



National Database for the Cost and Performance of Manure Digesters

ASERTTI Fall 2006 Meeting

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PROJECT STATUS

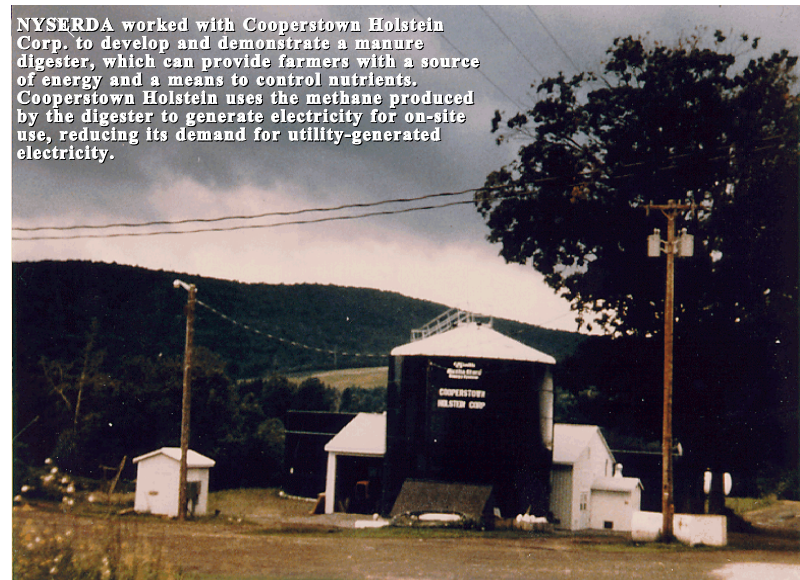
- Final Draft Protocols on ASERTTI Web Site
- Comments received until December 15, 2006
- Final Protocols posted by January 15, 2007

Remaining Protocol Issues

- Need equations and example calculations in addendum to protocols
- Need more explicit cost information requirements in addendum

Estimated Costs to Conduct Protocol Testing (over 1 year of time)

- Estimates of \$50-75 thousand per digester with higher costs on coasts



Estimated Data Base Population Needs

- Assume major differentiating variables – Type of: livestock, technology used, bedding used, climate temperature range, use of food/beverage wastes ...
- Assume 2 livestock types initially: dairy and hogs
- Assume 6 types of bedding: hay, straw, wood chips, sawdust, paper, sand
- Assume 4 types of climate: warm and wet, cold and wet, warm and dry, moderate and wet
- Assume 2 types of food/beverage wastes: with and without
- Assume 3 replications per category for variation
- Total: 1728 tests needed
- Can cut this down by assuming fewer types for each differentiating variable and/or fewer differentiating variables

Database Housing Needs

- Gatekeeper to determine compliance with protocols
- Link with DG/CHP database
- Web address to “house” the information and provide links where individual reports can be accessed
- What subset of data will be included on the national database site, and what data will interested parties need to get from links to full reports
- “Official” summary reports may be helpful



NEXT STEPS

- Press Release with ASSERTI, EPA and USDA
- Provide comments to posted protocols
- Begin sharing information with your state governments, land grant universities, farm bureau, and agriculture lending banks



Next Steps (continued)

- Approach State Directors of USDA Rural Development to press for USDA funding for the digesters they have already funded + funds for housing national database
- Approach State governments with requests for needed funding for testing digesters in your state and encouraging them to help shape summary report needs
- Determine what organization in your state will be responsible for conducting the testing and what role they can play in helping with summary reports