Dear Convening Attendees,

On behalf of the Water Environment Federation, I want to thank you for your participation at the WEF National Biosolids Convening November 20-21. As some of the foremost leaders and stakeholders in the biosolids sector, we appreciate the time you spent with us over the two days to develop an actionable framework going forward.

Convening attendees know there are opportunities and challenges we must address in order to continue our support of biosolids as a beneficial resource. As I mentioned in the panel to open the meeting, we must take thoughtful action and work together to develop solutions that will respond to the needs in our communities related to biosolids and beneficial reuse.

The two days in Alexandria were extremely productive. I am very happy to share the valuable outcomes. The main products from the meeting are the two documents attached here: the WEF Biosolids Convening Synthesis and the WEF Biosolids Background Memo.

The Synthesis contains comprehensive information about the convening. One of the significant outcomes at the Convening was the identification of the need for visible and proactive leadership. WEF recognizes and appreciates the participants identifying this need as a critical part to supporting biosolids programs. WEF is fully committed to addressing that need and is already working to do so.

The Background Memo includes insights and perspectives gathered from independent interviews, listening sessions and desktop research. The Background memo purpose was to provide Convening Participants background and insight based on a larger audience of stakeholders. It has been updated to include the addition of input gathered from the Convening Attendees. As WEF continues to lead biosolids efforts, these documents will serve as a valuable resource and guide.

Both reports feature one of the most important outcomes from the meeting and one that will help shape action for the biosolids sector moving forward, the Agenda for Action. This Agenda includes nine actionable areas that are a top priority for WEF. I am happy to announce that WEF has already begun action on a number of these and will engage you on future action. WEF is committed to working with you to turn the Agenda for Action into outcomes.

I trust you will find these reports informative and motivating. My call to action for each of you is to continue to be active in sharing your knowledge, your expertise and your thoughts with WEF. If you are not involved in the WEF Residuals and Biosolids committee, I invite you to do so. It is a great opportunity to share and encourage innovation in the biosolids sector. We need to continue to make this a collaborative process and not lose the great momentum we have started with the Convening.

Finally, a special thank you to the Steering Committee for donating your time and effort in planning this event, participating and reviewing the reports. The progress we have made to date, and will enhance going forward, is a direct result of your efforts.

Thanks again,

Jackie Jarrell, WEF President