



Canadian Council  
of Ministers  
of the Environment      Le Conseil canadien  
des ministres  
de l'environnement

**via Email**

November 27, 2007

Duncan Ellison  
Executive Director  
Canadian Water and Wastewater Association  
11 – 1010 Polytek St.  
Ottawa, ON K1J 9H9

Dear Mr. Ellison:

I am writing in response to your letter dated July 26, 2007, in which you expressed interest on behalf of the proposed Canadian Biosolids Partnership in the creation of a CCME Liaison Group to participate in and further the goals recommended for the Biosolids Partnership. As you will recall from our telephone conversation in September with Ron LeBlanc, I noted that the Environmental Planning and Protection Committee (EPPC) would be meeting this fall to consider your suggested approach. When it met last week, EPPC was pleased with the evident interest of the nascent Biosolids Partnership, and aware of the expertise that it could bring to bear on a national scale to the biosolids issue.

As you are aware, future implementation of CCME's developing national municipal wastewater effluent strategy will have direct impacts on the generation of biosolids. While biosolids is not yet on the CCME workplan, I anticipate initial work will begin in the 2008/09 fiscal year. Generally, our work on a major topic such as this begins with a "scoping" exercise, where we outline the issues at play and identify results to which CCME could contribute through specific projects. Following that definitional phase, including approval from senior levels, work begins in developing relevant products.

Environment departments across the country currently approach biosolids from differing perspectives. In keeping with this reality, EPPC does not foresee contributing to the proposed Biosolids Partnership through a Liaison Group as you have suggested. However, it is interested in ensuring that the professional experience of stakeholders, including your group, is brought to bear in defining and working on the biosolids issue. I will ensure that you are contacted on behalf of the Biosolids Partnership at the appropriate juncture when such input is sought.

I appreciate your continuing promotion of national approaches to the biosolids issue, and look forward to your contributions to the eventual CCME work on the topic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carl Hrenchuk".

Carl Hrenchuk  
Executive Director

c. Environmental Planning and Protection Committee