



Sludge Alert - BofS 1-12-16 Agenda / Stop EIR - Options Exam
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 From: David Broadwater <csi@thegrid.net>
 To: mbandov@co.slo.ca.us, lindachipping@yahoo.com,

Water Resources Advisory Committee,

re: **Sewage Sludge Ordinance Halt - BofS Agenda Jan. 12 - Stop EIR / Study Options First**

On 12-15-15, the BofS decided to place consideration of ceasing the current processing of an EIR on the draft ordinance permitting sewage sludge land application on a future agenda, for various reasons. I've heard from the Planning Department and Administrative Office that this is, tentatively, on the 1-12-16 BofS agenda. Nothing is set, however, until it's posted.

The BofS will decide whether to:

1. Proceed with the CEQA/EIR processing of the proposed draft ordinance, or
2. Direct the drafting of an ordinance more compliant with BofS directions, or
3. **Halt the current CEQA/EIR process and, first, study methods of sewage sludge management other than land application**, e.g., generating energy, etc..

CSI has previously submitted information to your organization about the eight specific failures of the proposed draft ordinance to conform with BofS directions, and arguments for the cessation of the CEQA/EIR process due to them, and won't repeat them here.

This missive entails only option #3 above - i.e., Before we commit to the land application method of sewage sludge disposal, let's **investigate the other practical means of sewage sludge management**, a task the County has yet to undertake.

Below are links to information about a few of the technological advances in sewage sludge management and research into the exponentially expanding innovations in this field which were submitted to the BofS in May of 2014 as worthy of investigation. While representing only a very small sample of these innovations, they provide sufficient support for the argument that an in-depth examination of all available sewage sludge management methods should proceed any commitment of county resources to a CEQA/EIR on a draft ordinance permissive of sewage sludge land application. These links are presented merely to demonstrate that a fund of knowledge exists worthy of study prior to selecting any specific method of sewage sludge management. However, CSI also encourages people to use these links to learn more about this subject if so inclined.

David Broadwater

Note: This time-frame may preclude some organizations from agendizing, discussing and voting on this matter prior to 1-12-15. As CSI has done recently (by extending the scoping period), it will, on request, fight to extend the time-frame of this 1-12-15-scheduled hearing to accommodate all organizations' capacity to participate. Additionally, individuals are encouraged to participate on their own initiative.

Sewage Sludge Management Options

A cursory search for information regarding alternative means of sewage sludge management yields the following results.

SLO County has yet to acquire, analyze, and incorporate information like this into its policy formulation. SLO County must do so prior to selecting land application as a preferred method of managing sewage sludge.

http://www.bayareabiosolids.com/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/WERF_EnergyOpportunities.17093944.pdf

WERF

Energy Opportunities in Wastewater and Biosolids

March 2009

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<http://www.epa.gov/region9/organics/symposium/2010/3-Quinn-PORS.pdf>

US EPA

Bay Area Regional Biosolids to Energy Partnership

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<http://www.bayareabiosolids.com/>

BayAreaBiosolids to Energy

A Regional Approach to Sustainable Energy

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<http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/23065/>

Palo Alto

Renewable Energy Resources: Banking on Biosolids

National Association of Clean Water Agencies

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<http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/article/2010/12/managing-biosolids-and-generating-green-energy>

Renewable Energy

Ventura
Managing Biosolids and Generating Green Energy
...

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23529399>

US National Library of Medicine
National Institutes of Health
7-20-13

Biosolids management strategies: an evaluation of energy production as an alternative to land application

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It is recommended that energy generation replace land application as the leading biosolids management strategy.

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<http://thinkprogress.org/climate/2011/07/11/264897/sewage-sludge-energy/>

ThinkProgress
7-11-11

The Scoop on Poop: Turning Sewage Sludge into Energy and Dollars

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http://www.pncwa.org/assets/2012Conf/Presentations/Session_20_Energy_Recovery/winkler_gasification_sludge_biosolid

PNCWA
10-24-12

Gasification of Sludge and Biosolids-

A Review of Technology Fundamentals and the Current Commercial Status

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<http://www.nebiosolids.org/uploads/pdf/NE%20Conf.%202010/Alix-Gasificatn-10Nov10.pdf>

Biosolids Gasification - A Technology Review

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http://www.bayareabiosolids.com/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/RenewableEnergyFocus.118105840.pdf

Renewable Energy Focus

Biowaste to energy demonstration project gets funding in US

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http://www.bayareabiosolids.com/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/Physorg_-_Bioenergy_technology_coverts_wastewater_byproducts_to_hydrogen_-February_18_2014.10475252.pdf

Physorg
2-18-14

Bioenergy technology converts wastewater products to hydrogen

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http://www.bayareabiosolids.com/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/Press_Release_MaxWest_B2B_Selection.10474225.pdf

MaxWest

Max West Systems... BAB2E Project Implementation...

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<http://www.epa.gov/osw/hazard/wastetypes/wasteid/pdfs/gas-fs.pdf>

US EPA
February 2002

EPA Proposing to Allow Waste as an Energy Source for Synthesis Gas Production and Power Generation

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