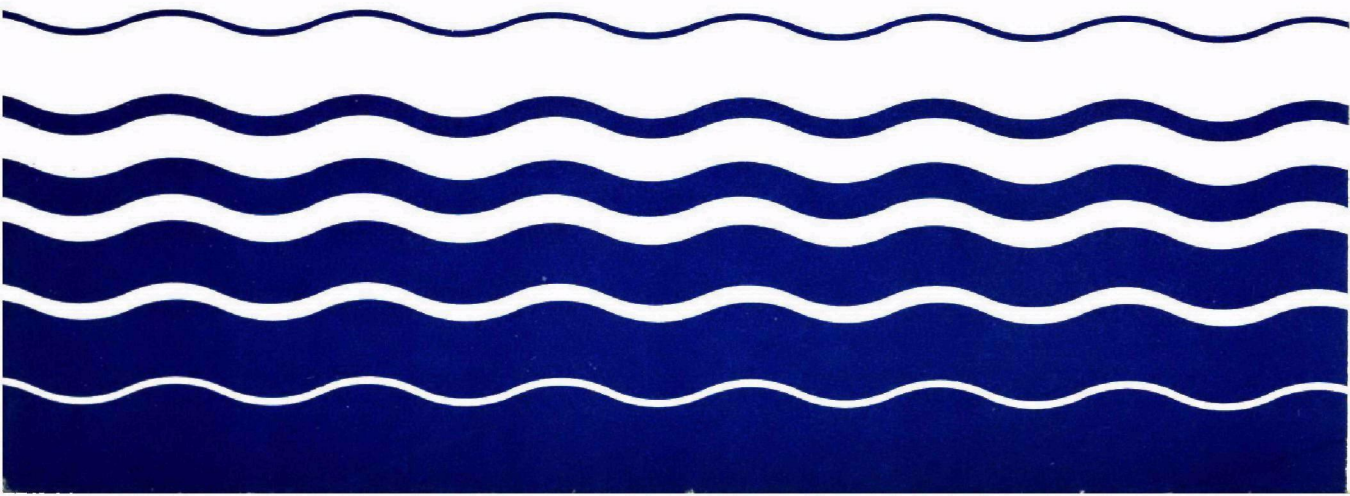




# **Nomination Guidance**

## **Beneficial Sewage Sludge Use Awards Program**

For  
Operating Projects,  
Technology Development,  
Research



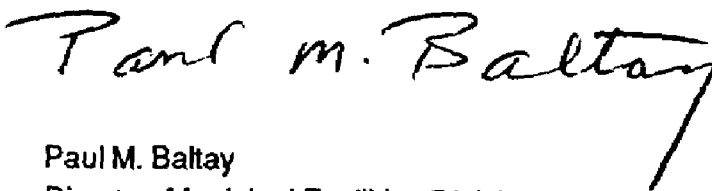
## INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to announce the 1990 Beneficial Use of Sludge Awards Program. This program continues to recognize outstanding operational projects, research studies, and technological advances which promote the beneficial use of municipal sewage sludge. EPA Regional Offices will again join the Water Pollution Control Federation (WPCF) in helping implement this program. The awards program will include separate competitions within most of our Regions to recognize additional beneficial sludge use efforts.

EPA is actively promoting the beneficial use of sewage sludge. Creative and widely applicable techniques for the beneficial use of sludge are vital to our efforts to protect and improve our resources. Many municipalities, businesses, individuals and groups have worked for years to make significant contributions to the study and practice of safer, beneficial use of municipal sewage sludge. We believe that these awards are helping to focus attention on the critical need to develop and put into operation sewage sludge management practices which beneficially use sludge and which are environmentally safe, economically attractive and acceptable to the public. Winning entries will receive formal awards, while all worthy nominations will be publicly recognized in various EPA and WPCF publications. We encourage you to nominate worthy candidates deserving of recognition.

The National awards will be made in October 1990 at the National WPCF Conference in Washington, DC. This pamphlet describes the awards program in detail and gives instructions for preparing and submitting candidate nominations. Please note that this year you need to send your nominations to EPA's Regional Offices by their deadlines so that these outstanding efforts can be considered for recognition.

Sincerely,



Paul M. Baltay  
Director, Municipal Facilities Division  
Office of Municipal Pollution Control

## DESCRIPTION OF AWARDS PROGRAMS

### Purpose

The purpose of the awards program is to encourage the development and use of cost-effective and environmentally safe sewage sludge beneficial use practices which recycle nutrients, improve soil conditions or otherwise conserve valuable natural resources.

### Award Categories

Nominations will be accepted to recognize excellence in a wide range of activities that have stimulated beneficial use of municipal sewage sludge. National awards will be presented in the following three categories:

- **Operating Projects.** Outstanding, full-scale, beneficial use technologies.
- **Technology Development Activities.** Significant technological improvements that have been developed and fully proven at the operational level; these may be pilot or full- scale activities.
- **Research Activities.** Studies that have contributed substantially to an improved understanding of sludge beneficial use practices such as environmental effects, improved public acceptance or technology improvements.

### Nomination Process

- Candidates for awards may be nominated by anyone including EPA Regions, States, municipalities, consultants, researchers or other interested parties.
- Completed nomination packages in specified format must be submitted in duplicate to the EPA Regional Office in which your State is located (see pages 6 and 7).
- Important--Please check with your Regional Office contact (page 7) for any Region-specific nomination guidance and for that Region's submission deadline. The tentative Regional deadlines for receipt of nominations are shown on page 6.

- Entries will be considered for Regional awards (where established) as well as National awards. Regions will forward one copy of all entries to WPCF for the National competition by the June 22, 1990 National deadline.
- During June, July and August, nomination packages received for the National competition will be reviewed by a panel consisting of representatives from EPA, WPCF and other groups. EPA Regional Offices will also review the nominations for projects in their Region.
- National award recipients will be notified by August 31, 1990.
- National awards will be presented in October 1990 at WPCF's National Conference in Washington, DC.
- Each National award will consist of a project certificate and plaque.
- An exhibit or poster session display and a short article describing each National award winning beneficial use activity will be developed and made available at the WPCF Conference. Subsequent publications describing Regional as well as National activities will be encouraged.
- We especially encourage submission of nominations in the technology development and research categories. Last year fewer awards were given to applicants in these categories because of a lack of enough good candidates.
- Note that there are two categories for operating projects this year with awards for both small and larger projects.
- Previous first place winning projects or activities will not be considered as candidates for the same award category. However, previous first place winners can submit different projects or activities for award consideration. Unsuccessful nominations and all other previous winning projects or activities may be submitted again for consideration.

## **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

The beneficial use of sewage sludge award candidates will be evaluated against the following criteria.

### **For Operating Projects [Two categories: (1) $\leq$ 5 MGD (2) $>$ 5 MGD]**

- Significant recycling/reuse of natural resources (e.g., nutrients, organic matter and energy).
- Sustained (several years), full-scale, proven operation.
- Consistent, cost-effective operation.
- Publicly acceptable.
- Compliant with applicable Federal, State and local regulations.

### **For Technology Development Activities**

- Sustained excellence in advancing our knowledge of technology (e.g., improved design criteria or operational practice).
- National application technology has potential for use in many areas across the country.
- Operationally proven.

### **For Research Activities**

- Greater public acceptability of sludge beneficial use.
- Greatly improves our understanding of the environmental effects associated with beneficial use of sludge.
- Substantial contribution toward the development of improved technology design and operation.
- Key information generated for the development of improved sludge regulations and guidance.

## **NOMINATION FORMAT**

All nominations must be submitted in duplicate in the following format to the appropriate EPA Regional Office (see pages 6 and 7).

### **1. Identifying Information (Front page)**

Name, address, affiliation, telephone number, NPDES number (if applicable) and the spokesperson for the project or activity.

### **2. Executive Summary (2 pages or less)**

Describe the project or activity indicating the award category for which the nomination is proposed and its relevance to the evaluation criteria.

### **3. Facility/Activity Information (4-5 pages)**

Provide the following relevant information to adequately support the nomination.

- (a) Sludge type, volume, quality and processing information. Be specific regarding the unit processes, including sludge production and processing details, sludge quality (e.g., nutrients and pollutants), and other details relevant to the beneficial use practice.
- (b) Cooperating parties and their contributions to the beneficial use project or activity.
- (c) Duration and size of the project or activity, extent of ability to operate at design level, and cost information.
- (d) Compliance record with applicable local, State and Federal regulations.
- (e) Project monitoring program, including its use to evaluate and modify management practices.
- (f) Description of training activities where applicable, leading to improved operations, performance and public acceptability.

- (g) POTW pretreatment program and its effectiveness, if appropriate.
- (h) Special innovative practices or activities.
- (i) Obstacles (technical, political, public acceptance or other) overcome as a result of the activity.
- (j) Evidence of enhanced benefits resulting from the activity (such as lower sludge management costs, lower energy consumption, enhanced soil properties, better crop productivity and quality, enhanced plant disease resistance, lower human health risks, greater national adoption of practice and improved public acceptance).

#### **4. Attachments**

Supporting materials may be attached. The attachment should include a short cover index page that lists the various supporting materials and gives about a 4- to 6-line description of each item.

Photographs of the activity are strongly encouraged (where appropriate).

**Note:** Sheer bulk of information is not desirable. Be concise and attach items that truly substantiate the importance and relevance of the beneficial use project or activity. Please do not send materials that you wish to have back because application materials are not returned.

## Tentative Regional Deadlines for Nominations

<b>EPA Region</b>	<b>Tentative Deadline Dates</b>	<b>States</b>
1	05-25-90	Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont
2	05-01-90	New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands
3	05-01-90	Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia
4	05-25-90	Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee
5	06-01-90	Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin
6	05-01-90	Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas
7	05-01-90	Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska
8	06-01-90	Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming
9	06-01-90	Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, Guam
10	05-01-90	Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington

\* These deadline dates for receipt of award nomination packages are tentative. Please check with your Regional Office for verification.



## EPA Regional Contact: (See List of States in Each Region, Page 6)

Region	Address	Contact	Telephone
1	Municipal Evaluation Section Water Management Division JFK Federal Building, RM 2103 Boston, MA 02203	Charles Conway	617-565-3517
2	Water Management Division 26 Federal Plaza, Rm 837 New York, NY 10278	Pat Harvey	212-264-8958
3	Water Management Division 841 Chestnut Street (3WM22) Philadelphia, PA 19107	Jim Kern	215-597-3423
4	Municipal Facilities Branch Water Management Division 345 Courtland Street Atlanta, GA 30365	Vince Miller	404-347-3633
5	Permits Section (5WGP-TUB-8) Water Division 230 South Dearborn Street Chicago, IL 60604	Joan Kamauskas	312-886-6090
6	Municipal Facilities Branch Water Management Division 1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, TX 75202	Ancil Jones	214-655-7130
7	Construction Grants Branch Water Management Division 726 Minnesota Avenue Kansas City, KS 66101	Frank Mischlich	913-236-2813
8	Municipal Facilities Branch Water Management Division 999 18th Street, Suite 500 Denver, CO 80202-2405	Jim Brooks	303-293-1549
9	Permits Branch (W-5-2) Water Division 1235 Mission Street San Francisco, CA 94102	Lauren Fondahl	415-566-3910 (415-705-2078 After Feb. 15)
10	Municipal Facilities Branch Water Division, WD-085 1200 Sixth Avenue Seattle, WA 98101	Dick Hetherington	206-442-1941
Also Contact:	The Water Pollution Control Federation Attention: Technical Services 601 Wythe Street Alexandria, VA 22314		703-684-2400