

Voltea receives €1.2M order for waste water re-use application

The Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment (MIE) has awarded a €1.2M order to Voltea for the development of CapDI for wastewater recycling, specifically for agricultural use. The funding comes from the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program, which issued a call for entrepreneurs to develop new solutions to help the Netherlands adapt to changes in climate and water.

Voltea received the €1.2M SBIR order after successfully completing a €50k feasibility study in 2010, showing that CapDI technology can desalinate wastewater more efficiently than other competing technologies such as Reverse Osmosis (RO). The feasibility study was carried out in collaboration with the Delft Blue Water project consortium (Delft, Evides, Veolia, Hoogheemraadschap Delfland). As part of the upcoming project, Voltea will build a full scale-treatment line, featuring CapDI technology, which will desalinate 5- 10 m³/hr of effluent from the Harnaschpolder Wastewater Treatment Plant near Delft. The project's goal is to produce desalinated water that can be reused for irrigation of local greenhouses. Voltea has assembled a dedicated team for the project, including members with expertise in wastewater treatment.

The development of CapDI technology for wastewater reuse is particularly timely. In recent years, regulations have become stricter regarding the quality of effluent discharged from wastewater treatment plants into rivers or the sea. Additionally, new restrictions have limited farmers in their use of surface water for irrigation. This regulatory environment makes wastewater reuse for agricultural purposes an attractive option for farmers, wastewater treatment plant operators, and companies providing wastewater reuse solutions.

This project is of high importance to both the Ministry and Voltea. For the Ministry, the project means meeting important climate and water change goals. For Voltea, the SBIR grant provides an enormous opportunity to adapt and develop CapDI technology for the wastewater reuse market. Voltea CEO, Michiel Lensink comments: "Water re-use is a major trend in the water industry and this project will give Voltea the opportunity to demonstrate that our CapDI technology is one of the most efficient technologies for the desalination of brackish water". The SBIR was awarded during a public ceremony at Voltea on May 26th.

For more information please see:

<http://www.agentschapnl.nl/onderwerp/projecten-sbir-klimaatadaptie-tweede-ronde>

<http://www.zie.nl/video//m1gz5t7fp836>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMVwe2QB62c>