Cover Letter July 21, 2008

To: Matthew Bassi, Interim Development Director
Jim Earhart, Electric Utility Department
Council Members for City of Banning
Brian Nakamura, City Manager of Banning
Ron Smith, Editor of Record Gazette
Sunlakes Country Club Homeowners Association

From: Richard G. & Cynthia K. Jackson
442 N. Morongo Ave.
Banning, CA 92220-3428
Ph. 951-[redacted]

Re: Liberty XXIII Renewable Energy Power Plant Project

Dear Friends and fellow citizens of Banning,

We are enclosing a copy of our response, comments, and questions to the Draft EIR for Liberty XXIII Renewable Energy Power Plant Project. We are responding in behalf of other concerned citizens of Banning who also question the endorsement of a biosolid, or sewage sludge, electricity generation plant in our city.

If approved, Liberty Energy will be operating on the premise that biosolids are non-hazardous. What guarantee will we have that all biosolids are non-toxic? Will each of the almost 500 trucks have a manifest declaring its point of origination and which process was used to "purify the contents of the sludge"?

Another concern is the pollution of our clear and scenic environment from the diesel fumes and odors created by the additional trucks passing through our city.

From an article in the July 20, 2008, Los Angeles Times Opinion Section entitled, "Is Growth Over," by Cary Lowe, we read that California is in a drought, and that statewide water agencies have already adjusted and decreased water amounts for agriculture and community development projects. In the present drought situation, which likely will not improve for many years, how will Liberty Energy's use of Banning's potable water affect our water supply?

Will our supply of water be endangered? Will use of reclaimed water for watering parks and golf courses be increased and improved, as suggested and promoted in earlier years?

We sincerely hope you will consider how this proposed project will affect our environment and the City of Banning.

Sincerely,

Richard G. and Cynthia K. Jackson

CITY OF BANNING

Draft EIR Comments

Liberty XXIII Renewable Energy Power Plant Project

Date: July 18, 2008

Name*: Richard G. Jackson & Cynthia K. Jackson

Affiliation (*if any*):*

Address:* 442 N. Morongo Ave

City, State, Zip Code:* Banning, CA 92220-3824

Telephone Number:* (951) 922-2581

Email:*

See Attached Pages.

**Please print. Your name, address, and comments become public information and may be released to interested parties if requested.*

Please either deposit this sheet at the sign-in table before you leave today, or fold, stamp, and mail. Insert additional sheets if needed. Comments must be postmarked by July 21, 2008. Comments may also be faxed to the project hotline at (951) 849-1550.

July 18, 2008

To: Matthew Bassi,
Interim Community Development Director, City of Banning
99 E. Ramsey St
Banning, CA 92220-0998

Re: Liberty XXIII Renewable Energy Power Plant Project Draft EIR Comments

After careful examination of the Liberty XXIII Energy Power Plant Project Environmental Impact Report (DEIR), we have decided to answer in the following format.

Thank you for this opportunity to voice our concerns, ask questions, and make comments regarding the above named project.

Upon reading the EIR report and doing research, we have been unable to find any proven history of Liberty Energy XXIII in-spite of what their title may imply.

Make no mistake. Anyone examining the above named document would have to conclude that this proposed "Energy Plant" is, in fact, a toxic waste incinerator proposed for the sole purpose for ridding California (and other states?) of their toxic and hazardous sewage (human waste) sludge that has been outlawed in ocean dumping and burial in landfills because of the dangerous pollution.

We, as concerned residents of Banning CA, oppose this project! Our neighbors agree.

As Liberty Energy will be paid by other cities and counties to get rid of their sewage sludge, 80% of their profits will come from this very lucrative source.

In Liberty Energy's information brochure, dated September, 2007, entitled Liberty Energy Centre, on the last page titled "Liberty Energy's Commitment to the City of Banning," 'to effectuate the following benefits for your community:'
Paragraph 4 says 'generate an economic impact to the region (San Gorgonio Pass) of over $127,000,000 over the next ten (10) years.' From what? How much of this amount would stay locally, if that is a true amount?
Paragraph 5 says: 'Generate in excess of $12,000,000 in tax revenues to the City of Banning and the Banning Community Redevelopment Corporation over the next ten (10) years.' Tax revenues from what source? Is there a Banning Community Redevelopment Corporation or a Banning Community Development Department? Would not any tax revenue go to the City of Banning to disperse to various departments as needed?
Paragraph 6 says in part: 'create fifty-nine (59) permanent full-time jobs in the city.' What type of jobs? Doing what?

Why weren't the above promises in the information brochure dated September, 2007, stating Liberty Energy's commitment to the City of Banning included in the Draft EIR?

In addition to the above questions and comments, the concerned residents would like the following questions and comments addressed. In past years we have dealt with sewage sludge projects trying to base operation in the San Gorgonio Pass, specifically in

Banning in 1990, and in Lamb's Canyon in 2001-2002. ALL failed to be approved. We do not what this project approved either.

1. California does not monitor or regulate its sewage treatment plants.
2. All remaining sewage sludge from treatment plants is toxic and hazardous, containing everything from heavy metals to bacteria and viruses. How can you state that your sewage sludge is a non-hazardous waste?
3. There are three treatments for sewage in California. All three leave toxic and hazardous sewage sludge that is dangerous and contaminated with heavy metals, arsenic, cadmium, lead, grease, selenium, chromium, ammonia, phosphates, oil, pesticides, and other hazardous wastes.
4. What assurances do the residents of Banning have that the hazardous and toxic substances will not wind up in our soil, air or water?
5. Sewage sludge is wet! How will Liberty Energy's process get water out of the sludge or Bio-solids (a public relations term being used increasingly by water professionals in the U.S.)? Where will it be disposed of? Will it eventually end up as contaminated ground water, which affects a greater area than our locality?
6. Banning has no industrial water wills. The shortage of water in our area cannot be mitigated. All wells must be protected for city use. Liberty Energy XXIII sludge process will require both potable and reclaimed water. Our sewage treatment has no process to produce reclaimed water. Banning needs all of its potable water. Ground water will be contaminated from the Liberty Energy XXIII proposed project by transport, storage, accident, earthquake, and faulty proposed storage of both biomass, bio-solids (sludge), and ash.
7. Earthquake faults in the immediate area of the proposed project must be addressed, as we have three (3) major faults in the area, which are: the San Andreas, The Banning and the San Jacinto faults. Previous toxic and hazardous waste proposals could not be mitigated in the area.
8. Liberty Energy XXIII requires 184 truck trips per day for all phases of its operation. Trucks would be 18-wheelers with 20 ton capacity powered by diesel. How do you mitigate the noise, diesel fumes in the air, damage to roads, traffic congestion (remember, Liberty Energy XXIII is south of the railroad tracks, so their trucks would idle while waiting for 100-plus train cars to pass)?
9. How do you mitigate the damage caused by a 20-ton truck of sewage sludge, chemicals or ash dump-over due to any truck involved in an accident?
10. In the Liberty Energy XXIII Draft EIR, Section G Mitigating Monitoring and Reporting: Upon reviewing pages G-1 through G-5, the City of Banning is to be responsible for mitigation, monitoring, inspecting, and reporting the operation and compliance with guidelines set forth in the Draft EIR. Does the City of Banning have anyone on its staff that is qualified to do this? If not, who will do this?
11. The end product in Liberty Energy's program will be ash, which they say they will sell to cement companies. However, ash from Liberty Energy will be difficult to use due to the heavy metal content, so they will send the ash to landfills, which is not legal.

12. Open air storage of green waste, bio-mass, is not an option because of wind gusts which reach high velocities, and heavy rains which cause odor and blowing debris. This community and Sun Lakes Retirement Community are mostly senior citizens with health concerns, especially allergies, lung (breathing), and heart problems.
13. This project, make no mistake, is not being proposed for the good of Banning and its energy needs. Companies, such as these, have been trying to get rid of Los Angeles City and County sewage sludge ever since it has been outlawed for dumping in the Santa Monica Bay. Sewage sludge is outlawed for ocean dumping in all of California, so no matter where it comes from, San Diego, Los Angeles, or Kern County, the real motive behind this new ploy, energy (it used to be compost) is not as stated in the Liberty Energy literature. The really huge revenue that this proposed project will produce will come form the cities and counties who pay dearly to get rid of their toxic and hazardous sludge.
14. In reviewing the Project Description Liberty XXIII Renewable Energy Power Plant City of Banning, California, dated April, 2007, you will find Liberty Energy proposes to add chemicals to the sludge to neutralize the toxic and hazardous ingredients in the sewage sludge. Could adding chemicals to unknown chemicals already present in sludge cause an explosion?
Liberty Energy XXIII proposes the use of aqueous ammonia in this project, which poses the greatest risk to peoples' health. (See Table D-6 and 7, P7-21 of the Draft EIR). The use of aqueous ammonia is to be used in three (3) Generation units (trains), therefore, the risk is tripled. It only takes one (1) spill to cause a health risk.
15. If the City of Banning still plans to approve the Liberty Energy XXIII project, does Liberty Energy carry liability and medical insurance to cover a disaster, or can they get insurance at all? The City of Banning should be heavily insured as well. Do not self-insure against this potentially hazardous project. You could not afford to cover huge liability and medical costs in case of a disaster.
16. Not here, not at this time! This unsuitable and dangerous project is impossible to be mitigated for us. We cannot afford it!!!
17. Medications in sewage sludge, such as blood thinners, tranquilizers, hormones, etc. are not processed out – as well as illegal drugs are turning up in our groundwater.
18. This proposed project may harm the land and wildlife species currently protected. How will this be addressed?
19. What studies are being conducted to address archeological sites and artifacts? The Morongo Indian Reservation is in and around the proposed projects sites and areas of impact.
20. There appears to be no formal application to the City of Banning on (city forms) by Liberty Energy. When requested by us, a clerk said she would need to consult with Mr. Charles Rangel about it. Later, Mr. Matthew Bassi, the Interim Planning Director, did provide two (2) pages that are not dated or signed, (in illegible handwriting) and most important do not ask/or answer any of the environmental questions for the skipping over/not done by the City of Banning of an initial study. CEQA only lets a project skip the initial study if an

EIR is necessary. How did Banning determine this with no application with this information on it? What date did Liberty Energy apply to the City, to whom, and who said no initial study was to be done and when?

21. Please refer to the following copies of forms, letters, and newspaper articles regarding our comments and questions.

We appreciate this opportunity to offer our comments, concerns, and questions regarding the Liberty Energy XXIII Renewable Energy Power Plant proposed for the City of Banning. We look forward to honest answers to our comments and concerns. We hope that every effort to protect our health and the well-being of our environment.

Imperial Valley Press Quick News

March 25, 2008

Liberty Energy throws in the towel

Luis Plancarte, of Liberty Energy, on Tuesday announced to the Imperial County Board of Supervisors that Liberty will not pursue its sludge plant in Niland.

Bakersfield-based Liberty had proposed a waste-to-energy facility that would take biosolids and biowastes from throughout Southern California and truck it in to the northend Imperial County site.

On the February ballot voters passed an ordinance that would make it illegal to import sludge into Imperial County.

"Liberty has made a business decision to withdraw its application for a sludge plant in Niland," Plancarte told supervisors.

>> Eric Galvan

ivpress on March 25, 2008 at 01:05 PM | Permalink

TrackBack

TrackBack URL for this entry:
http://www.typepad.com/t/trackback/476849/27447858
Listed below are links to weblogs that reference Liberty Energy throws in the towel:

Comments

Transportation route/Street Improvements

The proposed truck route Liberty will use is regulated by the CUP. The proposed route will use the Interstate 10/Hargrave Exit, travel south on Lincoln St., east to Hathaway St., and south along Westward Ave. to the project site. Portions of the proposed truck route will be improved to accommodate the traffic volume of 132 truck deliveries per day pursuant to conditions of approval.

At build-out it is estimated that 132 truck trips daily will enter/exit the plant operations. Approximately 75 of these trucks would be carrying biosolids and about 30 per day would carry biomass. An additional 20 trucks daily would be removing an inert fly ash (byproduct of the energy generation process). The balance of the estimated truck traffic (7) would be the delivery of other materials and equipment utilized in the power generation process. As the plant is anticipated to generate power 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, it is estimated that the truck traffic is equal to approximately 1 truck every 10 to 12 minutes. Truck trips will be evenly distributed through out the day rather than compressed during peak hours (typical business hours between 8:00 am to 5:00 pm). It should be noted therefore that although this will increase the total number of truck trips, they will not all exacerbate peak hour traffic conditions.

Biosolid and biomass materials shall be transported in closed systems trucks. This means that bio-material will be kept within the trucks during the transportation process. The trailer systems utilize a combination of synthetic covers and metal covers depending on the type of trailer utilized.

Based on the Transportation Study prepared by Aspen Environmental Group, Inc. the environmental consultant for this project and reviewed by the City of Banning's Traffic Engineer, it was determined that Liberty Energy would be required to make the following major traffic improvements:

1. Install signalization at Hargreaves Street and Interstate-10 (both southbound and northbound).

2. Widen the railroad crossing from the current approximate 20 feet to 42 feet.

3. Install a left turn-pocket from Hargreaves Street to Lincoln Street

4. Widen the intersection of Lincoln Street and Hathaway Street

5. Install a left turn-pocket from Hathaway Street to East Westward Street

On Site Fuel Material Processing:

There are two (2) basic types of fuel materials brought on site; biosolids and biomass.Biosolids are treated municipal sewage sludge. Once they enter the site, the

truck and trailer enter an enclosed biosolids reception building. The reception building is then sealed by closing motorized truck doors, and continuously drawing air from the building to the gasifier using fans. The biosolids are then offloaded using a bottom-feed pumping system into a series of five (per unit/train) silos. The silos also contain a charcoal filter system to prevent any escape of odor. The truck is then washed within the same building, and the wash water is added to the biosolids fuel silos. Once washed, the truck exits and returns to duty.

Biomass are green waste materials. These types of materials include logging industry waste, clean construction material waste and household green-recycling material waste. Trucks containing biomass materials enter the Liberty Energy site and offload materials into biomass pile , also known windrow, on site. The piles are regulated to be no more then 15 feet high and about 66 feet wide. The length of the windrow will vary depending on where on site it is located, but shall not exceed 300 feet. The biomass materials are generally considered non-compostable and are designed to be used quickly as to minimize any composting.

Differences in number of truck trips for Liberty Energy.

Why are there discrepancies in the number of truck trips for this project? And which is the true number of trips:

1. 132 truck trips mentioned in a two page piece called Transportation Route Improvements?

or

2. 184 truck trips mentioned in the Project Description Liberty XXIII Renewable Energy Power Plant, dated April, 2007, on page section 1-2?

or

3. 564 net truck trips mentioned in the Draft EIR Liberty XXIII Renewable Energy Power Plant Project, pages Di.13-6 and 7, dated June, 2008.

As the Draft EIR is the most recent date, could this be the most accurate number of truck trips per day?

DEIR 6/08

generate 30 AM and PM Peak Hour trips, assuming 24-hour schedule of operations. This estimate of peak hour trips is much less than what was estimated using ITE rates, as shown in Table 13.3-6.

As shown in Table D.13-6. , the project is anticipated to generate 80 AM Peak Hour trips, 85 PM Peak Hour trips, and 604 daily trips. Of the 604 daily trips, 40 are expected to be made by the 20 employees working at the facility.

Table D.13-6. Trip Generation Estimates

Land Use	ITE Code Used	Size/EMP	Trip Rates			Trips						
						AM Peak Hour			PM Peak Hour			
			AM	PM	Daily	In	Out	Total	In	Out	Total	Daily
Light Industrial	110	86.6 KSF	0.92	0.98	6.97	70	10	80	10	75	85	604

Notes: KSF= 1,000 sq. ft.

- 40 EMPLOYEES
564 TRIPS
÷2 = 282 TRUCKS

Trip Distribution

Project trips were distributed based on the following assumptions:

- Biomass and biosolids would be delivered to the facility via the I-10 freeway, exiting Hargrave Street, traveling southbound to East Lincoln Street, and turn east on Lincoln Street, and then travel eastbound to Hathaway Street. The trucks would then turn southbound on Hathaway Street to Westward Avenue where they would turn east and follow Westward Avenue to the project entrance. Trucks leaving the facility would follow this route in reverse to I-10.
- The most likely biomass sources would be from Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties, according to information provided by the project applicant. Therefore, vehicles accessing the vehicles carry biomass would be accessing the site mainly from the west.
- Approximately 10 employees working at the site would commute from Beaumont/Banning, and 5 would commute from Riverside, most of whom are likely to travel eastbound on the I-10 to access the facility. Five employees are expected to commute from the Coachella Valley, for a total of 20 employees.

The project trip distribution is shown on Figure D.13-2.

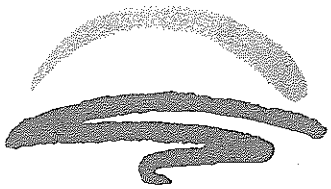
Trip Assignment

Project trips were assigned using the distribution shown in Figure D.13-3. The most direct access to the site from I-10 would occur from Hargrave Street at the existing interchange.

D.13.3.1 Criteria for Determining Significance

The following significance criteria were employed to determine if the project caused significant traffic impacts, based on the results of the traffic study. These criteria reflect input from the City of Banning General Plan as well as the application of standard traffic engineering guidelines.

- The project, including project driveways, will disrupt traffic operations. Traffic impacts were assessed using both quantitative (Level of Service (LOS)) and qualitative criteria. A disruption of traffic operations is defined as any of the following
  a. If the addition of project traffic causes the LOS to degrade at a signalized intersection from LOS C or better to D, E, or F at a signalized intersections.
  b. If the addition of project traffic causes an increase in traffic volumes at a signalized intersection already operating at LOS D, E, or F.
  c. If the addition of project traffic causes an unsignalized intersection to degrade to LOS D, E or F and one of more traffic signal warrants (as defined by the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)) are met.



SUN LAKES
Country Club

November 29, 2001

Supervisor Jim Venable
43950 Acacia, Suite A
Hemet, CA 92544

Mr. Venable,

By way of introduction, my name is Bob Ewert; I am President of the Sun Lakes Country Club Homeowners Association Board of Directors, representing approximately 5000 Sun Lakes residents.

The reason for this letter is the article in the November 28, 2001 edition of the Press Enterprise regarding the proposed relocation, by Synagro Composting Company, of their sludge composting plant in the Corona area to the Lambs Canyon Landfill.

On behalf of Sun Lakes residents we want you to know we oppose the proposed relocation plan. The prevailing wind, which constantly blows from west to east, will carry the foul odors and unhealthful components of sludge and fertilizers though Beaumont, Child Help and Banning, including Sun Lakes Country Club.

I cannot officially speak for the populations of Beaumont, Child Help and Banning but I am confident they will oppose the plan as well.

I am also confident that the many developers, in the pass area, who are building and selling homes, will join in the opposition.

The quote of Sandy Isom, in the subject article, is exactly right.

"The proposal, if approved, opens the door for other communities to have the same problems as residents of the Corona area." In this case, that would be residents of the pass area.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of our objection to this proposal.

Bob Ewert

Bob Ewert, President
Sun Lakes Country Club Homeowners Association

cc: John Hunt, Mayor, City of Banning
Roger Berg, Mayor, City of Beaumont
Pulte Corporation
Jack Belcher, Director, Child Help, USA

850 S. Country Club Drive • Banning, California 92220 • (909) 845-2191 • Fax (909) 845-7814

Word/Venable/tm

THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2002

Sludge plant relocation plan tabled

MEETING: Supervisors do not act on a proposal to move a Synagro facility to Lamb Canyon.

BY ADRIANA CHAVIRA
THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

RIVERSIDE—If a sewage sludge composting plant relocates from south of Corona to the Beaumont area, it will have to be without the help of the county Board of Supervisors.

The supervisors unanimously voted Tuesday to table — and essentially kill — a proposed agreement with Synagro Composting Co. of California that said the county would at least consider the company's plans to move its operations from Temescal Canyon to the county-owned Lamb Canyon Landfill south of Beaumont.

The matter of how Riverside County handles its sludge should be left up to area water and sewer agencies to decide, the supervisors said.

"The county should not be their host in relocating," said Supervisor Bob Buster.

Synagro officials said they think they can work out something with the local sewer agencies, who have been looking into the idea of a building a regional sewage composting plant in Riverside County. "We are willing to work with water districts," said Elizabeth Ostoich, Synagro spokeswoman.

A similar project is also being proposed in Colton by Inland Empire Composting.

More than 50 residents from Beaumont, Cherry Valley and Sun Lakes applauded when Supervisor Roy Wilson proposed tabling the agreement.

"I would like to never see it there," said Dave Andrews, who organized a rally in Beaumont last Saturday to oppose Synagro's proposed move.

Temescal Canyon residents, who have been fighting for several years to close the outdoor plant because of foul odors, have opposed the county's proposed relocation.

"Revoke this permit and don't re-site them in this county," said Michelle Randall.

Supervisors said they were concerned with many uncertainties in the written agreement. They mentioned the possibility of Synagro filing a third lawsuit against the county if the agreement didn't proceed in a timely fashion. Synagro in 1999 filed two lawsuits against the county over restrictions placed on its existing operations.

Supervisors and Synagro officials agreed to put the lawsuits on hold for 60 days to give area cities and sewer agencies time to decide what to do with their sludge once Synagro's plant closes.

Riverside County officials say the outdoor plant is scheduled to close this month, while Synagro representatives say they still have several years left on their operating permit. The closure date is one of the issues contested in Synagro's 1999 lawsuits against the county. In delaying the lawsuits, the county agreed not to seek legal action to immediately close the plant.

Several cities and sewer agencies in Riverside County have been meeting to discuss forming a joint-powers authority that could build a sewage sludge composting facility. The agencies have discussed the possibility of having Synagro run such a facility.

Anne Briggs, an analyst for the Eastern Municipal Water District, said the agencies are still reviewing alternatives, but Lamb Canyon Landfill site is a good location for a composting operation because it is far from homes.

Desert-Pass and the region
SECTION B
The Press-Enterprise
Wednesday, April 18, 1990

Foes rejoice after sludge plan withdrawn

By DAVID DANELSKI
The Press-Enterprise

The developer of a proposed sewage-sludge drying plant in Banning has withdrawn the application to the city, killing a project that faced stiff opposition from residents.

"That's really a breakthrough," said Orville "Butch" Strickland, who presented the City Council last week a petition bearing about 1,200 signatures against the plant. "That's good news."

Director of Community Development Roger Derda said he received a letter from Redlands developer Wilson E. Nolan Inc. yesterday saying the company no longer wanted to pursue the project.

The letter came shortly after Derda had advised the company he did not believe the project would be approved by the City Council because of strong community opposition.

"We withdrew our application because we were advised we couldn't do it, and we will follow the city's advice," said Richard R. Thompson, an environmental scientist for the company.

"We just might have to find another use for the land. We are still evaluating our options . . . We obviously don't want to wage war with local citizens."

Strickland, vice president of the Sun Lakes Country Club Homeowners Association, said the city should take a firm stand against such projects.

"At this point I would like to have the City Council make a resolution saying that this type of operation would not be permitted at any time in the future from any company," he said.

Strickland and others had argued that such a plant should be in an unpopulated area because it would smell and lower property values. Trucks bringing in the sludge would create traffic congestion, raise dust and damage roads, Strickland said.

The plant would have been built on a 10-acre site owned by Nolan Inc. in East Banning, just west of the city limits between Westward and Charles avenues. It would have dried liquid sludge in

(See SLUDGE, Page B-7)

California
IN BRIEF

SACRAMENTO

U.S. May Cut Water to Farms by 50%

In one of the bleakest official forecasts since the drought of 1977, federal officials announced that water deliveries will likely be cut by half to agencies serving more than 20,000 farms from Redding to Bakersfield. The potential cuts, mostly agricultural, include water destined for two densely populated counties in the Bay Area—Santa Clara and Contra Costa—where about 3 million people live. The annual forecast of water availability was made by the Bureau of Reclamation, which provides water to farms through more than 300 local water districts and contractors. Last year, federal officials made similar predictions, but heavy rainfall and replenishment of the mountain snowpack in March eliminated the need for cuts.

TEMECULA

Tribal Officials Sue Over Sewage Plan

Tribal officials on the Pechanga Indian Reservation near Temecula have filed a lawsuit to block a water district's plan to pump treated sewage into the area's underground aquifer. The suit, filed by the Temecula Band of Luiseno Mission Indians in Riverside County Superior Court, charges that the Rancho California Water District violated state environmental laws by approving the sewage project without adequately assessing its impact. The district plans to blend treated sewage with lake water and discharge 4.6 million gallons daily into the ground water.

From Times Staff and Wire Reports

LIBERTY ENERGY
LIBERTY ENERGY RESOURCES, INC.

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

ABOUT LIBERTY ENERGY
NEWS AND INFORMATION
THE LIBERTY BIOENERGY PROCESS
PROJECTS
CONTACT US
HOME

Company Profile

Liberty Energy was founded in 2002 with the vision of utilizing biomass materials to produce clean renewable energy. With over 50 years combined experience in agriculture and biomass reuse, Liberty Energy has the experience and capability to optimize the reuse of many types of biomass materials. Liberty Energy has dedicated substantial resources to the development of its organic waste-to-energy vision.

Since 2002, Liberty Energy has designed and developed the Liberty Modular BioEnergy Unit. This design incorporates state of the art features of various types of biomass and power production technologies and systems. In addition Liberty Energy has also developed a state of the art emission control system to significantly reduce or eliminate pollutants.

Today, Liberty Energy is expanding its project development efforts. New projects are being developed at an increasing rate in response to numerous states requiring Renewable Portfolio Standards and to meet the demand of ever increasing environmental requirements.

Management Directory

Wilson E. Nolan
Chief Executive Officer
wnolan@libertyenergyresources.com

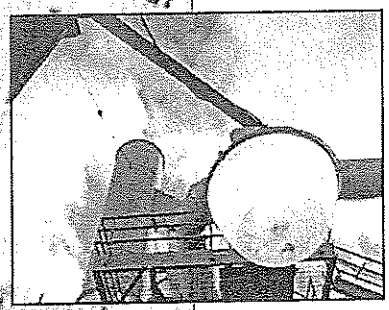
Kenneth G. McCord
Chief Financial Officer
kmccord@libertyenergyresources.com

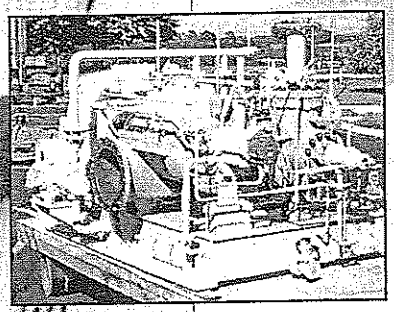
Steve Ketler
Engineering & Technical Services Manager
sketler@libertyenergyresources.com

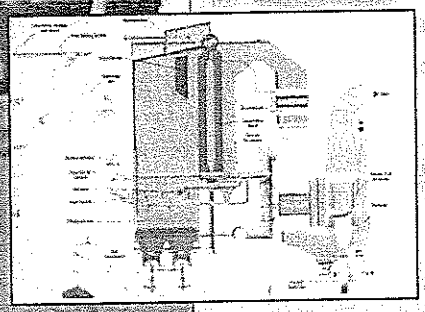
ABOUT LIBERTY ENERGY
NEWS AND INFORMATION
THE LIBERTY BIOENERGY PROCESS
PROJECTS
CONTACT US
HOME

Wilson E. Nolan

Wilson Nolan, CEO, co-founded Liberty Energy in 2002 to lead the development of Liberty's organic waste-to-energy projects. Wilson is the founder of Bio Gro in the late 1970's. Bio Gro was among the first to beneficially reuse biosolids as a soil amendment. Wilson sold Bio Gro to Wheelabrator Technologies in the early 1980's. Wilson also founded Pima Gro Systems in the late 1980's and again led the innovative use of Biomass for composting and farm applications. Wilson sold Pima Gro to Synagro Technologies in the late 1990's. Synagro also later acquired Bio Gro from







Project Description
Liberty XXIII
Renewable Energy Power Plant

City of Banning, California

April 2007

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Appendices

1 SUMMARY

Liberty Energy is proposing to permit and construct a new biomass power plant, located at the eastern terminus of Westward Avenue in the City of Banning, Riverside County, California. This facility will be named Liberty XXIII and will require a Conditional Use Permit to construct and operate. This document describes the facility and associated operations in general terms for the purposes of obtaining these approvals. Design values presented in this report are preliminary and may change as design is finalized and equipment is selected.

The following uses are proposed at Liberty XXIII:

- Name: Liberty XXIII (23)
- Facility Infrastructure:
  - Control and Administration building
  - Electrical and Switchgear buildings (3)
  - Maintenance Shop
  - Truck Scale
  - Paved biomass storage area – 10 acres or more
  - Biomass Processing:
    - Grinder – Tub or Horizontal Grinder
    - Screens – Vibrating, Scalping or Trommel type
    - Blending – Trommel or equivalent
  - Biomass Reclaims and associated conveyors –Three (3)
  - Sewage Sludge Receiving Units and associated conveyors – Three (3)
  - Sewage Sludge Silos – Fifteen (15)
  - Three power islands, each including:
    - Bubbling Fluidized Bed Combustion unit
    - Non Catalytic Selective Reduction (NCSR)
    - Heat recovery Equipment
    - Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR)

- Dry Scrubber
- Baghouse
- Powder Activated Carbon Injection
- Hot Electrostatic Precipitator
- Induced Draft Fan
- Stack

- Cooling Tower
- Ammonia Storage Trailers or Tanks – Three
- Lime Silos – Six
- Activated Carbon Silos - Three
- Ash Silos – Six
- Possible Propane Tanks – Three
- Raw Water pond or tank
- Demineralized water storage tank

- Sewage Sludge Fuel:
  - Daily and Annual Firing Rates – 1,800 tons per day / 657,000 tons per year
  - Daily and Annual Delivery Limits – 2,250 tons per day / 677,625 tons per year
  - Storage Limit – 20,625 tons, all in silos
- Biomass Fuel:
  - Daily and Annual Firing Rate -750 tons per day / 273,750 tons per year
  - Daily and Annual Delivery Limits – 1,500 tons per day/ 303,750 tons per year
  - Storage Limit – 30,000 tons
- Transportation:
  - Maximum total round trips truck trips per day – 184 trips

- Seven (7) Days per Week, 24 hours per day
- Maximum round trip fuel truck trips per day – 157 trips
- Maximum round trip facility service trucks per day – 27 trips

Notice of Availability
Environmental Impact Report

Liberty XXIII Renewable Energy Power Plant Project
Proposed by Liberty XXIII Biofuels Power, LLC
California SCH # 2007081137
GPA #07-2501; ZC #08-3502; CUP #07-806 & DA #07-1501

To: All Interested Parties

The City of Banning, as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for Liberty XXIII Biofuels Power, LLC's (Liberty Energy) application to build and operate the Liberty XXIII Renewable Energy Power Plant Project (Proposed Project). The proposed project will require approval of several entitlement applications: General Plan Amendment #07-2501; Zone Change #08-3502; Conditional Use Permit #07-806 and Development Agreement #07-1501.

Liberty Energy proposes to construct a new biomass power plant, located at the eastern terminus of Westward Avenue in the City of Banning, Riverside County, California. The generating facility would include three power generation units (trains) to produce 15 MW (17.5 MW gross). Each unit would utilize a bubbling fluidized bed gasifier boiler to generate heat to produce high pressure steam. Condensing steam turbine generator units would be driven by the high pressure steam to produce 5.8 MW at 4,160 Volts. The units would be fueled with a mixture of biosolids and biomass, the amounts of which would vary depending on the fuel combination used. Fuel in the form of biosolids and biomass, as well as lime, chemicals, and other plant consumables and equipment would be delivered to the facility via tractor trailer trucks. Trucks would leave I-10 at the City of Banning Hargrave Street exit, travel south on Hargrave Street to Lincoln Street, and turn east on Lincoln Street to Hathaway Street. The trucks would turn south down Hathaway Street to Westward Avenue where they would turn east and follow Westward Avenue to the Proposed Project site. Trucks leaving the facility would follow this route in reverse back to I-10. A diesel generator would be used to allow the plant to "black start". Electricity generated by the Proposed Project would be delivered to the City of Banning's electrical system by tying into a City of Banning 34kV subtransmission line located north of Charles Street.

The Draft EIR details the Proposed Project, evaluates and describes the potential environmental impacts associated with the construction and operation of Liberty Energy's Proposed Project, identifies those impacts that could be significant, and presents mitigation measures, which, if adopted by the City of Banning or other responsible agencies, could avoid or minimize these impacts. The Draft EIR also evaluates alternatives to the Proposed Project, including the No Project Alternative, as required by CEQA. The Draft EIR was released for public review on June 6, 2008.

Written comments on the Draft EIR must be postmarked or received by fax or e-mail - jearhart@ci.banning.ca.us no later than July 21, 2008. Please be sure to include your name, address, and telephone number. Written comments on the Draft EIR should be sent to:

Jim Earhart
City of Banning
Electric Utility Department
176 E. Lincoln Street
Banning, CA 92220

Sludge

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Sludge is the residual semi-solid material left from industrial, water treatment, or wastewater treatment processes.

When fresh sewage or wastewater is added to a settling tank, approximately 50% of the suspended solid matter will settle out in about an hour and a half. This collection of solids is known as raw sludge or primary solids and is said to be "fresh" before anaerobic processes become active. Once anaerobic bacteria take over, the sludge will become putrescent in a short time and must be removed from the sedimentation tank before this happens.

This is commonly accomplished two ways. In an Imhoff tank, fresh sludge is passed through a slot to the lower story or digestion chamber where it is decomposed by anaerobic bacteria, resulting in liquefaction and reduced volume of the sludge. After digesting for an extended period, the result is called "digested" sludge and may be disposed of by drying and then landfilling.

Alternately, the fresh sludge may be continuously extracted from the tank mechanically and passed to separate sludge digestion tanks that operate at higher temperatures than the lower story of the Imhoff tank and, as a result, digest much more rapidly and efficiently.

Excess solids from biological processes such as activated sludge can be referred to as sludge, although more often called "biosolids," a public relations term that is increasingly used by water professionals in the United States. Industrial wastewater solids are also referred to as sludge, whether generated from biological or physical-chemical processes. Surface water plants also generate sludge made up of solids removed from the raw water.

Contents

Background

Biosolids, the treated form of sewage sludge, have been in use in UK and European agriculture for more than 80 years, though there is increasing pressure to stop the practice of land application. In the 1990s there was pressure in some European countries to ban the use of sewage sludge as a fertilizer.

Switzerland, Sweden, Austria, and others introduced a ban. Since the 1960s there has been cooperative activity with industry to reduce the inputs of persistent substances from factories. This has been very successful and, for example, the content of cadmium in sewage sludge in major European cities is now only 1% of what it was in 1970.

European legislation on dangerous substances has eliminated the production and marketing of some substances that have been of historic concern such as persistent organic micropollutants. The European Commission has said repeatedly that the "Directive on the protection of the environment, and in particular of the soil, when sewage sludge is used in agriculture" (86/278/EEC) has been very successful in that there have been no cases of adverse effect where it has been applied. The EC encourages the use of sewage sludge in agriculture because it conserves organic matter and completes nutrient cycles. Recycling of phosphate is regarded as especially important because the phosphate industry predicts that at the current rate of extraction the economic reserves will be exhausted in 100 or at most 250 years.

Treatment process

Sewage sludge is produced from the treatment of wastewater and consists of two basic forms — raw primary sludge (basically faecal material) and secondary sludge (a living 'culture' of organisms that help remove contaminants from wastewater before it is returned to rivers or the sea). The sludge is transformed into biosolids using a number of complex treatments such as digestion, thickening, dewatering, drying, and lime stabilisation. The more treated the wastewater the more toxic the sludge.

Benefits of treatment

The treatment process reduces the water content of the sludge. The basic principal is the cleaner the water is after the sludge is removed, the more toxic the sludge is going to be. This has been proven when random samplings of treated sludge are found to be filled with heavy metals, as well as chemical residues that are not removed by the treatment process. The treatment process does not remove 100% of the pathogens, and in many cases pathogen regrowth after spreading is significant.

Final product

Treated biosolids can be produced in cake, granular, pellet[1] (http://www.nefcobiosolids.com/) or liquid form and are spread over land before being incorporated into the soil or injected directly into the soil by specialist contractors.

Digested sewage sludge can be used as a soil conditioner, but may contain toxic materials. To be USDA-certified organic, sludge (biosolids) cannot be used. After the 1991 Congressional ban on ocean dumping, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) instituted a policy of digested sludge reuse on agricultural land. The EPA promoted this policy by presenting it as recycling. This practice has been highly controversial. EPA has no system to track and respond to health complaints related to exposure to sewage sludge, over three hundred and fifty people have reported sludge-based health incidents to the Cornell Waste Management Institute alone. Symptoms have characteristically included: asthma, weight loss, fatigue, eye irritations, flu-like symptoms, gastrointestinal complications, headaches, immunodeficiency problems, lesions, nausea, nosebleeds, rashes, respiratory complications, abscesses,

reproductive complications, cysts, and tumors. There have been at least three cases of human death attributed to EPA regulated sewage sludge, and thousands of people who have suffered health effects from the land application of sewage sludge.

Incineration

Incineration greatly reduces the volume of the sludge and eliminates biohazard concerns. Such systems requires multi-step cleaning of the exhaust gas. However, the ash is difficult to use due to its high heavy metal content.

See also

- Oil sludge
- By-product
- Suspended solids
- Biosolids

CITY OF BANNING

RICH CAMPBELL
Wastewater Div.
Supervisor

P.O. Box 998
Banning, CA 92220
(714) 922-1261-1262

requirements govern an existing facility which the
ly operating and therefore, is exempt from the
ornia Environmental Quality Act in accordance with
Section 15301 of Title 14, Chapter 3 of the California Administrative Code.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, The City of Banning, shall comply with the following:

A. Discharge Specifications

1. Representative samples of wastewater discharged to any holding or infiltration basin shall not contain constituents in excess of the following limits:

Constituent	Unit	30-Day Arithmetic Mean Discharge Rate	7-Day Arithmetic Mean Discharge Rate
20°C BOD_5	mg/l	30	45
Suspended Solids	mg/l	30	45
Settleable Matter	ml/l	0.3	0.5

2. Representative samples of wastewater contained in holding or infiltration basins shall not contain constituents in excess of the following limits:

Constituent	Unit	30-Day Arithmetic Mean Discharge Rate	7-Day Arithmetic Mean Discharge Rate	Maximum
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	450	500	-
Sulfate (So_4)	mg/l	70	80	-
Chloride (Cl)	mg/l	70	80	-
Fluoride (F)	mg/l	1.2	1.3	-
Cadmium (Cd)	mg/l	-	-	0.01
Chromium (Cr)	mg/l	-	-	0.05

Constituent	Unit	30-Day Arithmetic Mean Discharge Rate	7-Day Arithmetic Mean Discharge Rate	Maximum
Copper (Cu)	mg/l	-	-	1.0
Cyanide (Cn)	mg/l	-	-	0.01
Lead (Pb)	mg/l	-	-	0.05
Nickel (Ni)	mg/l	-	-	0.0134
Zinc (Zn)	mg/l	-	-	5.0
Arsenic (As)	mg/l	-	-	0.05
Silver (Ag)	mg/l	-	-	0.05
Tin (Sn)	mg/l	-	-	2.5
Barium (Ba)	mg/l	-	-	1.0
Iron (Fe)	mg/l	-	-	0.3
Manganese (Mn)	mg/l	-	-	0.05
Selenium (Se)	mg/l	-	-	0.01

3. The effluent values for pH shall remain within the limits of 6.0 to 9.0.

4. Infiltration facilities shall be maintained and operated so as to maximize infiltration and minimize the increase of salinity.

5. A freeboard depth of at least two feet shall be maintained in each infiltration basin.

6. There shall be no surface flow of sewage away from the designated disposal areas.

B. Provisions

1. Neither the treatment nor the discharge of wastes shall cause a pollution or a nuisance, as defined in Division 7 of the California Water Code.

2. Adequate protective works shall be provided to assure that a flood which would be expected to occur on a frequency of once in a 100-year period, would not erode or otherwise render portions of the treatment and discharge facilities inoperable.

3. This Order supersedes this Board's Order No. 74-108.

4. This Order includes the attached "Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 87-73", and future revisions thereto, as specified by the Executive Officer.

5. Facilities shall be available to keep the plant in operation in the event of commercial power failure.

6. The discharger's wastewater treatment plant shall be supervised and operated by persons possessing certification of appropriate grade pursuant to Chapter 3, Subchapter 14, Title 23 California Administrative Code.

7. Prior to any reclamation use of wastewater, the city of Banning shall submit an updated report of waste discharge, receive waste discharge requirements therefor, and provide facilities needed to comply with the requirements.

I, Arthur Swajian, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, on September 23, 1987.

Arthur Swajian
Executive Officer

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. 87-73
FOR
CITY OF BANNING
Riverside County

Location of Discharge: Section 14, T3S, R1E, SBB&M

EFFLUENT MONITORING

Wastewater discharged from the treatment facilities shall be monitored at the outlet from the final clarifier for the following:

Constituent	Unit	Type of Sample	Sampling Frequency
20°C BOD_5	mg/l	24-Hr. Composite	Weekly
Suspended Solids	mg/l	24-Hr. Composite	Weekly
Settleable Matter	ml/l	Grab at Peak Flow	Daily
Flow (total plant effluent)	MGD	Flow measurement	Daily (1)
pH	pH Units	Grab at Peak Flow	Daily

Wastewater contained in holding and infiltration basins shall be monitored for the following: (The sample shall be collected from the receiving infiltration basin at the opposite side from the discharge pipe).

Constituent	Unit	Type of Sample	Sampling Frequency
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly
Sulfate (So_4)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly
Chloride (Cl)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly
Fluoride (F)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly
Cadmium (Cd)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly
Chromium (Cr)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly
Copper (Cu)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly
Cyanide (CN)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly
Lead (Pb)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly
Nickel (Ni)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly
Zinc (Zn)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly
Arsenic (As)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly
Silver (Ag)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly
Tin (Sn)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly
Barium (Ba)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly
Iron (Fe)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly
Manganese (Mn)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly
Selenium (Se)	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly

(1) Reported for each day with average monthly flow calculated.

SLUDGE MONITORING

Sludge contained in drying beds shall be monitored for the following:

Constituent	Unit	Type of Sample	Sampling Frequency
Cadmium (Cd)	mg/kg	Composite	Quarterly
Chromium (Cr)	mg/kg	Composite	Quarterly
Copper (Cu)	mg/kg	Composite	Quarterly
Cyanide (CN)	mg/kg	Composite	Quarterly
Lead (Pb)	mg/kg	Composite	Quarterly
Nickel (Ni)	mg/kg	Composite	Quarterly
Zinc (Zn)	mg/kg	Composite	Quarterly
Arsenic (As)	mg/kg	Composite	Quarterly
Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBS)	mg/kg	Composite	Quarterly
Total Nitrogen	Percent	Composite	Quarterly
Total Solids	Percent	Composite	Quarterly
pH	Standard Units	Composite	Quarterly

REPORTING

Monitoring reports shall be submitted to the Regional Board as follows:

Quarterly reports - by January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15 of each year.

Daily and Weekly data - reported monthly by the 15th day of the following month.

The discharger shall implement the above monitoring program within 30 days of the effective date of this Order.

Forward monitoring reports to:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region
73-271 Hwy. 111, Suite 21
Palm Desert, CA 92260

ORDERED BY William Leuzinger
Executive Officer

September 23, 1987
Date

Copy of original 2 page application accepted by the City of Banning. Date? Signature?

CITY OF BANNING
Community Development Department
99 East Ramsey Street
Banning, CA 92220
(951)922-3125

Non-Residential Project Summary Table Part 2

Assessor's Parcel No(s):
532-180-032 (10.33 Acres) & 532-180-038 (Sub 16)

Project Location: SE Corner of City Bound By Smith Creek (S & E), Westward (Porter) (W) Adjacent Parcels (W)

Staff Use Only
File No:

General Plan Designation:
Not Known Believed Industrial (032) Residential (038)

Environmental Determination:
Reference:

Zoning District:
—

Planner Initials: | Date:

PROJECT AREA

Gross (Including area to centerline of abutting streets)	~ 20	Acres
Net (Exclusive of dedication for major external and secondary streets)	~ 20	Acres

AREA DISTRIBUTION (Based on Net Area)

	Acres/Sq. Ft.	% of Net Area
Building Coverage	~ 100,000 sq ft.	15 %
Landscape Coverage (including Bermins)	~ 200,000 sq ft.	30 %
Parking Area (including driveways, loading areas, and spaces)	26 Spaces	

FLOOR AREA DISTRIBUTION BY PROPOSED USE (Based on Net Area)

Area of Building Pad	No. Of Stories	Gross Floor Area (sq. ft.)	Proposed Use
Power Island (Each)	6-8	27,500 sq ft. Each	Power Islands (x3)
Administration/Control	1	1,100 sq ft.	Office
Maintenance/Shop	1	900 sq ft.	Shop
Switchgear	1	700 sq. ft.	Operations/Switchgear
Biomass Storage Conservation Panel	1.5 (Outdoor Storage)	8 Acres	Biomass Storage

PARKING (Calculate Each Use Within a Building Separately)

Type of Use	Parking Ratio	# Spaces Required	# Spaces Provided
Total Site Parking - Vehicle/Non Truck/ 26 spaces for Administration Building	—		26
TOTALS			

CITY OF BANNING
Community Development Department
99 East Ramsey Street
Banning, CA 92220
(951)922-3125

UNIFORM APPLICATION PART 3 Contact Information

The following information must be completed and submitted with new applications: (Print or Type all information entered)

Project Location:
APN 532-180-034 & APN 532-180-038 (sub 16)

Staff Use Only
File No:
Related Files

Applicant:
LIBERTY SKIII BIOFUELS POWER LLC

Contact Person:
WILSON NOLAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Address, City, Zip:
1601 SKYWAY DRIVE #205 BAKERSFIELD CA 93308

Phone:	*Fax:*	*E-mail Address:*
661-619-7320	775-367-2731	WNOLAN@MCCARTHYFARMS.COM

Additional Contact Person: *(Please Specify Name, Company, Title)*
MICHAEL BRACKEN

Address, City, Zip:
73-845 HIGHWAY 111, SUITE 202 PALM DESERT CA 92260

Phone:	*Fax:*	*E-mail Address:*
760-272-9136	760-346-8887	MKBRACKEN@YAHOO.COM

Architect:
THE ART OFFICE - PHIL SMITH JR.

Address, City, Zip:
83-810 VIA DEL CIRCLE #101 INDIO CA 92201

Phone:	*Fax:*	*E-mail Address:*
760-342-4111	760-342-4441	PHIL@THEARTOFFICE.COM

Civil Engineer: HERNANDEZ, KADONE AND ASSOCIATES *Contact Person:* ANNE HERNANDEZ

Address, City, Zip:
234 EAST DRAKE DRIVE SAN BERNARDINO CA 92408

Phone:	*Fax:*	*E-mail Address:*
909-884-3222	909-383-1577	ANNE@HKA GROUP.COM

Land Surveyor: *Contact Person:*
SAME AS CIVIL

Address, City, Zip:

Phone:	*Fax:*	*E-mail Address:*

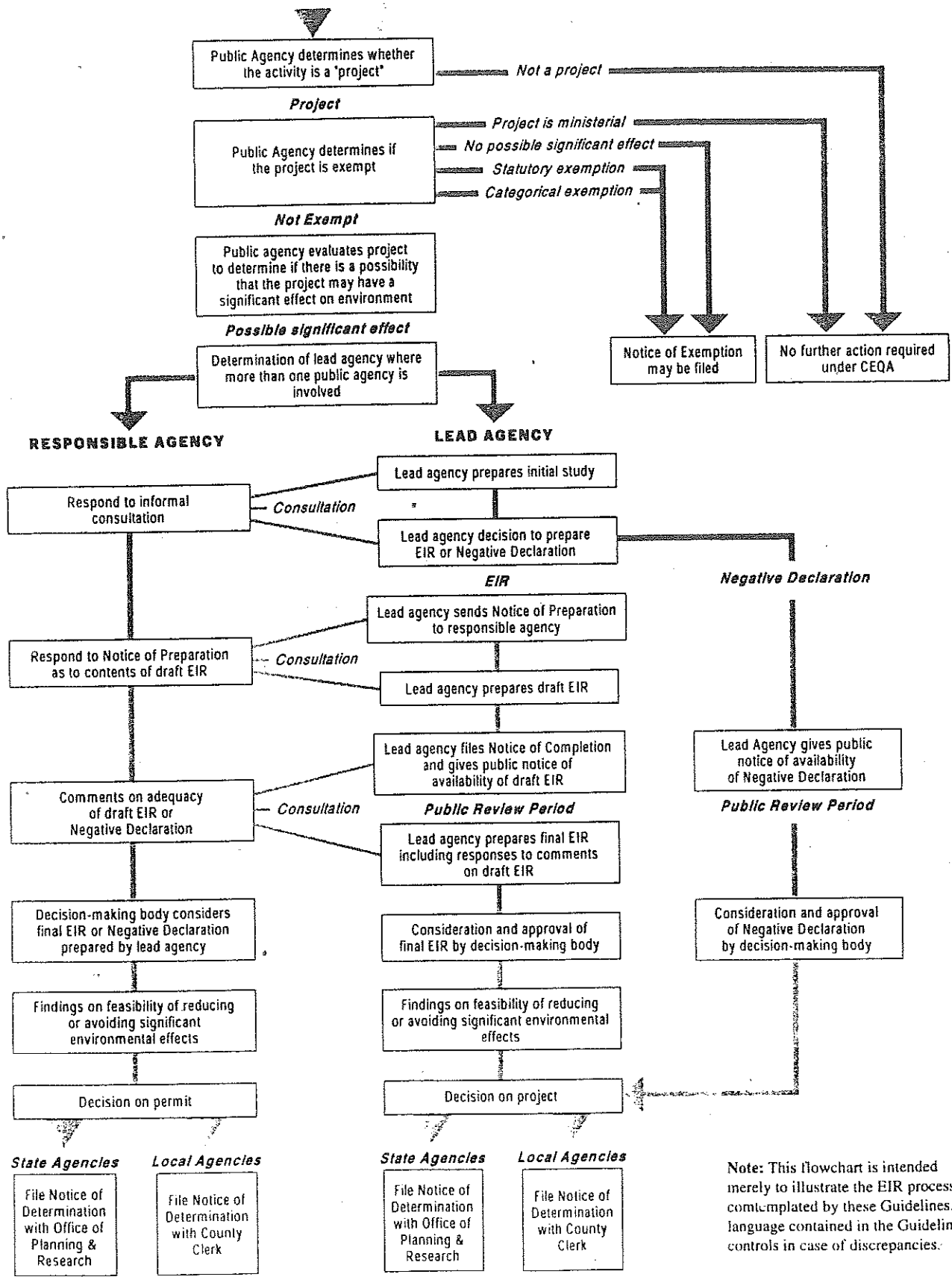
Landscape Architect: *Contact Person:*
TO BE DETERMINED

Address, City, Zip:

Phone:	*Fax:*	*E-mail Address:*

Appendix A

CEQA PROCESS FLOW CHART



Note: This flowchart is intended merely to illustrate the EIR process contemplated by these Guidelines. The language contained in the Guidelines controls in case of discrepancies.

Although an old copy, this looks more like a formal application. RGS + CKJ

CITY OF BANNING

1434 West Ramsey Street • P.O. Box 998
Banning, California 92220
Telephone (714) 922-1225

CUP1989-06

OFFICE OF
PLANNING

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SHEET
(To Be Completed By Applicant)

RECEIVED
SEP 18 1989
CITY OF BANNING
PERMIT CENTER

Please Print or Type all Information

1. Name, address, and telephone number of applicant: Wilson E. Nolan, Inc., P.O. Box 18872, Oklahoma City, OK 73154 (405) 557-0100

2. Name, address, and telephone number of owner: Same

3. Name, address, and telephone number of person to be contacted concerning this project: Wilson Nolan, 1200 Nevada St., Redlands, CA. (714) 798-8717

4. Assessors Parcel Number: 532-180-034

5. Indicate type(s) of permit applications for the project to which this form pertains: Unclassified Use Permit

6. List and describe any other related permits and other public approvals required for this project, including those required by City, Regional, State and Federal Agencies: (1) Inclusion in county waste management plan (2) Waste management board (Legal Enforcement Agency-Health Department) (3) Regional Water Quality Control Board.

7. Existing zone district: AP-5

8. Proposed use of site (project for which this form is filed): Sludge processing (drying & composting) and co-composting of clean green waste (tree trimmings) for beneficial reuse.

9. Site size: A. Property 10.33 Acres

B. Project 9.97 Acres

10. Square footage: Not Applicable (no structures are planned)

11. Number of floors of construction: Not Applicable

12. Amount of off-street parking provided: Five spaces for employees

13. Proposed scheduling: Processing normally during daylight hours. Transportation will be continuous.

14. Associated projects: Pima Gro Systems, Inc. sludge transportation & reuse. Will haul sludge and compost.

15. Anticipated incremental development (phases): None Planned.

16. Attach plans (see Site Plan Requirement Sheet).

On a separate sheet of paper answer questions 17-21:

17. If residential, include the number of units, schedule of unit sizes, or sales prices or rents, and type of household size expected.

18. If commercial, indicate the type, (whether neighborhood, city or regionally oriented), square footage of sales area, and loading facilities.

19. If industrial, indicate type, estimated employment per shift and loading facilities.

20. If institutional, indicate the major function, estimated employment per shift, estimated occupancy, loading facilities, and community benefits to be derived from the project.

21. If the project involves a variance, conditional use or rezoning application, state this and indicate clearly why the application is required.

Are the following items applicable to the project or its effects? Discuss below all items checked yes (attach additional sheets as necessary).

YES	NO	
	X	22. Change in existing features of any bays, tidelands, beaches, lakes or hills, or substantial alteration of ground contours.
	X	23. Change in scenic views or vistas from existing residential areas or public lands or roads.
	X	24. Change in pattern, scale or character or general area of project.
X		25. Significant amounts of solid waste or litter.

X		26.	Change in dust, ash, smoke, fumes or odors in vicinity.
	X	27.	Change in ocean, bay, lake, stream or ground water quality or quantity, or alteration of existing drainage patterns.
X		28.	Substantial change in existing noise or vibration levels in the vicinity.
	X	29.	Site on filled land or on slope of 10 percent or more.
	X	30.	Use of disposal of potentially hazardous materials, such as toxic substances, flammable or explosives.
	X	31.	Substantial change in demand of municipal services (police, fire, water, sewage, etc.).
	X	32.	Substantial increase in fossil fuel consumption (electricity, oil, natural gas, etc.).
X		33.	Relationship to a larger project or series of projects.
X		34.	Has a prior environmental impact report been prepared for a program, plan policy, or ordinance consistent with this project.
	X	35.	If you answered yes to the previous question, may this project cause significant effects on the environment,ent that were not examined in the prior EIR?

NO!

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

On a separate sheet of paper answer questions 36 and 37.

36. Describe the project site as it exists before the project, including information on topography, soil stability, plants and animals, and any cultural, historical or scenic aspects. Describe any existing structures on the site, and the use of the structures. Attach photographs of the site (snapshots or polaroid are acceptable).

37. Describe the surrounding properties, including information on plants and animals and any cultural, historical or scenic aspects. Indicate type of land use (residential, commercial, etc.).

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this initial evaluation to the best of my ability, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

DATE: 9/15/89

Signature Owner/Applicant

WILSON E. NOLAN, Owner

Print Name and Title

*Agent of owner shall attache a letter of authorization from the legal owner.

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SHEET

NARRATIVE RESPONSE

ANSWERS TO ITEMS 17 THROUGH 21

17. Not Applicable

18. Not Applicable

19. An industrial operation for processing municipal wastewater sludge through recycling by drying and composting. The facility is expected to employ five people per shift in the area. Truck loading will be accomplished in the same manner as other bulk handling operations, such as sand or gravel, through the use of semi trailer, end dump, trucks for unloading and utilizing tractor loaders for loading and moving material within the facility.

20. Although the operation is not an institutional facility as such, a company, such as Pima Gro Systems, Inc., located within the city provides benefits associated with recycling and waste reduction. The facility can readily accept sludge and clean green waste from the City of Banning should it become attractive to the city to initiate such a program.

21. This application requires an unclassified use permit. This application is required because sludge processing and composting are not included in any specific activities normally permitted within existing zoning classes.

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SHEET

NARRATIVE RESPONSE

Continued

EXPLANATIONS TO APPLICABLE ITEMS 22 THROUGH 35

25. YES.

The entire operation is based on the concept of beneficial reuse of municipal sewage sludge, which has been traditionally landfilled. The project will result in a net decrease in waste. The quantities of waste to be discarded from the site is expected to range from negligible to none. Litter from transportation is not expected for the material is hauled in tarpaulin covered, gasketed, semi trailer trucks. Litter could be generated from the transportation of clean, green, waste should it involve private landscape contractors hauling tree trimmings to the site. This can be controlled by requiring tarpaulin covered loads for the transportation of all materials delivered to the site should litter become a problem.

26. YES.

Composting operations generate a potential for both odors and dust. The site has been strategically located so as not to be close to densely populated and residential areas in order to reduce odor impacts. Odors can be controlled by maintaining aerobic conditions through timing the frequency of pile turnovers, thereby achieving maximum aeration and evaporation during the composting operations. The drying operations will be similar to sludge drying operations already being conducted at the City of Banning wastewater plant just west of the site. There is the option of suspending drying operations during cold weather to control odors.

Dust emissions will be mitigated through the use of wind barriers, windrow and pile orientation, and the limitation of stockpiling the stored material to quantities which limit the source of fugitive emissions.

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SHEET

NARRATIVE RESPONSE

Continued

EXPLANATIONS TO APPLICABLE ITEMS 22 THROUGH 35 (cont'd)

28. YES.

The use of tractor loaders, compost turning equipment, and trucks can be expected to create noises. It is, however, expected that the impacts of this will be minimal since it is located in and zoned for heavy industry. The use of equipment with appropriate muffling to manufacturers standards and limiting speeds of trucks on city streets will be used to mitigate the impacts of noise.

33. YES.

This operation will be used to compliment the sludge transportation and reuse activities of Pima Gro Systems, Inc., which transports and reuses sludge and compost on agricultural land in Arizona and California.

34. YES.

An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for The City of Los Angeles by Engineering Science. This is not regarded to be consistent with this project because it involves initiation of hauling, processing and reuse of substantially larger quantities of sludge in a number of areas. This project involves processing sludge which is already transported through the area for reuse. This difference is expected to show environmental benefits through reduced transportation.

36. The project site consists of 10.33 acres located on the floor of the San Gorgonio Pass which slopes gently to the East. The site is bounded by Smith Creek on the east with the Riverside County Line contiguous with the sites east boundary. Adjacent to Smith Creek on the East, the San Jacinto Mountains rise sharply, creating a natural wind break. The City of Banning sewer plant is located West of the site and an old closed landfill is located adjacent to the site on the South. An open area of privately owned land (also zoned AP-5) lies immediately to the North with the Banning airport located to the North of this property.

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SHEET

NARRATIVE RESPONSE

Continued

EXPLANATIONS TO APPLICABLE ITEMS 22 THROUGH 35 (cont'd)

The site is within the area described as vegetated with disturbed grassland in figure 7 of the GENERAL PLAN CITY OF BANNING, May, 1986.

Wildlife on the site is limited to rodents, rabbits and birds. No endangered species are known to inhabit the site. A Northwest aerial oblique photograph of the site is provided in the initial (page 7) section of this application.

37. The area North of the project site is vacant land which is zoned AP-5 for heavy industry. The Banning airport is North of the vacant land with additional vacant land and Interstate 10 Highway is North of the airport. The Banning Sewage Treatment Plant is located on the West with additional industrial land adjoining further west. The South is bordered by an area which was formerly used for solid waste disposal. This disposal site has been closed and is vacant land bordered by Smith Creek on the East. The physical characteristics of the land on all three sides are similar to the site in that they gently slope to the East. Remaining vegetation is similar and the same wildlife are indigenous to all the areas.

Riverside County adjoins the property on the East with a steep rise of the San Jacinto Mountains being the topographic form of the land on the East. The portion of the Morongo Reservation which lies Northeast of the site slopes gently to the East and has similar vegetation and wildlife to other San Gorgonio Floor areas adjoining the site. This area is all open space at this time.

References:

Campbell, Rich, CITY OF BANNING, personal conversation, July, 1989.
CITY OF BANNING, GENERAL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, May 13, 1986.
Engineering-Science, Inc., OFFSITE SLUDGE TRANSPORTATION AND DISPOSAL PROGRAM FINAL EIR, 1989, California State Clearinghouse No. 88021018