

**Florida Organics Recycling Center for Excellence (FORCE) – SW204
YEAR 7 FINAL REPORT
For the Period Ending August 7, 2008**

1.0 DESIGN

1.1 Engineering, Planning, Construction, and Inspection: \$ 0.00

All necessary engineering work is continually reviewed by County and FORCE staff as well as Kessler Consulting, Inc. (KCI) to ensure proper planning and inspection of the FORCE site and relevant equipment as required by the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Southwest office.

1.2 Plan Certification and Permitting: \$ 0.00

The following regulatory documents have been continually reviewed to meet the local DEP permit requirements and deadlines to operate the digester purchased through FORCE. KCI has been responsible for overseeing Sumter County Solid Waste staff, PBS&J, The Colinas Group, and Test America to meet deadlines and maintain proper communication with the DEP Tampa office if deadlines will be missed and why (e.g., hurricanes, broken rig equipment, etc.).

1. Composting Permit
2. MRF Permit
3. Model Consent Order

2.0 CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

2.1 Modular Office Space (trailer): \$ 0.00

No activity to report at this time.

2.2 Demonstration Farm Site Preparation and Maintenance: \$ 0.00

County staff continued to mow and maintain the farm site as needed until completion of the FORCE project on August 15, 2008.

UF/Dr. Rockwood's Forestry Project: The project is completed.

2.3 Installation and Maintenance of Digester: \$ 0.00

County staff continued to start the digester once a week for fifteen minutes as recommended in the long-term storage procedures from A-C Equipment Services, the manufacturer until the completion of the FORCE project on August 15, 2008.

2.4 Laboratory: \$ 0.00

There were no laboratory activities or purchases this quarter.

2.5 Irrigation System and Maintenance: \$ 0.00

No changes to the irrigation system have been made.

3.0 OPERATION

3.1 Process Technology Procurement and Testing: \$ 0.00

FORCE staff continued the research and review of relevant technology information for uploading of vendor information onto the FORCE website as needed.

3.2 Feedstock Procurement/Processing: \$ 0.00

No activity to report at this time.

3.3 Administrative Costs – Supplies and Travel: \$ 0.00

No activity to report at this time and billed in task 4.4.

4.0 MARKET DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, AND TRAINING

The following information provides an update on the website, outreach and education material developed, 1-800-#, USCC listserv, and industry articles and publications featuring FORCE activities.

4.1 Education, Outreach, and Website: \$ 3,533.50

Website: The Calendar of Events was updated regularly to reflect the latest in organics recycling news. To date, the website has received approximately 12,052 hits. The email address on the website, info@floridaforce.org, receives approximately ½ dozen emails per month regarding assistance on organics information. Inquiries are met with research information to the party requesting the organics information.

KCI staff worked with ANS to update and edit the website to reflect current staff and contact information, as well as uploading new grant projects. KCI staff also communicated with the web hosting company to inquire about billing information for continuation of the FORCE project.

Additionally, FORCE staff responded to article request from the website bibliography.

Newsletter: In an attempt to enhance communications and better serve Florida's organics recycling industry, FORCE continued to offer a periodic E-newsletter. Research and development of the spring 2008 E-newsletter was conducted this quarter, and transmitted to the FORCE membership on April 30, 2008. It was determined by DEP staff that the FORCE newsletter would be continued past the completion of the FORCE project.

FORCE Brochure: FORCE brochures are available for distribution at organics related conferences and sessions.

FORCE 1-800 Number: The FORCE toll-free line is being monitored by Jessica DelGrosso, the new FORCE Specialist. Calls continually come in and staff provides answers, solutions, and/or direction as appropriate. On average, this toll-free number receives limited calls per month. This quarter, FORCE assisted with the following inquiries:

- Correspondence with Cary Oshins regarding implementing food waste composting at a corporate headquarters near Boca Raton, Florida.
- Correspondence with Jeff Rodgers regarding Organics Recovery system in South Florida.
- Provided relevant information to John Faircloth, Angelo's Recycling.
- Correspondence with Whole Foods regarding food waste composting project opportunities.
- Correspondence with Amy Costello with Armstrong Wood Industry regarding ceiling tiles as a feedstock and potential markets.
- Buford Creech regarding organics recycling opportunities.

Kessler Consulting staff researched and began the steps needed to transfer the 1-800 number to the KCI office, in order to remove this responsibility from Sumter County staff when the project comes to an end.

USCC Listserv: The USCC listserv is monitored by KCI regularly for items of relevance to the FORCE program. Additionally, industry journals and the Florida Clipping Services are monitored for articles of relevance to the project and appropriate articles are forwarded to appropriate FORCE staff, TAC members and industry representatives are uploaded on the project website.

Industry Articles and Publications: FORCE staff continued to monitor the local and regional newspapers to identify any articles that may have been written about the project. The newspapers being reviewed include the Sumter County Times, The Villages Daily Sun, The Ocala Star Banner, the Lake County Daily Commercial, and the Florida Clipping Services.

FORCE staff co-authored an article featuring the *Food Waste & Yard Waste Composting Research Project* for the August 2008 issue of Resource Recycling.

4.2 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meetings & Updates: \$ 0.00

FORCE staff is in contact with various TAC members as needed, specifically, RFT Organics committee representative Chris Snow, Hillsborough County, regarding RFT organics sessions and the DEP Compost Rule (62-709) Revision TAG meetings and updates. Additionally, Josh Boan, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), was communicated with regarding the FDOT - Sumter project. Lastly, the DEP confirmed that there are no required Year 7 TAC meetings.

4.3 Market Development: \$ 6,420.00

The information below provides an update on the status of the Research & Demonstration projects funded through FORCE.

Research, Demonstration, Education, Marketing, and Outreach Projects (Grant Projects):

UF/Dr. Rockwood's Forestry Project: This project is over. The County continued to have problems with UF/IFAS and the requested invoice backup documentation for expenditures. The County communicated this to UF/IFAS. Dr. Rockwood submitted his final report. *A copy of this report is attached.*

Food Waste & Yard Waste Composting Research Project: The results of this project were compiled into a final letter report, including temperature/monitoring logs, and lab testing results. The final letter report summarizing the project results was transmitted to the DEP on June 1, 2008.

DOT Project: Work on this project has continued on schedule.. The Debris Management Contracts & Plans Assessment letter report was finalized and transmitted to the DOT on August 1, 2008. *A copy of this report is attached.*

Shelter From the Storm Innovative Grant Project: Work on this project has continued on schedule.

A workshop on disaster debris management will be conducted by KCI staff in conjunction with WasteCon in October 2008. A copy of the workshop announcement is attached.

4.4 Conferences and Meetings: \$ 0.00

As mentioned in previous quarterly reports, the State Organics Regulatory Research TAG focusing on the 62-709 rule change has been established and is focusing on the following changes/revisions to lessen the costly and stringent requirements for certain types of composting activities:

- Yard Trash (i.e., landscaping, land clearing, or clean wood materials)
- Pre-consumer vegetative wastes (i.e., vegetative food waste or other similar wastes such as generated by florists)
- Manure
- Pre-consumer animal by-products
- Research/development/pilot projects

Team members have been monitoring its progress and upcoming final meeting. FORCE staff attended the RFT 2008 Annual Conference Organics Session in St. Pete Beach, Florida.

4.5 Demonstration Farm Operations: \$ 0.00

No activity to report at this time.

5.0 EVALUATION, MONITORING, AND TESTING

5.1 SAC Protocol Development: \$ 0.00

No activity to report at this time.

5.2 Feedstock and Products Testing: \$ 0.00

No activity to report at this time.

5.3 Environmental Monitoring: \$ 0.00

No activity to report at this time.

6.0 PROJECT MANAGEMENT

6.1 Personnel: \$ 0.00

The FORCE project team has met the goals and objectives of the FORCE project by working a combination of team players that understand the County's commitment to organics and its commitment to the requirements of the DEP contract and project objectives for the State. Appropriate Sumter County FORCE staff members spend time on FORCE activities and financial and reporting preparation. This quarter none of this was charged to FORCE. KCI continues to provide support to County staff.

6.2 Administrative Fees – Indirect Costs: \$ 0.00

No activity to report at this time.

6.3 Quarterly Reports, Annual Work Plans and Budgets: \$ 13,000.00

Year 7 Closure: The quarterly report and reimbursement request #27 for the period ending March

31, 2008 was finalized and transmitted to the DEP on April 20th. Additionally, the Year 7 final report deliverable was finalized and transmitted to the DEP on June 1st. On June 6th a cover letter, G&L, and reimbursement request # 28 was submitted to the DEP. The final SW204 reporting documents and final reimbursement request #29 for the project end August 7th 2008 were prepared for transmittal to the DEP.

In planning for the legislative appropriation that was approved this year, the preliminary contract initiation form and work plan for the FORCE project have been reviewed and discussed with the DEP staff and County staff. Internal meetings and discussion continue to be conducted to develop the research and demonstration components of the grant. Additionally, KCI has been in contact with various local governments (e.g., Sarasota County, City of Tallahassee, and Reedy Creek) to potentially be a part of a research and demonstration project. Communication with Whole Foods and yard waste processors has been conducted in an attempt to secure a food and yard waste demonstration project. Additionally, the FORCE project team has been discussing outreach, education, training, Rule 62-709, and organics marketing programs and next steps.

6.4 Project Coordination and Administration: \$ 10,068.02

The FORCE project team communicates regularly by telephone or e-mail. KCI continued to provide project coordination, contractual administrative support, and ongoing training/feedback to County FORCE staff regarding their responsibilities, documentation, and R&D oversight. These calls/meetings occurred as needed with a streamlined workload for Year 7.

During this quarter, ongoing communication between the DEP, Sumter County, and KCI regarding project transition included:

- Work plan revisions, budgetary items, and revised project extension
- Storing electronic files, bibliography, and technology database hard copy items
- Year 8-10 closure and equipment release
- Reconciliation of FORCE budget and financial documents
- Legislative appropriation status and next steps for future of FORCE and preparation of contractual documents

Total Reimbursement Requested: \$ 33,021.52