



**BACWA**  
BAY AREA  
CLEAN WATER  
AGENCIES

# **Hot Topics: Biosolids**

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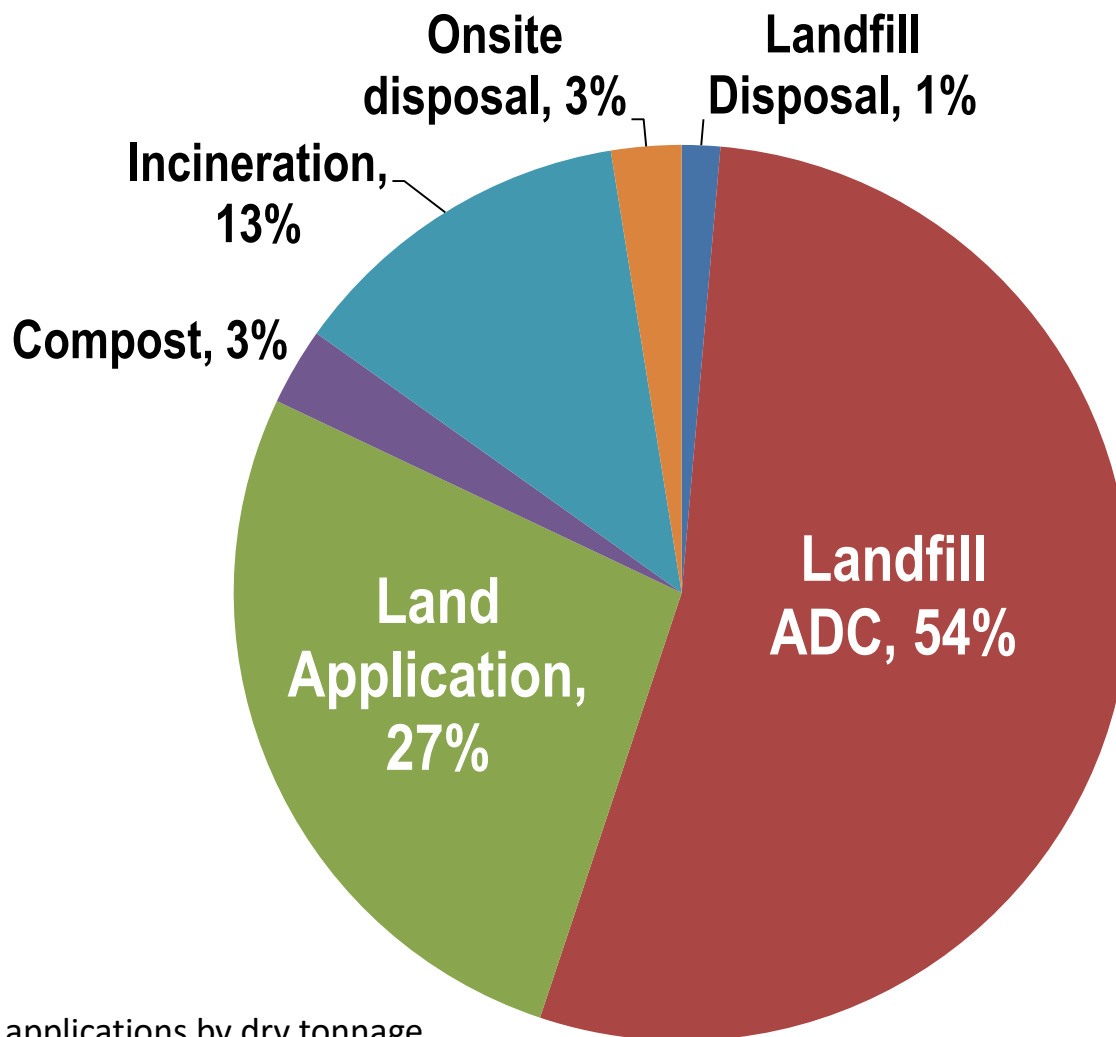
Biosolids Committee Chair

**BACWA Annual Meeting**

January 19, 2018

## Background

# Biosolids Uses for BACWA Agencies



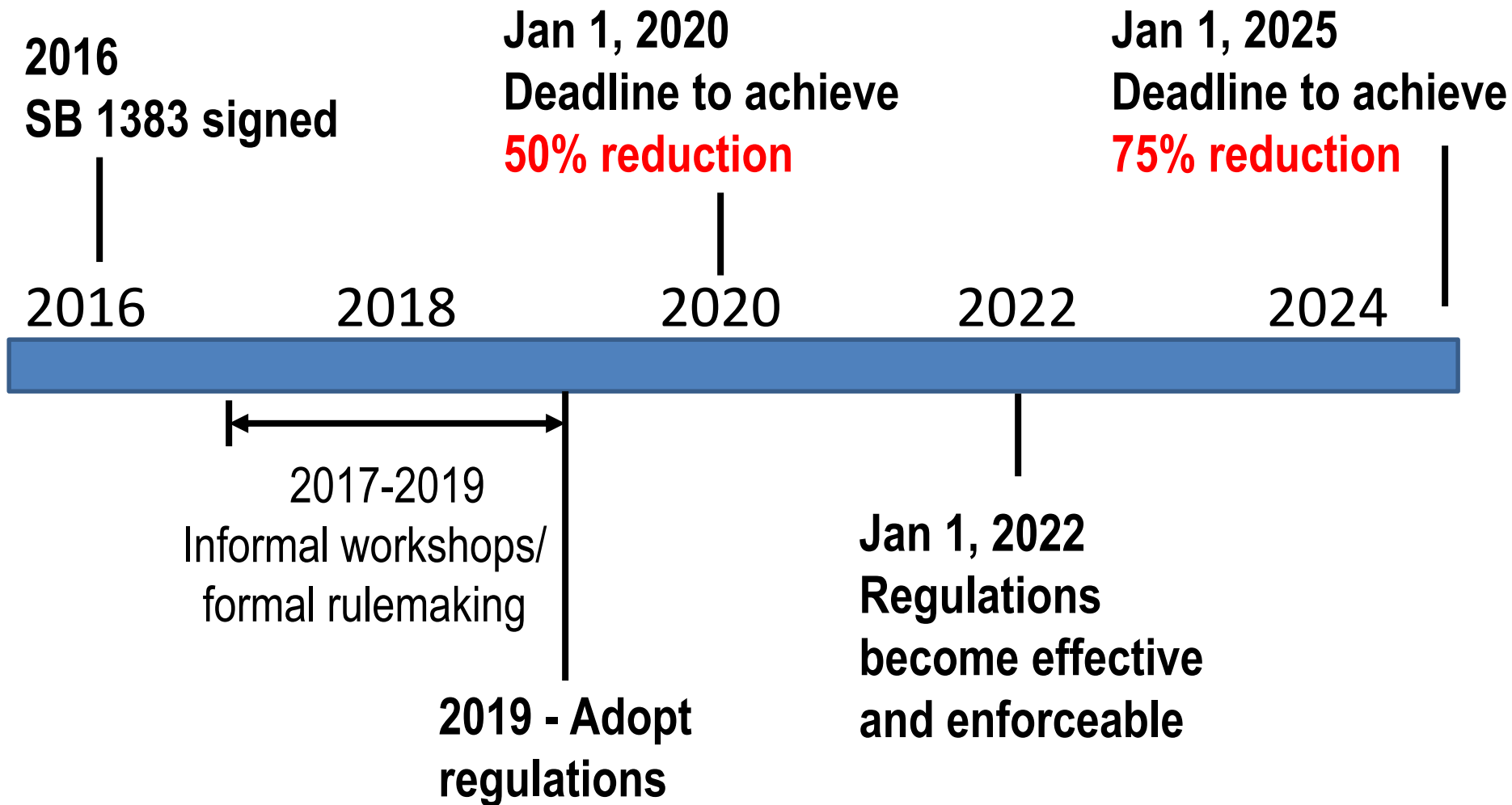
Source: BACWA 2016 Biosolids Trends Survey

# Senate Bill 1383

- Short-lived climate pollutant (SLCP) regulations targeting methane reduction
- Diverting “organics” from landfills
  - Opportunity: codigestion
  - Hurdle: biosolids recycling



# SB 1383 Implementation Timeline



## SLCP Reduction DRAFT Regulations

Proposed Regulations (October 24, 2017)

### Article 1 Definitions

*“Organic Waste” means solid wastes containing material originated from living organisms and... **biosolids, digestate and sludges.***

### Article 2 Landfill Disposal And Reductions in Landfill disposal

*The following dispositions of organic waste shall be deemed to constitute landfill disposal:*

- (1) Final deposition at a landfill.*
- (2) Beneficial reuse at a landfill, including but not limited to Alternative Daily Cover and Alternative Intermediate Cover.*
- (3) Any other disposition not listed in subsection (b) of this section.*

## Biosolids Diversion Uncertainties

- No explicit ban
  - Solid waste jurisdictions will develop plans for meeting 2025 diversion requirements
  - Jurisdictions will likely be the ones to determine whether biosolids is in the 75% that needs to be diverted or 25% that can remain
- Uncertain timeline
  - SB1383 requires 75% diversion by 2025
    - Enforcement begins in 2022
  - Potential for jurisdictions to choose to enforce sooner
- Consideration for emergency use of landfills during upsets
  - Future draft regulations will include emergency use for landfill disposal

# SB 1383 Implementation

## Wastewater Industry Requests



- **Protect and enhance opportunities for biosolids recycling via land application**
- **Allow time in biosolids diversion requirements for facility development and emergence of new technologies**
- **Create markets for recycled organic products**
- **Provide grant funding to develop and implement new technologies and projects**
- *Provide market certainty for renewable attributes*
- *Provide leadership in addressing contamination*
- *Facilitate partnerships between solid waste and wastewater agencies*

# Wastewater Requests

## Protect and enhance opportunities for biosolids recycling via land application

Land applied biosolids provide multiple benefits and support every goal in the Healthy Soils Initiative Action Plan

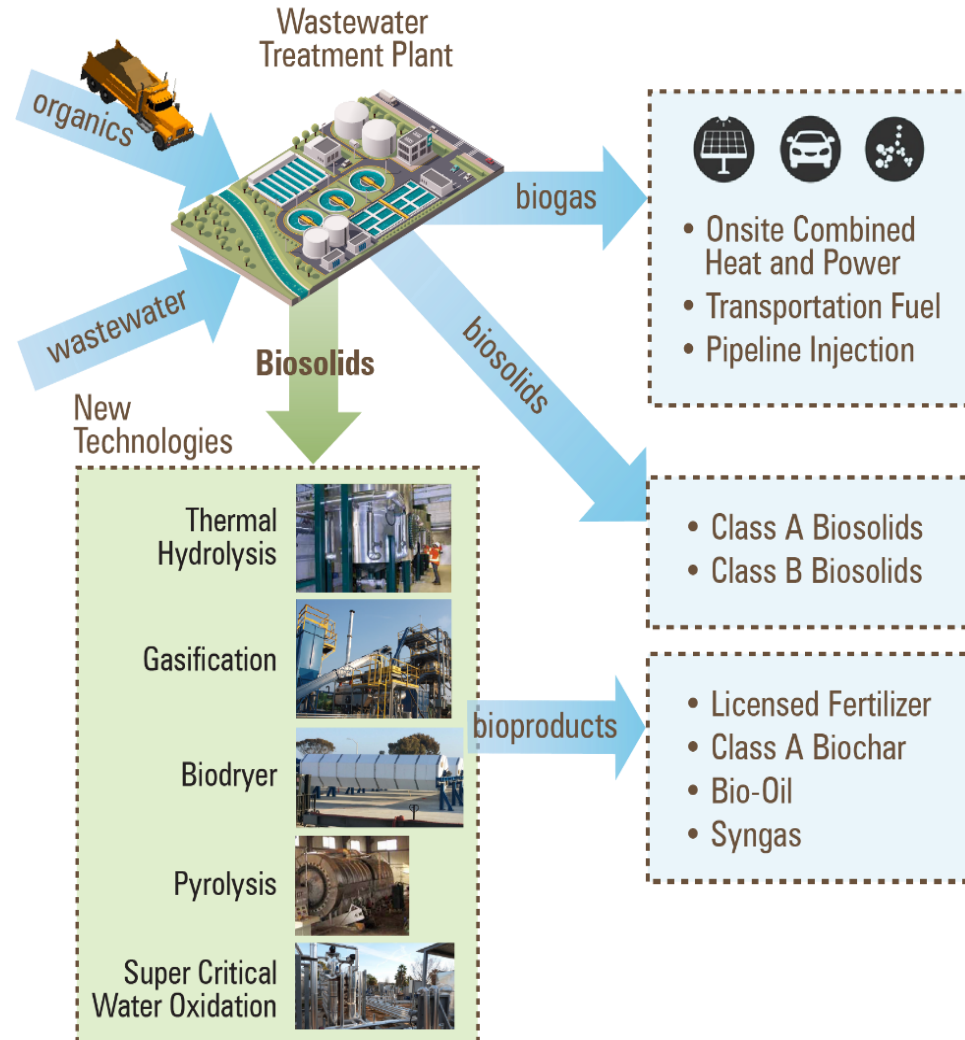
- Offsets inorganic fertilizer use/production
- Increases soil carbon content and stability
- Increases water holding capacity
- Increases nutrient use efficiency
- Increases crop yield
- Sequesters carbon in the soil below





# Wastewater Requests

Allow time in diversion requirements for facility development and emerging technologies



# Wastewater Requests

## Create markets for recycled organic products

**Biogas: fuel, electricity**



**Biosolids: soil**

**amendment,  
compost,  
fertilizer, etc.**



*Provide market certainty for renewable attributes*

# Wastewater Requests

**Provide grant funding to develop and implement new technologies and projects**





# Wastewater Requests

## Related to food waste diversion

- Provide leadership in addressing contamination
- Facilitate partnerships between solid waste and wastewater agencies



# Biosolids Outlook

- Major changes to status quo for biosolids
- Opportunity
  - Improved long-term certainty for land application
  - Paradigm shift
- Regulations are being written now
  - Next Stakeholder Workshop:  
March 21, 2018 (Sacramento)
  - CASA Panel with Hank Brady and Jackie Zipkin

