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May 30, 2005

Ms. Theresa McClenaghan
Canadian Environmental Law Association
130 Spadina Avenue, Suite 301
Toronto, ON M5V 2L4

Dear Ms. McClenaghan:

Re: Biosolids Symposium - to Address Insurance/Banking and Indemnification Issues

Land application of sewage biosolids is a desirable practice that recycles resources to agriculture and avoids adverse environmental impacts associated with landfilling and incineration. It has been practiced successfully in Ontario for about 30 years. The application of organic nutrients on agricultural lands is considered beneficial to crop production and, provided appropriate standards and practices are followed, is safe to both human health and the environment. Farmers who use biosolids speak highly of its value and numerous studies have proven its nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizer value and soil conditioner value for agriculture, forestry and land reclamation. A typical fertilizer equivalent value of sewage biosolids applied at recommended rates for agricultural land is \$100 per acre.

Land application of sewage biosolids in Ontario is regulated by the requirements of the Certificate of Approval. These requirements are based on the Ministry of the Environment (MOE)/Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF) publication, "Guidelines for the Utilization of Biosolids and Other Wastes on Agricultural Land (March 1996)", prepared by the Biosolids Utilization Committee (BUC). The BUC is co-chaired by the two Ministries and has membership from a number of key stakeholders such as the Ministry of Health, Association of Local Public Health Agencies, Ontario Federation of Agriculture, University of Guelph. Each of these has an interest in the application of biosolids and other wastes to agricultural lands. These guidelines are reviewed and updated at intervals to ensure that land application remains a safe, well-regulated practice that continues to provide benefit to agriculture.

While land application of biosolids is beneficial for crop production, the practice is not without its concerns. It is recognized that the legal responsibilities of those who generate, handle or accept these materials and apply them to land require definition for this practice to remain sustainable into the future. To this end, BUC is organizing a symposium to address insurance, banking and indemnification issues which may affect the on-going sustainability of biosolids application. This symposium will be held on June 28, 2005. It will involve farm groups, municipalities, financial lenders, insurance providers, land application contractors, environmental groups and the two ministries.

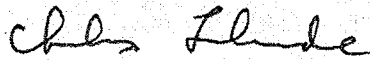
You, or your delegate, are invited to participate in the Symposium as a representative of the environmental community, and to make a presentation as part of a panel which will focus on voices from the stakeholder community. The Symposium will take place June 28, 2005 commencing 9 am at OMAF headquarters, 1 Stone Road, Guelph.

The panel is set up to include a 10 minute presentation from each of five speakers, followed by a brief question and answer period. We ask that you speak about the issues related to biosolids application from the perspective of the environment. We would also welcome your participation in the facilitated breakout sessions and discussion period which follow the panel so that all attendees can participate. Detailed program information will be forwarded nearer the Symposium date.

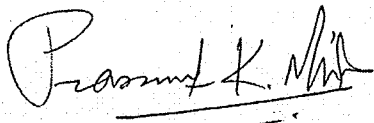
The Biosolids Utilization Committee looks forward to your participation and thoughts on these important topics. It is our hope that you will come prepared to discuss the issues of concern to your organization and recommendations for overcoming them.

To assist with planning for this important event, please confirm your participation by contacting Phil Sidhwa at 905-544-0444 by June 7, 2005.

Yours very truly,
BIOSOLIDS UTILIZATION COMMITTEE



Charles Lalonde
Co-chair
Director, Environmental Policy and Programs Branch, OMAF



P. K. Misra
Co-chair
Director, Waste Management Policy Branch, MOE