

2005 aPHa Resolution A05-6

TITLE **Expert Panel on Sound-Sorb**

SPONSOR: Durham Region Health Department

WHEREAS Sound-Sorb is a material comprised of paper fibre biosolids (PFBs) and soil that is used to build sound and bullet attenuation berms for use at gun clubs in Ontario; and

WHEREAS the PFBs in Sound-Sorb are exempted from Ontario Regulation 347 (Waste Management) under the Environmental Protection Act; and

WHEREAS concerns have been raised by the public that these berms produce an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) struck a panel of independent experts to review all available reports, studies and data on Sound-Sorb to determine whether or not it poses any adverse effects to human health and the environment when used for the intended purpose; and

WHEREAS the Experts Panel on Sound-Sorb submitted its report to the MOE on January 31, 2005 and its six recommendations included the following:

"Paper fibre biosolids should be controlled by Certificates of Approval or legal instruments that provide equal or better protection for human health and the environment at all the stages from its generation, through transport, composting and final use in the construction of berms..."

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT aPHa urges the Government of Ontario to act immediately to implement all the recommendations of its Experts Panel on Sound-Sorb as soon as possible; and

AND FURTHER THAT aPHa urges the Government of Ontario to act immediately to regulate and control the storage of paper fibre biosolids (PFBs), the manufacturing and land application of other related PFB products as soon as possible; and

AND FURTHER THAT the Premier of Ontario, Ministers of the Environment and Health and Long-Term Care and Chief Medical Officer of Health are so advised.