

RMWEA BIOSOLIDS COMMITTEE

April 16, 2008

Attendees: *Nikki Stefonick, MWRD; Luke Bond, Parker Ag Services; Kenan Diker, CDPH&E; Angel Foster, MWRD; Grant Grover, City of Longmont WWTP; Deanne Kelly, Tri Country Health; Dave Myers, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants; David Quarles, Parker Ag Services; Dennis Schump, City of Greeley; Mike Scharp, Parker Ag Services; Paul Bremser, City of Louisville; Amy Woodis, MWRD.*

1. November 13th Seminar

- The location has been secured. The seminar will be held at the Double Tree on I-70 & Quebec (Stapleton). The contract has been sent to Greg Woodward for review.
- The agenda has not been finalized yet & will continue to be an item on the meeting agenda. The members who attended the national biosolids conference in Philadelphia did not see any presentations that would be a good fit for the seminar – majority of the presentations were focused on WWTP processes.

2. Responses to AP Article on Biosolids (Augusta, GA)

- Nikki emailed the response to the article from the California Association of Sanitation Agencies. None of the committee members reported getting any inquiries from the public or media regarding the article.
- Kenan mentioned CDPH&E did get a phone call from an AP reporter from New York. The inquiry was in regards to a possible link between the New York biosolids program in Lamar, CO and the Salmonella outbreak in Alamosa, CO. CDPH&E responded that there is no possible link based on geography alone.
- Nikki also passed around the recent responses to an AP published article on biosolids in the Baltimore Sun. She will keep emailing correspondence regarding this article to committee members.

3. Salinity Analysis of Biosolids: Project Update - Diker

- Kenan reported the MWRD lab ran the salinity analysis on MWRD cake & compost. The results were Cake: 5.2 S/m and Compost: 1.2 S/m. The results are very low considering the mass of soil compared to the mass of biosolids being applied.
- MWRD will be analyzing Littleton Englewood WWTP & Boulder WWTP's biosolids products.
- Analysis includes: conductivity, Ca, Na, Mg, Cl, SO₄, and SAR. The test methods are analyzing for soluble metals.
- The reason this small project was initiated stems from the State & EPA coordinators meeting – in response to what is happening in California.
- Kenan mentioned a new bill in California is being introduced to limit salinity in biosolids for land application. The proposed limit is 2 S/m – which translates into land application of composted biosolids only. He

assured the committee that there will be no regulation for salinity in Colorado.

- Committee members discussed that salinity in drinking water is more problematic than the salinity in biosolids.
- Mike Scharp shared a database of salinity information exists in Portland, Oregon where they have been studying salinity of biosolids & dryland wheat production for 20 years.
- Kenan mentioned that they will only be looking at salinity of biosolids at this time. Animal manures may be looked at in the future for comparison.

4. Biosolids Delegation “Roadmap” from CDPH&E

- Kenan provided a “roadmap” of the biosolids delegation process. The information below is **ESTIMATED**:
 - Delegation package will be updated in the summer of '08 for preparation of the 2009 legislative session.
 - Currently there is no legislator to sponsor this bill.
 - CDPH&E will be pushing a fee bill together with biosolids delegation in 2009.
 - Worst case scenario: fees per dry ton will be around \$6/dt.
 - They will be asking for 2.5 -3 additional FTE. One FTE will be dedicated to the eastern half of Colorado, One to the western half of Colorado (assisting the eastern half person), one possibly to septage. These FTE's include administrative staff.
 - Biosolids Regulation #64 may be 'scrapped' and CDPH&E will use the 503's only. Management at CDHP&E is supportive of this concept.
 - Definitions will need to be changed via legislature.
 - Sampling protocol requirements for metals will be worked out; hopefully to mirror the 503's to alleviate double analyses on samples for Total vs. Available. CDPH&E needs to work with CSU on this.
 - Septage will need to be addressed if CDPH&E seeks *full* delegation.
 - CDPH&E may move to using permits (i.e. General Permit) for the biosolids program rather than NOAs. Permit fees are another way to generate revenue and keep dry ton costs down.

5. EPA Environmental Indicators Website

- Nikki handed out a print out of the new EPA website that contains research projects and trend results across the country. The website is: www.epa.gov/indicators/

6. Pharmaceuticals & Biosolids (Handout)

- Nikki handed out a document created by Steve Frank to keep agencies apprised of all the buzz regarding pharmaceuticals in biosolids. There are several things happening across the U.S.

7. Biosolids Factsheets on Committee Website

- The committee voted to NOT put the biosolids factsheets from 1996 on the committee's website. Mike informed the group that the document was created for committee members' use, rather than the general public.
- The group agreed that when the Green Book is complete and posted to the website that would be sufficient.

8. Other

- Nikki encouraged committee members to register for Strikes and Spares for Science Fairs (May 16th @ Holiday Bowl in Lakewood). Registration is online at the RMWEA main website. The money raised helps state science fair winners go to the national science fair competition.

Changes to Meeting Minutes

Please submit all comments you have to the attached minutes to Derya Dursun or Pat Dowell by April 30, 2008 via email.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 10:00am, May 21st 2008 at the Metro District in the **FINANCE CONFERENCE ROOM**.

***If you want to attend the next meeting via telephone, please notify either Nikki or Dennis MAY 16th 2008 so arrangements can be made for your connection.

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