



City of Frostburg

Todd Logsdon

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Delegate Marc Korman, Chair
Delegate Regina T. Boyce, Vice-Chair
House Environment & Transportation Committee
250 Taylor House Office Building

Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB909/SB732 (Sewer Sludge Utilization Permits – PFOS & PFOA)

Delegate Korman:

I'm writing to you to request your support in rejecting the proposed legislation under HB 909 and SB 732 which proposes to restrict land applications of biosolids (or sewage sludge) on agricultural land produced at treatment plants. Perfluoro octane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) are "forever chemicals." These compounds are found in sewage and originate from everyday items.

The City of Cumberland operates a regional water treatment plant that treats sewage for a majority of Allegany County, Frostburg included. If the bill is passed as written, Frostburg's sewerage costs will increase drastically, over double, due to the changes Cumberland will have to make to their treatment process. Cumberland land applies a large portion of its' solids post treatment. If not allowed to land-apply, Cumberland's costs will increase dramatically due to trucking and disposal fees. These increases will be passed on to Frostburg residents.

I strongly recommend you object to this bill and seek revisions to the legislation. While Frostburg supports efforts to reduce exposure to PFOS and PFOA, we do not believe the current bill reflects a reasonable approach by grossly exceeding MDE's own guidance. The language shifts the burden of treating these chemicals from the industries manufacturing them to your constituents.

If this bill is passed, Cumberland will have to store biosolids on site until a location can be determined for disposal. Our local landfills (Allegany County and Somerset, PA) will not be able to accept all of it due to restrictive capacity. If a new location is not identified within 60 days, Cumberland will need to shut down their wastewater facility. This would be disastrous for not only Frostburg but the entire county.

Frostburg requests that the bill be revised to comply with existing MDE guidance.

Respectfully

Todd J. Logsdon
Mayor
City of Frostburg

cc:

Delegate Dana Stein, House Bill Sponsor
Senator Sara Love, Senate Bill Sponsor
Senator Brian Feldman, Chair, Senate E3 Committee
Senator Cherly Kagan, Vice-Chair, Senate E3 Committee
Allegheny County Delegation
Mayor Raymond Morriss, City of Cumberland
Jeffrey Silka, City Administrator, City of Cumberland