Organics Management to Reduce Methane and Combat Climate Change Workgroup

Meeting #8

November 4, 2021

Housekeeping

- Please mute your lines if not speaking
- If you are having technical difficulties, chat Sam Kwok
- Presentation portion of today's meeting is being recorded
- All our presenters will present and then we will have time for Q&A
- Please raise your hand by clicking on the “participants” button and clicking on the hand by your name if you have a question
  - I will call on people
- You can also put questions in the chat at anytime and we will answer them during the Q&A portion

Meeting #8 Agenda

Welcome and Agenda Overview
Continue **Topic #5 Policy Discussion: Permitting/Air/Water/Odors/Monitoring**
Policy 1: Add organics management facilities to land use laws • Workgroup Member Input: Strengths & Concerns/Issues, followed by Observer Input
Policy 2: Create incentives for composting/anaerobic digestion and similar facilities • Workgroup Member Input: Strengths & Concerns/Issues, followed by Observer Input
Policy 3: Add capacity to permit coordination function • Workgroup Member Input: Strengths & Concerns/Issues, followed by Observer Input
Policy 4: Change air permitting structure • Workgroup Member Input: Strengths & Concerns/Issues, followed by Observer Input
Policy 5: Increase training requirements (+funding for agencies) • Workgroup Member Input: Strengths & Concerns/Issues, followed by Observer Input
Policy 6: Update measurement standards • Workgroup Member Input: Strengths & Concerns/Issues, followed by Observer Input
Presentations: Topic #6 Background: Local governments/UTC/Infrastructure/New technologies, Geographic issues/Apple maggot/Localized/Rail • **Peter Moulton, Washington State Department of Commerce (re anaerobic digest)** • **Paul Jewell, Washington State Association of Counties** • **Amy Clow, Washington State Department of Agriculture (re apple maggots)** • Q&A (Workgroup Members & Observers)
Next Steps and Adjourn

Work Group Structure and Role

Purpose: Improve organics management system in Washington is order to reduce methane and combat climate change.

Role: Using California SB1383 Law as a starting point, gather stakeholder input to inform policy tailored for Washington.

Work Group Structure

- Made up of a diverse set of stakeholder organizations
- Each organization gets one seat at the table
- Others can join as observers (there will be a spot on each agenda for observers to comment or ask a question)
- Two meetings per month through end of year
- Meeting content will include:
  - Presentations of background info
  - Discussion of topics included in possible legislation:
    - If there is agreement on a topic, that will be noted
    - If there is not agreement, issues/concerns will be identified
- Copies of information from each meeting will be posted at: organicsworkgroup.org/

Agenda Committee

- Local Gov't: Andy Smith
- Environmental: Heather Trim
- Waste Management: Brad Lovaas
- Composter: Majken Ryherd
- Any other interested sectors?

Topics (revised per agenda committee input)

1. Food waste source reduction/diversion/rescue/ rescue groups (8/5 & 8/19)
2. Sources (Yard/Food/Wood/ Dairies/Ag) & Sectors (Business/ Commercial/Industrial sources/Multi-family/single family) (8/19 & 9/16)
3. Financials/end-markets/ purchasing, Soil health/ nitrogen cycling, Regenerative agriculture (9/16 & 10/7)
4. Energy generation/Credits/ Carbon sequestration/Nutrient recovery/Incentives Equity (10/7 & 10/21)
5. Permitting/Air/Water/Odors/Monit oring (include siting and current facilities) (10/21 & 11/4)
6. Local governments/UTC (funding, financing, collection, rates, etc., collection approaches, embedded rates; disposal rates/tipping fees; infrastructure/new technologies, geographic issues/Apple maggot/Localized/Rail (11/4 & 11/18)
7. Education/Generator behavior change/Source reduction/ Technical assistance/ Contamination/Labeling (11/18 & 12/2)
9. Targets/Performance standards and reporting (12/2) & Legislation
10. Legislation (12/16 & 1/6)

Topic #5 Policy Discussion

Policy 1. Add organics management facilities to land use laws

- Proactively define zoning for the development of organic materials management facilities in the appropriate RCW Chapters:
  - Chapter 35.63 RCW, a planning enabling act for cities and towns
  - Chapter 35A.63 RCW, a planning enabling act for optional municipal code cities
  - Chapter 36.70 RCW, the County and Regional Planning Enabling Act
  - Chapter 36.70A RCW, the Growth Management Act

- Range (could pick one or all)
  - Define organic material facilities as "**essential public facilities**" and standardize zoning rules for them.
  - Could require certain jurisdictions or all jurisdictions to **work together to identify composting facility** sites in the region.
  - Could require certain jurisdictions or all jurisdictions to **consider** composting uses in their jurisdiction **comprehensive plans and development regulations.**
  - Could require certain jurisdictions or all jurisdictions to **allow** composting uses in their jurisdiction **comprehensive plans and development regulations**
    - Permitted or conditional uses? Certain zones, such industrial zones, or more zones?
  - **Funding** would be helpful, could be funded through general planning support or specific funding

- Possibly add language to SEPA (process, appeals, barriers)

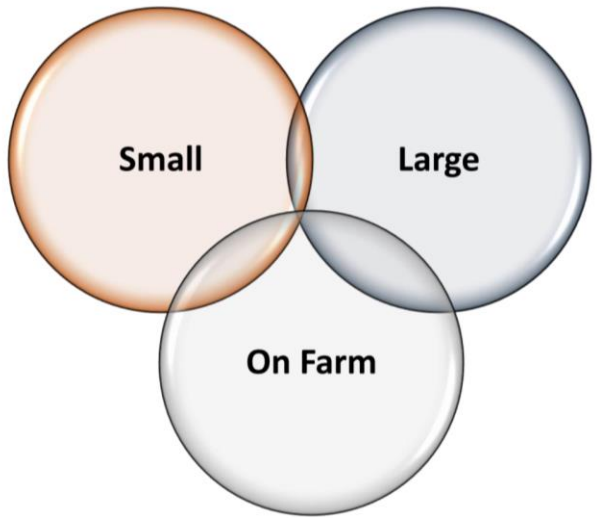
US Composting Council®

DRAFT

Model Composting Ordinance

for Community-Commercial-On Farm compost sites

A tool for local governing authorities to assist in determining appropriate regulations for composting



https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xIpCstWHCEmhW6UjJfegF0p-fakLorwq/view

Input: Policy 1 – Add organics management facilities to land use laws

Strengths/Concerns/Issues/Questions

Policy 2. Create incentives for composting/anaerobic digestion and similar facilities

- The State of Washington Department of Commerce will be identifying the amount of greenhouse gases various planning measures will reduce.
  - Could include zoning for composting and other organic management facilities on that list
  - No legislation would be required

- Other incentives such as bonus points for state grants and loans

Input: Policy 2 – Create incentive for composting/anaerobic digestion and similar facilities

Strengths/Concerns/Issues/Questions

Policy 3. Add capacity to permit coordination function

- Add a **permit coordinator** or systemize process to facilitate coordination.
  - Possibly similar to (but better than) JARPA or Chapter 80.50 RCW (Energy facility siting)

- Add **air permit position** (with Ecology solid waste or air?) to add statewide specialization and more staff resources around composting/organics and air permitting, even though most air permitting is delegated to local air agencies.

Input: Policy 3 – Add capacity to permit coordination function

Strengths/Concerns/Issues/Questions

Policy 4: Change the air permitting structure

- **Change the air permitting structure** from a notice of construction to another permitting structure (for organics at least).
  - A general permit that is based more on operations plan approval or a permit with a renewal requirement would help the regulators mitigate risk and allow more flexibility and innovation for organics managers.

Input: Policy 4 – Change air permitting structure

Strengths/Concerns/Issues/Questions

Policy 5. Increase training requirements (+funding for agencies)

- **Increase (training) requirements** for acquiring and maintaining a certificate of completion on compost facility operation by increasing training hours and hands-on experience provided by the Washington Organic Recycling Council (WORC) and other organizations.
  - Require facilities to have the **number of trained operators** that have successfully completed either WORC (COTC) or CREF (CFOT) course in proportion to facility throughput.
  - Require managers and lead operators at large facilities to take **periodic trainings** the same manner as wastewater treatment facilities operators.
    - CREF has effort underway to certify compost managers and professionals (https://certificationsuscc.org/). SWANA offers related training courses. CREF is developing an on-line training programs to make training less disruptive and more affordable than the current 5-day model.

- **Increase funding** for professional training and monitoring equipment at regulatory agencies.

Input: Policy 5 – Increase training requirements (+funding for agencies)

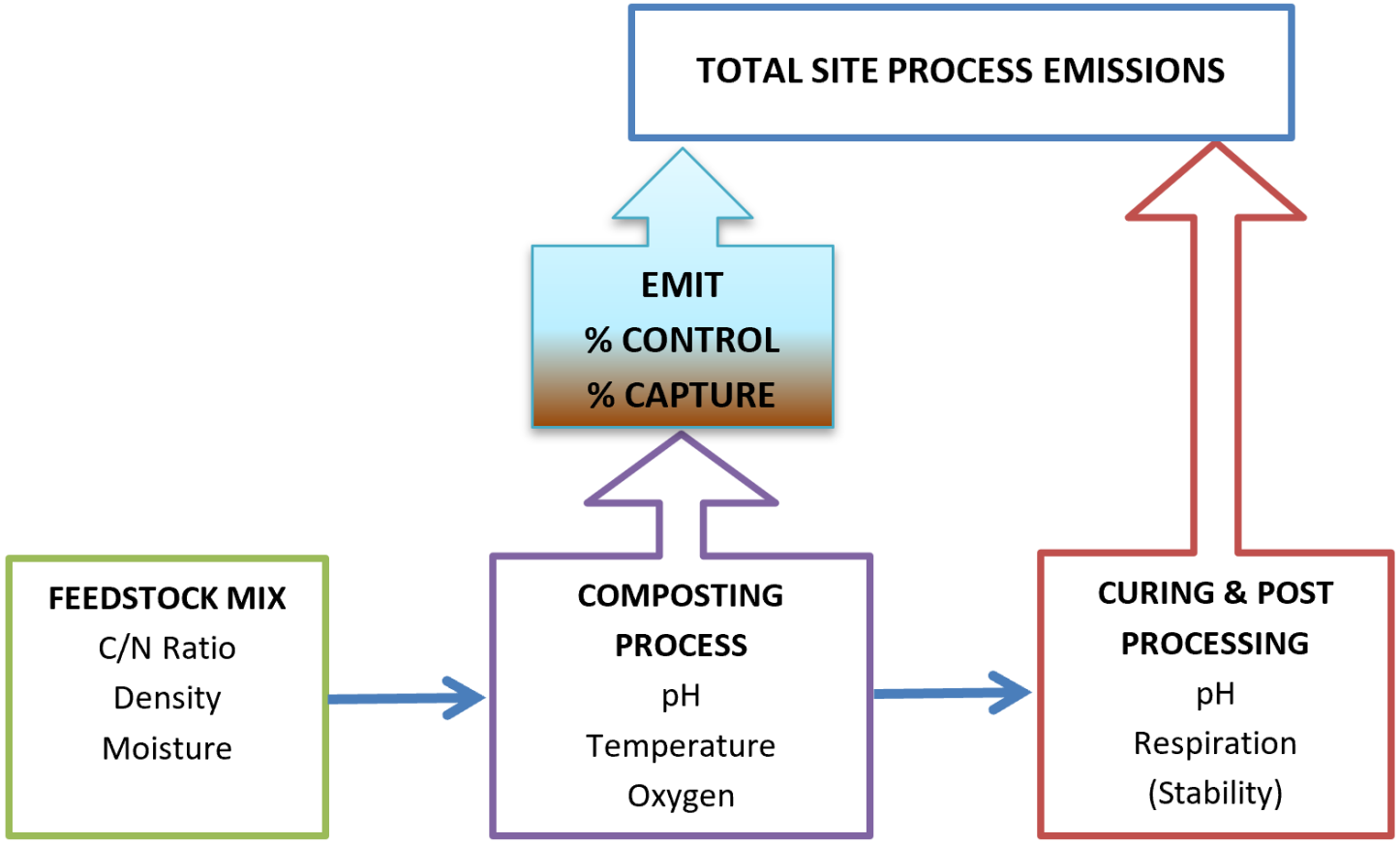
Strengths/Concerns/Issues/Questions

Policy 6. Update measurement standards

- Establish **standards for VOC emissions** testing methods required for composting operations to establish compliance with air quality permitting requirements.
  - The standard SCAQMD 25.3 source test method is now out of date (accuracy issues) and costly ($40-100K, depending on size of facility). New less expensive methods, that have demonstrated to similar or better accuracy, need to be promoted and standardized.
  - If a facility is following Best Management Practices (BMPs), these tests may be unnecessary.
  - Require source testing only for facilities with size and likely Emission Factors, based measured **key performance indicators (KPIs),** that indicate a regulatorily significant level of VOC emissions (see next slide).

- Define standardized **measurement methods for odors** emitted by organic waste management facilities.

Tim O'Neill



	Feedstock Mix KPI's			Process KPI's			Final KPI's	
	C/N	Density	%MC	pH	Temp	Oxygen	pH	Solvita
Low BMP	<22	>950 lb/cy	>63%	<5.5	>160 F	<12%	<6.5	<6
Average BMP	22-25	900 - 950	60 - 63%	5.5 - 6.5	150 - 160	12-16%	6.5-7	6
High BMP	>25	<900	55 - 60%	>6.5	>150F	>17%	>7	≥7

Solvita is soil respiration in fresh soil samples

Simplified Flow Chart for a Model Rule from a Process Perspective

Tim O'Neill

Permittee		Air Quality Agency
Permit Application • Feedstock Characterization • Volume • Process Design • Proposed Emission Factor	→	Engineering & Process Design Review • Aeration System • Process Control • Capture & Control Efficiencies (Requires process knowledge)
Respond and Adjust	←	Accept Application
BMP Assurance Plan • Define process conditions necessary for Emission Factors • Define continuous and intermittent QA/QC practices	→	Review/Approve BMP Assurance Plan (Requires process knowledge)
		Issue ATC / PTO
Submit Facility Start-up QC Report	→	Review
Annual Report on BMP Compliance	→	Annual Review

Input: Policy 6 – Update measurement standards

Strengths/Concerns/Issues/Questions

Local governments/UTC (funding, financing, collection, rates, etc., collection approaches, embedded rates; disposal rates/tipping fees) Infrastructure/New technologies, Geographic issues/Apple maggot/Localized/Rail Presentations