

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

Post Office Box 2063
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

The Secretary

(717)787-2814

Mr. James Seif
Regional Administrator
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region III
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Mr. Seif:

Enclosed are two copies of the Commonwealth's application for program authorization under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Three copies are being forwarded directly to EPA Headquarters at Region III's suggestion to facilitate Headquarters review. Copies of the final unsigned application were previously forwarded to Region III and Headquarters to expedite the official review period. We appreciate EPA's flexibility in this matter. We believe that the enclosed application addresses the statutory and regulatory provisions required for program authorization under RCRA and that the tests for an equivalent, consistent, and no less stringent program are fully met. The enclosed application contains the following elements as required by 40 CFR 271:

1. Governor's Letter,
2. Program Description (including statutes and regulations),
3. Attorney General's Statement,
4. Memorandum of Agreement, and
5. Responsiveness Summary.

The Responsiveness Summary includes copies of all written comments, a transcript of the public hearing held on August 8, 1985, and the Comment and Response Document, as well as copies of the Pennsylvania Bulletin and newspaper advertisements providing the public notice of the State's comment period on the proposed application.

Both of our staffs worked long and hard to draft and review all of the program elements to insure equivalency and consistency between the Federal and State programs. This spirit of cooperation and determination is a credit to their high degree of professionalism and dedication in assuring a clean and safe environment for the citizens of the Commonwealth. We are looking forward to the same kind of working relationship and coordination of the hazardous waste management program as we work toward achieving authorization for new program elements as required by the RCRA Amendments of November, 1984.

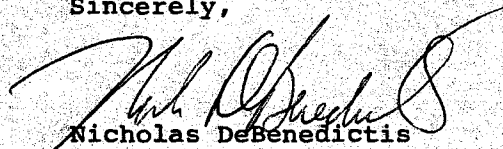
Mr. James Seif

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I would also like to take this opportunity to let you know that, although the Compliance and Enforcement Strategy is not part of an official application for authorization, it is undergoing DER legal review and that sign-off can be expected by March 14, 1986.

Since our timeframe for final authorization is short, I would appreciate being notified immediately if there are any major elements of our program or application that would bar approval of program delegation. We look forward to your favorable consideration of our application and the continued Federal/State partnership needed to implement a comprehensive hazardous waste management program.

Sincerely,



Nicholas DeBenedictis
Secretary

Enclosures