

Comments by Chris Snow

- Greeted attendees and stated his appreciation for having 75 attendees interested in organics recycling
- Updated audience on long process to revise the Compost Rule, 62-709, F.S. and expressed his satisfaction at having this rule approved by ERC on December 5, 2009. The potential of adding food waste at our yard waste processing facilities throughout the State could provide a resurgence for organics recycling.
- Gave an overview of upcoming events and specifically the U.S. Composting Council's Annual Conference in Orlando on January 25-27. Provided information on upcoming Recycle Florida Today (RFT) and SWANA Winter meeting, also in Orlando, on January 27th. This meeting to include an afternoon discussion and overview of State's proposed plan for attaining a 75% recycling goal. Pointed out the importance of organics recycling in helping to attain this new goal and said the organics industry MUST be involved in the development of any implementing legislation to attain the goal.

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- Provided copies of Washington State's Building Soils information and City of Denver's Soil Amendment programs. These programs illustrate the tremendous potential for creating markets for compost but more importantly, they focus attention on soil fertility, water quality improvement, water conservation, and the erosion control aspects of utilizing organics for soil amendment projects.
- Provided an overview of 62-640, Bio-solids Management Rule, and the need for the organics industry to work with the FDEP to address concerns with classifying bio-solids compost as fertilizer. The ERC delayed this rule's adoption for a month in order for affected parties to work out issues raised during December 5th ERC meeting. Conference call of interested/affected parties to be held week of December 13th to discuss.
- Discussed current efforts to eliminate the current yard waste ban on this waste going to Class 1, lined, landfills in Florida. Efforts to do this are taking place in other states also. The organics recycling industry will have to fight these efforts in order to maintain the use of organic materials for re-use, recycling purposes.

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