# Appendix A

## Permit Application Requirements

Permits that are issued to publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) must include standards for biosolids use or disposal. In addition, EPA may issue biosolids permits to other "treatment works treating domestic sewage" (TWTDS) (i.e., other facilities that generate, change the quality of, or dispose of biosolids). Please note that this document refers to these permits as "biosolids permits" instead of "sewage sludge permits," just as it refers to sewage sludge as biosolids throughout this appendix to recognize and emphasize that these wastewater products can be used beneficially.

The EPA's biosolids management program regulations establish a framework for permitting biosolids use or disposal. The regulations require submission of a permit application that provides the permitting authority with sufficient information to issue an appropriate permit.

A permit application must include information on the entity's identity, location, and regulatory status, as well as information on the quality, quantity, and ultimate use or disposal of the biosolids.

Because the biosolids permitting regulations were promulgated several years before the Part 503 standards, they describe the required application information in broad, almost generic terms. EPA has developed an interim application form and the Agency is planning to revise the permit application regulations to reflect specifically the Part 503 standards.

The deadlines for submitting permit applications were revised in 1993 and are as follows:

Applicants requiring site-specific pollutant limits in their permits (e.g., biosolids incinerators) and persons requesting site-specific limits (e.g., some surface disposal sites) were required to submit applications by August 18, 1993.

All other applicants with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits are required to submit biosolids permit applications at the time of their next NPDES permit renewals.

So-called biosolids-only (non-NPDES) facilities that are not applying for site-specific limits, and are not otherwise required to submit a full permit application, only need to submit limited screening information and must have done so by February 19, 1994.

The permit application information that must be submitted depends on the type of facility and which biosolids use or disposal practices the facility employs. Questions on permit applications should be directed to the appropriate State and EPA Regional Biosolids Coordinators listed in Appendix B.

# Biosolids-Only Entities

Some of the limited screening information submitted by a person with a biosolids-only operation (i.e., biosolids from a non-discharging treatment works that treats domestic sewage) typically will include the:

- name, address, and phone number of the person who prepares the biosolids;
- name and address of the person who either owns or leases the land;
- location of the land either by street address or by latitude and longitude;
- indication of whether the entity is a privately owned treatment works (POTW), Federally owned treatment works, blending or treatment operation, surface disposal site, or biosolids incinerator;
- the amount of biosolids generated (and/or received from another facility), treated, and used or disposed;
- available data on pollutant concentrations in the biosolids;
- treatment to reduce pathogens and vector attraction properties of the biosolids;
- identification of other facilities receiving the biosolids for further processing or for use or disposal; and
- information on sites where the biosolids are used or disposed.

# Other Entities Submitting Full Permit Applications

A full permit application includes much more comprehensive information than the limited screening information described above for [biosolids]-only entities. Some of the information contained in a full permit application typically will include the following:

**A. General Information:**

- name, address, and phone number of the person who prepares the biosolids;
- name and address of the person who either owns or leases the land;
- location of the land either by street address or by latitude and longitude;
- indication of whether the entity is a POTW, Federally owned treatment works, blending or treatment operation, surface disposal site, or biosolids incinerator;
- indication of whether the entity is a Class I sludge management facility (i.e., a pretreatment POTW or another facility designated Class I by the permitting authority);
- the NPDES permit number (if any) and the number and type of any relevant Federal, State, or local environmental permits or construction approvals applied for or received;
- whether any biosolids use or disposal occurs on Native American lands;
- a topographic map showing biosolids use or disposal facilities and water bodies 1 mile beyond the property boundary and drinking water wells 1/4 mile beyond the property boundary;
- data on methods used to determine pathogen and vector attraction reduction status; and
- data on pollutant concentrations in the biosolids.

**B. Information on Generation of Biosolids or Preparation of a Material from Biosolids:**

- the amount of biosolids generated;
- if biosolids are received from off site, the amount received, the name and address of the offsite facility, and any treatment the biosolids have received;
- description of any treatment at the applicant's facility to reduce pathogens and vector attraction properties of the biosolids;
- description of any bagging and distribution activities for the biosolids; and

if biosolids are provided to another facility for further treatment, the amount provided, the name and address of the receiving facility, and any treatment occurring at the receiving facility.

**C. Information on Land Application of Bulk Biosolids (if the facility's biosolids are land applied):**

the amount of bulk biosolids applied to the land;

the nitrogen content of bulk biosolids applied to the land;

the name and location of land application sites, and a copy of the land application plan if all sites have not been identified;

the name and address of the owner and the person who applies bulk biosolids to each site;

the site type and the type of crop or other vegetation grown;

description of any processes at each land application site to reduce vector attraction properties of the biosolids;

ground-water monitoring data, if available;

if bulk biosolids are subject to cumulative pollutant loading rates, information on how the necessary tracking and notification requirements will be met; and

if bulk biosolids are applied to the land in a different State, information on how the permitting authority in the receiving State will be notified.

**D. Information on Surface Disposal of Biosolids (if the facility's biosolids are placed on a surface disposal site):**

the amount of biosolids placed on surface disposal sites; and

the name, address, contact person, and permit number(s) for each surface disposal site, regardless of whether the applicant is the owner/operator.

In addition, the following information is required for each active biosolids unit that the applicant owns or operates:

the amount of biosolids placed on the active biosolids unit;

whether the active biosolids unit has a liner and leachate collection system and, if so, a description of each;

if biosolids are received from off site, the amount received, the name and address and permit number(s) of the offsite facility, and any treatment the biosolids have received;

description of any processes used at the active biosolids unit to reduce vector attraction properties of the biosolids;

demonstration that the active biosolids unit will not contaminate an aquifer;

description of methane monitoring and closure plans; and

if the applicant is requesting site-specific pollutant limits, information to support such a request.

**E. Information on Incineration of Biosolids (if the facility's biosolids are fired in a biosolids incinerator):**

the name, address, contact person, mailing address, location, and relevant permit number(s) of each biosolids incinerator in which the applicant's biosolids are fired;

the amount of biosolids from the applicant's facility that is incinerated;

information to demonstrate compliance with National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPs) for beryllium and mercury for each biosolids incinerator the applicant owns or operates;

information on the other regulated metal pollutants (arsenic, cadmium, chromium, lead, and nickel) for biosolids that are incinerated;

information to demonstrate compliance with the operational standard for total hydrocarbons (or carbon monoxide) for each biosolids incinerator the applicant owns or operates;

the dispersion factor, control efficiency, and operating parameters for each biosolids incinerator the applicant owns or operates; and

identification of monitoring equipment and air pollution control equipment used on each incinerator the applicant owns or operates.

All permit applications must be signed and certified. The permitting authority may request additional information to assess biosolids use or disposal practices, determine whether to issue a permit, or to identify appropriate permit requirements.