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- Environm. Sci. Technol. 1998, 32, 1000-1006. *Abstract*: Microbial treatment of sludges is often, as an early step, followed by anaerobic digestion. Anaerobic digestion is a biological process that converts organic matter into biogas and a nutrient-rich sludge. The biogas can be used as a fuel, and the sludge can be used as a fertilizer. The anaerobic digestion process is a complex biological process that involves the action of a variety of microorganisms. The process is typically carried out in a digester, which is a large tank where the sludge is mixed with water and heated. The digester is typically operated at a temperature of 35-55°C and a pH of 6.5-7.5. The digester is typically operated for a period of 15-30 days. The biogas is typically collected from the top of the digester and can be used as a fuel. The sludge is typically removed from the bottom of the digester and can be used as a fertilizer.

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