

# From Land Filling to Class 'A' Reuse, Hollywood Story has Happy Ending



**Class 'A' Biosolids Report**



**U**tilizing an innovative technology, the city of Hollywood, Florida converted from a sludge land filling operation to processing in-house with Class 'A' biosolids. Considering the conversion was done in approximately eight months, this was no small feat for a 48 million gallon per day operation.

Precipitating the dramatic changeover was the system that Hollywood had in place prior to February of 2005. After the raw sewage was dewatered it was hauled off-site and held in open trucks for 24 hours, then tested to Class B status. "Then the EPA mandated that we could not haul the sludge off-site prior to testing, so the loaded trucks were required to sit in our yard in 93-degree heat so that was a problem," according to Whit VanCott, retired (July 2005) Director of Operations, "Plus the EPA really wanted us to produce a Class A product."

The next band-aid that the city put on its problem was to have the sludge hauled off-site and treated to Class A by an outside contractor. This was a cheaper alternative to in-house treatment so the city signed a five-year contract. The facility where the sludge was treated changed owners twice and was eventually shut-down. The final method, albeit an expensive one, was to haul the sludge to a landfill.

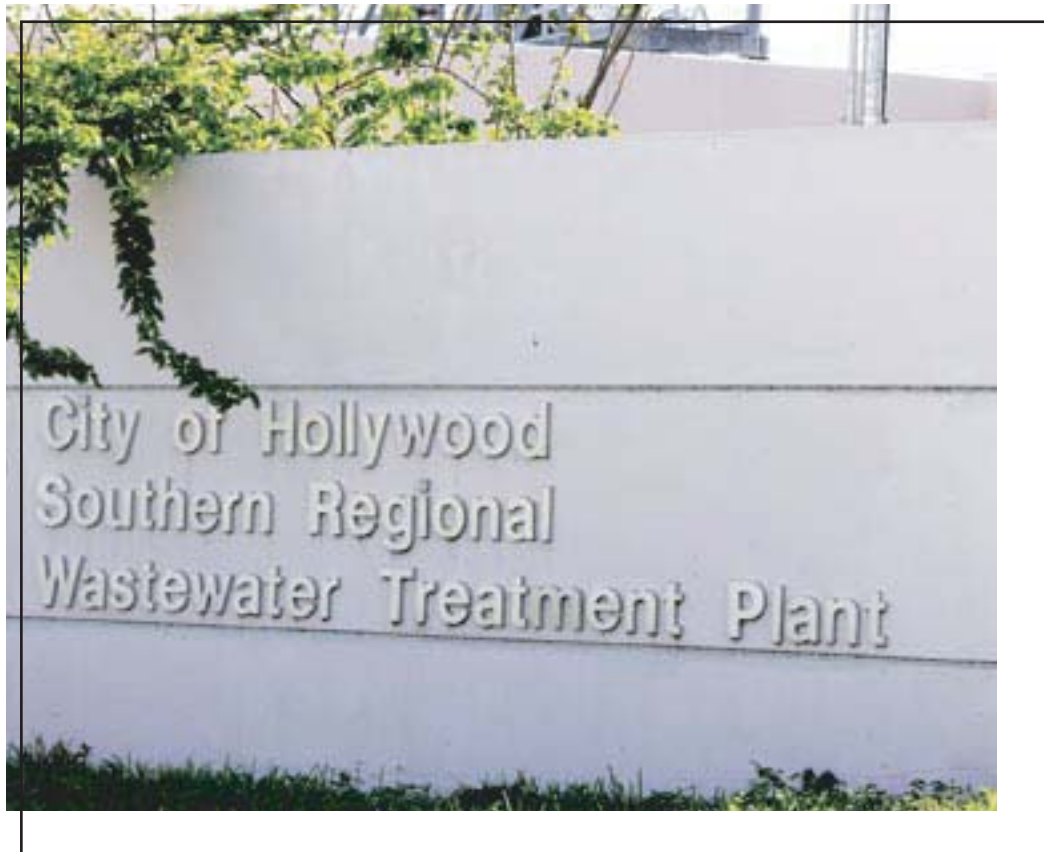
"Landfill costs were projected to rise 100% from less than \$30.00 per ton to \$58.00 per ton," Don Bayler, deputy director of operations stated, "Obviously the future was dim if we continued to landfill."

As the landfill contract was coming to an end, the city began looking for alternatives. Five main considerations were at the top of the City's wish list: economics, truck traffic, physical plant size, odor and safety. Producing a Class A product was a given. Three methods of treatment were considered.

A system that added dust from cement or lime kilns was rejected because the 2-1 ratio of additives to sludge would







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