



Working to ensure environmental excellence in biosolids management

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*please visit our website at:*  
[www.biosolids.org](http://www.biosolids.org)

January 10, 2007

Corky Overmyer  
Director - Environmental Services Department  
City of Grand Rapids  
1300 Market Ave., SW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

## RE: National Biosolids Partnership EMS Certification

Dear Corky:

On behalf of the National Biosolids Partnership (NBP), which is a voluntary partnership of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), Water Environment Federation (WEF), and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), I congratulate you and your dedicated staff on the successful completion and certification of the City of Grand Rapids Biosolids Environmental Management System (EMS). You are the sixteenth wastewater agency of 92 active participants nationwide which has earned the NBP's "Seal of Approval" by leading the way to excellence through your EMS program.

The Seal of Approval recognizes that the City of Grand Rapids has met all of the requirements of certification for admittance to the NBP EMS program, as verified on December 20, 2006 by an NBP accredited auditing firm, NSF-International Strategic Registrations. As you well know, the independent audit verified that the City of Grand Rapids:

- has an effective biosolids environmental management system that supports continually improving environmental performance,
- exceeds regulatory compliance obligations,
- utilizes good biosolids management practices, and
- creates meaningful opportunities for public participation

Thank you for being a leader and a model to other wastewater treatment agencies nationwide who want to strive for continuous environmental improvement. Please convey the NBP's appreciation to your staff and others who have worked so diligently to meet the voluntary NBP EMS program requirements.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Hite  
Chair, National Biosolids Partnership

cc: Randy Fisher, Assistant Director of Environmental Services/EMS Coordinator