

Energy co-ops

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Proposals for funding of studies can be submitted to the Council by a group of farmers, farm organizations or associations, farm-related companies, alternative energy firms or other similar groups.

While the deadline for submitting proposals is March 9, the studies are to be conducted starting in mid-April and be completed by June 30.

The proposals are to be site-specific studies - concentrating on particular farms, farmers and

production of methane. But the consistency of poultry manure is such that it must be diluted with water and this brings problems of storage and eventual disposal.

Since the total level of funding will provide possible financing of several studies, the Governor's Energy Council is hoping to have a geographical distribution of projects throughout the state.

Also, the proposals will be judged on how the technology of a

system might be transferred to other farming areas of the state. The GEC also hopes to come up with proposals that contain a variety of techniques of handling animal wastes from several farms in a cooperative digester venture.

Money for the funding of the studies is available to the state from the U.S. Department of

Energy through the petroleum overcharge escrow account.

Further information concerning the submitting of proposals can be obtained from Linda J. DeLiberty, Governor's Energy Council, 300 N. Second St., 11th Floor, Harrisburg, Pa. Mailing address for proposals is Governor's Energy Council, P. O. Box 8010, Harrisburg, Pa. 17105.

Is it feasible?

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Pluta said the concept of a cooperative digester for several farmers is practical, particularly in places like Lancaster County with its heavy concentration of small livestock operations in close proximity to each other.

All farmers now move their manure and what would be the difference with transporting it to a centralized digester, according to Pluta.

The mixture of operations - dairy, beef-hog and poultry - also might be a plus in any cooperative venture.

Litter from a layer operation has the potential of being the most efficient in the

production of methane. But the consistency of poultry manure is such that it must be diluted with water and this brings problems of storage and eventual disposal.

But if it were mixed with dairy manure in a cooperative effort, it could be handled easier and possibly provide some biological advantages to the digester system, too.

Pluta explains that a current major consideration remains the same in any digester project - no matter if it serves one farm or several in a co-op.

That consideration is the cost of the inter-tie back into the utility and any rules and regulations that govern the process of sell-back of power from farms to the utility.

He explained that utilities in other states have been less conservative in their inter-tie and sell-back regulations.



PUBLIC AUCTION TRACTORS - TRUCKS - IRRIGATION & FARM EQUIPMENT

Location: 3 miles East of Dover, Del. on the South Little Creek Road. Last farm on right before The Village Inn Restaurant.

SAT. FEB. 11, 1984
10 A.M. Rain or Shine

TRACTORS & COMBINE

- 4440 John Deere diesel tractor w/cab & air
- 4430 J.D. diesel tractor w/cab & air
- 4230 J.D. diesel tractor w/cab & air
- 4020 J.D. diesel tractor
- 1655 Oliver diesel tractor
- 77 Oliver gas tractor
- 1440 Int. diesel combine with cab & air, #820 16' grain head, #963 6 row corn head.

TRUCKS

- 1978 GMC 1/2 ton Sierra Grande pickup
- 1974 Ford 700 w/16' flat dump grain body
- 1973 GMC 6500 V-six w/18' grain body
- 1971 Int. w/18' grain body
- 1970 GMC 8500 V-eight w/16' flat bed
- 1968 Int. 1700 Loadstar w/12' flat bed
- 1967 GMC 6500 w/15' dump grain body
- 1954 Ford w/13' grain body

FARM EQUIPMENT

- 7000 J.D. no till 6 row planter with fertilizer & insecticide boxes, 13' Tye no till grain drill with 8" spacing, 4x16" Int #140 roll-over plow, 3x16" Int roll-over plow, 6 row Brillion 3ph cultivator, 6 row 3ph cultivator, 2 Little Giant funnel body wagons, Int #475 16' disc, 12' Brillion packer, 16' Brillion crowfoot transport packer, Case 3ph field cultivator, 12' Brillion chisel plow, 30' 3ph sprayer booms, drags, flat bed dump wagon, two 15' flat bed 2 wheel trailers, 3ph Case blade, 200 gal 3ph Agrotec sprayer w/30' booms, 400 gal saddle tanks, 1600 gal poly nurse tank, 600 gal poly nurse tank, 200 gal poly mix tank, #1408 JD stalk cutter, Int. 3ph ground buster 12'.

POTATOE EQUIPMENT & FORK LIFT

- To Be Sold First 10 A.M. Sharp
- Clark 4500 lb. capacity forklift with pneumatic tires, pallet jack, Hallock 10'x3' belt conveyor, Hallock B potatoe sizer, Haines B potato sizer, 10' belt conveyor, 30' Hallock Flume, 10' L belt, John Beam 500 gal high pressure sprayer, 5 16' Ziggy bulk potatoe bodies with motors, 12' weeder, 12' Gandy spreader, 12' Gandy granular spreader, 7 electric gear heads for bulk bodies, potato duster, Troyer potato splitter, Dilts - Wetsel potato cutter, hand bag sewer.

MISC.

- Large shop air compressor, 2 JD shop heaters, 2 chain saws, air grease gun, tripod jack, used truck tires, hand tools, bolts, portable air compressor, steam jenny, hand trucks, 4 bird guns, burlap bags, chemicals, #112 JD riding lawn mower w/38" electric lift, misc.

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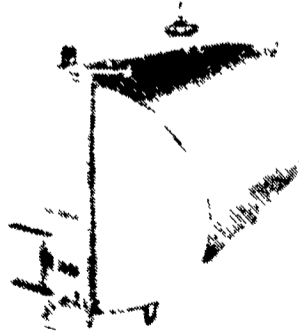
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Full details to follow March 3rd issue

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