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BIG POINT AND WADE, MISSISSIPPI

The devastation and destruction caused by Hurricane Katrina in 2005 has forever impacted the Gulf Coast. Mississippi suffered great losses, and the rebuilding process was not just to build back, but to build better.

One way of reducing the impact of a future storm of this magnitude is to reduce the number of people living in high risk locations and encourage development away from the coastline. New development requires new infrastructure systems to support this population. This was the case with The Jackson County Utility Authority which initiated the development of decentralized wastewater infrastructure in both Big Point and Wade, Mississippi, communities 15-20 miles from the coast.

When the system was designed, it was not only for present development, but also for future needs. Wastewater is collected through the use of STEP collection and small diameter pressure sewers. The two treatment facilities combined have the capacity of treating 220,000 gallons per day. At the time, they were the two largest decentralized fixed-film media filters in the United States.

Quanics was selected to provide all equipment for the projects as well as engineering assistance. Their proprietary AeroCell® System was used for treatment with drip irrigation being chosen for final dispersal. Both systems used a total of 63 ATS-16 AeroCell® Treatment Modules, 270,000 feet of drip tubing, nine 40,000-gallon tanks, 58 pumps, 4 ultra-violet disinfection systems and two of the largest control panels our vendor had ever constructed.

