



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of SANITATION AGENCIES

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January 14, 2009

American Academy of Environmental Engineers Judging Panel
c/o Stephen R. Maguin Chief Engineer and General Manager
County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA 90601

Dear Members of the Judging Panel:

On behalf of the California Association of Sanitation Agencies, we wish to express our support for consideration of the Inland Empire Regional Composting Facility (IERCF) as the recipient of your Academy's Excellence in Environmental Engineering Award.

The County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County has long been recognized as one of the nation's leaders in developing innovative and environmentally sound processes for the treatment and management of biosolids. Their participation in the successful development of the IERCF is just another example of their forward-thinking approach to biosolids management.

The IERCF is a state of the art composting facility that incorporates many special features in order to provide protection for the surrounding environment. First and foremost is the fact that this facility is the largest enclosed biosolids composting facility in the United States and incorporates a state-of-the-art subsurface aeration and bio-filtration system for air emission and odor control. Energy consumption is offset by the incorporation of a solar panel array that generates 1 megawatt of electricity, which is enough to furnish 50% of the power required to operate the aeration system. The resulting high quality soil amendment produced is then sold in bulk to landscapers, farms and in bags for home use. With the current emphasis on climate change consequences, this project is a prime example of what can be accomplished by implementing projects that protect the environment and emphasize the use of renewable energy.

We are proud to support public agencies such as the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, who through its leadership has made a commitment to develop projects that are cost effective, technically sound, and make a positive impact on the environment.

Sincerely,

Greg Kester
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