

JANUARY 15, 2016 – BACWA ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING

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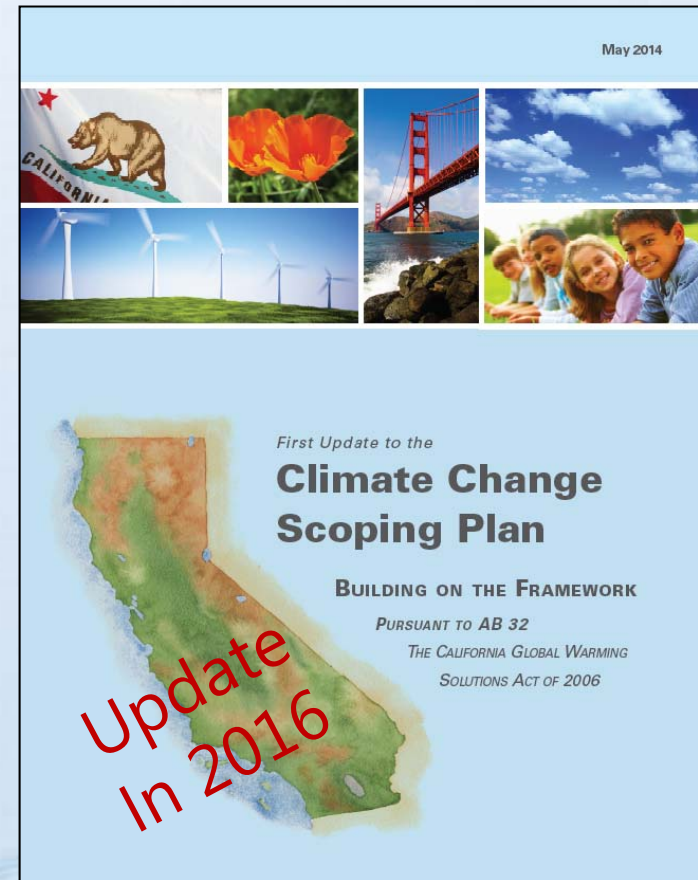
# California Wastewater Climate Change Group (CWCCG): Hot Topics Update



# Governor's 2030 target: GHG levels 40% below 1990 levels

## Governor's Office - "Five Pillars"

- Renewable energy sources from 33% to 50%
- Reduce short-lived climate pollutants
- 50% reduction in petroleum use in vehicles
- Double energy efficiency at existing buildings
- Increase carbon sequestration on farms and rangelands, and in forests and wetlands



# The “Top 3” AB 32 Scoping Plan goals:

## Water

- By 2015, develop incentives for resource-recovery wastewater treatment projects
- By 2016, modify state and regional water board policies and permits to achieve conservation, water recycling, stormwater reuse, and wastewater-to-energy goals

## Waste

- Funding/incentivizing in-state infrastructure:
  - Cap-and-Trade Investment Plan
  - Loan, grant, and payment programs
  - Low Carbon Fuel Standard (mesophilic digestion at POTWs)
  - CPUC proceedings (e.g., biogas from anaerobic digestion and Renewable Market Adjusting Tariff)
  - Offset protocols (recycling, composting, anaerobic digestion)

# Issues we worked on in 2015:

- Mitigation
  - SB 605: short-lived climate pollutant reduction strategy
  - Bay Area AQMD on POTW greenhouse gases
- Adaptation
  - State Adaptation Plan (Adaptation Strategy & Implementation Action Plans)
  - AB 2516: Online sea level rise database



# Mitigation

# Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy includes POTWs as part of the solution

- Making use of existing anaerobic digestion capacity and planning for future capacity with plant upgrades
- Funding allocation (to build initial infrastructure)
  - CalRecycle: \$100 M per year (for 5 years)
  - CDFA: \$100 M per year (for 5 years)
- Biogas utilization
- Biosolids/digestate utilization
  - Use of compost and ‘other’ soil amendments, but does not state biosolids
  - Plan to eliminate ‘organics’ from landfills by 2025
  - Healthy Soils Initiative to identify research needs – ARB and CDFA to collaborate with other agencies including water districts

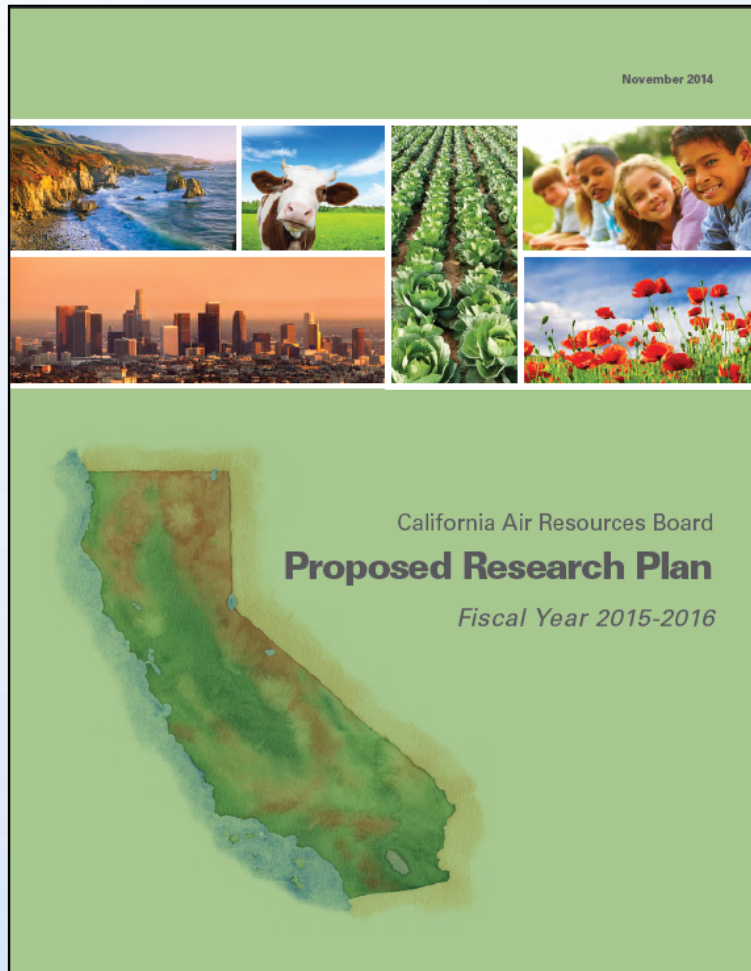
*CASA  
estimated  
existing  
capacity can  
take 75% of  
organic  
stream!*

# Bay Area AQMD Board wants to see GHG reductions from POTWs

- Push to move faster on POTW related issues than ARB:
  - Develop a baseline (with fugitive and process GHG emissions)
  - Identify which sources to reduce first
  - Discuss digester gas production “limit”
- CWCCG, CASA, and BACWA Air Issues and Regulations Committee met with BAAQMD staff:
  - Provided wastewater “101” to new staff and summarized state regulations and legislation (cross media issues)
  - BAAQMD is open to collaborating with us and begin coordinating with ARB staff
  - BAAQMD wants to explore land application of biosolids in the agriculture sector



# ARB's proposed research for FY 2015-16 on N<sub>2</sub>O emission sources postponed



- Goal to develop N<sub>2</sub>O emissions estimates and/or emission factors for landfills, golf courses, and POTWs (solids and liquids)
- CWCCG and CASA met with ARB staff and provided:
  - Information on typical solids management strategies
  - Drafted a survey (to characterize liquids treatment across CA) and ARB staff are reviewing

*We will need your help responding to the survey!*

- Your feedback will also inform the CA Nitrogen Assessment by UC Davis and the Healthy Soils Initiative



# Adaptation

# Gov Brown's Executive Order also called for CA to adapt to impacts of climate change

- By sector (10)
  - Agriculture
  - Biodiversity and Habitat
  - Emergency Management
  - Energy
  - Forestry
  - Land Use & Community Development
  - Oceans & Coastal Resources & Ecosystems
  - Public Health
  - Transportation
  - Water

DRAFT REPORT

***SAFEGUARDING CALIFORNIA:  
IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLANS***

*OCTOBER 2015*



EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor  
JOHN LAIRD, Secretary for Natural Resources

# CWCCG's original concerns carried into the implementation action plans...

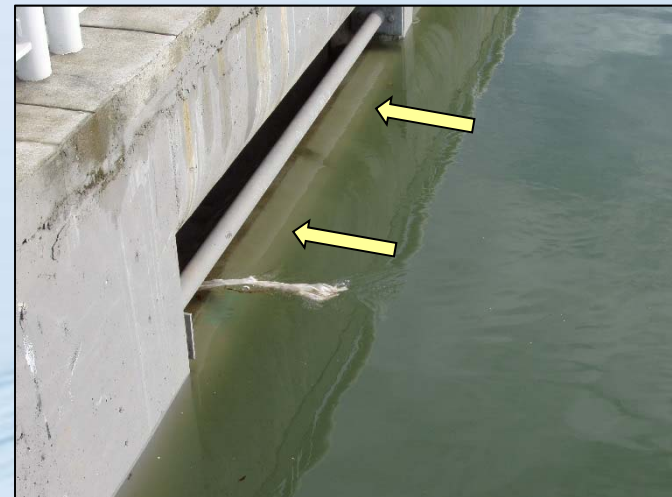
- Failed to emphasize vulnerability of the wastewater facilities and infrastructure – focus is on water supply
- CWCCG provided info on:
  - Existing condition of facilities, impacts expected, and a range of estimated costs/funding needed
  - Planning challenges
  - The wastewater community's role in contributing to the resilience of other sectors (agriculture, energy, forestry, and transportation)
- Met face-to-face with the assistant secretary for climate change at the CNRA, JR DeLaRosa, to discuss our concerns
- State agencies to report back by June 2016

# State is creating an online sea level rise planning database (per AB 2516)

- No \$ allocated to Ocean Protection Council and CA Natural Resources Agency
- Existing studies/data from state level public (SWRCB and RWQCBs) & private agencies
- Survey **by July 1, 2015**
- Information to feed into:
  - 5-year Infrastructure Plan
  - *Safeguarding California* Plan
  - CA Sea Level Rise Guidance Document

<http://www.opc.ca.gov/2015/05/slr-database/>

[http://www.opc.ca.gov/webmaster/ftp/pdf/docs/2013\\_SLR\\_Guidance\\_Update\\_FINAL1.pdf](http://www.opc.ca.gov/webmaster/ftp/pdf/docs/2013_SLR_Guidance_Update_FINAL1.pdf)



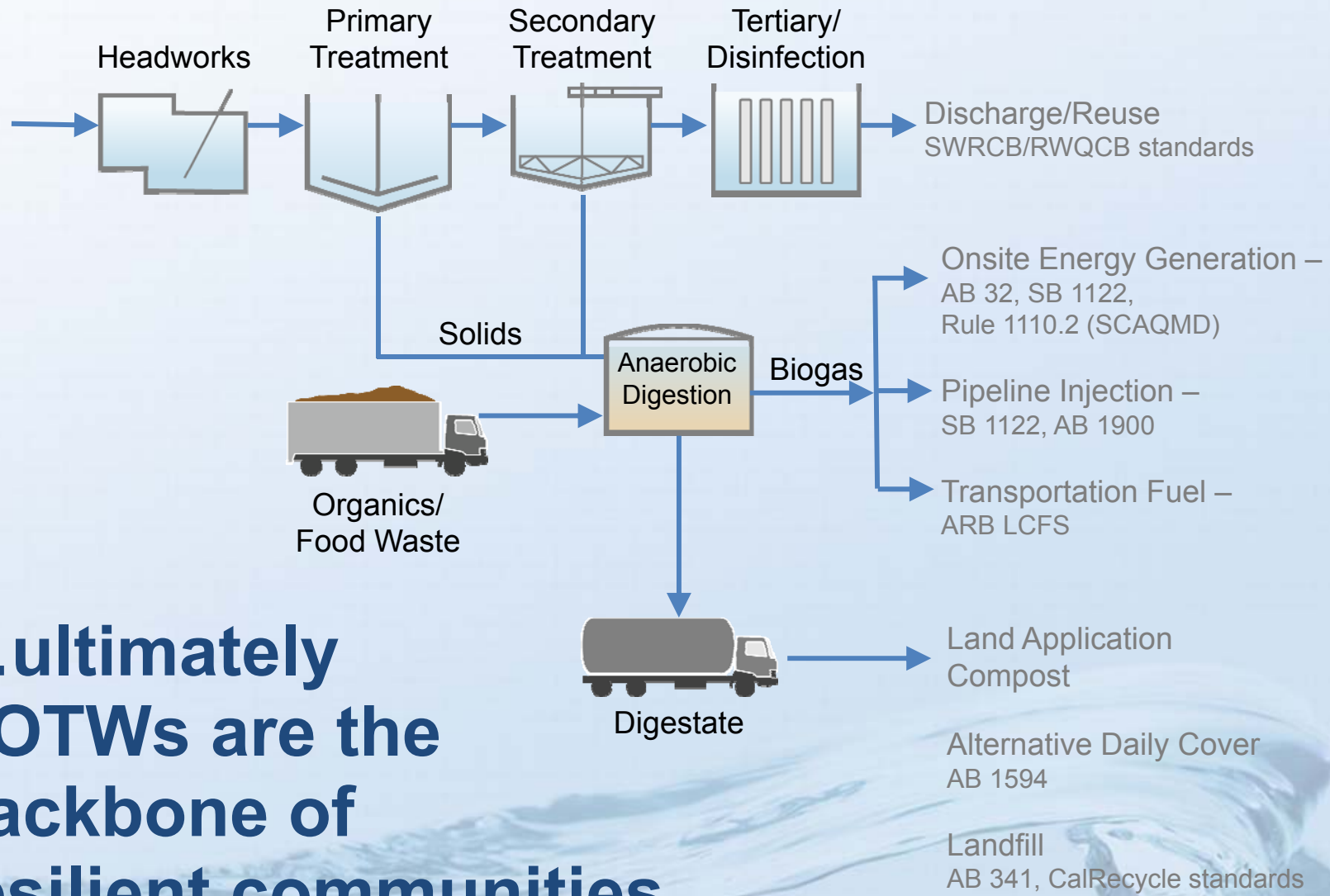
# Questions?

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**Next CWCCG meeting:  
January 26<sup>th</sup>**

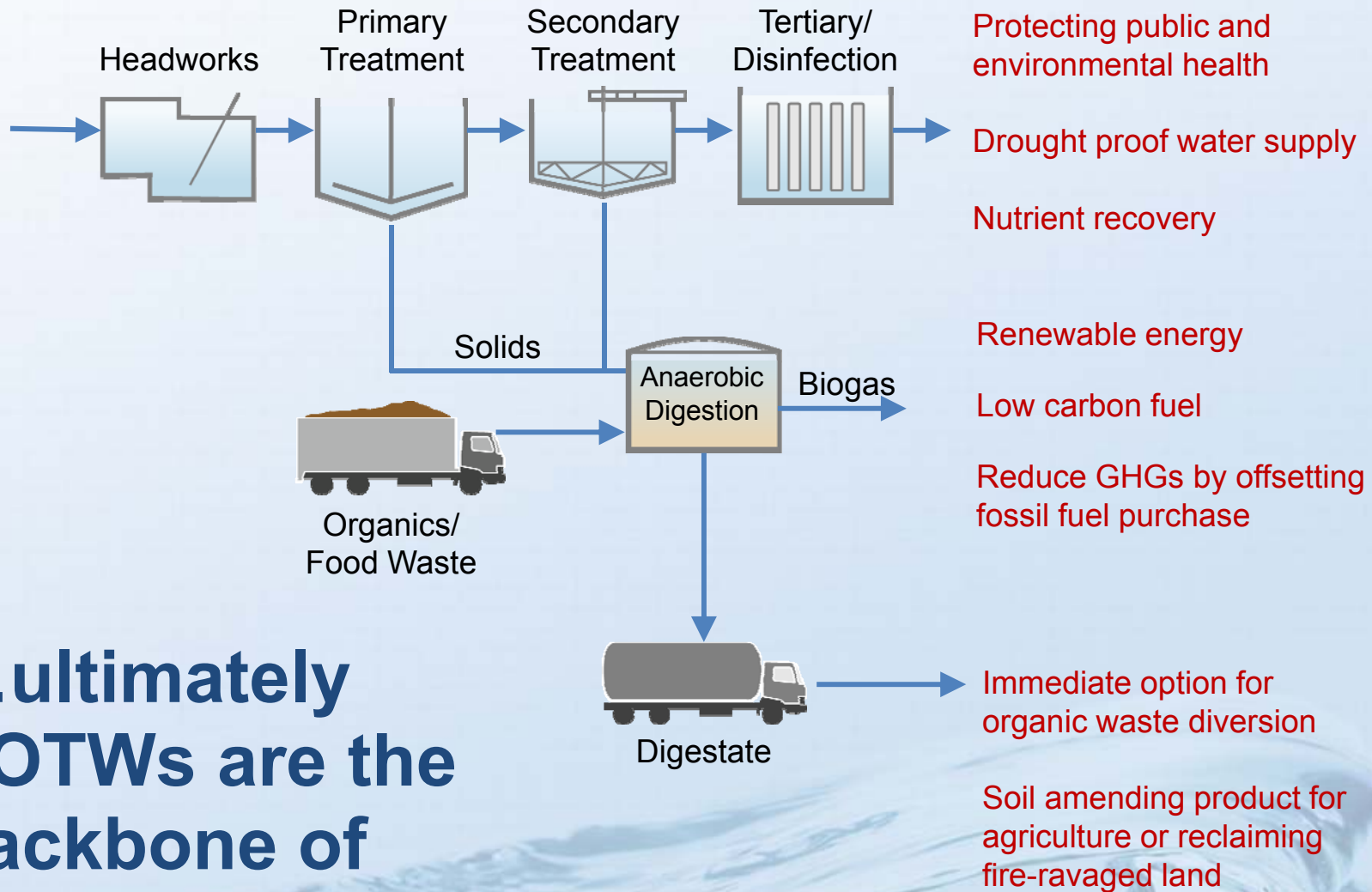
**(Attend via phone or at one of Carollo's Offices  
in Orange County, Sacramento, and Walnut Creek)**

# While climate change is presenting challenges to the state and POTWs...



...ultimately  
**POTWs are the  
backbone of  
resilient communities**

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