



washington dc update

Federal Agencies Refusing to Pay

June 14, 2010

As USEPA moves more aggressively to require active stormwater management, local water resources agencies are obliging by instituting new strategies and plans. But this requires funding which these agencies are passing on in the form of new charges on their bills.

A number of Federal agencies are refusing to pay these charges, citing a number of precedents, much to the irritation of local agencies. This past week, Senator Ben Cardin [D:MD] introduced S. 3481 which would require Federal agencies to pay for stormwater management fees assessed by local agencies.

We have attached the legislation for you review. It is only two pages to it doesn't take long.

This issue will be discussed in greater detail at this week's WESTCAS summer conference. WESTCAS member agencies that will be in attendance have had a wide range of experience with regard to this issue. For example, the Bell County Water Control and Improvement District in Texas has established a very positive working relationship with Fort Hood which is one of its customers. On the other hand, Pima County has had a harder time working with Davis Monthan AFB.

The conference will give WESTCAS members a good opportunity to discuss these issues and decide how WESTCAS can have an impact on the process.

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