

MEDIA RELEASE
March 3, 2016



SCIENCE AFTER DARK LECTURE SERIES

Waste to Watts, Landfill Gas-to-Energy Facility
Located at Marian Regional Medical Center in Santa Maria

San Luis Obispo, CA – (immediate release) The Central Coast STEM Collaborative (CCSTEM) continues the third season of the educational lecture series “Science After Dark” at 6:30pm, March 16, 2016, at Steynberg Gallery in San Luis Obispo. The series is scheduled for the third Wednesday of every month through June, 2016. Visit www.ccstem.org for details of future topics and locations.

Dennis Daniel, Plant Engineer at Marian Regional Medical Center (MRMC), and Alan Janecek, of J&A-Santa Maria, LLC (J&A), will be on hand to explain the science and engineering as well as history of the landfill-to-energy plant that provides much of the electricity consumed by MRMC. Electricity produced by the engine installed in Phase I in 2007 is sold to MRMC which is owned by Dignity Health. The original facility consisted of a 1060 kwh engine generator operating 24 hours per day and utilizing landfill gas (LFG) from the Santa Maria Landfill as the fuel source. The LFG is supplied to the facility by a two-mile pipeline owned by J&A. The facility is enclosed in a 25’x80’ building located at the west edge of the Marian property.

Expansion of the cogeneration facility was completed in 2015 to meet the needs of the growing hospital facility. In addition to a second engine, a waste heat recovery system was installed for MRMC’s heating and process applications.

Mr. Alan Janecek, owner of J&A and its affiliates, has designed over seventy LFG collection and recovery systems including electricity generation, mechanical process design, electrical design and control logic design (including programming of Programmable Logic Controllers and wellfield design).

Where: Hosted by Steynberg Gallery, 1531 Monterey St., SLO
Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2016
Time: Discussion starts at 6:30pm, come early to get settled and order your food and beverage available for purchase at Steynberg Gallery.
Cost: \$5.00 cover charge in support of the mission of CCSTEM

Originally dubbed “Pub Science Nights,” Science After Dark is modeled after similar traditions established in other cities across the country. As a program of CCSTEM, Science After Dark is a fun way to get people excited about science, while also helping boost business at each hosted venue. The ten-month series is presented with support from the City of San Luis Obispo, and the SLO Children’s Museum.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/ScienceAfterDarkSLO or www.ccstem.org.

Central Coast STEM Collaborative (CCSTEM) is a network of educators, business professionals and other community members invested in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education and achievement. All of tomorrow’s workers will need the analytical, problem-solving and critical-thinking skills that STEM subjects impart. CCSTEM is committed to enhancing and promoting STEM learning and developing career readiness in San Luis Obispo and Northern Santa Barbara Counties by fostering the collective impact of local, state, and national stakeholders.