

# *Examples of Bioreactor Operating Experience*

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## *Tucuman Bioreactor*

- Part of a multi-year project being undertaken in Tucuman, Argentina
- Cell One - 30 m x 50 m x 6 m depth
- Estimated 6200 tonnes of refuse

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## *Tucuman Bioreactor*

- Expected rate of gas generation  $k = 0.024/\text{yr}$
- Value obtained to date  $k' = 0.515/\text{yr}$
- 75 cfm at 45% methane

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Situation prior to construction of Bioreactor



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16045 - Photo 040  
Tucumán, Argentina  
Feb. 7/01

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**Table 2: Comparison of Waste Compositions (in%) in Argentina and Canada**

<i>Constituent Category</i>	<i>Tucumán, Argentina</i>	<i>Vancouver, Canada</i>
Organics	64.1	33.5
Plastics	7.05	13.3
Metals	2	3.4
Batteries	0.1	0.1
Bottles/Glass	3.1	3.1
Textiles	1.3	3.9
Diapers	6.1	2.5
Paper, Newsprint	9.0	27.1
Cardboard	3.2	5.2
Styrene	0.1	Nm
Inorganics/Other	3.8	2.92

**Table 1: Mean climatic data, Tucumán, Argentina**

Months	Mean Air Temperature (°C)	Mean precipitation (mm)
January	24.5	183
February	23.7	159
March	22	162
April	18.3	59
May	15.4	29
June	12.3	19
July	12.6	10
August	14	8
September	17.1	12
October	20.2	77
November	22.5	108
December	24.6	150
Total	19	976

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Tucuman, Argentina  
Feb. 7/01

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Tucuman, Argentina Feb. 7/01  
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Tucuman, Argentina  
August 1/01

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*Photo 15*



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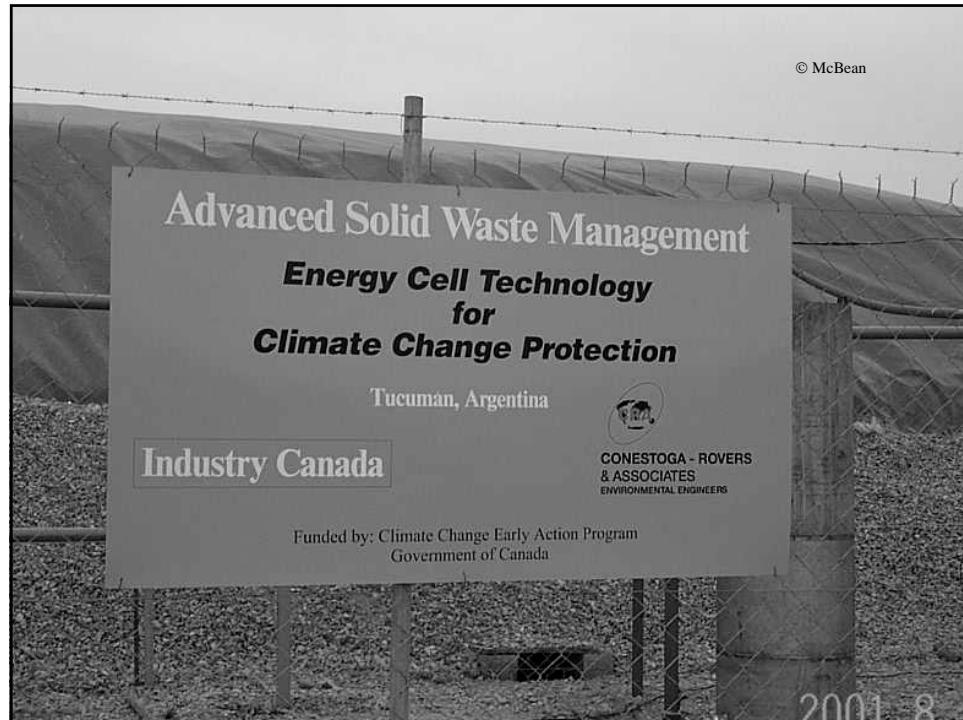


Table 3: Nonlinear Regression Results

Constituent Gas	Regression Result	K (year <sup>-1</sup> )	L <sub>0</sub> (m <sup>3</sup> /metric tonne)
LFG	G = 0.49 · L <sub>0</sub> · M e <sup>(-0.49 t)</sup>	0.49	322
Methane	G = 0.51 · L <sub>0</sub> · M e <sup>(-0.51 t)</sup>	0.51	167

**Table 4: Time to Varying Percentages of Cumulative Methane Generation**

Time to:	Tucumán Bioreactor Rate Constant <sup>(1)</sup> $k = 0.515 \text{ year}^{-1}$	USEPA Rate Constant <sup>(2)</sup> $k=0.21 \text{ year}^{-1}$	Ontario Rate Constant <sup>(3)</sup> $k = 0.024 \text{ year}^{-1}$
50% generation	1.3 years	3.2 years	28.8 years
80% generation	3.1 years	7.6 years	66.9 years
95% generation	5.8 years	14.2 years	124.5 years

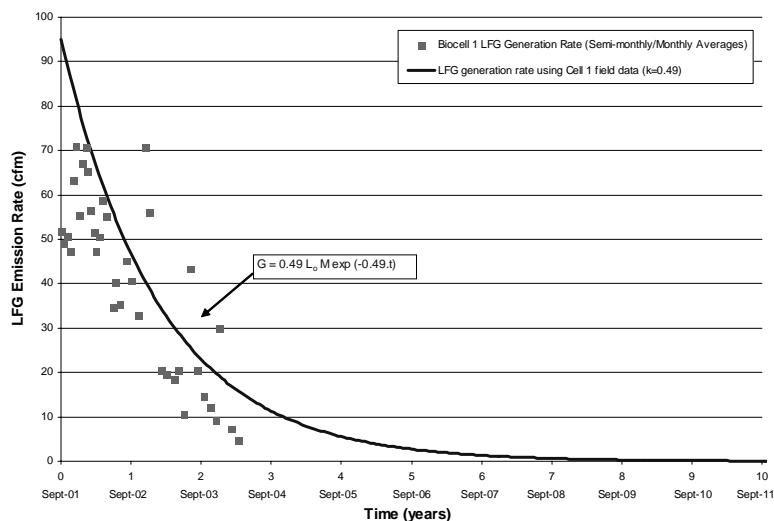
**Notes:**

(1) Calculated Rate Constant for the Tucumán Bioreactor

(2) Maximum USEPA Rate Constant;  $k=0.21 \text{ year}^{-1}$  (Pelt *et al.*, 1998)

(3) Default Rate Constant for the Province of Ontario; ( $k = 0.024 \text{ year}^{-1}$ ) (Levelton, 1991; Environment Canada, 2001)

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**Figure 2A: LFG Generation Rate over Time, Tucumán Bioreactor, Argentina**

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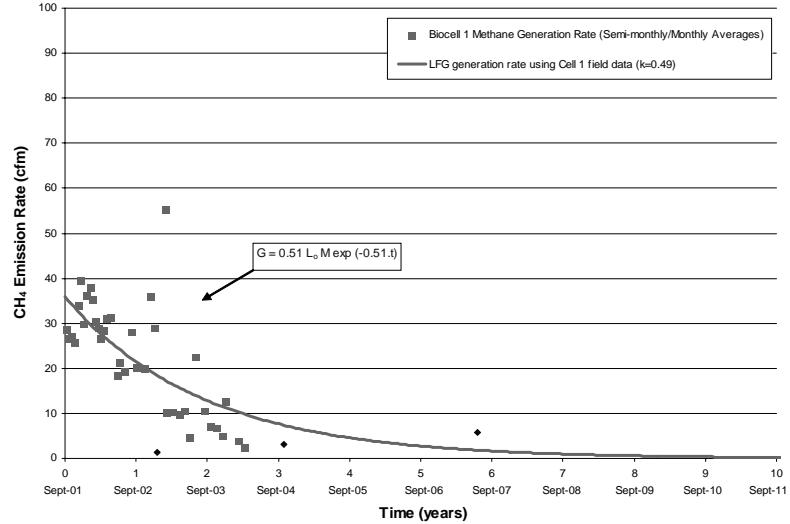


Figure 2B: Methane Generation Rate over Time, Tucumán Bioreactor, Argentina

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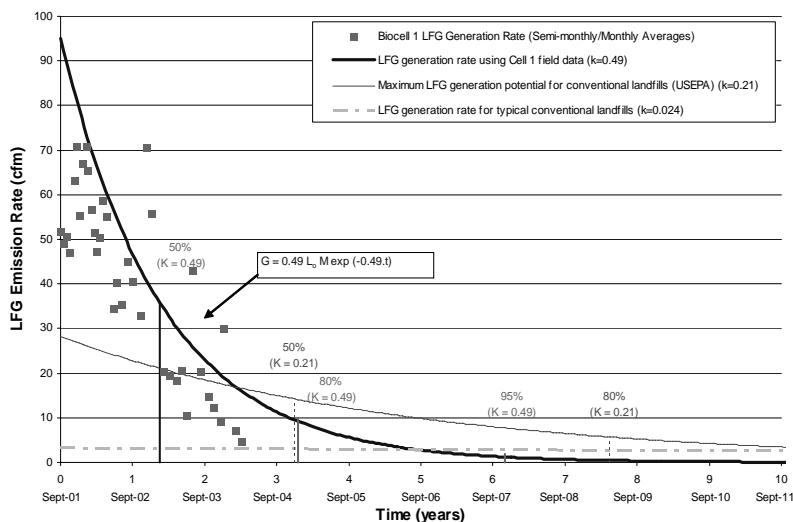


Figure 3A: Comparison of Different Rate Constants on LFG Data, Tucumán Bioreactor, Argentina

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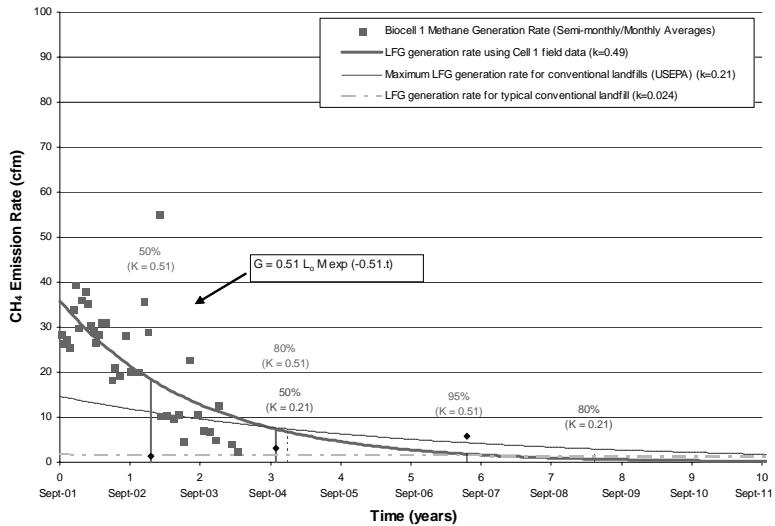


Figure 3B: Comparison of Different Rate Constants on Methane Data, Tucumán Bioreactor, Argentina

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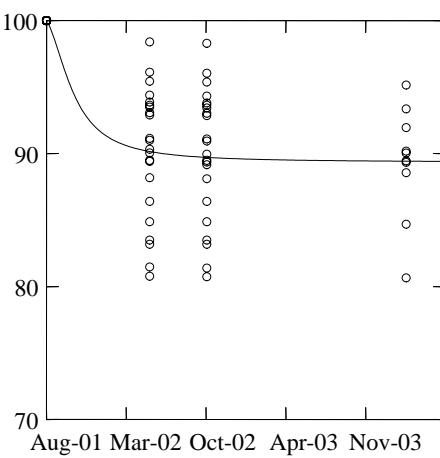


Figure 5: Subsidence Rate over Time, Tucumán Bioreactor, Argentina

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**Table 5: Heavy Metal Concentrations in Leachate over Time**

Metal (mg/L)	Time			
	March 2002 (7 months)	December 2002 (17 months)	February 2003 19 months	December 2004 40 months
Chromium	1.4	1.07	0.65	0.85
Lead	0.23	Nm	0.17	0.04
Iron	24.4	14.5	10.0	8.8
Zinc	0.43	Nm	0.28	Nm

Note: Nm = Not measured

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## *Getlini Eko Landfill*

- Biocells for Riga, Latvia

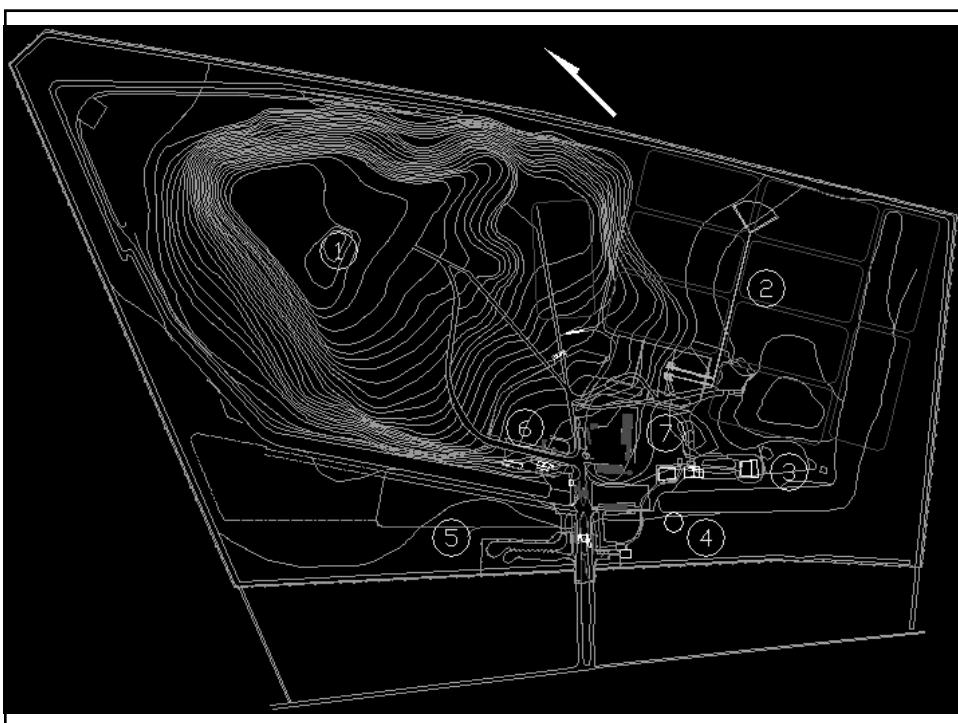
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Numerous gas collection  
methodologies

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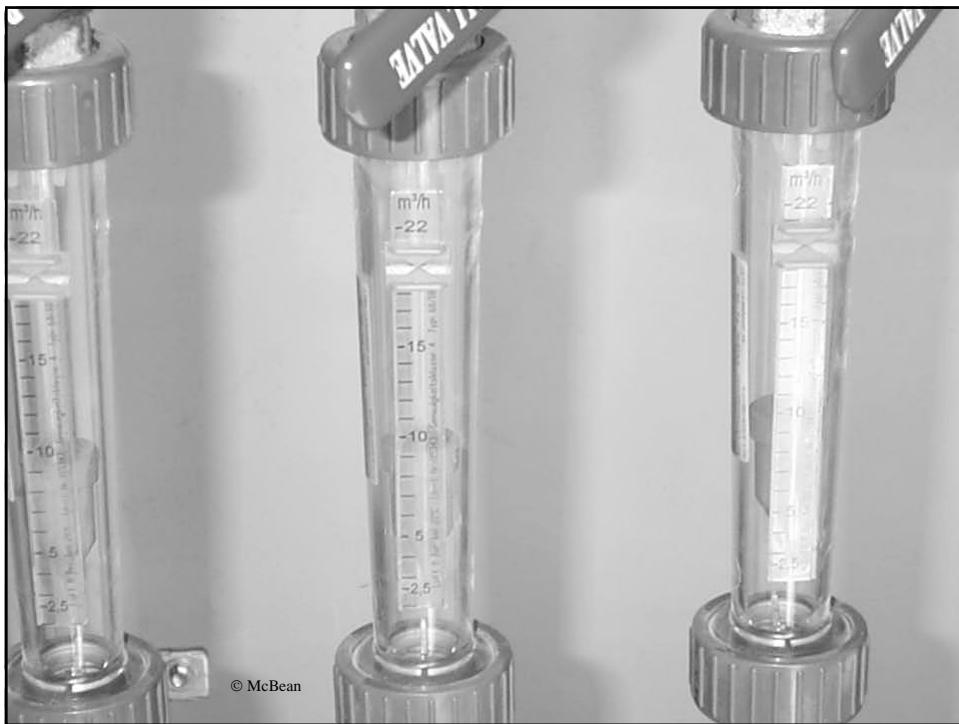




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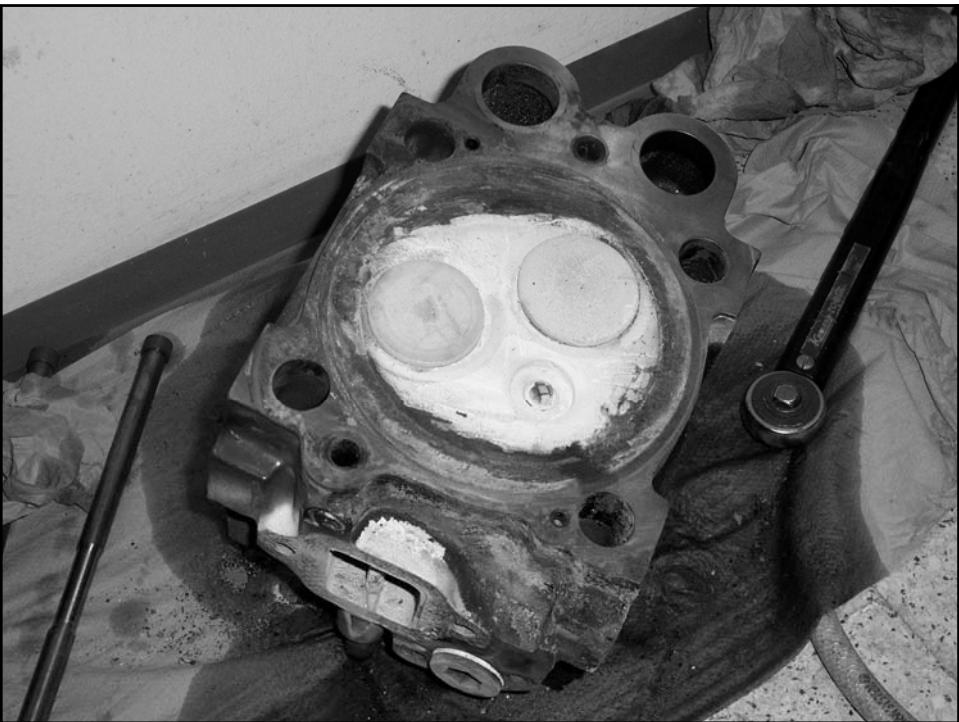
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• Questions?