

California Project will Convert Sewage to Electricity with Fuel Cells

Source: Fuel Cell Today

The California Energy Commission has awarded almost \$1 million to a project researching the conversion of biosolids to energy using fuel cells.

The funding will go to Delta Diablo Sanitation District, which treats effluent from 42 square miles of the Bay Point Area, about 60 km from San Francisco, and will be used to develop a system to turn solid waste from municipal sewage treatment into energy. Intellergy Corporation will contribute the remainder of the project cost of around \$4,7 million. Intellergy, based in Richmond, California, specialises in a portable system which treats organic waste on-site, but which has yet to be commercially demonstrated with biosolids. The system gasifies the waste, converting it by steam/carbon dioxide reforming to syngas. The hydrogen in the syngas will then be used to run a fuel cell, generating electricity.

The Delta Diablo Sanitation District is leading a coalition of sixteen San Francisco Bay Area public agencies working towards sustainable biosolids management, and the project will result in the implementation of a regional biosolids to energy facility.

http://www.fuelcelltoday.com/online/news/articles/2011-03/California-Sewage-to-Electricity