

Citizens Advisory Council

to the Department of Environmental Protection

P.O. Box 8459 • Rachel Carson State Office Building
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8459 • 717-787-4527 • Fax 717-787-2878

December 19, 2002

James M. Close, Chairperson
Recycling Fund Advisory Committee
1690 South 19th Street
Harrisburg, PA 17104

Dear Mr. Close:

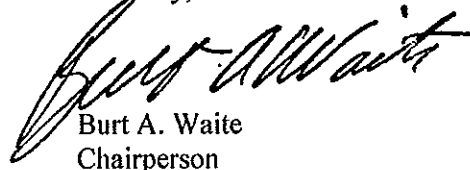
At its last meeting, the Citizen Advisory Council's (CAC) Environmental Standards Committee discussed the current spending plan for the Recycling Fund. During our regional meeting in September, several testifiers expressed concerns about the lack of funds available for Act 101 recycling (902) grants to some communities, as many of these grant requests were either reduced from the original amount, or not provided at all.

It is CAC's understanding that the Recycling Fund Advisory Committee does not support the Recycling Fund spending plan in its current form, and that Committee members voted to do the following: 1) retain the \$25 million that is currently taken out of the Fund and transferred to the Environmental Stewardship Fund, so that all proposed recycling projects are fully funded; 2) support the reauthorization and enactment of the proposed recycling bill, which maintains the \$2/ton recycling fee until 2009; and 3) have recycling funds (902 grants) allocated to newly-mandated communities for program implementation and education. We understand their concerns and would like to see more details on the Recycling Fund spending plan, especially in these areas:

- The entire plan should be presented as a financial report, so that each line item in the plan can be clearly shown and understood as to its destination (i.e., having line items in the spending plan that show "cash and accrual" (revenues and expenses) activities with the Recycling Fund); and
- Justification for the continued withdrawal of \$25 million from the Recycling Fund to the Environmental Stewardship Fund.

The CAC plans to monitor subsequent activities with the Recycling Fund. If you have any questions, or wish to request our assistance on this matter, please contact Susan Wilson, Executive Director, at 717-787-4527.

Sincerely,


Burt A. Waite
Chairperson

cc: allard
Hogervan
Patricia Spin 1-2-03

