# Emerging Paradigms in Biosolids Management



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#### 15<sup>th</sup> February 2013







#### **Biosolids Production Trend in Europe**



#### 1) Increasingly Strict Environmental Regulation Traditional wastewater treatment





#### **Stricter wastewater standards – Secondary Treatment**



#### **Nutrient removal – Chemical Dosing**



Wastewater treatment fundamentally influences the quantity and type of sludge produced and consequently biosolids treatment potential







#### **Tightening standards also have other impacts**



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#### **Overall Energy Balance between biogas and aeration requirements**



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# 2) Increasing and migrating populations





## **World-wide Biosolids Production**



### **Sludge Processing**



#### What else can you do with it?



#### POOP BURGER: Japanese Researcher Creates Artificial Meat From Human Feces by Lori Zimmer, 08/18/11

filed under: News, Foo Powert, Recycled Materials

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Some hardcore carnivores have a hard time finding meat alternatives such as soy protein or tofu burgers to be palatable. But non-meat eaters may lose their appetite along with their carnivorous friends over this one – a meat alternative made from HUMAN EXCREMENT. Yep, you heard me correctly — Japanese scientist Mitsuyuki Ikeda has developed a "burger" made from soya, steak sauce essence, and protein extracted from human feces. Hit the break for a video explaining the process!

#### Would you eat a turd burger?

- YES! WITH A SIDE OF FRIES PLEASE!
- NO WAY! MC DONALD'S IS BAD ENOUGH!
- NOT SURE, I'D HAVE TO SEE IT UP CLOSE FIRST.

#### Japan scientist synthesizes meat from human feces

Story by Jeff Hughes Japan scientist synthesizes meat from human feces

It's being called the "poop burger". Japanese scientists have found a way human feces.

Somehow this feels like a Vonnegut plotline: population boom equals food waste matter. Absurd yes, but Japanese scientists have actually discover feces.

Mitsuyuki Ikeda, a researcher from the Okayama Laboratory, has develope excrement. Tokyo Sewage approached the scientist because of an overal explore the possible uses of the sewage and Ikeda found that the mud co



1,237 VOTES

8,106 VOTES

1.152 VOTES

#### **Biosolids Outlets**



#### **European Biosolids Outlets**







# Land availability for biosolids use



SSSI

ESA

- National Parks
- Organically Managed Land
- Topography
- Water Courses
- NVZ
- PVZ
- Competition
- Supermarket pressures **A=com**

### Land availability for biosolids use





## **Biosolids in Europe in 2000**



# **Biosolids in Europe in 2000**





#### Since 2001 – A Biosolids Odyssey





#### **Energy – Price**



#### **Energy – Security**





#### Water Industry Advanced Anaerobic Digestion



UltrasonicsHigh Pressure ShearElectric PulseChemical LysisMedium Pressure MacerationRapid DecompressionThermal HydrolysisAcid PhaseBiological HydrolysisA=COM

#### **Benefits of Advanced Digestion**



# **Choice of pre-treatment technology is complex**



Different sites will require different solutions...



#### **Alternative uses for Biogas**



1.4 l Compressor/Turbo 150 ps/5500 rpm 220 Nm/1500-4300 rpm 450 – 500 km range 0-100 km/h 9.8 s

CO2 119 g/km (automatic!

213 km/h





#### Biogas yield of wastes relative to sewage sludge



#### **Calorific Value of Substances**





#### **Heilbronn Power Station**

#### **Holistic Energy Recovery from Biosolids Raw (no digestion)**



#### Holistic Energy Recovery from Biosolids With anaerobic digestion



Energy recovered

By Water Company

48%

AECOM

1566

#### Holistic Energy Recovery from Biosolids With advanced digestion



#### **Fertiliser Costs – Phosphorus**





#### Fertiliser Costs – Nitrogen





#### **Phosphorous**

- World population increasing
  - Becoming urbanized
  - Changing food habits
  - Global demand increased 4.7 million tones in 3 years (equivalent to USA consumption)
    - 0.6 1.6 kg P/person.year
- Peak P predicted at 2035?
  - 50 100 years of easily mined P remain
  - >70% of all reserves in Morocco
  - China imposed P export tax (+110%)









#### **Nutrients – Cost Effective Recovery?**



Nutrient recovery consumes large quantities of chemicals and energy.....will this be sustainable in the future especially when compared to direct application of nutrients within biosolids? **AECOM** 

#### Carbon footprint associated with biosolids/WW treatment





#### **Influence of Biosolids on Carbon Footprint**



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#### **Influence of Biosolids on Carbon Footprint**



#### What is counted under current methodology



#### **Opportunities**

- Which could currently be recognized
  - Energy from biogas produced by anaerobic digestion
  - Low carbon fuel for burning
- Potential (but not covered under regulation)
  - Low carbon fertilizer
- Other
  - Carbon sequestration

#### **Opportunities – Biogas**

#### - Based on NGER methodology



#### **Opportunities – Biosolids Burning**

- Based on NGER methodology



#### **Opportunities – Biosolids Burning**





#### **Opportunities – Biosolids Burning**



#### **Opportunities – Low Carbon Fertilizer**

- Fertilizers are large consumers of fossil fuels
  - 1 kg N consumes 10 kWhr energy
  - 1 kg P consumes 10 kWhr energy



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#### **Carbon benefits of biosolids use**





### **Biosolids in Europe in 2010 and beyond**



# **Biosolids in Europe in 2010**



#### Solutions with *LOW*:

- energy requirements
- carbon footprints

Solutions with *HIGH*:

energy and nutrient recovery

- Advanced anaerobic digestion with land recycling
- Closure of dryers/incinerators
- Closure of liming systems
- Co-digestion
- Biogas upgrading
- Nutrient recovery



#### **Conclusions**









# Thank you

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