Methane to Markets and Landfill Gas in Mexico

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Timeline of Collaboration



1) Strategy meeting, September 2005

- Mexico Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT), Ministry of Social Development (SEDESOL)
- North American Development Bank
- Border Environmental Cooperation Commission
- U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)

2) Data analysis

- U.S. EPA reviews SEMARNAT and SEDESOL report with key data on 200 sites
- Initial screening results in 10 final sites, focus on U.S.-Mexico border
- EPA, SEMARNAT, and SEDESOL choose 4 sites for engineers to visit (political factors considered)

Timeline



- 3) Technical site visits, January 2006
 - Mexicali, Ensenada, Nuevo Laredo
- 4) Concurrent development of standard methodology for pre-feasibility study (PFS)
- 5) USAID to conduct PFS at Nuevo Laredo, U.S. EPA to conduct PFS at Ensenada
- 6) Signing of Letter of Cooperation, March 2006
 - SEMARNAT, USAID, U.S. EPA

Pump Test



- Pump test conducted at Ensenada
- Obstacles encountered:
 - Lack of resources for site security
 - Broken equipment drilling machinery, blower motor
 - Wells collapsed due to lack of waste compaction
 - Assistance needed in putting out surface fires
 - Stolen equipment
- As a result, pump test took twice as long to complete

Success!





Next Steps



- Prepare biogas recovery projections
- Prepare economic evaluation
- Estimate environmental benefits
- Prepare conclusions and recommendations
- Finalize Pre-Feasibility Study