

San Antonio Water System being honored for turning waste into a resource

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is recognizing **San Antonio Water System (SAWS)** for its efforts to recycle biosolids, biogas and waste water.

SAWS will receive Texas Environmental Excellence Award for Innovative Operations/Management for recycling and re-using almost all of the waste coming into its Dos Rio Water Recycling Center. SAWS uses the biosolids to generate compost for landscaping, gardening and agriculture. SAWS captures the biogas for treatment and sale on the commercial market as part of a public-private partnership with **Ameresco**. SAWS also recycles about 115 million gallons of treated wastewater for commercial and industrial customers, including CPS Energy, Toyota, **Microsoft**, the San Antonio River Walk, golf courses and parks.

“Through innovative thinking and valuable partnerships, SAWS is taking what are usually considered waste products and finding a way to reuse them,” says SAWS President and CEO **Robert R. Puente**. “Our goal with these projects has been to utilize existing resources for the benefit of our ratepayers and community while also



San Antonio Water System will accept an honor for its Dos Rios Water Recycling Center.

improving the environment. Receiving recognition for the project by the state is icing on the cake.”

SAWS and CPS Energy also recently formed a partnership with SunEdison that will lead to a 20-megawatt solar energy installation on available land at Dos Rios.

TCEQ commissioners will present the award to SAWS at the commission’s annual awards banquet on May 4 in Austin.

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