UV disinfection of the Sewage treatment plant effluent with the specially designed thin film flow Photocatalytic reactor

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TiO2 in anatase crystal form is a semiconductor with a bandgap energy of 3.2eV or more. Upon excitation by light of wavelength less than 385 nm, the photon energy generates an electron-hole pair on the TiO2 surface. This electron-hole pair produces highly reactive oxygen species. These highly reactive species oxidize organic compounds adsorbed on the catalyst surface. The application of photocatalysts to destroy organic pollutants from contaminated water has been extensively studied. Microbial cells in water were reported to be killed by the action of TiO2 photocatalysis. This finding gave us an insight that the efficiencies of UV disinfection might greatly be enhanced when both the photolytic and photocatalytic function are combined together. In the present study a thin film flow photocatalytic reactor was designed and used for the disinfection of the sewage treatment plant effluent. At the bottom of the reactor 0.3 µm TiO2 was coated and the water was flowed downward through the surface of the reactor.

Perfect disinfection of Coliform could successfully be performed stably upto 2year continuous operation.