

Jue, Tyrone

From: Sierra, Natalie
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2010 10:28 AM
To: Bereket, Idil; Jue, Tyrone
Subject: FW: Please Stop SF's Toxic Sewage Sludge Giveaways
Importance: High

I think it's all the same people. It looks like they sent to me, Ed, and Liz (Synagro)

-----Original Message-----

From: Ostoich, Elizabeth [mailto:EOstoich@SYNAGRO.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2010 10:19 AM
To: Baroldi, Layne; Page, Joe
Cc: Massa, Bill; Hecht, James; Sierra, Natalie; Williams, Lisa; Loder, Lorrie
Subject: FW: Please Stop SF's Toxic Sewage Sludge Giveaways
Importance: High

I received the identical letter below from 23 people so far. Layne and Joe, please let me know how we should respond. Natalie, I assume you have received something similar? The original letter appears to be written by Alexis Bayden-Mayer (who we discovered later was in attendance at the CWEA workshop in San Francisco).

Please let me know if you would like me to forward all 23 for your records in identifying these folks or if you would just have me delete.

I am not too concerned about the content, as we do not represent the compost as 'organic'. But...I do not like that they have my home address. Not sure where they picked that up, as my cards, memberships and all registrations are a P.O. Box!

-- Liz

-----Original Message-----

From: kristen.magno@hotmail.com [mailto:kristen.magno@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2010 8:48 AM
To: Ostoich, Elizabeth
Subject: Please Stop SF's Toxic Sewage Sludge Giveaways

Kristen Magno
8030 Juliet Ln #201
Manassas, VA 20109-7867

February 4, 2010

Liz Ostoich Esq.
Synagro
4410 Houghton Avenue
Riverside, CA 92501

Dear Liz Ostoich:

Please stop San Francisco from giving away or selling toxic municipal sewage sludge under the guise of it being "organic fertilizer" or compost.

USDA National Organic Program regulations strictly prohibit the use of sewage sludge on organic farms, ranches, or gardens, making the city's marketing or promotion of its sludge as "organic fertilizer" or compost inherently fraudulent and misleading. Even worse, a critical mass of scientific studies indicate that municipal sewage sludge routinely contains thousands of dangerous pathogens, toxic heavy metals, flame retardants, endocrine disruptors, carcinogens, pharmaceutical drugs and other hazardous chemicals coming from residential drains, storm water runoff, hospitals, and

industrial plants.

Given that the city of San Francisco has officially endorsed the "precautionary principle" as a guideline for all city policies and practices, and given that it is impossible to test for the thousands of toxins and pathogens and combinations of toxins and pathogens in sludge,

it is therefore totally unacceptable for the city to give away or sell its sewage sludge.

Giving away or selling sewage sludge, under the guise of it being "organic fertilizer" or compost, amounts to a slap in the face for the nation's 50 million organic consumers and farmers, who sincerely believe that the word "organic" is a guarantee of safety and environmental sustainability, and

who have worked for decades to protect organic standards and maintain the integrity of the term "organic."

Beyond degrading organic standards, giving away or selling San Francisco's sewage sludge, under any circumstances, even if city officials stop calling it "organic" and use another misleading term like "harmless biosolids," poses an unacceptable risk to public health and the environment and must be stopped.

We look forward to the Mayor's office and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission doing the right thing. Stop selling or giving away toxic sewage sludge. Acknowledge sewage sludge for what it is, hazardous

waste, and keep it out of the environment and the food chain. Otherwise we can guarantee you that this controversy will escalate, and that the green reputation of the city and its leaders will be seriously tarnished.

Sincerely,

Kristen Magno