Project Award Number 2129137 and Title: FW-HTF-P: Workers and Technology Together (WATT)

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Research Objectives: Determine if applying autonomy technologies to some organic waste processing functions will increase the capture of organic waste, reduce hazardous job functions for line workers and enforcement agents, increase the efficiency and profitability of organic waste processing, and up/reskill low-skill, temporary workers to assume full-time, semi-skilled positions working alongside automation assistants.

Expected Outcomes:

- Identified “pain points” in existing processes/procedures from multiple perspectives: line workers, supervisors/managers, enforcement agents, industry, legal.
- Concept Operation
- Technological needs/adjustments/designs (e.g., digital twin, artificial intelligence, etc.) of system
- Preparation/Training program for on-the-ground workers (both line workers and enforcement agents) to effectively leverage automation technology through upskilling/reskilling with technological skills