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## AN INNOVATIVE WATER CLEANING SYSTEM

Bjarne Segerstéen, waste water manager of Östra Göinge municipality tells us about the new water cleaning system that has been successfully tested and implemented at Knislinge waste water treatment plant.

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The waste water treatment plant in Knislinge has reached its peak capacity. So the Östra Göinge municipality plans large investments and upgrades of the plant in the following years. The waste water plant is small, adapted to a population of 14 600 inhabitants. We wanted a new solution that is environmentally friendly, using as few chemicals as possible and that also is energy saving. We also wanted to use as much as possible of the plant itself. So the water from the two local treatment plants in Broby and Sibbhult will be united with the water in Knislinge plant, to save valuable money and resources in the municipality. When the Knislinge plant has been rebuilt, the plants in Broby and Sibbhult will be closed down.

A pilot project was carried out during the course of the autumn 2012, indicating that a more efficient cleaning process is manageable in the already existing plant infrastructure. Subcontractors to the municipality sublet necessary equipment for the pilot tests during eight weeks and the process was evaluated by the Lund Technical University, with good test results.

The sludge is a resource which contains phosphorus, nitrogen etcetera. If as much as possible of the sludge is removed before the water purification, a lot of energy is gained. The company Conpura provided us with a unit that cleans sludge from unsuitable parts and removes as much as possible of the sludge itself. The sludge can be used as fertilizer and to make soil. The most economical way to take care of the sludge is to build a major biogas plant, which Östra Göinge is discussing with six other municipalities. In spring we will know when construction of the plant will start.

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There are reference plants in USA, France and England, but there are none in Sweden yet. The water cleaning process described is very simple and does not need a lot of space. It can be dimensioned to manage minor water flows and parallel lines can be added to make it larger, if necessary. It is also user friendly and the personnel can work in a cleaner environment. The technique is put together in an innovative way. I really believe it is a good solution for small and average waste water treatment plants.



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