
MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 20, 2002
TO: USCC Board of Directors
FROM: Ron Alexander, USCC Market Development Committee & Industry Liaison to AAPFCO
RE: Update from the AAPFCO Midyear meeting

Uniform Bills Committee - Uniform Compost Bill

On Tuesday, February 19, the AAPFCO's Uniform Bills Committee met to continue its work on the development of the Uniform Compost Bill. However, instead of continuing its efforts on the Uniform Compost Bill, the USCC worked with the Mulch & Soil Council to develop and present a new joint proposal pertaining to re-writing of the Uniform Soil Amendment Bill. This action was approved by the USCC Board in January. The Board agreed that as long as the re-write of the Uniform Soil Amendment Bill included the important aspects of the proposed Uniform Compost Bill, then a joint proposal with Mulch & Soil Council should be pursued. Proposing a re-write of the Uniform Soil Amendment Bill was deemed to be a viable alternative since it has been adopted (in some form or another) in over 30 states, and is deemed by many to need improvement (upgrading).

The presentation made to the Uniform Bills Committee went well and it was suggested by the Committee's Chairperson that copies of the proposed Bill be distributed to 'fertilizer officials' who are serving on the Uniform Bills Committee for their review and comment. If deemed by fertilizer officials as more beneficial course of action to follow, then efforts in re-writing the Uniform Soil Amendment Bill will continue to be pursued. If not, then efforts on developing the Uniform Compost Bill will again be pursued.

Environmental Affairs Committee

On Wednesday, February 20, the Environmental Affairs Committee's met to discuss SUIP #25 and other issues. Several issues were discussed regarding the SUIP, but no related action was taken. At the end of the meeting, a vote was called (as per AAPFCO By-Laws) to recommend to the AAPFCO Board that SUIP #25 be moved from 'tentative' to 'approved' status. This proposal was voted on and approved by the Environmental Affairs Committee. On February 21st the AAPFCO Board accepted the Environmental Affairs Committee's proposal regarding changing the SUIP's status. This will allow for the proposal to be voted on by the entire membership at the August Annual Meeting.

At the Environmental Affairs Committee meeting, information on dioxins and furans in agricultural and horticultural products was also presented, as standards are now being developed by the US EPA for non-hazardous waste products used in fertilizer, as well as biosolids. Thanks to access provided to a dioxins expert (by Synagro, a USCC member) the USCC presented information regarding the generation,

desposition, and environmental transfer of dioxins and furans. Since differing numerical standards are being promoted by various groups within the US EPA, as well as various U.S. states and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, the USCC suggested that the Environmental Affairs Committee should consider evaluating current dioxin/furan data, distributing appropriate data to member states (for educational purposes) and consider the development of a SUIP pertaining to dioxins/furans in fertilizers, soil amendments and liming agents. This proposal is under consideration by the Committee's leadership, and will likely be accepted.