

MEMORANDUM

To: Myron Erickson, P.E., Deputy Director of Public Works
William Dooley, P.E., Director of Public Works

From: Kim Hackbardt, EMS coordinator

Date: January 29, 2016

Re: Annual Biosolids Program Performance Report

Element 11 of the biosolids EMS requires an annual Performance Report. This memo serves as that report, and follows the format prescribed by Element 11 in our program. This report will be discussed at our next EMS team meeting planned for the first quarter of 2016, which fulfills the requirements of Element 11, Management Review.

A complete set of reportable data and additional data is included with the Biosolids Annual Report submitted to My Waters October 2015 but was not certified on time. The subjects of our Performance Report and annual Management Review are:

Performance against Policy

2015 was another great year for our plant's performance against the stated biosolids policy. The program has continued to meet our monitoring criteria. Our integrated contingency plan and emergency response plans are ready for action if needed. The sustainability and environmental acceptability policy goals were both met in 2015 and are proving to be a success with our on-going financial analysis and monitoring of national and international water environment professions.

Performance against Goals and Objectives

Our performance meeting our goals and objectives is on target for yearend 2015. Our goals and objectives are SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bounded) and updated on a regular basis.

Goal #1 is to reduce the environmental impact of the biosolids program.

The two objectives continue to be ongoing parts of the program. Storage tank mixing schemes have seen reductions in energy use while maintaining a well mixed product for application. Our West MI Takeback Med program is still active.

Goal # 2 is to provide a consistent, value-added product.

The two objectives for this goal are ongoing and being achieved to this point. Increased monitoring of the commercial users of the sanitary sewer system and Treatment Plant efficiencies continue to be closely regulated.

Goal # 3 is to maintain 100% compliance with 503(b) Land Application Regulations.

This goal has a five year target and is ongoing.

Goal # 4 is to have a publically accepted biosolids program

There are two objectives for this goal and both are being met successfully by participating in State level committees and continuing our pre-emptive assessment plan for field selection and approvals.

Goal #5 is to encourage the culture of valuing employee participation

The two objectives for this goal are being met in providing professional development opportunities for the employees and creating a participative environment that the employees have input into problem solving and decision making activities within the program.

Performance against Desired Results

We are confident in our desired results of running a cost effective program while maintaining and enhancing public acceptance. The benefits realized with the use of the product are well known with our users and promoted around the region continuously. Our current contract with our residuals hauler has continued to keep our program costs historically low.

Need for Change in our system

There are some minor changes that need to be addressed at the first meeting of 2015. The first change being that Synagro apply more Nitrogen to each acre closer to the recommended rate, plus concentrate on reducing compaction of farmers fields. The Goals and Objectives of the system should be reviewed and adjusted for the future.

Recommendations for improvement

The EMS team will continue to meet Quarterly and continually seek to improve performance. The next audit will be 2018.