



City of Los Angeles • Department of Public Works • Public Affairs Office
200 N. Spring St., M-165 • LA, CA 90012 • (213) 978-0333 • FAX (213) 978-0332

Contact: Jimmy Tokeshi

(213) 978-1699

(213) 978-0333

Email: Jimmy.Tokeshi@lacity.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CITY ACHIEVES HIGHEST RANKING IN BIOSOLIDS MANAGEMENT
National Biosolids Partnership EMS Program Designates Platinum Level Certification**

LOS ANGELES (May 16, 2007) – The City of Los Angeles maintains the highest possible standards in biosolids management and environmental stewardship. The National Biosolids Partnership (NBP) Environmental Management System (EMS) Program issued the city its Platinum Level Certification, which is the utmost ranking that can be achieved in the treatment and stabilization of sewage sludge or biosolids. Verified by an independent third party auditor, the city’s biosolids EMS conforms to the NBP EMS requirements and has achieved Tier 4 certification status, which encompasses pretreatment, biosolids stabilization, storage, transportation and use.

“The national certification demonstrates the city’s commitment to shaping a better quality of life through proactive biosolids management and stewardship of our environment,” said Cynthia M. Ruiz, president for the Board of Public Works. “The results are an effective program that utilizes and integrates national standards, controls, compliance and public participation to achieve the goal of continually improving the city’s biosolids EMS program.”

The independent interim audit process verifies the Department of Public Works Bureau of Sanitation has an effective biosolids environmental management system that continually improves environmental performance, exceeds regulatory compliance, utilizes good biosolids management practices and creates meaningful opportunities for public participation.

“The Bureau of Sanitation will continue to conduct audits so we may strengthen the city’s biosolids program and help define a world class municipal operation that achieves the needs of

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the city while protecting the environment,” said Rita Robinson, Director for the Bureau of Sanitation. “Looking forward, we will continue to use science and technology to the city’s best advantage and maintain our commitment to biosolids management and environmental stewardship.”

The auditor, KEMA, used sampling techniques to observe practices, interviewed key personnel and reviewed pertinent records and documents to assess the systematic performance of processes identified in the city’s biosolids EMS program.

About National Biosolids Partnership

The National Biosolids Partnership (NBP) was created in 1997 as an alliance of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) and Water Environment Federation (WEF), with advisory support from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). It is committed to developing and advancing environmentally sound and sustainable biosolids management practices that go beyond regulatory compliance and promote public participation in order to enhance the credibility of local agency biosolids programs and improved communications that lead to public acceptance. For more information, visit www.biosolids.org.

About Board of Public Works

The five-commissioner Board of Public Works manages the Department of Public Works, the City’s third largest municipal division. The department oversees the construction, renovation, and operation of public projects such as municipal buildings, streets, bridges, street lights, water treatment plants, sewers and sidewalks, and provides essential public services like recycling and solid waste management. For more information, visit www.lacity.org/bpw/.

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