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Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Isn't that special...

Re: Isn't that special...

Author: : pcray1231

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URL:

Typically they are the same locations as sewage treatment facilities, but have extra processes to handle the frackwater (albeit still insufficient IMO). So frackwater treatment facilities are likely to also be sewage treatment facilities. But only a few sewage treatment facilities are capable of being frackwater treatment facilities.

Frackwater is not new to the state, the same stuff has been processed for years from the shallow gas wells. So we do have a few plants who historically have treated the stuff. The difference is volume. Those few plants do a fine job with many contaminates, but because they had a much smaller treated frackwater outflow, they were less concerned with salts. Just not enough salty water going out to effect the big rivers, so they didn't worry about it. Dilution is fine for salts. Now, the demand has increased considerably, and we have some problems. 1. There's just not enough capacity to handle it. and 2. If we increase the capacity without increasing the requirements on the salts, then the much higher volume of salty outflow is much more of a problem. Not enough dilution to handle the problem anymore.

I think I read recently that there are 6 facilities in the state which treat frackwater, and 12 permits for new, dedicated and higher tech treatment facilities. I can't find that reference now and don't know how old it is, so the numbers may have changed, some of the permits may have been accepted or unaccepted, etc.

I'm saying we should do everything we can to make sure the new ones are up to snuff. And then encourage their use over the old ones, or force the old ones to upgrade.