

Standards for the Use or Disposal of Sewage Sludge

Final Rule and Proposed Rule

[Federal Register: October 25, 1995 (Volume 60, Number 206)]

40 CFR Parts 403 and 503

SUMMARY: On November 25, 1992, pursuant to Section 405 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), EPA promulgated a regulation (40 CFR part 503) to protect public health and the environment from reasonably anticipated adverse effects of certain pollutants in sewage sludge (58 FR 9248, February 19, 1993). This regulation established requirements for the final use or disposal of sewage sludge when: (1) The sewage sludge is applied to the land either to condition the soil or to fertilize crops grown in the soil; (2) the sewage sludge is placed on the land for final disposal; or (3) the sewage sludge is incinerated. In addition, EPA also amended the General Pretreatment Regulations (40 CFR part 403) to establish a list of pollutants for which a removal credit may be available.

Today's action amends the part 503 sewage sludge regulation as a result of EPA's reconsideration of certain issues remanded by the U.S. Court of Appeals for additional justification or modification. The Agency is deleting the current land application pollutant limits for chromium and changing the land application pollutant concentration limit for selenium.

EPA is also amending the list of pollutants for which a removal credit may be available. This final rule removes chromium in sewage sludge that is land-applied from the list of regulated pollutants for which a removal credit may be available and adds it to the list of unregulated pollutants that are eligible for a removal credit.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The final rule is effective October 25, 1995. For purposes of judicial review, the final rule is issued at 1 p.m. on October 25, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert M. Southworth, Biosolids Manager, Health and Ecological Criteria Division (4304), Office of Science and Technology, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street SW., Washington, D.C. 20460, telephone (202) 260-7157.