



December 11, 2006

TO: Alameda County Waste Management Authority Board
FROM: Karen Smith, Executive Director
BY: Brian Mathews, Senior Program Manager
RE: In-county Composting Project

BACKGROUND:

At the November meeting of the Authority Board, the Board reviewed the responses from public and private parties that responded to the Board’s solicitation for potential sites for in-county composting. Eight parties responded identifying eight unique potential sites. The list below summarizes the responses.

<u>Proposer</u>	<u>What is proposed</u>
Bio-solids Recycling Inc.	In County Composting at Jess Ranch
City of Hayward	Possible siting at the City of Hayward WWTP
Material Recovery Industries Inc	In County Composting at Jess Ranch
Material Recovery Industries Inc	In County Composting at North Flynn Rd
Material Recovery Industries Inc	In County Composting at City of Hayward WWTP
Material Recovery Industries Inc	Out of County Composting in San Joaquin Co.
NORCAL	No site identified
Louie Pelligrini	Marine Transfer to out of County Composting
Waste Management	In-county Composting at Altamont Landfill
Zanker Rd. Resource Mgmt	Organics Transfer to Santa Clara Compost Facility
EBMUD	Anaerobic Digestion at Wake Avenue WWTP

The Board was interested in learning more about all the proposals and directed staff to invite all the proposers to make a presentation to the Authority Board at its January meeting. The Board finalized a list of questions which was sent out to the proposers in early December.

The Board also reviewed the response from County Counsel regarding the appropriate zoning for composting facility siting within the county, and staff reported that water may be acquired for the Authority owned North Flynn Rd property but that further study would be required.

As a next step for the process, the Board requested a composting expert attend the December board meeting and the expert prepare a presentation for the Board that covers the basics of composting and various composting technologies.

DISCUSSION:

At the Boards request, staff invited Stuart Buckner, Ph.D., of Buckner Environmental Associates, to make a presentation at the December Authority Board meeting. Dr. Buckner is a nationally recognized expert in the composting industry. He has over 19 years of experience in facility and system design, permitting, compost operations, and product development and marketing. He has written over 30 articles on compost operations and the composting industry. He currently is the Executive Director of the U.S. Composting Council. A brief bio and bibliography is attached.

Dr. Buckner will make a one to one and one-half hour presentation followed by a question and answer period. The presentation will cover the basics of composting; describe various composting technologies, feed-stocks, and composting products and markets. He will also discuss some alternatives to composting.