Canal de Isabel II

Nota de prensa

The Company will reactivate nearly 6000 cubic metres of active carbon from several of its treatment stations

Canal de Isabel II Will Allocate €2.8 Million to Ensure the Quality of Its Water Treatment

- This substance eliminates odours, taste and organic matter from drinking water.
- The DWTPs at Majadahonda, Santillana, Pinilla, Pelayos de la Presa, and Valmayor use active carbon in their processes.

28JAN2020 – The Governing Council of the Madrid Regional Government has been informed today of the proposed award by Canal de Isabel II of the first lot of the contract for reactivation of activated carbon granules for its drinking water treatment plants. The contract has an initial duration of three years, with a possible extension of three months, and it has been awarded for the sum of €2,779,280. This proposal requires approval by the public company's Board of Directors.

The purpose of the contract is the reactivation of 5672 m^2 of activated carbon granules. The treatment plants at Majadahonda, Pelayos de la Presa, Valmayor, Santillana and Pinilla, use it to eliminate organic matter from the water and avoid problems with odour and taste. The public company will soon award the second package of this procedure, to reactivate the same amount of material.

Granular active carbon is a filter medium installed in specific filters in several of the public company's treatment plants. It is very porous and can adsorb substances present in the water, to improve quality.

As water filters through the carbon bed, the carbon adsorbs different compounds and its microporosity (carbon adsorption surface) shrinks, reducing its filtering capacity. For this reason, it has to be reactivated by thermal processes that release the contaminants from saturated pores to recover the original adsorption surface. This is done by subjecting the carbon to high temperatures (900°C) to expel the adsorbed volatile and non-volatile compounds and create new pores in the carbon, restoring its original microporosity.

Canal de Isabel II was founded almost 170 years ago to supply water to the city of Madrid. It employs over 2800 people who work every day to serve more than 6 million people in the region. It is an innovative company, a leader in its sector and recognised worldwide for its management of the integrated water cycle.

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It operates 13 reservoirs; 78 groundwater catchments; 17,601 km of water supply and distribution network; 131 drinking water and 133 wastewater pumping stations; 15,083 km of sewage networks; 65 storm tanks; 157 wastewater treatment plants; and 615 km of reclaimed water network.