

CalRecycle funds anaerobic digestion projects

By Erin Voegele | July 09, 2018

The California Department of Recycling and Recovery has awarded more than \$25 million to 10 projects to bolster organics recycling and rescue edible food for those in need. Three of the awards support anaerobic digestion projects.

“California has the opportunity to close the loop with organics by transforming the single largest part of our waste stream into a supply stream for local businesses,” said CalRecycle Director Scott Smithline. “These California Climate Investments not only recycle California-generated waste into new and valuable products, they also create jobs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change.”

The 10 funded projects will transform nearly 500,000 tons of discarded food, green waste, and other organic materials into value-added products, such as biofuel, compost, fertilizer and soil amendments, according to CalRecycle. The Organics Grant program is part of California Climate Investments, a statewide program that puts cap-and-trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, strengthening the economy and improving human health and the environment. CalRecycle said it used fiscal year 2017-'18 grant funds to award the 10 projects.

The three anaerobic digestion projects include:

Contra Costa Waste Service: Contra Costa Waste Services is partnering with the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano in Contra Costa County, California. The project includes the purchase new equipment and infrastructure upgrades at Mount Diablo Resource Recovery Park to utilize existing anaerobic digesters for increased organic waste landfill diversion and biogas production. The project includes a food rescue partnership with Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano.

CR&R Inc.: In Riverside County, California, CR&R's award supports the third phase of a three-phase project at a current anaerobic digestion facility in Perris. The expansion will increase organic waste landfill diversion and increase biofuel used to fuel the CR&R vehicle fleet.



Santa Barbara County: Santa Barbara County will use its award to develop an anaerobic digestion facility at the Tajiguas Landfill to process currently landfilled organics into biogas and compost.

A full list of the 10 funded projects can be found on the CalRecycle website.