

IN MEMORIAM

Remembering Andrew Lowkis



Andrew Lowkis, who retired from the Emergency Preparedness Department in April 2005, was killed Nov. 26 in an automobile accident.

He started with the City in 1987 and was involved in emergency management for 15 years, beginning with the Office of the City Administrative Officer and then in the Emergency Preparedness, now Emergency Management Department.

Andrew was the consummate professional and

took pride in health, family and good wine. Born Andrej M. Lowkis in 1939 in Warsaw, Poland, he survived World War II and began a career as Principal at the High School of Fine Arts in Poland. Andrew and his wife came to the United States in 1982 after fleeing to a refugee camp in Austria, while martial law was declared in Poland.

Throughout his career, he assisted fellow immigrants in their adjustment to life in the United States and fostered his Polish heritage by

being an active participant in "Modjeska," a Polish-American social club dedicated to Polish culture, music, the arts and international affairs.

Following his retirement, Andrew and his wife settled in Florida.

After his death, friends and family said their farewells, and the Lowkis family took Andrew home to be buried in a family plot in Poland.

Andrew kept in touch with many colleagues and will be greatly missed.



Newsbriefs

RENEWABLE ENERGY AWARD:

The City of Los Angeles Terminal Island Renewable Energy (TIRE) biosolids (bio-slurry) injection project has received a National League of Cities (NLC) 2010 Award for Municipal Excellence. The award recognizes cities and towns for outstanding programs that improve the quality of life in America's communities. The City of Los Angeles accepted its Silver Award for the more than 500,000 population category earlier this month at the NLC's Congress of Cities and Exposition in Denver, Colorado.

The City of Los Angeles in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Terralog Technologies has pioneered the TIRE project, the nation's first and only full-scale application of biosolids injection technology that adapts petroleum industry technology to convert biosolids into a new source of alternative green energy. The City of Los Angeles has been granted a five-year demonstration permit from the EPA to evaluate the viability of injecting biosolids into deep geological subsurface. The project has been in operation for more than 30 months.

The project site is at the City's Terminal Island Water Reclamation Plant in San Pedro, California. TIRE is processing approximately 190 tons of biosolids per day, or 25 percent of all biosolids produced daily within the City. Until recently, these biosolids were trucked for land application at the City's farm 120 miles away.

"The City of Los Angeles is honored to have been selected by the National League of Cities for this award. The Terminal Island Renewable Energy Project improves air quality, protects water quality and reduces greenhouse gases by using wastewater treatment byproducts as a renewable resource in an innovative and environmentally safe manner," said City of Los Angeles Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa.

"TIRE is an excellent example of the creative thinking we have at work in the Bureau of Sanitation, offering an innovative solution to an environmental challenge while also providing economic benefits," added Bureau of Sanitation Director Enrique C. Zaldivar.



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PORT TESTS

EMISSIONS SCRUBBING:

An innovative air pollution-reduction device called the "seawater scrubber" will be tested for the first time on a container ship visiting Southern California in a \$3.4 million project co-sponsored by the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach and starting in Spring 2011.

The technology uses seawater to filter pollutants from ships' auxiliary engines and boilers. It is expected to reduce a ship's sulfur oxide emissions by up to 99.9 percent and particulate matter by as much as 85 percent.

"The seawater scrubbing technology shows tremendous long-term potential for reducing emissions at our ports and improving the environment," said Port of Los Angeles Executive Director Geraldine Knatz, Ph.D. "We're excited about testing this innovative equipment and evaluating its promise for more widespread use."

Funded in part by a \$1.65 million grant from the Technology Advancement Program (TAP), a joint initiative of the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, the seawater scrubber filtering technology will be tested on an APL container vessel starting in 2011. The entire demonstration project is expected to span 36 months.