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By: **Delegates Guns, Schisler, Eckardt, W. Baker, Bozman, and Walkup**  
Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1998  
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Sewage Sludge Disposal Facilities and Composting Facilities - Permit**  
3 **Applications - Departmental Processing**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the Department of the Environment from processing  
5 a sewage sludge composting facility permit or sewage sludge storage facility  
6 permit until certain requirements are met; and generally relating to the  
7 processing of sewage sludge composting facility and sewage sludge storage  
8 facility permit applications.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article - Environment  
11 Section 9-233  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - Environment**

17 9-233.

18 (A) The Department may not issue a permit to install, materially alter, or  
19 materially extend a sewage sludge composting facility [until] OR SEWAGE SLUDGE  
20 STORAGE FACILITY UNTIL THE REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION ARE  
21 MET IN THE FOLLOWING SEQUENCE:

22 [(1) The sewage sludge composting facility meets all zoning and land use  
23 requirements of the county where the sewage sludge composting facility is to be  
24 located; and

25 (2) The Department has a written statement that the board of county  
26 commissioners or the county council of the county where the sewage sludge  
27 composting facility is to be located does not oppose the issuance of the permit.]

1           (1)       EXCEPT FOR THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL  
2 MEETING, THE DEPARTMENT HAS COMPLETED ITS PRELIMINARY TECHNICAL  
3 REVIEW OF THE PROPOSED FACILITY;

4           (2)       THE DEPARTMENT HAS REPORTED THE FINDINGS OF ITS  
5 PRELIMINARY TECHNICAL REVIEW, IN WRITING, TO THE COUNTY'S CHIEF ELECTED  
6 OFFICIAL OF THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE PROPOSED FACILITY IS TO BE LOCATED;  
7 AND

8           (3)       THE COUNTY HAS COMPLETED ITS REVIEW OF THE PROPOSED  
9 FACILITY AND HAS PROVIDED TO THE DEPARTMENT A WRITTEN STATEMENT THAT  
10 THE FACILITY MEETS ALL APPLICABLE COUNTY ZONING AND LAND USE  
11 REQUIREMENTS.

12       (B)       UPON COMPLETION OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS  
13 SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CEASE PROCESSING THE PERMIT APPLICATION  
14 UNTIL:

15           (1)       IN THE CASE OF A SEWAGE SLUDGE STORAGE FACILITY OR SEWAGE  
16 SLUDGE COMPOSTING FACILITY, THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (A)(3) OF THIS  
17 SECTION HAVE BEEN MET; AND

18           (2)       IN THE CASE OF A SEWAGE SLUDGE COMPOSTING FACILITY, THE  
19 DEPARTMENT HAS A WRITTEN STATEMENT THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
20 COMMISSIONERS OR THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE SEWAGE  
21 SLUDGE COMPOSTING FACILITY IS TO BE LOCATED DOES NOT OPPOSE THE  
22 ISSUANCE OF THE PERMIT.

23       SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
24 October 1, 1998.