



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE OF
PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS

MONTHLY UPDATE

A Message from the Executive Director...

July 2006

Happy 4th of July to all of you. It's hard to believe that the year is already half over. I guess it's true what they say, "time sure flies when you're having fun." This past 6 months has been exceptionally busy for SCAP. The Board of Directors conducted a planning session in February that focused on assessing the effectiveness of the SCAP working committees and discussing ways for improvement, including future staffing alternatives.

Most recently, the Board concluded its biannual meeting in which it approved a new budget highlighted by the following:

- \$496,000 in projected revenue and expenditures
- An end-of-the-year carryover of \$40,000
- Creation of a contingency funds reserve to control unanticipated fluctuations in revenue and expenditures
- A set aside for preparation of a financial audit
- Technical support assistance for a joint CWEA/SCAP WDR training program
- Funding for various committee workshops
- Funding for SCAP website improvements

The Board also adopted revisions to the SCAP Bylaws making them consistent with existing policies, particularly with regards to banking and investment procedures. Other items of note included unanimous approval of the following slate of board members for 3 counties elected to serve the next term, including two new San Bernardino County alternates representing Victor Valley WRA and Crestline Sanitary District.

Santa Barbara

Kamil Azoury – Goleta Sanitary District, Board Member
Dwayne Chisam – City of Santa Maria, Alternate Board Member

San Bernardino County

Rich Atwater – Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Board Member
Logan Olds – Victory Valley WRA, Alternate Board Member
Mark Pattison – Crestline Sanitary District, Alternate Board Member

Riverside County

Rex Sharp – Valley Sanitary District, Board Member
Jayne Joy – Eastern Municipal Water District, Alternate Board Member
Ron Young – Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District, Alternate Board Member

<p><u>Upcoming Meetings</u></p> <p>Air Quality Committee – TBA</p> <p>Collection Systems WDR Workshop – 8am-4pm, Thursday, July 20th, San Diego Metropolitan Wastewater Facilities. Reservations are required.</p>

The meeting concluded with each of the committee chairs making a brief presentation on the timely issues their committees are currently addressing. Comprehensive summaries of these pertinent issues by each committee chair follow later in this newsletter. As you can see, the committees have been extremely productive this past year.

The Air Quality Committee continues to conduct its monthly meetings, keeping us all informed of the new SCAQMD and ARB regulations that affect so many of our members.

The Biosolids Committee recently held a roundtable discussion that brought together our public members along with private vendors from sludge hauling, processing and disposal businesses. This resulted in lively and insightful discussions about the problems facing POTWs and agency contractors in dealing with public perception and local politics. It is rumored that the Biosolids Committee is planning a future workshop to discuss biosolids management strategic planning.

The Water Issues Committee is presently undergoing transition as its long-time Chair, Roger Turner, has announced his retirement from Eastern MWD and will be looking for a replacement chair and possibly a co-chair. Roger intends to stay active in the Water Issues Committee as an Associate member and we wish him the best in his new endeavors. There's still plenty of work to be accomplished on water issues, particularly on the Total Chlorine Residuals and Chlorine-Produced Oxidants Policy (TRC Policy).

Lastly, the Collection Systems Committee has been extremely active having conducted several informative workshops throughout the regions, explaining the new WDR and SSMP requirements. The last information workshop of its kind is scheduled for July 20th in San Diego and I understand seating is limited, so get your reservations in early. Future workshops will likely be held jointly with CWEA and will cover training for electronic registration, reporting and SSMP development.

Just a reminder, we are fortunate to have the services of our regulatory consultant, Mary Jane Foley, available for another year, as her contract with SCAP was renewed by the Board of Directors. Having served on both the state and regional water boards, Mary Jane is available to all of our POTW and collection system members to consult on regulatory issues at no charge. Many of you have already taken advantage of this opportunity and have realized the benefits of Mary Jane's experience and contacts first hand.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the continuing contributions to the success of SCAP from a number of individuals I have had the privilege of working with over the last 6 months. Namely, Bob Kreg, Kris Whisenhunt and our Executive Director "Emeritus," Ray Miller. Bob has been instrumental in assisting the Collection Systems Committee with organizing and conducting the numerous workshops held over the last several years. Bob's expertise has even earned him a special request from the Region 7 staff for personalized training on the WDR.

For those of you who don't know Kris, she is simply amazing. Kris is responsible for accounting, invoicing, word processing, budget preparation, newsletter compilation and producing the SCAP Alerts. I sincerely don't know what SCAP would do without her.

Last, but not least, there is Ray Miller. In a nutshell, without Ray there would be no SCAP. I was fortunate enough to inherit a well-run organization full of great people all brought together

by Ray. What I have learned and the people I have met since taking over SCAP has been, as the American Express ads say, "priceless."

As schoolchildren, we learned the basic history of events surrounding the 4th of July, but somehow the historical details get lost and distorted over time. Although July 4th is celebrated as America's split from Britain's tyranny and the beginning of the American Revolution, the actual series of events leading up to this historical event took far longer than a single day. With this in mind, I think it is only appropriate that you hear from Ray (particularly for our newest members) about the historical details of SCAP's formation, lest they be lost or distorted over time.

Ray Miller:

"Well, here we are at the end of the fastest six months on record. In January of this year, I began the transition with John; the time flew by so quickly. I have to say that John has blended right in with the SCAP day-to-day activities/responsibilities beautifully. I mentioned to John and Kris this morning as we discussed this message that I am extremely happy with the guy and the product, we could not have done better.

Now, just one more time, I have to remind you, especially the new folks, of the history of SCAP. SCAP was founded in 1992 by six public agencies, four of which I consider the cornerstone: LACSD, the City of Los Angeles, the City of San Diego and OCSD. The primary reason for the alliance was to work with the various regulatory agencies that SCAP continues to monitor and work closely with today. We have gone from air quality, which was the prime concern at founding, to biosolids, collection systems and water issues, which are the trump cards today. SCAP works by committee and, with the help of the member agency volunteers, gets the job done. The communication among agencies and regulators is ongoing and effective.

I am proud to have been part of SCAP for going on fifteen years and am extremely grateful to have John to follow me."

Thank you, Ray.

I know this column is a little long this month but there were just so many important items that needed to be relayed. I wish you all a safe and sane 4th of July!

Patriotically yours,

John Pastore

Air Quality by Chair Daniel McGivney

SCAQMD Facility Information Module

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) has developed a comprehensive database that will provide a large amount of facility permit, emissions and enforcement related data on the internet for public review. The SCAQMD plans to go live with

the database in June. The database includes maps and satellite views of facilities and depicts locations of the facilities and schools. The satellite views could represent a security issue for many private and public entities, providing sensitive information and photographs of essential public services, such as water production and electrical power generation facilities, or facilities that produce, store or utilize hazardous chemicals. This database went live on the SCAQMD web site in May. Facility owner/operators should be sure to review their company and facility information to ensure that it is accurate. If any discrepancies are found, be sure to promptly report them to the SCAQMD as quickly as possible. The website can be found at [Facility Information Module \(http://www.aqmd.gov/webappl/fim/default.htm\)](http://www.aqmd.gov/webappl/fim/default.htm).

SCAQMD Amends Rule 219 to Provide Exemption from Permitting for Small Carbon Canisters Used to treat Foul Air

On May 5, the SCAQMD amended Rule 219 [reference Proposed Amended Rule 219 (c)(10)] to exempt small carbon canisters (7.4 cubic feet - 55 gallon drum size and smaller) that passively treat odorous emissions from foul air emanating from sewage collection systems (e.g. manhole applications). SCAP member agencies, especially OCSD and LACSD, were proactive in obtaining this valuable exemption. The SCAQMD has promised to look at larger systems used to mitigate digester gas releases over the next year.

SCAQMD Proposed Fee Increases

At the SCAQMD's June Governing Board meeting, the SCAQMD adopted a 30% fee increase that will be implemented over the next 3 years (~ 10%/year). The new fee schedule for this fiscal year (July 2006 – June 2007) should be available soon at the SCAQMD's website (<http://www.aqmd.gov>).

SCAQMD Proposed Rule 1110.2

Last year, the SCAQMD initiated an effort to revise an existing rule that regulates internal combustion engines. The Proposed Amended Rule (PAR) 1110.2 included a great deal of added monitoring and reporting requirements among other things. During the rulemaking process, the SCAQMD agreed to participate with industry in a number of investigations that might provide data that would assist both industry and the SCAQMD craft appropriate rule amendments. SCAP and other SCAP member agencies contributed to the shared costs of these field studies. While these investigations were in progress, the District took a short hiatus in their rule amendment process. Currently, the field portion of the studies is nearly complete and the steering committee has begun preparing reports. The SCAQMD is ready to pick up the rulemaking process again. The SCAQMD is expecting to begin convening working group and public workshops sometime in July or August. The rule is currently scheduled to go before the SCAQMD Governing Board at its October 2006 meeting, but we

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have heard that it may be delayed another month to November. Be sure to keep an eye out for upcoming SCAP information and alerts on this rulemaking.

SCAQMD Rule 1309.1

The SCAQMD is going to amend Rule 1309.1 that contains requirements affecting the permitting of new equipment or processes. One of the amendments that will be included will make an allowance for essential public agencies to obtain free emission reduction credits from the Priority Reserve account for off-site biosolids processing facilities. Currently, we would have to purchase these credits at market prices from private parties. Additionally, the new amendments will allow private companies to have this same access; however, they will have to pay for the credits. SCAP and member agencies lobbied extensively to obtain these amendments. SCAP would like to thank Greg Adams of the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County for his persistent advocacy of these amendments on behalf of SCAP member agencies.

Collection Systems by Chair Nick Arhontes**Statewide WDR**

On May 2nd, when the state adopted the new statewide waste discharge requirements (WDR) for all publicly owned sewage collection system having more than one mile of pipeline, the state also included a provision that would delay the deadline for the development and implementation of some of the WDR provisions if an agreement could be reached with the California Water Environment Association (CWEA) by July 1, 2006 on training. If CWEA's memorandum of agreement (MOA) is accepted by the state, the SCAP Collection Systems Committee (CSC) will be working with CWEA to assist in providing the specific training and dissemination of information on the new WDR within SCAP's jurisdiction. We will keep you informed on this matter and outcomes and related costs.

To also assist in WDR compliance, the CSC will be e-mailing out a brief survey soon to all SCAP members to help assess the level of understanding of the WDR and to help determine the type of assistance that the membership would find the most useful. Based upon the survey and other factors, the CSC will determine how it should proceed in product development and delivery of the desired services.

We will be working closely with the Board and the Executive Director on our forward plan and its associated cost projections.

CSC May 25, 2006 Meeting

The CSC met in Dana Point on May 25 and we thank SOCWA for being our host. The meeting focused on WDR related issues and 18 members attended.

As a result of discussions at the May 25th meeting, we are also working on setting up an e-group among CSC members to serve as a daily help desk type service and info exchange among members. Several CSC members belong to these types of groups for other uses. We'll provide a progress report on this in August.

SCAP/CWEA July 20, 2006 Workshop

Time is running out for registering for the July 20, 2006 SCAP CSC and CWEA San Diego Section jointly sponsored workshop on the newly adopted statewide WDR. This workshop will cover the main components of this new order including:

- How the order will be implemented in Regions 7, 8 and 9
- Capacity Assurance
- Operations and Maintenance
- SSO Emergency Response Plans
- Electronic Spill Reporting
- Condition Assessments – Rehabilitation/Replacement
- Fats, Oils and Grease Programs

Flyers have been e-mailed with details and registration information. The cost for SCAP and CWEA members is \$45 per person. It has been noted that this workshop is on the same day as the CWEA/SARBS workshop in Huntington Beach. Unfortunately, the scheduling of the SCAP workshops is dependent upon the availability of both the facilities and personnel. Of the several dates that were considered for the San Diego workshop, only the selected date worked for the hosting agency and persons needed to provide the workshop.

Upcoming Events

On July 20, 2006, SARBS/CWEA will hold their training conference in Huntington Beach at the Huntington Beach Library. For additional information, go to the SARBS website at www.cwea.com, see all their local sections statewide, and click on SARBS.

On July 20, 2006, SCAP and CWEA, San Diego Section, will be hosting an all day workshop on the newly adopted statewide WDR mentioned above.

The CSC is in the planning stages of offering a half to three quarter day workshop on grants and other funding mechanisms for September 2006 to be located in the Inland Empire.

The next CSC meeting is tentatively scheduled for the fall with a date and location to be announced. We will attempt to find a transit system convenient location.

Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District

www.evmwd.com

Headquarters: Lake Elsinore, Riverside County

Established: 1950

Service Area: EVMWD is a special district providing public water service, water supply development and planning, wastewater treatment and disposal, and recycling. The district encompasses 96 square miles on both sides of the I-15 from the southern end of Corona to the Murrieta, Cal Oaks area including the cities of Lake Elsinore, Canyon Lake, Murrieta, Corona and unincorporated areas of Lakeland Village, El Cariso, Rancho Capistrano, Wildomar and Horsethief Canyon.

Connections: Over 38,000 water, wastewater and agricultural service connections.

Budget: Fiscal year 06-07 budget is \$40 million and \$46 million for capital improvements

Employees: 155



Elsinore Valley Solar Panel Alternate 807

Inspired by the growing number of California municipalities that have successfully embraced solar power, Elsinore Valley Water District’s board of directors constructed clean, reliable solar photovoltaics (PV) at the District’s headquarters. Elsinore Valley’s new solar arrays harness sunlight to generate clean electricity, as well as stabilize the District’s utility bills.

Covering a combined area of 57,000 square feet, Elsinore Valley’s solar generation project is one of the largest municipal solar projects in Riverside County, and capable of generating enough electricity during the daytime to power over 750 homes.

The District chose to install on-site solar electric generation to meet its electricity needs in a clean, sustainable manner after evaluating multiple renewable energy alternatives.

“We’re proud to be harnessing Lake Elsinore’s abundant sunshine and deploying solar power,” said Ronald Young, general manager of Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District. “Clean, emission-free, on-site solar generation enables us to be responsible stewards of our region—improving our community’s health and quality of life.”

Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District’s solar energy project consists of multiple solar installations, which use silicon technology to convert sunlight directly into electricity. The solar photovoltaic (PV) installations total 765 kW, and include multiple solar rooftop arrays and seven ground-mounted shaded carports. The carports produce electricity while providing shaded parking for vehicles. The rooftop solar arrays feature PowerGuard® technology, a lightweight photovoltaic roofing assembly that provides thermal insulation and protects the roof from harsh UV rays and thermal degradation. This yields benefits by reducing heating and cooling energy costs, while extending the life of the roofs.

The District views its solar generation system as a way of lowering operating costs and improving air quality for its community. By generating solar power, the water district is effectively reducing its purchases of expensive peak electricity. Elsinore Valley anticipates average savings of \$170,000 a year and more than \$7 million over the life of the project.

By reducing the use of fossil-fuel generated power, Elsinore Valley’s solar system spares the environment from tons of harmful emissions, such as nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide and carbon dioxide, major contributors to smog, acid rain and global warming. Over the 30-year lifetime of the photovoltaic systems, the combined solar generated electricity will reduce emissions of carbon dioxide by 9,900 tons. These emissions reductions are equivalent to planting 2,800 acres of trees, removing 2,000 cars or not driving 25 million miles on California’s roadways.

Water Issues by Chair Roger Turner**Total Residual Chlorine Draft Policy April 2006**

We have been reporting on this issue for the past several months. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) held a public workshop on June 19, 2006 to receive testimony on the proposed Total Chlorine Residual (TRC) Policy for California. SCAP, CASA, Tri-TAC, BACWA and CVCWA wrote a letter on June 5, 2006 presenting their strong concerns with this new policy. SCAP and these associations have worked with State Board staff to look for ways that the State can meet its obligation to regulate local clean water agencies while protecting California's water resources.

EMA, a firm specializing in control system technologies, was contracted by these associations to provide expert analysis regarding using monitoring devices to meet the new monitoring levels proposed at a one-hour average at 0.011 mg/L for a four-hour average. The Chlorine - Produced Oxidants (CPO) in saltwater is set at 0.013 mg/L for a one-hour average and at 0.0075 mg/L for a four-day average. EMA concluded that the required limits of detection are not achievable and the required accuracy stated in the policy is not achievable as well.

Mary Jane Foley, SCAP's regulatory consultant, attended the State Board meeting on June 19, 2006. Look for her section of this newsletter for comment on this meeting and for what's next in this process.

State Revolving Fund Program

The State Water Board administers the State Revolving Fund Program (SRF). About \$200 to \$300 million dollars are awarded each year from federal and state funds and 2005 Revenue Bond Sale. Publicly-owned wastewater treatment facilities, local sewers, sewer interceptors, and water reclamation facilities are eligible to apply for financing under this program.

The SCAP Water Issues Committee is working jointly with the SCAP Collection Systems Committee to develop a workshop on grants and other funding mechanisms for September 2006. Look for a flyer when the final arrangements have been made.

The California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS)

The CIWQS program continues to slowly but surely move forward. State Board staff will hold two meetings in the near future for Region 9 – San Diego Region members. The first meeting will introduce the program. The second meeting will be more hands-on, going over issues member agencies may have with the program. Look for notices in the near future for a training program in the San Diego Region.

While some member agencies report that they have had no problems with the reporting program and their ability to upload data into the program, others continue to have problems entering data and uploading it into CIWQS. The differences for agencies appear to be the way agencies have developed their Discharge Monitoring and Reporting (DMR) programs and lab

data reporting methods. The State Board staff is aware of the problems and continues to work on them.

This program is designed to track discharge data and information, manage permits and other discharge orders, track inspections, manage violations and enforcement activities. CIWQS includes an electronic Self-Monitoring Report (e-SMR) tool for submission of monitoring reports via an Internet web site.

To get help with CIWQS call (866) 79- CIWQS (2-4977) or visit the web site at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/ciwqs/index.html>.

Biosolids by Chair Diane Gilbert

Kern County Biosolids Ordinance Environmental Impact Report

Kern County petitioned the courts to delay their obligation to prepare an EIR. The issue was heard by Tulare County Superior Court Judge Vortmann on May 5, 2006. The judge granted the motion, and stayed Kern County's obligation to move forward on an EIR until June 7. The County acknowledged that if the initiative passes and is challenged, they will likely request another stay.

Kern County Ballot Initiative

On June 6, 2006, Measure E, the Biosolids Land Application Ban Initiative Ordinance was approved by the Kern County voters. The measure prohibits the land application of biosolids and bulk biosolids compost on the unincorporated lands in the County. Biosolids, packaged for routine retail sales through regular retail outlets, are excluded from the ban. According to the initiative language, the measure is effective immediately. Letters were forwarded to the two existing land appliers in the County, alerting them that Measure E passed and they have to discontinue land application in six months. An appeal procedure is available to the existing land appliers to request an extension of time to discontinue such application if special circumstances exist which create a hardship for those who have installed or constructed permanent improvements relating to the land application of biosolids. The final step of the appeal process is a hearing before the Kern County Board of Supervisors, which may grant an extension not to exceed six months. Violation of the ordinance is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$500 or not more than six months in prison, or both, for each day of violation. An offender may also be required to pay for cleanup and disposal costs. Member agencies will be alerted when the Kern County Board of Supervisors takes action on the measure votes and the Kern County Biosolids Ordinance. Additional information regarding the initiative, the vote, and the ordinance is located at <http://www.keepkernclean.com/>.

Release of WERF Report – Study on Reactivation and Regrowth of Fecal Coliform

On June 5, the Water Environment Research Foundation (WERF) published a report entitled, *Examination of Reactivation and Regrowth of Fecal Coliforms in Dewatered, Anaerobically Digested Sludge*. The report details the results from the first phase of research

undertaken in response to reports of increased fecal coliform counts in dewatered sludge experienced by some wastewater treatment plants. The study was conducted at seven wastewater treatment facilities for fecal coliform bacteria contained in anaerobically digested solids. The study found that four of the seven facilities experienced increased fecal coliform bacteria counts after dewatering. The study looked at only seven facilities and only those facilities that used high centrifugation for dewatering. Three of the facilities employed mesophilic digestion, two facilities used thermophilic digestion, and two facilities used temperature phased anaerobic digestion. Four of the facilities experienced an increase in fecal coliform bacteria counts in the centrifuge cake. WERF is continuing additional research on this issue. WERF and the Water Environment Federation will further explore the various operational or process changes that are available to control regrowth/reactivation. A SCAP *Alert* was forwarded to member agencies. If you would have any questions on the study or documents forwarded, please contact Diane Gilbert, SCAP Biosolids Committee Chair at diane.gilbert@lacity.org or 310-648-5258.

Regulatory Affairs by Regulatory Affairs Consultant Mary Jane Foley

On June 19, 2006, the State Waterboard held a hearing on the Total Residual Chlorine and Chlorine-produced Oxidants Policy for California. SCAP was part of a coalition of water and wastewater agencies that sent a comment letter on the concerns with the April draft of this policy.

As the regulatory consultant for SCAP, I attended the meeting and gave testimony on the need for more time to make the policy workable. Several issues were raised in the SCAP comments. Many of them came from our members and the following is a good summary of what general concerns were raised:

- 1) The infeasibility for public water systems to comply with the conditions of the policy for intermittent discharges of potable water. (SWRCB staff exempted potable water from the policy at the hearing).
- 2) The whole effluent toxicity studies used to support the water quality objectives are based on toxicity determined during continuous exposure and not appropriate for determining the instantaneous maximum objective for total chlorine residual.
- 3) Implementation and compliance are not achievable because available monitoring equipment is unable to meet the required detection limits for total residual chlorine when used for wastewater applications.
- 4) There is no approved analytical method for calibrating monitoring equipment to achieve the sensitivity required in this policy.

An expert from a consulting firm gave a PowerPoint presentation on the practicality of the proposed effluent chlorine limits from an instrumentation and control perspective. He substantiated the comments on the lack of technology for implementation and suggested that the SWRCB sponsor a comprehensive test of dechlorination analyzers through a neutral party (such as at the Instrumentation Testing Association) to demonstrate performance and maintenance requirements under field conditions before requiring such instruments be used at every wastewater treatment plant in the state. The staff and Chair of the Waterboard did not

respond to that suggestion. Several SCAP members were in attendance and gave excellent testimony on the problems they would be facing if the policy passed as the current draft. The outcome of the hearing was that the Chair, Tam Doduc, directed the staff to revise the draft and resend it out for comments within a two-week timeframe. The staff was directed to share the data submitted by Region 5 and some of the POTWs that were not included in the original materials for the hearing. In a follow-up phone call to the Chair, I learned that the next steps include comments being resubmitted on the revised policy and, if necessary, a short-term stakeholder group to refine the remaining unresolved issues. We will keep you informed and will send out the revised draft as soon as it is published.

On a different topic, biosolids, the Water Environment Federation and USEPA 9 are sponsoring an Organic Residual Symposium in Sacramento on July 12-14, 2006. The symposium will focus on the recycling of non-hazardous organic residuals to products and energy. I plan to attend for SCAP. Now that Kern has banned land application, all the options for biosolids are even more critical for our future. If you want more information on this symposium, you can check out www.wef.org, or call the SCAP office for more information.

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

We must, indeed, all hang together or, most assuredly, we shall all hang separately.

Benjamin Franklin

At the signing of the Declaration of Independence [July 4, 1776]