

# Update

**On the control of lake algae using ultrasound.**

**November 14, 2016**

A report to **Sustainable Soil & Water Ltd**  
who supplied the ultrasonic algae control equipment.

[www.ultrasonicalgaecontrol.co.uk](http://www.ultrasonicalgaecontrol.co.uk)

## Background Information

- We were contacted in the summer of 2016 to advise on which of our ultrasonic algae control system(s) we would recommend be installed at the lake at NSG to deal primarily with their *Oscillatoria sp* problem.
- The customer advised us that US manufacturers of ultrasonic algae control systems claimed that *Oscillatoria sp* was unaffected by ultrasound.
- Our experience was to the contrary.
- We recommended installing two Smart Sonic 200D units, each with two transducers with a range of 200m.
- NSG opted to go for three Smart Sonic 200D units
- The algae population was sampled in August 2016 – report follows.
- The units were installed in September and turned on September 28<sup>th</sup>.
- The results, post installation were dramatic!
  - More information on the Smart Sonic Range can be found at:  
[www.ultrasonicalgaecontrol.co.uk](http://www.ultrasonicalgaecontrol.co.uk)

# Lake Algae Analysis



SePRO Research & Technology Campus

## SeSCRIPT Analysis Report: *Pilkington*

**Company:** Pilkington/ NSG

**Address:** 13121 S. Rocky Ford Rd. Laurinburg, NC 28352

**Contact Person:** Rolland Waters

**Phone:** 910-277-2240

**Email:** rolland.waters@nsg.com

**Water body Name:** Pilkington

**Surface Area:** 21 acres

**Average depth:** 9 feet

**Date Sample Received:** 8/18/16

**SeSCRIPT Analysis Performed:** Algae Identification and Enumeration

### Algae ID Results

*Pilkington: Location #3-2*

Identification	Classification	Description	Density/Biomass
<i>Cylindrospermopsis</i> sp. (dominant)	Cyanophyta- Blue-green algae	Filamentous, planktonic, potential toxin and taste/odor producer	1,156,000 ★★★★★
<i>Pseudanabaena</i> sp. (much present)	Cyanophyta- Blue-green algae	Filamentous, planktonic, potential toxin and taste/odor producer	4,000

Other algae in the sample, at densities below 1,000 cells/mL, include: *Raphidiopsis*, *Anabaena*, *Microcystis* (Cyanophyta)

SeSCRIPT* ALERT INDEX	EXPOSURE RISK	CYANOBACTERIA LEVELS (cells/mL)
★	Low	<20,000
★★	Moderate	20,000 to 100,000
★★★	High	>100,000
★★★★	Extreme	>100,000 with scums/mats

*See the following Cyanobacteria Alert Guide for additional information*

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**Algae ID Results**  
*Pilkington: Location #5-2*

Identification	Classification	Description	Density/Biomass
<i>Cylindrospermopsis</i> sp. (dominant)	Cyanophyta-Blue-green algae	Filamentous, planktonic, potential toxin and taste/odor producer	1,083,000 ★★★★
<i>Pseudanabaena</i> sp. (much present)	Cyanophyta-Blue-green algae	Filamentous, planktonic, potential toxin and taste/odor producer	25,000

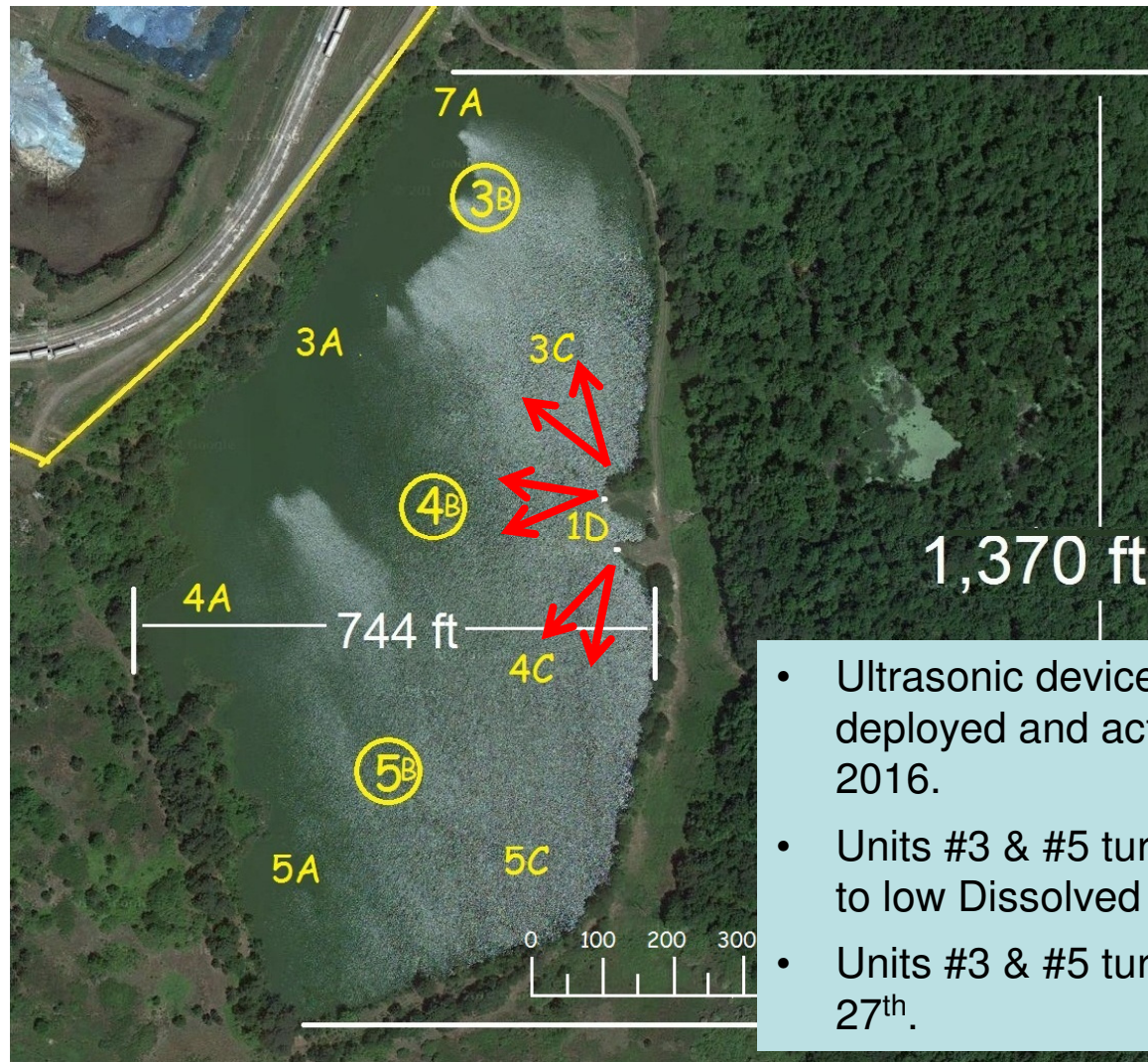
Other algae in the sample, at densities below 1,000 cells/mL, include: *Pandorina* (Chlorophyta); *Anabaena*, *Raphidiopsis*, *Oscillatoria* (Cyanophyta)

SeSCRIPT* ALERT INDEX	EXPOSURE RISK	CYANOBACTERIA LEVELS (cells/mL)
★	Low	<20,000
★★	Moderate	20,000 to 100,000
★★★	High	>100,000
★★★★	Extreme	>100,000 with scums/mats

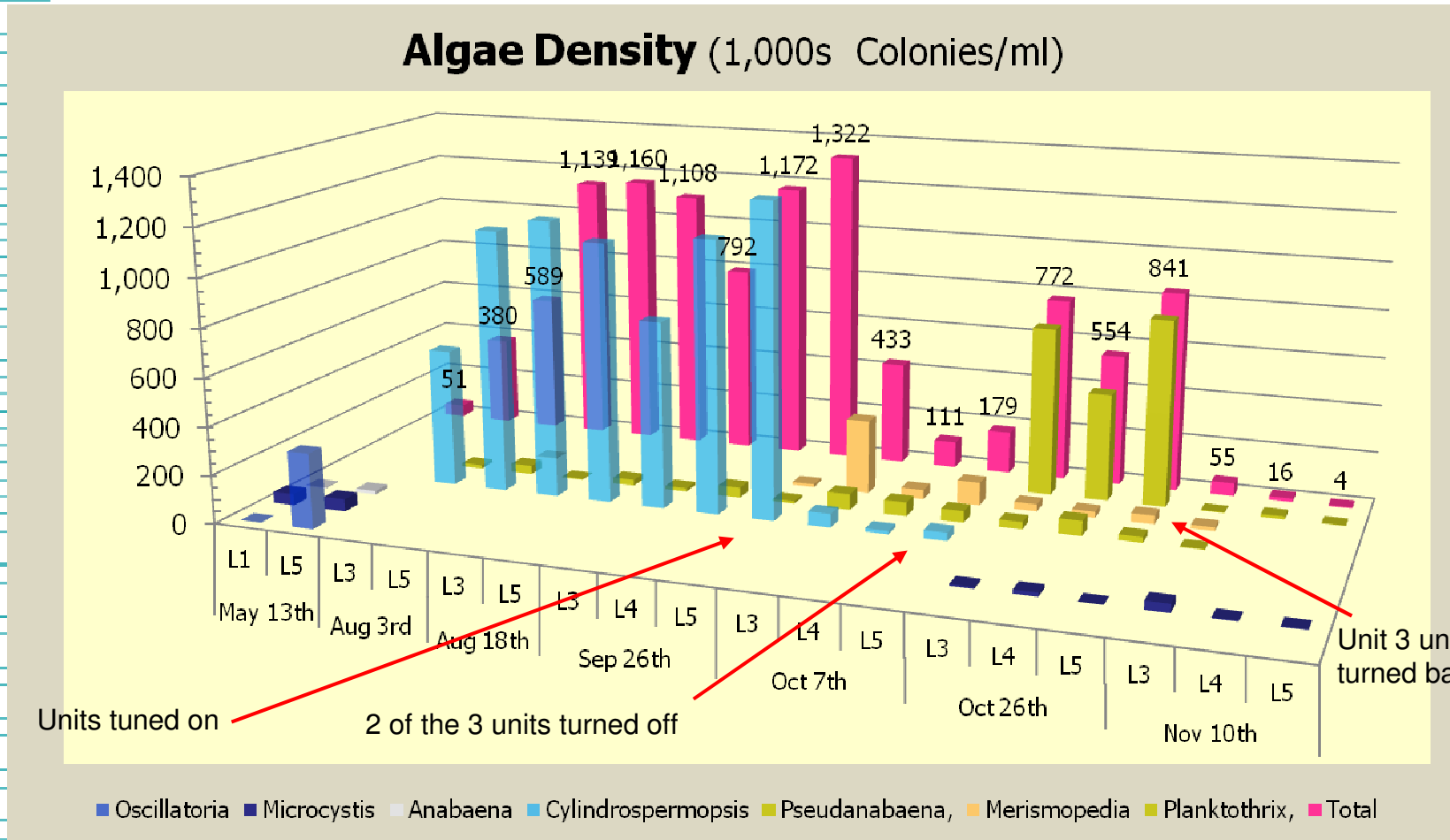
*See the following Cyanobacteria Alert Guide for additional information*

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# Pond: Ultra-Sonic Deployment and Sampling Locations

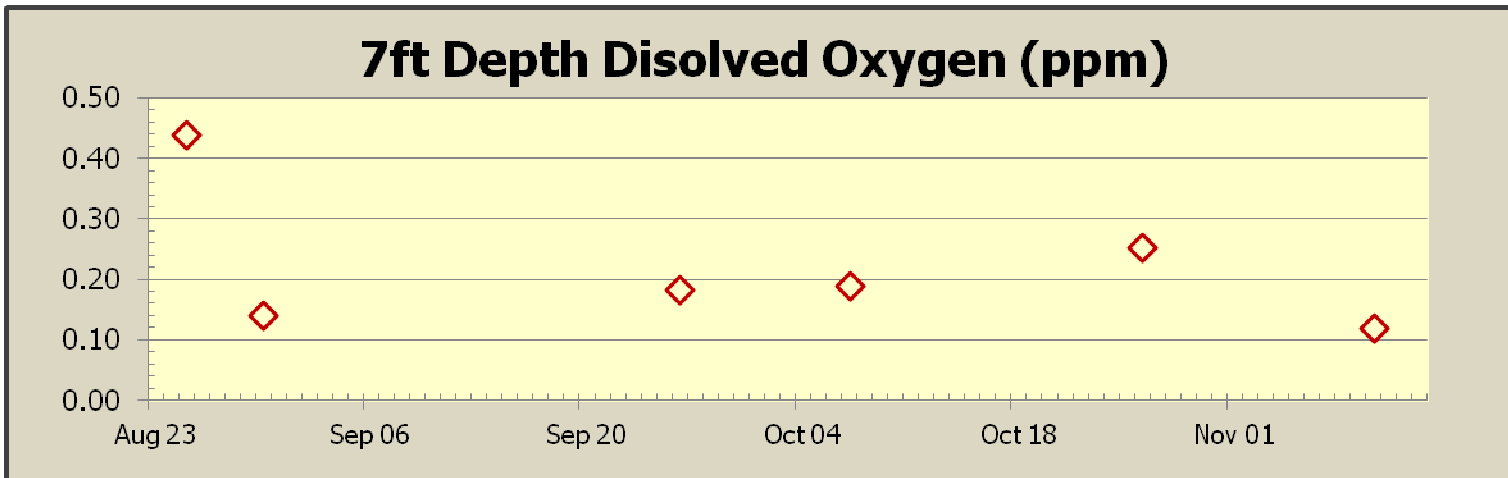
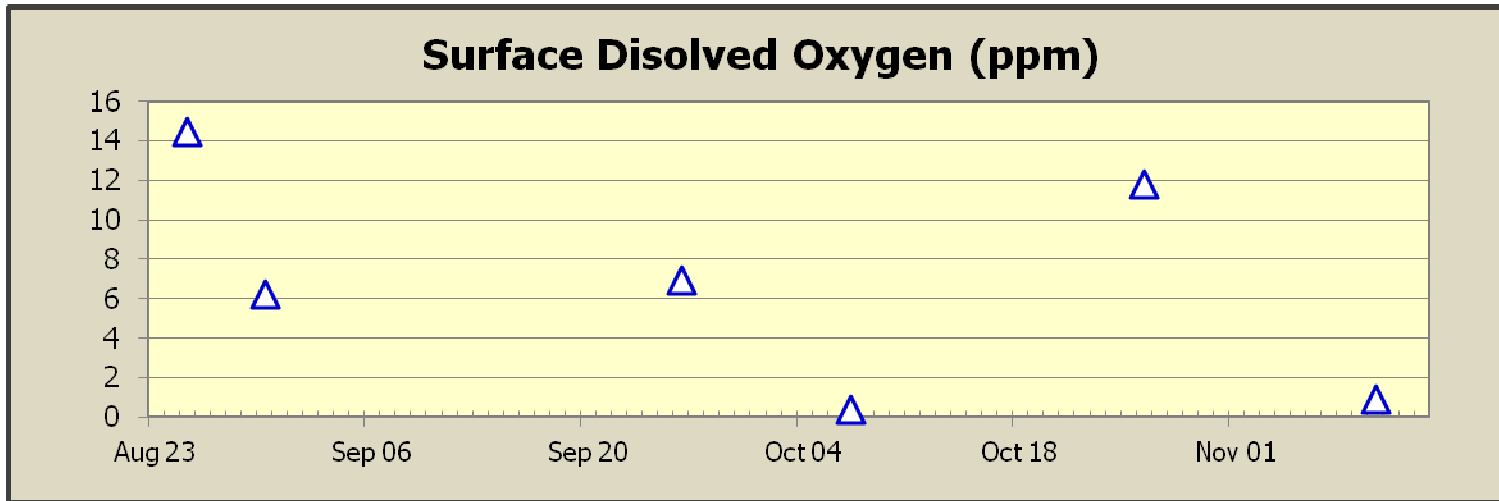


# Pond: Algae Density



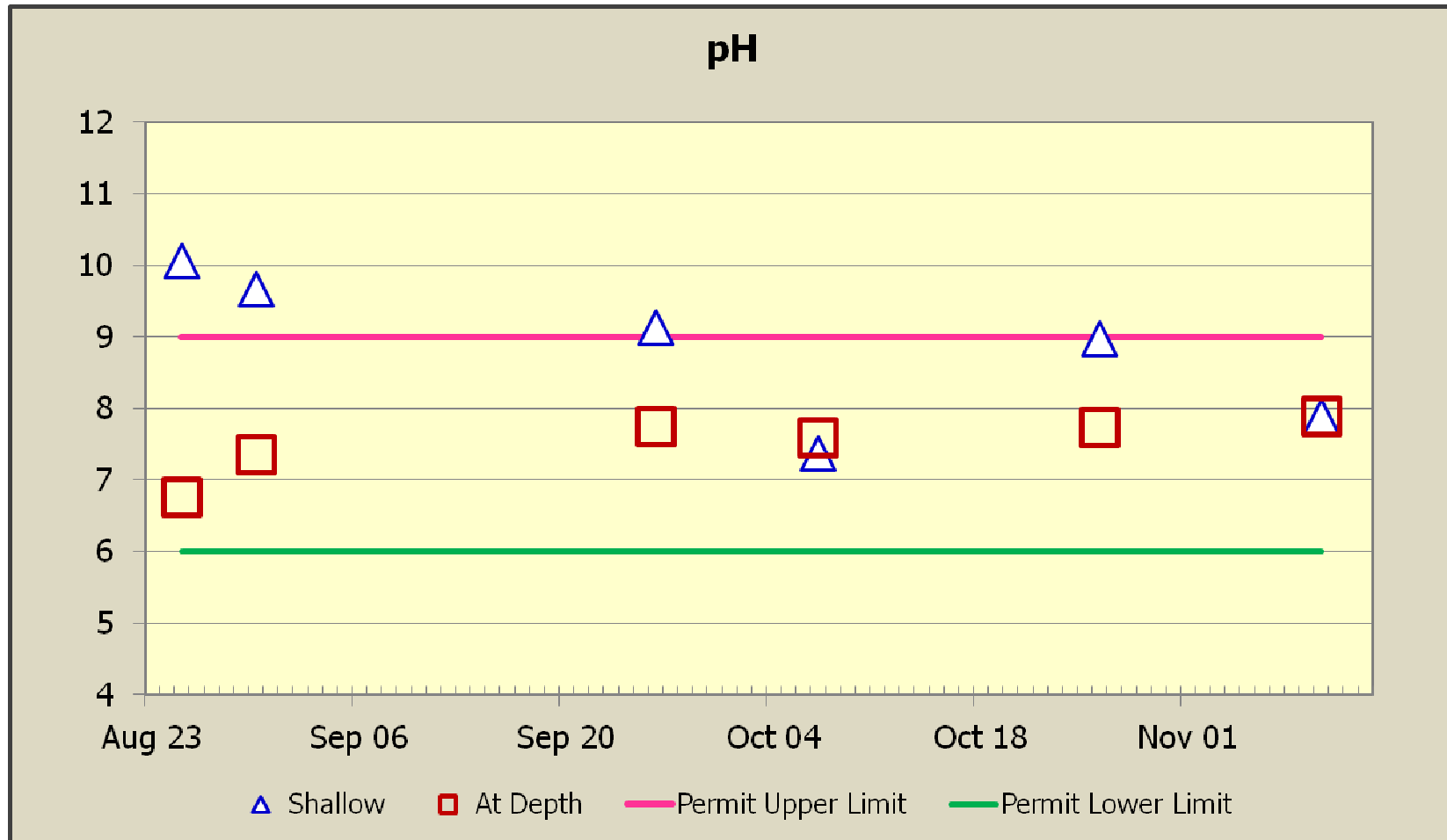
“Healthy” density considered to be between 3K-8K colonies/ml.

# Pond: Dissolved Oxygen



Ultrasonic sonic devices (locations 3 and 5) turned off on Oct 7<sup>th</sup>  
All devices re-activated on Oct 21<sup>st</sup>.

# Measured pH



Permit Limits for Pond Effluent. Effluent generally drawn from about 1 – 2 ft below surface.



# Pond: Next Steps

- First set of repairs to WWTP corrected, continuing to work with the city for full inspection
- Keep all ultra-sonics on
- Continue to monitor algae density and D.O. Hope D.O. will return to normal levels (8-12ppm) by December.
- ~~Apply Algaecide in December, :~~
  - Series of low dosages spaced weekly or more
  - Must secure effluent during this period
  - Must run Acute Toxicity Test (Fathead Minnow Test) prior to opening effluent.
- Revisit in January/February to determine if aeration is required