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To: James D. Boyd
Commissioner and Chair
Bioenergy Interagency Working Group
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth St., Sacramento, CA 95814

From: Douglas W. Grobecker, PE, CCE
2909 Arrow Hwy, 74
La Verne, CA 91750; (909) 593 4280

Re: Universal Problems and Solutions

Sorry to have missed the March 6 meeting, Docket 06-BAP-1. Hope it was productive. .

Long-term partial solutions for the problems of atmosphere/earth contamination and the energy supply shortage are conceptually available. The bio-treatment of organic solids in containers would serve this purpose in a spectrum of capacities.

The cost of the necessary research, development, application and adoption will each be high; however, low compared with the costs of hesitancy. Nor are any other alternatives to bio-recovery either inexpensive or as beneficial. Today's LA Times quote the cost of City solid waste disposal with the bulk trucked as far as 200 miles for burial at a cost of $2.5 to 5 million per year, in addition to the $157 million for the 5 yr contract with the local landfill owner. In addition to the price other obstructions to proper implementation of long-term recovery systems are the general misinformation, the unawareness, the disbelief of the experts, the politics, and the influence of the profit makers. However, the multiple benefits of recovery and cleansing justify another Manhattan Project.

The anaerobic treatment and gas-use phases of acceptable organic solid treatment were solved by the wastewater industry. The aerobic and drying phases when enclosed require mechanical designs that provide cleansing of non-useful products as well as reuse of the remaining products of bio-digestion. No objectionable constituents are released: nor do capacity scale limits inherently exist.

The faculties of the Colorado School of Mines and Harvey Mudd College studied this issue and decided it was too big for them to handle any further.

I am 84, and currently get my kicks from gardening, watercolors, and socializing. Writing proposals is no longer my interest, but there is some fun in writing notes such as this allows me to think big and hold the perpetual hope that that such thoughts would make a difference.