



Association of  
Metropolitan  
Sewerage Agencies

President  
William B. Schatz  
General Counsel  
Northeast Ohio Regional  
Sewer District  
Cleveland, OH

October 29, 2004

Vice President  
Donnie R. Wheeler  
General Manager  
Hampton Roads Sanitation  
District  
Virginia Beach, VA

The Honorable Benjamin H. Grumbles  
Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Water  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Room 2224A  
Washington, DC 20460

Treasurer  
Dick Champion, Jr.  
Director  
Water Pollution Control  
Department  
Independence, MO

Dear Mr. Grumbles:

Secretary  
Christopher M. Westhoff  
Assistant City Attorney  
Public Works General Counsel  
City of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles, CA

We are in receipt of a copy of your letter dated October 7, 2004, to Mr. Scott Hassett, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources that requests that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issue a statement favoring the beneficial reuse of biosolids over other uses.

Executive Director  
Ken Kirk

The Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies (AMSA) agrees with your response and would like to thank the EPA for its continued support of all biosolids management practices that meet the regulatory requirements as set forth in 40 CFR Part 503. As you note in your letter, land application, incineration, and disposal in landfills and surface disposal units are all viable, effective management practices for the safe use and disposal of biosolids from publicly owned treatment works.

AMSA further commends EPA for recognizing that the selection of a biosolids management option is a matter of local government choice. This decision has not been – and never should be – influenced by either a federal or state government endorsement of one option over other successful biosolids management practices.

AMSA member clean water agencies are the leaders in the wastewater utility sector and, as such, work to continuously improve their biosolids management practices in their individual communities. On behalf of our members, thank you for reaffirming that all of the use and disposal practices contained in the biosolids regulations at 40 CFR Part 503 are equally effective in the protection of human health and the environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K Kirk". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Ken Kirk  
Executive Director

cc: Jim Hanlon, Director, Office of Wastewater Management