Critical Changes Necessary to Comply with the NMA and Regulation

WEAO Biosolids Seminar

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What Stays the Same

- Certificates of Approval
- MOE site inspections, compliance & enforcement
- Metal criteria
- Separation distances
- Waiting periods

What Changes

Land Application:

- 20 m buffer from watercourses
- no high trajectory irrigation guns
- no winter spreading - Dec 1 to Mar 31
  - shorter application season
  - paper residuals?
- changes to slope requirements/soil permeability
  - reduced spread rates

What Changes

Generators:

- Nutrient Management Strategy (NMS)
- Contingency plans
- Sampling protocol & quality criteria
- 240 days storage
- Training
- Definition of commercial fertilizer

What Changes

Brokers:

- New land application standards
- Agreements to receive / deliver prescribed materials
- Agreements link to NMS & CofA
- Licensing and training requirements

Implementation

Land application:

- Land application standards primarily implemented by contractors
- May require contractual changes
- Some municipalities (small & large) dedicating more staff time to programs

Implementation

Generators:

- Ultimately responsible for implementation
- Some responsibilities could be covered by contractor ie. sampling
- Liability

NMS

- Training required to complete
- Can be developed by third party
- Primarily a record keeping system
- May require program changes around documentation
- Potentially contract changes

Contingency Planning

- Documented steps to be followed in case where intended end use cannot be followed
- Largest part of NMS
- Many being developed by third party
- Requires list of contractors that would be utilized - contracts?
- MOE approval requirements?

Sampling Protocol & Quality Standards

- Phased in with NMS
- Now required to analyze for pathogens & meet E.coli limit
- Must meet quality criteria before entering central storage facility
- No more provisions for “marginal” biosolids quality

240 Days Storage

- Phased in with NMS
- Required prior to expansion of existing or construction of new plant
- Can be mitigated by transfer of material or other end uses
- Temporary field storage
  - 10 days for municipal biosolids
  - same as manure for paper residuals

Training

- Required to complete NMS
- NMS can be developed by third party that is licensed to do so

Commercial Fertilizer

- Means "*fertilizer or supplement, …as defined in the Fertilizers Act, where the sum percentage by weight of total N, available* P_2O_5 *and* K_2O*….. is greater than 10%*"
- Potential impacts for end uses of further processed products

Implementation

Brokers:

- Follow new land application standards
- Require additional land base
- Licenses
- Training
- Contractual changes

Costs??

- To be supported by generator?
- To be provided by Broker/Contractor?
- Then ultimately passed onto municipality & taxpayers?
- To be underwritten provincially to farm operator?

Future Planning

- Nutrient Management Plans
- increased land base - P limits
- Conflict between NMA, CFIA, and MOE
  - Definition of fertilizer
  - Management and monitoring of biosolids based fertilizer products
- Impact of septage ban
- Notification & consultation
- Source Water Protection
  - Anticipated source water protection rules will “supercede all existing Legislation”