

# Land Application of Biosolids

A Proposed Ordinance

County of San Luis Obispo, Environmental Health  
Services

Agricultural Liaison Advisory Board Meeting  
December 7, 2015

## Discussion of:

- Purpose of the Draft Ordinance
- Draft Ordinance Highlights
- Opportunities for Input

# Purpose of the Draft Ordinance

- Provide a more stringent ordinance than State or Federal regulations in the interest of public health
- Provide a framework through which biosolids can be applied

# Draft Ordinance Highlights

- Only “exceptional quality biosolids (EQB)” or “exceptional quality composted biosolids (EQCB)” can be land applied.
- EQB and EQCB can only be applied to land zoned “agricultural” at the calculated agronomic rate for the intended ag use.
- Depending on receiver site constraints, EHS may require submittal of an Erosion Control Plan, a Nutrient and Heavy Metals Management Plan, an Odor Management Plan, and a Water Quality Management Plan.

# Draft Ordinance Highlights

- Five or more cubic yards of EQB/EQCB per project would require permit from EHS, which would be valid for up to three years. Less than five cubic yards are not regulated by this ordinance.
- Maximum of ten tons per acre over any three year period (unless soil testing shows otherwise).
- Cannot be applied to crops intended for human consumption where edible part of plant is in direct contact with EQB/EQCB.

# Draft Ordinance Highlights

- To avoid surface water runoff during rainfall, application is prohibited between October 15 – April 15.
- EQB/EQCB shall be incorporated into receiver site soil within 24 hours after land application.
- Native receiver site soils shall be analyzed for specific baseline nutrients and pollutants prior to land application.

# Draft Ordinance Highlights

- Notification of adjacent property owners is required 14 days in advance of land application.
- All projects requiring a permit shall be supervised by a third-party professional who prepared the Nutrient and Heavy Metals Management Plan (certified soil scientist, certified ag engineer, certified agronomist, etc.).
- Comprehensive recordkeeping and reporting is required for all projects requiring a permit.

# Opportunities for Input

- Through EIR process
- Comments, concerns, alternative ordinance language suggestions