



BIOSOLIDS NEWSLETTER

OCSD Receives Prestigious NBP Award

On October 1st at WEFTEC 2014, the National Biosolids Partnership (NBP) honored three biosolids programs with the prestigious 10 Years Platinum award.

The three organizations-Orange County Sanitation District, Calif.; City of Los Angeles, Calif.; and DC Water of Washington, DC-were recognized as leaders in the industry for continuous improvement and best management practices in biosolids management.

"These awards are an incredible achievement representing a great deal of hard work and commitment," said Sr. Program Manager, Lisa McFadden of the Water Environment Federation (WEF), Water, Science, and Engineering Center.

The NBP, which advances environmentally sound biosolids management practices, is operated by the Water Environment Federation in collaboration with the National Association of Clean Water Agencies and local and regional biosolids management organizations across the U.S. and Canada with support from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The NBP serves as the information clearinghouse on effective biosolids practices and offers an environmental management system (EMS)-based certification program that requires participating organizations to go beyond regulatory requirements.

Read more about OCSD's certified program: <http://www.ocsewers.com/programs-student-resources/biosolids-program/certified-biosolids-program>

Source: Water Environment Federation, www.wef.org



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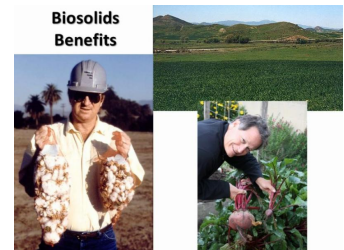
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Biosolids Video



3-minute virtual tour:
How our treated solids
are benefiting the
environment.

Visit Us!

Sister Agency to Assist with Internal Audit

As part of our Biosolids Program certification with the National Biosolids Partnership (NBP) (www.biosolids.org), auditors from the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation will be conducting an audit of portions of our management system on October 27-28, 2014.



The independent auditors will evaluate OCSD's Biosolids Program performance against the national standard (NBP requirements and expectations) for continual improvement. Our recently updated Biosolids Management System Manual (www.ocsewers.com/bms) will be reviewed by the auditors as part of this process.

OCSD is planning to substitute this internal audit for our annually-required interim audit.

Contact Rachel Van Exel (rvanexel@ocsd.com or 714.593.7407) if you would like more information.

Additional Fail-Safe Biosolids Management Option



OCSD staff is proposing an additional fail-safe back-up option (lime stabilization in Yuma, AZ) for the Tule Ranch contract. This additional option will provide OCSD with more flexibility to re-route trucks in case of any digester holding-time problems. The biosolids would be treated with lime (raises the pH) to meet the pathogen reduction requirements before being used to grow crops. This option would save about \$2 per

ton over the current contract's out-of-state landfill back-up option.

OpenGov



Potential Demonstration Project that could increase energy production while reducing biosolids hauling



OCSD is considering engaging in contract negotiations and seeking funds and partnerships to demonstrate a new technology, super critical water oxidation (SCWO). The SCWO process will take primary and secondary sludges (prior to digestion) and convert them to water, carbon dioxide, nitrogen gas, minerals, and electricity (up to 90% solids-to-energy efficiency) to fuel the plant processes. This could result in fewer biosolids trucks on the road. The Board will consider this item at the Oct. 22, 2014 meeting. The agenda will be published [here](#) on October 15th.

OCSD Biosolids Policy

OCSD strives to recycle our biosolids using sustainable options while protecting public health and the environment.

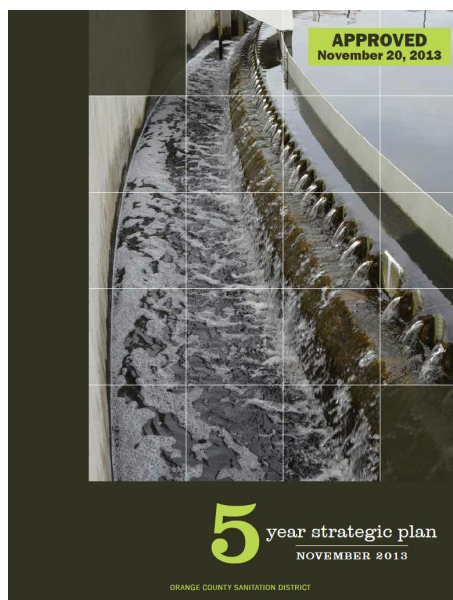


5-Year Strategic Plan Progress Update

In November, OCSD's Board of Directors will receive a progress update on the [5-Year Strategic Plan](#).

This Plan was adopted in November 2013, and included the following solids-related items:

- **Future Biosolids Management Options** - Study biosolids management options including 3rd party contracts and onsite capital facilities for mid-term and long-term approaches beginning in 2016-2017.
- **Energy Efficiency** - The District will research new energy efficiency and energy conversion technologies to maximize energy efficiency, reduce operating costs, minimize environmental impact, and replace assets that are at the end of their useful lives. Target for completion in FY 17-18.).
- **Levels of Service:**
 - Respond to all biosolids contractor violations within a week of violation notice
 - Tons of biosolids to landfill through 2017 Peak Production period (less than 100 tons/day)
 - No Notices of Violation (NOVs) with air, land, and water permits



The agenda will be published [here](#) one week before the meeting.

Thank you for your interest in Orange County Sanitation District's Biosolids Program. Please contact me if you have questions or suggestions on any aspect of our biosolids program, including what you would like to see in these periodic updates.

Thank you,
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