AEAS position on the Regulation on Minimum Requirements for Water Reuse

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AEAS – WHO WE ARE

Since 1973

Operation, maintenance and management of urban water services – public, private, mixed

80% of the population
Spain: 46.6 million inhabitants

TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS AND JOINT WORKING GROUPS

TC 1. Water catchment and hydrological planning
TC 2. Water quality
TC 3. Water supply network
TC 4. Drainage and floods
TC 5. Waste water treatment and reuse
TC 6. Commercial management and customer service
TC 7. Economy
JWG 1. R+D+I
JWG 2. Social responsibility
JWG 3. Water and energy nexus
WATER REUSE IN SPAIN

- Water reuse in Europe: 1.100 million m³/year
- Water reuse in Spain: 347 million m³/year

Regulation on water reuse in Spain since 2007
IS THE PROPOSAL SAFE FOR CONSUMERS?

- Similar level than California, Australia, ISO 16075, …

- No evidence about problems of reclaimed water related with this practice

- European Directive about bathing water quality (Excellent water: 500 ufc E. Coli)

- Guidelines of EFSA (Water for irrigation of FFVs: 100 ufc E. Coli)
AEAS POSITION: SUPPORT TO THE NEW REGULATION (although it’s really difficult to comply), BUT IT SHOULD BE IMPROVED

REAL COSTS:

- Investments costs “fit for purpose” 150 – 170 €/m3/day (not 38)
- Operational costs (only treatment) 0,20 – 0,25 €/m3

Precaution with validation and risk assessment cost
PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE THE REGULATION AND PROMOTE THW WATER REUSE

✓ The current management system in proposal considers WATER AS A BUSINESS and we think water reuse is an alternative, necessary and valuable source of water and it should be asked by users, and controlled and managed by Water Authority

✓ Currently all the responsibility is for the operator and we think it should be shared with the user. The operator only can act on their facilities and cannot make decisions about irrigation or storage systems, mix of waters, crops,…

✓ We think that more flexibility would be necessary, specially for validation of Class A in small plants or second treatments in mixed crops.

✓ Entry into force in one year we think it’s absolutely impossible for existing facilities, there are so many things to change that minimum it should be three years.
In usual case without disinfection, the mixed water will have 5000 ufc E. Coli.
Thank you very much for your attention