

Sewage Sludge Plant Operator Thanking Senator Dean Florez

I would like to thank you for your efforts re: making the sludge industry and waste water treatment plants accountable. I can tell you from my own personal experience that exposure to biosolids can be very dangerous. Myself and a co-worker have been ill for 5 years because of our work at a sewage treatment plant which produced class A and B biosolids. In my case it was heavy metals and chemical exposure which set me up for a chronic gram negative bacterial infection with the resultant systemic problems. Luckily I am still alive to talk about it, thanks to some very astute physicians. It took quite a long time to figure out the nature of my medical problems, as very few doctors are trained to recognize what has come to be known as "sludge syndrome". This is one of the issues with biosolids, people are getting sick with bizarre infections and we are just beginning to realize that we may be creating a whole new class of superbugs. You cannot mix chemicals, heavy metals, human waste (especially from hospitals) and all the other nasties in sewage and call the product an unrestricted soil conditioner. This is ludicrous and ridiculous. Keep up the good work.

Regards,