Contact Name
Facility Name
Street
City, State Zip

Subject: Sample Collection Activities to Update the National Sewage Sludge Survey

Dear [Contact Name]:

On behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), I am writing to ask you to allow the Agency to collect samples of sewage sludge from your wastewater treatment facility.

EPA is in the process of evaluating its Standards for Use or Disposal of Sewage Sludge (40 CFR Part 503). The current sewage sludge standards are based, in part, on the results of national analytical surveys of municipal sewage treatment plants conducted by EPA in 1989 and 2001.

EPA is currently updating and expanding upon the information already collected during the two earlier National Sewage Sludge Surveys. EPA contractors and personnel plan to collect and analyze samples of sewage sludge from 80 facilities randomly selected from the universe of facilities in the continental U.S. Your facility was one of those facilities randomly chosen for the 2006 Targeted National Sewage Sludge Survey (TNSSS). The sewage sludge samples we collect will be analyzed for the list of contaminants listed in Table 1 (attached). Updated concentration data for these pollutants will enable EPA to assess the risks posed by the potential presence of these contaminants in sewage sludge. Sample analyses will be conducted by laboratories under contract to EPA.

The contaminants in Tables 2, 3, and 4 represent new and emerging contaminants of interest to EPA, including: antibiotics, drugs, steroids, hormones, and polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs). We plan to analyze the samples from all 80 facilities for these contaminants as well. A portion of the sample from each facility may be archived for EPA analyses of additional contaminants at a future date.

We may also provide samples to researchers at the University of Florida (UF), John Hopkins University (JHU), and the American Chemistry Council (ACC), who will analyze samples to characterize the range of concentrations of Triclocarban (TCC) or phthalates that may be found in sewage sludge. EPA expects to give the UF, JHU, and ACC researchers samples from some or all of the facilities sampled during the 2006 TNSSS. We will provide samples "blind," such that the identities of the facilities will not be known.

We anticipate collecting samples over the course of this summer, beginning as early as July 2006. I ask that you or your representative contact me by e-mail (stevens.rick@epa.gov) to tell me whom to contact to set up an appointment for sampling.

The EPA Sample Control Center, operated by CSC under contract to the Office of Water, is coordinating sample collection and analysis for the 2006 TNSSS. Dr. Harry McCarty will be the contact for the sample collection effort. Dr. McCarty or one of his associates will call the contact you provide to make arrangements for the sample collection.

Thank you for assisting us in our sampling survey. Please contact me at 202-566-1135 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Rick Stevens
National Biosolids Coordinator
Health and Ecological Criteria Division
Office of Science and Technology

Attachment

Table 1
Target Pollutants for the 2006 Targeted National Sewage Sludge Survey

Analyte Class	Analyte
Metals	Antimony
	Arsenic
	Barium
	Beryllium
	Cadmium
	Chromium
	Cobalt
	Copper
	Iron (total)
	Lead
	Manganese
	Mercury
	Molybdenum
	Nickel
	Selenium
	Silver
	Thallium
	Zinc
Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)	Benzo(a)pyrene
	Fluoranthene
	2-Methylnaphthalene
	Pyrene
Semivolatiles	bis (2-Ethylhexyl) phthalate
	4-Chloroaniline
Inorganic Anions	Fluoride
	Nitrate/Nitrite
	Total Phosphorus

Table 2 Antibiotics and Drugs		
CAS Number	**Common Name**	**Technique**
6804-07-5	Carbodox	LC/MS/MS
57-62-5	Chlortetracycline	LC/MS/MS
85721-33-1	Ciprofloxacin	LC/MS/MS
564-25-0	Doxycycline	LC/MS/MS
93106-60-6	Enrofloxacin	LC/MS/MS
114-07-8	Erythromycin-hydrate	LC/MS/MS
154-21-2	Lincomycin	LC/MS/MS
70458-96-7	Norfloxacin	LC/MS/MS
79-57-2	Oxytetracycline	LC/MS/MS
80214-83-1	Roxithromycin	LC/MS/MS
98105-99-8	Sarafloxacin	LC/MS/MS
80-32-0	Sulfachloropyridazine	LC/MS/MS
122-11-2	Sulfadimethoxine	LC/MS/MS
127-79-7	Sulfamerazine	LC/MS/MS
57-68-1	Sulfamethazine	LC/MS/MS
144-82-1	Sulfamethizole	LC/MS/MS
723-46-6	Sulfamethoxazole	LC/MS/MS
72-14-0	Sulfathiazole	LC/MS/MS
60-54-8	Tetracycline	LC/MS/MS
738-70-5	Trimethoprim	LC/MS/MS
1401-69-0	Tylosin	LC/MS/MS
21411-53-0	Virginiamycin	LC/MS/MS
103-90-2	Acetaminophen	LC/MS/MS
18559-94-9	Albuterol (salbutamol)	LC/MS/MS
58-08-2	Caffeine	LC/MS/MS
51481-61-9	Cimetidine	LC/MS/MS
486-56-6	Cotinine	LC/MS/MS
20830-75-5	Digoxin	LC/MS/MS
1672-46-4	Digoxigenin	LC/MS/MS
42399-41-7	Diltiazem	LC/MS/MS
54910-89-3	Fluoxetine	LC/MS/MS
25812-30-0	Gemfibrozil	LC/MS/MS
15687-27-1	Ibuprofin	LC/MS/MS
657-24-9	Metformin	LC/MS/MS
66357-35-5	Ranitidine	LC/MS/MS
35189-28-7	Norgestimate	LC/MS/MS
738-70-5	Trimethoprim	LC/MS/MS
81-81-2	Warfarin	LC/MS/MS

Table 3 Steroids and Hormones		
CAS Number	**Common Name**	**Technique**
80-97-7	Cholestanol	GC/MS/SIM
57-88-5	Cholesterol	GC/MS/SIM
360-68-9	Coprostanol	GC/MS/SIM
313-04-2	Desmosterol	GC/MS/SIM
651-55-8	17-α-Dihydroequilin	GC/MS/SIM
516-92-7	Epicoprostanol	GC/MS/SIM
474-86-2	Equilin	GC/MS/SIM
57-87-4	Ergosterol	GC/MS/SIM
57-91-0	17-α-Estradiol	GC/MS/SIM
50-28-2	17-β-Estradiol	GC/MS/SIM
50-50-0	β-Estradiol 3-benzoate	GC/MS/SIM
53-16-7	Estrone	GC/MS/SIM
57-63-6	Ethylnyl estradiol	GC/MS/SIM
72-33-3	Mestranol	GC/MS/SIM
68-22-4	Norethindrone	GC/MS/SIM
6533-00-2	Norgestrel	GC/MS/SIM
83-46-5	β-Sitosterol	GC/MS/SIM
83-48-7	Stigmasterol	GC/MS/SIM
58-22-0	Testosterone	GC/MS/SIM
26538-44-3	α-Zearalanol	GC/MS/SIM
611-59-6	1,7-Dimethylxanthine	GC/MS/SIM

Table 4 Polybrominated Diphenyl Ether Congeners, Including the 8 Congeners of Primary Interest (in bold)		
Congener Number	**Congener Name**	**Technique**
BDE-7	2,4-DiBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-8	2,4'-DiBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-12	3,4-DiBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-13	3,4'-DiBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-15	4,4'-DiBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-17	2,2',4-TrBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-25	2,3',4-TrBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-28	**2,4,4'-TrBDE**	GC/HRMS
BDE-30	2,4,6-TrBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-32	2,4',6-TrBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-33	2',3,4-TrBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-35	3.3',4-TrBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-37	3,4,4'-TrBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-47	**2,2',4,4'-TeBDE**	GC/HRMS
BDE-49	2,2',4,5'-TeBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-51	2,2',4,6'-TeBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-66	2,3',4,4'-TeBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-71	2,3',4',6-TeBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-75	2,4,4',6-TeBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-77	3,3',4,5'-TeBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-79	3,3',4,5'-TeBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-83	2,2',3,3',5-PeBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-85	2,2',3,4,4'-PeDBE	GC/HRMS
BDE-99	**2,2',4,4',5-PeBDE**	GC/HRMS
BDE-100	**2,2',4,4',6-PeBDE**	GC/HRMS
BDE-105	2,3,3',4,4'-PeBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-116	2,3,4,5,6-PeBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-119	2,3',4,4',6-PeBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-120	2,3',4,5,5'-PeBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-126	3,3',4,4',5-PeBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-128	2,2',3,3',4,4-HxBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-138	2,2',3,4,4',5'-HxBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-140	2,2',3,4,4',6'-HxBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-153	**2,2',4,4',5,5'-HxBDE**	GC/HRMS
BDE-154	**2,2',4,4',5',6-HxBDE**	GC/HRMS
BDE-155	2,2',4,4',6,6'-HxBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-166	2,3,4,4',5,6-HxBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-181	2,2',3,4,4',5,6-HpBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-183	**2,2',3,4',4,5',6-HpBDE**	GC/HRMS
BDE-190	2,3,3',4,4',5,6-HpBDE	GC/HRMS
BDE-209	DeBDE	GC/HRMS