WEF Residuals & Biosolids Committee
Outreach and Education Subcommittee
WEFTEC 2010
Morial Convention Center
New Orleans, LA
Tuesday, October 5, 2010
2:30 – 4:00 pm
Room 274

Rhonda Bowen, *Chair*
Natalie Sierra, *Vice-Chair*

AGENDA

1. Introduction and Welcome	R. Bowen
2. Review of Agenda	R. Bowen
3. Review of RBC 2010 Specialty Conference Minutes	R. Bowen
4. Review of Mission and Goals	R. Bowen
5. State Biosolids Issues	R. Bowen
6. Decatur AL/Dismissal of David Lewis Litigation Biosolids Update	B. Bastian
7. WEF Biosolids Activity Updates	
a. WEF of Definition of Solid Waste/ SSI MACT Standards Rulemaking	S. Hadeed
b. NBP – WEF Communications Update	S. Hadeed
8. Fact Sheets Update/Work Groups	R. Bowen
a. Collaboration with NACWA on Dioxins/Microconstituents in Biosolids Update	B. Bastian
b. Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Biosolids Management)	R. Bowen
c. WEF Biosolids Position Statement Revision	S. Hadeed
9. Young Professional Involvement	R. Bowen
10. Next Meeting	
a. RBC 2011Specialty Conf. – Sacramento, CA: May 22-25	S. Hadeed
11. Other Business	R. Bowen
12. Adjourn	

WEF Residuals and Biosolids Committee

Outreach and Education Subcommittee

2010 Specialty Conference
Savannah International and Trade Convention Center
Savannah,, GA
Monday, May 24, 2010
4:00 – 5:30 pm
Room 203
Rhonda Bowen, *Chair*
Natalie Sierra, NEW Co-Chair

MINUTES

Introduction and Welcome
Subcommittee Chair Rhonda Bowen welcomed the committee attendees and asked attendees to introduce themselves.

Review of Agenda
The agenda was reviewed, no additional items were added.

Review of RBC 2009 WEFTEC Minutes
The WEFTEC meeting was briefly discussed. Minutes were not available to distribute as the CD recording of the meeting was not readable. Written notes were not taken as the Co-chair was absent from the meeting.

Review of Mission and Goals
Rhonda reviewed the mission and goals of the subcommittee for new participants.

State Biosolids Issues:
Rhonda asked participants to share any updates regarding biosolids issues.
Jimmy Slaughter from Beveridge & Diamond law firm provided a brief update of the Virginia Wyatt case which was settled out of court. He also gave an update on the PA case which is currently quiet, and Kern County which is still in litigation. Maile Lono (Northwest Biosolids Association) expressed concern over how mistakes made by others in the industry can have such a negative impact on those trying to do a good job. Natalie Sierra provided an update on the negative publicity regarding San Francisco's free compost giveaway program. The compost program represents only about 2-5% of the biosolids managed – the remainder either goes to land application or landfill

beneficial reuse. They have not decided whether they will continue with the giveaway program and expect to hold a public meeting late this summer to address the issue..

Decatur, AL Biosolids Update

Bob Bastian, EPA, provided an update on Decatur, Al. EPA has established a provisional drinking water standard for PFOA. There are many issues for EPA to resolve. There are trying to determine “action” levels. There is a need to develop appropriate procedures for doing analyses; PFOA’s are in many usable products so it is difficult to quantify what is in the environment. PFOA were not included in the Targeted National Survey. There are industrial sites where PFOA contamination exists, however no action levels were ever established. Clean up efforts only included capping the sites. EPA is analyzing groundwater, soils and cattle in order to track levels and determine if they can establish “action” levels for the future.

Action: The Outreach & Education Subcommittee will continue to provide communication on biosolids issues to the full committee as new information is obtained.

WEF Biosolids Activity Updates

a. WEF-NACWA Collaboration on Definition of Solid Waste/SSI MACT Standards Rulemaking

Both section 112 and 129 of the CAA require EPA to set maximum achievable control technology (MACT-based standards comparable to the top 12 percent of best performing major sources – which are typically fluidized bed incinerators) however, most SSI’s are multi-hearth incinerators. EPA is under a court-ordered deadline to issue final Section 129 MACT standards for SSIs by December 2010. The nine pollutants that will be covered under the rulemaking include: mercury, cadmium, lead, hydrogen chloride, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and dioxins/furans.

The proposed rulemaking indicates that EPA does not consider processed sewage sludge destined for land application to fall under the definition of solid waste. However, Bob Bastian stated EPA has always considered biosolids as a solid waste; they just decided they would regulate them under Part 503. The subcommittee expressed disagreement with Bob’s position. EPA will be soliciting comments 45 days after publication in the Federal Register. WEF has established a work group with Jim Welp as the chair to prepare comments and summarize the impacts of the rulemaking on WWTP’s.

Action: Committee representatives were encouraged to get involved in reviewing the requirements and to also submit comments to EPA.

b. WEF Biosolids Position Statement Review

Sam Hadeed reviewed the new position statement. WEF attempted to frame the position statement to match other WEF position statements. The biosolids statement

has been revised to include land application, energy recovery, and energy efficiency with a better balance on all technologies available to the industry.

Action: Comments on the new position statement were requested by June 4th.

c. NBP 2009 – 2010 Communications Plan Update

Sam Hadeed briefed the subcommittee on the status of the National Biosolids Partnership (NBP). NBP had a workshop to get input on the audit process and the frequency of audits. Feedback was that audits were very good, however the audit frequency was too often and burdensome. NBP is considering reducing the number of audits required and establishing a new tier for agencies. NBP will also be offering more tools for agencies. NBP will migrate the NBP webpage under the WEF webpage and redesign the logo to include energy, land and water. NBP is a program of WEF and eventually all will be included as part of the WEF biosolids program. Another area NBP is evaluating is expanding EMS to include the whole facility versus just biosolids operations.

Action: Sam will continue to provide updates on NBP program status and communications plans

Fact Sheets Updates

Rhonda Bowen discussed the subcommittee's goals for developing fact sheets and TPU's. Currently there are none in the development.

a. Collaboration with NACWA on Dioxins/Microconstituents in Biosolids

EPA did not issue a final rule on dioxin because the OMB determined there was no cost benefit. Of the facilities surveyed there were approximately 10% of the samples collected that were over the threshold. The subcommittee has been working on a mechanism to develop a fact sheet or guidance document on dioxins to help "outlier" facilities manage these materials. Rick Stevens, EPA has secured money to have a contractor develop a guidance documents to address this issue.

Action: The draft guidance document will be circulated to the subcommittee for review and comment once EPA receives it from the contractor. The guidance document could serve as a template to address microconstituents in the future.

b. Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Biosolids Management)

The subcommittee discussed the need for our industry to agree on a protocol for determining GHG emissions.

Action: Participate in discussions and the development of protocols through WEF/RBC; work with the carbon task force; Lori Stone.

c. Fact Sheet on Land Application & Composting of Biosolids

Sam reviewed WEF's process to develop a fact sheet on land application and the composting of biosolids. CASA requested WEF develop such to address issues that

arose in CA regarding San Francisco's Compost Giveaway Program. WEF took the existing land application fact sheet and modified it to include information on the benefits of compost. The fact sheet is available on the WEF webpage.

d. WEF Biosolids Communication Resources

Linda Kelly requested a centralized place on the WEF webpage for biosolids information. Information can now be found under the WEF Biosolids Communication Resources tab.

Webcast Series Development (Collaboration with PEC)

Quarterly webcasts have been implemented. The most recent webcast had over 300 registered and over 1000 listed in attendance. The webcasts are beneficial because they are able to reach a wider audience especially since municipal travel budgets have been reduced during the current economy. WEF is planning a July webcast on combined heat and power.

Young Professional Involvement

Rhonda encouraged subcommittee members to invite YPs to meetings and events. They are anxious to get involved but sometimes need a little prodding.

Subcommittee Leadership

Rhonda told the subcommittee that Diane Gilbert had resigned from being co-chair due to travel constraints from her agency. Natalie Sierra graciously agreed to fill the position. Thank you Natalie!

Next Meeting

Sam Hadeed mentioned that the next meeting for the subcommittee will be held during WEFTEC 2010 in New Orleans, LA from October 2-6.

Other Business

None discussed

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.