



In This Issue:

- Inland Empire Regional Composting Authority Update -----
- LABS Luncheon Presentation Write-Up On Redundant Force Main -----
- LABS Past President's Summer Cruise Flyer -----

Young Professionals Event

San Jose Creek Water Reclamation Plant Tour
Thursday, August 19th, 2010, 5:00PM

The Tour - The San Jose Creek WRP provides primary, secondary and tertiary treatment of 100 million gallons of wastewater per day. About 30 mgd is reused at 29 different reuse sites. These include groundwater recharge and irrigation of parks, schools, and greenbelts. The remainder is discharged to the San Gabriel River.



Join us after the tour -

Enjoy appetizers and networking with fellow professionals

6:30 - 8:30 PM @ El Patio
Bar & Grill banquet room (5 miles from tour site)

FREE!

RSVP By emailing
Amanda Schmidt @
Aschmidt@rmcwater.com
or (310)-566-6463

Deadline to RSVP
August 17th, 2010



Call for Abstracts

ABSTRACTS ARE REQUESTED
FOR
CWEA's 83RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE - "ONE WATER ONE WORLD"
APRIL 12-15, 2011
ONTARIO CONVENTION CENTER, ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA

FINAL DATE TO SUBMIT ABSTRACTS IS AUGUST 30, 2010

FOR SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS, SAMPLE ABSTRACTS AND ONLINE FORM,
VISIT www.cwea.org/conferences

~ ONLY ABSTRACTS SUBMITTED VIA ONLINE FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED ~

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Inland Empire Regional Composting Authority Update

By Wendy Wert

On May 20, 2010, the California Water Environment Association (CWEA) Los Angeles Basin Section (LABS) presented a regional composting update at the Monterey Hill Steakhouse in Monterey Park. The featured speaker was Jeff Ziegenbein, Deputy Manager of Operations for Inland Empire Regional Composting Facility (IERCF). The IERCA was created in 2002 by a joint powers agreement between the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) and the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (CSDLAC). The agencies have evaluated composting as an economically and environmentally sound method of beneficially reusing biosolids from publically owned treatment works (POTWs).

Jeff set the stage for the discussion by explaining the need for the project. The regional cost of processing biosolids continues to increase as available options decrease. This is largely due to the implementation of the South Coast Air Quality Management Districts (SCAQMD) Rule 1133.2, which requires fully enclosed composting operations. The ten-acre building (454,000 square feet), which once housed IKEA furniture, has become nation's largest indoor composting facility. The total cost of the conversion was \$70 million. IERCF began operations in April 2007, after working out some mechanical issues, the facility reached full capacity in late 2008. IERCF takes in 150,000 tons of biosolids from IEUA (100%) and CSDLAC (14%) and 60,000 tons of bulking agent from regional facilities, and processes it into 90,000 tons (240,000 yards) of compost per year.



Presenter Jeff Ziegenbein



LABS Attendees

IEUA processes 60 million gallons of sewage a day. Biosolids, a by-product of recycling wastewater, had been transported to recycling projects as far away as Arizona, at a cost of \$40 to \$50 a ton. IEUA has reported an overall savings of 25 percent by recovering these resources locally. Transforming residuals into a commodity is a four-step process that includes: mixing, active composting, screening and curing. Each day, about 400 tons of biosolids are mixed with woody materials. Active composting takes approximately 22 days before the pile is screened and moved into

curing. Larger pieces screened from the compost are recycled back into the mixing operation and processed again. During curing, which takes between 30 to 38 days, the material stabilizes and is ready for distribution. Load out of finished compost is also done indoors in a sealed environment.

Air is constantly circulated through a massive biofilter to remove odors and regulated compounds before it is exhausted to the atmosphere. The 50,000 cubic yard biofilter, which occupies a 3 acre area, is sized to accommodate up to 12 air changes per hour. The wood media in the biofilter is a combination of fruit and nut tree woods and recycled pine and fir trees. A sprinkler system above the filter keeps the wood chips wet. Air handling pipes exhaust air from the facility into a giant header, 12 feet in diameter and 1,000 feet long located under the road in front of the biofilter. Regional facilities, such as the Hollywood Park Racetrack, pay \$2 a ton to bring the woody waste material to the IERCF rather than landfilling this resource, which has a higher cost.



Ziegenbein Presenting to Attendees

The high quality compost is wholesaled in bulk to about 75 local customers who use the compost as a soil conditioner, top dressing, or to produce a bagged product sold at local retail outlets, such as Home Depot. The bagged product is sold under the name SoilPro Premium Compost, a brand name registered by IERCA. It also has many commercial turf applications, such as for golf courses and soccer fields. SoilPro is a well-decomposed, stable and weed-free source of organic matter containing a full spectrum of micronutrients necessary for healthy plant growth. SoilPro has detailed product information available to resellers, including a guaranteed minimum nutrient analysis, a list of product benefits and application coverage data. Finished compost is sold in bulk for about \$5 per cubic yard.

Prices vary depending on sales volumes and product sizing. The combined potential revenue to the program from tipping fees associated with receiving bulking agent (\$60,000) and the sale of ready compost (\$700,000) is expected to reach \$1 million over the next couple of years offsetting operating costs significantly.

In addition to producing high quality compost, the IERCF also includes sustainable features that help to optimize process efficiency. For example, there are solar panels on the roof that generate 1 megawatt of power which supplies about 50% of the energy required to operate the facility during normal operations. Additional plans are in the works to add wind power features to the facility and thereby further reduce its need for auxiliary power supply. As the first facility permitted under AQMD Rule 1133.2, and the only fully enclosed composting facility in the nation, IERCF certainly has unique features. With these attributes it is interesting to consider a similar operation located in many urban areas in the future.

Jeff pointed out how truly unique the partnership between LACSD and IEUA is and that he hopes that other municipalities will use the IERCA as a model to develop similar projects which are badly needed in the state.

City of Los Angeles Ready to Build Redundant Force Main for Their Largest Pump Station

By Alec Mackie, LABS Corporate Director

The City of Los Angeles (City) Bureau of Engineering has completed design work on a critically needed second sewer force main to manage peak flows from the Venice Pumping Plant to the Hyperion Wastewater Treatment Plant.

During a luncheon presentation on June 24th to members of LABS, Sean Zahedi, PE, Engineer for the City of Los Angeles, explained the three potential routes and construction methods. Ultimately the team selected micro-tunneling and the Via Marina route as having the least impact on the environment and neighborhood.

The Venice Pumping Plant is the City's largest handling 36 mgd (1500 l/s) and a critical link in the Coastal Interceptor Sewer. Sean noted the facility is in great condition, has plenty of capacity and handles wastewater from Pacific Palisades, Venice and Marina del Rey. The City even uses the original, massive Fairbanks-Morse pumps from the 1950s thanks to careful maintenance and rebuilds.

Less is known about the 50 year old, 48" reinforced concrete force main. It is the only link to Hyperion and cannot be shut down for inspections or maintenance because flow is too great. Moreover, the single pipeline carries only 60% of the pumping plant's ultimate capacity, so without a second force main the system is susceptible to a breakdown or heavy storm flows. Either could cause an emergency situation.

The Bureau of Engineering examined three routes for the new pipeline – along the beach, Pacific Avenue and Via Marina. The beach route was problematic because it disrupts beach goers, impacts a Least Terns colony and is susceptible to beach erosion. The Pacific Avenue route is direct but very difficult for construction since it is a small two lane avenue with homes close to either side. Construction would block access to homes and finding locations for boring holes would be difficult – homes were close to each side. Construction could also mean the loss of parking for several blocks.

The City selected the Via Marina route. The 4 lane street has plenty of room for access and would be the least disruptive. The City engineering team also chose a combination of micro-tunneling and cut and cover to complete the project – carefully balancing the cost (microtunneling is more expensive) with the disruption to the public (cut and cover can be disruptive to traffic).

The design would require 12 boring holes to manage the tunneling, with depths from 15 to 70 feet for both jacking and receiving. The longest tunnel drive length will be 1,764 feet long. There will be about 1,000 feet of cut and cover trenching. City engineers spent a year communicating with local residents and businesses to get their input on the project.

The City is ready to start building the \$60 million, 2 mile force main, however the County of Los Angeles has taken the City to court challenging the Environmental Impact Report, thus putting the project on hold.

The luncheon also featured a presentation by Hadronex President David Drake about remote sewer monitoring. David's full presentation, including audio will be available on the LABS website at www.labsofcwea.com.

The luncheon was sponsored by **BioCope Inc** www.bicope.com.

Photograph by Josef Hoflehner



Summer Cruise

LA & Long Beach Harbor • Saturday Aug. 28 • 4 - 7:30pm

Join LABS for an incredible cruise through Long Beach & Los Angeles Harbors with your host Past President Hala Titus. The three hour tour takes you to interesting corners of the harbor while we enjoy a BBQ buffet, prizes and cash bar. Cost: \$50 members / \$75 non-members.



Menu:

BBQ Buffet: Steak Kabobs, Swordfish Steaks & Chicken; Skewered Vegetables; Vegetables & Dip; Rice; Caesar Salad; Mini Cheese Cakes; Unlimited White Wine, Soft Drinks & Coffee

RSVP:

RSVP by August 20th
titush@bv.com
email preferred
or phone Hala Titus
213-312-3330

Location:

Spirit Cruise Lines
Dock 9, Long Beach
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\$8+/- parking w/validation





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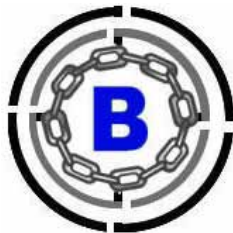
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Southern CA Rep:	Debra Bogdanoff	(562) 908-4288 x-2734

SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

Aug 19 th	YP Tour of San Jose Creek WRP; ASchmidt@rmcwater.com
Aug 28 th	LABS Past-Presidents' Event; Long Beach; TitusH@bv.com
Sept 23 rd	AAEE Environmental Engineering Excellence Award Winners Dinner at MWD; http://www.aaee.net/
Sept 28 th ~ 30 th	CWEA Tri-State Seminar; Primm, NV; http://www.tristateseminar.com/information/program/
Sept 29 th	LABS P&ID Training at LACSD; http://www.labsocwea.com/
Oct 2 nd ~ 5 th	WEFTEC 2010; New Orleans, LA; www.weftec.org/

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