

BUREAU OF SANITATION'S RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT WINS NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES 2010 AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Contact: Lauren M. Skinner
(213) 978-0327; (213) 978-0333
Email: Lauren.Skinner@lacity.org

LOS ANGELES (December 21, 2010) — The City of Los Angeles Terminal Island Renewable Energy (TIRE) biosolids (bio-slurry) injection project has received a National League of Cities (NLC) 2010 Award for Municipal Excellence. The award recognizes cities and towns for outstanding programs that improve the quality of life in America's communities. The City of Los Angeles accepted its Silver Award for the more than 500,000 population category earlier this month at the NLC's Congress of Cities and Exposition in Denver, Colorado.

The City of Los Angeles in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Terralog Technologies has pioneered the TIRE project, the nation's first and only full-scale application of biosolids injection technology that adapts petroleum industry technology to convert biosolids into a new source of alternative green energy. The City of Los Angeles has been granted a five-year demonstration permit from the EPA to evaluate the viability of injecting biosolids into deep geological subsurface. The project has been in operation for more than 30 months.

The project site is located at the City's Terminal Island Water Reclamation Plant in San Pedro, California. TIRE is processing approximately 190 tons of biosolids per day, or 25% of all biosolids produced daily within the City. Until recently, these biosolids were trucked for land application at the City's farm 120 miles away.

"The City of Los Angeles is honored to have been selected by the National League of Cities for this award. The Terminal Island Renewable Energy Project improves air quality, protects water quality and reduces greenhouse gases by using wastewater treatment byproducts as a renewable resource in an innovative and environmentally safe manner," said City of Los Angeles Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa.

"TIRE is an excellent example of the creative thinking we have at work in the Bureau of Sanitation, offering an innovative solution to an environmental challenge while also providing economic benefits," added Bureau of Sanitation Director Enrique C. Zaldivar.

The Department of Public Works is focused on essential needs for a better quality of life and environmental protection. With 5,700 employees and a \$1 billion annual budget, the department is responsible for construction, renovation and operation of public facilities and infrastructure including: municipal buildings and treatment facilities; streets, street lights, and the urban forest; bridges and sidewalks; sewers, catch basins and storm drains; recycling and integrated solid waste management.