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January 10, 1979

Mr. Paul DeFalco  
Regional Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region IX  
215 Fremont Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. DeFalco:

The purpose of this letter is to clarify the designation of responsibilities for solid waste planning and management pursuant to Section 4006(b) of P.L. 94-580, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) of 1976.

The Arizona Department of Health Services is authorized to develop and implement a comprehensive solid waste management plan in accordance with federal criteria and standards required by Subtitle D of RCRA.

In accordance with Executive Order 70-2 and consistent with the action of the Department of Health Services in establishing solid waste planning district boundaries coterminous with those of Executive Order 70-2, the following agencies are authorized to undertake areawide solid waste management planning responsibilities:

District I	Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG)
District II	Pima Association of Governments (PAG)
District III	Northern Arizona Council of Governments (NACOG)
District IV	District IV Council of Governments
District V	Central Arizona Association of Governments (CAAG)
District VI	SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization (SEAGO)

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In accordance with A.R.S. 36-132.01, all counties, incorporated cities, and towns are designated agencies to develop local plans for solid waste management.

In accordance with A.R.S. 9-441, each incorporated city or town or the county board of supervisors for unincorporated cities or towns shall provide solid waste disposal facilities for the public.

Each city or town, and the county board of supervisors for unincorporated areas of the county are designated on an interim basis as the agencies responsible for collection, source separation, storage, transportation, transfer, processing, treatment, resource conservation, and resource recovery of solid waste. This interim designation shall be in effect until final designation is accomplished in the State solid waste management plan or a specific final designation, mutually acceptable to all affected parties, is made prior to State solid waste management plan adoption.

Public participation activities utilized to facilitate boundary designation and agency responsibilities were previously outlined in correspondence directed to Charles T. Bourns, by the Bureau of Sanitation, Arizona Department of Health Services. This letter (dated September 7, 1978) described procedures used to identify regions and agencies.

Briefly, mechanisms used to provide for public participation and information have included: three series of mailings dispatched to city and county governments, Councils of Governments, Indian Nations, and various State and Federal agencies; a public hearing, seven statewide planning workshops; several meetings with the Councils of Governments; and numerous interviews and letters of correspondence. Public participation activities will continue to be developed and provided for on a continuing basis in order to facilitate public involvement throughout the planning and implementation process.

In summary, this letter has: (1) designated the current responsibility of State, Councils of Governments, and municipalities, (2) it has addressed current interim designations for solid waste management implementation at the local level, and (3) it has described how public participation activities were provided for in the decision making process.

Sincerely,

Bruce Babbitt  
Governor