



February, 2026

Pluris Advanced Membrane Wastewater Reclamation Treatment Facility in North Carolina Wins National Membrane Plant of the Year



The American Membrane Technology Association (“AMTA”), in collaboration with the American Water Works Association (“AWWA”), awarded two membrane treatment facilities with “Facility of the Year” at their annual conference on February 4, 2026.

One facility with treatment flow of above 5 mgd and one facility below 5 mgd are presented individual awards. The purpose of the award is to recognize an outstanding water or wastewater facility that utilizes membrane technology to provide cost-effective, reliable, innovative and sustainable treatment solutions. Facilities are evaluated on high efficiency (water/energy conservation), innovative design, operational compliance, and public education/outreach.

Pluris is pleased to announce that it was presented the award for the “2026 Facility of the Year” for its new 5th generation water reclamation wastewater treatment membrane plant near Wilmington, North Carolina. The plant

currently serves a population of just under 15,000 and at buildout the utility is expected to serve approximately 45,000.

The photograph above shows Pluris Hampstead's water reclamation pond with floating wetlands and Koi fish, all part of an educational outreach to elementary, middle school and high school students to demonstrate that the environment and technology can coexist in harmony. A short two-minute video is provided with the following link showing the innovation incorporated into the design of the facility.

<https://f000.backblazeb2.com/file/Pluris-webshare/Pluris+Advanced+MBR+Facility.mp4>

Maurice Gallarda, PE, Managing Member of Pluris Capital Group, the parent company, received the award along with Pluris' North Carolina Utility Manager, Kris King and the plant design engineer Michael Gallant, PE. This facility represents Pluris' finest membrane plant since its first one was introduced into North Carolina in 2010. In partnership with Kubota Membranes USA, this plant is the latest in the state of the art for membranes, and that trend is expected to grow.

Concurrently with the five membrane plants Pluris has designed, permitted, built, owned and operated, for the past six years Pluris has been working with Congressman Tim Moore, state legislators, EPA National, and most recently EPA Region 4 Administrator Mark McOmber in bringing updated statutes to North Carolina allowing discharge of highly treated wastewater from membrane treatment.