

**SUMMARY FROM TAPING OF K G E T BIOSOLIDS FORUM
IN BAKERSFIELD, CA
March 29, 2005**

City of Los Angeles, Regulatory Affairs Division (RAD) participated in a live taping of a biosolids forum hosted by K G E T, Channel 17 in Bakersfield on March 29, 2005. The program will be aired on March 31 in Bakersfield. A tape of the program has been requested from K G E T.

The forum was one hour in duration and the City was asked three questions:

1. What would we like for Kern citizens to know about our program? Our response was related to the number of years that land application has been occurring in Kern County. We are producing and using a beneficial product to fertilize the soil and grow crops. That biosolids recycling is a natural cycle and we are helping the environment.
2. How do we monitor and sample our biosolids and is the laboratory certified? City's response is that biosolids is monitored throughout the process and samples are taken and analyzed during the processing, before transporting to the farm, and at the farm. The City of Los Angeles has a certified laboratory that performs the analyses; biologist and chemist are responsible for monitoring and recording the data. Also the City is required to sign a statement verifying that the biosolids meets certain standards under penalty of perjury.
3. A response was also given to a question concerning our position on SB 926. Staff responded that the City does not have a position but based on the bill language SB 929, the City would probably oppose it because it would restrict and limit not only biosolids import and export but could be far-reaching for California and impact each County that manages hazardous waste, medical waste, and other waste if this law passes.

Discussion was held concerning the science used to formulate the regulations and how the U.S. EPA is not responding to complaints related to illness. The National Academy of Sciences report on biosolids was mis-quoted several times by the anti-biosolids panelists and these issues were rebutted by the USDA scientist on the panel.

A lawyer who defended litigations in a court case in Georgia related to the death of cows was invited to the panel and he stated mis-information that the courts ruled the death of the cows was related to hazardous waste and biosolids use in fields where the cows were grazing. This information was refuted.

Kern County staff discussed the ordinance process, the permit requirements, and independent monitoring and sampling of biosolids. County staff stated that the ordinance requires sampling and monitoring of the biosolids at the site quarterly but could be performed more often. They also stressed the point on how they have spent a lot of time on this process and continue to address issues related to biosolids.

Kern County Water Agency provided information on the proposal process to relocate existing biosolids application sites from over useable groundwater. They stated they are preparing to meet with the generators to discuss the proposals.

Senator Dean Florez talked about SB 926 and how the bill would require each County to manage their own waste. He also state that the legislation is being used to push local Counties to impose bans on out-of -County waste. Senator Florez also stated that the County has the authority to ban biosolids.

Supervisor Watson talked about the proposal process to relocate application sites and how the legislation would not help solve the problem but maybe slow down the process. He also stated that he did not agree with the statement that the County could ban biosolids application and would be opening itself to litigation if they took such action.