



Great Lakes HABs Collaboratory

Linking Science and Management to Reduce Harmful Algal Blooms

HABs State of the Science Webinar series: HABs & Safe Drinking Water
Thursday July 7, 2016, 1:00-2:00 p.m. (EDT)

Q/A follow-up

Question for Jason Huntley, University of Toledo: Where in the drinking water treatment process do you envision the biofilm/filter approach may be used? I am wondering partly in the context of any potential additional (e.g. other pathogens) concerns.

The biofilter would be used early in the water treatment process, before sand filtration or incorporated into sand filters. As our project progresses, we are working with Dr. Youngwoo Seo at the University of Toledo to discuss the feasibility of this plan. Dr. Seo works with the City of Toledo water treatment plant on water treatment technology and noted that water is chlorinated after sand filtration, so any bacteria that might escape from the biofilter would be disinfected by chlorine. As noted in my presentation today, please note that we are carefully sequencing and genotyping all MC-LR-degrading bacterial clones to ensure that they are not known human pathogens.