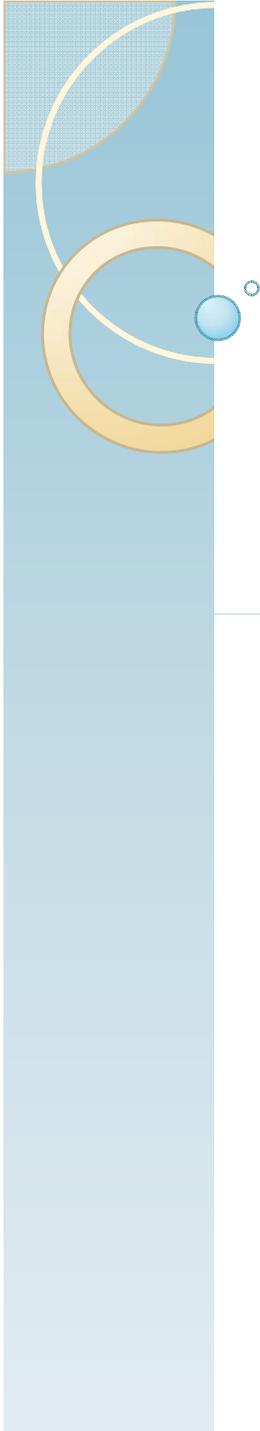




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Coordination with Other Agencies Water Quality and Composting Facilities

Frederick S. Moss

State Water Board/CIWMB

12th Annual LEA/CIWMB, Tire Enforcement and Technical
Training Series
Sacramento, October 19-22, 2009

Objectives: Waste Diversion



- Reduce organics disposal 50% by 2020
- Need more capacity - 15 million tons/year
- Additional compost facilities

Objectives: Water Quality



- Ensure there is no discharge to surface water bodies – or a federal permit is required
- Impacts to groundwater shall not exceed the water quality objectives established in the Regional Water Quality Control Boards' basin plans

Sample Constituents of Concern in Leachate and Runoff at Composting Facilities

- Salts (TDS,EC)
- Nutrients (Nitrates)
- Pathogens (E.coli)
- Metals (Fe,Cu, Mn, Ni, Zn,Al,As)





Legal Requirements

- Dischargers of waste that could pose a threat to water quality must submit a report of waste discharge
- In response, Regional Boards may issue WDRs or waive WDRs

Legal Requirements



- Feedstocks, additives, amendments, and unfinished compost are considered “waste discharge to land”
- Leachate and runoff data show the discharge may be a “designated waste” and Title 27 requirements would apply

Legal Requirements



- Larger composting facilities have WDRs
- Green waste composting conditional waiver of WDRs in effect 1994 to 2003
- SB 390 (WC Section 13269) requires new waivers of WDRs to have:
 - Conditions
 - Monitoring of conditions
 - 5-year review

Water Board Statewide Waiver Concept



- Not for composting facilities requiring individual WDRs
- By submitting a report of waste discharge composting facilities comply with law
- Flexible framework
- Applicable to variety of composting facilities
- Streamlined issuance if facility meets prescriptive requirements

Water Board Statewide Waiver Concept



- Not a waiver from standards or meeting basin water quality objectives

- Tiered concept
- Water quality protection measures based on composting materials and site conditions (rainfall, depth to water..)

Statewide Waiver Development and Interagency Coordination



- Joint public workshop August 2009 to discuss concept of Statewide Conditional Waiver of Title 27 WDRs
- Water Board/CIWMB interagency meetings
- Water Board workgroup
- Stakeholder input
- Regulatory workshops
- State Board consideration of Statewide Waiver and Final CEQA Document

Thank You!

