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*Cooperatively promoting the environmentally sound recycling of biosolids and other residuals*

**Board of Directors**

March 14, 2023

*President*  
Deborah Mahoney  
Andover, MA

The Honorable Angus King  
133 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20510

*Past-President*  
Thomas Schwartz  
Northampton, MA

RE: Support for Regional Biosolids/Residuals “BioHub” in Maine

*Vice President*  
Lise LeBlanc  
Mount Uniacke, NS

Dear Senator King,

*Treasurer*  
Arthur Simonian  
Cromwell, CT

On behalf of the North East Biosolids & Residuals Association (NEBRA), I am writing in support of NEIWPCC’s proposal for a BioHub in Maine. The BioHub would be a center for researching and vetting emerging technologies for biosolids management and, especially studying the potential for destroying per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). NEBRA members in Maine include numerous water resource recovery facilities (WRRFs) that are desperate for more biosolids management options and cost relief. We also have members with potential technology solutions interested in having a place to demonstrate their technologies.

Patrick Ellis  
Portsmouth, NH

Charles Alix  
Westford, MA

Cheri Cousens  
No. Andover, MA

As you know, we currently have three basic ways of managing biosolids: landfilling, incinerating, and recycling them as soil amendments. The entire regional “market” for biosolids was already very stressed with landfill space decreasing and incinerators ageing. COVID and PFAS have only made it worse. Biosolids management costs -- typically the second or third largest expense for WRRFs -- are increasing dramatically in [Maine](#). A BioHub could facilitate the development of new management options. I have seen, first-hand, the need for a place to pilot and scale up emerging technologies like pyrolysis for biosolids. If we bring researchers, developers, and end users together in an innovation center like the BioHub, some of these new technologies are sure to prevail.

Aaron Fox  
Lowell, MA

Michael Hodge  
Concord, NH

Chris Hubbard  
Wakefield, RI

Michael Lannan  
Northport, ME

Eryka Reid  
Holderness, NH

A BioHub in Maine could be a long-term solution to a major problem in the Northeast by helping to identify more sustainable, cost-effective ways of managing biosolids in the age of PFAS. I am confident in NEIWPCC’s capabilities to lead this project to completion. NEBRA fully supports NEIWPCC’s funding request and would be pleased to be involved in the effort. Please consider funding this project to make this valuable BioHub concept a reality.

Mark Young  
Lowell, MA

Sincerely,

Janine Burke-Wells  
Executive Director