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**Platform Presentation**

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Title: **Potable Water Treatment at the Richard Miller Plant Cincinnati; 1907-2020.**

The Richard Miller Treatment Plant began providing treated drinking water to the City of Cincinnati in 1907. Prior to 1907, the community consumed untreated Ohio River water and suffered from a whole host of waterborne diseases. The treatment plant was constructed as a response to the increasing need for a reliable safe supply of drinking water. The City hired George Warren Fuller to evaluate and determine the best methods for treating Ohio River water for potable use. Once his extensive research was done and his report was submitted, construction of the plant soon began. He and his team developed the practice now known as Conventional Water Treatment (CWT). At the time, it was cutting edge technology. The primary focus of CWT is to remove particles and pathogens from the water. The conventional water treatment process is interdisciplinary as it combines several schools of thought: physics, chemistry, biology and engineering. Since 1907, there have been many upgrades to the plant, but CWT continues to be the core treatment process at the treatment plant today. Some of the most recent upgrades have been the result of new technology, drinking water outbreaks in other American cities, or a response to emergency situations on the Ohio River.

As the plant moves into its second century of providing a safe and plentiful supply of drinking water to the community, it is faced with new challenges, emerging contaminants (Algal toxins, industrial chemicals), emergency releases (Spills), aging infrastructure, and declining revenue.

This presentation will discuss the need for water treatment in 1907 and its continued importance in 2020.