## Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners



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## Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners

Sewer Advisory Committee October 17, 2007

As one of Pennsylvania's municipal associations, the Pennsylvania State Commissioners (PSATC) Association of Township represents Pennsylvania's first class townships and their elected governing officials before the Pennsylvania General Assembly and the Commonwealth's various agencies. First class townships are generally regarded as the "urban ring" around Pennsylvania's cities. Many of our first class townships face issues similar to those of our Commonwealth's cities and urban boroughs. PSATC was founded in 1925 to distinguish itself from the second class townships which are much larger in number. Pennsylvania currently has 91 townships of the first class, approximately 75 of whom are members of the PSATC.

The PSATC delegate to the Sewer Advisory Committee is Ms. Ginnie Anderson Kane, Upper Allen Township Commissioner and current PSATC First Vice President. The alternate delegate is Mr. Franklin Linn, Lower Swatara Commissioner and a PSATC Past President.

As an organization that represents local government, we have a particular interest in sewage and wastewater issues, as we are required to provide these services to our residents either on our own or through contracting with a neighboring authority or municipality.

However, PSATC members have grown increasingly concerned with the costs associated with providing these services, particularly as it relates to the Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy. The Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy requires that local governments and municipal authorities bring their wastewater treatment facilities into compliance with acceptable phosphate and nitrogen levels. In many cases the cost of converting our plants and bringing them into compliance will cost millions of dollars. The PSATC is concerned that this is an unfunded mandate that has not been adequately funded and the costs associated with this have not been sufficiently researched.

We look forward to working with the Sewer Advisory Committee to address this issue as well as other sewer and wastewater issues of importance to local governments.

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