



February 27, 2007

Honorable Stephen L. Johnson  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Ariel Rios Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

**RE: National Biosolids Partnership**

Dear Administrator Johnson:

Ten years ago, the National Biosolids Partnership (NBP) was created to implement a non-federal alternative for the oversight of biosolids generated and managed by the nation's several thousand wastewater treatment plants. The Partnership, an alliance of the Water Environment Federation (WEF) and the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), uses advisory support from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and city and state governments to implement a program validating performance within the structure of a closely monitored and tested environmental management system (EMS).

Thanks to continued federal funding, there are now 100 participating NBP public agencies in 35 states and the District of Columbia. Collectively these agencies are responsible for the treatment of 25% of the Nation's wastewater and organic residuals. Sixteen agencies have successfully achieved verification of their EMS programs by independent, third-party auditors, with eight more scheduled for verification by the end of 2007

*The National Biosolids Partnership is requesting an additional \$1 million in FY 2007 to continue to expand outreach and provide training for additional EMS participants. The money will help the agencies achieve performances beyond the regulatory minimum. The benefits to the Nation's public health and well-being are being measured and are endorsed by the many participating agencies. The Success Stories of the certified agencies (see <http://www.biosolids.org/>) bear witness to the impact of the program on the agencies themselves and on the public's view and acceptance.*

We would very much like to meet with you for a discussion of recent NBP successes and the direction of the program if provided with continued federal support.

Sincerely,

WATER ENVIRONMENT FEDERATION    NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CLEAN WATER AGENCIES

William Bertera  
Executive Director

Ken Kirk  
Executive Director