

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Attorney General Richmond 23219

Jerry W. Kilgore Attorney General 900 East Main Street Richmond, Virginia 23219 804-786-2071 804-371-8947 TDD

August 30, 2004

The Honorable Robert G. Burnley, Director Virginia Department of Environmental Quality 629 East Main Street Richmond, Virginia 23219

Re: Authority to Promulgate Virginia Pollution Discharge Elimination System General Permit

Regulation for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations; 9 VAC 25-191 et seq.

Dear Director Burnley:

I have reviewed the above-referenced final amendments. It is my opinion that the State Water Control Board has authority to promulgate such amendments under applicable law, including Chapter 3.1 of Title 62.1 of the Code of Virginia. Based on your agency's representations, it is my opinion that because the requirements of § 2.2-4006.A.9 have been satisfied, the above-referenced regulations will be exempt from the operation of Article 2 of the Administrative Process Act, §§ 2.2-4006 *et seq.* of the Code of Virginia.

If I may be of any further assistance to you relating to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Rick R. Linker Assistant Attorney General Environmental Unit