



Environment
Office of the Minister

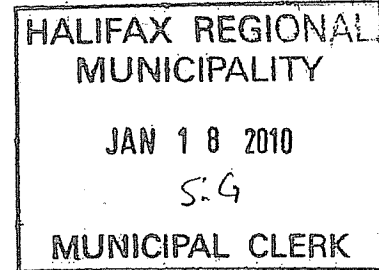
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DEC 09 2009

Mr. Bill Karsten
Chairman
Solid Waste Resource Advisory Committee
PO Box 1749
40 Alderney Drive, Suite 102
Dartmouth NS B3J 3A5



Dear Mr. Karsten:

Thank you for your September 30, 2009, letter regarding the 1998 Organics Landfill Ban and the 2006 Compost Facility Guidelines.

As you are aware, the province has been engaged in a consultation process as part of developing a Renewed Solid Waste Resource Management Strategy that will assist us in meeting the 2015 disposal goal of 300 kg/person/yr. During this process, we have heard many ideas about how to divert more waste from disposal, including organics. Some of these ideas include standards for diversion that address your concern about equality and consistency of organics programs throughout the province. Your thoughts have been heard and will be considered as we move forward to develop our Renewed Strategy.

We all have to work together not only to meet the disposal goal but also to meet the intent of the disposal goal: Sustainable Prosperity. In other words, we are challenged to protect the environment while stimulating the economy through the development of local green jobs and businesses. Your municipality's continued cooperation and engagement in this process is appreciated.

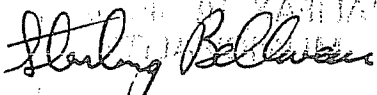
With respect to the proposed changes to the Compost Facility Guidelines, these revisions were designed to provide flexibility in meeting the new requirements while maintaining fiscal responsibility. Nova Scotia Environment staff will be consulting with facility operators to ensure they have the opportunity to provide further input into the revisions to the guidelines.

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Again, thank you for your continued input and your efforts to assist your residents and businesses in diverting more waste from disposal while protecting the environment and improving the economy.

Sincerely,



Sterling Belliveau
Minister

