

San Lorenzo, CA (510) 276-4700 Summer 2013 Issue 62 www.oroloma.org

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Inside

- Earth Day 2013 Poster **Contest Awards Ceremony**
- Earth Day 2014 Poster Contest
- Mandatory Commercial and **Multi-Family Recycling**
- Helpful Reminders
- Sewer Service Charges 2013-2014
- Accountability Report
- Spotlight on Excellence Patricia Bocsan, Kristopher Decker, Samuel Bobbitt, Brian Charvet, Arlene Wong, **Pearl Gonzalez**

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Update on Construction of Two New Digesters

In April of this year, the District started the construction of two new 1-million gallon anaerobic digesters. Construction is on schedule and is approximately 35% complete. The anticipated completion date is October 2014.

Available reserves will supply the entire funding for the project. The District's reserve policy is structured to provide funding for the renewal of the plant's infrastructure. This includes the existing digester system, dating to 1948. which is nearing the end of its reliable life. The digesters constructed today are expected to deliver 75 years of service.

The construction of the new digesters will insure that the system has capacity to accommodate biological upsets, maintenance shutdowns,

and/or a major earthquake. Digesters are used to stabilize solids that are separated from the treated effluent. This reduces pathogens and odors, and makes the resulting product attractive for a variety of uses. Methane, which is produced during the digestion process, is captured and used by two engines to produce electricity. Along with the power from the District's solar array, this is enough to make the plant electrically self-sufficient.

The new digesters will also provide flexibility in plant operations when an existing digester needs to be maintained. The new digesters will incorporate fixed concrete covers. pumped mixing and withdrawal, and allow for grease receiving.





Installation of rebar cage for Digester 6 walls



Installation of concrete piles with pile driving rig



Concrete walls and interior columns for Digester 6 with interior forms removed