



Association of
Metropolitan
Sewerage Agencies

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June 10, 2004

EDMVAC Nominations
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Confidential Business Information (CBIC)
Mail Code 7407M
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20460

VIA EMAIL: smith.jane-scott@epa.gov

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies (AMSA) is pleased to nominate Mr. James Pletl, Ph.D., Environmental Scientist for the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD), Virginia Beach, Virginia for appointment to the Endocrine Disruptor Methods Validation Advisory Committee (EDMVAC or Committee) (69 *Fed. Reg.* 22509; April 26, 2004 and 69 *Fed. Reg.* 30907; June 1, 2004). The emerging issues associated with endocrine disrupting chemicals have already begun to affect the daily operations of wastewater treatment plants across the country. In some communities, plant managers are already being asked by drinking water authorities and the communities they serve to evaluate advanced treatment technologies to remove these chemicals.

AMSA is a non-governmental, non-profit organization representing the Nation's publicly owned wastewater treatment agencies.¹ Its members consist of local government (city or county) wastewater authorities and special districts providing wastewater treatment services for several municipal jurisdictions. Mr. Pletl would represent both AMSA and HRSD, a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia serving 17 counties and cities.

¹ Founded in 1970, AMSA represents the interests of nearly 300 of the nation's publicly owned wastewater treatment works (POTWs). AMSA members serve the majority of the sewered population in the United States and collectively treat and reclaim over 18 billion gallons of wastewater every day.

June 10, 2004

Page 2

Mr. Pletl has extensive knowledge of toxicity testing for Clean Water Act permit compliance and is considered one of the foremost experts in the country on whole effluent toxicity methodology. He has been engaged in endocrine disrupting chemical issues on behalf of both AMSA and HRSD for several years now and has attended or participated in several meetings and seminars dealing with these issues, including the August 2003 Endocrine Disruptor Methods Validation Subcommittee meeting in Golden, Colorado. Mr. Pletl's Curriculum Vitae is attached for your review and consideration.

Given the fact that the nation's wastewater treatment plants are on the front-lines of this issue, AMSA believes that a representative from the wastewater community would help to ensure the EDMVAC has a balanced and complete membership. Mr. Pletl has not only in-depth technical knowledge of the issues surrounding endocrine disruptors, but also brings to the Committee an expert understanding of modern wastewater treatment processes, removal efficiencies, and the efforts currently underway in the wastewater community to further understand the fate and transport of these chemicals in wastewater treatment plants.

It is critical that wastewater treatment utilities, who will likely be (and who in many cases are already being) held responsible for removing these chemicals or controlling them at their source, have an active role in the EDMVAC. Thank you for considering our nomination of James Pletl.

Sincerely,



Chris Hornback
Director, Regulatory Affairs

ATTACHMENT