



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE OF PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS

Monthly Update

www.scap1.org

September 2009

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Upcoming Meetings

Air Quality

Thursday, September 17, 2009
10:00-12:00 noon, at LACSD.

Biosolids

Thursday, October 8, 2009
9:00-12:00 noon, at OCSD
Joint SCAP/Tri-TAC meeting.

Collection Systems

Wednesday, November 4, 2009
9:00-1:00pm, at Goleta Sanitary
District WRF.

Energy Management

Thursday, October 22, 2009
9:00-1:00pm, at LACSD.

Water Issues

Tuesday, November 24, 2009
9:00-12 noon, at IEUA.

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A Message from the Executive Director...

Can you feel it? It's out there, that little nip in the air, that late afternoon breeze that pushes the tree leaves down the street. Fall is coming, and even in Southern California we get to experience all that it brings. The undeniable signs are all there. Suddenly, the guys are spending more time in the house on the weekends watching football on the television, women are off to the malls shopping for school clothes for the kids, and the kids, well, they're off to school once again. And before you know it, Christmas will be here. Speaking of Christmas, it's never too early to start planning for those hard to find presents. And for those of you who may be considering giving more practical gifts this year, how about a way to extract water out of thin air and then use it to run your automobile. With the price of both water and gasoline continuing to rise, this may be just what everyone needs. Start with the Ecolobue 28, a water generator that pulls water from the air using a de-humidification process followed by filtration. The machine condenses water from the air and then runs it through three carbon filters, one reverse-osmosis filter and three UV lights, so that the water may be safe to drink as well. In fact, testing of the water indicates that it is free of chlorine, nitrates and sediments. Using the water that you have just produced, you could then use it to fuel your car by installing an engine modification system invented by Mr. Paul Patone. His invention reportedly allows a typical internal combustion engine to run on up to 80% water using a self-inducing plasma generator. The other 20% being a typical hydrocarbon fuel. Even with that, the inventor claims the technology can reduce the greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution from a standard car by 90%. One word of caution though, reportedly Mr. Patone spent decades developing this technology only to be framed by corrupt businessmen for securities fraud a few years ago and was later sent to a mental ward at the Utah State Hospital. Word is that he is now out and living in New Mexico where he is further refining his invention.

Now that summer is at an end, most everyone has either taken their vacation or about to do so. For me, that means life is getting back to normal, as it should be at this time of year. Coincidentally, all of our public agencies are also getting back to the normal business at hand. The budget process is now behind us and miraculously, even the State has a budget in place. Gone but not forgotten are the water and sewer rate increases that were made necessary by revenue shortfalls and property tax losses. Still with us however, are the constant reminders that we must continue to do more with less. For many people that have lost their jobs and retirement funds this was the second coming of the Great Depression. Although the economy is showing slight signs of improving, a painful lesson has been learned that may prevent us from ever returning to the days of having surplus agency funds.

I'm certainly not clairvoyant, yet I would not be surprised to see many individuals currently unemployed run for public office in the near future. As victims of the economy they will more than likely bring to their new office a platform of fiscal austerity that will rival anything we have seen to-date. I am already seeing agency managers acutely aware of this, as evidenced by their reluctance to spend money on capital improvement projects with no net benefit or return on investment. Once the stimulus funds are no longer available, it will be a rare pilot project that gets agency funding, even when the project may be "full of promise". Despite the technical progress being made in the area of renewable energy, a proven track record will likely be required before diverting capital away from competing projects. However, an area of potential that we may want to keep a close eye on is in the field of nitrogen rejection and carbon dioxide removal from digester gas. A system that you will be hearing more about in the near future is the Molecular Gate® Adsorption Technology for scrubbing digester gases. The Gas Company's Rule 30 Guidelines for the utilization of bio-fuel derived from wastewater treatment plants is a step in the right direction. Essentially this Rule will provide a mechanism to allow POTWs the ability to sell unused bio-gas to the Gas Company to replenish its natural gas pipeline supply. We can only hope that this process works smoother than the sale of electricity back to the Grid, which has been problematic for many agencies in the past.

Since I seem to be talking about the holidays and it won't be much longer before Thanksgiving is here, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our agencies and associates who have renewed their membership in SCAP for another year. I know how precious both public and private dollars are, especially in these tough economic times. With nearly all agencies and associates renewing their membership, I want to once again pledge SCAP's willingness to work hard keeping everyone informed and updated on the latest regulatory issues confronting the wastewater industry.

Seasonally Yours,

John Pastore, Executive Director

Committee Reports



Air Quality

By Chair Kris Flaig
kris.flaig@lacity.org

CWCCG Update by Kris Flaig, City of Los Angeles

The California Wastewater Climate Change Group (CWCCG) has partnered with the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) and found a consultant who will be the face of California wastewater for climate change (CC). Jackie Kepke, known for her talents in representing wastewater agencies with regulators will lead the CH2M-Hill (CH) squad in providing the CWCCG with assistance on CC initiatives.

Funding for this effort has come from four groups. SCAP and BACWA will provide roughly two-thirds of

the \$151,000 budget, while CVCWA and CASA will provide the remaining one-third. CASA has also agreed to handle all of the administrative contract activities. One member from each of these four groups is a member of the Core Steering Committee, which will handle the day-to-day activities of the consultant. For SCAP, this means that I will be communicating with the SCAP agencies who have contributed towards this effort, soliciting their input.

On August 25th, CH hosted sessions at their Sacramento office on Chartering and on Cap & Trade (C&T) Strategies. Key CH staff included two C&T experts and the local staff. Wastewater agencies were represented by the SCAP, BACWA, and CVCWA Air Quality Committee Chairs, executive directors, and several member agencies. SCAP participants included Vlad Kogan (OCSD), Tom Alspaugh (City of San Diego), and Greg Adams and Frank Caponi (LACSD). By the first week of September, the CSC hopes to nail down task orders for the consultant on C&T, CC regulatory workshops, CWCCG meetings, and general project management. SCAP members should contact John Pastore, Greg Adams, or me, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding CC-related activities.

Imperial County APCD

www.co.imperial.ca.us

Imperial County APCD has announced that a copy of both the Final 2009 Imperial County State Implementation Plan for PM₁₀ (2009 PM₁₀ SIP) and the Final Negative Declaration for the 2009 PM₁₀ SIP are now available on the District's website.

There are currently no new public workshops or hearings posted on the ICAPCD website for the month of September.

Mohave Desert AQMD

www.mdaqmd.ca.gov

For those interested in solar power, the MDAQMD website includes a real time display of daily and yearly solar power information from within the district, as well as the amount of carbon dioxide saved.

MDAQMD has also introduced ENVIROFLASH on its website, which provides air quality forecasts directly to your computer's inbox.

The 2009 California Desert Air working Group Conference is coming to the scenic Furnace Creek Inn and Ranch Resort in Death Valley October 21 & 22, 2009. An agenda is available on the MDAQMD website.

MDAQMD has released a copy of the **Preliminary Draft Rule 1159-Stationary Gas Turbines** for public review.

There are currently no public workshops posted on the District's website for the month of September. The next meeting of the MDAQMD Board is scheduled for September 28, 2009 in Victorville.

San Diego APCD

www.sdapcd.org

San Diego APCD reports it has completed and submitted its Ambient Air Monitoring Network Plan (AMNP) for 2007 and a copy can be obtained from their website. SDAPCD will be required to submit an Air Quality Plan to EPA in 2013 outlining the emission control regulations necessary to bring the entire region into attainment.

SDAPCD has added a custom Google search engine exclusively for their website and also offers an interactive air pollution simulator program called **Smog**

City 2. This program will allow the user to make decisions that affect the air quality and can then view the resulting changes that occur.

There are currently no workshops scheduled for the month of September according to the SDAPCD website. The SDAPCD is scheduled to discuss the 2008 Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Program Report at its September 23, 2009 meeting.

Santa Barbara APCD

www.sbapcd.org

The Santa Barbara APCD reports that they have a new fee schedule in effect as of 7/01/08, which can be viewed on their website. SBAPCD also reports that they are working with CAPCOA planning managers to develop GHG emission thresholds for CEQA reviews of new projects.

The SBAPCD has announced it will be conducting meetings in the future to discuss the following Rules:

- Rule 345 (Reserved)
- Rule 334 (Control of Hexavalent Chromium Emissions from Chrome Plating and Chromic Acid Anodizing)

The SBAPCD Board will be conducting its next public meeting on October 15, 2009

Ventura County APCD

www.vcapcd.org

VCAPCD currently has application forms available for the Carl Moyer Program. The program will provide approximately \$2 million of grant funds for projects within Ventura County. The grant funds are available to qualifying owners of heavy-duty diesel powered equipment that want to reduce air pollution by upgrading or replacing their present equipment.

The next VCAPCD Board meeting is scheduled for September 8, 2009. Considered for adoption will be **New Rule 55.1 Paved Road and Public Unpaved Roads and New Rule 55.2 Street Sweeping Equipment**. There are now new Advisory Committee meetings scheduled at this time.

South Coast AQMD

www.aqmd.gov

Priority Reserve Lawsuits and Related Matters by Greg Adams, LACSD

The plaintiffs in the federal action challenging the validity of the credits held in the SCAQMD credit banks have advised Judge George Wu that they will appeal his decision (to grant the SCAQMD motion to dismiss the action) to the Ninth Circuit Court in San Francisco. Such an appeal might easily take up to a year before it is heard. LACSD and OCSD were accepted as intervenors and hence should be able to track the appeals process.

As to the California CEQA-related actions, several significant events took place at the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality (EQ) meeting on August 26, 2009. Senator Joe Simitian, the Chair, orchestrated a hearing of three credit-related bills: SB 696 by Rod Wright, a newly-gutted and completely re-written SB 579 by Senator Alan Lowenthal and Assemblyman Manuel Perez' AB 1318. Immediately prior to the morning hearings on the bills, SB 696 was the June 17, 2009 version that included relief for essential public services, small businesses [Rule 1304 exempt sources] and power plants. Lowenthal's SB 579, completely re-written as a parallel, back-up bill to SB 696, excluded power plants and included other distinctions such as a clear statement that the bill did not abrogate any decision of any California court and other points. Assemblyman Perez' bill freed up permitting for essential public services but not small businesses and allowed a specific power plant, the Sentinel peaker facility in the Coachella Valley to receive credits from the Priority Reserve. All three bills were voted out of committee subject to very substantial "principles" (amendments) imposed by the Chair including striking of references to specific SCAQMD rule numbers, keeping CEQA intact, no mention of abrogation of court decisions, no mention of validity of the credits, dropping of language dealing with power plants, mentioning of a tracking system and other changes. Perez' bill was also modified to drop mention of essential public services. The three authors now need to approve the final language that we understand will be available from Legislative Counsel on August 31, 2009. All bills now move to the Appropriations Committee and then to the floor. The legislature adjourns on September 11, 2009. The Governor has 30 days after that date to sign the bill or bills into law.

An appeal of the Judge Ann Jones' decision had been filed by the SCAQMD in late 2008 with the California Court of Appeals and only recently has a briefing schedule has been established. The SCAQMD had to

file their first brief stating their causes of action by August 11, 2009. Shauna Lazaro, an attorney with CBE, mentioned at the August 26, 2009 Senate EQ hearing that the plaintiffs would be filing a motion on August 31, 2009 to drop essential public services and small businesses from inclusion in the lawsuit, something they had repeatedly said was not their intention.

In the meantime, however, the permitting moratorium for essential public services continues but it could be over in early September 2009 or mid-October at the latest.

SCAQMD Proposed Rule 317 (Clean Air Act Non-Attainment Fees) by Greg Adams, LACSD

This proposed rule implements very punitive provisions of the 1990 federal Clean Air Act Amendments (contained in Section 185). The section requires the imposition of significant penalties, up to \$35MM per year, escalated at the CPI each year and continuing possibly forever, on emissions from stationary sources in non-attainment areas, even if those sources that are operating at the best possible control levels. Orange County Supervisor Bill Campbell has been extremely helpful throughout the process by introducing motions at several SCAQMD Board meetings to mitigate the impacts of the Clean Air Act provisions on small businesses and essential public services.

In a parallel effort, the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee (CAAAC) Section 185 Task Force met in Washington D.C. on April 30 to refine a package of flexibility options that most members ultimately hoped would be brought to the full CAAAC for their blessing with the goal of forwarding all the recommendations to EPA for implementation. After much discussion and compromise (and opposition from environmental groups), the full CAAAC on May 14, 2009 voted to send the recommendations to EPA's Office of general Counsel (OGC) to get a determination as to their legality. On August 21, 2009 a Southern California contingent of representatives for essential public services, small business, large business and the L.A. Chamber of Commerce met with newly confirmed EPA Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation, Gina McCarthy, to explain to her the implications of the act first hand, and to get her support in directing the OGC to consider the Section 185 task Force recommendations, in particular, the "clean unit" [BACT] exemption arguments. She listened carefully and took notes but made no promises. OGC legal staff continues to be a hurdle.

Off-Road Diesel Vehicle Regulation by Carol Kaufman, MWD of Southern California

175 ≤ hp ≤ 750 hp
750 < hp

January 1, 1996
January 1, 2000

On the lighter side of heavy construction diesel equipment, Metropolitan Water District recently installed a diesel particulate filter (DPF) on a new Caterpillar Motor Grader. However, the placement of the newly installed DPF significantly blocked the operator's visibility. This is a safety issue, particularly at Metropolitan's desert locations where a biologist is required to walk in front of the grader to check for desert wildlife (affectionately called "turtle herding"). It turns out that the CARB Off-Road Diesel Vehicle regulation staff has been discussing this DPF safety dilemma with Cal/OSHA to create a compromise that would both reduce diesel particulate, and protect employees working around heavy construction equipment. Cal/OSHA is reviewing the International Standard, ISO 5006 ("Earth-moving machinery - Operator's field of view - Test method and performance criteria") for adoption. The standard would provide CARB with parameters to help make an infeasibility determination for DPF installations. When the standard's visibility analysis was performed on the DPF for the new motor grader, the installation did not pass the standard, thereby supporting its removal. So, the efforts of CARB and Cal/OSHA to adopt the visibility standards, combined with improved manufacturer installation design, will work towards lightening the requirements for owners of heavy construction diesel equipment.

Portable Engine Compliance Deadline by Karl Lany, SCEC

The California Airborne Toxics Control Measure for Diesel Particulate Matter from Portable Engines Rated at 50 Horsepower and Greater (ATCM) contains technology, emissions reduction, and reporting standards that are applicable throughout California. The regulation specifies that all diesel-fueled engines rated at 50 horsepower or greater must be certified to meet federal or California non-road engine standards by January 1, 2010. Engines that are not certified to meet these standards, referred to as Tier 0, or non-certified engines, must be removed from service or be reclassified as either emergency use or low use units by the compliance date. A low use engine is one that is operated less than 80 hours in any calendar year.

Generally, engines that were manufactured prior to the following dates are subject to the January 1, 2010 compliance deadline:

<u>Rating</u>	<u>Manufacturer Date</u>
50 ≤ hp < 100 hp	January 1, 1998
100 ≤ hp < 175 hp	January 1, 1997

The retirement/reclassification requirement applies, regardless of the air district in which the engine operates, and regardless of the permit or registration program under which operation is authorized. If a subject engine is registered in the Portable Equipment Registration Program (PERP), the PERP registration should show an expiration date of December 31, 2009, unless the engine has already been classified as an emergency or low use unit. If a subject engine is operated under a local air district permit, note that the December 31, 2009 expiration date applies regardless of any alternative expiration date that may be specified in that permit.

Operators wishing to reclassify engines as emergency or low use units must submit applications to the permitting authority prior to the end of 2009. Applications to reclassify an engine that operates under PERP must be approved by California Air Resources Board (CARB) prior to the compliance deadline. If a subject engine operates under a local air district permit, that district should be consulted to determine permit modification procedures. Note: The reclassification of a noncertified engine as an emergency or low use unit includes a commitment to replace the engine when Tier 4 non-road engine technology becomes available. Tier 4 replacements would occur between 2015 and 2017, depending upon the engine rating. While Tier 4 technology costs are unknown, Tier 4 engines are generally expected to be more expensive than current engine models.

For further information, contact the SCAP Air Quality Committee.



Biosolids

By Chair Mike Sullivan
msullivan@lacsdc.org

SWRCB and CIWMB Workshop on Composting Regulations by Matt Bao, LACSD

The SWRCB and CIWMB held a joint composting regulation workshop at the Cal-EPA building in Sacramento on August 17th to identify potential water quality impacts from composting facilities and appropriate water quality protection measures. It was

noted that a statewide waiver is currently being developed, and both agencies are considering both AB 939 diversion and water quality protection goals. The workshop began with introductions by SWRCB Executive Director Dorothy Rice and CIWMB Executive Director Mark Leary discussing this collaborative effort. This was followed by presentations by SWRCB staff regarding general water quality impacts, as well as the present structure of granting WDRs and waivers for composting facilities. CIWMB followed with presentations on general items such as the composting industry outlook relating to diversion goals and the current composting facility permit structure. The public comment portion of the workshop included two presentations by composting consultants and approximately five comments by compost operators and non-profit environmental organizations. At the end of the workshop, SWRCB staff stated that a draft waiver and draft CEQA documentation is being developed. It is implied that these draft documents would be available for public review at a future date. Presentations from the joint public workshop can be viewed on the SWRCB website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/land_disposal/compost.shtml.

Pacific Southwest Organics Residuals Symposium
by Matt Bao, LACSD

On September 23 and 24, the Pacific Southwest Organic Residuals Symposium will be held at the UC Davis campus. Organic residuals including biosolids, manure, food waste and green waste will be the focus of the symposium as it applies to energy recovery, interagency conflict resolution, and the technologies and financing options for organic residuals technology. A pre-conference tour of East Bay MUD's food waste digestion program in Oakland will be held on September 22. This facility, which converts organic residuals to energy, reduces greenhouse gas emissions as well as reducing the amount of organics being managed at landfills. For more information, please visit: www.extension.ucdavis.edu/engineering.

Congratulations to the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation for completing its Annual Biosolids Environmental Management System Audit by John Pastore, SCAP

According to Diane Gilbert Jones of the Bureau of Sanitation's Regulatory Affairs Division, the City of Los Angeles has completed its annual biosolids environmental management system audit. A summary of the City of Los Angeles 2009 Biosolids EMS Interim Audit can be found posted on the SCAP website in the Biosolids Reference Document section at this link:

<http://www.scap1.org/Biosolids%20Reference%20Library/City%20of%20LA2009%20Interim%20Audit%20Summary%20final.pdf> .

If you would like to review the audit report, assist in addressing the findings, or have any questions please contact the City of Los Angeles at 310-648-5877 or visit www.lacity.org/SAN/biosolidsems/index.htm .



Collection Systems

By Chair Ralph Palomares
rpalomares@etwd.com

SCAP Collection Systems Committee Report by Ralph Palomares, El Toro WD

Well its time for school to start and that can only mean one thing! The heat is on, as in 91 degrees on the sand in Laguna Beach. That's a little too hot for me to even consider spending the rest of the day fishing after having completed another successful SCAP collection systems committee meeting here at the El Toro Water District. The meeting had many topics to discuss from disposable wipes to Fog Control programs. The WDR and SSMP discussions always generate a lot of questions to answer and I think we will discuss this topic again at our next meeting on November 4th up at the Goleta Sanitary District in Santa Barbara County.



Bill Garrett discussing LACSD's FOG program

We had some very nice technical presentations on the latest odor control technologies and mechanical grease removal systems for sewer lift stations. We had presentations on OCSD's SOPs (standard operating

procedures) for their sewer maintenance program and a very entertaining presentation by LACSD on their FOG program. All of these presentations will be posted on the SCAP website in the Collection Systems Reference Library section for your viewing at a more relaxed time during your daily duties. We had a committee meeting first, by having two district general managers in attendance, as well as a NGO (non-governmental organization) represented. This is what I would like to see at all future SCAP collection system meetings, namely, members from all sections of your agency's staff attending to see what we do and discuss at these meetings. We try to keep the meetings informal and like I said before, relax take your shoes off and please ask questions. No question is a dumb one, and even if we don't know the answer, we will work hard to get it for you. The issue with the disposable wipes is getting bigger with some asking the question, why hasn't there been a lawsuit filed that is associated with these wipes causing us so many maintenance problems? It almost appears from the regulators' standpoint that we have to have a sewer spill (something we really don't want to happen) first to get everyone's attention. Anyway, we will discuss this subject more at the next meeting in November.



EEC's John Shaffer explaining the finer points of the FOG component of a SSMP

Also discussed were EPA audits and the lessons learned from these. This was very timely information as we learned from SCAP's Bob Kreg, EPA has now embarked on a program of conducting sewer collection system audits across the state and we had better be prepared. My sense is, if you are doing what you should be doing, then I don't see a problem as an audit is unlikely. Our first ever collection systems barbeque lunch of SCAP burgers and SSO hot dogs were prepared by the master "collections man" himself, Mr. Steve Sanchez of ETWD and his crew of Brandon J. and Chris Gman.



I want to extend a big thank you to all of you who attended and thank the El Toro Water District once again for the use of their facilities.

Auto Email Notification Update by Robert Kreg, SCAP

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) had previously announced that they would begin an auto email notification to all enrollees who were not compliant with reporting, questionnaire update, or compliance with the development and implementation of their Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) elements in July 2009. Although, the mechanics for the auto email notification are functional, the state has some additional work on the policies and procedures of the program. The new release date for the program is September/October 2009.

Russell Norman of the SWRCB offered this brief description of how the auto email notification program is envisioned to function. Initially, the program will run once notifying the legally responsible official (LRO) that their agency has a deficiency or deficiencies and list what the deficiencies are. The enrollee will have 30 days to correct the deficiencies. If corrected, the deficiencies will be removed. If left uncorrected or the enrollee is non respondent the enrollee will be issued a notice of violation (NOV). Details for enforcement are still being finalized by the state. Currently of the approximately 1,100 agencies enrolled in the program approximately 800 have one or more deficiencies.

SSMP Audits by Robert Kreg, SCAP

The SWRCB has set a target of conducting 24 SSMP audits this fiscal year. At least 2 audits will be conducted in each region. When possible, the audits will be conducted jointly by state and regional staff. This will be a formal audit with an audit report being issued and any deficiencies found will have to be corrected. Any enrollee is subject to these audits.

Enrollees with low spill rates and full SSMP development and implementation are as likely to receive an audit as enrollees with high spill rates and or SSMP compliance issues. Approximately ten Northern California enrollees have received SSMP audits from the SWRCB.

Dischargers Workbook Update by Robert Kreg, SCAP

Due to the numerous changes that have been incorporated into the CIWQS SSO reporting system the state is anticipating an update to the SSO Discharger Workbook. This workbook gives detailed instructions for the use of the CIWQS SSO reporting system. The current workbook is available at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ciwqs/chc_sso.shtml . The anticipated release date for the updated workbook is September/October 2009.

WDR Review Update by Robert Kreg, SCAP

On Tuesday, September 15, 2009 and Tuesday September 29, 2009 the SWRCB will hold informal public meetings to seek comments on the performance of the statewide Sanitary Sewer Overflow Reduction Program (SSO Reduction Program) including the General Waste Discharge Requirements (GWDR) for Sanitary Sewer Systems, Water Quality Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ. This is the order that requires every public sanitary collection system with more than one mile of collection pipelines to create and implement a Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP). The September 15th meeting will be held at Orange County Sanitation District's Plant 1 Board Room, 10844 Ellis Avenue, Fountain Valley from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. The September 29th meeting will be held at the Elihu M. Harris Building First Floor Auditorium, 1515 Clay Street, Oakland from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. Both meetings will cover the same topics. The SWRCB announced that a meeting agenda would be released shortly. Written comments or recommendations concerning the SSO Reduction Program may be submitted to the SWRCB until 5 p.m. October 19, 2009. Although reservations for the September meetings are not required, the SWRCB has requested an RSVP at SSOMeetingRSVP@waterboards.ca.gov for those planning to attend. A copy of the Notice of Public Meetings for these meetings is posted on the SCAP website in the Reference Library under the Collection Systems Committee.

New Water Quality Enforcement Policy by Robert Kreg, SCAP

The SWRCB has released a draft of its new Water Quality Enforcement Policy. This is a new policy that state sources have indicated is intended to become the

standard Water Quality Enforcement Policy to be utilized statewide. The purpose is to establish fair, firm and consistent enforcement of water quality issues statewide. The SWRCB will receive written comments until 12:00 noon, September 21, 2009 with a public hearing being held on October 20, 2009. A copy of the draft Water Quality Enforcement Policy has been posted on the SCAP website in the Reference Library under Compliance Reference.

WDR Compliance Update by Robert Kreg, SCAP

If your agency serves a population of 10,000 to 100,000 the deadline for certifying the final elements including the approval by your governing body and certification of your SSMP was August 2, 2009. If your agency serves a population of 2,500 to 10,000 the deadline for certifying the Legal Authority, Operations and Maintenance, Overflow Emergency Response Program, and FOG Control Program elements of the SSMP is November 2, 2009. For agencies serving a population of less than 2,500 the deadline for certifying the Legal Authority, Operations and Maintenance, Overflow Emergency Response Program, and FOG Control Program elements of the SSMP is February 2, 2010.

CSC Meeting Presentations by Robert Kreg, SCAP

There were several very interesting PowerPoint presentations given at the recent Collection Systems Committee meeting. Many of these presentations have been posted on the SCAP website in the Reference Library under the Collection Systems Committee for your review.

Budget Crisis Update by Robert Kreg, SCAP

Due to the current budget crisis state employees are furloughed the first 3 Fridays of each month. This condition is scheduled to continue until June of 2010.



Energy Management

By Chair Andre Schmidt
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Stimulus Funded Ultra-Low Interest Loans Available for Energy Projects by Andre Schmidt, LACSD

The California Recovery Task Force recently announced that one percent and three percent interest

loans funded through \$25 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Economic Stimulus Package) funds are available for eligible public energy efficient and renewable energy projects in California. Available through the California Energy Commission, the loans will help local jurisdictions stimulate their economies and job growth while investing in energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions - all in a cost effective manner. Cities, counties and special districts are eligible to apply.

Types of projects that are eligible for the loans include:

- Automated energy management systems/controls
- Energy audits and feasibility studies may be eligible for loans
- Energy generation including renewable and combined heat and power projects
- Heating and air conditioning modifications
- Lighting systems
- Pumps, motors and variable frequency drives
- Waste water treatment equipment

The maximum loan amount is \$3 million per application. There is no minimum loan amount. Projects must have a simple payback of 11 years or less based on energy costs savings. Loans for energy projects must be repaid from savings within 15 years. For more information see the following CEC website: <http://energy.ca.gov/efficiency/financing/index.html>.

LACSD Saves Money with Electrical Rate Optimization by Andre Schmidt, LACSD

The Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts recently undertook an effort to analyze all of its 184 Southern California Edison electrical accounts to determine which accounts could benefit by changing rates. A request was made to the SCE Account Manager to analyze specific accounts for potential savings. On the first pass, 17 accounts were identified that could save money by changing to a different rate. In all, a total savings of 17 percent was identified for these accounts, resulting in \$53,000 in annual savings. Of these accounts, several were under general service rates even though they were used primarily for pumping water. By changing these accounts to more favorable pumping rates, money will be saved. Other accounts were already on pumping rates, but were using the pumping rate tailored for small services, even though they are medium sized (30 to 130 kW). By using a different pumping rate tailored for larger services, significant savings were found.

More savings may exist by going on time of use rates even for smaller accounts that are not required to do

so. These rates are being promoted by the utilities as they seek to discourage the use of power during peak demand periods. Many POTW facilities use a good deal of their power during off-peak times, so they may benefit from time of use rates which charge less for power used during off-peak periods. A more detailed analysis of the individual account is needed to determine if this is beneficial.

LACSD is also considering contracting with a professional utility bill analysis service to identify additional savings. These companies have specialized software that analyzes multiple years worth of utility bills to look for billing errors and more favorable rates. There is no up front charge for the service, as the company collects a percentage of the identified savings as their compensation. If any other member of SCAP has utilized such a service, LACSD would appreciate input on your experience.

News Article on how U.S. grants are sparking local green energy ideas. Reprinted from the August 31, 2009 edition of the Ventura County Star by Theresa Rochester, Ventura County Star

Cities are Seeking Funds for Projects.



Photo by Joseph A. Garcia

Chuck Rogers, Hill Canyon Wastewater Treatment Plant superintendent, walks to the top of an anaerobic digester that converts sewage waste into methane gas. Thousand Oaks is seeking federal stimulus funds to help upgrade the plant's energy-producing capability.



Photo by Joseph A. Garcia

About 2800 solar panels were installed two years ago at the Hill Canyon Wastewater Treatment Plant. The

city of Thousand Oaks is looking at putting panels on the Civic Arts Plaza and the Newbury Park Branch of the Thousand Oaks Library.



Photo by Joseph A. Garcia



Biosolids from an anaerobic digester dry in a field at the Hill Canyon Wastewater Treatment Plant in Thousand Oaks. The material will be sent to the Toland Road Landfill.

Chuck Rogers, Hill Canyon Wastewater Treatment Plant superintendent, talks about the solar-energy farm and co-generation plant that are operating at the Thousand Oaks facility.

Photo by Joseph A. Garcia

Chuck Rogers stepped outside the offices at the Hill Canyon Wastewater Treatment Plant on a recent afternoon and was greeted by the loud, low-pitched hum of two electricity-producing engines powered by methane culled from sewage waste.

“That’s the sound of renewable energy,” said Rogers, the plant’s superintendent.

On the other side of the facility, which serves the city of Thousand Oaks, are 2,783 solar panels capable of generating about 250,000 kilowatts a day, which is the equivalent of powering more than 250 average American homes. The panels combined with the co-generation installation have generated 10 million kilowatt hours of renewable energy in the last two years and four months.

Thousand Oaks officials started planning to expand the use of alternative energy at the treatment plant and other city buildings last year to boost energy self-

reliance. Officials are looking to federal stimulus money to help fund the projects, and they are not alone.

The cities of Ventura, Oxnard, Simi Valley and Camarillo have applied for grant money that would kick-start energy-related projects ranging from solar panels to energy-efficient traffic lights.

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program was funded with \$3.2 billion through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to provide grants for projects “that reduce total energy use and fossil fuel emissions, and improve energy efficiency,” according to a statement released by the U.S. Department of Energy.

Under the program, cities and counties are slated to receive nearly \$1.9 billion, while states and territories will receive about \$770 million. The money that states receive will be parceled out to cities and counties that are not large enough to qualify for a grant directly from the Energy Department.

Oxnard, the county’s largest city, was awarded a \$1.6 million grant that will be used to develop a strategy to maximize energy-efficiency improvements, according to the city.

Camarillo officials have applied for a \$616,800 grant. It will be added to \$140,000 of the city’s money to fund the installation of 8,800 square feet of solar panels at two city maintenance yards to generate 120,000 kilowatt hours of electricity a year, said Lucia McGovern, the city’s deputy director of public works. The project would mark Camarillo’s first foray into solar energy.

Laura Behjan, an assistant city manager in Simi Valley, said the city is eligible for \$1.1 million in block grant money. The city’s application has three components.

A total of \$895,000 would go toward improvements in heating, ventilating and air conditioning to boost energy efficiency at city facilities, while \$190,900 would fund a community program that provides low-interest loans and grants to residential properties to purchase energy efficient equipment and technology, Behjan said. The city will allocate \$11,100 to the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance to have the organization consult with residents and businesses who want to improve their energy efficiency.

Ventura officials plan to expand their use of solar power with a portion of the block grant they expect to receive. The city has a photovoltaic system with 650

solar panels at its maintenance yard, producing about 45 percent of the electricity consumed at the yard.

Joe Yahner, Ventura's environmental services supervisor, said the city anticipates about \$1 million in grant funding. The city will spend some of the money for a solar panel installation in a parking structure at City Hall. The panels will generate 300 kilowatts of electricity.

"We've talked about doing solar at City Hall," Yahner said. "It's very expensive. These funds are allowing it to be a reality."

Another key project outlined in the city's grant application calls for installing energy efficient street lights. Officials also will use \$200,000 to help nonprofits install energy efficient equipment in their facilities for low or no cost.

At the Hill Canyon Wastewater Treatment Plant, Rogers stopped in front of one of two large internal combustion engines used for co-generation. He is confident the entire plant, the largest energy user among city-owned facilities, will soon be fully powered by renewable energy.

"We will achieve it and blow right past it," Rogers said.

A portion of the \$1.2 million block grant Thousand Oaks has applied for will go to purchase a larger engine that can produce 750 kilowatts to replace one of the 500-kilowatt engines.

The remaining money is earmarked for solar installations at the Civic Arts Plaza and Newbury Park Branch Library. Solar panels at the plaza will provide an estimated 20 percent to 30 percent of the facility's energy use, while the array at the library is expected to meet 60 percent to 70 percent of the building's energy demand, city spokesman Andrew Powers said.

Thousand Oaks has started negotiations with a company it selected last summer to move forward with evaluating the sites, said Interim Finance Director John Adams. The agreement is subject to the approval of the City Council.

"I think putting in any alternative energy source is just tremendous for the city," Mayor Tom Glancy said, adding that using renewable energy "can save a lot of coal-based fuel and petroleum products, and it's clean, it's really clean."



Water Issues

By Chair Gus Dembegiotes
Gus.dembegiotes@lacity.org

September 1, 2009 Water Issues Committee Meeting by John Pastore, SCAP

Many thanks to our Water Issues Committee Chair, Gus Dembegiotes and the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation staff for hosting our September committee meeting at the Hyperion Treatment Plant in Playa Del Rey. We had a great turnout with nearly 25 members in attendance. Those attending received an update from Gus on the SWRCB General Irrigation Permit, the SWRCB Draft Water Quality Enforcement Policy and an update on the latest legislation affecting the wastewater industry.



O2 Generating Facility at Hyperion Treatment Plant

Because of the sheer size of the Hyperion Plant, 144 acres, the tour was conducted outside by tram. Once inside the control building, Hassan Rad provided us with an in-depth description of the facilities and answered all questions with an amazing knowledge of the important facts and figures. The last portion of the tour included a behind the scenes look at the City's world-class plant testing and ocean monitoring laboratory. Reportedly, the largest wastewater



Final clarifiers at Hyperion Treatment Plant

treatment plant west of the Mississippi, the plant was extremely clean and efficiently run. Thanks again to the Bureau of Sanitation for allowing us the opportunity to visit and tour this great facility.



Anaerobic digesters at Hyperion Treatment Plant

For Water's Sake, Regulate Softeners by Rich Atwater, IEUA

An extraordinary coalition of business, agriculture, environmental and local governments have come together to support Assembly Bill 1366 (Feuer/Caballero/A. Strickland), which will provide our community with the authority to protect our water quality from the salinity impacts caused by a specific type of residential water softener - the self-regenerating devices that require the use of bags and bags of salt to make the equipment work.

As California struggles through the third year of drought and moves forward with discussions about how to solve problems in the San Francisco Bay Delta, we need to tackle all aspects of our water crisis. For years, however, state law has unduly constrained local water agencies from determining how best to address one significant water supply and quality issue - excess salinity in some surface and groundwater supplies caused, in part, by residential self-regenerating water

softeners. AB 1366 takes a measured approach to solve this problem.

Current law gives local and regional agencies wide latitude to regulate salinity inputs from every other source - agricultural, commercial and industrial, except home water softeners. Never mind that one typical self-regenerating home water softener can dump up to 30 pounds of salt into the sewer system each month, contributing salinity that can make water recycling cost-prohibitive.

It is time to change the law that continues to place the interests of one industry over the interests of all other businesses, agriculture and, significantly, ratepayers.

The experience of the Santa Clarita Valley in northern Los Angeles County underscores why.

The Sanitation District instituted a voluntary rebate program followed by ban on residential use of self-regenerating water softeners, with reimbursement for any units that were removed.

The result: The vast majority of Santa Clarita's water softeners are now gone. As a result, the salt added has dropped by almost half.

Had the Sanitation District been forced to remove the equivalent amount of salt through advanced wastewater treatment upgrades with reverse osmosis desalination - as has occurred elsewhere in California - ratepayers would have paid more than 30 times as much as the rebate and reimbursement program cost.

The lesson of Santa Clarita is clear - expanding the options of publicly accountable local agencies in dealing with salinity issues, as AB 1366 aims to do, can save ratepayers millions of dollars.

Here in the Inland Empire our residents and businesses have invested hundreds of millions in the development of our local recycled water and groundwater supplies to drought proof our economy. With the state now predicting dramatic reductions in California's future water supplies due to problems in the Delta and climate change, we must take action to protect the water supplies we have. This means we need to support the passage of AB 1366 and start using non-salt-based water softening devices.

Rich Atwater is general manager of Inland Empire Utilities Agency, which is a co-sponsor of AB 1366. Other co-sponsors are: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Irvine Ranch Water District, the

Water Replenishment District of Southern California, and the WaterReuse Association. The agency offers a residential self-regenerating water softener rebate of up to \$2,000 with free disconnection and removal. For more information, please visit www.ieua.org.

SWRCB Water Quality Enforcement Policy by John Pastore, SCAP

In January of 2008 the SWRCB issued the first draft of its Proposed Water Quality Enforcement Policy. The stated purpose of which is to establish an administrative civil liability assessment methodology to create a fair and consistent statewide approach to liability assessment. SCAP joined with Tri-TAC and the Clean Water Summit Partners to submit comments on the draft policy and have since been monitoring its progress. After several new drafts and public workshops, the State Water Board issued its latest draft on July 14, 2009. Again, we will be submitting a comment letter expressing our suggestions and concerns prior to the October 20, 2009 public hearing date in Sacramento. A copy of the proposed Policy can be found on the SWRCB website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/enforcement/.

Some of the more significant issues within the proposed policy that must be addressed include: the SWRCB's desire to defer to the Regional Water Boards' calculation of administrative liability amounts; the per gallon threshold amount proposed for recycled water releases; the proposed use of the "History of Violations" adjustment factors for calculating civil liability; the specific language relating to compliance assistance for small and disadvantaged communities. There are numerous other issues of concern, however, the sheer volume of the proposed policy makes it nearly impossible to adequately address all of our concerns in an effective manner. A copy of the final comment letter will be posted on our website after it has been submitted.

Proposed Amendments to the California Ocean Plan by John Pastore, SCAP

The SWRCB has extended the deadline to receive comments concerning Proposed Amendments to the California Ocean Plan prior to its scheduled public hearing on September 15, 2009 in Sacramento. In 2005, the State Water Board directed staff to review a series of high priority issues identified in the 2005-2008 Triennial Review Workplan (TRW). The high priority issue identified in the TRW is Issue 19, Expression of Metals. TRW Issue 25, classified as medium priority, described non-substantive administrative changes as

well. The following non-substantive amendments are proposed to modify the current 2005 Ocean Plan:

1. Clarify that metals are expressed as total recoverable metals;
2. Remove Section III (F) (1) on compliance schedules;
3. Correct toxicity definitions and references in Appendix 1;
4. Include maps of California's ocean waters, bays and estuaries; and
5. Update the list of certain exemptions in Appendix VII.

The proposed amendments to the Ocean Plan and supporting documents are available at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ocean/index.shtml.



Regulatory Affairs

By Mary Jane Foley
mfoley@scap1.org

Regulatory Affairs Update by Mary Jane Foley, SCAP

Gone Fishing.

The fight to keep State Marine Reserves off ocean wastewater outfalls consumes most of my energy these days. The South Coast Marine Life Stakeholder Process is about to culminate. Due to my role over the past year as a stakeholder in the Marine Life Protection Act Stakeholder Process, I really have gone fishing this month. The fishermen are trying to work with the SCAP issues in a consistent, effective manner. I am assigned to that group, and I'm so vocal about our issues that they seem to truly "get" SCAP's position.

Currently, the Attorney General's office is trying to determine what uses can happen in the State Marine Reserve and how these uses conflict or align with the Waterboard's jurisdiction. Hopefully, their legal opinion will be decided before the process is over.

Every POTW knows that wastewater discharges into the ocean are prohibited in Areas of Special Biological Significance. A State Marine Reserve looks and acts

like an ASBS. Therefore, I try to look at this as a worst-case scenario and keep the Reserves off of the outfall infrastructure. This effort is not over yet. In the end, POTW's may have to go to the Fish and Game Commission for the final ruling on all of these Marine Protected Areas. Until then I keep up the fight and will probably be calling on the ocean dischargers to rally politically -- if and when the time comes.

The other issue that I have been following along with John Pastore is the Water Quality Enforcement Policy. John and I have reviewed the policy and are currently working with a statewide POTW group to come up with our final comments on the final draft of this document.

Regulatory Help Desk

Having a regulatory problem and want to talk to someone confidentially about what your options are? Helping individual members is one of my charges and a rewarding part of this job. Please feel free to call me at (949) 493-8466, or email at mjfconsulting@cox.net.

NEW FEATURE

SCAP MEMBER NEWS

[Congratulations to Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District General Manager and SCAP Director Ron Young for being elected to serve as CASA President](#)

LAKE ELSINORE, CA- *August 18, 2009.* The Elsinore Valley Municipal Water Districts, (EVMWD) General Manager Ron Young has been elected to serve as the President of the California Association of Sanitation Agencies. He has been active in CASA for over 20 years and spent the past year as the association's 1st Vice President.

CASA's highest priority is to ensure that state and federal lawmakers and regulatory agencies adopt laws, regulations and public policies that support the needs of its members. CASA's advocacy and education efforts increase the legislators' and regulatory agencies' understanding, awareness and support of wastewater issues.

Prior to taking the helm at EVMWD, Mr. Young served nearly 20 years with the Irvine Ranch Water District, the last 11 of which he served as their general manager. After leaving Irvine in 1998, he worked for Malcolm-Pirnie, a national engineering firm specializing in large-scale water and wastewater projects.

"CASA wants to build upon its recognition as the leading legislative and regulatory advocate for California wastewater agencies and the preeminent source of scientifically based information on wastewater-related issues," Young said. "I plan to put my many years of knowledge on these complex wastewater issues to work over the next 12 months."

Mr. Young has been EVMWD's general manager since 2002 and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from Colorado State University, as well as a Master's degree in Engineering from Loyola Marymount University. He is also active in several professional organizations including, Director of SCAP (Southern California Alliance of POTW's) and past Chairman of the WaterReuse Foundation. Ron Young and his wife Shaula have been married for 37 years, together they have three sons and two grandchildren.

EVMWD provides service to over 140,000 water, wastewater and agricultural customers in a 96-square mile service area in Western Riverside County. The District is a sub-agency of the Western Municipal Water District and a member agency of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. You can visit the EVMWD website at www.evmwd.com for additional information.

NEW SCAP MEMBER

Welcome to our newest SCAP Member— Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, who have joined as a SCAP Associate member for 2009/2010.

Non Sequitur

"Freedom is an indivisible word. If we want to enjoy it, and fight for it, we must be prepared to extend it to everyone, whether they are rich or poor, whether they agree with us or not, no matter what their race or the color of their skin."

- *One World, ch. 13*

Some of our Supporting SCAP Associate Members

DUDEK

FILANC



Kennedy/Jenks Consultants
Engineers & Scientists

RMC
Water and Environment

carollo
Engineers...Working Wonders With Water™

**BROWN AND
CALDWELL**
Environmental Engineers & Consultants

ANCON
ENGINEERING, INC.

NWRI

MWH
BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

enertech™
renewable energy from biosolids