

Optimal use of ground water for drinking water production by ceramic membrane filtration:

– Reuse of spent filter backwash water, max. capacity 70 m³/h –

Case description

Treatment of spent filter backwash water to drinking water.
 Increase amount of drinking water per m³ ground water intake
 Demonstration plant realized and commissioned in 2014

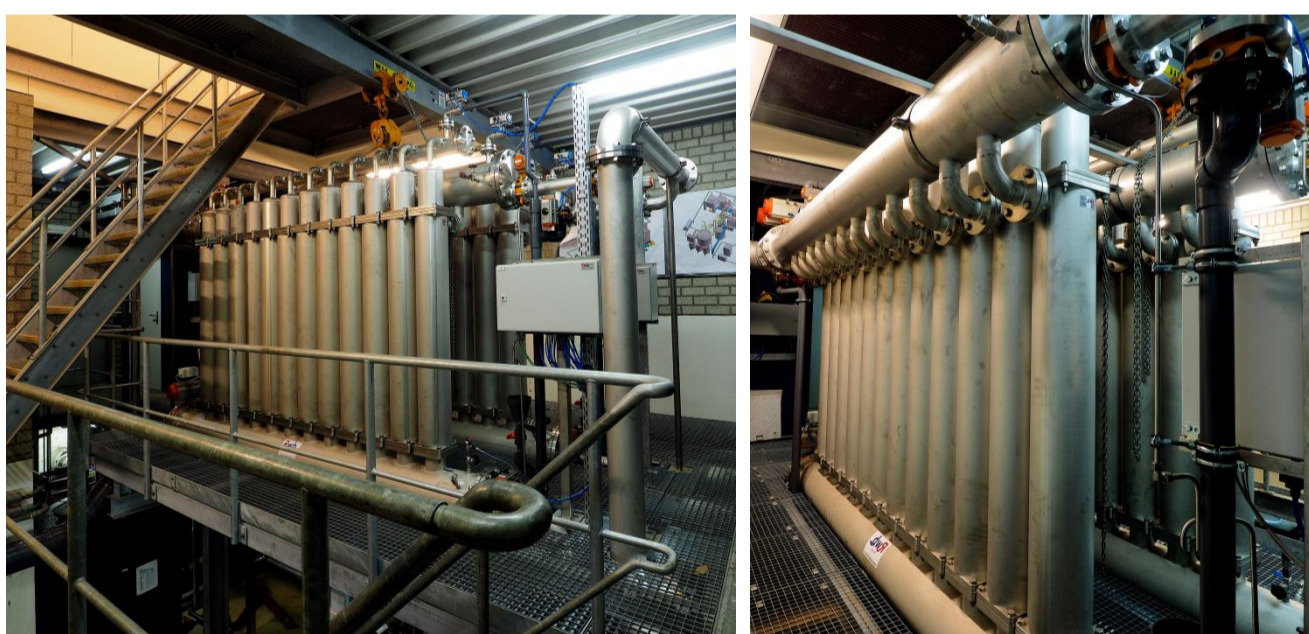


Location : drinking water production site Wierden, NL (Vitens N.V.)

I. Key features

- Increase plant efficiency by reuse
- Less ground water intake
- Reduction of ecological footprint
- Low energy input, dead-end filtration
- Long membrane lifetime and low OPEX
- Reduction of chemical consumption

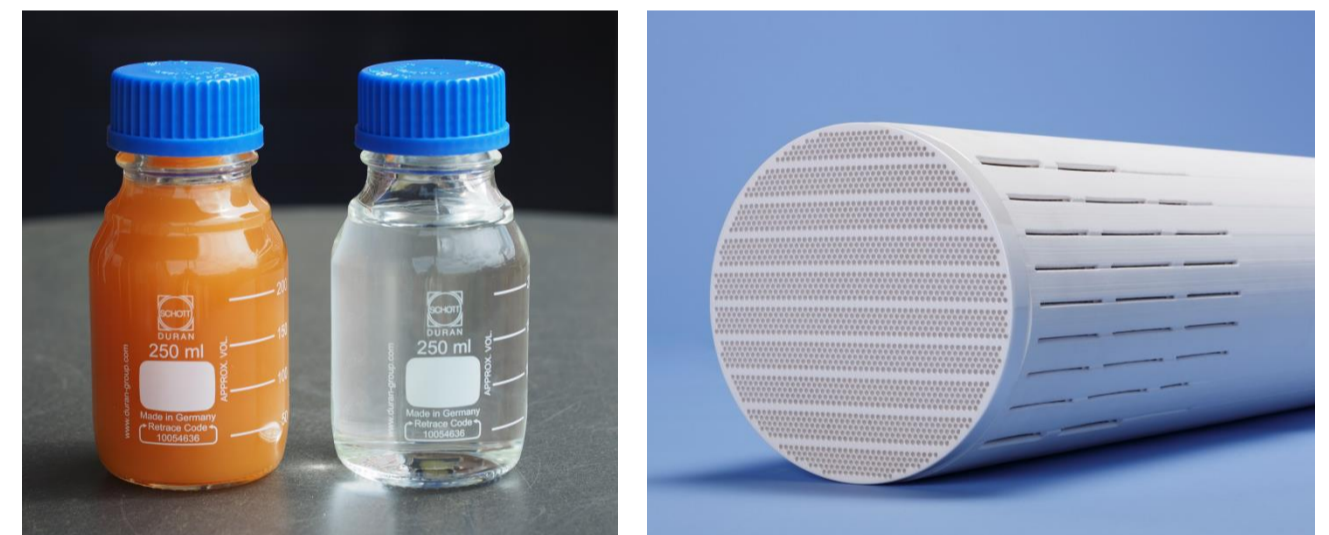
II. Plant design



Membrane pore : 0,1 μm
 Element membrane area : 25 m²
 Installed element no. : 2x 12

III. Performance

- Operational data 2015
- Clear permeate production: 0,042 NTU



Left to right: filter backwash water (feed), produced MF permeate (reused to produce drinking water), ceramic MF membrane (METAWATER Co., Ltd)

Key performance data	
Drinking water production	620.285 m ³
Sand Filter backwash water	20.058 m ³
MF permeate	19.771 m ³
MF backwash water	287 m ³
MF recovery	99 %
MF energy consumption	3.024 kWh
MF specific energy consumption	0,15 kWh/m ³
Reduction coagulant consumption	>90 %

Outcome and future prospective

Spent filter backwash water in Europe is expected to be in the range: **1,85 – 3,70 billion m³**. With its reduction of groundwater extraction, low specific energy consumption (0,15 kWh/m³), reduction of coagulant (>90 %) and reduction of waste water effluent, ceramic membrane filtration is a promising solution to increase the source water efficiency in Europe without creating an increase in the drinking water production price.