

be found in the May 1, 1995 RMAN (60 FR 21386).

## II. Specific Recommendations for Procurement of Designated Items

Recommendations for purchasing previously-designated items can be found in RMAN I (May 1, 1995); RMAN II (November 13, 1997); RMAN III (January 19, 2000); and the Paper Products RMAN's (May 29, 1996, and June 8, 1998).

### Part F—Landscaping Products

#### *Section F-2. Compost Made From Recovered Organic Materials (Revised)*

**Note:** EPA previously designated yard trimmings compost in CPG I and food waste compost in CPG III. The proposed CPG V discusses the use of compost made from manure or biosolids. The final CPG V would consolidate all previous and proposed compost designations under one item called "compost made from recovered organic materials." These materials could include yard trimmings, food waste, manure, biosolids, or other recovered organic materials that can be composted. Following are EPA's revised recommendations for purchasing compost. When EPA issues final recommendations for purchasing composts made from recovered organic materials, procuring agencies should substitute them for the recommendations found in section F-2 of RMAN III.

**Preference Program:** EPA recommends that procuring agencies purchase or use mature compost made from recovered organic materials in such applications as landscaping, seeding of grass or other plants on roadsides and embankments, as nutritious mulch under trees and shrubs, and in erosion control and soil reclamation. Mature compost is defined as a thermophilic converted product with high humus content, which can be used as a soil amendment and can also be used to prevent or remediate pollutants in soil, air, and storm water run-off.

EPA further recommends that those procuring agencies that have an adequate volume of organic materials, as well as sufficient space for composting, should implement a composting system to produce compost from these materials to meet their landscaping and other needs.

**Specifications:** EPA recommends that procuring agencies refer to the U.S. Composting Council's Test Methods for the Examination of Composting and Compost (TMECC) at [www.compostingcouncil.org](http://www.compostingcouncil.org), which are standardized methods for the composting industry to test and evaluate compost and verify the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics

of composting source materials and compost products. The TMECC also includes material testing guidelines to ensure product safety and market claims. Procuring agencies should also check for individual state regulations on the use of compost.

The U.S. Department of Transportation's "Standard Specifications for Construction of Roads and Bridges on Federal Highway Projects 1996" specifies compost as one of the materials suitable for use in roadside revegetation projects associated with road construction.

EPA issued regulations in 1993 that limit the pollutants and pathogens in biosolids, entitled "The Standards for the Use or Disposal of Sewage Sludge," otherwise known as "the Part 503 Biosolids Rule" (40 CFR part 503). If biosolids are included as part of the compost, the processing and product are subject to the Part 503 Biosolids Rule Class A specifications for the highest level of pathogen and vector control (as described in section 2.3.1 of part 503) and specific metals limits, the compost product can be widely used, like any other fertilizer or soil-conditioning product.

Finally, EPA recommends that procuring agencies ensure that there is no language in their specifications relating to landscaping, soil amendments, erosion control, or soil reclamation that would preclude or discourage the use of compost made from recovered organic materials.

#### *Section F-6. Organic Fertilizers*

**Note:** Although fertilizer has some qualities similar to compost, for the purposes of the CPG, compost is considered a separate designation.

**Preference Program:** EPA recommends that procuring agencies purchase or use fertilizers made from recovered organic materials in such applications as agriculture and crop production, landscaping, horticulture, parks and other recreational facilities, on school campuses, and for golf course and turf maintenance.

**Specifications:** EPA recommends procuring agencies refer to the Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI) at [www.omri.org](http://www.omri.org), which has developed guidelines and lists of materials allowed and prohibited for use in the production, processing, and handling of organically grown products. Procuring agencies should also check for individual state regulations on the use of organic fertilizers.

In addition, as mentioned above, biosolids can be used in the production of organic fertilizer and must meet the

requirements specified in EPA's Part 503 Biosolids Rule before they can be beneficially used. The 40 CFR part 503 Biosolids Rule land application requirements ensure that any biosolids that are land applied contain pathogens and metals that are below specified levels to protect the health of humans, animals, and plants.

In proposing to designate fertilizers made from recovered organic materials in the CPG, EPA is not placing any limitations on the organic materials, but rather is relying on federal, state, and local regulations and guidance, as well as existing industry standards. EPA is requesting comment on whether it should place any limitations on the recovered organic materials contained in the fertilizers that the Agency is today proposing to designate in the CPG, and on what those limitations should be. EPA is also seeking comment and information on any other specifications which we should recommend that pertain to fertilizers made with recovered organic materials.

Finally, EPA recommends that procuring agencies ensure that there is no language in their specifications relating to landscaping or soil treatment that would preclude or discourage the use of fertilizers made from recovered organic materials.

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## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[WC Docket No. 03-194; FCC 03-309]

### Application by Qwest Communications International Inc. for Authorization To Provide In-Region, InterLATA Services in Arizona

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In the document, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) grants the section 271 application of Qwest Communications International Inc. (Qwest) for authorization to provide in-region, interLATA services in Arizona. The Commission grants Qwest's application based on its conclusion that Qwest has satisfied all of the statutory requirements for entry and fully opened its local exchange markets to competition.

**DATES:** Effective December 15, 2003.

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