FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 19, 2014

ASSOCIATION OF STATE AND TERRITORIAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS PRESS RELEASE ON THE COAL COMBUSTION RESIDUAL (CCR) FINAL RULE

ASTSWMO is extremely pleased that the CCR rule has been promulgated under RCRA Subtitle D part 257 and looks forward to reviewing the final rule, once published in the federal register. RCRA Subtitle D is appropriate and protective of human health and the environment.

The RCRA D approach has existed since 1979 without identification of significant programmatic problems being identified by EPA. In many respects, numerous State programs already meet or exceed much of the EPA proposed CCR national standards under 40 CFR part 257. Upon adoption under Subtitle D, national CCR standards will be established quickly and nationwide allowing States to continue enforcement under their State regulations.

ASTSWMO is pleased that EPA has established a mechanism by which the agency acknowledges that a State permit program that meets or exceeds the federal minimum CCR standards has primary authority to directly administer the federal Subtitle D rule. With this State authorization mechanism, EPA views compliance with a State program that meets or exceeds the federal minimum criteria as compliance with the federal criteria, and that the self-implementing federal criteria would only apply in the absence of such a State CCR program.

We look forward to working with EPA OSWER on the implementation of the rule, especially concerning how the State plans are developed.