

# SOLAR POWERED ELECTROKINETIC SOIL DESALINATION OF BRINE RELEASES

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# Current Remediation Technologies for Brine Spills

- Dig and Haul
- Amend and/or Flush
  - Protective of an aquifer ? Chloride?*
- Cap
  - Generally not acceptable to land owner*
- Others??

# Electrokinetic Remediation ?

- Application of direct current (DC) electricity to the soil
- Polarized electrodes invoke movement of pore water and ions contained in the pore water, even in low permeability soils

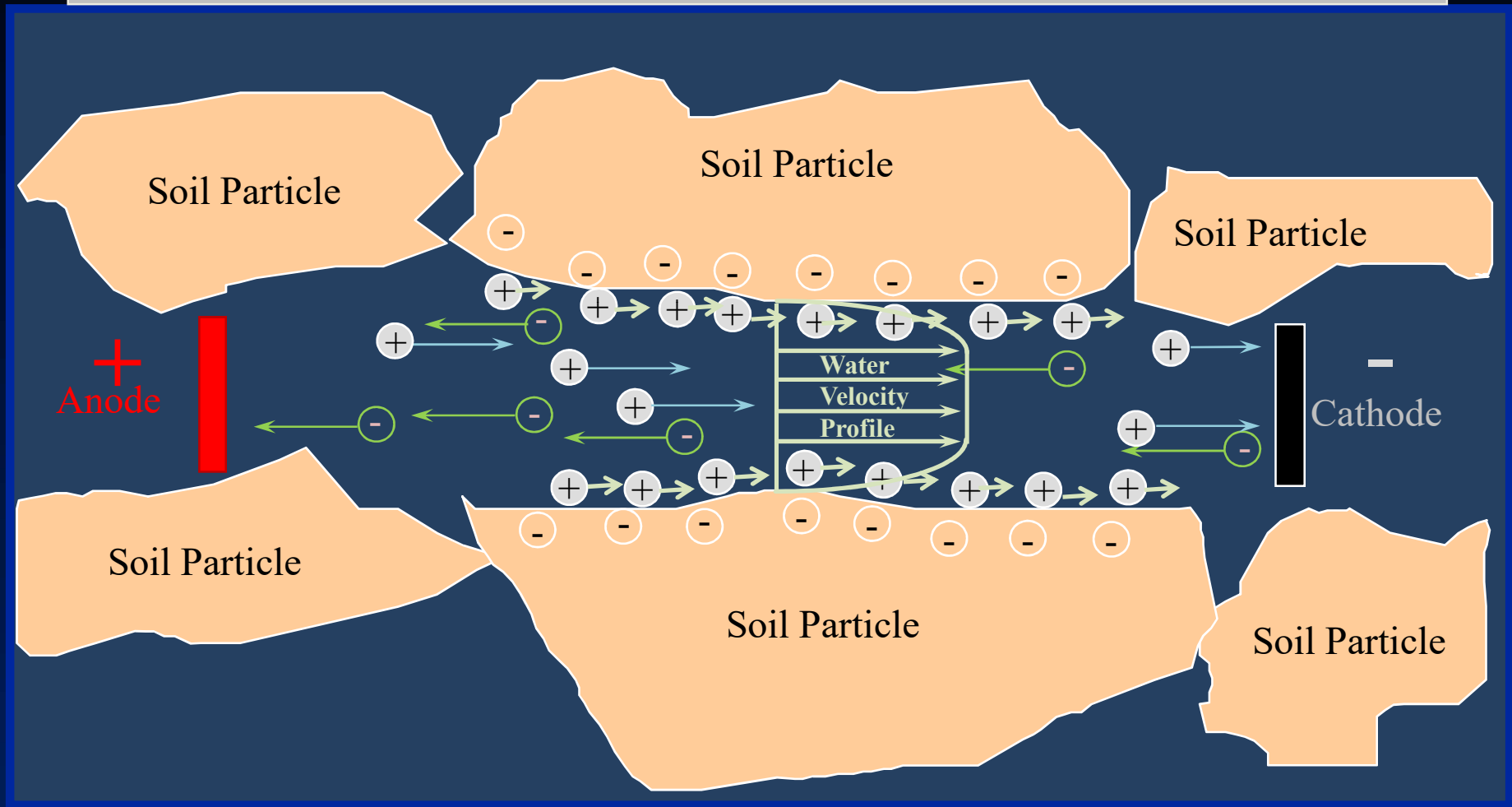
# Electrokinetics

- Electroosmosis – Movement of pore water and dissolved contaminants toward the cathode
- **Electromigration** – Migration of ionic species toward respective electrodes (anions toward anode, cations toward cathode) by electrical attraction
  - $EM \sim 10 \times EO$ , depending on size and charge



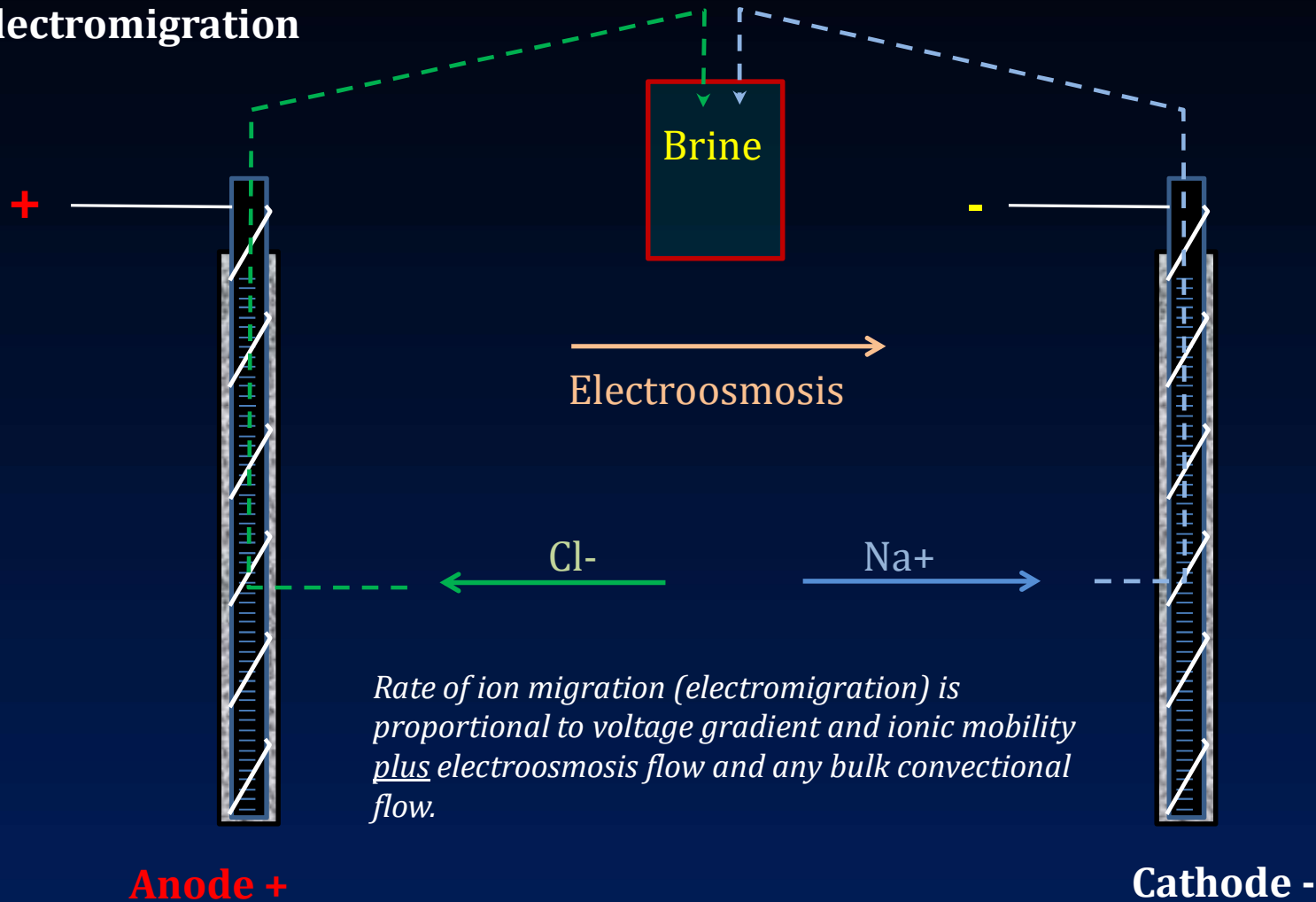
# Principles of ElectrokINETICS

Electroosmosis = Water Transport from anode to cathode  
Electromigration = Ion Transport to the opposite electrode



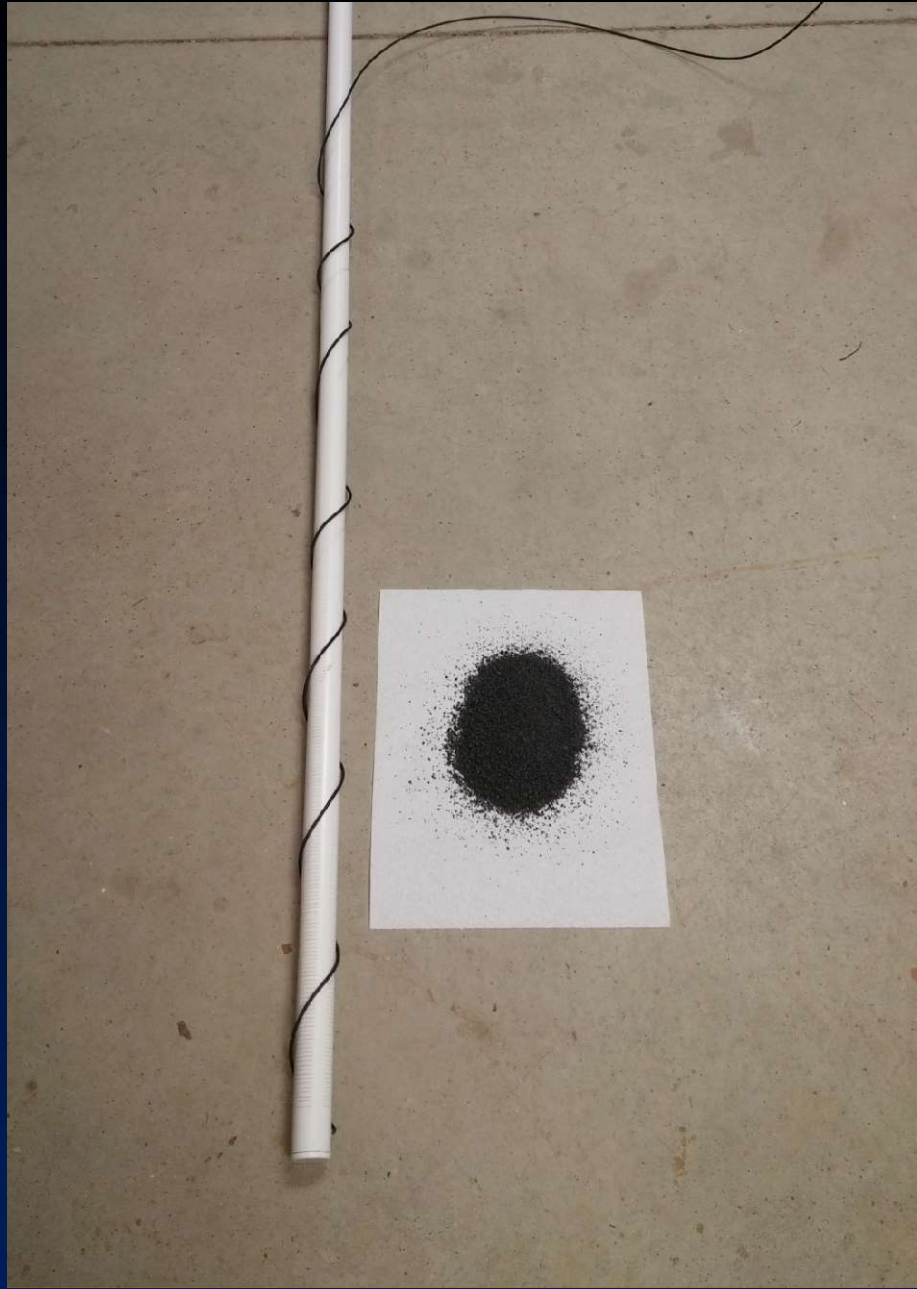
# EK Desalination Application

Electromigration



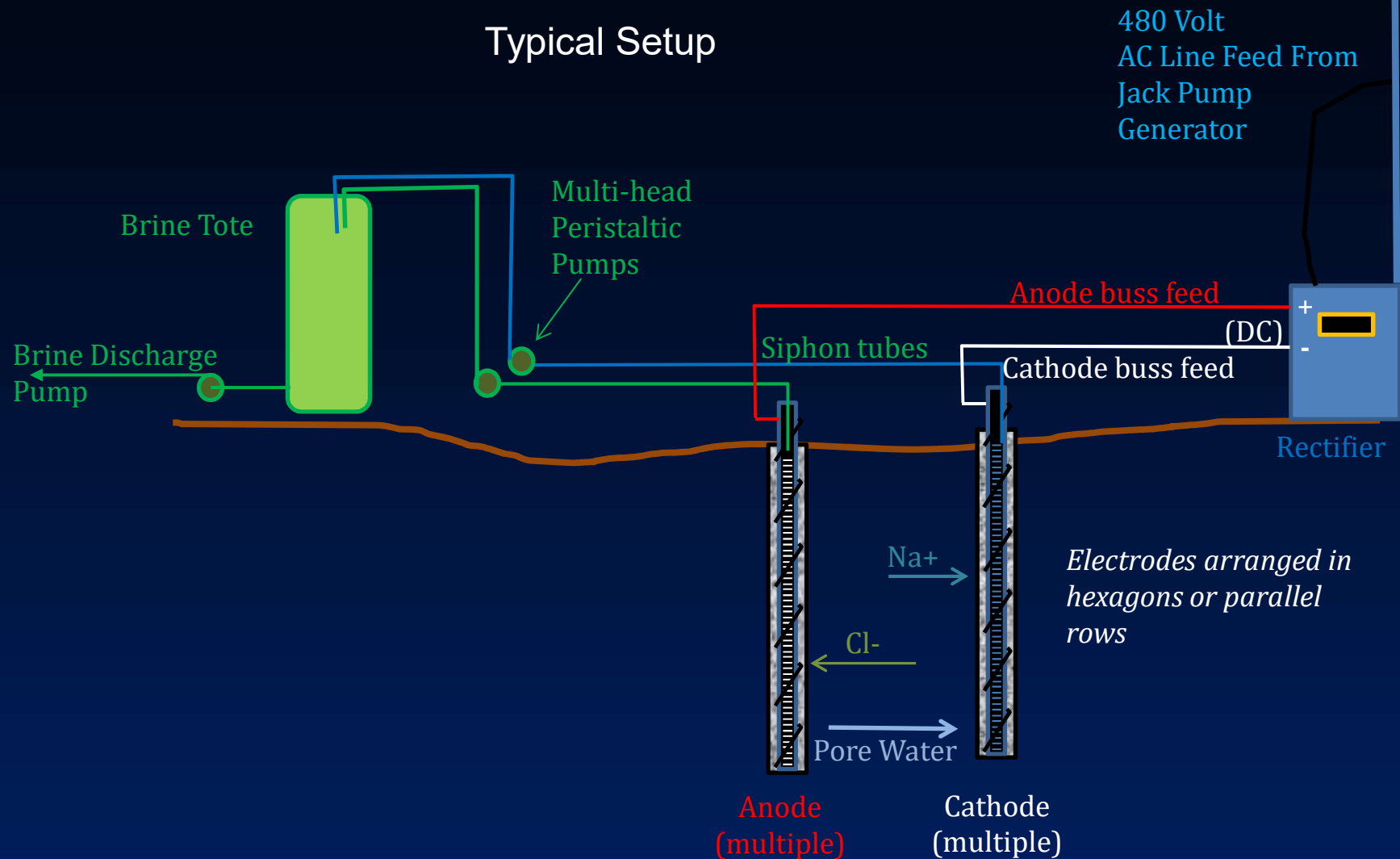
# Field Scale Design

- Readily available equipment and parts (lowest costs)
- Electrodes are installed like miniature wells
  - Slotted 1" PVC well screen (24 cathodes, 69 anodes)
  - DSA wire wrapping as primary electrode
  - Backfill annulus with conductive backfill material (example-Loresco SWS®)
  - Installed with hydraulic push (Geoprobe®) or small drill rig
- Extraction equipment is multi-head peristaltic pumps (peristaltic) operated on a timer
- Passive as possible operation

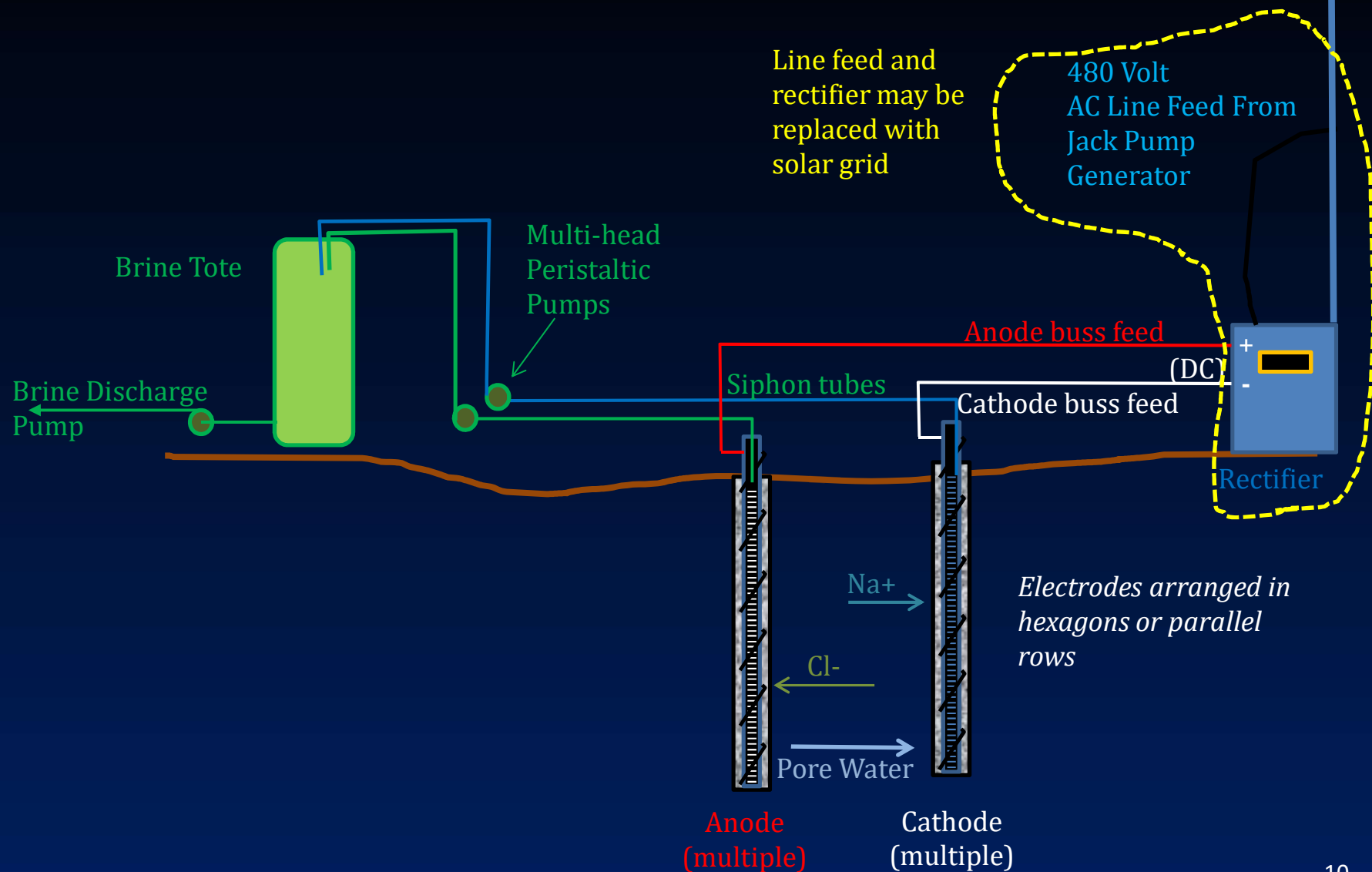




# EK Desalination Process



# EK Desalination Process



Electrode/Wells are pushed in using a Direct-Push system





# Installed EK system at the Connie Site



# Lessons Learned to Date

- Small amount of chlorine gas generated at anode (expected) due to oxidation of chloride
- Choose materials and pump equipment wisely
- Rectifier sensitive to “noisy power” from well head generator



# Current Status

- EK desalinization is working at the demonstration site *(and some valuable lessons learned)*
- Regulators and Corporate on board
- Next step is to incorporate solar power

# Schmitz Site



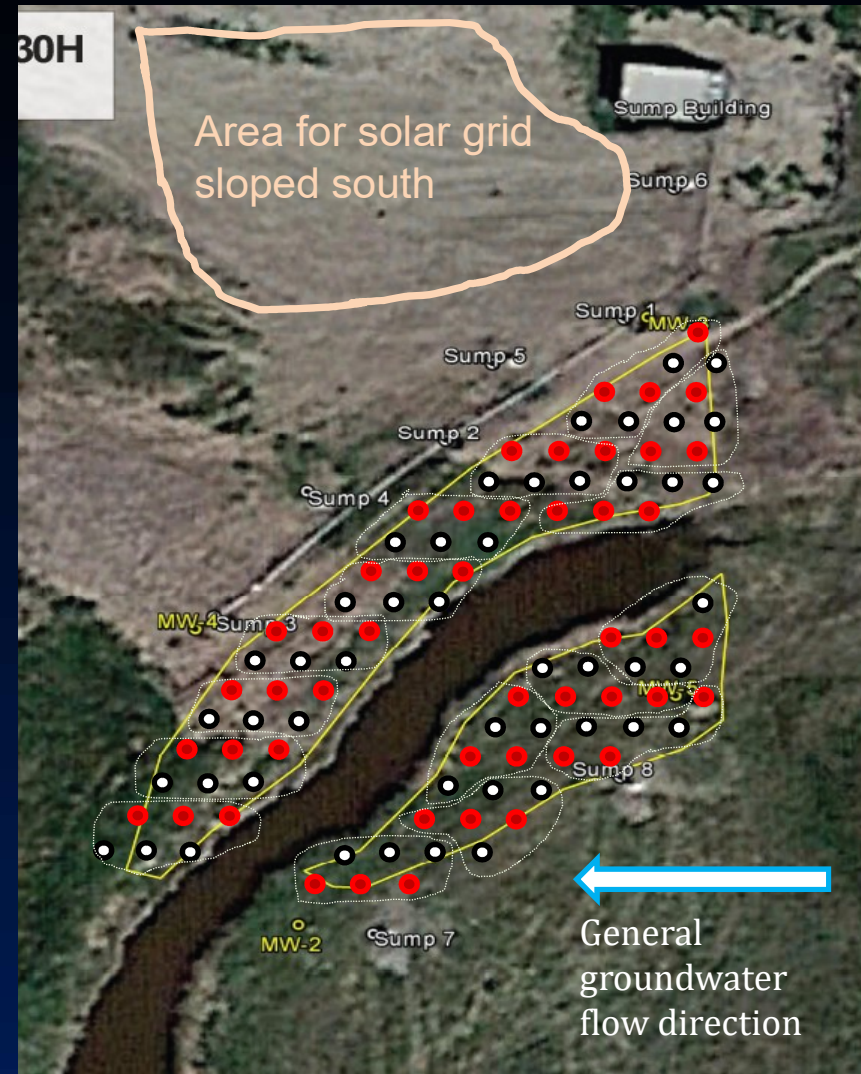


# Schmitz Site Layout

Naturally south sloping area nearby for solar grid

**48 Anodes** and **48 Cathodes** aligned parallel with groundwater flow to deflect chloride and sodium ions toward electrode wells

16 Sub grid area of 2 KW each serviced by 8 250W panels – 128 total panels



# Sodium & Chloride Removal

- Model predicts 2 summers for the chloride to reach anodes
- System to be operated from late spring to early fall each year
- Operations coincide with peak solar incidence. Siphon pumps and tubing will need to be removed during winter months
- Removed ion-rich water will be monitored for conductivity as operations guide

<b>Project Associated Expense</b>	<b>NDIC's Share</b>	<b>Applicant's Share (In-Kind)</b>
Site Investigation and Prep - Direct	\$0	\$0
Investigation and Prep - Labor	\$0	\$0
System Design - Labor	\$0	\$0
Equipment/Materials	\$102,960	\$0
Installation - Direct	\$0	\$68,000
Installation - Labor	\$12,000	\$38,160
Operations - Direct	\$0	\$30,000
Operations -Labor	\$30,000	\$0
Monitoring - Direct	\$0	\$40,000
Monitoring - Labor	\$5,000	\$0
Demobilization - Direct	\$0	\$20,000
Demobilization - Labor	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$149,960</b>	<b>\$196,160</b>



# Budget

- Installation requires:
  - Equipment
    - Multi-head peristaltic pumps
    - Electrode wells (96)
    - Wire and tubing for each well
    - Data system
    - 32KW Solar Array + infrastructure
  - Labor – Electrical hookups and plumbing
  - Direct – Well installation and drilling

# Budget

- Operation requirements:
  - Oversight and data management (Terran)
  - Fluids management (Oasis subcontractor)
  - Sampling and analysis (Oasis + subcontractor)

# Budget

- Management and Reporting:
  - Required summaries and updates
  - Annual report and evaluation

# Summary

- EK Desalinization shows promise
- Solar appears to be a natural fit
- The Schmitz site lends itself a good test case with back-up provisions available
- **Ideal outcome:**
  - Oasis gets a cleaned site
  - Terran develops a proven remediation tool
  - North Dakota has a viable option for remote brine release sites