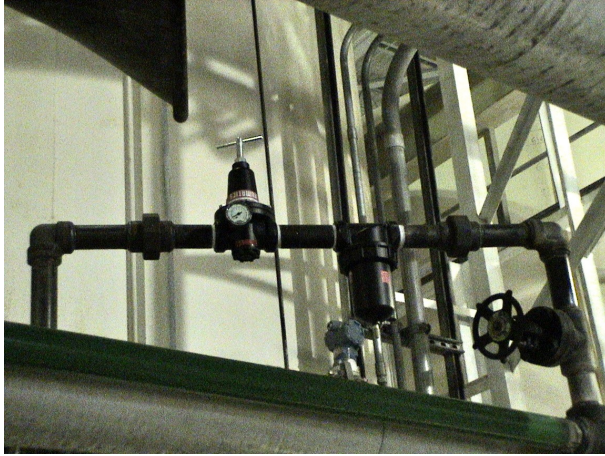


Installation of Air-Assisted Backwash at AECi Thomas Hill Power Plant

In July 2009, a two-inch header pipe (horizontal, green) was installed to bring compressed air at 110 psi from AECi's compressed air storage tank to the five water treatment plant sand filter units.

From the header, five separate, gate-valved supply lines, containing both solenoid valves and air pressure regulators, were provided to deliver air at 15 psi to each of the filter bottoms. (Below, right: AECi plant supervisor and chemist, Tim Price, is shown adjusting the pressure regulator.)



A vertical pipe containing both a solenoid control valve and a manual valve allows the compressed air to enter the false bottom of each filter unit. The existing backwash water diffusers in the filter units were initially designed to accommodate and distribute air.

