SYNAGRO
YOUR PARTNER FOR A CLEANER, GREENER WORLD

CASE STUDY

PHILADELPHIA RENEWABLE BIO-FUELS FACILITY

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

100% of City biosolids into "Class A" biosolids

Creating sustainable, renewable energy and organic fertilizer markets

Annual truck deliveries cut by **70%**

59 to **19** Acreage reduction, allowing the City to recapture property for other uses

75 construction positions

30 long-term jobs

$200 MILLION in savings over the 20 YEAR CONTRACT

CHALLENGE

In the early 2000s, the Philadelphia Water Department's (PWD) biosolids management program was facing mounting regulatory and public pressure to reduce odors and volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions.

The program included dewatering, outdoor aerated static-pile composting as well as cake storage, and loading of Class B biosolids at the City's Biosolids Recycling Center (BRC) along with off-site land application and landfilling. PWD recognized the need to implement a long-term sustainable Class A "Exceptional Quality" solution for its biosolids management needs and sought private-sector innovation and funding through a competitive design, build, own, operate procurement process.

SOLUTION

Philadelphia Biosolids Services (PBS), a joint venture led by Synagro, accepted the challenge. The mandate was clear – reduce odors; improve site aesthetics; and produce, market and distribute Class A product at a competitive cost.

Our goal was to provide PWD with an upgraded, sustainable Class A program while simultaneously saving the City money and creating jobs. Synagro's solution offered reuse of PWD's Class B biosolids during an interim period while the team constructed a facility to transform PWD biosolids into valuable pellets with sustainable long-term outlets. PBS assumed interim operation of the BRC Complex in 2008.

SUCCESS

PBS temporarily ceased compost operations and assumed responsibility of interim dewatering operations and use of dewatered biosolids via land application, mine reclamation and other options, during construction of the new Philadelphia Renewable Bio-Fuels Facility which included a first-class Andritz DDS heat drying and pelletization system.

For the long-term, PBS operates and maintains the drying system to produce pellets for sale in organic fertilizer and renewable fuel markets. It's a comprehensive approach that yielded immediate results, maximizing sustainability while streamlining costs. Since becoming operational in 2012, the new thermal drying facility has transformed the City's environmental footprint and offers tangible benefits both locally and beyond.

Powered by Synagro, which has successfully operated thermal drying systems since 1991, the renewable bio-fuels facility is helping the City blaze a trail to technical and environmental innovation.

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PARTNER WITH SYNAGRO

When you are looking for the best biosolids and residuals solutions to serve your business and your community, Synagro has the proven solutions to help you succeed. Municipalities and industrial organizations like yours that want to make the best use of organic waste turn to Synagro. Across the United States, Synagro applies expertise and innovative technology to provide resource recovery solutions that meet the unique needs of customers and communities.

WHO WE ARE

Synagro is the country's preeminent provider of biosolids and residuals solutions services since 1986.

Headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland, we employ over 800 people in 34 states and service more than 600 municipal and industrial water and wastewater facilities.

HOW WE CAN HELP

Our professional and experienced staff members provide solutions for all aspects of biosolids and residuals management needs, from land permitting and soil analysis by our nationwide technical services team to facilities development by our in-house engineering staff. Synagro provides a comprehensive scope of customer focused solutions.

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