

SYNAGRO: SLUDGE “biosolids” bully which forces toxic, pathogenic sewage sludge from urban and industrial sources on unwilling rural communities. Those that resist get hit with costly lawsuits. Federal sludge rules provide that states and localities can enact rules more stringent than federal sludge laws.

SYNAGRO: Violations of federal and state sludge “biosolids” rules, environmental laws, permits, and human decency:

ALABAMA – In February 2009, farmers in Franklin County, Alabama, filed a Class Action lawsuit against sludge company Synagro, 3-M Company and other local industries, when sewage sludge, contaminated with highly toxic perfluorooctanoic acid ("PFOA"), perfluorooctane sulfonate ("PFOS") and other perfluorochemicals which were discharged into public sewers by the industries, poisoning water supplies, cattle ponds, and 5000 acres of the plaintiffs' farmlands, grazing and grasslands. The hazardous industrial chemicals also posed risks to human and animal health which is presently being investigated by the US EPA and USDA (both promoters of sludge spreading). Cattle can eat up to a kilogram of soil a day with their fodder. Humans are at risk from ingesting meat and milk from cattle which ate the toxins.

Synagro claimed it did not know the toxic perfluorooctanoic acid ("PFOA"), perfluorooctane sulfonate ("PFOS") were in the sludge.- but it did know industries serviced by the sewage plant discharged those chemicals in their wastewater.

<http://cases.justia.com/alabama/supreme-court/1081246.pdf?ts=1396106489>

ALABAMA August 2008 – Franklin County residents, citing pollution of land and water, protest land spreading of toxic NYC sludge -- which Synagro hauls in by rail. Local politicians protect Synagro by telling citizens there is no local or state control – only the federal EPA can regulate sludge/bisolids. This is false. Federal sludge rules clearly say states and local communities can enact sludge rules more stringent than federal rules.

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/29769170/Synagro-s-Alabama-Plan-for-New-York-City-Sludge>

ALABAMA

From *Florence, AL Times Daily, 7-9-09. AL Biosolids Facility Closes its Doors*. COLBERT COUNTY - A controversial facility outside Leighton that transformed treated human waste into a fertilizer supplement has ceased operations, a company official said. For about two years, Texas-based Synagro's Leighton facility processed sewage sludge, including human waste transported to the Shoals **from New York City**.

“Joseph L. Page, Synagro executive vice president and general counsel, verified the facility's closure. "Synagro has not been processing material at that site for several weeks," Page said. "Synagro has traditionally processed material from New York City at several sites, including the Leighton site,”

ARIZONA In November 2010, nationwide sludge spreader **Synagro ignored notice of violations from Arizona Dept. of Environmental Quality** and continued spreading sewage sludge on Arizona *dairy pastures* which contained almost twice the allowable level of toxic, carcinogenic CADMIUM; the sludge also contained high levels of CYANIDE and did not meet Class A or Class B pathogen levels.

“Shaffer also said IBWC gave Synagro results in February 2010 showing the cadmium levels in the sludge was almost twice what it should have been, but Synagro continued to apply the sludge anyway. “

” Friends of the Santa Cruz River president Sherry Sass said she was concerned to hear that the waste exceeding the limits set by ADEQ had actually been applied to the land.

“If we’ve got high levels of cadmium in the soil it could potentially be washed into the river,” Sass said. “I wouldn’t worry so much about the ground water as the surface water impact. Still it’s disturbing that that kind of activity has taken **place in violation of the standards that are protective.**”

According to ADEQ, cadmium is carcinogenic and continued exposure to it can also cause kidney, lung and bone problems.”

11-count ADEQ lawsuit: “Specifically, ADEQ alleges **persistent violations of federal allowable cadmium levels, as well as cyanide and ammonia nitrogen.**”

<http://www.nogalesinternational.com/articles/2010/11/09/news/doc4cd962eb69a7e192494837.txt>

CALIFORNIA -sewage waste: HEALTH: A report criticizes EPA methods. Sludge on crops is banned in Riverside County. California

Published: July 3, 2002

“Several residents from the French Valley, Menifee and Winchester areas said they suffered from breathing problems and other mysterious illnesses after sludge was dumped on fields near their homes (by Synagro).”

Several residents from the French Valley, Menifee and Winchester areas said they suffered from breathing problems and other mysterious illnesses after sludge was dumped on fields near their homes.”

CALIFORNIA Waste processor wants to snuff out bad smells June 18, 2001

BY ADRIANA CHAVIRA THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

Processors have paid more to haul sludge away, and Riverside County residents could see bills rise.

“the Synagro Technologies Inc. Regional Composting Facility... Swarms of flies hover over the mounds that are in various stages of decomposition “Residents living in the nearby Spanish Hills or the newer subdivisions on the west side of Interstate 15 have complained about the pungent odor and the abundance of flies for years. And legal battles with the county have gone on nearly as long. . . . “. Some filed claims against Synagro and during court hearings blamed the composting plant for giving them or their children asthma, headaches, nausea and other ailments they’ve experienced since moving in.”

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CALIFORNIA SOLANO COUNTY July 2007 SYNAGRO procedure violations
http://www.solanocounty.com/bosagenda/MG20289/AS20402/AI21793/DO21874/DO_21874.PDF

Procedure violations (14 complaints) included spills to road, damage to road, spreading material in high winds, surface water contamination, failure to incorporate material, failure to adhere to allowed operational times, failure to provide site monitoring equipment, failure to use approved truck delivery routes and failure to maintain a 2 mile buffer zone from the land application site to Rio Vista city limits. The complaints of damage to road, spills to road and failure to adhere to allowed operational times were validated, cited as violations and Synagro was directed to correct the deficiencies.

CALIFORNIA – US EPA Region 9 CITES SYNAGRO FOR CLASS B PATHOGEN VIOLATIONS IN LAND APPLIED SEWAGE SLUDGE:

<http://www.epa.gov/region9/water/npdes/pdf/ca/Pacifica-AO.pdf>

GRAZING ANIMALS AND WILDLIFE AT RISK – PACIFICA (the POTW) and SYNAGRO VIOLATED sewage sludge section of the CLEAN WATER ACT

On February 15, 2008, Pacifica submitted its 2007 annual sewage sludge report for the Calera Creek Water Recycling Plant to EPA.

- a. Pacifica stated in the annual report that it generated 670.5 dry metric tons (dmt) of sewage sludge, which was transferred to Synagro West.
- b. Synagro West reported that it hauled 88.3 dmt to a landfill and land applied the remaining sewage sludge to sites in Merced County, Sacramento County, and Solano County for fertilizing pasture, sudan, and ryegrass, respectively.
- c. Based on Pacifica's and Synagro West's reported numbers, Synagro West land applied 582.2 dmt of Pacifica's sewage sludge in 2007. Therefore, pursuant to 40 CFR 503.16(a)(1), Pacifica is required to monitor once per quarter.
- d. Pacifica provided fecal coliform analytical data for 2007 to demonstrate Class B pathogen reduction. However, Pacifica's average geometric means for the monitoring periods of January through March and April through June both exceeded 2,000,000 mpn/gram, 100% dry weight basis. □

Despite Pacifica's failure to meet Class B pathogen requirements, Pacifica's sewage sludge was land applied during the first two quarters of 2007.

- a. For the first and second quarters of 2007 in which Pacifica exceeded the maximum fecal coliform density of 2,000,000 mpn/gram, Synagro West's report indicates that the sewage sludge was land applied for at least a portion of the first quarter and all of . . . For the first and second quarters of 2007 in which Pacifica exceeded the maximum fecal coliform density of 2,000,000 mpn/gram, Synagro West's report indicates that the sewage sludge was land applied for at least a portion of the first quarter and all of the second quarter. During the first quarter, the sewage sludge was land applied to various fields in Merced County. During the second quarter, the sewage sludge was land applied to fields in both Sacramento County and Solano County.
- b. High levels of fecal coliform may be indicative of high levels of pathogenic organisms. The land application of Pacifica's sewage sludge during the first two quarters of 2007 could pose a risk to grazing animals or wildlife.
- b. 10. By land applying sewage sludge that exceeded the standards in 40 CFR 503, Subpart B, Respondent has violated Section 405(e) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. §1345(e). (sewage sludge section of Clean Water Act)

16. By March 28, 2009, Pacifica shall submit to EPA certification from Synagro that Synagro complied with site and harvesting restrictions of 40 CFR 503.32(b)(5) for the fields where it land applied Pacifica's sewage

sludge during 2007. Provided that Pacifica is still producing sewage sludge to meet Class B pathogen requirements (and not Class A), Pacifica shall include a copy of any land application contractor's site and harvesting certifications in future annual reports.

CALIFORNIA – KERN COUNTY - LA =MULCH/COMPOST VIOLATIONS –INCLUDES TRASH

http://www.kerngoldenempire.com/story/d/story/county-la-dumping-trash-filled-mulch/37431/e_S6baE2HUy5v4TEVK0o_w

BAKERSFIELD, CA - County officials told supervisors Tuesday the mulch the L.A. Bureau of Sanitation is bringing to Lebec and Rosamond contains trash.

Supervisors reacted strongly, asking for fines and attorney involvement in response to what county officials showed them in the board chambers Tuesday morning.

Officials said they collected trash for five minutes from one of the mulch sites near Rosamond. They presented the board a plastic bag with what they found inside. It included a fork, feminine product and even a bubble wand.

“Constantine said SunPower uses the mulch to mitigate dust. He said B&B Materials **sends its mulch to Synagro, a company that mixes the waste and treated human waste to make fertilizer near Taft.**

The county said the L.A. Bureau of Sanitation was dumping hundreds of tons of mulch at the two locations five days a week for the last six months, free of charge.

According to the county, the mulch transloading is not free of violations. So far, the county **said four notices of violation** were sent from three departments, including the Department of Agriculture.

"They are in violation of not transporting this to an approved facility," said Ruben Arroyo, Kern County Ag Commissioner. **"Currently, there are all kinds of diseases, insects under quarantine in the L.A. basin."**

Arroyo said that includes fruit flies and the citrus psyllid. The worry is those pests could travel to Kern by way of the mulch.

"I have huge concerns with what's going on here and hopefully we get to the bottom of it," said Arroyo.

CALIFORNIA (MIMI PEREZ-FALCON, and PENNSYLVANIA – former Synagro employees Anthony Chaney and Christopher Kennedy) March 2013 - **Employees sue Synagro**

“... Plaintiff contends she was also wrongfully terminated “in violation of public policy relating to complaints about solid waste disposal and violations of permits, statutes, and regulations.”

“Plaintiff asserts “[t]his raises the issue of the potential for a **company-wide policy of terminating employees who raise issues regarding compliance with the laws.** . . . ”

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http://articles.philly.com/2012-11-09/news/34995206_1_suit-plant-chemicals

Synagro accused of illegal dumping

The Water Department contractor is the subject of a lawsuit filed by two former supervisors.

By Mark Fazlollah, Inquirer Staff Writer

POSTED: NOVEMBER 09, 2012

Two former supervisors for a city waste contractor have alleged in a lawsuit that the firm illegally dumped chemicals, violated antipollution laws, and supplied misinformation for inspections.

The suit, filed Tuesday in Common Pleas Court in Philadelphia, says the problems occurred at the local plant of Houston's Synagro Technologies Inc., which has a \$590 million contract with the Philadelphia Water Department to turn human waste into fertilizer and fuel.

It alleges that Synagro's actions caused "risks of chemical exposure and explosions" at the plant near Philadelphia International Airport.

Specifically, it said the plant was "engaging in unlawful dumping of waste and chemicals."

Instead of using required chemicals in antipollution scrubbers, it said, the plant simply ran water through the devices. And when there was air-quality testing, it provided inaccurate information, the suit said. . . .

"Attorneys for the former supervisors, Anthony Chaney and Christopher Kennedy, declined to discuss the case.

According to the suit, Chaney and Kennedy, both from Delaware, were fired "for refusing to engage in criminal acts" at the company's direction. In addition to Synagro, the firm's local affiliate, Philadelphia Biosolids L.L.C., is listed as a defendant."

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LAWSUITS— three Synagro employees – Mimi Perez-Falcon, Anthony Chaney and Christopher Kennedy - allege they were fired because ". . . the company was illegally dumping chemicals, violating antipollution laws, and illegally ran waste disposal at the plant located in Houston, Texas."

http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCOURTS-caed-1_11-cv-01645/pdf/USCOURTS-caed-1_11-cv-01645-5.pdf

VIRGINIA "In 2012, a lawsuit was filed against the company (Synagro) alleging that the company was illegally dumping chemicals, violating antipollution laws, and illegally ran waste disposal at the plant located in Houston, Texas.

"Also, Plaintiff asserts "Diana Floyd is involved in every termination at Synagro," including her own and the terminations of Mr. Chaney and his co-plaintiff, Christopher Kennedy "

"Because the Philadelphia Plant was operated by Philadelphia Biosolids, a subsidiary of Synagro Technologies, Inc., Plaintiff asserts "[t]his raises the issue of the potential for a company-wide policy of terminating employees who raise issues regarding compliance with the laws . . . "

Two employees at the plant both claimed they were wrongly fired after refusing to be a part of the illegal activities that were going on." http://www.hopewellnews.com/article_6944.shtml#.VRyMPWe_z3h

2010 CALIFORNIA – Kern sludge plant – public nuisance – drove neighbors out

The County Environmental Health Services field inspectors have been out after we filed online complaints about the odor, even coming out on Saturday mornings at 5:00 A.M., resulting in Synagro receiving official violations for odor and other problems. I continue to file official complaints every time I visit my property and the odor is present. We also officially went on record with the County as being opposed to any expansion of this facility. (All of their records at the County are under the guise South Kern Industrial.) In conclusion, we cannot live there any longer under those conditions. Synagro has become a public nuisance for us.

CALIFORNIA JUNE 2013 Synagro cited after neighbors raise stink about odors

Kern County Health Department found composting firm was in violation during visit earlier this year - See more AT

<http://www.taftmidwaydriller.com/article/20130618/News/130619772#sthash.ZByNbm5L.dpuf>

'An inspection conducted in late April found that strong odors were emitting from the plant located just off South Lake road about 11 miles east of Taft. - See more at:

<http://www.sludgenews.org/action/story.aspx?id=99>

HAWAII - HAWAII 2. City and County of Honolulu, Sand Island (Synagro) for failing to operate continuously the waste gas burner for five days in calendar year 2010. The waste gas burner is fired on digester gas that is a byproduct from the process of making waste water sludge into fertilizer at the Sand Island Wastewater Treatment Plant (SIWWTP) in Honolulu. The violations were discovered during an August 17, 2010 annual inspection and subsequent record review of Synagro's reports and notification letters. A penalty of \$14,000 has been imposed for the violations. - See more at: <http://www.bigislandvideonews.com/2011/02/17/doh-cites-helco-keahole-station-for-air-permit-violations/#sthash.EZnNYn78.dpuf> <http://www.bigislandvideonews.com/2011/02/17/doh-cites-helco-keahole-station-for-air-permit-violations/>

HAWAII – Class A sludge biosolids pellets: JULY 2011

“First, Synagro over-promised and under-delivered on the biosolids digester at Sand Island. It promised 6,000 tons of pelletized fertilizer — with one third to be given to the city and the remainder marketed to help offset costs.

To date, only half that tonnage has been produced. There were no sales of these pellets in the last six months of 2009, and sales were a meager \$438 last year.

During this time, the city actually incurred a total loss of \$170,457 when labor and transportation costs are factored in to the production of the pellets.

» Second, the safety of these pellets remains in question. A former Environmental Protection Agency microbiologist claims the treatment process for sludge does not kill the toughest pathogens.

In response, the city hired University of Hawaii researcher Roger Fujioka in 2004 to test the pellets. He could not determine whether the public's health would be substantially affected by the land application of these pellets. Not surprisingly, it has been a tough sell convincing local farmers and nurseries to take these pellets.

» Third, our research shows that Synagro's reputation is highly questionable. Documents provided in Council Communications 175 tell of a federal bribery scandal in Detroit and Philadelphia involving Synagro, several mayors, council members and their staff that resulted in convictions. “

http://www.staradvertiser.com/editorials/20110717_City_Council_was_correct_to_cut_funds_for_second_sewage_digestion.html

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INDIANA - February 2004

LIBERTY, Ind. -- If the Indiana Department of Environmental Management approves a pending permit, biosolids from the Middletown, Ohio, wastewater treatment plant might soon be spread on farmland in Wayne, Union and Franklin counties (by Synagro).

“Union County's decision Monday to oppose the permit pleased Brownsville Township resident James Butcher, who said no more waste should be imported to the community. Butcher, who lives on North Abington Road, said **his well already is contaminated with bacteria he thinks comes from out-of-county sludge.**

"We're going to be a cesspool," Butcher said. "Why drive 60 miles to dump in Union County when you have farms in Ohio?"

Union County sanitarian Ron Parker said Butcher's well has shown bacterial contamination and IDEM representatives have visited his residence at least twice.

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1. **MARYLAND** [Citizens vocally criticize state at last Cecil County sludge meeting ...Nov. 2013](http://www.cecildaily.com/news/local_news/article_103ec986-843d-59ed-8a2e-04e89188b706.html)
http://www.cecildaily.com/news/local_news/article_103ec986-843d-59ed-8a2e-04e89188b706.html
Cecil Whig

Nov 10, 2013 - WASHINGTON —A majority of citizens attending a sludge information meeting the EHS meeting were opposed to two ... John McDaniel, a resident near the Spry Farm, asked MDE and Synagro to review the applications... Synagro contracted to spread the sludge . . .

“Opponents complained about inadequate public notice and oversight, potential contamination of drinking water and family gardens odors and decreased property values.”

“John McDaniel, a resident near the Spry farm, asked the MDE and Synagro to review the application For the Spry farm. He claimed the application is flawed. **“The application doesn’t have the right location where the sludge is to be applied;”** McDaniel said. “It’s a quarter-mile away.”

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MARYLAND 2008 <http://www.mde.state.md.us/programs/PressRoom/Pages/1086.aspx>

Maryland law prohibits the creation of nuisance odors. Nuisance odors are odors that MDE determines unreasonably interfere with the use and enjoyment of property.

- **Synagro-Baltimore L.L.C. -- Baltimore City --** On February 25, MDE received a \$27,000 penalty payment from **Synagro for violations** of air quality requirements. Synagro operates a sludge pelletizer plant that dewateres sludge waste from Patapsco Waste Water Treatment Plant to form a dry pellet.

The penalty addressed nuisance odor violations and permit condition violations. Synagro had a malfunction of their air pollution control equipment that allowed sewage odor to affect nearby neighborhoods. During this time MDE received numerous citizen complaints about sewage odors. Based on MDE's investigation it was determined that Synagro was the source of the odor.

Also, MDE's review of quarterly monitoring reports revealed that Synagro failed to comply with certain conditions of their air quality permit.

MARYLAND <https://www.gofreightconnect.com/carrier/5500819ef5e62a5ba7e964e2>
SYNAGRO, Baltimore, Md.

SMS Basic Scores

BASIC scores are measured on a scale of 0 to 100, where 0 indicates the best safety performance. Scores are based on a 24-month record. **SYNAGRO SOUTH LLC has had 20 total violations in the last 24 months.**

Driving violations include unsafe driving, hours of service compliance, vehicle maintenance, controlled substances and alcohol and driver fitness.

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http://www.shrm.org/legalissues/stateandlocalresources/pages/cms_017731.aspx

Company Pays for Overtime Violations

By Business and Legal Reports, Inc. 7/11/2006

Houston employer **Synagro** Technologies has agreed to pay \$247,000 to 49 truck drivers who were not paid overtime. An investigation by the Wage and Hour Division of the U.S. Department of Labor, covering July 31, 2003 to August 1, 2005, showed that the company violated the federal Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) by:

- Failing to pay overtime to drivers who worked over 40 hours in a week, and
- Not keeping the proper payroll records.

- See more at:

http://www.shrm.org/legalissues/stateandlocalresources/pages/cms_017731.aspx#sthash.PJnsTipF.dpuf

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NEW YORK - EMPLOYEE SUES SYNAGRO, ET ALS October 2013

<http://law.justia.com/cases/new-york/other-courts/2013/2013-ny-slip-op-51788-u.html>

“Plaintiff states that the equipment he used was already in the tank when he was lowered in. He was operating a water hose to soften and liquify the solid waste in the tank so that it could be pumped out of the tank.

Plaintiff states that in the course of his work, a large section of sludge broke up and started to move toward him. He stated that he yelled for help but that Sellick was not at the top of the tank, and he stated he shook the cable attached to his back to try to get the attention of someone at the top of the tank. He tried to bend down and exit through a hatch in the side of the tank which was below knee level, but he was unable to get through the hatch because the harness he was wearing was still attached to a cable running up the inside of the tank. He states that he couldn't get more than his head into the hatch. **He also stated that he ingested some of the sludge.”**

“Plaintiffs did file a supplemental Bill of Particulars on April 6, 2011, **alleging violations of Labor Law 241(6) and 200, and a further supplemental Bill of Particulars on September 27, 2012 alleging additional Industrial Code violations and a violation of Labor Law 240(1).** Plaintiffs now seek leave to amend their complaint to assert claims pursuant to Labor Law sections 240(1), 241(6) and 200.”

“Plaintiff argues that he has a valid 240(1) claim because his work was not routine maintenance but was incidental to the demolition of the tanks and his injury was gravity related as he was injured when sludge fell on him. He argues that the ladder which did not reach to the base of the tank was an insufficient safety device under Labor Law section 240(1).

Plaintiffs also argue that they have a valid 241(6) claim because Industrial Code 12 NYCRR 23-1.7(f) was violated as there was no ladder or other safe means of egress from the tank. Plaintiffs further allege a violation of section 12 NYCRR 12-1.9 because Sellick, the safety monitor who was supposed to be supervising Plaintiff's work, was not at the top of the tank when the Plaintiff needed assistance and there was not a second worker, in addition to the safety monitor, at the tank to aid Plaintiff.

“In this case, SYNAGRO was hired to remove sludge from digester tanks. Plaintiffs submit a contract dated February 8, 2008 between SKANSKA and SYNAGRO which provides that SYNAGRO was to clean certain tanks which were scheduled for [*6]demolition. While the cleaning of the tanks by itself would not constitute activity covered pursuant to Labor Law, because the cleaning of the tanks was being performed in preparation of the the demolition of the tanks, it is protected activity for the purposes of the Labor Law.

“Plaintiff also argues that he was injured by sludge falling to the bottom of the tank which he asserts is a gravity related injury. Plaintiff testified in his deposition that as he was hosing down the sludge, a large amount of sludge shifted and started to fall toward him, causing the level of the sludge to rise. Plaintiff tried to escape the tank through the hatch, but because he was harnessed, could only get his head into the hatch but could not exit.

Plaintiff claims that the injury was gravity related because the sludge fell and caused the hazardous situation which prompted his attempt to escape the tank. [*7] (CASE ongoing – more depositions ordered)

MARYLAND {Failing to find enough farmers willing to take this toxic waste, Synagro turns to public parks . . . }

From *Baltimore Sun*, 7-1-07. *Crying Foul Over Sludge in Harford County, MD. Havre de Grace residents don't want material spread at state park.* Spreading sludge from Harford County's wastewater treatment plant on farmland in a state park has drawn the ire of nearby residents who do not want the common practice extended to public parkland. Synagro Technologies Inc., the county's contractor, began hauling the sanitized byproduct, known as Class B biosolids, from the Sod Run treatment plant to a 108-acre farm near Havre de Grace last month.

The farm is part of Susquehanna State Park, a favorite spot for anglers, hikers and horseback riders. Neighbors have complained of truck traffic, odors and potential health hazards. They insist the county should not use parkland for sludge disposal. "Our parks are protected," said Jeff Lawson, whose home on Quaker Bottom Road sits on the hauler's route to the park. "Why turn them into a dumping ground?" His wife, Katharine M. Lawson, said, "We love this park. It should be kept clean."

MARYLAND

http://www.myeasternshoremd.com/news/kent_county/article_0ed44172-b32d-54ee-9b5e-6f1f7456a437.html

"the information (submitted to obtain the permit) was invalid and fictitious."

SYNAGRO TO SPREAD SLUDGE April 30, 2009

CHESTERTOWN – Depending on rain, Synagro LLC plans to spread its first load of sewage sludge near Fairlee Creek in May.

A sewage sludge utilization permit is issued to the landowner. Synagro LLC is the applicator. The Shafers, who own the farm, live in Baltimore and rent the fields to a farmer. The County lost a court challenge to the Shafer-Synagro sludge application permit in February. County officials hoped that Synagro would be directed to comply with county zoning ordinances.

McLeod argued the county's court case. He wrote that Class B sludge for farm fertilizer "has more odor, a higher concentration of heavy metals such as arsenic and lead, some pathogens . . . environmental harm results when it is placed on farm fields with a high water table . . . "like the soils on the Shafer farm."

A permit requires a nutrient management plan, developed to determine the amount of nutrients, heavy metals and pathogens" already in the soil; the amount in the sludge; and to keep the chemicals and nutrients within what the crops can absorb: "otherwise, the fields become a large toilet bowl . . . flushed directly into the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries every time it rains."

"The company (Synagro) never spoke with the farmer who leased Shafer's farm; "incorrectly represented that manure had not been used before as fertilizer; and the MDE never checked with the MDA to determine if the nutrient management plan was legitimate or not.

Thus the county went to court knowing that the information (Synagro submitted to obtain the permit) was invalid and fictitious.

. . . new regulations have been under discussion for 3 years by a State Biosolids Task Force formed in 2006. . for a year it met in secret without public notice or published minutes . . . it was not until August 28, 2007 that the MDE and sludge task force (of which Synagro was a member) **admitted they were in violation of state law.**

MICHIGAN

(Detroit Council woman) Conyers’ mistake was taking bribes from the Synagro corporation, the nation’s largest waste disposal company, who wanted a 25-year, \$1 billion contract for handling Detroit’s municipal sewage. In what the local media have taken to calling the “sludge scandal” (– go ahead, google it), Synagro tried to recruit allies on the Detroit city council through bribery. Conyers is the only one so far who has copped to bribery charges, but the palm-greasing probably also included a 2003 junket to Hawaii to see a boxing match with Kwame Kilpatrick (for more, see [this story in Detroit Business Magazine Crain’s](#)).

Watching the shit hit the fan in Michigan has been sobering. *But its also sobering to learn that Synagro has been greasing politicians’ palms since 1992*, and has spiraled downwards into a mire of sludge and PR which threatens government and corporate transparency, health and safety, the environment, our food supply, and effective environmental regulation.

<https://enclosureofthecommons.wordpress.com/2009/07/17/greenwashing-synagro-secretive-corporate-giant-has-got-the-private-poop/>

Monica Conyers Gets 37 Months in Prison in Synagro Bribery Scandal in Detroit

NEVADA

NEVADA – AMARGOSA VALLEY – OCTOBER 2003

After being driven out of Riverside County, California, after over 100 people complained about sludge-related illnesses, and out of Mohave Valley, Arizona, because of 100+ health complaints, Synagro is now spreading Class B sewage sludge biosolids from Orange County, California, in Amargosa Valley, Nevada – and folks there are starting to report illness:

“Helane, We are in Nevada--you have been in contact with my husband, Richard. There are **several people who have developed coughs who** live 1 1/2 miles south of the ranch where they are spreading sludge. There are people who live on the west side of this ranch who are having problems--one elderly woman has developed a **chemical rash** and a man who needs a liver transplant and is dying is having trouble breathing. Last night at our meeting people in the same family **report headaches**. They seem to be getting the brunt of the stench too. Richard, my husband, **became very ill this past weekend with abdominal cramping** –”

“Sludge grudge comes to end

SEN. (HARRY) REID CREDITED WITH STOPPING AMARGOSA VALLEY SHIPMENTS

"Reid, a member of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, contacted U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Mike Leavitt, expressing strong concerns over the application of the municipal sewage sludge.

"The application of sludge has given rise to nuisance pests and health concerns among my constituents. The same sludge product was banned from Mohave (County), Arizona due to health problems and concerns," Reid wrote, in a letter dated Feb. 6. He mentioned a Cornell Waste Management Institute study that identified more than 35 sites where neighbors in Mohave County, Ariz., reported illnesses.

Reid gave Leavitt a list of questions about application of bio-solids including protection from airborne pathogens, water runoff and infiltration, a lack of information about pollutants in bio-solids and regulations protecting workers and neighbors from flies and pets attracted to the sludge.

Reid, in a press release, said he worked out an agreement with the sanitation district to stop disposal of the sewage sludge in Nevada."

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"Running out of places willing to take the sludge left over from sewage treatment, the Orange County Sanitation District is trucking it to an Indian tribe's farmland 270 miles away. . . . It's a wonderful product for the farmers," said Laurie Loter, spokeswoman for Synagro Technologies Inc., the contractor that hauls the sludge to the reservation.."

<http://articles.latimes.com/2002/mar/11/local/me-sludge11>

"NEW YORK - February 2009 - Attorney General Andrew Cuomo sues Synagro

NEW YORK ORGANIC FERTILIZER COMPANY (NYOFCo) and SYNAGRO TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,

2. The operation of the Facility constitutes a public nuisance because it releases and continues to release noxious odors that permeate and adversely affect people living in adjacent residential neighborhoods, students attending schools, users of a local public library and people visiting a new public park right next to the Facility.

Since shortly after 1991, when the Facility began operating, **people living and working nearby have suffered adverse physical effects from the noxious odors, including severe headaches, nausea, vomiting, constriction of the throat and chest, difficulty in breathing, and asthma attacks ; residents of nearby neighborhoods have had their daily activities curtailed and interrupted by putrid odors; students, faculty and staff at the four local public schools have also suffered adverse physical effects from the Facility's odors, including nausea and headaches; the schools have been forced to keep windows closed during the hottest months of the school year to prevent the Facility's odors from entering classrooms; and odors from the Facility have disrupted the teaching process and outdoor athletic classes and events.**

http://cityroom.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/02/05/cuomo-sues-bronx-fertilizer-company/?_r=0

"NYOFCo currently operates under Title V of the Clean Air Act, which requires it to self-monitor and submit the results of smokestack tests to the city and local community board every six years. The company is also responsible for checking for toxic substances often found in urban sludge, including metals, pharmaceuticals, bacteria, viruses, and parasites.

Although NYOFCO has violated environmental standards, most recently in September when one of its smokestacks exploded, the Department of Environmental Conservation awarded it a new, 16-year permit in the fall of 2001. “

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NORTH CAROLINA

Gold Hill area companies, farmer cited for environmental violations

Published 12:10 am Sunday, January 18, 2015

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality in December cited two businesses near Gold Hill and a local farmer with environmental violations concerning a non-permitted dump site.

Three separate divisions of DENR cited Carolina Stalite, Hammill Construction Co. and farmer Phil Cline for several environmental violations, including: operating a non-permitted waste site and allowing the stored waste material to enter a nearby stream. The site is in Cabarrus County and near Gold Hill.

Approximately 750 feet of an unnamed tributary leading into Little Buffalo Creek was filled with the emission control dust and the tributary’s pH level was measured at a non-standard amount, according to another letter, dated Dec. 9, from DENR’s Division of Water. In the letter, Regional Supervisor for Water Quality Operations Michael Parker writes that 22 feet of emission control dust built up on the bottom of the stream. In the same letter, Parker writes that the built-up waste “resulted in the loss of use of the channel for aquatic wildlife.”

Downstream from the emission control dust, according to Parker’s letter, the stream’s pH measured 9.5 SU, which is the equivalent of baking soda. Upstream from the waste, the stream measured a pH of 4.3 SU, which is close to the pH of black coffee.

- [“Gold Hill NC Community Action Network](#) It's important to note that the farmer, Phil Cline, has applied to have Charlotte sludge spread on his land. Is it possible that he was going to mix this stack ash cocktail with the sludge for a double dose of poison to the land and water? Maybe the prospect of "free lime" made Gold Hill such a highly targeted area for land application of sewage sludge by Synagro and CMUD.

NORTH CAROLINA March 2009

| Coalition makes sludge case to council Says waste distribution harms residents' health

It was likely the first time someone dumped fecal matter onto the Burlington City Council's desk in an open meeting. Council members probably hope it's the last.

Don Yelton, a member of the Environmental Investigation Coalition, stirred the waste into a vase of water - along with a number of dyes - to illustrate the problems associated with the land application of sewage sludge in Alamance and five other counties during the coalition's presentation Tuesday night.

Yelton, along with coalition members Dale Swiggett and Nancy Holt, wants Burlington to question its contracts with Synagro, a wastewater solids distribution company, and its disposal of sludge as farmland fertilizer. Land application is sanctioned by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and regulated by the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Burlington's sludge application permit was renewed by the state last summer.

The group spent more than an hour detailing issues with the sludge spreading. Most compelling was Holt's statement that residents in a five-mile radius of her home in Orange County, near where Synagro applies sludge, have a 70 percent cancer rate. She told the council she now has a brain tumor and holes in her brain.

After she spoke, Holt had a seizure and had to be escorted from the council chambers.

“Instead, Swiggett said Gov. Beverly Perdue and state senate leader Marc Basnight are part of "organized crime" in Raleigh for environmental cover-ups and wasting taxpayer money through DENR. He says the Jordan Lake Rules - the state's pending regulation to cut nutrients flowing from the Haw and New Hope River basins into Jordan Lake - doesn't regulate sewage sludge as fertilizer, a contributor to those nutrients.

Swiggett also claims that Synagro is shipping sewage sludge into Alamance County from Northeastern states. “

<http://www.bredl.org/pdf2/Burlington-draftsludgepermitcomments053008.pdf>

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PENNSYLVANIA February 04, 2012 By Marion Callahan, Of The Morning Call

Sewage sludge on farm alarms residents

Valley residents want farmers to stop spreading sludge. Some say it is polluting their water supplies.

Landowners must rotate crops, restrict public access to a site and assure that there are no visible signs of erosion — all conditions that were checked "not determined" on the state-mandated inspection report. Tim Craven, DEP's regional inspector, said the inability to verify a condition doesn't indicate a problem.

"If something is not determined at the time, it doesn't mean there is a violation," he said. "We are out there when we have time to be out there. Ideally we would be out there at the time of the spreading, but that is not practical. I'm not able to follow Synagro around."

“The department, he said, relies on Synagro or the permitted utility to report violations.”

“Lower Mount Bethel Supervisor Howard Klein, a farmer in the township, worries a trend could follow.

"I expect we'll see applications to spread it across thousands of acres of land. When I say Lower Mount Bethel could become a chemical waste dump, I truly believe that," he said. "I'm worried about the health of the community."

http://articles.mcall.com/2012-02-04/news/mc-sewage-fertilizer-20120203_1_sewage-sludge-synagro-biosolids/2

PENNSYLVANIA Pa. Residents Challenge Synagro Sludge Permits

By Allissa Wickham

Law360, New York (February 20, 2014, 2:55 PM ET) -- Several Pennsylvania residents filed a challenge to sewage sludge permits granted to a subsidiary of bankrupt Synagro Technologies Inc. with the state's environmental hearing board Wednesday, saying *the sludge could potentially contaminate their drinking water and harm endangered species*. Attorney Jordan Yeager filed the challenge.

Ten residents and citizens group Sludge Free UMBT are appealing permits granted on Jan. 18 to Synagro Mid-Atlantic Inc. by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, which allowed the company to spread biosolids on three farms in Upper Mount Bethel Township owned by former Northampton County Councilman Ron Angle

<http://www.law360.com/articles/511618/pa-residents-challenge-synagro-sludge-permits>

PENNSYLVANIA "Thursday, February 28, 2008 [Something smells funny](#)

“About this time last year, the Lynn Township Board heard some very vocal concerns about the dumping of municipal sludge. The complaints arose after sludge was distributed over a **frozen snow-ice covered farmer’s field outside of New Tripoli**. The problem coincided with last years **Valentine's Day Snowstorm**. *Several wells were reportedly contaminated.* “ **(Federal sludge rules specifically forbid dumping sludge on frozen ground)**

PENNSYLVANIA -

DEP FINES COMPANY \$35,000 FOR SEWAGE SLUDGE VIOLATIONS

Violations Occurred in Six Counties Over Two Years

HARRISBURG: Environmental Protection Southcentral Regional Director Rachel Diamond today announced that DEP has fined **Synagro** Mid-Atlantic Inc. \$35,000 for **numerous violations** associated with the storage and land application of sewage sludge. Synagro paid DEP for violations that occurred in six counties between January 2003 and July 2004.

“You wouldn’t expect this type of action from a company that deals extensively with the storage and application of sewage sludge,” Diamond said of the region’s largest land applier of sewage sludge.

"These violations could have been and should have been avoided."

Synagro was fined \$15,000 for violations that occurred during 2003 in Adams, Berks, Franklin and Lebanon counties. DEP also fined the company \$20,000 for violations that occurred in Berks, Lancaster and York counties during 2004. Violations included spreading sewage sludge on frozen ground, spreading sewage sludge on an adjacent landowner's property without written consent and the improper storage of sewage sludge, and failure to prevent runoff from entering nearby waterways. Environmental impacts to the streams were slight and temporary.

"It was made clear to the company that continuing violations would result in significantly higher penalties and would threaten Synagro's ability to continue operating in Pennsylvania," Diamond said. "Company officials made a commitment for significant improvements to their performance over the next 12 months."

For more information on this topic, visit DEP's Web site at www.dep.state.pa.us, Keyword: "DEP Water Management."

PENNSYLVANIA – Dept. of Environmental Protection – Notice of Violations letter to Synagro – April 2009
Sludge spread on wrong farm !

Re: Noncompliance Sewage Sludge Activity
George Phillips Farm / Charles Fair Farm York County

1. Sewage sludge from the New Freedom Borough wastewater treatment plant was land applied to the Charles Fair Farm. The Fair Farm does not meet the general requirements for the land application of sewage sludge. This is contrary to 25 Pa Code § 271.913(a). Specifically, the area failed to meet the requirements established in 25 Pa Code §§ 271.913(e), 271.913(f), 271.913(g) and 271.913(h). In addition, the application of sewage sludge occurred on the Charles Fair Farm without meeting the notification requirements specified in Section D.1. and the land application requirements in Section E.1. of general permit PAG-08-3573.

"It is official. The Sludge dumping Permit for George Phillips has been withdrawn by Synagro!!!!!! Back the first part of April I found out that Synagro had spread sewage sludge on a neighboring farmers hay field. They flung Pooh 25-30 feet in by about 250 yards in length. I talked with the farmer and he was very upset. He also was very worried about his drinking water which is spring fed and all of the sludge can go into with heavy rains. He mentioned how in 2007 when they dumped that totally rank sludge on us how awful the stench was etc., and he is a PIG FARMER!!!! He gave me permission to call DEP to report it so I did and they came out and wrote up a violation report, this was their 3rd one."

" Mark Reider from Synagro had to come out and then George Phillips and his workers had to take rakes and a shovel to remove the sludge. Of course it was impossible to remove it all so the farmer is still not satisfied with that. DEP wrote Synagro a letter and they had 15 days to respond so we just received this letter from them *rescinding their permit.*"

[THIRD NOTICE OF SLUDGE VIOLATION]

PENNSYLVANIA – Boyertown Area Times , Pennsylvania — Dec. 2006 – Jan. 2007 – [slaughterhouse waste may contain BSE/mad cow prions]

A state regulatory body has suspended Daniel Hunsicker's use of waste from a slaughterhouse as fertilizer on his farm in Douglass (Mont.) Township. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) ruled that the **material-which doesn't meet the standards of a recycled replacement product**-can't be spread on or trucked to the farm, which covers more than 100 acres along Congo-Niantic Road.

In a letter dated Dec. 13, the DEP stated that SYNAGRO's submission failed to demonstrate that the material-a combination of cow manure, undigested food and reprocessed water-is "physically and chemically equalvent to a commercial product, i.e. fertilizer." "Under the residual regulations, SYNAGRO must submit an updated mineral plan and receive approval of their updated farm management program. Furlan said SYNAGRO has not contacted the DEP since the determination.

However, Lignelli isn't sure what damage the material could cause to residents *or the local water supply.*"



PENNSYLVANIA – SLUDGE VICTIMS win lawsuit

Subject: PENNSYLVANIA - E. HANOVER – 2007 SLUDGE VICTIMS RECEIVE SETTLEMENT - ALLEGE ILLNESS, CONTAMINATED WATER - LOST BUSINESS DUE TO FOUL ODORS - AMMONIA - Dozens of other residents complained about sludge . . .

" In a related action, supervisors voted 4-1 to settle with Bill Marshall and his son, David Marshall, whose home and lumber business are adjacent to the sewage plant.

The Marshalls had filed a federal lawsuit alleging that improperly treated sewage the plant releases into Bow Creek has made them and their families sick, contaminated their drinking water and hurt their business. "

"The Marshalls already have settled with Erdman Anthony Associates and B.K. Engineers, but, as part of the settlement, are not permitted to disclose details about it, David Marshall said.

"I've been out to the Marshalls' at the height of the odors," Supervisor Marie Beudet said. "I pity them for having to endure it."

"In another sewage matter, about a dozen township residents complained to supervisors about **Synagro**, a biosolids and residuals management company from Whiteford, Md., which they say is spreading odoriferous sludge on township farm fields. The spreading has been approved by the state Department of Environmental Protection. "

RHODE ISLAND - August 2013

DEM accuses Synagro of 7 violations

"- WOONSOCKET, RI (WPRI) - The Department of Environmental Management hit a Woonsocket waste management company with a long list of alleged violations following an investigation into **out of state sludge** that officials claim was dumped at the Central Landfill in Johnston.

In the DEM Notice of Deficiency obtained by Target 12, Angelo Liberti, Chief of Surface Water Protection wrote, "there appears to be significant operational and managerial issues at the Synagro facility."

According to the notice, the plant was inspected on August 6 following reports that out of state sludge was dumped at the landfill between July 15 and 17. Liberti wrote "based on the inspection and investigation findings" Synagro "is in violation" of seven DEM regulations.

Among the allegations, the company is accused of violating water quality regulations, not maintaining its pollutant discharge elimination system and four violations tied to sewage sludge management.

<http://www.wpri.com/web/wpri/target-12/walt-buteau/target-12-dem-accuses-synagro-of-7-violations>

<http://www.wastedive.com/news/regulators-probe-illegal-dumping-at-ris-central-landfill/163396/>

Regulators probe illegal dumping at R.I.'s Central Landfill

"A former employee at Maryland-based Synagro, registered a complaint with the landfill on July 17 which stated that the company allegedly dumped sludge from various states to dispose of at Central Landfill in Johnston, Rhode Island; the landfill doesn't accept waste from out-of-state."

"From the article:

In the... letter, Resource Recovery warned Synagro that dumping out-of-state waste at the landfill is illegal and violators are subject to a \$50,000 fine."

<http://www.920whjj.com/articles/providence-local-news-122060/company-target-of-illegal-dumping-probe-11586408/>

" Officials told WPRI-TV that Baltimore-based Synagro Technologies allegedly dumped an estimated 390,000 pounds of dried sludge at the Central Landfill during a three-day period last month. Sludge is treated solid waste from sewer treatment plants.

TENNESSEE Meigs COUNTY July 2009

Sludge On Farm Causing "Stink" With County Officials

"The problem is biosolids aren't allowed in Meigs County. "Meigs County has a zoning regulation that prohibits any land in Meigs County from being used for the disposal of commercial waste," Jones explained."

"A January 2009 EPA study shows biosolids also contain up to 27 metals like lead, pharmaceuticals, steroids and hormones. "

"Does anyone know or care about the sludge that is being spread on farms in Meigs County? Farmers are getting sludge from a company called Synagro free to spread on land that is being used to grow corn, soybeans, etc. Sludge comes from waste water treatment plants out of Knoxville. This is sludge from hospitals, factories. There are levels of toxins in this sludge ever wonder why people get Ecoli. Farmers are spreading this sludge on land, they produce crops, we eat crops and get Ecoli. STOP the spreading of SLUDGE in Meigs County.

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TEXAS – SYNAGRO REQUESTS that TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NOT REVOKE ITS SLUDGE PERMIT – claims erroneous information and **violations and deficiencies** for soil nitrate input, calculation and reduction of agronomic loading rates, are minor.

http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/comm_exec/agendas/comm/backup/Agendas/2007/5-9-2007/0324-SLG37.pdf

TEXAS – HOUSTON - 2009

“Houston ends deal with firm tied to Detroit bribe case

Houston ends troubled waste firm’s contract
Officials cite **improper sludge disposal and cost**

“The city of Houston intends to terminate a \$28 million contract with Synagro Technologies, a local waste treatment company at the center of a federal bribery investigation in Detroit.

But the city had other concerns aside from the Detroit matter, Wiginton said. In a June 3 letter, the head of the city’s public utilities division asked the city’s purchasing manager to terminate Synagro’s contract because the company was improperly disposing of sludge in landfills instead of hauling it off to be recycled.

<http://www.chron.com/business/article/Houston-ends-deal-with-firm-tied-to-Detroit-bribe-1636250.php>

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VIRGINIA

http://www.hopewellnews.com/article_6944.shtml#.VSbtJ2e_z3g

VIRGINIA - Sept. 2014 Raising a stink over sludge - Paper mill, chicken and pig slaughterhouse sludges

The pending application for usage of these products includes farmland in Goochland, Hanover, King & Queen, King William, New Kent, Prince George, and Surry Counties. According to the draft permit, the exact acreage is 16,173.7 acres, and includes 322 fields.”

“It’s going to have chicken waste, chicken parts, hog parts, and the residue from the pulp that they make the paper out of,” Mattison said. “The nitrogen and the phosphorus can make a big difference in the water because the Chesapeake Bay is already stressed. Scientifically it’s a big issue.”

“Larry McClung, who lives on West Quaker Road, attended the meeting that night for other reasons, but spoke up about his experience. McClung worked in the industrial waste treatment sector for 30 years, in Hopewell for 28. His job dealt with the industrial sludge being discussed in the permit, and **with the sludge came flies and a horrible smell.**

“If you let this come into this county, you have done your county a great injustice,” McClung told the board.

John Davenport, of King William County, spoke to the board about his experience with the sludge, which was applied to land directly across from his property. Davenport said large trucks brought a “smelly brown mud like material to the site,” which left

tracks in the road three inches thick.

“The odor was horrible. One night the ammonia odor was so strong that we had to leave and spend the night in a Williamsburg hotel,” Davenport said.”

http://www.hopewellnews.com/article_6944.shtml#.VRsnLWe_z3g

<http://goochlandteaparty.org/2014/11/12/industrial-sludge-dumped-goochland/>

“If the extremely offensive odor and the swarm of flies that it attracts isn’t enough to concern you, then the heavy metal content of the industrial sludge and the potential threat of contamination to shallow wells and waterways should outrage people.

“Several of us from Goochland and other counties attended a standing room only public meeting with the DEQ and Water Control Board at Innsbrook on Thursday, Oct. 23 in opposition to the Synagro permit to dump industrial sludge. The citizen testimonies and outcries in opposition to this permit were very factual and alarming. Several personal testimonies included cases of health issues and even death after being exposed to industrial sludge. Second to the health issues, the main concerns included the potential threat of contamination to shallow wells and waterways and lack of testing and monitoring by the DEQ.”

VIRGINIA – February 2012
Synagro LLC Fined For Sludge Violations

“FREDERICKSBURG, Va. (AP) - Synagro LLC has agreed to pay a civil fine and make improvements to resolve sewage sludge violations in three Virginia counties.

“The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality cited Synagro for improper storage and handling of treated sewage sludge on farms in Fauquier, Essex and Goochland counties. The violations involved water containing sludge running off the farms into nearby streams.

“The environmental project is designed to prevent excess nitrogen in treated sludge from running off farm fields into the Chesapeake Bay.”

<http://www.wusa9.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=193175>

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VIRGINIA February 2005

“http://www.loudounnats.org/pdf/Letter_Wolf_with_attachment_Apr_4_2004.pdf”

Letter dated 4/12/04 to Rep. Frank Wolf, Washington, DC (“LCHD” = Loudoun County Health Department)
“As a result of the violations it found the LCHD prepared a “draft” letter of complaint to Synagro (#2) and submitted it to Cal Sawyer VDH, as required by the current sludge legislation. Cal Sawyer never forwarded the complaint letter. In fact he emailed the LCHD staff member and verbally chastised him by stating that only Mr. Sawyer was authorized to send violations letters.”

“Although there were many violations (see supporting documents) a “deal” was reached on 12/5/03 that Synagro would merely empty the 3 sinkholes on the involved site (#4). Synagro claimed they did this, yet

as late as 1/9/04, correspondence (#5) indicates **they did not comply**. Eventually only one sinkhole was emptied and the **remaining violations (including application to wetland) were not corrected. Calls for well water to be checked near the violation site because of runoff were ignored."**

WASHINGTON, DC December 17, 2007 SEIU (Service Employees International Union)

Carlyle Group Sewer Sludge Business May Increase Health Risks to Communities

C Residents living near sites where sewer sludge has been applied have reported significant health complaints that they associate with the sludge application.

“By taking Synagro private in an April 2007 leveraged buyout worth \$772 million, Carlyle is able to avoid requirements that Synagro provide to the public, shareholders, and federal agencies (such as the SEC) certain information about its business practices. As a result of the buyout, Synagro may no longer be required to disclose publicly the existence of regulatory inquiries or legal complaints against the company resulting from health hazards caused by Synagro products and product distribution.”

http://www.sludgenews.org/resources/documents/CarlyleGroup_Jan2008_SEIU.pdf

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Synagro statement on its ethics, reputation and integrity– proven false by foregoing 20 pages of violations and mistreatment of sludge victims and the communities forced to be sludge disposal sites !

<https://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/media/en/gui/16123/index.html>

“Synagro Technologies, Inc. and its subsidiaries (collectively “Synagro”) are committed to the principle that ethics is the cornerstone of all relationships and of a successful business. In furtherance of this fundamental belief, Synagro and its employees have committed themselves to the following Core Values — environmental stewardship; ethics, compliance and transparency; excellence; innovation and ingenuity; integrity; partnership and teamwork.

We believe in the importance of excellent service, environmental stewardship, and displaying the highest ethical standards in all that we do. We continually strive to manage our business with integrity. Through partnership and teamwork with our customers and business partners we lead our industry in innovation and ingenuity. Together, as employees and representatives of Synagro, we are responsible for the Company’s reputation and goodwill.”

Bill Massa, Chief Executive Officer & President

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April 2013 - compiled by Helane Shields, Alton, NH 03809 hshields@tds.net

<http://www.sludgevictims.com/>

<http://www.alzheimers-prions.com/>

