
By: **Delegates Cardin, Kaiser, King, Morhaim, and Rosenberg**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2006

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment - Sewage Sludge - Evaluate Potential as Alternative Energy**
3 **Source**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring a county or municipal corporation that has certain
5 sewage sludge processing activities within its boundaries to evaluate the
6 potential for converting sewage sludge into an alternative energy source;
7 establishing certain criteria that should be studied in the evaluation; requiring
8 the county or municipal corporation to submit a report with its findings and
9 recommendations to the Department of the Environment by a certain date;
10 requiring the Department to submit a certain report, by a certain date, to the
11 General Assembly; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally
12 relating to evaluating the potential for using sewage sludge as an alternative
13 fuel source.

14 BY adding to
15 Article - Environment
16 Section 9-250 and 9-251
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (1996 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
20 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 **Article - Environment**

22 9-250.

23 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "SEWAGE SLUDGE FACILITY" MEANS ANY FACILITY
24 THAT IS USED FOR THE STORAGE, DISTRIBUTION, UTILIZATION, COMPOSTING, OR
25 APPLICATION OF SEWAGE SLUDGE.

26 (B) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO A COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IN
27 WHICH A SEWAGE SLUDGE FACILITY IS LOCATED.

1 (C) (1) A COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION SHALL REVIEW AND
2 EVALUATE THE POTENTIAL FOR SEWAGE SLUDGE TREATED WITHIN ITS
3 BOUNDARIES TO BE CONVERTED TO AN ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCE, SUCH AS
4 FUEL FOR A CEMENT KILN.

5 (2) THE STUDY SHALL INCLUDE:

6 (I) THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL IMPACT ON LOCAL REVENUES,
7 INCLUDING COSTS OF ADMINISTERING A CONVERSION PROGRAM;

8 (II) THE ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS AND COSTS OF CONVERTING
9 SEWAGE SLUDGE TO AN ALTERNATIVE FUEL, INCLUDING:

10 1. RISKS INVOLVED IN THE STORAGE OF CONVERTED
11 SEWAGE SLUDGE;

12 2. EFFECT ON AIR QUALITY IF CONVERTED SEWAGE SLUDGE
13 IS INCINERATED; AND

14 3. EFFECT ON LAND USE, SUCH AS AREA NEEDED FOR
15 LANDFILLS; AND

16 (III) THE EFFECT ON THE COUNTY'S OR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION'S
17 ECONOMIC SECTOR AND LOCAL INDUSTRY, INCLUDING POTENTIAL FOR NEW
18 MARKETS, EMPLOYMENT, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

19 (D) (1) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2007, A COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL
20 CORPORATION SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT.

21 (2) THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE:

22 (I) FINDINGS FROM THE STUDY PERFORMED UNDER SUBSECTION
23 (B) OF THIS SECTION; AND

24 (II) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE POTENTIAL USE OF CONVERTED
25 SEWAGE SLUDGE WITHIN ITS BOUNDARIES.

26 9-251.

27 ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2007, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

28 (1) PREPARE A REPORT THAT PROVIDES A SYNOPSIS OF THE POTENTIAL
29 FOR SEWAGE SLUDGE CONVERSION STATEWIDE, AS REPORTED BY THE COUNTIES OR
30 MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 9-250 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND

31 (2) SUBMIT THE REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE
32 WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

33 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
34 October 1, 2006. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of

- 1 September 30, 2008, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this
- 2 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.