



Technical Coordinating Committee
Wastewater Subcommittee
Meeting Summary

January 24, 2019, 12:00 pm
GAWP Headquarters
1655 Enterprise Way, Marietta, Georgia

- I. Welcome and Introductions**
- *Mr. Danny Johnson welcomed the TCC members and attendees introduced themselves. The sign-in sheet is attached.*
- II. Public Comment Period**
- *There were no public comments for the meeting.*
- III. Biosolids Disposal Challenges – Group Discussion**
- *Representatives from Gwinnett County, the City of Atlanta, and Cobb County provided an overview of recent changes and new challenges they have faced with disposal contracts for their wastewater biosolids. Each has experienced an increase of approximately three times the prior year's rate for hauling and disposal. The biosolids from these counties had been disposed of at the Eagle Point Landfill in Ball Ground, GA, however this landfill had a recent slope failure creating the need for regulatory action which will be further discussed by EPD in the next item. Other utilities in attendance discussed how the impacts from the Eagle Point Landfill have had an effect of increased rates for biosolids disposal to other landfills and others to beneficial reuse.*
- IV. Regulatory Update**
- *Mr. Chad Hall, the Solid Waste Permitting Unit Manager for Georgia EPD, presented an overview of the regulatory requirements of Georgia's municipal solid waste landfills (MSWL's) and discussed challenges with biosolids disposal from EPD's perspective. There have been three incidents of slope instability among two landfills between 2014 and 2018 in Georgia. In February 2017, a landfill slope failure caused one death in Pennsylvania.*
 - *Mr. Hall presented pictures of the slope failures and efforts by the MSWL to track slope displacement over time and install berms at the toe of a shifting slope to stabilize its movement. Mr. Hall discussed the design calculations for slope stability and the need to reevaluate them considering increased leachate received through the collection of high moisture content waste.*
 - *A proposed consent order was issued to the Eagle Point Landfill on January 2019 that would limit its disposal of high moisture content waste to five*

percent by weight and would require the landfill to develop a new facility-wide plan for leachate management and stability.

- *In July 2018, EPD requested information on sludge disposal at all Georgia MSWL's from 2015-2017. Facilities taking over 10 percent sludge have been promoted in permit review schedules.*
- *Question: How many new MSWL's are under consideration or construction?*
 - o *Answer: Mr. Hall replied that there was only one that he was aware of.*

V. Landfill Operations Overview

- *Mr. Murray Griffin, a professional engineer with Atlantic Coast Consulting, provided a perspective of landfill design consultants and how they will be asked to evaluate slope stability calculations and alternative methods for addressing high moisture content waste. Mr. Griffin expects the high pricing for landfill disposal to remain high for the foreseeable future.*

VI. Next Steps

- *Mr. Johnson discussed potential next steps for communities experiencing challenges with their biosolids disposal. The stakeholders discussed options such as a regional biosolids handling facility, individual actions to install driers and use existing incinerators, and beneficial reuse of biosolids as a soil amendment in agriculture.*
- *The Metro Water District will coordinate with Georgia EPD's water branch to ensure there is internal understanding of the cause and effect of regulatory actions between the solid waste permitting and the wastewater permitting arms.*
- *The Metro Water District will attempt to engage members of the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) to discuss their perspectives on this issue and how the water and solid waste industries can better coordinate.*

VII. Other

- *Mr. Johnson shared information about a grease collection program in Cherokee County where a private grease hauler will set up a residential grease disposal location at a local wastewater treatment plant for free to reclaim the grease for biodiesel.*

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