

PRRP Organics Team Meeting – March 18, 2013

Casa Dharma, 521 Sagrado Corazon, San Juan P.R. 00915

Time: 4:00 PM (AST) - (787) 727-1061

Attendees:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1) Carlos Pacheco | 5) Francisco Villafaña (by phone) |
| 2) Adam Kanter (by phone) | 6) Ana Arache |
| 3) Alberto Ramirez | 7) Laura Cardoso (by phone) |
| 4) Miguel Lopez | |

Meeting conducted in English

- 1. New Compost Regulations:** The Committee's goal is to assist government agencies to update Puerto Rico's compost regulations to include a tiered permit structure, with design and operating requirements based on materials composted and technology employed. The Committee agreed that it should promote the US Composting Counsel's Model Compost Rule Template as the basis for the new regulation and incorporate any modifications necessary. A copy of the Model Compost Rule is attached. Follow up on this item:
 - Carlos will find out if the USCC's Model Compost Rule is available in Spanish;
 - The committee needs to review the enabling legislation that gives authority to modify the regulations;
 - The Committee needs to coordinate meetings with EQB and SWA to determine level of support for this item.
- 2. Food Recovery** – The Committee's goal is to help commercial and industrial operators reduce or reuse their organic wastes. Follow up on this item:
 - Melissa has worked in several groups that have focused on food recovery. She will send the committee information she has obtained from these groups to use as a starting point.
 - Organics Committee will consider holding a special meeting to discuss food recovery.
- 3. Household Recycling** - The Committee's goal is to evaluate the prevailing method of paying for garbage pick-up by the household to determine if (1) the current system is a factor that discourages household recycling, and (2) paying by weight could reduce costs for municipalities. Follow up on this item:
 - Coordinate meeting with ADS to obtain input on this item;
 - Identify 2 or 3 municipalities that would participate in a pilot project that will obtain data to prove the economics of paying by household and paying by weight;
 - Explore possibility of making a presentation at the Association of Mayors to obtain a broad spectrum of local input.

4. **Composting on Agricultural Land** – The Committee seeks to promote an amendment to the list of permissible uses for agricultural zoned lands to include composting of yard and food wastes. Follow up on this item:
 - a. Coordinate meeting with the Secretary of Agriculture to obtain input on this item;
 - b. Explore possibility of addressing in the new compost regulations.

Next meeting information [Carlos will send an email]:

Time: 4pm

Date: Monday, April 22

Location: Casa Dharma

521 Sagrado Corazon

San Juan P.R. 00915

Conference Line:

Dial +1 (636) 277-0130

Access Code: 702-652-430