

Pilot-to-Practice

Silicon Valley Clean Water's Change Leadership Playbook for Food Waste Co-Digestion

WLI Group 5

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***“Do not be afraid of trying new things...
carefully”***

- Arvind Akela, Silicon Valley Clean Water

RESULTS

Energy is SVCW's second-largest operating cost.

PILOT RESULTS



1.25 MW Meeting 70–80% of demand
Six-year ROI for linear generator

FEEDSTOCK RECOVERY



20 tons/day during pilot
Up to 150 tons/day at full scale

PERFORMANCE GAINS



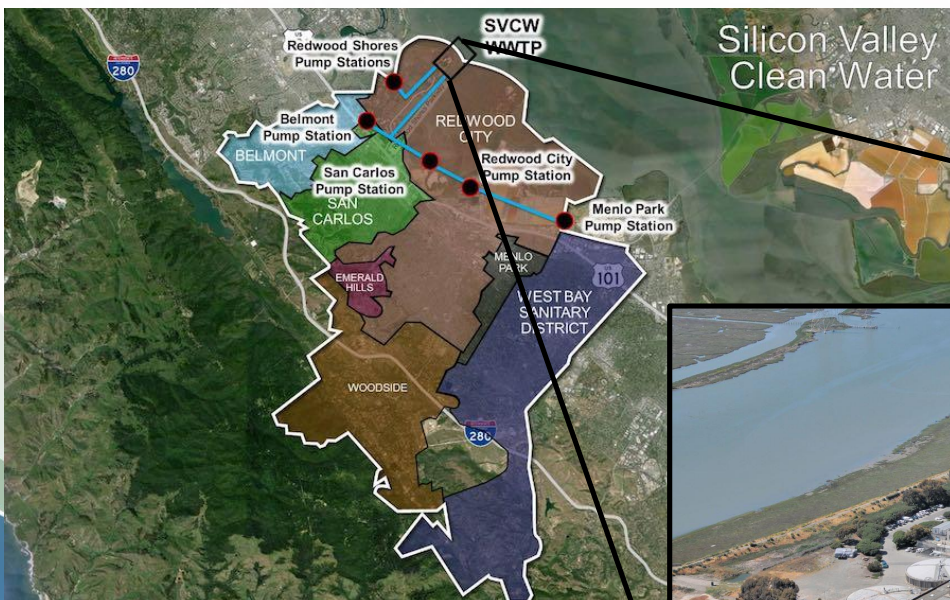
+58% methane^e with added FOG
+20% more gas per pound when blending
food waste with sludge



PRODUCTION OUTLOOK

Full scale: 2-3 MW projected

SILICON VALLEY CLEAN WATER (SVCW)

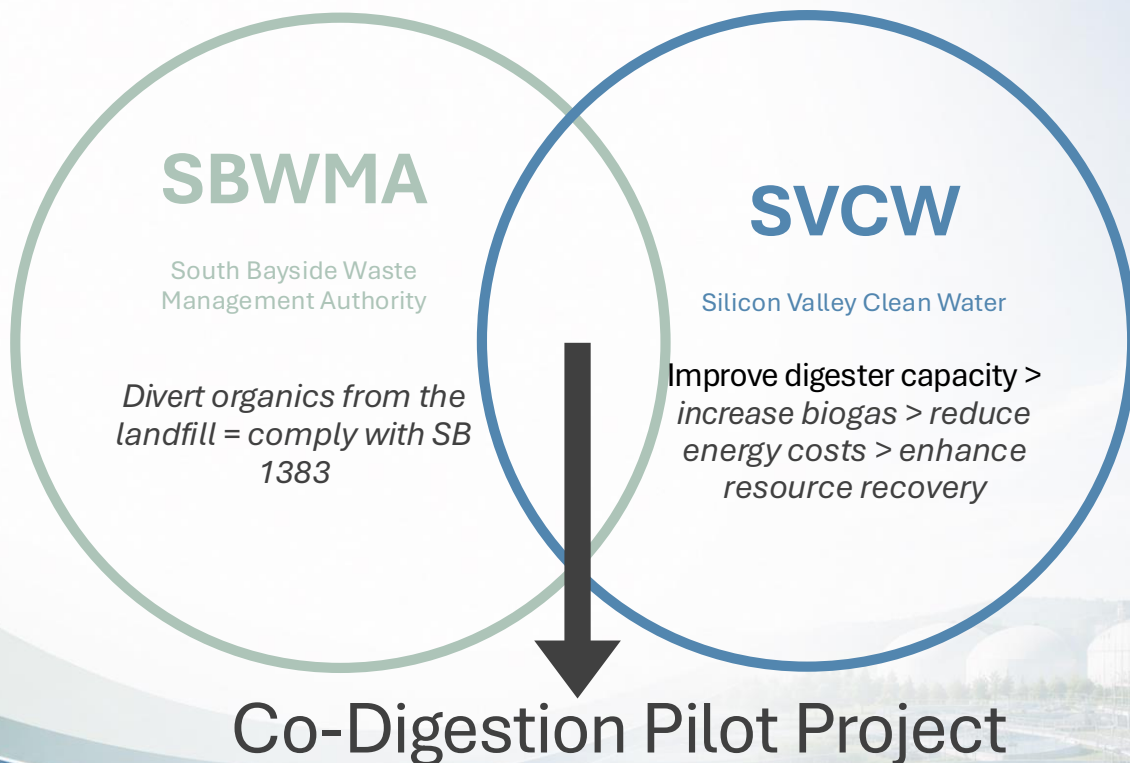


220,000 People Served

16 MGD Average



SILICON VALLEY CLEAN WATER (SVCW)



CO-DIGESTION PROCESS



Food waste & organic black-bin collection



Sorting & extraction at waste facility



Receiving and processing at SVCW



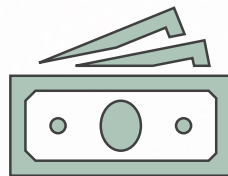
Anaerobic digestion → biogas → power

CHALLENGES

"The technology is the easy part" – Arvind Akela, SVCW



Air Permit



Funding



Partnerships

How SVCW Succeeds at

TRYING NEW THINGS

Carefully



**Culture of
calculated risks**



**Financially &
sustainability
driven**



**Invest in
workforce**



**Embrace
challenges**



**Strategic
partnerships**

