

# CASE STUDY SOUTH KERN COMPOST MANUFACTURING FACILITY TAFT, CALIFORNIA

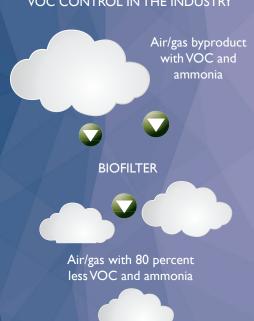


#### GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

Staff at SKCMF meet regularly with Kern County officials and provide compost donations and financial support to an array of not-for-profit organizations that includes:

- Kern County Farm Bureau
- Taft Chamber of Commerce
- Taft College Foundation
- Taft Community Garden
- Westside Parks and Recreation Commerce

### SKCMF HAS THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF VOC CONTROL IN THE INDUSTRY



#### **CHALLENGE**

Seated approximately 30 miles southwest of Bakersfield, California, the South Kern Compost Manufacturing Facility (SKCMF) was commissioned in 2006 to alleviate concerns about long-term viability of land application of Class B biosolids in Southern California.

Beyond this objective, SKCMF aimed to address air quality issues resulting from the composting process and to serve as an alternative composting facility for Synagro clients who formerly relied on Synagro's Riverside County Facility.

#### **SOLUTION**

As the country's most innovative provider of waste capture and conversion, Synagro directed its efforts to analyzing the region of Taft, California, and assessing the area's need for sustainable compost management. It became clear that a facility producing cost-effective Class A biosolids would best address the concerns of wastewater agencies in the region.

Synagro's SKCMF was strategically fixed in close proximity to the region's wastewater agencies while also resting near the compost end-use market that already had required permits in place. Thanks in no small part to this location, SKCMF was smoothly expedited through the permitting and construction process and ready to serve the community.

#### **FACILITY**

A 44-acre aerated static pile (ASP) composting structure, SKCMF utilizes a positive ASP system to produce 500 tons of Class A compost product per day. Its state-of-the-art ASP system places biosolids and mixed organic waste in large, loosely-stacked piles. These are aerated by way of a variable-frequency drive (VFD) fan system that accelerates the composting process and controls volatile organic compounds (VOC) and ammonia by more than 80 percent – the highest percentage of VOC control in the industry. The ASPs utilize the sites finished compost material as a biofilter air-quality treatment system that controls VOCs and ammonia – instead of the VFD fans. The fans control the oxygen and temperature, but the compost biofilter is what helps control/reduce our emissions.

#### **SUCCESS**

Synagro's SKCMF is engaged in its surrounding community while contributing to local and global environmental health. The many benefits of SKCMF include:

- $\bullet \ \ A \ sustainable \ biosolids \ management \ solution \ for \ Southern \ California \ municipalities.$
- High-quality compost that sequesters carbon in its soil, enabling the soil to retain nutrients.
- An extension of landfill lifespans due to reduction of organic material in "waste stream."
- A reduction of reliance on synthetic chemical fertilizers.
- An increase in productivity of farms and of gardens.



## YOUR PARTNER FOR A CLEANER, GREENER WORLD



#### **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.



