

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Attorney General

Robert F. McDonnell Attorney General 900 East Main Street Richmond, Virginia 23219 804-786-2071 FAX 804-786-1991 Virginia Relay Services 800-828-1120 7-1-1

May 16, 2007

Robert B. Stroube, M.D., M.P.H. State Health Commissioner Department of Health P.O. Box 2448 Richmond, Virginia 23218-2448

Amendments to the Biosolids Use Regulations: Certification of Land Appliers

Dear Dr. Stroube:

I have reviewed proposed amendments to the *Biosolids Use Regulations*, 12 VAC 5-585-760 *et seq.*, dated May 1, 2007, that will provide standards for the training, testing and certification of persons land applying Class B sewage sludge (biosolids) in the Commonwealth. Virginia Department of Health staff prepared these amendments in response to legislation passed by the General Assembly (SB 1088, Acts of Assembly c. 681, 2003) and signed into law by the Governor, amending § 32.1-164.6 of the *Code of Virginia*.

It is my view that the Board of Health, contingent on approval by the Governor, has legal authority to promulgate the subject amendments pursuant to *Code of Virginia* § 32.1-164.5.

The purpose of this communication is to provide legal advice. To the extent that this communication may advise you that certain action is lawful, the decision whether to take such action remains a policy decision within the discretion of your agency or board. This communication should not be construed as a comment for or against the merits of such action.

Sincerely,

D. Nelson Daniel Assistant Attorney General

cc: Robert W. Hicks
Calmet M. Sawyer, Ph.D., P.E.