GREAT LAKES ReNEW

NSF

ANCHORED BY:

Current

TRANSFORMING WASTE INTO WEALTH

Current

We are a Chicago-based **water innovation** hub. Launched in 2016, we collaborate to:

Grow a circular blue economy

Accelerate innovation

Solve pressing water challenges

Our Impact To Date

$58M

raised for regional water innovation and economic development

40+

watertech startups engaged with

11

water technology pilots launched

40K+

people reached through events and convenings

NSF Engines: Great Lakes Water Innovation Engine

GREAT LAKES
ReNEW

Current

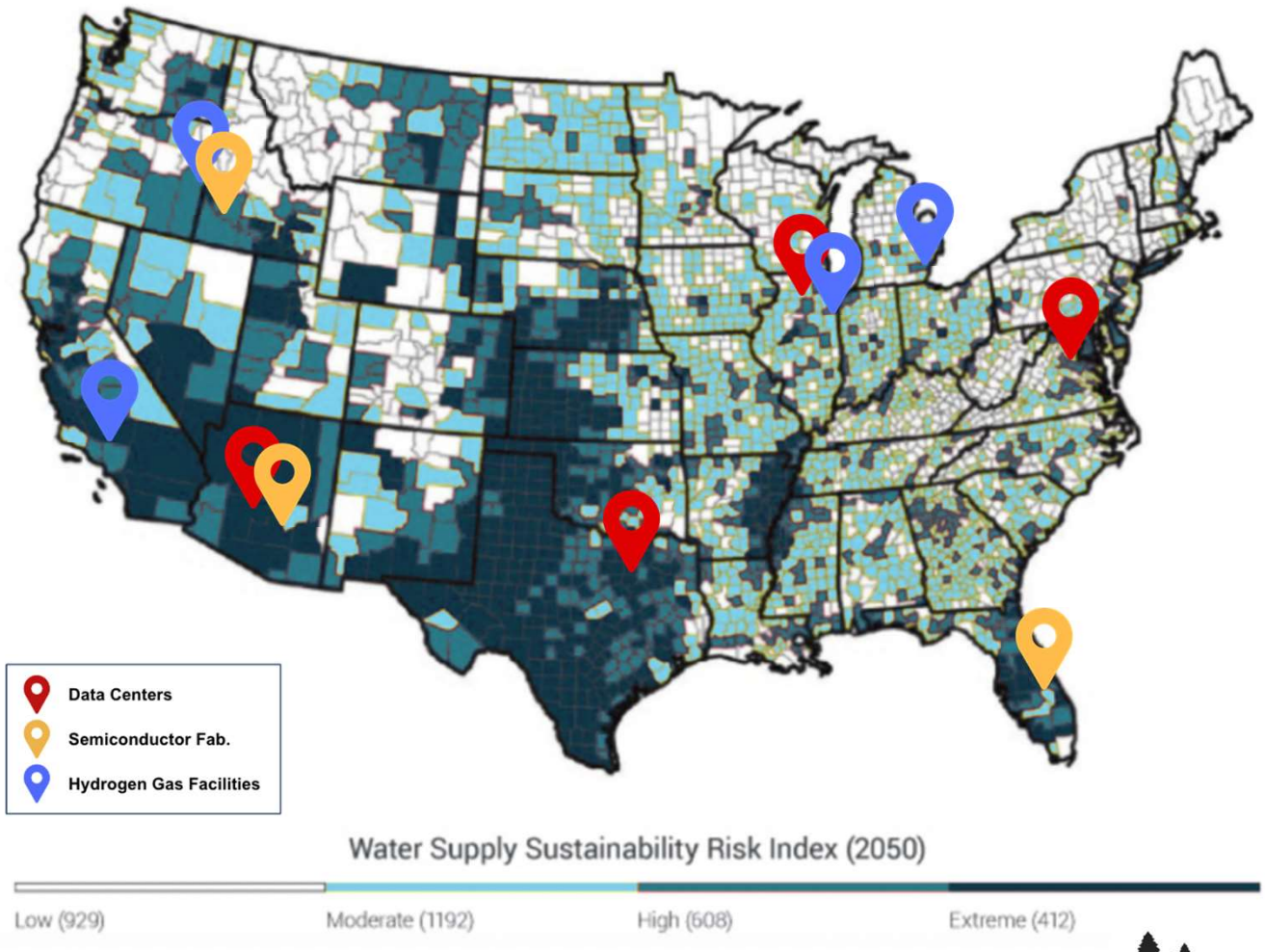

CONVENTIONAL WATER
AND WASTEWATER
TREATMENT FLUSHES
VALUABLE RESOURCES
DOWN
THE DRAIN AND LEAVES
HARMFUL
CONTAMINANTS BEHIND


WATER SECURITY IS
NATIONAL SECURITY

HIGH GROWTH INDUSTRIES ARE THIRSTY

A single data center consumes up to 5 million gallons of drinking water per day

WE CAN'T SUSTAIN THE STATUS QUO



NRDC
THE EARTH'S BEST DEFENSE

CONTAMINATION

THREATENS PUBLIC HEALTH

Carcinogenic PFAS have been found in ~45% of U.S. tap water


$70 TRILLION
AT RISK BY
2050
WATER RISK IS COSTLY—
AND RISING

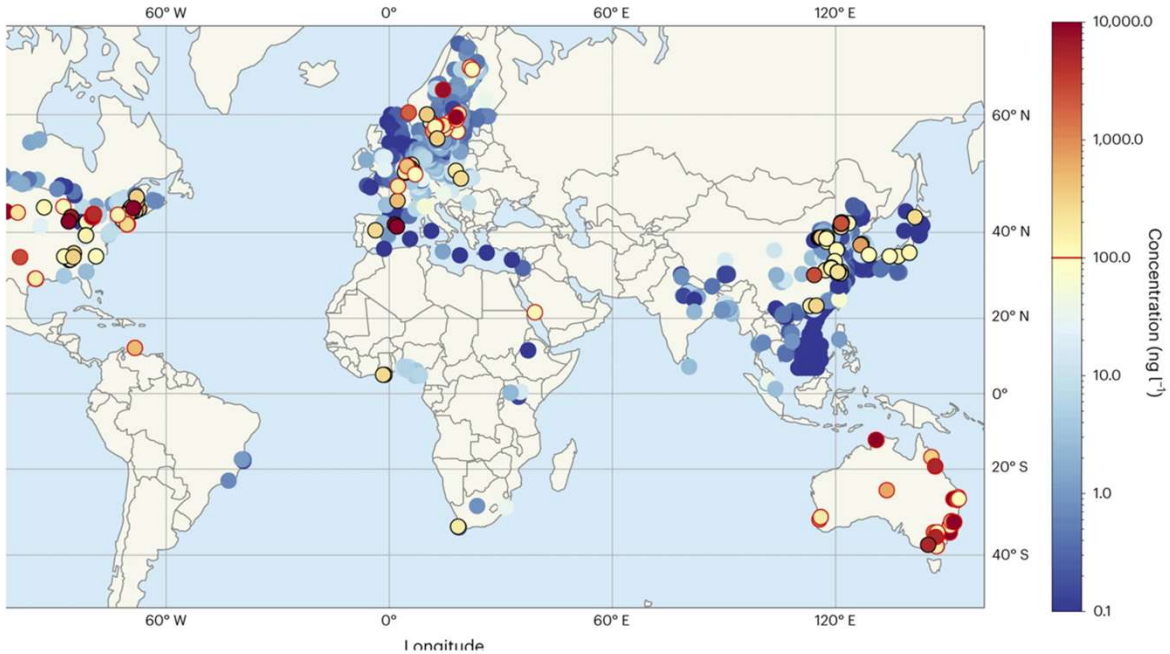

FROM WASTE TO WEALTH

WASTE

FOX NEWS channel

'Forever chemicals' found in US drinking water, map shows 'hot spots' of highest levels

PFAS chemicals can cause serious health risks, experts warn



A study published in the journal Nature Geoscience on April 8 found that higher amounts of PFAS (perfluoroalkyl substances) were found in drinking water in certain parts of the U.S. (Nature Geoscience)

By **Melissa Rudy** · **Fox News**

Published April 17, 2024 5:25pm EDT

WEALTH

TRELLIS | FORMERLY GreenBiz

Why the market for mopping up 'forever' chemicals is exploding

Synthetic biology startup Allonnia just raised $30 million more for tech to remediate PFAS.

By Heather Clancy | July 26, 2023 *(Updated on July 24, 2024)*

Allonnia is developing biological organisms for breaking down waste and eradicating the bad stuff. Source: Allonnia

WASTE

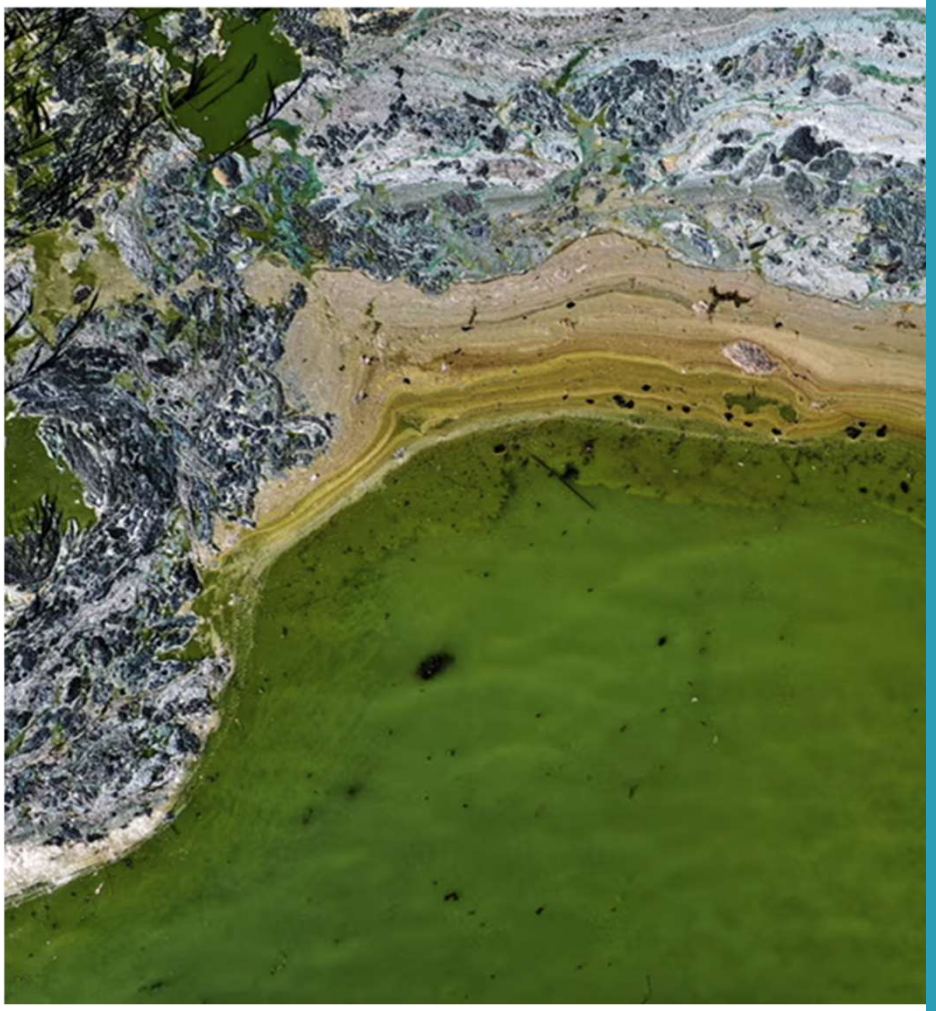
The Guardian

Scientists warn of 'phosphogeddon' as critical fertiliser shortages loom

Excessive use of phosphorus is depleting reserves vital to global food production, while also adding to the climate crisis

Robin McKie, *Science editor*

Sun 12 Mar 2023 05.00 EDT



The overuse of phosphorus is creating algal blooms such as the one in the Baltic Sea near Stockholm in Sweden. Photograph: TT News Agency/Reuters

WEALTH

AXIOS

Des Moines unveils plans for a $40 million phosphorus recovery plant

Jun 28, 2022 - News

A $40 million phosphorus recovery facility will be constructed by the Des Moines Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation Authority (WRA) under a plan presented to the city's Urban Design Review Board last week.

The Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation Authority's main facilities along the 3000 block of Vandalia Road in Des Moines. Photo: Courtesy of the WRA

Jason Clayworth

WASTE

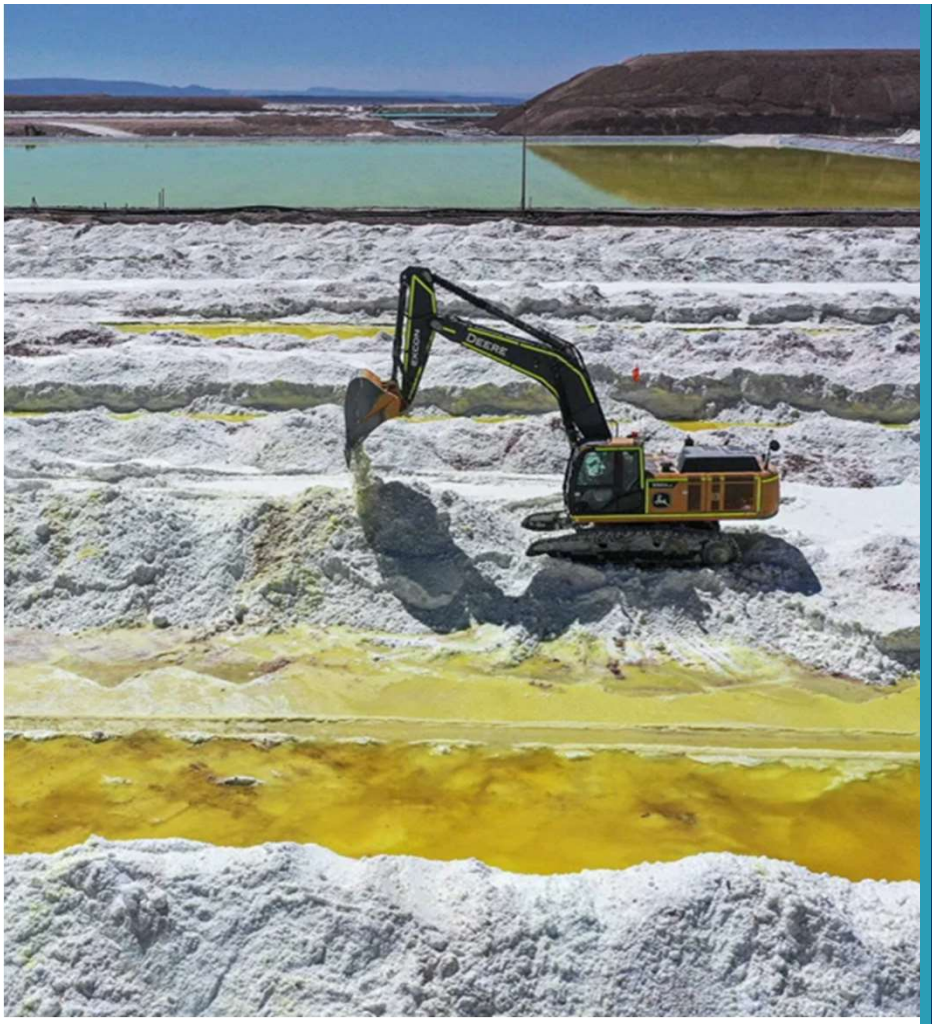
CNN BUSINESS

The world faces a shortage of minerals needed for the energy transition

The world is facing a shortage of the minerals needed to make the electric vehicles, wind turbines, solar panels, and other clean energy technologies essential to ending its reliance on fossil fuels.

By Anna Cooban, CNN

3 minute read · Published 6:54 AM EDT, Fri May 17, 2024



The lithium mine of the Chilean company Sociedad Quimica Minera in the Atacama Desert, Chile, seen in September 2022. Martin Bernetti/AFP/Getty Images

WEALTH

Inside Climate News

Fossil Fuels

Pennsylvania's Fracking Wastewater Contains a 'Shocking' Amount of the Critical Clean Energy Mineral Lithium

A new study estimated there is enough lithium in the state's wastewater to meet up to 40 percent of domestic needs.

By Kiley Bense
May 29, 2024

A fracking drilling pad operates in the Marcellus Shale formation near Robinson Township, Pa. Credit: Robert Nickelsberg/Getty Images


SELECTIVE SEPARATION
TO RECOVER VALUABLE RESOURCES
AND REMOVE HARMFUL CONTAMINANTS


A
MOONSHO
T MOMENT
FOR THE
GREAT
LAKES

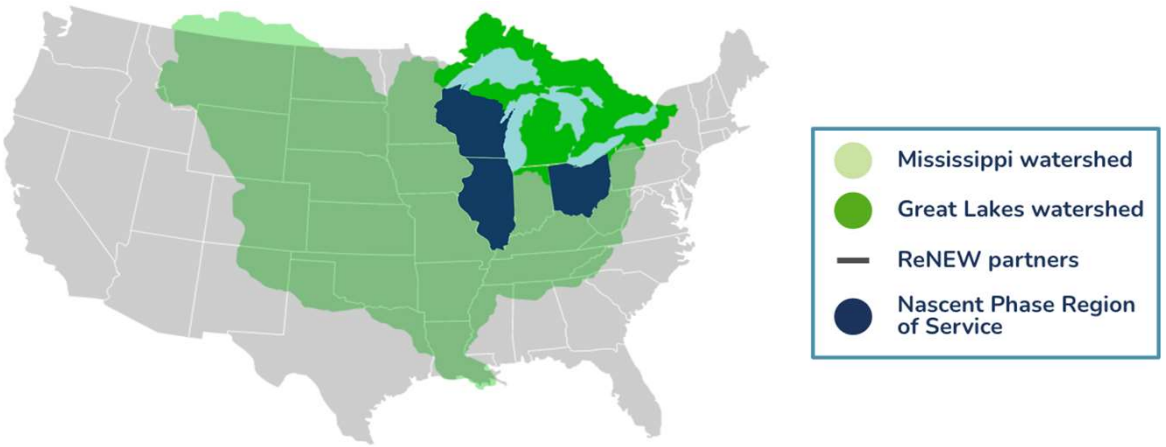
OUR MISSION

Spur circular economy transition

Invent and commercialize selective separation technologies

Attract & retain water-intensive industries

REGION



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TRACK RECORD

Current
SINCE 2016

RAISED $58M+

LAUNCHED 11 PILOTS

SUPPORTED 40+ STARTUPS

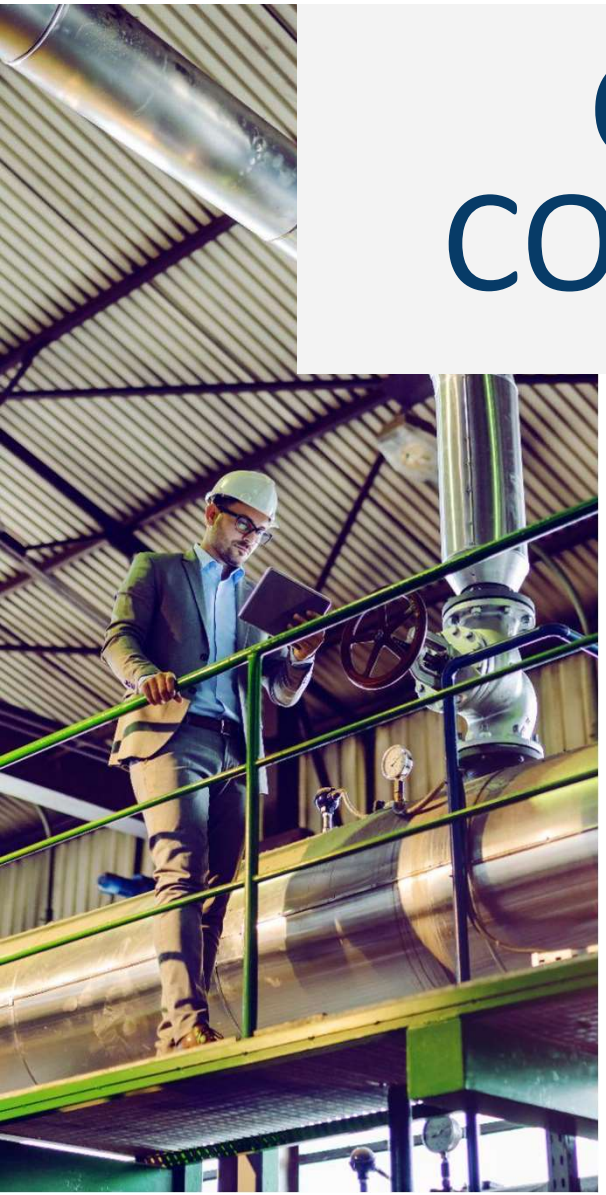
EARLY WINS


COLLABORATING TO COMPETE


INVESTING IN BREAKTHROUGH R&D


PREPARING A WORKFORCE


BUILDING INNOVATION INFRASTRUCTURE



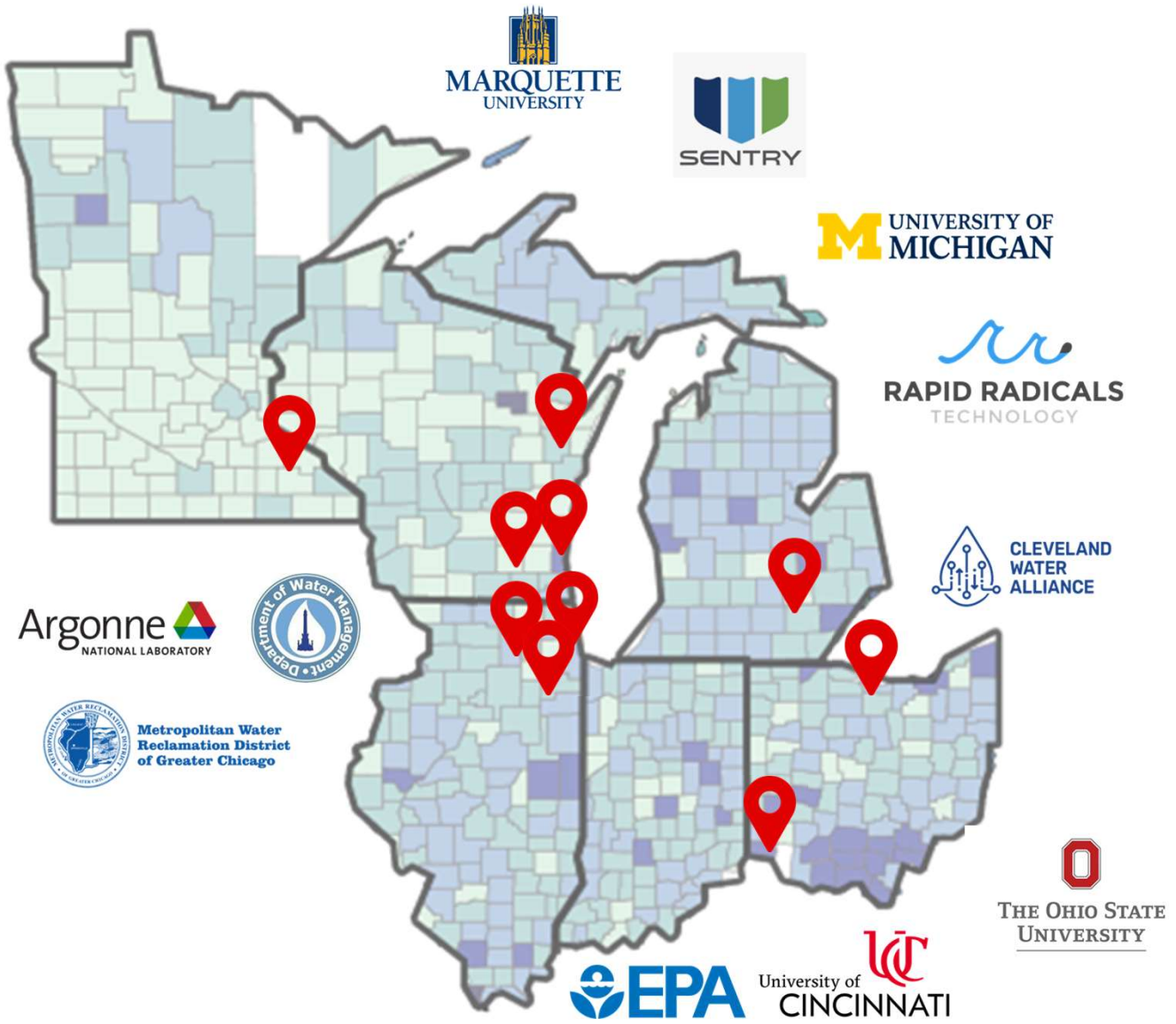
CURRENT INDUSTRY CONSORTIUM MEMBERS

SENTRY

exelon[SM]

Ingredion

CONNECTED TESTBED NETWORK




gener8tor
GREAT LAKES INNOVATION
ACCELERATOR

$13.4M
NOAA Award

4
Year
Timeline

12
Total Cohorts

60
Startups
Supported

$100k
Non-Dilutive
Per Startup

100+
Introductions
Per Startup

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GREAT LAKES INNOVATION
ACCELERATOR

Current

CHICAGO WATER WEEK
MAY 4-10, 2025

SBA WOSB
Woman Owned Small Business

certified WBENC
WOMEN'S BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

ENSPIRED SOLUTIONS®

FOREVER CHEMICALS GONE FOREVER®

Enspired Solutions co-founders

Denise Kay and Meng Wang

More Info +
Roadmap Registration

bitly

Mining Water Tech Pilot Pathway Program

NOMADIC VENTURE PARTNERS

Current

E·D·A U.S. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

GREAT LAKES ReNEW ANCHORED BY Current

Water Tech Opportunities in Mining

RESOURCE RECOVERY

Waste streams in the mining sector often contain dissolved metals and trace amounts of valuable elements. We are looking for technologies that economically recover critical mineral resources from water containing low concentrations.

WATER EFFICIENCY

More mining projects are being built in water-scarce regions. We are looking for technologies that efficiently use water, reducing the mining industry's freshwater intake through water recycling and reuse.

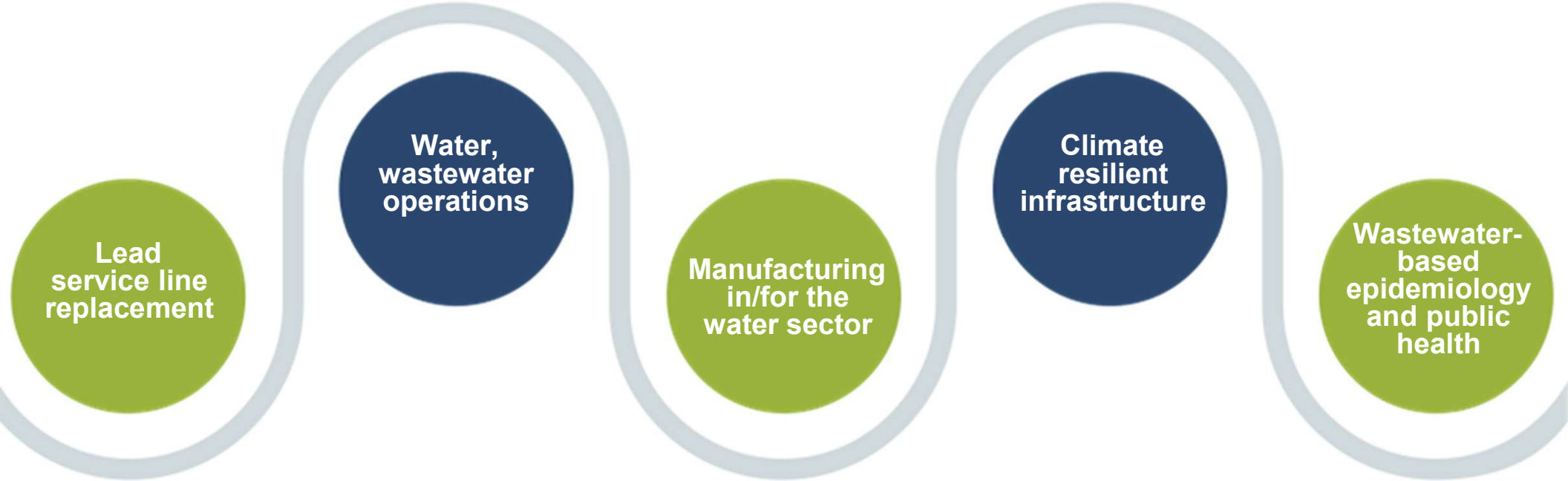
MINE WATER TREATMENT

Water contaminated through contact with mining activities poses a threat to the environment and local communities. We are looking for solutions for the treatment and management of mine-influenced water.

PILOTING BLUE JOBS

Building on Current's **Blue Jobs Action Plan for Illinois (2022)**, identifying five major workforce pathways in water:

PATHWAYS



THE STAKES


INDUSTRIAL FLIGHT FROM WATER SCARCE REGIONS


RISING RESOURCE CONFLICT


MILLIONS SUFFER LONG-TERM HEALTH EFFECTS


SUPPLY CHAIN DISRUPTIONS & ENERGY TRANSITION FAILURE

VISION 2034

Circular Water Economy

Global Competitiveness

Regional & U.S. Prosperity

LOCAL SOLUTIONS FOR GLOBAL CHALLENGES

BUILT IN THE GREAT LAKES

MADE FOR THE WORLD

GREAT LAKES ReNEW

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