

Biosolids Environmental Management System (EMS)

What is a Biosolids EMS?

A Biosolids Environmental Management System (EMS) is a modern management approach used to develop, implement and monitor environmentally sustainable practices for biosolids management.



The National Biosolids Partnership (NBP), a nonprofit association funded by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Water Environment Federation (WEF), and the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies, developed an EMS guidance document for biosolids. The NBP was created to promote environmentally sound and publicly accepted biosolids management practices. The Encina wastewater Authority (EWA) is one of the original 27 agencies that have signed up with the NBP to develop our Biosolids EMS.

Who oversees the EMS?

EWA staff oversees the development and implementation.

Additional oversight is provided by our stakeholders who offer input, and from



independent auditors selected by the NBP who ensure our EMS meet the requirements of the EMS guidelines.

Why is an EMS valuable?

A biosolids EMS helps an agency look at the entire biosolids program to determine where there is need for improvement and how to implement those improvements. The Biosolids EMS includes public input and external auditing. The result can be a biosolids management program that is more efficient, environmentally sound and responsive to the communities we serve.

Can I give input on the EMS?

The EWA Biosolids EMS document is available for review on our website www.encinaajpa.com. Comments can be submitted electronically via e-mail, through U.S. mail, or verbally by contacting EWA's Biosolids Coordinator.

Please contact our staff at 760-438-3941 if you have any questions.

Plant tours, presentations and biosolids related handouts and brochures are available to the public upon request

EWA Biosolids Program Policy

The Encina Wastewater Authority is committed to maintaining 100% beneficial use of the quality biosolids produced at the Encina Water Pollution Control Facility (EWPCF). In order to maintain a beneficial use biosolids program, the Encina Wastewater Authority will continue with effective source control compliance and investigate and implement feasible, innovative, and cost-effective resource recovery options.

The Encina Wastewater Authority is committed to:

- **Managing** biosolids in an environmentally sound, sustainable, socially accepted, cost-effective, and safe manner;
- **Complying** with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations pertaining to biosolids production at the EWPCF – including management, transportation, storage and use or disposal of biosolids;
- **Requiring** land appliers to comply with the provisions of the National Manual of Good Practice for Biosolids;
- **Progressing** toward producing Class A biosolids that meet or exceed the requirements in 40 CFR Part 503, through testing and subsequent implementation of those processes/methods determined to be technically feasible and cost-effective; and
- **Implementing** a Biosolids Environmental Management System to ensure that these goals are met.

Facts about Encina Wastewater Authority (EWA) Biosolids

The EWA is a publicly owned wastewater treatment facility located in Carlsbad California. EWA treats wastewater collected from a service area with a population of approximately 300,000 people. EWA is made up of six member agencies, the cities of Carlsbad, Vista, and Encinitas, the Vallecitos Water District, Leucadia County Water District, and Buena Sanitation District.

Biosolids are organic matter resulting from the treatment of wastewater. When treated and processed, this by-product can be recycled and applied like a fertilizer to improve and maintain productive soils and stimulate plant growth. EWA has recycled 100% of the biosolids generated at the Encina Water Pollution Control Facility for the past several years.

Over 27,000 wet tons or over 5,200 dry tons of biosolids are generated each year. This material is hauled by truck to a farm in Yuma County, Arizona. Biosolids are applied to the farm fields where non-human consumed crops, such as Alfalfa, Sudan Grass, Oats, and Barley, are grown. EWA is currently investigating new innovative cost-effective resource recovery options that would produce a product suitable for unrestricted use in our service area.

EWA continuously strives to improve our biosolids management program, which is why we have committed to develop and implement the Biosolids Environmental Management System (EMS).



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

“To treat and dispose of wastewater from the Encina service area in a cost-effective, reliable manner with sensitivity to the environment, and to meet future needs in compliance with local, state, and federal requirements”.



Encina Wastewater Authority

Environmental Management System

For

Biosolids

Biosolids recycling for a better environment