January, 2007

Biosolids Division Monthly Report

Submitted to:

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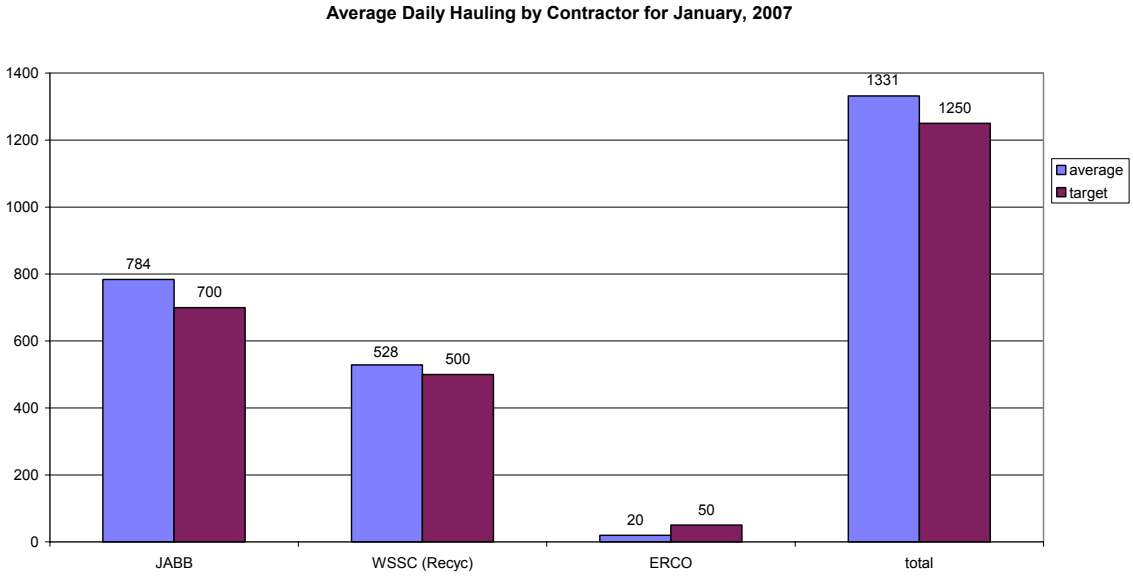
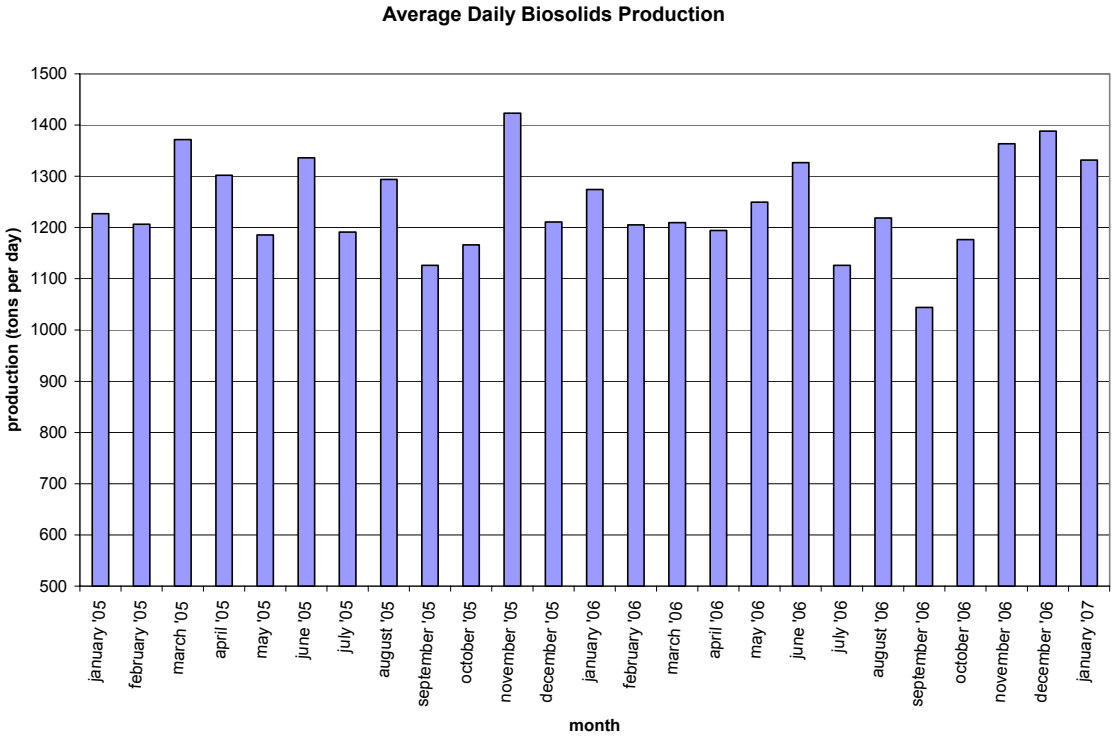
The mission of the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority biosolids management program is to provide reliable, diversified, flexible, sustainable, environmentally sound, publicly acceptable, and cost-effective management of biosolids produced by the Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant while helping preserve agriculture and protect the Chesapeake Bay.

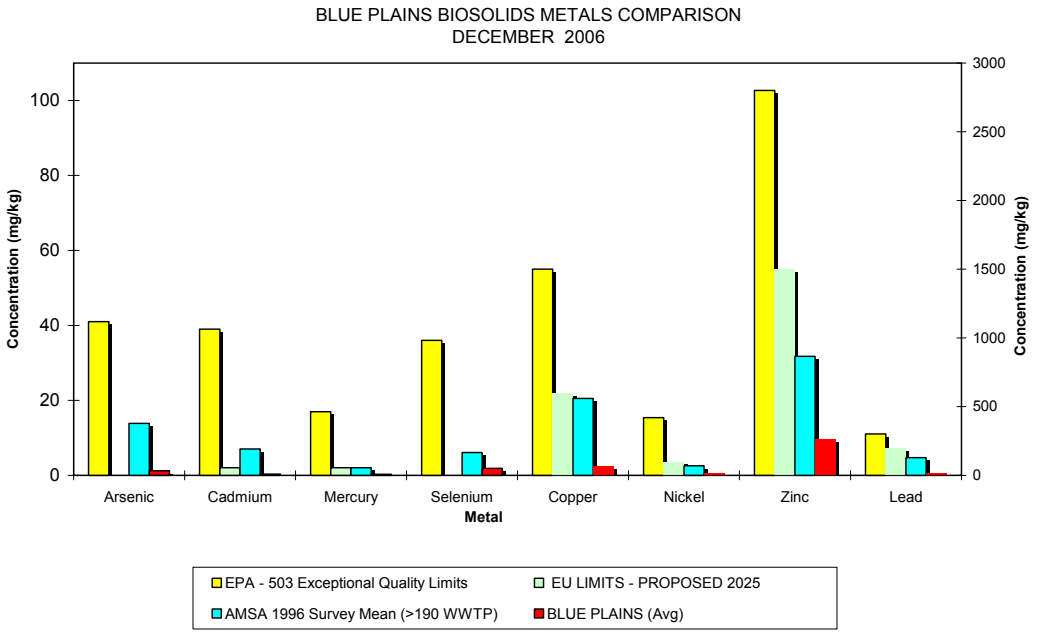
January 2007 Blue Plains Biosolids Report

In January, biosolids hauling averaged 1331 wet tons per day. The graph below shows the hauling by contractor for the month of January. A second graph shows the average daily production per month for the previous 24-month period.

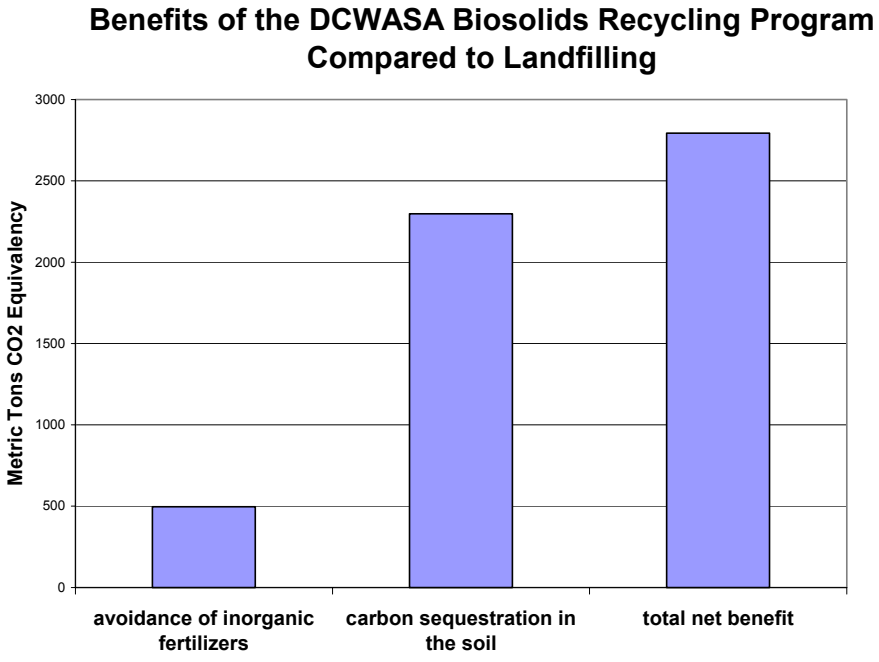




The graphs below show the EPA regulated heavy metals in the Blue Plains biosolids for the month of December 2006. As can be seen in the graphs, the Blue Plains levels are considerably below the regulated exceptional quality limits, the AMSA average levels surveyed in 1996, and even the proposed 2025 European Union (EU) limits.



Greenhouse Gas Balance for January 2007



HIGHLIGHTS

Staff has included in the monthly report a graph showing the greenhouse gas benefits derived from the DCWASA biosolids recycling program. This graph shows the benefits as compared to landfilling the biosolids in a non-energy recovering landfill. Most of the landfills in VA do not recover methane, which escapes to the atmosphere or is flared and released as CO2. To reiterate, the benefits from land applying biosolids are derived from the avoided use of inorganic fertilizers (which require energy to produce – assumed to be derived from non-renewable fossil fuels) and from the sequestration of carbon in the soils of farm fields. Taking into account the fuel required to transport biosolids to the field, the net benefit is 2793 MT CO2 equivalent avoided emissions in the month of December. The graph shows the benefit (carbon credit) of the sequestration, of the energy savings, and of the total of the two. To put this in perspective, this is equivalent to taking 6,334,008 car miles off the road in the month of January (assumes 20 mpg, 19.4 lb CO2 emissions/gallon gas – EPA estimate).

Staff attended a meeting with University of Washington researchers, EPA office of land reclamation, and representatives of a CO2 credit aggregating firm to discuss the possibility of getting biosolids projects listed on the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX). There is the potential to generate revenue for CO2 emissions credits gained from carbon sequestration at restoration projects. There is a market currently in the US (Chicago Climate Exchange - CCX) that buys and sells CO2 credits for $4/MT for companies trading on a voluntary basis. Companies like Ford Motor Company, Dupont, and Motorola all commit to voluntarily cap their emissions by a certain date. If they fall behind schedule, they buy credits from someone who is voluntarily producing credits. Last year 10,000,000 MT of CO2 credits were traded on the CCX, with a value of $40,000,000. In Europe, where these cap and trades programs are mandatory, the credits trade for just under $20/MT CO2. Staff is investigating how this might affect the economics of the digester project, designed to capture and use methane.

Staff has agreed to contribute material to a new EPA lime stabilization manual, due for publication this summer. The EPA pathogen equivalency committee recognized the improvements made at Blue Plains with respect to odor and pathogen minimization, and wished to disseminate this information to others that might benefit from DCWASA's experience in this area.

Map of Blue Plains Biosolids Applications and Agricultural $'s for December 2006