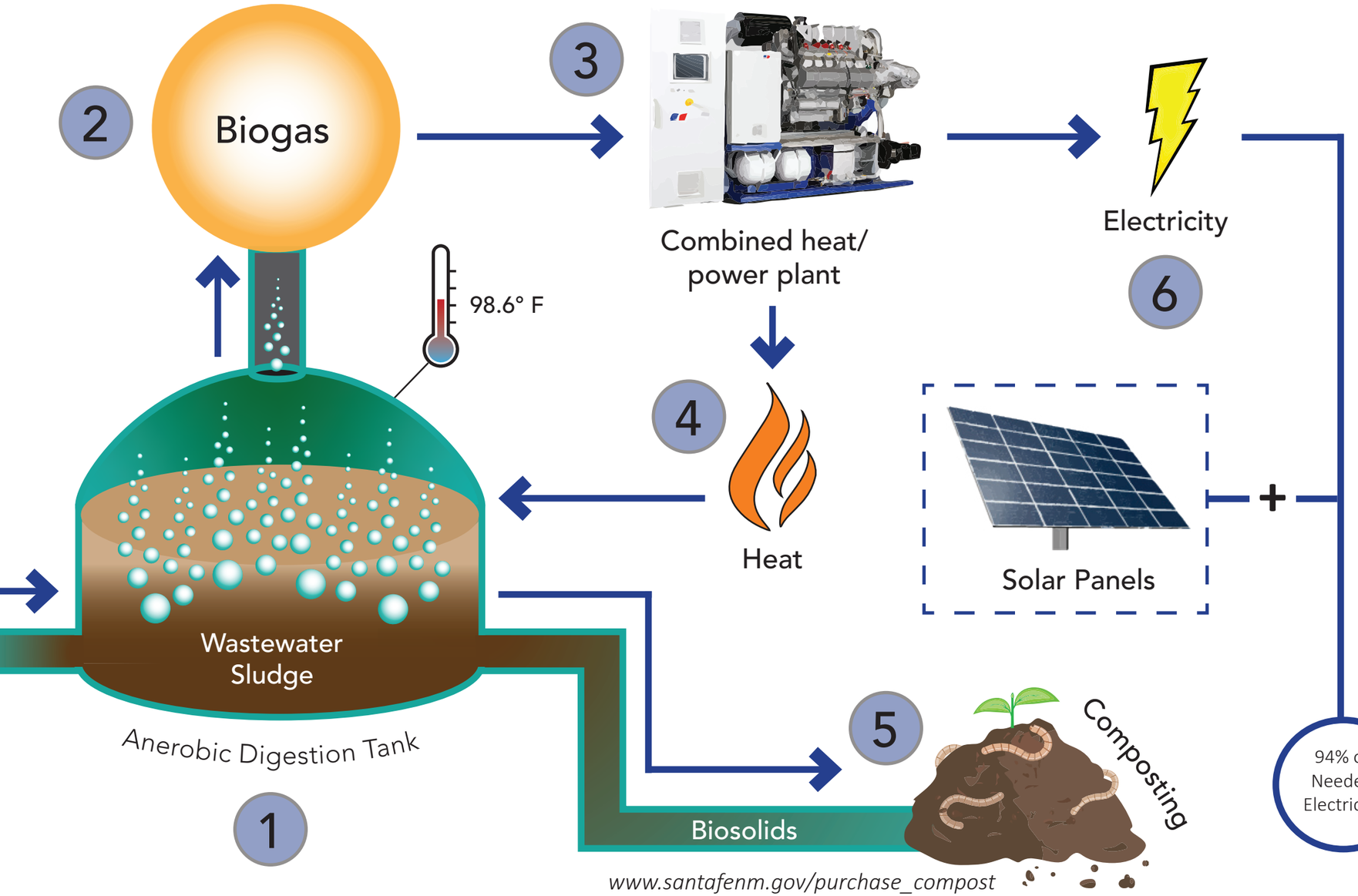
Anaerobic Digester @ Santa Fe's Wastewater Treatment Plant



www.santafenm.gov/purchase_compost

How It Works

1. Wastewater sludge enters the anaerobic digestion tank. The digester decomposes organic materials using the same microbes found in the human body.
2. Biogas, a by-product of decomposition, is cleaned and sent to a generator.
3. The generator converts the biogas to heat and electricity.
4. The heat is recovered to keep the digestor warm (the tank is kept at the same temperature as the human body, 98.6° F), and provides 90% of the process heat.
5. The decomposed sludge becomes a denser material known as a biosolid. These rich biosolides are combined with greenwaste for composting.
6. Electricity from the biogas is combined with electricity generated by solar panels on the property.
7. The combined electricity is used to operate the Wastewater Treatment plant, fulfilling up to 94% of the plant's energy requirements.