



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE OF
PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS

MONTHLY UPDATE

January 2008

A Message from the Executive Director...

Seasons greetings to everyone. It always seems a little depressing to me after the holidays knowing I have to wait an entire year to experience all of the holiday festivities again. It's kind of like pushing away from the dinner table at Thanksgiving and knowing that dinner's over and now there's a mile high stack of dishes to take care of. Regardless, I hope your New Year will be filled with good health and success for all of you. I'm personally looking forward to the new opportunities and challenges that the wastewater industry will be facing this coming year. It's been such a great learning experience working with our committee members the last few years addressing new regulations and proposed legislation. One thing is for sure, by the looks of it, there will be no shortage of new regulations coming our way this year.

The passage of AB32 has assured that every state agency will be incorporating some form of climate change guidelines into their future regulations and policies. CARB has been mandated to adopt its Scoping Plan by January 1, 2009 and has until January 1, 2011 to adopt all of the Plan's regulations and initiatives to ultimately reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020. As we all know, that's not a lot of time for developing a policy of that import and with such far reaching consequences, much less for our water and wastewater agencies to adequately respond and comply. It goes without saying that involvement with climate change issues, particularly the early action items, will be at the top of SCAP's priority list this year as we continue to participate in the California Wastewater Climate Change Group (CWCCG) working towards development of a GHG measurement protocol for the POTWs.

Fresh from our victory over Kern County's Measure E, it appears that there will continue to be ongoing challenges to the use of land applied biosolids within not only California but other states as well. We will be reviewing Kern County's EIR that is being prepared as a result of the litigation effort and will continue to monitor any future legislation as it develops. Again, a high priority will be to stay abreast of climate change regulations that will be affecting our biosolids facilities' permitting and operations.

Upcoming Meetings

Joint SCAP/Tri-TAC Meeting –
Wednesday, January 9th, at Ontario
Airport Marriott, 9 am.

Biosolids Committee Meeting –
Will be held jointly with Tri-TAC on
January 9th at the Ontario Airport
Marriott.

Water Issues Committee Mtg –
Tuesday, January 22nd, 9 am – 12
noon, at IEUA.

**Collection Systems Committee
Mtg** – Wednesday, January 23rd,
10 am – 1:30 pm, at the City of
Garden Grove Community Center.

Air Quality Committee Meeting –
Thursday, January 24th, 10 am – 12
noon, at LACSD.

**Board of Directors Strategic
Planning Session** – March 7th,
location TBA.

On the water side, we will anxiously be awaiting the results of Tri-TAC's effort to obtain acceptance of a tiered approach to prioritization that has been recommended for incorporation into the Water Board's Water Quality Enforcement Policy update. Other important issues that we will be involved with include the upcoming Water Board hearings on the state's Water Recycling Policy and the NPDES permit compliance schedule.

Related to collection systems, SCAP intends to address the disposable/flushable paper products issue with the major manufacturers by developing a strategic work plan in collaboration with the Summit Group partners. I am certain that we will also be staying involved with the private versus public sewer lateral issue that may once again become a target for legislative action here in California.

Other Summit Group and joint Tri-TAC issues with SCAP involvement include preparation of a Wastewater Utility Branding Manual, addressing revisions to the wastewater operator certification requirements and sponsoring a one day cross-media workshop for the Cal-EPA agencies in Sacramento.

Before I forget, I would like to thank all of you who attended our annual SCAP Holiday Luncheon, which was held at the beautiful El Niguel Country Club. We had over 125 guests and were treated once again to a wonderful presentation of Christmas carols from the San Clemente Madrigal Singers. This seems to have become quite a popular tradition in conjunction with our annual luncheon. Preceding the luncheon, our semi-annual Board of Directors meeting was held. The Board reviewed SCAP's end of the year financial statement for FY 06/07 and the current mid-year financials. At the meeting, two new appointments were made: Ron Sheets from the Ojai Valley Water District was appointed as an alternate director for Ventura County; and Mike Sullivan from LACSD was installed as the new Biosolids Committee Chair replacing Karen Soares.

One significant item resulting from the meeting was the Board's desire to conduct a strategic planning session, which has been tentatively scheduled for March 7, 2008. In consideration of the plethora of new regulations affecting our wastewater agencies, particularly climate change legislation, and our expanding relationship with our sister organizations across the state, the Board felt it was prudent to review SCAP's mission and future direction at this time. Interestingly, I had sent out a brief survey to our membership prior to the Board meeting requesting feedback on a number of questions related to SCAP's performance and topic emphasis. The response has been overwhelming and the comments have been very insightful. Thanks to everyone that took the time to respond, as this information will be extremely helpful to the Board as we continue to improve our organization by assuring that it remains responsive to our members needs.

Happy New Year,

John Pastore
Executive Director



Holiday Luncheon attendees: Lorrie Loder, Diane Gilbert Jones, Karen Soares, Karen Baroldi and Mike Moore.



Holiday Luncheon attendees: Chuck Rogers, Ralph Palomares and Rex Sharp.



Holiday Luncheon attendees: Dennis Cafferty, Tom Rosales and Bob Hill.

Air Quality by Chair Daniel McGivney

Important End of the Year CARB Compliance Dates – Public Agency and Utility Heavy-Duty Diesel Fleet Vehicles

December 31, 2007 was an important compliance date for several key requirements for public agency and utility heavy-duty diesel fleet vehicles (1960 to 2006 model-year medium heavy-duty or heavy heavy-duty engine and a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating greater than 14,000 pounds). By this date, the following requirements must have been met:

- Records are to be kept and available for inspection that include detailed information for each vehicle covered by the regulation and a compliance plan.
- Part of the required records is an annual written statement of compliance certifying that the vehicle engines are in compliance.
- Labels with compliance information are to be affixed to the vehicle and readily visible to an inspector (e.g., driver's side door jam).
- In any contract for services that has an effective date of December 31, 2007, the agency shall include language requiring the contractor to be in compliance with all federal, state, and local air pollution control laws and regulations applicable to the contractor.

Further information on the "Diesel Particulate Matter Control Measure for On-road Heavy-duty Diesel-fueled Vehicles Owned or Operated by Public Agencies and Utilities," Title 13 CCR, regulation can be found on CARB's website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/publicfleets/publicfleets.htm>.

SCAQMD Rule 1171

It has recently come to our attention that some cleaning solvents exceeding SCAQMD Rule 1171 limits are still available for purchase in the South Coast Air Basin. Rule 1171 generally restricts solvent cleaners to 25g/L of VOCs. Although the non-compliant solvent may provide superior cleaning performance, readers should verify solvents being utilized at their respective facilities conform with SCAQMD's low VOC requirements.

Global Warming/Climate Change Miscellaneous

The activity level in Sacramento on climate change continues at a frenetic pace. On December 6, 2007, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) adopted a mandatory greenhouse gas (GHG) reporting rule pursuant to requirements of the California Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32). The most significant sources of GHGs are now required to report their GHG emissions, annually, beginning in 2009. The regulation is fairly specific with regard to calculations, reporting and verification procedures. Also on December 6, 2007, CARB adopted the 1990 statewide GHG emissions level that must be attained by 2020, again pursuant to AB 32. This contains a goal for the wastewater industry that the Air Quality Committee believes is high based on work NACWA is doing with EPA and their U.S. emissions inventory. In late November, CARB also held the first workshop on the AB 32 required "scoping plan," which is the roadmap for all future efforts by the state to achieve maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective reductions in GHG emissions to achieve the 2020 goals including direct emissions reductions efforts, alternative compliance mechanisms, market based

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mechanisms as auctions and free allowances, and monetary and nonmonetary incentives. All of this work must be completed within one year. Rulemaking on 44 early action measures is also underway.

On the local front, the SCAQMD has formed a new Board member committee, the Climate Protection Committee, to meet quarterly. Staff is presently seeking to have all required GHG reporting go through the AQMD. Staff is also seeking to offer a verification service to permit holders. Staff is currently modifying the Annual Emissions Reporting (AER) program to include GHGs. They are seeking to move the AER program to a web-based program. Staff is also working with the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) to develop CEQA GHG guidelines and thresholds [this despite SB 97, which charges the California Office of Planning and Research to develop feasible GHG mitigation measure guidelines for transmission to the Public Resources Agency for adoption by January 1, 2010].

The California Wastewater Climate Change Group (CWCCG) had a conference call on December 19, 2007 to discuss the next steps with the California Climate Action Registry (CCAR) to develop an emissions inventory protocol for methane and nitrous oxides from centralized wastewater treatment plants. Another meeting of the entire group is scheduled for January 28 or 29 during which the CCAR staff would be invited in to hear arguments face to face as to why the CWCCG should take the lead in developing the protocol. Activities with NACWA and proposed research with WERF on climate change activities were also discussed.

Biosolids by Chair Mike Sullivan

Upcoming Biosolids Committee Meeting – January 9th, 2008

The Biosolids Committee will hold its quarterly meeting on the morning of Wednesday, January 9th, from 9:00 to 12:00, in conjunction with Tri-TAC at the Ontario Airport Marriott. More details and an agenda will be sent out prior to the meeting.

California Research Bureau Report on Biosolids

In response to the California Research Bureau (CRB) report titled, "A Brief on Biosolids: Options for Biosolids Management," CASA Biosolids Program Manager Greg Kester issued a letter to the CRB on October 12, 2007. The response letter cites several examples from the CRB report that were problematic and/or erroneous, and the absence of examples of credible research on the benefits and safety of recycling biosolids to land. The response letter can be found at <http://www.casaweb.org/documents/10-12-07-Letter.pdf>, and the CRB report can be found at <http://www.library.ca.gov/crb/crbsearch.aspx>.

Senator Boxer Letter

On October 3, 2007, Senator Barbara Boxer (CA-Democrat) sent a letter on behalf of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works to the EPA, raising issues of concern over the inclusion of biosolids in a recent EPA revision of the Federal Procurement guidelines and

EPA's ongoing activities with biosolids. The letter cites concerns about toxic chemicals in biosolids and potential human health risks, and asks EPA to provide information and a list of all documents related to any actions planned, initiated or completed that investigate or address potential threats from biosolids since fiscal year 2002. EPA submitted a response letter to Senator Boxer's office, and CASA provided a comment letter also. Both of these letters, along with the original letter from Senator Boxer's office will be forwarded to the SCAP membership.

SJVAPCD Green Waste Composting Rule 4566

There will be a scoping meeting held at the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) Fresno office on January 10, 2008 at 1:30 pm to present, discuss, and receive comments for Draft Rule 4566 (Green Waste Composting). The primary objective stated for Rule 4566 is to reduce VOC emissions from all sources that commercially compost green waste material. Facilities that landfill, process, compost, or dispose of plant or plant-derived material (including food waste and wood waste) would be subject to this rule. To view the preliminary draft staff report and public notice, please visit:

http://www.valleyair.org/Workshops/public_workshops_idx.htm

Update on Local Biosolids Projects

The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Board unanimously approved Waste Discharge Requirements for the Ventura Regional Sanitation District's Toland Road Landfill biosolids drying project. This permit was the last hurdle for this facility, which would receive biosolids from various Ventura County generators. The dried product would be used as Alternative Daily Cover at the landfill, and captured landfill gas would be used to fuel the dryer.

The La Paz County Board of Supervisors directed staff to send a letter to the Yakima Compost Company to begin implementing the Closure Plan for its closed biosolids drying facility at the La Paz County landfill, which ceased operations in early 2006. The Board of Supervisors is also examining financial options regarding the recent \$9.2 million jury award to Yakima, in which the jury found that the county breached its agreement with Yakima. The following link is for a local Parker Pioneer newspaper article, which provides additional details:

<http://www.parkerpioneer.net/articles/2007/10/24/news/parker02.txt>

Collection Systems by Chair Ralph Palomares

Well, 2007 is now history; however, we accomplished a great deal last year in the wastewater industry, particularly here in Southern California. It's due, in no small part, to the fact that we have a terrific group of professionals who are part of this great Collections Systems Committee. Let's not forget the SCAP staff and their hard work in helping to make all the arrangements for all our meetings. In 2007, we addressed the WDR program, roots, calcium buildup in sewer pipes, disposable wipes, root killers, lateral ownership, FOG, and changes being made to the UPC manual. We had four successful collections meetings during the year, where we addressed all the above topics and more and we will continue to do so in 2008. As Collection Systems Committee Chair for SCAP, I am pleased to say that I plan to stay on for one more

year as Chair. Many of you know that I am also Chairperson for CWEA Collections Chairperson for Southern California and also Collections Chairperson for CWEA/ SARBS here in Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino counties, a member of the WDR steering committee in Orange County and on a few other committees. I'm not bragging about being on those committees, as it does take a lot of my time, but I do like what I do and seeing the changes take place over time is very rewarding to me and the industry. I would like to thank El Toro Water District for allowing me to take the time to be on this Collection Systems Committee again in 2008 and with that I wish you all a very Happy New Year to you and your families in 2008. Don't forget that the next Collection Systems Committee meeting is planned for January 23, 2008 and will be held at the City of Garden Grove's Community Center. An agenda will be sent out soon.

SCAP Website

When SCAP released its new updated website, the Members Only Collection Systems reference section was also completely revamped. New topics and sub-topics with new articles have been added to assist members with the management, operation and maintenance of their collection systems. There is a complete section devoted to Sewer System Management Plans (SSMP), required under the state's new General Waste Discharge Requirements, for publicly owned collection systems comprised of one or more miles of pipeline. This section offers information about the various components of the SSMP, examples of completed SSMPs and helps to assist in the development of an SSMP. Although the Collection Systems reference section is considerably larger and more useful than before, we need your help in our efforts to continue to improve it. We are interested in any fact sheets, white papers, articles, or any other information on collection systems you feel may be of help or interest to the SCAP community. We also would like any comments you may have on the Collection Systems reference section. Please contact the SCAP office with any comments or information that you would like to submit. Thank you.

Water Issues Committee by Chair Gus Dembegiotes

Due to the holidays, there is no Water Issues Committee report this month.

Water Issues Committee Meeting – January 22, 2008

The next Water Issues Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 2008, at IEUA and will be focused on water recycling, recharge and emerging contaminants. The agenda will include the West Basin Barrier Recharge Project, IEUA Recharge Program, two Department of Public Health representatives and a representative from the State Waterboard who will be discussing the newly revised Water Recycling Policy.

Regulatory Affairs by Regulatory Affairs Consultant Mary Jane Foley

Well, 2008 is coming in with a roar. Things may get ugly in Sacramento during the month of January. The Governor is scheduled to submit his budget plan to the Legislature on January 10. The mood will be tense because the estimated deficit is a new high of \$14 billion. The Governor has called a "fiscal emergency" and, as a result, is proposing sharp cuts in the current budget. The Senate Republicans have sent the Governor a draft of \$11 billion in cuts. The Democrats will probably go along with a lot of it but will be supporting additional revenue sources as well. The legislature will be in a "special session" after the holiday season and, given that there is a fiscal emergency, the legislators will be barred from acting on other bills if the budget crisis isn't dealt with within the first 45 days. John Pastore asked me how this will affect all the new staff needed for the climate change law, etc. I responded fees, borrowing local property taxes, extending the sales tax, the return of the car tax, closing tax loophole, etc. As one newspaper stated, "everything is on the table."

Leaving the dismal budget crisis and looking at the upcoming events in the regulatory arena, the State Waterboard has widely circulated a notice for public meetings to discuss the California Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan Program. SCAP assisted CASA this year to get legislation to keep this program afloat. Many of our members have benefited from this loan program to fund projects. The purpose of these workshops is for the SWRCB Division of Financial Assistance to hear from interested parties what they think the short and long term goals of the program should be. The workshops are a part of developing the program's Fiscal Year of 2008-09 Intended Use Plan and the CWSRF project priority list. As a former SWRCB member, I remember a lot of complaints about the program. This is a great opportunity to voice your concerns anonymously through SCAP. If you send the SCAP office a note on any major or minor problems you have had with this program, SCAP will send them on in an anonymous fashion. Please think about this and send your thoughts, ideas, complaints, etc. to the SCAP office. We will pass them on in a generic format to the Division of Financial Assistance and the Waterboard members.

A major announcement this month from the State Waterboard was their intention to consider adopting a resolution for a statewide policy for compliance schedules in NPDES permits. They state that they have identified a need for a uniform compliance schedule provision and consistency in implementation. NGO groups have often opposed compliance schedules. Most existing facilities need time and secured funding to meet new regulatory requirements. Uniform compliance schedules will hopefully be helpful. The devil is in the details. The hearing will be on March 18, 2008 in Sacramento. SCAP and the other associations will be tracking this carefully. SCAP will be attending.

The Water Recycling Policy hearing is scheduled for February 19, 2008. The State Waterboard staff is working on a response to comments received on the draft. SCAP has scheduled a Water Issues Committee meeting at IEUA on January 22, 2008. The Water Issues Committee has arranged for two panels on water recycling, recharge and emerging contaminants. We will have presentations from West Basin Water District in the LA area and IEUA for inland issues. Two prominent Department of Public Health representatives will be part of the meeting. The committee has also invited the SWRCB lead staff on the water recycling

policy to come and present the changes. Please mark you calendar for **January 22, 2008 at IEUA**. This will be a very informative event.

This past month, SCAP and Tri-TAC participated in a meeting with the California Air Resources Board staff. It was a lengthy agenda and various critical issues were discussed. These type of events help keep a good working relationship and open channels of communication with the regulators. Wastewater is still below the radar on early action items with the climate change requirements. I encourage you to go on the CARB website. There is so much information on this topic. My commitment to the SCAP Air Quality Committee for this month is to find out what the Water and Energy Climate Change Subgroup is working on. Every agency in the state is doing something on this topic of climate change. During the meeting with CARB staff, I raised the issue that there seems to be a lack of coordination between and among state agencies, which could create conflicts, cross purposes, and confusion in the regulated community. This is such a big task and hard to keep corralled.

Help Desk

Remember, the HELP DESK is open 24/7 for members who need to discuss permitting issues and strategies to assist agencies in resolving problems with regulatory agencies. Please contact Mary Jane Foley at mfoley@scap1.org

Non Sequitur

Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right.

Oprah Winfrey