

**Bi-County Committee Meeting
Prince George's County House Delegation
Legislative Session 2013
January 16, 2013**

Present: Delegate Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk, Chair
Delegate Michael Vaughn, Vice Chair
Delegate Anne Healey
Delegate Marvin Holmes
Delegate Jolene Ivey

Absent: Delegate Dereck Davis

Meeting called to order at 8:40am

Welcome, Housekeeping.

MC/PG 106-13 called for hearing.

1. Chair gives summation of the bill, as prepared by Counsel. Also provided quick background from the local bill hearings.
2. Kirk Wineland, Director of Intergovernmental Relations, WSSC, testifies in favor of the bill.
 - a. Commissioners considering an amendment on this bill. WSSC Commissioners meeting today.
3. Delegate Healey – why does the WSSC want to take this authority away from the General Assembly?
 - a. Mr. Wineland – intention is not to take away authority. The WSSC is trying to honor the State's habits of delegating authority to the chartered counties and organizations. Will provide the Committee with the study.
4. Special ordered until next week, January 23, 2013.

MC/PG 107-13

1. Chair gives a summation of the bill.
2. Mr. Wineland explains this will give the WSSC flexibility during a heavy reporting time.
3. Delegate Ivey moves favorable on the bill, Delegate Healey seconds the motion.
4. Bill passes FAV 4-0.

MC/PG 108-13

1. Chair gives a summation of the bill.
2. Mr. Wineland and colleague from the WSSC present background on the issue, WSSC's justification for bill.
3. Delegate Ivey: why only half of the solid waste would go into the anaerobic digester.
4. Delegate Holmes: has real concerns. Largest concern is why the WSSC may appear to be the nose of the camel going under the tent. Both Delegate Holmes

and Healey serve on the Environmental Matters Committee. If all 66 utilities request exemption, the Chesapeake Bay will be the victim.

- a. Mr. Wineland: WSSC ahead of the times with technology and environmental stewardship practices. The WSSC believes that these regulations don't identify WSSC leadership, and will end up costing the WSSC much more. Over 90% of the bio-solids are sent to Virginia because the regulatory process in Maryland is so strict.
5. Delegate Healey: don't believe the General Assembly will undermine a policy years in the making just to accommodate one entity. This entity is a large entity. Don't think it will get out of the Environmental Matters Committee. Policy concerns. Exemption for WSSC would capsize this program.
6. Delegate Ivey: if exemption granted, is there value to the environment?
7. Delegate Pena-Melnyk: regulations specify the nutrient dumping amounts. If exempted, the WSSC would determine that amount to be placed on the land.
 - a. The WSSC admits that is a flaw in the bill, and has no issue with the nutrient guidelines prescribed in COMAR.
8. Delegate Pena-Melnyk: how long have you been driving waste out of state and into Virginia?
9. Departments of Agriculture and Environment presenting on this bill.
10. Delegate Holmes: what is the permitting to licensure time to build a storage facility? *Answer is roughly a year and a half.* Is there a way to expedite this process? *They can build it on an existing facility.*
11. Delegate Pena-Melnyk: does MDE have grants and loans for locals and businesses to ease the cost of the regulations? *Yes.*

MC/PG 109-13

1. Chair gives summation of withdrawal, requests unfavorable motion to withdraw bill.

Bi-County Committee will meet January 23 at 9am in Room 302.

Meeting adjourns at 9:32am