

EBMUD Biosolids Management Program

Goals and Objectives for 2015-2016

Environmental Performance

Goal: Ensure diversification and sustainability of the District's biosolids management options.

Objectives

- Maintain at least two different biosolids management options at all times.
- Maximize utilization of land application during the dry weather season.
- Develop technology evaluations for a range of biosolids management options to support long-range planning efforts.
- Evaluate the feasibility of nutrient recovery from biosolids through a large-scale capital improvement project, including potential benefits to struvite control, dewaterability, and biosolids production.

Regulatory Compliance

Goal: Ensure that solids processing operations and biosolids quality meet or exceed applicable regulatory and/or quality standards.

Objectives

- Meet at least Class B biosolids requirements at all times to allow beneficial reuse of 100% of biosolids produced each year (landfill ADC, land application).
- No air permit violations associated with biosolids handling facilities.
- Complete routine inspections of biosolids hauling contractor activities and biosolids hauling destinations (i.e., landfills [bi-monthly], land application sites [monthly]).
- Develop a framework for incorporating dedicated digestion and dewatering of food scraps and other high-strength wastes within CalRecycle regulations.

Biosolids Quality

Goal: Manage biosolids in an environmentally sound, socially acceptable, sustainable, and cost-effective manner.

Objectives

- Achieve cake dryness target established by the optimization team.
- Evaluate opportunities to decrease grit loading at various locations in the biosolids value chain.
- Optimize performance of fine screens and FOG screening.

Process Performance

Goal: Enhance solids handling process performance to decrease environmental impacts and cost, and improve efficiency.

Objectives

- Minimize flaring and maximize energy recovery at the Main Wastewater Treatment Plant (MWWTP) each year.
- Develop a strategy to optimize the solids dewatering process (i.e., cake dryness, energy use, polymer usage).
- Develop and prioritize key operating improvement and process enhancement initiatives for unit processes throughout the treatment plant.
- Design and construct capital improvements to the existing digester gas flare system to ensure system reliability and reduce the potential for digester gas releases.
- Evaluate and implement key capital and operational improvement to control struvite formation and improve the reliability and performance of the solids dewatering process.

Interested Party Relations

Goal: Improve communications with all interested parties or those affected by the District's biosolids management activities.

Objectives

- Provide updates on key odor control initiatives and food scraps processing at local community meetings.
- Implement operating condition improvements that minimize the potential for off-site odors.
- Issue an annual Biosolids Management Program Performance report by March 31, 2015 and March 31, 2016.
- Issue an internal, semi-annual newsletter on key biosolids management program activities.