
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 257 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY RIGBY, OBERLANDER AND CAUSER, NOVEMBER 2, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,
NOVEMBER 2, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Department of Environmental Protection, as a result
2 of the findings of the Legislative Budget and Finance
3 Committee's report, Proposed Revisions to Biosolids General
4 Permits PAG-07, PAG-08, and PAG-09, not to implement the
5 proposed revisions.

6 WHEREAS, In 2021, the Department of Environmental Protection
7 released proposed revisions to the General Permit for the
8 Beneficial Use of Exceptional Quality Biosolids by Land
9 Application (PAG-07), General Permit for the Beneficial Use of
10 Biosolids by Land Application (PAG-08) and General Permit for
11 the Beneficial Use of Residential Septage by Land Application
12 (PAG-09); and

13 WHEREAS, Last session, the General Assembly adopted House
14 Resolution 149, Printer's No. 2542, which directs the
15 Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to study the impact of
16 the Department of Environmental Protection's proposed revisions;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, The resulting report shares significant concerns
19 related to implementation of the Department of Environmental

1 Protection's proposed revisions and the increased cost to
2 ratepayers, municipalities and the agricultural industry; and

3 WHEREAS, The Legislative Budget and Finance Committee also
4 uncovered the following unintended consequences with the
5 Department of Environmental Protection's proposed revisions:

- 6 (1) Issues with landfilling biosolids.
 - 7 (2) Issues with incineration of biosolids.
 - 8 (3) The availability of land application sites;
- 9 and

10 WHEREAS, The Department of Environmental Protection has not
11 estimated the significant cost of permit holder compliance and
12 the need for new municipal infrastructure to comply with the
13 proposed revisions; and

14 WHEREAS, The Department of Environmental Protection has not
15 addressed how waste management facilities, communities and the
16 agricultural industry would, in practice, comply with the
17 proposed revisions; and

18 WHEREAS, The Department of Environmental Protection has not
19 demonstrated any potential environmental benefits as a result of
20 the proposed revisions; therefore be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the
22 Department of Environmental Protection, as a result of the
23 findings of the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee's
24 report, Proposed Revisions to Biosolids General Permits PAG-07,
25 PAG-08, and PAG-09, not to implement the proposed revisions; and
26 be it further

27 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
28 the Governor and the Secretary of Environmental Protection.