

# Municipal waste to diesel may be the purrfect solution

In the third purrfect answer to how to rid the community of its trash, city officials have now fallen in love with the notion that all normal trash except glass and metal can be converted into diesel fuel.

After three years of work, able members of the Landfill Advisory Committee (LAC) appointed by former mayor Leo Pando were told their work was for naught. That Jack Spiker and his minions had walked onto a grassy knoll west of town and proclaimed the Belvoir Ranch to be the ideal location for a future dump.

Never mind that for months the same location had been deemed unacceptable even for consideration. The LAC had determined the best choices for a new landfill and the Belvoir did not make any list - at any spot. Then, Presto! Jerry McMorris needed a few million for a "call" on his Colorado Rockies ownership and the governing body of Cheyenne was all too willing to bale out their new best friend. They even thought McMorris "owned" the Rockies. They did not understand that his role as General Partner did not confer "ownership." After hoodwinking local officials to pay full listing price for the granite pasture, McMorris himself was shown the gate by the real owners of the Colorado Rockies baseball team, the Brothers Monfort.

Less than two years ago, the city officials were still ballyhooing the Belvoir as the purrfect place to deposit our garbage. The fact that a roadway the length of the Causeway over the Ponchartrain would have to be built didn't quite register in their optimistic minds.

As the cost to produce this Valhalla on the Granite was escalating, one mentioned to another that there were other ways to dispose of municipal waste. During the three year adventure of the LAC, that committee dismissed, out of hand, any consideration of disposal of municipal waste other than another landfill. No sooner than you can say "trash to ethanol," the same duped city officials who gave McMorris the full \$5.9 million he was asking for the Belvoir land, found

some more schemers out there trolling for suckers. An outfit called Renewal Utility Development Corp. (RUDC), operating out of a principal's home in Kansas City, until renting an executive suite with a shared phone line in Blue Springs, Missouri, noticed the hobo sign at our city limits that invites predators to "take us, we're yours," did just that.

The second purrfect solution to disposal of our trash presented itself. Sure it did.

This corporation, whose principal had just vanished from a similar proposal in Mogadore, Ohio, found another local guy with some credibility and made a presentation to these same city officials. When the Herald spoke with an official in Ohio, their plaintive plea was, "have them call us."

Once the Herald made disclosures the city officials should have uncovered themselves, the wheels quickly came off that ill-fated solution.

Strike two.

Back to the drawing board.

City officials, wanting to salvage some reputation, went to the first place world leaders in need of technology visit to solve their problems.

Mexico.

The trip to Monterey may have enabled city officials and their cozy consultants to fill their prescriptions at a discount while they were viewing a plant that makes diesel fuel from municipal waste.

By now, you should be wondering why this story keeps spelling perfect as "purrfect." Hang in there. The mystery will soon be revealed.

After just being burned by a start-up operation with absolutely no track record of accomplishment, you'd think city officials would be wary of jumping into the sack with another one. Not quite. These guys learn slower than the worst dolt in school.

The third time is supposed to be a charm, isn't it? Let's hope so.

City officials finally requested RFP's (Request for Proposals) from companies that could rid us of our trash - without digging a hole in the ground. And even though RUDC continues to tell the world they are negotiating a contract with Cheyenne to handle our trash, produce electricity, rid the world of hunger, etc., it wasn't going to be them at the end of the day.

The next entity to read the hobo sign at the outskirts of Cheyenne was one called Green Power, Inc., from the Puget Sound area of Washington state.

Once again, they have never done commercially what they say they can do commercially, but what the hell, since when did Cheyenne demand anyone could deliver on their promises?

So Green Power and a German patent holder brought their Shrine Circus tent to Cheyenne and conducted a show and tell.

It would be absolutely wonderful if this technology will work in the way and at the scale necessary to handle the City's waste. But the pieces aren't fitting just yet. The demo unit from Germany was supposed to be shipped to Seattle and trucked to Cheyenne - then it was to be shipped to New Jersey and trucked to Cheyenne. Does it make any difference? Yes. A little. As often as this crew of dreamers have been bitten, all parts of the story need to jell to be believable.

This plant will require 500 metric tons of trash a day. Cheyenne produces about 60% of that. They will "mine" existing trenches for more garbage. Good. But they have no experience at doing so. There is a liquid waste plant up and running in Monterey, Mexico, a "news-like" article claims. There are two other plants "up and running near Frankfurt, Germany." They are larger than the demo unit brought to Cheyenne. Wow! They must be something.

The developer of the "technology" to be used is one Dr. Christian Koch.

Now, about the "purrfect."

The following stories came from Germany:

## Inventor turns dead cats into diesel

A German inventor says he's found a way to make cheap diesel fuel out of dead cats.

Dr. Christian Koch, 55, from Kleinhartmannsdorf, said his method uses old tyres, weeds and animal cadavers.

They are heated up to 300 Celsius to filter out hydrocarbon which is then turned into diesel by a catalytic converter.

He said the resulting "high quality bio-diesel" costs just 15 pence per litre.

Koch said the cadaver of a fully grown cat can produce 2.5 litres of fuel - meaning around 20 cats are needed for a full tank.

He said: "I tank my car with my own diesel mixture and have driven it for 105,000 miles without any problems."

Annelise Krauss of the Dresden Animal Protection Association blasted Koch's new diesel though, saying: "This is as bad as experimenting on animals."

Then, a rebuttal:

**A German inventor said he has developed a method to produce crude oil products from waste that he believes can be an answer to the soaring costs of fuel, but denied a German newspaper story implying he also used dead cats.**

Christian Koch, an inventor and patent holder of the KDV 500 technology that he said produces high-quality fuel, said he can transform waste products such as paper, rubbish and plastic materials into fuel.

But Koch, 55, said there was no truth to stories published in the Bild newspaper on Tuesday and Wednesday that suggested he used dead cats as part of the mix for his organic diesel fuel.

"I use paper, plastics, textiles and rubbish," Koch told Reuters.

"It's an alternative fuel that is friendly for the environment. But it's complete nonsense to suggest dead cats. I've never used cats and would never think of that. At most the odd toad may have jumped in."

Bild on Tuesday wrote a headline: "German inventor can turn cats into fuel—for a tank he needs 20 cats." The paper on Wednesday followed up with a story entitled: "Can you really make fuel out of cats?"

Stories appeared in September, 2005.

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