

January 6, 2016

To whom it may concern,

My name is Stacey Sowell and I am a Major Account Executive at Athens Services, one of the largest waste haulers in the Los Angeles County area. Athens has been in business since 1957 and is a local, family owned company. I have worked in the Waste/Recycling industry for over 30 years and I am the proud manager of the CSUN account.

CSUN has been extremely diligent in increasing their diversion rates, as much as 40% over the last six months. The following are some of the actions they have taken to help assist them in reaching their recycling goals:

Organics:

With the upcoming organics regulation coming in April 2016, CSUN has proactively taken steps to be prepared for AB 1826. They have implemented a food waste program which diverts the food/organic waste to useful by-products such as soil amendments, fertilizers, and compost instead of taking it to a landfill. We have partnered with them and provided training for kitchen staff to aid in the separation of this material.





Mixed Waste Processing:

Another unique qualifier for CSUN is that all of their mixed waste is sent to our newest, most innovative Sun Valley Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) where it is then dumped on a tipping floor and sorted for recyclables. The MRF is the first of its kind in Los Angeles and it is a solar-powered, LEED Certified facility equipped to comply with today's green building practices. It was certified under the Bureau of Sanitation's City of LA Green Business Certification Program shortly after it opened in late 2014. The MRF has the most advanced, field tested and proven waste processing technology available. It includes mechanical, air, and optical separation. A video of the MRF can be seen at the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eyfBgZOEj5w&feature=youtu.be





Waste Audits

Scheduled Waste Audits are also done to assess the waste/recycling stream in order to be as efficient as possible with their sustainability efforts. This detailed effort allows CSUN to be proactive with their waste stream and identify areas of improvement upstream.





I am confident they will continue to look for opportunities to increase their diversion rates as time goes on. Athens is proud to support CSUN in their efforts to be more sustainable!

Stacey Sowell Athens Services