

Reuse of treated municipal wastewater effluents in Spain: Regulations and most common technologies, including extensive treatments

Enrique Ortega*, Raquel Iglesias

Department of Wastewater Treatment, Reclamation and Reuse, Hydrology Research Center (CEH) of CEDEX,

Paseo Bajo de la Virgen del Puerto, 3, 28005 Madrid, Spain

Tel. +34 (91) 3358006; Fax +34 (91) 3357922; email: enrique.ortega@cedex.es, raquel.iglesias@cedex.es

Received 24 April 2008; Accepted in revised form 25 June 2008

ABSTRACT

This paper analyses the factors which have influenced the significant development of treated wastewater reuse in Spain, whose volume is currently estimated at about 368 Hm³/y. Likewise, it will review current legal requirements affecting such water reuse, especially Royal Decree 1620/2007 [1] which establishes the “legal regime for reuse of treated municipal wastewater”. It will also describe and assess the most widely-used technologies for getting reclaimed water in Spain, and discuss the role that extensive technologies may have in small communities.

Keywords: Wastewater; Reuse; Regulations; Reclamation; Treatment; Extensive treatments

* Corresponding author.

Presented at the 2nd International Congress, SMALLWAT '07, Wastewater Treatment in Small Communities, 11–15 November 2007, Seville, Spain