



## How Easley Combined Utilities Cut Sludge Handling Costs by One-Third



### Background & Challenge

The Middle Branch Wastewater Treatment Plant is Easley Combined Utilities' largest facility, processing an average of 2.1 to 2.2 MGD daily.

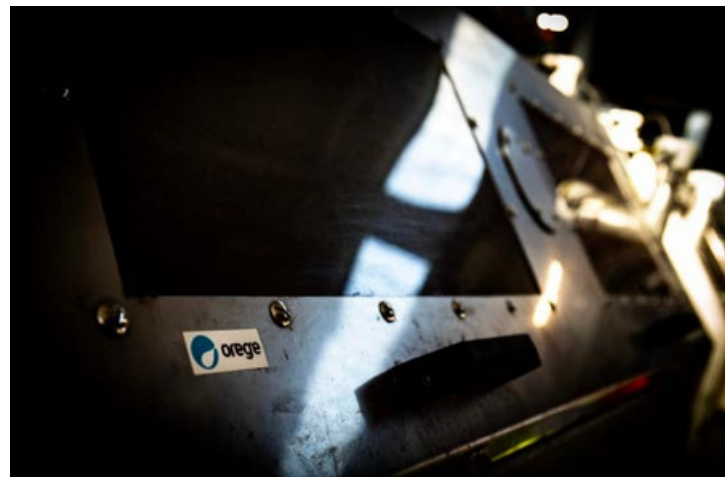
Sludge handling was one of the utility's highest operational costs. The team sought a solution to **reduce expenses** and **improve solids management** without significant capital investment or operational complexity.

### Orege's Solution & Service

Orege responded not with a brochure, but with boots on the ground, delivering a fully operational pilot system right into the heart of the plant.

“We thought sludge thickening would be a perfect way to cut expenses, and Orege had a great solution,” said Scott Barnes, Superintendent. “They set up a pilot for us, and it just worked.”

The thickening system, powered by **Orege's SLG-F® technology**, quickly showed impressive results. So much so that the plant decided to scale up without hesitation. What began as a temporary test became a **long-term solution**, now in successful operation for over two years.





## Results and Benefits

According to Scott Barnes, Orege solution delivers **exceptional** operational **benefits**:

### 1. A six-figure financial impact:

Over a two-year operating period, Easley Combined Utilities saw a consistent **33% reduction** in overall **sludge management expenses** (mainly from combined hauling and polymers savings).

### 2. Operator time saved:

Efficiency wasn't limited to the budget. The thickening system also simplified daily operations. By producing consistently **thicker sludge**, the Orege solution **reduced the time** operators spent managing the thickening process, allowing the team to focus on other priorities across the plant

### 3. A True Partnership That Removed the Hassle

From the early pilot phase to day-to-day operation, Easley's team found a responsive, knowledgeable **partner**.



"What set Orege apart was their exceptional expertise in sludge management, a level of operational support that elevated our entire process and clearly distinguished them from typical equipment vendors."

Scott BARNES, Superintendent, Easley Combined Utilities