



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
NATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT RESEARCH LABORATORY  
CINCINNATI, OH 45268

October 29, 2001

OFFICE OF  
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. C. G. Steiner, J.D.  
President and CEO  
WaterSmart Environmental, Inc.  
P.O. Box 26346  
Shawnee Mission, KS 66225-6346

Dear Mr. Steiner:

Thank you for your September 14, 2001, letter addressed to Christine Todd Whitman, Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), regarding your WaterSmart's Optimized Anaerobic Treatment (OAT) process. Your letter and information has been referred to the National Risk Management Research Laboratory for response.

Your literature discusses the applicability of the OAT process to treat many waste streams of interest to EPA including municipal solid waste, municipal and industrial wastewater effluents, and waste generated by concentrated animal feed operations. As you may know, EPA has programs related to these activities including the Office of Solid Waste's program on Municipal solid waste (<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/muncpl/index.htm>), Office of Water's programs in wastewater management (<http://www.epa.gov/OWM/>) and animal feeding operations ([http://cfpub1.epa.gov/npdes/home.cfm?program\\_id=7](http://cfpub1.epa.gov/npdes/home.cfm?program_id=7)).

It was also appropriate to send copies of this package to the USDA and DOE since they have programs in management of wastes from animal feeding operations (<http://www.nhq.nrcs.usda.gov/PROGRAMS/ahcwpd/AFO.html>) and in developing alternative energy sources using bioprocesses (<http://www.eren.doe.gov/RE/bioenergy.html>), respectively.

EPA does not endorse commercial environmental processes. However, EPA does support a program to verify the performance claims of vendors. We suggest you visit our web site to learn more about the Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) program at <http://www.epa.gov/etv/>.

Again, thank you for bringing your OAT process to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Prucella", written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

E. Timothy Oppelt  
Director  
National Risk Management  
Research Laboratory