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1 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

2 The data on the distribution of predicted velocity magnitude for the sections X-X and Y-Y at 90 ML/d was extracted from the previous study (Vadasarukkai et al.9) using the post-3 processing tool in ANSYS-FLUENT. As illustrated in Figure A1, it was evident that the spatial 4 distribution of velocity magnitude was non-uniform. A local increase in velocity magnitude of 5 approximately 0.1 - 0.16 m/s was observed closer to the inlet. A decreasing trend in the velocity 6 magnitude was observed as moved towards the upper portion of the tank; the predicted velocity 7 was at minimum closer to wall locations due to the no slip boundary condition. Recirculation 8 region was observed largely in the interior, and to some extent close to the inlet in the first 9 flocculation chamber as shown in Fig. A(1). Section Y-Y had an overall velocity magnitude less 10 11 than 0.05 m/s.

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Fig. A(1) Contour of the predicted velocity magnitude for sections X-X and Y-Y in the flocculation chambers-1 and 2 at a plant
inflow rate of 90 MLD.