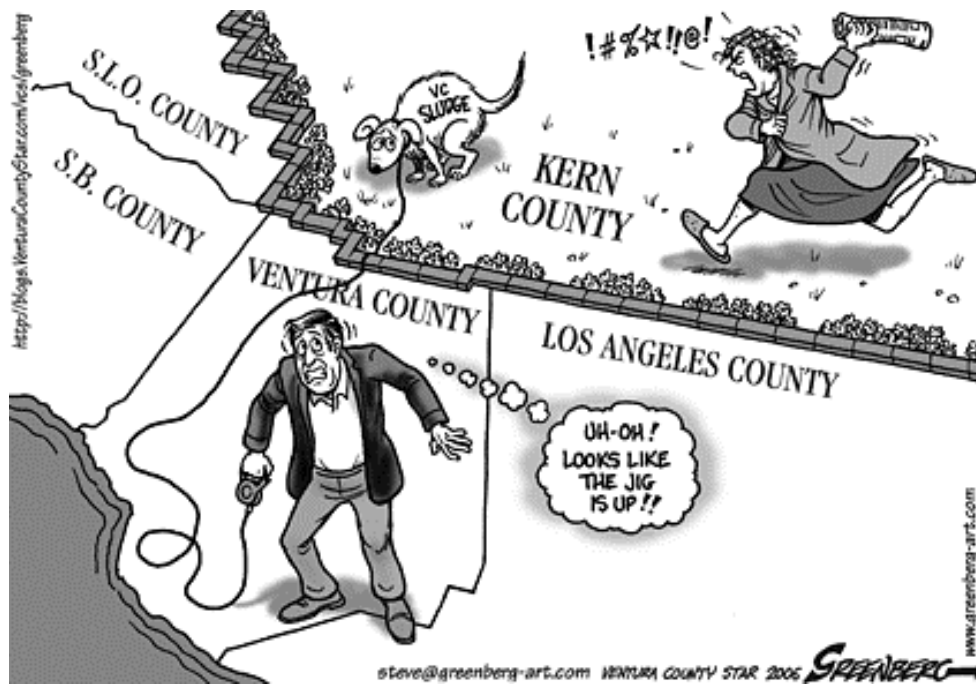


TOLAND ROAD LANDFILL BIOSOLIDS DRYING PROGRAM

THE ISSUE:

The County of Ventura has 802,400 residents who produce over 6,000 tons of biosolids every month. Most of this material is shipped to Kern County for land application or composting. In February 2005, California Senator Florez drafted a Senate Bill (SB 926) prohibiting the land application of biosolids in Kern County. Currently Senator Florez has dropped SB 926 in favor of a voter initiative, the “Keep Kern Clean Ordinance of 2006,” which would prohibit importing biosolids to Kern County. This ordinance is on the June 2006 ballot and expected to pass. As a result, local leaders in Ventura and Los Angeles counties must come up with solutions for local management of county biosolids.



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The Ventura Regional Sanitation District (VRSD) is an enterprise public agency providing integrated regional waste treatment and disposal services to the residents of Ventura County. While originally formed in 1970 to address regional wastewater treatment and disposal issues, the District assumed operation of Ventura County's publicly owned landfills in 1972. VRSD is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors composed of representatives from member agencies. City Council members from eight cities and one representative selected by special districts having sanitation responsibilities within the County sit on the VRSD Board.

In an effort to solve the looming biosolids problem, VRSD has researched a biosolids drying process that would receive and dry digested biosolids. The process consists of a feed hopper, dehydration/sterilization chamber, air scrubbers, evaporative cooling tower and solids handling unit. VRSD set up a pilot program to test the viability of the system, which met with great success.



BENEFITS:

- This program significantly reduces truck traffic emissions as biosolids is no longer trucked to Kern County.
- The biosolids is dried via greenpower using landfill gas (LFG) resources to power the process, as opposed to using scarce natural gas resources.
- The system utilizes electricity from onsite microturbines using landfill gas as a fuel source.
- Dried biosolids can be used as alternative daily cover at the landfill, saving resources in cover soils and excavation costs. Furthermore, this use preserves landfill space for the future.
- Local disposal of county-generated waste ensures local environmental oversight of the end use.
- This program helps satisfy AB 939's diversion through recycling mandates, further protecting the environment.
- Long-term energy costs are guaranteed utilizing LFG reserves at the landfill.

LOCAL SUPPORT:

VRSD has received letters of endorsement from local Cities and Special Districts. These include the cities of Port Hueneme, San Buenaventura, Ojai, Thousand Oaks, Oxnard, Simi Valley as well as Camrosa Water District, Camarillo Sanitary District, Saticoy Sanitary District, Montalvo Municipal Improvement District and Ojai Valley Sanitary District. Furthermore, verbal support has been received from the city of Camarillo, the city of Fillmore and the city of Santa Paula.

