Petition to Support Lifting the Cease and Desist Order at Vermont Compost Company

We the undersigned petitioners, respectfully and urgently ask the Governor to direct his Agency of Natural Resources, Agency of Agriculture and Natural Resources Board to resolve any environmental issues relative to the Vermont Compost operation in Montpelier by entering into an agreement that would 1.) direct the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) and Agency of Agriculture to address any and all substantive environmental issues or complaints outstanding relative to Vermont Compost's operations; and 2.) direct the Natural Resources Board (NRB) to stay its Administrative Order while the State rulemaking process continues that will define the rules and regulatory structure that govern agricultural composting, including Vermont Compost; and 3.) for his three agencies (ANR, NRB and Agriculture) to stipulate a stay to the pending appeal before the Environmental Court relative to Act 250 jurisdiction over Vermont Compost while the rulemaking process continues; and 4.) for his agencies to take any other step reasonable and necessary to enable the State of Vermont to determine how to define and regulate composting within the State of Vermont without imposing unnecessary costs on Vermont Compost to defend itself before the State's courts while the State is undertaking a rulemaking process to define these important issues. High quality, food grade compost is an essential pillar of sustainable organic agriculture in the State of Vermont. The diversion of organic materials from waste to composting is one of the most important actions that can be taken to diminish climate change and capture used resources for their best and highest re-use value. This exceptional and unwarranted action by the NRB to circumvent due process threatens the health of sustainable agriculture and the sustainability not only of our communities but of our planet. We call on the Governor to support due process and fairness in this important issue affecting food safety and security here in our state.

Signature	Printed Name	Address	Phone	Email