



**Officers**

**President**  
**Jennifer Trent**  
Iowa  
Waste Reduction  
Center University of  
Northern Iowa

The Hon, Sen. Tom Carper, Chairman  
Environment and Public Works Committee  
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

The Hon Sen. Shelley Capito, Ranking Member  
Environment and Public Works Committee  
456 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

**Past President**  
**Pierce Louis**  
Dirt Hugger

March 14, 2024

**Vice President**  
**Jeff Ziegenbein**  
Inland Empire Regional  
Composting Authority

Dear Chair Carper and Ranking Member Capito:

**Treasurer**  
**Samantha Winkle**  
Waste Connections

As the Environment and Public Works Committee continues to work on legislation to address the harmful impacts of PFAS, the U.S. Composting County would like to strongly encourage that language be included that provides passive receivers with protections from the Comprehensive Environmental Remediation Cleanup and Liability Act (CERCLA) liability. Without these protections, composting facilities across the country will be severely impacted.

**Secretary**  
**Ryan Cooper**  
Rubicon Global

The US Composting Council is a national trade organization that represents more than 1,000 compost businesses and allied organizations. Our members are not responsible for putting any PFAS into the feedstocks that we receive. However, unfortunately, the manufacturers of PFAS add these materials to products that end up in our piles. Additionally, compost generally has very low readings for PFAS in comparison with common household products.

**Board of Directors**

**Travis Bahnsen**  
A-1 Organics

**Meredith Danberg-Ficarelli**  
WATS

**Neil Edgar**  
Edgar & Associates

Superfund is one of the nation's most far-reaching environmental laws because it allows for strict and retroactive liability for any party found to have contributed to a site covered by the statute. It was designed to hold those who pollute responsible for cleanup--and compost facilities are certainly not the generators of the pollution.

**Scott Gamble**  
Waste Management

**Gary Gittere**  
McGill Premium Compost

CERCLA is very broad, and those covered under it can be held liable for complete cleanups even if their contribution to the contaminated site was minimal. This is what the compost industry—providing not only soil health and climate mitigating benefits but good jobs in the “green” economy—faces if the CERCLA proposal as written has no exemptions for compost facilities. Failure to include an exemption would put many facilities providing beneficial public services at risk of closure due to the heavy financial toll this would place on composters.

**Michael Martinez**  
LA Compost

**Cary Oshins**  
ComposterCarydotcom

We strongly encourage the Committee to provide CERCLA liability protections for passive receivers. These protections will ensure that the composting industry can continue to do business without the threat of Superfund liability. We appreciate your attention to this important issue.

**Lorrie Rossiter**  
ERTH Products

**Elliot Schneider**  
City of St. Peters Earth Centre

**Chris Seney**  
Republic Services

Sincerely,

**Executive Director**  
**Frank Franciosi**

Frank Franciosi - Executive Director