the mixing in the storage tank to prevent settling of suspend solids and the membrane installation itself.

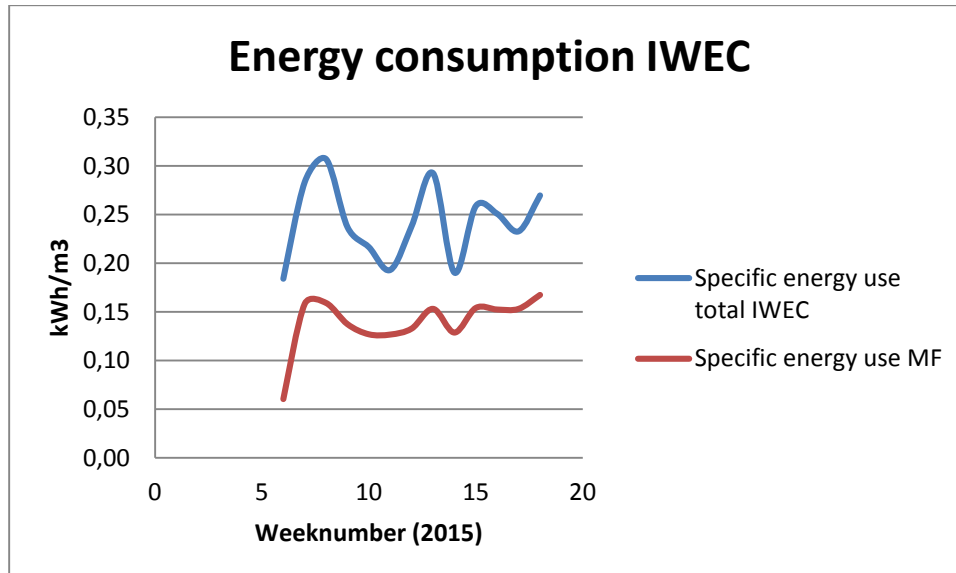


Figure 3; Energy use IWECEC system

The reference for energy consumption, is the needed energy for extracting groundwater in the well fields. If backwash water is reused, less groundwater has to be extracted to have the same amount of water to distribute tot the costumers. The needed energy for extracting groundwater is 0,16 kWh for this period. This amount of energy per m<sup>3</sup> is similar with the amount of energy for the membrane installation. Because the backwash water has to be mixed to prevent settling, extra energy is needed. This amount of energy is approximately 0,1 kWh/m<sup>3</sup>. A test will be done in the nearby future to look for the possibilities to reduce or stop mixing.

#### 4. MONITORING QUALITY:

Regarding the quality there are a few main aspects of the installation:

1. Micro-biological barrier
2. Reduction of suspended solids (turbidity)
3. Reduction of metals (Iron, Arsenic, Nickel, Zinc, etc)
4. Acidity

For monitoring the installation, three sample points are used; influent, permeate (effluent of membrane installation) and permeate 2 (same water as permeate 1, but sampling point close to point where the permeate will be added at the drinking water process). In appendix A all the results can be seen. In the text below, some parameters are mentioned specifically.

##### Ad 1) Micro biological barrier

The general parameter for a bacteriological activity is the Colony Forming Unit (CFU at 22°C). It's an estimation of the amount of living bacteria in a sample. In the monitored period, the amount of bacteria in the backwash water was relatively low and even lower than the Vitens upper limit. After the membrane installation the CFU 22°C was also lower than this limit, and similar as in the backwash water. One of the things for further research is, do bacteria pass the membrane (because amount of bacteria is equal in influent as effluent ) or, (more likely, regarding the higher

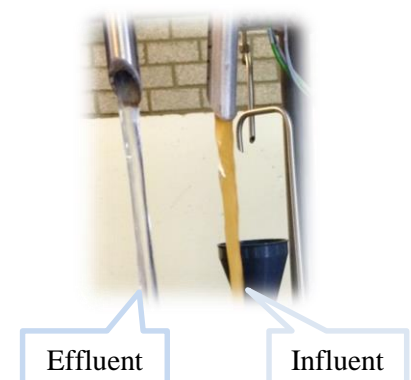


Figure 4; Visual difference between influent and effluent membrane installation (at sampling point).

CFU in the effluent as in the influent at 26-3 and removal of *Aeromonas*) are there some bacteria at the permeate side of the membranes and can they survive with the little amount of nutrients available in the permeate?

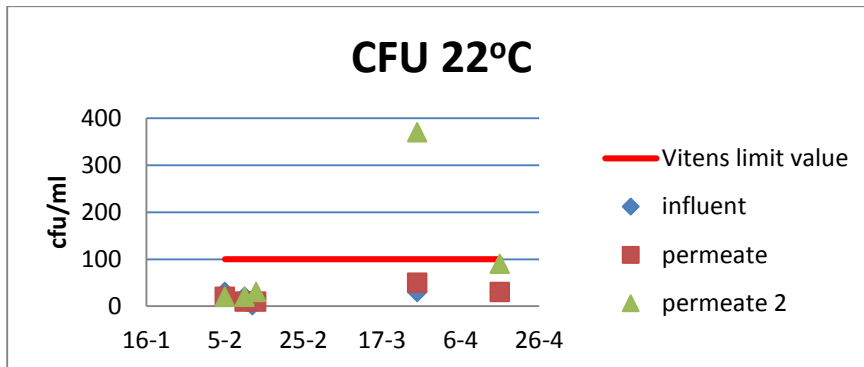


Figure 5; CFU influent and effluent

Regarding a more specific bacteria as *Aeromonas*, it's to see that the membranes do form a bacteriological barrier for this specific type of bacteria.

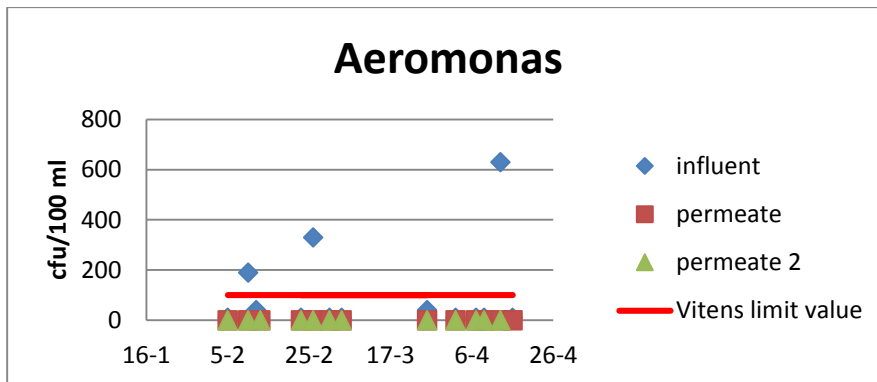


Figure 6; *Aeromonas* influent and effluent

Other specific bacteria as *E-coli*, *Enterococcus* and *Clostridium* were not detected in both influent as effluent. A test with dosing *E-coli* bacteria in the influent is scheduled.

## Ad 2) Reduction of suspended solids (turbidity)

The collected backwash water has a dry matter content of about 0,05%. The main component of the dry matter is iron oxide. This gives the water it's brown/orange color (can be seen in figure 4). Although the dry matter content is low, it gives a high turbidity. The membrane installation reduces the turbidity with a factor  $10^4$ , see figure 7.

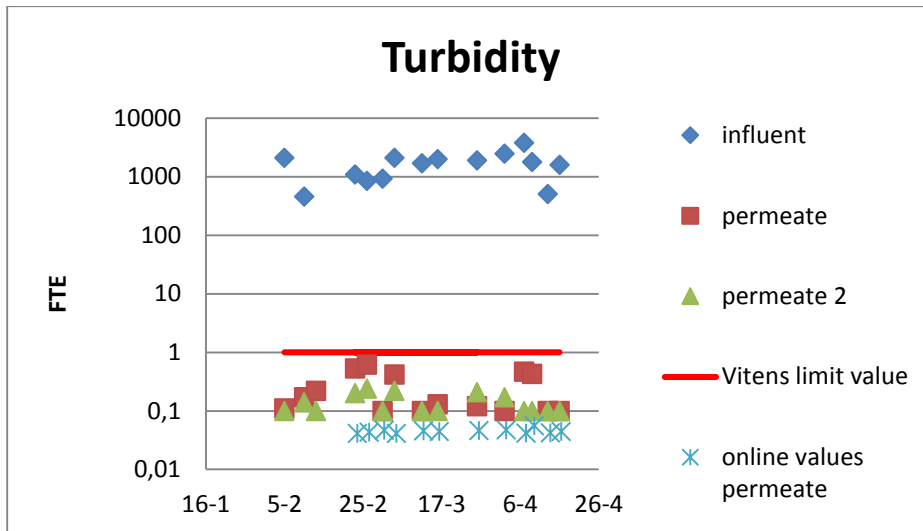


Figure 7; Turbidity influent and effluent

The online measuring in the permeate shows lower values than the laboratory values. This difference between laboratory and on-line values is a normal phenomenon which occurs at more Vitens sites.

**Ad3) Reduction of metals**

The groundwater at WTP Wierden contains many metals. The most common ones are iron and manganese. The pilot study<sup>i</sup> showed us that manganese was only partially removed. This is the main reason for an extra filterstep (already existing at WTP Wierden) after the membrane installation. In the full scale installation the manganese is removed partially as well, see figure 8.

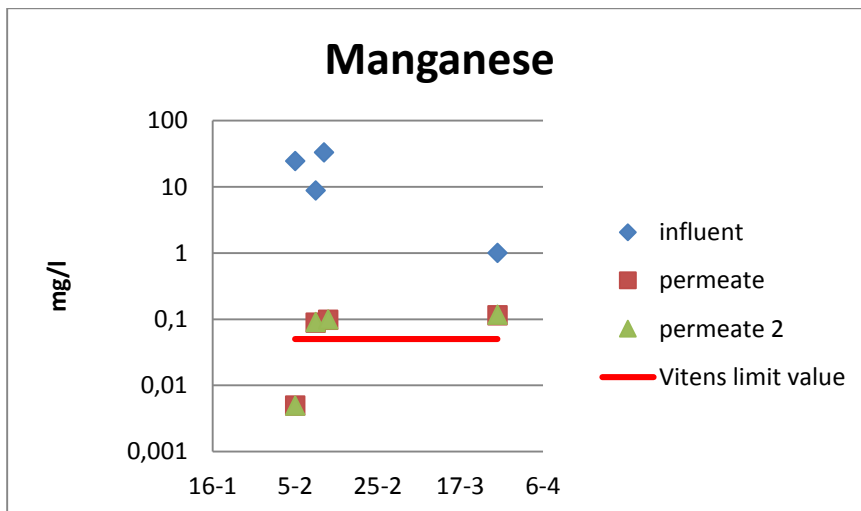


Figure 8; Manganese influent and effluent

Other metals in backwash water (Aluminum, Arsenic, Iron, Nickel, Zinc) are stopped by the membranes to below the company limits, see for graphs Appendix A.

**Ad 4) Acidity**

Filters are backwashed with drinking water, so the acidity met our standard. By adding Iron chloride (= acid) for better settling of sludge, the pH will decrease little (see figure 9) and is below the Vitens lower limit. Because the permeate is mixed with water from the already existing filters 11 en 21 (mainly for the removal of Manganese), the pH will increase.

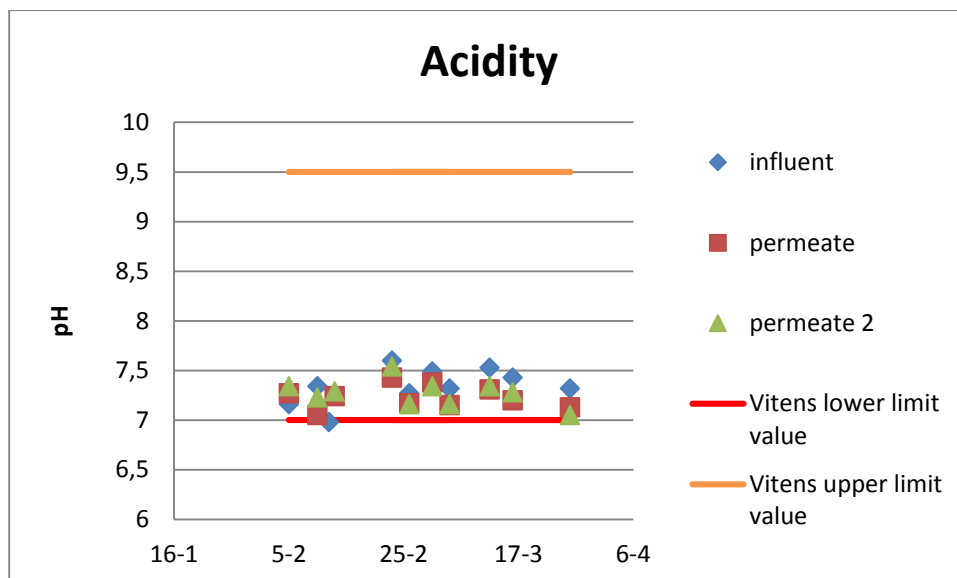
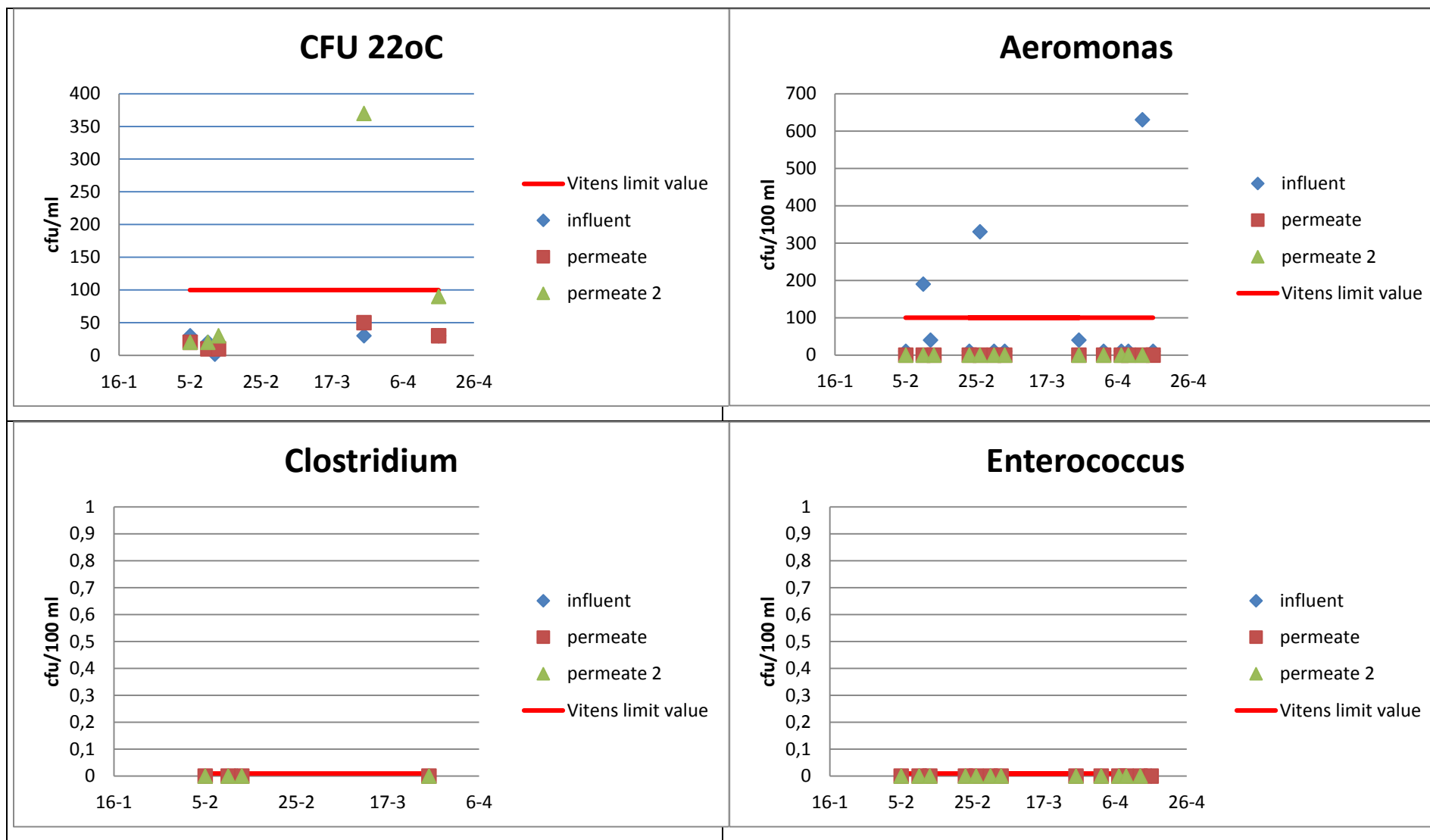


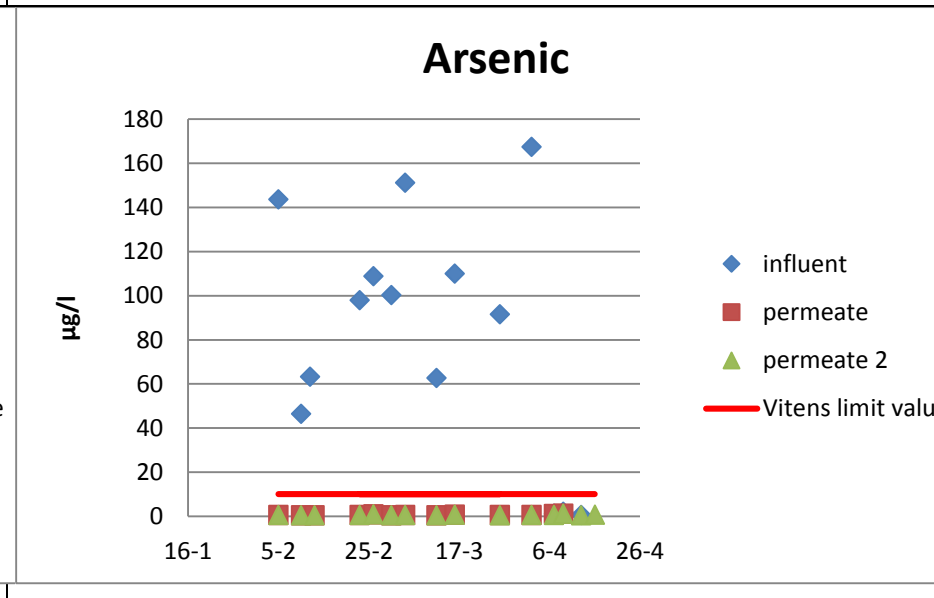
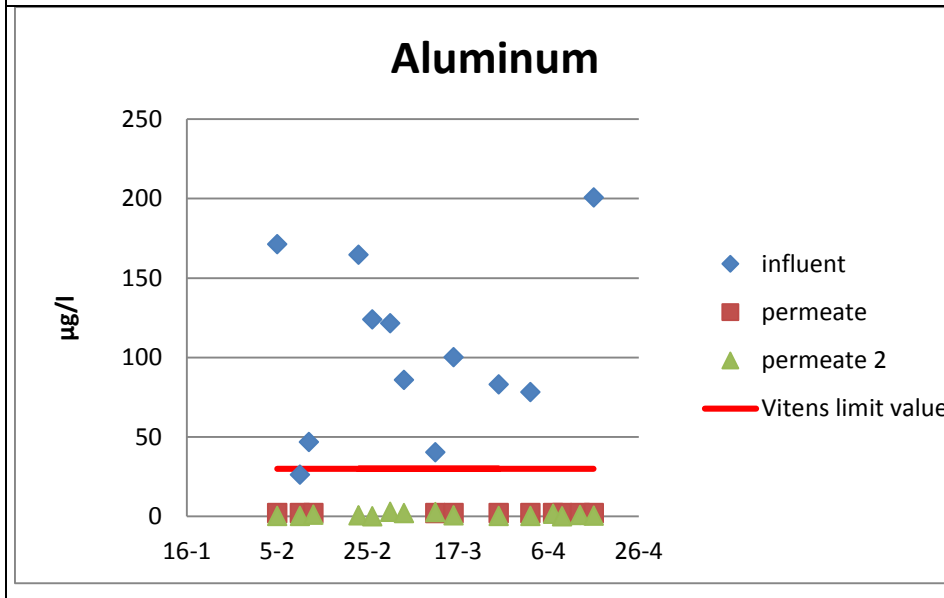
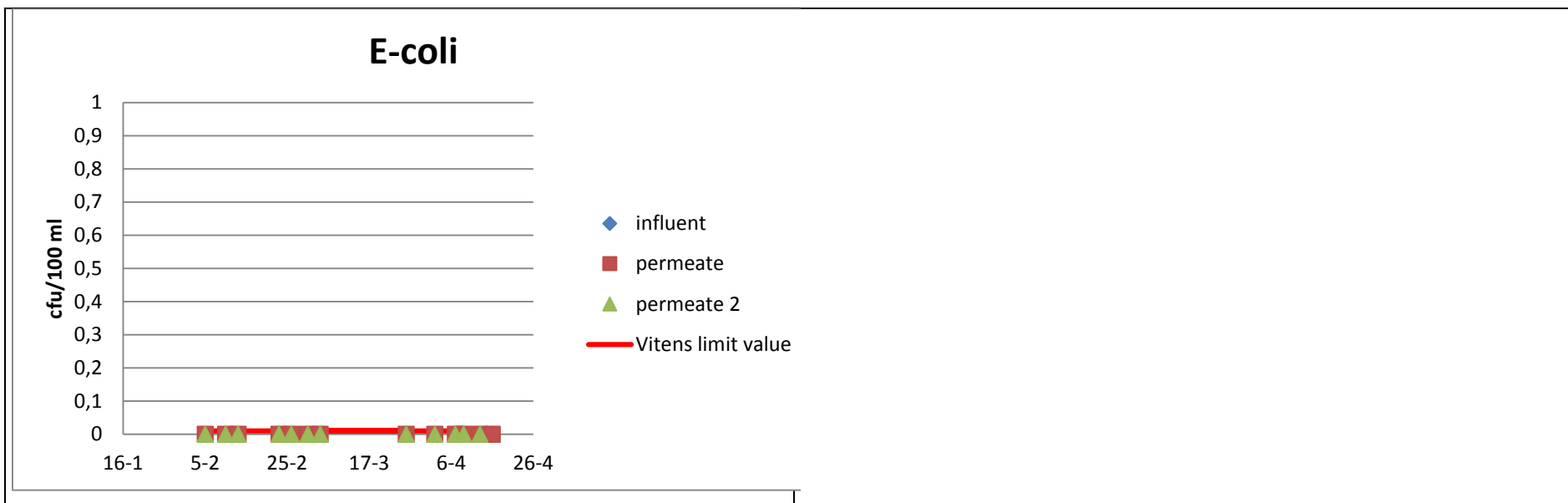
Figure 9; Acidity influent and effluent

## 5. OTHER PARAMETERS TO BE MONITORED

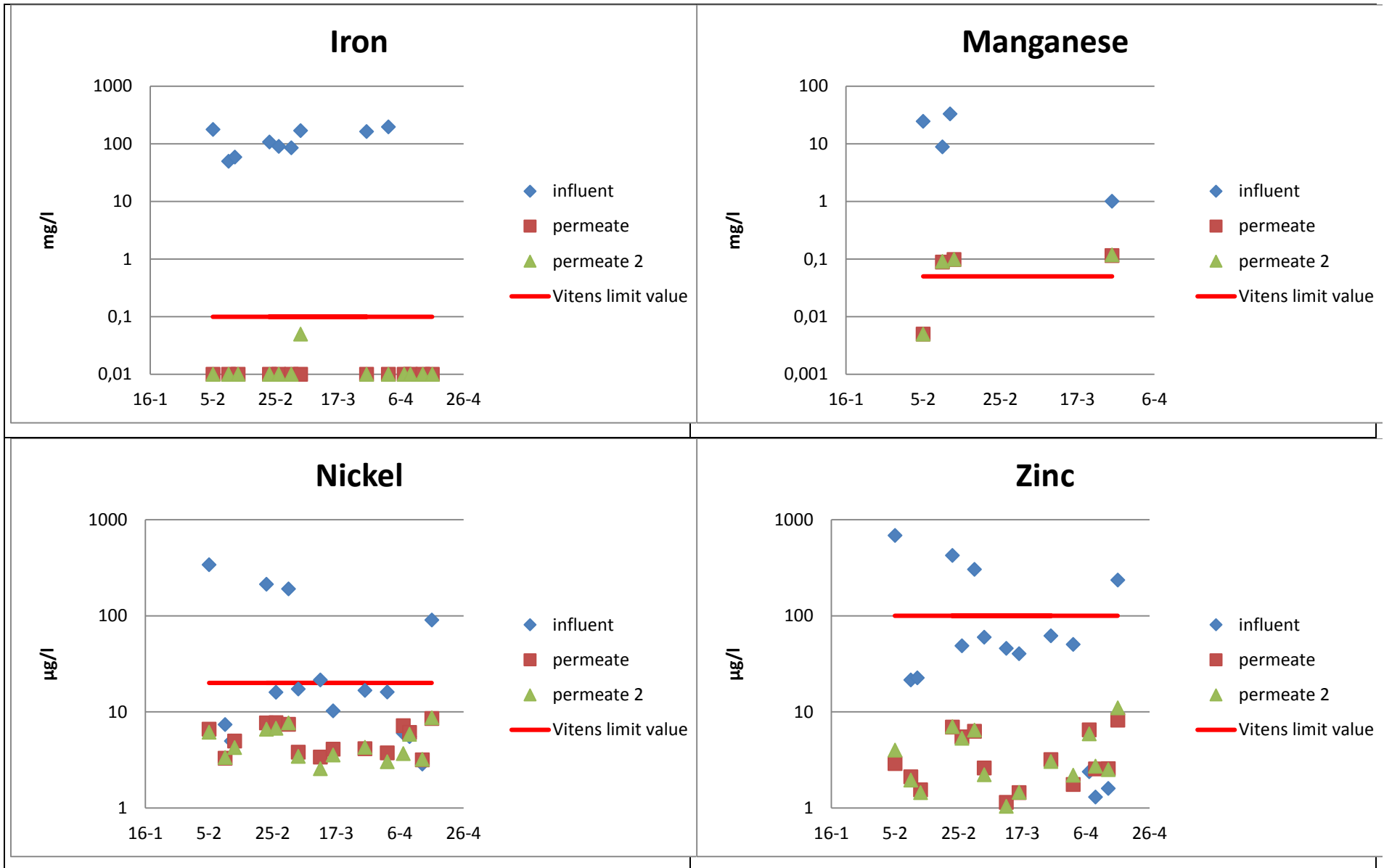
- Amount of produced sludge
  - In May 2015 the sludge storage will be emptied, before this moment it's hard to say something about the amount of sludge. The dry matter content of the backwash water is very low (between 0,02% and 0,05 %). After the installation the dry matter content of the sludge is between 0,75 en 1,5 %. The goal is to have a dry matter content after the sludge storage (settling) tank > 12%. If the dry matter content is too low an optimization in dosing  $\text{FeCl}_3$  is necessary.
- Chemical use
  - There are three different chemicals for the installation,  $\text{FeCl}_3$  (40%),  $\text{HCl}$  (10%) and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (35%). Since the commissioning till the end of April, the amount of chemicals used:
    - $\text{FeCl}_3$  1500 liter
    - $\text{HCl}$  155 liter
    - $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  5 liter
 Dosing of  $\text{FeCl}_3$  is not necessary for the working of the membrane installation, but is needed for the settling of the sludge. It's dosed at the influent of the installation in normal use, or in situation that the installation is not in use, or the amount of bakwash water is too high at the influent of settling tank 2. In this period the amount of  $\text{FeCl}_3$  dosed at het installation was 750 liter and dosed at the settling tank also 750 liter. Optimization of  $\text{FeCl}_3$  will be done as soon as the sludge storage tank is emptied and the dry matter content is known.
- Operational costs
  - Will be shown in next report
- Environmental and sustainable benefits
  - The results of the Life Cycle Analysis are not known at this moment, will be shown in next report
- User experiences
  - First experiences are good, seems to be a robust system with only a few start up problems.

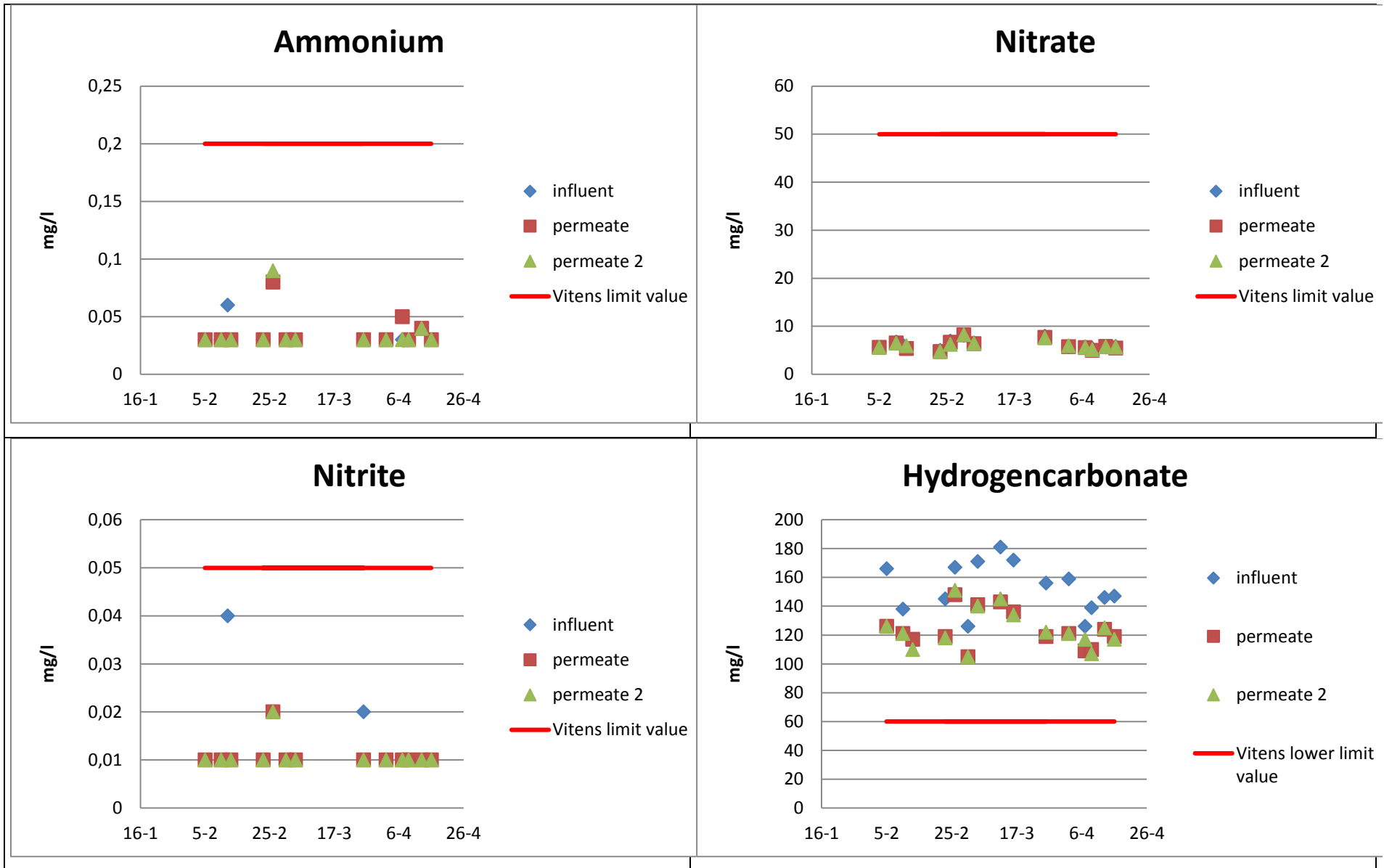
Appendix A; Waterquality

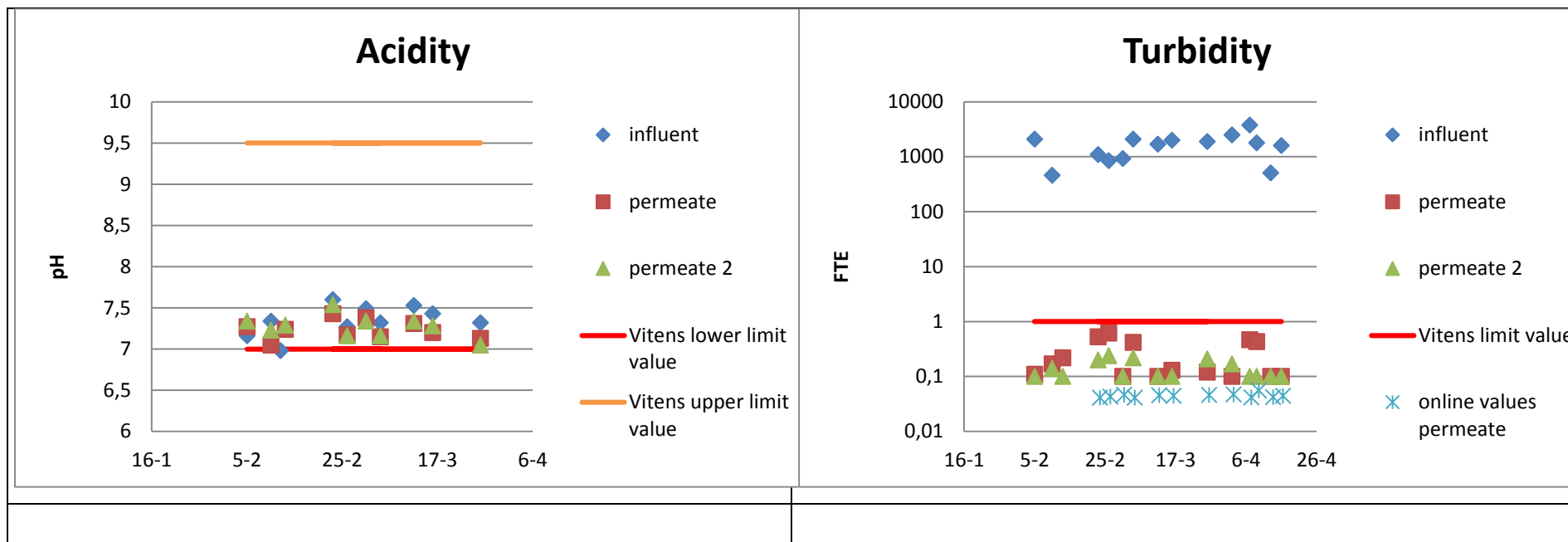












<sup>i</sup> [Paassen, van J. et al; Re-use of backwash water, Comparative study of 6 MF/ UF membranes; Vitens 2009](#)