



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE OF
PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS

MONTHLY UPDATE

A Message from the Executive Director...

June 2007

Now that summer is just around the corner, our thoughts naturally turn to warm sunny days, kids out of school, picnics at the beach and 4th of July fireworks. With the anniversary of our nation a month away, I wanted to bring to your attention another significant anniversary that you may not be aware of. I am extremely proud to announce that this year marks the 15th anniversary of the founding of SCAP.

Originally started in 1992 by Ray Miller, SCAP's first executive director, and the six founding member agencies, LACSD, OCSD, City of Los Angeles, City of San Diego, Goleta Sanitary District and SOCWA (formerly AWMA/SERRA), SCAP has prospered and grown into one of the leading wastewater organizations in the state.

You have heard me numerous times reminisce about the history of SCAP, which I will continue to do so as long as I can still grip a pen, but not today. Instead, I thought I would share with you some of the news that was going on in the world back in 1992. I am quite certain that some of you were probably still attending school back then, and if you were anything like me, working and studying for exams didn't leave a lot of time for staying abreast of current events.

In 1992, one of the biggest decisions facing our nation at the time was to vote for which Elvis we wanted to see forever on his commemorative stamp. Thankfully, we chose the more youthful version of the "King of Rock 'n Roll." Another interesting event was the televised illness of President H. W. Bush at a state dinner in Japan in which he "threw-up" into the lap of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa before finally fainting. Or I'm sure you all remember the "Great Sewer Explosion of 1992" in Guadalajara, Mexico that occurred when new water pipes made of zinc-coated copper were installed much too close to an existing steel gasoline pipeline. Over time, the galvanic action caused corrosion of the gasoline pipeline and subsequent leaking of the fuel into the ground where it eventually entered into the City's main sewer pipe. [Editor's Note: Talk about having a serious I&I problem!] The resulting explosion killed 206 people, injured 500 and left 15,000 homeless. Not to mention destroying 4 kilometers of city streets. Also, 1992 was the year of the Los Angeles riots resulting from the acquittal of the four police officers charged in the Rodney King beating.

Upcoming Meetings

Board of Directors Meeting

– Thursday, June 14th, 9:30 a.m. – 12 noon at LACSD.

Air Quality Committee Mtg

– Tuesday, June 26th, 10 a.m. – 12 noon at LACSD.

Collection Systems

Committee Mtg – Tuesday, July 10th, 10 am-2 pm at LACSD.

Water Issues Committee

Mtg – Wednesday, July 18th, 10 am-12 noon at LACSD.

Biosolids Committee Mtg –

Thursday, July 26th, 9 am-12 noon at IEUA.

On a lighter note, the largest shopping mall in the U.S., Minnesota’s Mall of America, was constructed spanning 78 acres. Clint Eastwood won Best Director and Best Picture for the movie, *Unforgiven*. I can’t believe *Wayne’s World* didn’t even get nominated. In the music world, Natalie Cole took home a total of six Grammy Awards including, Record of the Year, Song of the Year and Album of the Year. The Chicago Blackhawks won the Stanley Cup in hockey and Al Unser, Jr. won the Indianapolis 500. I also believe it was the last time the Washington Redskins won the Super Bowl.

Oh, I could go on and on, but I won’t bore you with it all this time; instead, I think I’ll spread it out over the rest of the year.

Getting back to business, I did want to mention that I am also pleased to announce that we successfully formed the statewide AB 32 Steering Committee along with the BACWA and CVCWA organizations and have now named the group, the California Wastewater Climate Change Group (CWCCP). The Group officially consists of 22 public agencies throughout the state, including the following SCAP members: City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation, City of Riverside, City of San Diego Metropolitan Wastewater Department, County of San Bernardino Special Districts W&S, Eastern Municipal Water District, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, Lee Lake Water District, Orange County Sanitation District, South Orange County Wastewater Authority, Valley Sanitary District and Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority.

Lastly, the semi-annual SCAP Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for June 14, 2007 at which time the new fiscal year budget will be approved. I’ll have more to report on that next month. For now, have a great start to the summer and stay safe.

Reminiscently yours,

John Pastore

Air Quality by Chair Daniel McGivney

ARB Portable Equipment Registration Program (PERP) Amendments

On April 27, 2007, new provisions to the California Air Resources Board (ARB) Portable Equipment Registration Program (PERP) became effective. These requirements were adopted in the 6/22/06, 12/7/06, and 3/22/07 amendments. The new provisions may affect your operations if you have portable diesel equipment (e.g., abrasive blasters, tub grinders, concrete batch plants), or portable engines 50 brakehorsepower (bhp) or greater (e.g., generators, compressors, blowers, pumps). Highlights of the provisions are as follows:

<p><u>Committee Chair Contact Info</u></p> <p>Air Quality Chair: Dan McGivney – dmcgivney@emwd.org</p> <p>Biosolids Chair: Karen Soares – ksoares@lacsdsd.org</p> <p>Collection Systems Chair: Ralph Palomares – RPalomares@etwd.com</p> <p>Water Issues Chair: Gus Dembegiotes – Gus.Dembegiotes@lacity.org</p>

Applicability & Eligibility

- Non-current tier certified engines (Tier 2 between 175-750 bhp and all Tier 1) may now register if resident in California between 3/1/04 and 10/1/06
- Non-resident Tier 2 engines between 100-174 bhp may register under certain circumstances

Inspections

- All registrations must have a designated home district by 7/27/07
- Placards purchased from ARB are required to be affixed on all registered engines and equipment units
- The placards are in addition to the existing identification stickers, and will be issued upon initial registration or renewal of the registration for existing units
- Inspections will be conducted by local air district staff once every three years
- Inspections must be arranged with the home district within 45 days after initial registration or renewal date, and must be completed within one year

Fees

- All registrations will be on a three-year cycle (the five-year cycle option has been eliminated)
- Placards will cost \$5 initially
- Engines:
 - New initial registration + inspection fees for current tier engines: $\$270 + \$5 + \$345 = \620
 - Non-current tier certified engines will have to pay back fees (see PERP Form 1B)
 - Renewal fees for all, including inspection fees: $\$225 + \$5 + \$345 = \575
- Equipment units:
 - Inspection fees are a flat \$75 plus a rate of \$98 per hour (not to exceed \$500)
 - New initial registration fees + placard fees + flat inspection fees: $\$270 + \$5 + \$75 = \350
 - Renewal fees + flat inspection fees: $\$225 + \$5 + \$75 = \305

Recordkeeping & Notification

- Annual reports are required again with the first submittal in March of 2008
- Operating records must be maintained on a project basis for certified engines. "Providers of Essential Public Service" are not required to keep these engine operating records (but are still subject to annual reports).
- Written copy of the rental/lease agreement must be kept onsite
- Now only equipment units (and not engines) are required to notify upon entering into or moving within a district

Miscellaneous Changes

- All engines must be equipped with an hour meter, fuel meter, or other approved operation tracking device
- Change of ownership applications must be submitted within 30 days of actual ownership change

ARB has published a pamphlet summarizing the new PERP provisions, which can be found, along with additional PERP information, on the ARB website at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/portable/perp/information.htm>. You may also contact Mike Guzzetta at (916) 322-6025 or via e-mail at mguzzett@arb.ca.gov.

SCAQMD Proposed Amendments to Rule 1110.2 Regulating Stationary Reciprocating Engines

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) has been in the process of amending Rule 1110.2 for some time now. Currently, the proposed amended rule is scheduled for a September 7, 2007 hearing. In late April, the SCAQMD released for public review the Draft Environmental Assessment and we now understand that the SCAQMD is targeting mid-June for releasing a new version of the draft rule, just in time for the SCAQMD's July 13 Board Hearing where the SCAQMD will formally set the September amendment hearing. For the past couple of months, SCAP member agencies have been meeting to formalize a set of recommendations for submittal to the SCAQMD regarding a number of issues including the CEMS applicability threshold, CEMS and emission control retrofit installation schedules, the lowering of emission standards for both natural gas and digester gas fueled engines and an appropriate start-up exemption. Based upon recent SCAP member agency meetings and other informal information exchanges, we understand that the SCAQMD may be willing to make some adjustments to some of these issues, specifically the CEMS applicability threshold and the digester gas annual fuel throughput threshold (> than 90 percent digester gas on an annual basis) that triggers new emission limits for biogas fueled engines. SCAP member agencies hope to finalize our strategies in order to present them to the SCAQMD within the next month. If any member agency is interested in this rule, the SCAP Air Quality Committee has scheduled another meeting to specifically work on this issue on June 20. Please contact the SCAP office for more information.

SCAQMD Rule 1309.1 Priority Reserve

Activity on SCAQMD Rule 1309.1, the Priority Reserve, continued at a hectic pace at the SCAQMD. The Priority Reserve is the bank of emission reduction credits that essential public services draw on to offset their infrastructure projects as required by New Source Review provisions of the federal Clean Air Act. While the proposed revisions deal largely with electric generating facilities (EGFs), the Air Quality Committee follows any changes to the rule since the remaining credit levels in the banks are very low and because there is no assurance that the District would not impose the same restrictions on POTWs who in previous rulemaking were viewed as deep pockets. The District continues to designate three PM 2.5 zones in the air basin based on PM 2.5 concentrations. Environmental Justice Areas (EJAs) continue to be defined as areas where the ambient health risk exceeds 1,000 in a million and over 10% of the 2000 census population is below the federal poverty level or where PM10 levels exceed 46 ug/m3. At a workshop held on April 19, 2007, the staff received many comments on their proposal especially critical of the size limitation placed on Zone 3 power plants (635MW). In the latest revisions to the rule, staff has removed the size limitation in Zone 3 and EJAs in favor of extremely restrictive NOx and PM10 criteria for EGFs over 500MW and placed operating hour restrictions on simple cycle units (without heat recovery), among other requirements. Tiered mitigation fees that increase as the zone number increases eventually exceed \$100,000 per

pound per day for PM10. [Actual market prices are much greater than the SCAQMD figure that lags actual trades by a year.] The proposed rule language is still silent on POTWs and biosolids processing facilities that will be handled in later rule revisions. By identifying numerous environmental justice areas on maps, many neighborhoods in central Los Angeles County, northwestern Orange County, southwestern San Bernardino County and northwestern Riverside County have in effect been “redlined.” Most local governments have been completely silent on this issue. The rule is scheduled for adoption at the July 13, 2007 Board meeting. You can also contact Greg Adams at Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts with any questions (562-699-7411 x2113).

Summary of ARB’s Proposed Regulation to Reduce Emissions from In-Use Off-Road Diesel Vehicles

The proposed regulation to reduce emissions from in-use off-road diesel vehicles will impact engines in this category with a maximum horsepower (hp) of 25 or greater. This proposal is considered one of the most expensive regulations ever proposed in the State of California (Air Resources Board estimates the cost to industry at over \$3 billion – Industry believes it is much higher).

Off-road vehicles are considered to be self-propelled vehicles that cannot be registered and licensed to drive on-road. The equipment in this category are vehicles that are commonly used in construction, mining, rental, airport ground support and other industries. Examples include loaders, crawler tractors, skid steers, backhoes, forklifts and airport ground support equipment, but would not apply to stationary or portable equipment. Out-of-state companies doing business in California would also be subject to the regulation.

The proposed regulation would establish fleet average emission rates for PM and NOx that decline over time, until the final deadline is reached in 2020. Different time frames would apply whether the fleet is large, medium or small. For large fleets (over 5,000 hp in the fleet), the first compliance date would be 2010; for medium fleets (1,501 to 5,000 hp), 2013; and, for small fleets (1,500 hp or less), 2015. The proposed regulation also provides numerous credits for fleets that, for example, achieve early compliance, have low use vehicles, or operate alternatively-fueled vehicles.

Compliance with the proposed regulation can be achieved by applying exhaust retrofits that capture pollutants before they are emitted, re-powering of engines into existing equipment with cleaner engines, retiring equipment, or accelerating turnover of fleets to newer, cleaner vehicles. If fleet owner/operators cannot meet the annual fleet average targets, then optionally, Best Available Control Technology (BACT) can be applied to a specified percentage of the fleet engines. For PM, 20 percent of the fleet horsepower annually must meet BACT, which is the highest level verified diesel PM control system available. For NOx, 8 percent in the early years and 10 percent in the later years of the fleet horsepower annually must meet BACT. For NOx, control systems are not currently available, so BACT would be achieved by fleet turnover or retirement, until such time as control equipment may be available.

This proposed regulation is extremely controversial because of its high cost, which could dramatically increase the cost of construction statewide and potentially cutting deeply into the

profit margins of the construction industry, as well as putting small contractors out of business. Industry is also concerned that the level of fleet turnover to new equipment required in the proposed regulation cannot be supported by projected future vehicle manufacturer output, resulting in a serious future equipment shortfall. The proposed regulation has also been further complicated by a request from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) to ARB, to accelerate needed NOx emissions reductions in the rule so an Ozone Attainment demonstration could be made in SCAQMD's latest Air Quality Management Plan. Not gaining this higher level of needed NOx reduction could prompt the SCAQMD to seek authority to promulgate a more stringent local off-road regulation, and subject industry to dual regulations.

The proposed regulation was heard by the ARB Governing Board on Friday, May 25. The hearing was not completed, so the public comment period remains open, and further public testimony on the regulation will continue at the July 26 Governing Board Meeting in Sacramento. The Board at this time will deliberate and make a final decision on the proposed regulation. While these actions continue, industry should be taking steps to understand their fleet composition and compliance strategy. One important strategy to consider is to convert as much of a fleet as possible to Tier I engines. Engines are categorized by emissions as either Tier 0, Tier I, Tier II, Tier III, interim Tier IV or Tier IV (interim Tier IV and Tier V engines are currently not available). Tier 0 are older, dirtier engines. Engines beginning with Tier I, meet specified federal emission targets that become cleaner with each subsequent Tier that is introduced to the market. Converting a fleet to all Tier I engines, for example, may under the proposed regulation, push back the initial compliance date by several years. Each equipment owner/operator should carefully study this very complex regulation and provide comments to ARB with any concerns. Further information can be obtained at, <http://arb.ca.gov/msprog/ordiesel/ordiesel.htm>. You can also contact Frank Caponi at Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts with any questions (562-699-7411 x2460).

Biosolids by Chair Karen Soares

Senate Bill 55 - Florez

On April 30th, two significant amendments were made to the bill by the author. Language concerning indemnification by the POTW for liability and cleanup costs, and language concerning penalties, have been removed. After revisions, the bill passed into the Senate Appropriations Committee, whose fiscal analysis concluded that the 29 treatment plants operated by the California Department of Corrections would spend "multi-millions of dollars" to comply with SB55, and that the State Water Resources Control Board would spend about \$3.12 million to conduct the biosolids study required under the bill. After analysis, the bill was referred to the Appropriation Committee's "Suspense File," which means they are not planning on taking any action on it at this time.

SCAP Biosolids Committee Efforts

The Committee wrote a letter to Senator Diane Feinstein requesting support for the National Biosolids Partnership (NBP) program (<http://www.biosolids.org/>) by including \$1 million of funding for the NBP in the EPA's fiscal year 2008 budget. Five SCAP agencies currently

participate in the NBP's Environmental Management System Certification program (OCSD, City of Los Angeles, City of San Diego, Encina Wastewater Authority, and SOCWA), and many others rely on the NBP as an important source of biosolids information.

Local News – New Biosolids Management Options

On May 14th, EnerTech Environmental ceremonially broke ground in its first commercial-scale Slurry CarbTM facility located in Rialto, California. Several SCAP member agencies attended the event. The facility will process approximately 700 wet tons per day of biosolids from five southern California treatment plants (Orange County Sanitation District, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, and the cities of Riverside, San Bernardino, and Rialto). The process will convert the biosolids to a renewable fuel called "E-FuelTM," which will be used by a local cement kiln as an alternative to coal. The facility is scheduled for completion in December 2008.

Collection Systems by Chair Ralph Palomares

SSMP Development Plans and Schedules Due by August 2, 2007

If your agency serves a population of 100,000 or more, your SSMP Development Plan and Schedule is due by August 2, 2007. To be compliant, your SSMP Development Plan and Schedule must be completed and approved by your governing board by the deadline date. To assist with this effort, a model development plan and schedule was passed out at the last Collection Systems Committee meeting. According to Eric Maag, State Water Resources Control Board, the state's reporting website will be modified in July 2007 to allow your LRO (legally responsible official) to certify that your agency has completed and approved your SSMP Development Plan and Schedule.

SSO Electronic Reporting

If you're located in Regions 5, 6 or 7, you will need to start electronically reporting SSOs after September 2, 2007. You should receive your user name and password from the state around August 1 and you must complete and submit your Collection System Questionnaire by August 23, 2007. To assist with this, CWEA in conjunction with SCAP and its Summit Group partners will be holding training classes at the following locations and dates:

- Bakersfield area June 20, 2007
- Victorville area June 26, 2007
- Ontario area July 9, 2007
- Palm Springs area July 19, 2007

Check at the CWEA website at www.cwea.org/et-ss-electronic.shtml.

CWEA SSMP Training

CWEA, SCAP and other Summit Group partners are also involved with developing all day training workshops to be held throughout the state to assist you with the development of your SSMP. At least one workshop will be held in each of the CWEA Sections and will be offered this summer. CWEA has already held an evaluation workshop and will be holding a train-the-trainer workshop in Oakland on June 5, 2007.

Next Collection Systems Committee Meeting on July 10, 2007

Well it's hard to believe that it's already June and half the year is over. It will be summer in a few weeks and our July 10th Collections Systems Committee meeting at LACSD is right on track with some more topics that need answers related to the collections systems. One of the questions will be: Where and how are we disposing of our vector waste and into what and is it being disposed of properly? I am also trying to put together a PowerPoint presentation on disposable wipes and how to de-rag a pump that has been jammed with these so called disposable wipes and an update on the calcium in the clay pipe problem.

We will also have an update on any local or state issues that are affecting our wastewater industry and what to look forward to in the near future. In addition, we will have an update on the SCAP website. If you have pictures of any wastewater related topics (SSO roots, fog, containment, training, etc.), please feel free to share with us by sending them to the SCAP office and letting us put them on the new SCAP website for training purposes under Collections Systems. If you have a topic for our next meeting, please e-mail me with it so I can get it on the agenda at Rpalomares@etwd.com. Thank you and have a safe and happy summer.

Water Issues Committee by Chair Gus Dembegiotes**Public Scoping Meeting for California Ocean Plan Amendment**

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) will hold a public scoping meeting on June 26, 2007, in San Francisco to seek public input on proposed amendments to the California Ocean Plan. An agenda will be posted by June 8, 2007 at: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plnspols/oplans.html>. The purpose of the meeting is to seek public input and, as such, no action will be taken by the State Water Board at the scoping meeting.

Court Ruling on Los Angeles River Metals TMDL

The Court hearing the case of the Cities of Bellflower, Carson, Cerritos, Downey, Paramount, Santa Fe Springs, and Whittier v. State Water Resources Control Board issued a "tentative ruling" commanding the Water Boards to set aside the approval of the Los Angeles Metals TMDL and conduct and comply with the provisions of the CEQA in addressing an alternative analysis. The Cities filed a writ stating that the Water Boards did not include a discussion of alternatives in their functional equivalent documents to which the Court agreed.

LA Regional Board Consideration of Ammonia Site Specific Objective Study

The Regional Water Quality Control Board - Los Angeles Region (LA Regional Board) will be considering an amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region to incorporate site-specific objectives for ammonia in select waterbodies of the Santa Clara River, Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River watersheds. The Public Hearing on this item will be on June 7, 2007. The amendment is the result of a 3-year cooperative study conducted by the Cities of Los Angeles and Burbank and the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts. The result of the study is the application of Ammonia Water Effects Ratios that will adjust the ammonia water quality objectives in these select waterbodies to be reflective of local conditions while still protective of the environment. Ammonia Water Effect Ratios are needed to allow for treatment plant operational flexibility in meeting ammonia permit limits.

Proposed Amendment to the State Revolving Fund (SRF)

The State Board is considering an amendment to the *Policy for Implementing the State Revolving Fund for Construction of Wastewater Treatment Facilities* (SRF Policy). The proposal would consider 1) modifying the penalty provisions related to Performance Certification Reports; and, 2) making minor editorial changes. The Division of Financial Assistance (Division) is seeking public comment on options and proposed amendments that will be considered for adoption by the State Water Board at its July 17, 2007 meeting. Further information can be found at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/wksmtgs/2007/schedule.html>. Comments on the proposed amendments must be received by noon on Wednesday, May 30, 2007.

2007/2008 Preliminary SRF Priority List Public Notice

The State Water Resources Control Board is updating the SRF Project Priority List for 2007/2008. They will be accepting public comments on the Preliminary List. Written comments regarding the Preliminary Priority List were due by May 24, 2007 and should have been sent to Kyle Woolridge, State Water Resources Control Board, 1001 I Street, 16th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814. The final 2007/2008 SRF Project Priority List is scheduled for adoption by the State Water Board consideration at the July 17, 2007 Board Meeting.

LA Regional Board's Proposed Reopening of the LA County's Stormwater Permit

The LA Regional Board is proposing to narrowly reopen the Waste Discharge Requirements for the Los Angeles County Municipal MS4 Municipal Stormwater Permit to incorporate a non-stormwater discharge prohibition. This non-stormwater prohibition would be consistent with the summer dry weather Waste Load Allocations in the Marina del Rey Harbor Mother's Beach and Back Basin Bacteria TMDL. Written comments are due to the LA Regional Board by June 25, 2007.

Agency Profile

Rancho Santa Fe Community Services District

Snapshot:

- Location: Rancho Santa Fe and the Santa Fe Valley area to the east
- Year Established: Sanitation District established in 1960, reorganized into a CSD in 1981
- Facilities: 16 pump stations, 2 treatment plants, .450 and .485 mgd
- Miles of pipeline: 73 miles of gravity sewer line
- Connections: 2300
- Employees: 9

A new GIS system and working on the district’s Sewer System Management Plan is helping to achieve operational efficiencies and improved management practices at this small community services district, according to the general manager, Chuck Duffy.

“With GIS, a comparatively small investment in technology has helped us achieve a significant return in operational improvements,” Duffy said. “That’s key for a small district operating with limited budget and staff.”

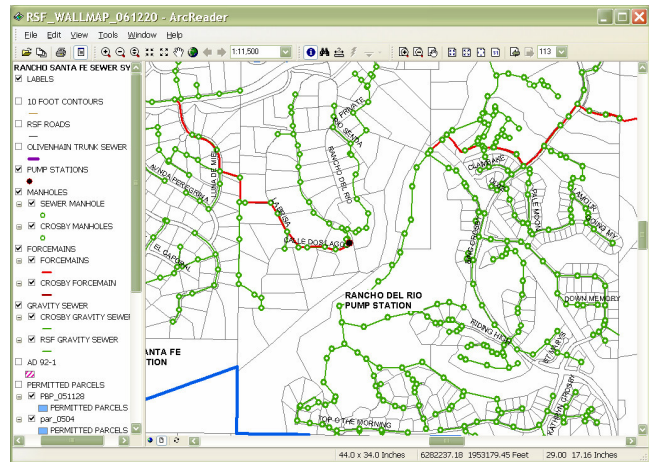
Duffy said he was somewhat skeptical when the concept of GIS was first discussed for a District the size of Rancho Santa Fe, which serves an affluent, mainly residential area in northern San Diego County.

“I thought the District might be too small to afford or to need it,” he said. “I grew more interested as I saw that an appropriately sized GIS implementation would make existing information much more accessible and new information easier to incorporate.”

The District is currently considering how to extend the GIS system’s functionality. “We’re looking to link the GIS information to other District documents to create a one-stop-shop location. For example, we’d like to be able to click on a sewer line and have a link to the scanned in improvement plans and any related agreements associated with the line.”

Duffy said successful implementation came from staying focused on using GIS as a tool to accomplish clearly identified goals. Early in the process, Duffy said, the temptation was to consider GIS an end in itself rather than a tool that would help the District become more efficient.

The District’s work on its SSMP to comply with the recent statewide wastewater discharge requirements has also proven to be an efficiency driver, Duffy said.



GIS Sample

“While the SSMP audit of the District’s operations can be time consuming, it has really made us take a closer look at the information and procedures we have in place or that we are lacking, and how those can be improved upon,” he said.

Duffy said the District is well ahead of the curve in preparing its SSMP prior to the deadline for small districts. Part of the District’s SSMP process is learning what other districts – both of comparable size and larger – have been doing.

“Having a broader scope of what other districts are doing simply helps us validate our approach or provide insights on additional things we may want to consider,” he said.

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Regulatory Affairs by Regulatory Affairs Consultant Mary Jane Foley

Pesticides, pharmaceuticals and personal care products (emerging contaminants of concern) are important topics of discussion in our industry and elsewhere. The recent SCAP Water Issues Committee highlighted some of the challenges facing both water and wastewater agencies. The big questions continue to be 1) what contaminants pose the biggest risk, 2) how do we measure for them, and 3) how do we assess their health risk?

As the regulatory consultant to SCAP, I have jumped on the bandwagon of TriTAC and their initiative on pesticides, especially pyrethroids. Recently, there have been forums with water quality regulators, storm water managers, and pesticide regulators and manufacturers on what wastewater treatment can and cannot treat. This is déjà vu for me because this was a big issue with me when I was on the State Waterboard. I was the liaison to the Department of Pesticide (DPR), and I spent a lot of time with the Director of DPR, manufacturers and farmers, trying to determine who was protecting the water quality of the state waters. I visited farms, had roundtables with regional board staff and pesticide staff with the goal of getting a handle on who was doing what to protect water quality. As I was working on this article, I received a call from the Director of Pesticides on another matter and told her what I was in the midst of writing about. She said that they were working hard on the issue of pyrethroids and other urban pesticides. For the water quality folks, she said, their department was moving too slow; and for the manufacturers it was moving too fast. She knows that I am on the wastewater/water team and advocating for faster, faster!

On another front, the EPA is adding pharmaceuticals and personal care products to the list of contaminants being studied in its National Sewage Sludge Survey. The survey will provide EPA with data that may potentially lead to the development of new rules to govern unregulated contaminants. I also just read that USGS reports that they are finding intersex fish in the Potomac. We don’t know what that means or what is causing such an occurrence. Maybe it has nothing to do with water. The reality is there are so many contributions to waters of the US, from so many factories, various government facilities, power plants, and on and on. Wastewater is only a small fraction of the mix. Major source control has to be the theme of discussion. This continues to be a very robust topic and SCAP is following it closely.

Finally I continue to work with our member agencies and CASA on trying to ensure Prop 84 money for wastewater system improvements. Not much activity as of now, but we expect some legislative action on the Prop 84 legislation towards summer.

Save the date:

Fran Spivey Weber, the newest State Waterboard Member, will be the featured guest speaker at the SCAP Water Issues Committee meeting on July 18, 2007 at LACSD headquarters. This will be a very interactive forum and we encourage all SCAP members to attend. The Water Issues Committee is also considering a panel of Southern California Regional Board Executive Officers to discuss the hot topic issues in their regions.

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.

Congratulations this month go to:

San Elijo Joint Powers Authority

San Elijo Joint Powers Authority's Water Reclamation Facility was named 2006 Small Plant of the Year for its dedication to innovative practices, cost effectiveness and reduction, superior plant operations, environmental compliance, and community outreach by the California Water Environment Association (CWEA).

Leucadia Wastewater District

The Leucadia Wastewater District received the Collection System of the Year award, for systems up to 249 miles of pipeline from CWEA. The District was selected for the award for 2006 in the competition against seventeen other wastewater service providers in California.

Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District

The Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District won the CWEA State Mid-Size Plant (5-20 MGD) of the Year Award and employee Merlin Shockley, WW Mechanic Technician, won 2nd place for the Mechanical Technician of the Year. These honors came after winning the Santa Ana River Basin Section awards.

Olivenhain Municipal Water District

The Olivenhain Municipal Water District received two awards from the San Diego Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). The District received an Award of Excellence for the *Unit G-1 and Denk Reservoir Inflow/Outflow Pipelines Project*. ASCE also awarded the District with Honorable Mention for the District's 2.5 million gallon (MG) *Berk Reservoir*.

El Toro Water District

The El Toro Water District (ETWD) was awarded the District of Distinction accreditation by the Special District Leadership Foundation (SDLF). ETWD is the first independent special district awarded this important accreditation by SDLF.

Non Sequitur

There is *nothing* – absolutely nothing – half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats . . . or with boats . . . In or out of 'em, it doesn't matter.

Kenneth Grahame
The Wind in the Willows [1908]