

Ashbridges Bay Treatment Plant

**Biosolids Pellets, Air Emissions
and Health Status Studies**

Concluding Remarks

- **The studies give insight on:**
 - **Biosolids pellets quality**
 - **Impact of ABTP on air quality**
 - **Health status of community**
- **Cannot answer all questions**

Biosolids Pellets Conclusions

- **No evidence of environmental or health concern with pellets used in agriculture or horticulture**
- **Use of pellets on lawns free of bare patches, or in situations where the pellets are mixed into the soil, is not of concern.**

Biosolids Pellets Recommendations

Some precautionary measures include:

- **Continued monitoring of the pelletization process and testing of pellet quality**
- **Avoid use of pellets on lawns with extensive bare patches**
 - **Until monitoring shows negligible microbiological risk**

Biosolids Pellets Recommendations

- **Focus on horticultural, forestry or land reclamation applications for the initial marketing of pellets**
- **Sewer Use By-law should be continually strengthened to deal with new and emerging issues**

Biosolids Pellets Recommendations

- **Asked the Province to conduct a health study regarding the potential risks to human health from the use of biosolids cakes**

Air Emissions Study Conclusions

- **Improvement seen over time**
- **While ABTP is a large facility, other sources also impact the neighbourhoods**
- **Some uncertainties remain, therefore**

Air Emissions Study Recommendations

- **Confirmatory monitoring**
- **Continued monitoring**
- **Update of inventory**

- **Examine cumulative air quality impact**

Health Status Study Conclusions

- **Health status differences are likely due to a blend of environmental exposure and socio-economic factors**
- **This study cannot distinguish the relative importance of each possible causal factor**
- **Possible past environmental exposures include other industry, so the study cannot attribute environmental differences to ABTP alone**

Health Status Study Recommendations

- **Further study unlikely to be useful**
- **To address total impact of pollution on a community:**
 - **MOE should consider cumulative impact of emissions from industrial facilities during approval process**

Next Steps

- **July 11 Board of Health Meeting**
- **Members of the community are welcome to comment**
- **More information:
www.toronto.ca/health/**