

## Air District—Cal/EPA Compost Emissions Work Group

May 28, 2008

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### Work Group Goals

- Support Air District Compost VOC Rule Development
- Resolve potential conflict between District Rules and AB 32 Scoping Plan GHG reduction goals

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### Need for VOC Rule Development

- San Joaquin Valley is classified as “extreme” for the federal 8-hr ozone standard.
  - SJV APCD needs a 25 percent reduction in VOC emissions (111 tons per day)
  - 75 percent NOx reductions required to achieve attainment (160 tons per day, summer)
  - SJV APCD must adopt measures in the 2007 Ozone Plan by 2012

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### Extreme Classification

- Triggers additional permitting and pollution control requirements
  - Defines a major source as one with potential emissions of ozone precursors that meet or exceed 10 tons per year
  - These sources will need Title V permits
  - Affects New Source Review (NSR) and Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) for major sources

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### AB 32 Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006

- Achieve a 25 percent reduction in GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020
- Achieve an 80 percent reduction in GHG emissions by 2050
- Waste management is an important GHG sector in the AB 32 Scoping Plan

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### Organics Diversion

- Current organics diversion has reduced an estimated 3 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>E
- Increased diversion of organics (50 percent) is included in the Scoping Plan, and may reduce emissions by 1.5 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>E by 2020

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## Problem

- How do we maintain and expand existing compost operations and site new compost operations without impacting local air quality?
  - More than half of the State's compost operations occur in areas that are in non-attainment status for the federal 8-hour ozone standard
  - Increased organics diversion will likely occur in these same areas

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## Solutions

- Ensure that estimates of VOC emissions potential are scientifically defensible
  - Emissions factor is the best available
  - Inventory estimates are reasonable
  - Emissions reductions are achievable
- Identify and promote mitigation measures that will not increase GHG emissions
- Increase financial viability of the industry through incentive financing or offset credits (CIWMB Life Cycle Analysis)

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## Timing is Everything

- VOC rule development is underway (e.g., SJV APCD 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2009)
- AB 32 Scoping Plan will be published in June
- CIWMB Life Cycle Analysis due out in Spring 2009

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**Proposed Topic—  
Rule Development**

- Summarize District VOC rule development to-date
- Review the VOC emissions factor for green waste composting
  - review the SJV AQMD's emissions study evaluation, or
  - create a Work Group summary of the VOC emissions analysis to-date.

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**Proposed Topic—  
Composting Inventory**

- Overview of composting operations in the State and the relationship to AB32.
- Composting facility inventory methods and the SWIS database.

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**Proposed Topic—  
Composting Protocols**

- Compost best management practices for reducing VOC emissions.
- Verification and testing of VOC emissions reductions.
- Development of a VOC “emissions calculator” based on individual practices within a facility.

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## Future Meetings

- Work group suggestions for topics
- Composition of work group
  - Include industry experts during BMP discussions
- Special presentations
  - VOC speciation issues
  - CIWMB LCA
- Website and Listserv

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