



**For Immediate Release:**  
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### **LDEQ 2018 Environmental Leadership Program Awards presented**

**BATON ROUGE** – Today, LDEQ hosted the Environmental Leadership Program (ELP) Awards at the LDEQ headquarters in the Galvez building in downtown Baton Rouge where LDEQ Secretary, Dr. Chuck Brown, presented awards to the winners.

Members of ELP were commended for their voluntary pollution prevention efforts and community environmental outreach initiatives that went above and beyond regulatory compliance to improve the environment.

ELP Awards were presented to large and small businesses, municipalities, university and NGO's; and new ELP members, who joined in 2017-2018, were recognized. This year, LDEQ presented 11 awards to the following organizations:

#### **Achievement Awards:**

Fort Polk Environmental Division  
Diamond Green Diesel, LLC, with Plaquemines Processing & Recovery, LLC  
LafargeHolcim  
Jefferson Parish  
Louisiana State University-Campus Sustainability  
Compost NOW (New Orleans Waste)-Achievement

#### **Recognition Awards:**

Alliance Compressors  
Composting Network  
City of West Monroe  
Port of New Orleans  
Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans

“The Environmental Leadership Awards highlight the proactive efforts of school, industry and communities to take ownership in their environment,” said Dr. Brown. “The award projects go a long way to improve our environment and set a good example.”

The ELP began in 1995 as a cooperative effort between DEQ and participating companies in the state. Today, any company, federal entity, municipality, non-governmental organization, school or university committed to improving the quality of the state's environment is eligible to join the program. For more information about the ELP, please call 225-219-0877, email at [elp@la.gov](mailto:elp@la.gov), or visit the DEQ website at [www.deq.louisiana.gov/elp](http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/elp).



# **2018 ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM (ELP) AWARDS**

***Tuesday, April 10, 2018***

***10:00 a.m.***

***Galvez Building, Oliver Pollock Room***



# ELP AWARDS & RECOGNITION

## Presenters

**Chuck Carr Brown, Ph.D.**

*Secretary, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality*

**Denise Bennett**

*Deputy Secretary, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality*

## 2018 NEW ELP MEMBERS

**Compost NOW (New Orleans Waste)**

**Diamond Green Diesel, LLC**

**LafargeHolcim**

**Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation**



# **ELP AWARD RECIPIENTS**

## **Recognition Awards**

**Alliance Compressors**

**The Composting Network**

**City of West Monroe**

**Port of New Orleans**

**Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans**

## **Achievement Awards**

**Fort Polk Environmental Division**

**Diamond Green Diesel, LLC, with Plaquemines**

**Processing & Recovery, LLC**

**LafargeHolcim**

**Jefferson Parish**

**Louisiana State University-Campus Sustainability**

**Compost NOW (New Orleans Waste)**

# ELP AWARD RECIPIENT PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

## Recognition Awards

### **Alliance Compressors: Natchitoches, LA** *Scroll TTP Hydraulic Oil Coolers*

Alliance Compressors is being awarded the ELP Large Business Recognition Award in Pollution Prevention. Alliance Compressors implemented this project with the goal of energy conservation and efficiency that would ultimately help reduce the plant's carbon footprint. Alliance Compressors upgraded the standard "S" mills utilizing the fan cooled hydraulic coolers with low pressure heat exchangers before being utilized by the machine. This allows the existing machine coolant that is flowing in the trough to be used to circulate through the TTP heat exchangers thusly cooling the hydraulic oil that is in the machines. The project was a win for the plant and a win for the environment. The removal of the 83 electric fan motors produced \$11,318 per year in electrical cost savings for the plant and eliminated 154 tons of CO2 emissions.

### **The Composting Network: New Orleans, LA** *Reducing Pre and Post Consumed Food Resources from Urban Landfills by Encouraging Composting (Residential And Commercial)*

The Composting Network of New Orleans is being awarded the ELP Small Business Recognition Award in Pollution Prevention. The mission of the Composting Network is to build a compost awareness movement to reduce unnecessary dumping of food resources into urban landfills that harm our environment. The Composting Network LLC is developing Compost Network Partners throughout the New Orleans Metro area all the way to Walker, LA who will become environmental leaders who foster transformational change inside and beyond the kitchen regarding food resource disposal. The Composting Network serves as a critical source of ambassadors who provide clients with standard compost education, service, and compost garden materials. The Composting Network also builds a pipeline of compost partners for education and environmental reform thereby influencing system-wide restaurants, hotels, and schools through various meetings and workshops that showcase composting and encourage commitment. Last year in New Orleans—where 75% of waste is food waste—one-third of area hotel and tourism businesses were given a presentation about the value and need for food composting by someone within the

network. Some of the compost partners to date are: Whole Foods, Hyatt Regency, Liberty's Kitchen, Sheraton Hotel, Convention Center, Peche, Cochon, Crocker Elementary School, Tulane, Loyola, and Riley Foods among others.

### **City of West Monroe: West Monroe, LA** ***Wastewater Treatment Plant Solar Farm***

The City of West Monroe is being awarded the ELP Municipality Recognition Award in Pollution Prevention. The West Monroe Wastewater Treatment Plant Solar Farm consists of 880 solar panels located on 1.5-acres at the City's sewer plant. It supplies as much as 300 KW of electricity to the Wastewater Reuse Facility. This international-award-winning facility recycles wastewater and sends it to a nearby paper mill. This process replaces nearly 5 million gallons of water daily that was previously drawn from the Sparta Aquifer, north Louisiana's primary source of drinking water. Producing over 550 megawatt-hours of electricity per year, the solar farm will reduce the facility's electrical consumption by over 20%, thereby reducing CO2 emissions by over 400 metric tons per year. It is currently the largest municipal solar facility in the State. This project was made possible by a grant from LDEQ's Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund.

### **Port of New Orleans: New Orleans, LA** ***Port NOLA Clean TRIP (Truck Replacement Incentive Program)***

The Port of New Orleans is being awarded the ELP Municipality Recognition Award in Pollution Prevention. The Port of New Orleans' Clean Truck Replacement Incentive Program (Clean TRIP) used federal and state clean diesel grants to voluntarily improve air quality by replacing old diesel cargo trucks with new, cleaner-burning models. Eligible truck owners were able to receive up to \$35,000, or half the cost of a new truck (whichever was less) towards the replacement. Forty trucks were replaced with cleaner burning engines in newer model trucks, resulting in significant air quality improvements of 93% reduction in nitrogen oxides and 96% reduction in particulate emissions. These reductions are greater than the total estimated annual truck emissions on the Port's Clarence Henry Truckway. Clean TRIP has also supported local small businesses - over 90% of the participants in the program were single owner-operators and minority-owned businesses. The success of the program is also measured by the total investment – the cost-sharing by truck owners, leveraged resources, and Port administration of the program combine to over \$2.4 million invested in local air quality. The demand continues to grow – there is currently a waitlist of truck owners interested in converting to cleaner trucks. Port NOLA is seeking grant funding to continue this program to support the local trucking industry and further improve local air quality.

## **Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans: New Orleans, LA** ***Enforcement Through Partnerships Program & Fats, Oil and Grease (FOG) Program***

The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans is being awarded the ELP Municipality Recognition Award in Pollution Prevention & Environmental Ordinance. The Enforcement through Partnerships Program and the Fats, Oils, and Grease (F.O.G.) Program are just two of the many ways that the Sewerage & Water Board of New Orleans is working to better serve customers and protect the environment. The Enforcement through Partnerships Program brings together an array of government agencies including LDEQ, DHH and the City of New Orleans, leading to more inclusive, robust, and ultimately more effective enforcement of water quality regulations at the state, regional, and local levels. The F.O.G. Program also works to increase the effectiveness of regulations by applying a proactive approach and by focusing on the largest sources of sewer-clogging grease: food service establishments. Through a combination of education, permitting, and enforcement, food service establishments are tracked and brought into greater compliance with the Sewerage & Water Board Plumbing Code. Both programs, via different approaches, are successful in decreasing illicit discharges and sanitary sewer overflows. In doing so, these two programs uphold local public health and ensure the effectiveness of New Orleans' crucial wastewater and drainage infrastructure.

## **Achievement Awards**

### **Fort Polk Environmental Division: Fort Polk, LA** ***Net Zero Waste Program***

The Fort Polk Environmental Division is being awarded the ELP Federal Facility Achievement Award in Pollution Prevention. The Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk, located in Vernon Parish, provides state-of-the-art training facilities for Soldiers and has an annual economic impact of over \$1.4 billion dollars. The Fort Polk Net Zero Waste (NZW) program has made tremendous strides in pollution prevention and waste reduction, setting the direction as one of the US Army's six pilot Net Zero facilities. NZW aims to reduce waste through reduction of consumables, reuse, recycling, and energy recovery. The goal is to minimize the amount of material that goes to the landfill and other waste management facilities. Examples of Fort Polk achievements include a 94% decrease in the amount of hazardous waste generated over the

last 15 years. Fort Polk currently diverts 50% of non-hazardous solid waste, meaning 50% of all waste generated is reused, recycled, or used for energy recovery purposes. Key components to the success of Fort Polk's NZW program have been its facilities and support staff. Various facilities are in operation across the installation to ready materials for recycle commodities and reuse supplies. A team is in place to ensure everything runs smoothly. This team works to provide education, outreach and support to the approximately 31,000 people who work on the installation. The team works to ensure processes are in place and that those processes are utilized and constantly improved.

**Diamond Green Diesel, LLC, with Plaquemines Processing & Recovery, LLC: Norco, LA**  
***Recycling of Gums Waste***

Diamond Green Diesel is being awarded the ELP Large Business Achievement Award in Pollution Prevention. Diamond Green Diesel, LLC (Diamond) converts waste grease, animal fats, used cooking oils, and other plant and vegetable oils to produce green diesel, light ends gas, and LPG/naphtha. Gums waste is generated when raw materials are pretreated to remove contaminants that could foul the catalysts used to convert the raw materials to products. Diamond implemented a Pollution Prevention Program to decrease the amount of gums waste disposed of in landfarms/landfills. In 2017, 46% of the gums waste produced at the Green Diesel Plant (13,832 tons) were sent to Plaquemines Processing and Recovery (PPR) for recycling. Via a 3-phase centrifuge process, PPR was able to recover approximately 90% of the gums waste they received from the Green Diesel Plant as recycled biofuel oil or clean water. The remaining 10% of the gums waste was sent by PPR to landfill in solid cake form. Together, we reduced the amount of waste sent to landfarm or landfill by 12,444 tons in 2017. PPR is expanding the capacity of their upstream centrifuge process and wastewater treatment facility so that they can handle more gums waste from the Green Diesel Plant. Waste reduction quantities are expected to increase as both facilities expand. Furthermore, there is an added environmental benefit from reduced truck travel (larger trucks/fewer trips, and shorter distances per trip).



## **LafargeHolcim: Hammond, LA**

### ***Carbon Dioxide Water Treatment***

LafargeHolcim is being awarded the ELP Large Business Achievement Award in Pollution Prevention. It is typical of concrete production plants for process water to contain high levels of Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and high pH due to the presence of cement powder. In 2016 LafargeHolcim discovered a new, safer water treatment system which injected carbon dioxide instead of sulfuric acid to not only lower pH, but also weigh solids down and allow them to drop out of suspension. LafargeHolcim reports that all water samples have exceeded discharge monitoring requirements, and have done so without using dangerous sulfuric acid. By using carbon dioxide instead of sulfuric acid, LafargeHolcim has reduced risk by eliminating the potential for spills to the environment and safety risks to employees who handle the acid. The carbon dioxide is filled by NuCO<sub>2</sub> using a telemetric system which allows them to know exactly how much carbon dioxide is left in the system and when they need to refill the tank. Unlike the sulfuric acid tote which needs to be disposed of frequently to ensure integrity, the carbon dioxide tank is reused which helps keep material out of landfills.

The effectiveness of the project is measured through analytical analysis of total suspended solids and pH. A typical range of Total Suspended Solids in process water contained onsite would be greater than 100 mg/L and would have a pH near 11. No process water is allowed to discharge from the site unless the pH is between 6 and 9 standard units and the TSS is under 45 mg/L. By utilizing the Fortrans Carbon Dioxide water treatment system, LafargeHolcim has not exceeded any regulatory limits.

## **Jefferson Parish: Elmwood, LA**

### ***Sewer Science Educational Program***

Jefferson Parish is being awarded the ELP Municipality Achievement Award in Community Environmental Outreach. The goal of the Educational Sewer Science Workshops Program is to educate area high school students about the water treatment process using an inter-disciplinary microbiology, chemistry, physics, and environmental curriculum designed to stress the importance of pollution prevention in high school students. Over the 5-7 days of the lab, students make wastewater, clean it through a series of physical, chemical, and biological treatment processes, and test it for various parameters. The success of the project is measured by an increased public awareness of the environmental consequences related to specific activities that contribute to storm water pollution. The project provides a fundamental

understanding of critical water infrastructure to young people on the cusp on adulthood. The knowledge students gain through the program will stay with them when they enter college, begin voting, and start businesses. Given the identified need for more STEM programs in schools and an ongoing national dialogue about infrastructure, the High School Sewer Science program is particularly relevant for students in this region. Last year Jefferson Parish worked with four high schools including approximately 100 students and 5 science educators. The great part though is that we managed to get enough funding through a grant to produce both teacher and student manuals to last at least the next 15 years including outreach educational material for the entire community.

### **Louisiana State University Campus Sustainability: Baton Rouge, LA *LSU Bike Month, LSU Electronics Waste Recycling Event, and Spring Greening Day & Sustainability Expo***

LSU Campus Sustainability is being awarded the ELP University Achievement Award in Pollution Prevention for three projects. LSU held its first-ever Bike Month in November 2017 to encourage alternative transportation and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. LSU Bike Month included a month-long competition for students who won prizes based on the total number of miles biked. Each student reported their biked miles on social media using the hashtag #LSUBikeMonth, and the Campus Sustainability office created a database of each student and all biked miles. Bike Month also included a photo scavenger hunt with prizes for students who biked to various locations; two bicycle safety/maintenance classes sponsored by the LSU Police Department and Bike Baton Rouge; a bike sale and auction in partnership with Student Government and LSU Parking and Transportation; and promotion of the annual Bike Baton Rouge “Cranksgiving” day ride, which challenges bikers to collect and deliver groceries to the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank. LSU Bike Month was a great success with more than 100 students actively participating, resulting in over 2,000 biked miles in/around the University in the month of November. This resulted in the avoidance of 101,000 pounds of carbon dioxide, or 51 tons. This is the equivalent of taking 11 passenger vehicles off the road for 1 year, and the equivalent of burning 5,700 gallons of gasoline.

LSU partnered with CACRC and LSU Property Management in February 2017 to divert 4.2 tons of electronic waste from the landfill. Examples of items collected include old computers, printers, fax machines, CDs, phones, servers, etc. LSU plans to hold one of these events each semester for the surrounding community to be able to conveniently recycle used electronics and to ensure they do not end up in the

landfill. The 4.2 tons of materials collected in total for this event has a greenhouse gas emissions equivalent of removing nearly 17 passenger vehicles from the road for one year, and powering 25 homes for one year with electricity.

LSU held a Spring Greening Day & Sustainability Expo in April 2017. Students, staff and faculty volunteers planted more than 50,000 individual plants in various areas around campus. Plants, mulch and supplies were made possible by sponsors including BASF, LSU Student Government, and Landscape Services. This day provided students the unique opportunity to serve alongside staff and administrators and learn sound environmental practices, while allowing the university to maximize landscaping resources in a creative way. The Sustainability Expo featured organizations such as BREC Conservation, BASF, Bike Baton Rouge, Entergy, Republic Services, CACRC, Louisiana Green Schools, TULIPA, and various LSU student groups, all of whom shared information related to their programs as well as tips on how to live and work more sustainably.

### **Compost NOW (New Orleans Waste): New Orleans, LA** ***Compost NOW Food Waste Collection Program***

Compost NOW is being awarded the ELP Non-Governmental Organization Achievement Award in Community Environmental Outreach. Compost NOW offers local residents a free and easy way to keep their food waste out of the landfills and turned into nutrient-rich compost used by local farmers to grow fresh, healthy food. Compost NOW partners with the New Orleans Public Library and several local farms. Compost NOW piloted the weekly project in January 2017 at just two libraries sites. By the end of the first year, Compost NOW was at five sites and had collected over 35,000 pounds of food waste from local residents. In their second year, Compost NOW has already expanded to seven library sites and added a partnering farm which has farm animals to feed. Compost NOW collects over three tons each month and their goal is to divert 100,000 pounds of food waste from the landfill this year.

# ELP STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS & ASSOCIATIONS

**David Burroughs**

*Chemtrade Logistics, Retired*

**Dr. David Constant**

*LSU College of Engineering*

**Paul Davidson**

*Black Bear Conservation Coalition*

**Fritz Kin**

*Marathon Petroleum Company*

**Robert Berg**

*ExxonMobil, Baton Rouge  
Facilities*

**David Bathel**

*Georgia Gulf Corporation*

**Henry Graham**

*Louisiana Chemical Association*

**John Koury**

*Kourco/Louisiana Environmental  
Health Association*

**Joey Hebert**

*Georgia Pacific/Louisiana Pulp  
and Paper Association*

**Brad Phillips**

*Monsanto Company*

**Julie H. Roussel**

*Dow Chemical/Air & Waste  
Management Association  
(A&WMA)*

**Cathy Porthouse**

*Cytec Industries, Inc.*

**Jennifer Auger**

*Strategic Petroleum Reserves*

