

SYNAGRO BIOSOLIDS FACT SHEET

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Synagro In-Vessel Bioconversion Facility is located at the Sand Island Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) in Honolulu, Hawaii. This facility produces biosolids (dried pellets) that have undergone dewatering and stabilization. This wastewater treatment process produces valuable byproducts with uses ranging from fuel to soil enhancement.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Class A Exceptional Quality Biosolids?

- Answer: Biosolids contain valuable nutrients, organic matter and renewable energy derived from treated wastewater. Class A exceptional quality biosolids are treated to exceptional standards that are virtually pathogen free and must also comply with strict standards regarding metals, odors, and vector attraction reduction.

Where are these pellets going?

- Answer: Currently, the majority goes to Niu Nursery for distribution. The next largest users are the City & County of Honolulu Parks and Golf Courses. Some private homeowners also pick up pellets directly from the plant. During times of severe weather events such as hurricanes, the pellets may need to be taken to the landfill.

How many pellets are being produced each year?

- Answer: Synagro estimates that around 3,100 dry metric tons of will be produced in 2019 at the Sand Island Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Are they meeting their pathogen and metals requirements?

- Answer: Yes, Synagro has not reported any exceedances of the fecal coliform (pathogen) or pollutant ceiling concentration (metals) limits.

Have there been any concerns (public health or environmental) with the use of these pellets over the years?

- Answer: No concerns have been conveyed to the Hawaii Department of Health sludge program manager.

Why is the use of biosolids so important?

- Answer: The increased production of biosolids helps to reduce the carbon footprint of wastewater treatment plants. The production of biosolids using anaerobic digestion allows utilities to capture natural biogas, reusing it as a beneficial fuel. Biosolids recycling helps municipalities by reducing landfill usage and extending the lifespan of limited landfill space.