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"It is important to note that, even if a summary index of an adverse response to mixtures was available, it would not necessarily reflect the total hazard of exposure to biosolids because of the inability to identify all of its hazardous constituents and their potential for interaction in vivo. Moreover, the composition of biosolids is susceptible to unanticipated changes from time to time and place to place. Thus, it is not possible to conduct a risk assessment for biosolids at this time (or perhaps ever) that will lead to risk-management strategies that will provide adequate health protection without some form of ongoing monitoring and surveillance. There is a degree of uncertainty that, when exceeded in the risk assessment process, requires some form of active health and environmental tracking to ensure against unanticipated outcomes.

This situation led the committee to conclude that although the Part 503 agent-specific risk assessment process can be improved with new risk assessment methodology, the remaining uncertainty for complex mixtures of chemicals and biological agents is sufficient to preclude the development of risk-management procedures based on these agent-specific analyses that can reliably result in acceptable levels of risk."

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