



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

L. Preston Bryant, Jr.
Secretary of Natural Resources

P.O. Box 1475
Richmond, Virginia 23218

September 4, 2009

Dr. Lynton S. Land
Post Office Box 539
Ophelia, Virginia 22530-0539

Dear Dr. Land:

Thank you for your recent letter to Governor Kaine regarding the Commonwealth's proposed amendments to the poultry waste management regulations, which concern additional requirements for end users of poultry litter. The Governor has asked me to respond to you on his behalf, as the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), an agency of my secretariat, managed the regulatory development of the proposed amendments.

The proposed amendments resulted from both a stakeholders group that I convened on March 13, 2007, to discuss issues related to the management of off-site poultry litter and a full regulatory development process begun by DEQ on November 16, 2007.

I must respectfully disagree with you that the proposed regulations are not protective of water quality and that the amendments are particularly one-sided. Be assured that these amendments were drafted based on the input of an advisory group made up of balanced interests. I understand that you have submitted detailed comments to DEQ as part of the now concluded public comment period. Your comments, along with all others received, as well as those heard at the three public hearings on the regulatory amendments, will be given full consideration as DEQ goes before the State Water Control Board to finalize the regulatory changes later this year. These final amendments, as well as a summary of all comments received and DEQ's responses, will be part of the public record, and as a commenter you are permitted to speak during the board meeting at which they will be discussed. DEQ currently plans to present the regulatory amendments to the board at its meeting scheduled for October 26-27, 2009. An agenda for the board meeting will be posted to the DEQ website at www.deq.virginia.gov at least ten days before the meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Preston Bryant, Jr.", written over a white background.

L. Preston Bryant, Jr.

LBPJr/cbd

c: David K. Paylor, Director, Department of Environmental Quality