WEF Residuals and Biosolids Committee Meeting

2012 Residuals and Biosolids Specialty Conference

Raleigh Convention Center

Raleigh, NC

Wednesday, March 28, 201

7:00 – 8:30 am

Room 304

Todd Williams, *Chair*

Jim Welp/Chris Peot, *Vice-Chairs*

Agenda

A.	Introduction & Welcome	T. Williams
B.	Review of Agenda	T. Williams
C.	Review of RBC 2011 WEFTEC Minutes	C. Peot
D.	Identify and Welcome New Committee Members/YPs	T. Williams
E.	RBC Mission/Goals/Strategic Plan – WEF Strategic Plan	T. Williams
F.	WERF Coordination & TCR Project Update	L. Fillmore
G.	RBC Specialty Conference Subcommittee Update	J. Leblanc
	– Call for Papers for RBC 2013	
H.	Outreach and Education Subcommittee Update	R. Bowen
I.	Agriculture & Industrial Byproducts Subcommittee	L. Moss
J.	Bioenergy Technology Subcommittee Update	D. Parry
K.	Carbon Resource and Recovery Subcommittee Update	P. Scanlan
L.	Technical Practice Committee Update	P. Bizier
M.	RBC WEFTEC Workshop Submittals	J. Willis
N.	SSI MACT Regulation/Discussion with EPA	J. Welp
O.	WEF – NBP Biosolids Program Updates	S. Hadeed/J. Cox
P.	WEFTEC Residuals Symposia Update	M. Moore
Q.	Solids Processing Design and Management Manual	M. Moore
R.	Rebranding of Wastewater Task Force Update	C. Peot
S.	EPA Office of Water Biosolids Update	R. Bastian
T.	Student & Young Professionals Ad-Hoc Vice-Chair Update	C. Wilson
U.	New Business	T. Williams
V.	Next Meeting:	T. Williams
	- WEFTEC 2012 – New Orleans, LA : Oct. 3 @ 7:30 AM	
W.	Recap and Action Items	J. Welp
X.	Adjourn	

WEF Residuals and Biosolids Committee Meeting

2011 Residuals & Biosolids Specialty Conference

Los Angeles Convention Center

Room 502A

Los Angeles, California

Wednesday October 19, 2011

Meeting Minutes

Introduction & Welcome – Chairman Todd Williams
Todd reviewed the committee mission statement and presented membership breakdown. Chairman Williams urged the attendees to join the RBC if not a member currently and provided details for becoming a member. All attendees were requested to introduce themselves. Todd Williams welcomed all new attendees and also recognized all S&YP's in attendance. An attendance sign-in sheet was passed around and a copy of that list is appended to these minutes. Chairman Williams called the membership to the attention of the minutes from Sacramento and asked for any comments. Hearing none, the minutes were accepted for the record. Todd also announced that beginning in 2012, the RBC meeting at WEFTEC would be limited to an hour so as to allow starting the meeting at 7:30 am so he urged report-outs to be more succinct. The RBC meeting at the Specialty conference will remain an hour and a half long.

S&YP Update – RBC Ad-Hoc Vice-Chair Chris Wilson
Chris indicated that he is excited about serving in this position and is hoping to work with each subcommittee over the next year to help develop meaningful ways for YP's to engage with each subcommittee.

WERF Update – Dan Woltering
Dan called the committee members attention to the power point materials regarding recently published research reports, ongoing projects and research challenges.

Specialty Conference Subcommittee – Chair Greg Woodward
Greg reported that plans are well underway for the 2012 WEF Residuals and Specialty Conference to be held March 25 to 28 in Raleigh, NC. Richard Tsang is serving as Chair. A social event **pig picking'** is planned for Sunday night (March 25) and a golf tournament is being planned for Saturday March 24th in support of Water-for-People. Greg reported that due to canceling the Phoenix venue the 2013 conference will be located in Nashville, Tennessee as WEF has signed a contract for that venue. The

dates of that conference are May 5-8, 2013. WEF is also considering including an Energy conference immediately after the RBC conference is concluded at the same venue. More information will be provided by WEF in the future. The 2014 conference location was changed to Austin, Texas and will be Co-Chaired by Lynne Moss and others. The 2015 conference will be located in Virginia Beach, Virginia and Co-Chaired by Todd Williams and Rhonda Bowen.

Agricultural & Industrial Byproducts Subcommittee – Chair: Lynne Moss
Lynne indicated the committee is working on a workshop with NC State for agricultural Byproducts for the RBC 2012 conference in Raleigh, NC. Lynne also indicated the committee is considering expanding its focus to consider other products that may be land applied and to expand the committee's scope, mission and goals. The committee will develop a survey and work with Sam Hadeed to survey the membership on interest in various topics for the committee to focus on. That survey will be completed and sent out to the committee members before Thanksgiving of this year.
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Bioenergy Technology Subcommittee – Chair: Dave Parry
Dave summarized the subcommittee meeting. Two bioenergy workshops were held on Saturday and Sunday: producing more biogas through co-digestion and beneficially using biogas. Two bioenergy workshops have been approved for the RBC specialty conference in Raleigh, NC on Resource Recovery and Value Added Products. Three bioenergy workshops are being proposed for WEFTEC 2012: Biofuels, Incineration, and Barriers to Biogas. Jim Welp will report on an update of the MACT standards for SSIs and Nate Turner will report on the Biofuels Task Force activities.

Nate Turner and Bob Wimmer provided an overview of the work being performed by the Biofuels Task Force. The Task Force has completed work on the Biofuels State of the Industry Report, and will get it out for formatting, publication and distribution to WEF Membership shortly. The next step in the State of the Industry Report work is to perform an intensive study of the three biofuels incorporated (Biogas/Biomethane, Dried Wastewater Solids, Biodiesel) and convert the 10 page Report into a 60 page document for use as a manual by industry professionals. The Task Force is also submitting a workshop proposal for WEFTEC 2012 as well as sponsoring a webinar scheduled for January 11th on the subject of Biofuels from Wastewater.

Todd Williams thanked the Bioenergy committee for putting forth a wastewater treatment plant renaming/rebranding suggestion at Sacramento. Todd indicated that in June the RBC formally requested that the WEF Committee Leadership Council Steering Committee consider this. The CLC included this discussion at their meeting on Sunday October 16th and unanimously agreed to develop a task force to address this issue and report back to the CLC at the WEF Midyear meeting next February. Chris Peot will represent the RBC in this effort.

Carbon Resource and Recovery Subcommittee – Chair: Trish Scanlan
John Willis provided a report out noting the Subcommittee would be distributing a Survey Monkey survey in the near future to allow the RBC membership to provide

input/direction as to the goals, objectives, and tasks for the newly formed group. The City of LA had offered to or had already posted their excel-based GHG emissions inventorying model/program/calculator on line; this would be the first such available reporting tool as other models (BEAM, CHEAPET and the like) are better suited to alternatives comparison efforts.

Outreach and Education Subcommittee – Chair Rhonda Bowen
Because neither the chair nor Vice-Chair could attend WEFTEC, no meeting of this subcommittee was held.

WEF SSI MACT Rule Update – Jim Welp
Jim Welp gave an update on the SSI MACT rule activities, including the ongoing litigation from NACWA challenging the rule. Jim indicated that while difficult and costly to achieve the limits, facilities should be able to implement the rule.

Alan Cooper raised concern that we make a statement that incinerators can meet the proposed rules.

Peter Brady indicated, however, that new incinerators being proposed are being designed to meet the new standards. The WEF task force is also assisting NACWA in educating the EPA, and is also providing technical data for NACWA's legal suit. On the broader front, the new regulation also helped trigger WEF to assemble another team, under Barry Liner, to affirm the energy value of biosolids. Peter indicated that from a technical point perspective the emission standards of the new regulations can be met. As one example, mercury, the world leader in mercury emission controls for biosolids combustion, field tested to a performance in excess of the new standards, and can comfortably meet them. However, the issue becomes a commercial one - unnecessary extra cost for standards 100 times more stringent than Europe. Peter added that to be responsible citizens, the manufacturers have been very low key, working through the WEF task force and NACWA. They do not want to provide the EPA with an easy excuse to justify a bad regulation, and thereby add unnecessary cost to projects.

Chris Wilson questioned how the MACT Rule would impact Wastewater Solids being used as a coal-substitute Biofuel.

Nate Turner commented that biofuel use has a 2 year stay subject to further analysis by EPA, and added that one of the MACT Rule requirements for biosolids combustion to not be considered waste is if it provides a 70% energy capture.

Chris Hornback of NACWA commented that EPA has not yet denied its petition for reconsideration of the final SSI Rule, but has indicated that at this time it is inclined to deny all but one component of the petition. The remaining element of the petition involves the variability of sludge across the country and EPA's failure to account for such variability in its MACT calculations. Chris also stressed that it is important for the clean water community to maintain a common front on this issue. EPA is downplaying the impact this rule will have on our community – claiming that more than 75 percent of

SSIs can already meet the new standards – but is basing such conclusions on data that NACWA knows is invalid. It is important for WEF and NACWA to send the same message to EPA regarding our ability to comply with these new standards.

Chairman Williams urged members to speak with Jim Welp or Chris Hornback after the meeting with questions or comments and he thanked the work of the RBC task force on this rulemaking for the excellent technical data they developed in support of NACWA's response to EPA on the proposed standard.

Technical Practice Committee (TPC) Update – Paul Bizier
Todd indicated that Paul Bizier is the RBC liaison to the TPC and that Jim Welp is the alternate. Paul noted that there are several manuals which were approved for preparation during the TPC meeting. WEF would like reviewers from each technical committee, as appropriate, for these manuals. The three manuals are "Automation of Wastewater Treatment Facilities", the update of the BNR Operations Manual, and the update of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Design textbook. In addition, Paul noted that WEF is currently in production of a manual on Standard Sustainability Reporting Statements for Wastewater Systems. The first draft of this manual is out for review.

Renewable Energy Position Statement – Barry Liner
Barry reported on the development of the Renewable Energy Position Statement…. And that it was submitted to the WEF Board of Trustees and approved by the Board on Friday, October 14. The statement is on the WEF website under Government Affairs/Position Statements. Barry also gave a brief report on WEF's pilot effort of a new WEFCOM communication site being developed for WEF membership and is expected to be introduced at the mid-year WEF meeting in January and launched in March .

RBC WEFTEC Workshop Task Group Update – John Willis
John Willis reviewed the WEFTEC pre-conference workshop Submittal Procedure that has been formally adopted by the RBC (see ppt). John indicated that WEFTEC 2012 workshop proposals are due November 1.

NBP Update – Jim Cox
Jim reported on recent activities related to the new training class of organizations. These activities have included webcasts, on-site visits, and October workshop in Alexandria, VA. The NBP Steering Committee has a new chair – Cathy Gerali with Denver Metro who replaced Dick Lanyon, who recently retired. RBC Vice-Chairs Chris Peot (NBP EMS certified agency) and Jim Welp along with Vince De Lange from East Bay MUD (NBP EMS certified agency) have been added to the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee recently developed and adopted a strategic plan. Jim also mentioned that the WEF Biosolids Position Statement has underwent significant changes and placed greater emphasis on a comprehensive approach to biosolids management that ensures recycling and energy recovery. RBC final comments are due back to Jim by October 28. The goal is to have the Board of Trustees approve the position statement in December.

Solids Manual Update – Tim Shea
Tim provided a status report on the Solids Manual development indicating that WEF is now the official editor of the manual and that the manual is planned to be completed and available by April 2012. Chairman Williams officially acknowledged Tim Shea and Mike Moore's work on this huge effort and thanked them on behalf of the RBC.

EPA Office of Water Update – Bob Bastian
Bob Bastian presented an update of EPA biosolids activities that were indicated on the Power Point slides.

Wrap-Up/Action Items – Todd Williams
Todd reminded attendees of the Abstract submittal deadline for WEFTEC 2012 is December 1 and strongly urged members to involve YP's as author's or co-authors in abstract submittals. Todd also reminded the committee to look for information regarding the RBC Specialty conference in Raleigh and if they have questions or suggestions to contact Richard Tsang, the conference chair. Todd thanks WEF staff for their support and especially Sam Hadeed the committee liaison for his support of the RBC.

Adjourn
The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 AM.