I, employee at the sewage plant in Mannheim, would welcome stricter directives for wastewater treatment and financial resources to evaluate new procedures.

P.O.V STATEMENT

STAKEHOLDER
Everyone

INDUSTRY SECTOR
Municipal Services
Collection, discharge and treatment of seage and rainwater from the urban area

by Bartosz Wilkuzs Sewage plant Mannheim

SIGNIFICANCE OF ISSUE

A good example for this issue is the activated carbon powder (ACP) system, known as the fourth treatment stage for the elimination of drug recidues, contrast medium and 3000+ other trace quantities. The first project with ACP on an industrial scale was led by scientists from the Biberach University of Applied Sciences in cooperation with the sewage plant in Mannheim. The pilot project started in 2010 and the effectiveness of this method has been verified in a number of measurement tests. Since 2014, this system is expanded for the full flow and in the future it will be able to treat 1,500 litres of clarified wastewater per second. The ACP system is not prescribed by the legislators and therefore the willingness of cities to invest in such pilot projects is low. Mannheim had the advantage of free basins at that time, that only needed to be modified. And because the modification of existing basins was much cheaper than building additional ones, the city of Mannheim agreed to the pilot project. Today, 90% of the waste water in Mannheim is processed through the ACP system and some other sewage plants in Baden-Württemberg adopted this system. Without the willingness of city administration and population to pay slightly higher charges or of the government to enact stricter directives an improvement and evaluation of new procedures won't be possible.

SOURCES

https://www.mannheim.de/sites/default/files/institution/1035/environmental_report.pdf
https://koms-bw.de/technologien/adsorptive_verfahren/