

# WEF Residuals & Biosolids Committee Bioenergy Technology Subcommittee

**WEFTEC 2009** 

Orange County Convention Center Orlando, FL

Tuesday, October 13, 2009 8:30 – 10:00 am

OCCC West - Room 202C, Level 2

# Jim Welp, *Chair* Dave Parry, Vice-Chair

#### **AGENDA**

1. Introduction & Welcome Jim Welp & Dave Parry 2. Meeting Minutes – RBC 2009 Specialty Conference – Portland, OR **Dave Parry** 3. BTS – Mission Statement, Goals, & Strategic Plan Jim Welp 4. Conferences & Workshops **Dave Parry Amit Pramanik** 5. WERF upcoming projects related to Bioenergy 6. Manuals Jim Welp **EPA Solids Manual Energy Conservation Manual** MOP Incineration Manual 7. Carbon Task Force Lori Stone 9. Technology Chairs, (Important Issues, Highlights, Trends) High Performance Digestion John Willis Thermal Drying Frank Sapienza Thermal Oxidation Lee Lundberg Gasification/Other High Temp. Technologies Stan Chilson Robert Reimers Value Added Products 10. Hot Topics, General Discussion & New Business ΑII Collaboration with NACWA: Definition of Solid Waste/SSI MACT **Bob Dominak** Standards Rulemaking Energy trends WEF Distant Learning Training Program Sam Hadeed Next Meeting: RBC Specialty Conference – Savannah, GA – May 23-26, 2010



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Jim Welp, Chair Dave Parry, Vice-chair

- 1. **Introduction and Welcome.** A sign-in sheet was distributed and is attached to these meeting minutes.
- 2. **Meeting Minutes, RBC 2009 Specialty Conference, Portland, OR**. Minutes were approved.
- 3. **BTS Mission Statement, Goals and Strategic Plan**. Jim Welp presented the mission and vision statements, and related goals. There are 4+ divisions of the subcommittee related to AD, thermal drying, incineration, gasification, as well as a value-added product.

Peter Brady added the importance of supporting the Young Professionals organization. Several YP members were in attendance during the meeting. Welcome!

Sam Hadeed noted that there are two position statements on biosolids that are to be updated. In November, our collective input will be reviewed by the R&B committee and GAC prior to final WEF approval.

4. **Conferences and Workshops**. Permitting Workshop was held during WEFTEC this year. Approximately 25 people attended. Break out sessions were held. Information was timely and thorough. Dick Pope was chair. Air permitting is very important to bioenergy projects, although there was not high attendance due to multiple workshops. Ray Porter recommended that the workshop be held again at the R&B conference. Permitting and perceptions are significant aspects to the implementation of bioenergy projects. Dave Parry suggested that the workshop topic be broadened. Diane Garvey offered that it be a dedicated technical session in addition to, or in lieu of a workshop.

John Willis reported that there are currently two workshops (land application/risk management and CHP with digester gas) slotted for the upcoming R&B conference. Ray Porter will follow-up with John Willis to determine if another workshop on air permitting at the R&B conference would be warranted.

Lori Stone commented on the opportunity to have a workshop at the IWA conference.

WERF Update. Amit Pramanik and Lauren Fillmore provided an update of WERF activities related to bioenergy topics. See attached list of biosolidsrelated research, which is available widespread. Lauren commented on the status of several projects, including roadmapping, biogas implementation, etc. Completion of mercury emissions from incineration project is imminent and will be available on the WERF website.

#### 6. Manuals

- a. EPA Solids Manual 26 out of 27 chapters are in the review process. Mike Moore described the work remaining as the draft chapters are in varying degrees of completion. Final version is unlikely for WEFTEC 2010. Much hard work has gone into this effort thus far.
- b. Energy Conservation Manual. Completed.
- c. MOP Incineration Manual. Completed.
- 7. **Carbon Task Force**. Lori Stone reported out about the status of the CTF. See attached report. Note that a *Consensus Statement* was drafted and comments are requested by November 30, 2009. Lori encouraged all members to reach out to their respective member associations (MAs) to assist them in understanding bioenergy issues and topics, and put them in contact with R&B and Bioenergy Subcommittee chair contacts. Patricia Scanlan will take over the chair of the CTF, and we appreciate her leadership in this next phase of the CTF

## 8. Technology Chair Reports.

- a. High Performance Digestion. John Willis reported that there are several workshops that were identified and will be conducted at the 2010 R&B conference.
- b. **Thermal Drying**. John Donovan reported for Frank Sapienza. When the white paper was developed, most dried product was used for agricultural purposes. This white paper should be updated to reflect additional outlets for product use as a biofuel. The issue of safety needs to be further addressed too.
- c. **Thermal Oxidation**. Lee Lundberg. Renewed interest in bioenergy and public acceptance. Hybrid systems are gaining interest.
- d. **Gasification**. Stan Chilson. Exciting developments at Sanford, FL, Stamford, CT. Stan cautioned that there are opportunities to blend

feedstocks or use other biomass products. Still considered an emerging technology for biosolids.

e. Value-added Products. White paper available at Savannah conference.

# 9. Hot Topics, General Discussion and New Business

a. Collaboration with NACWA. Bob Dominak gave a chronology of events in working with EPA and regulation of biosolids via sewage sludge incinerators (SSIs). Section 112 CAAA until court case prompted review of regulation of solid waste under Section 129. Domestic sewage exclusion rule – biosolids is a solid waste...Office of Air to work on MACT standards. Deadlines for MACT standards: April 14, 2010 and promulgated December 16, 2010. Can there be separate MACT standards for MHI vs. FBIs? Bob requested assistance from this subcommittee to develop a cost basis for going from MHI to FBIs. Bob Bastian commented that the ANPRM addressed biosolids as a solid waste only if it were incinerated. No joint work group meetings with Water have been initiated. Future ramifications of these regulations are of significant concern. Office of Air is sending an information request to nine (9) for testing and existing information (dioxins, phosphorus, arsenic, etc.).

Concern about allegations of GHG emissions being used to put various technologies in a negative light. Bob Dominak would like to put together a team of incineration facilities to investigate N2O emissions at their individual facilities.

- b. Energy Trends. Dave Parry commented that there is a drop in energy costs for a short-time and interest wanes correspondingly. Lower energy rates are not sustainable. Trend is upwards although there are variations along the way. What other opportunities exist for us in biofuels and other renewables?
- c. WEF Distant Learning Training Program. Sam Hadeed.
- 10. **Closing Comments.** John Willis, Chair of 2010 R&B Conference gave reminders about conference. Jim Welp announced that Dave Parry will be taking over as Chair as his rotation has ended. We appreciate Jim's leadership and commitment and welcome Dave in his new position.



# **RBC Bioenergy Technology Subcommittee - WEFTEC**

Tuesday, OCTOBER 13, 2009 ATTENDEES 8:30 - 10:30 am OCCC, Room 202C, Level 2

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