

Environmental Protection Agency

FY 2006 Annual Performance Plan and Congressional Justification

COORDINATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES – ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Goal 1- Clean Air and Global Climate Change

Objective: Healthier Outdoor Air

EPA cooperates with other Federal, state, Tribal, and local agencies in achieving goals related to ground level ozone and PM. EPA continues to work closely with the Department of Agriculture and the Forest Service in developing its burning policy and reviewing practices that can reduce emissions. EPA, the Department of Transportation (DOT), and the Army Corps of Engineers work with state and local agencies to integrate transportation and air quality plans, reduce traffic congestion, and promote livable communities. EPA continues to work with the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, in developing its regional haze program and deploying the IMPROVE visibility monitoring network. The operation and analysis of data produced by the PM monitoring system is an example of the close coordination of effort between the EPA and state and Tribal governments.

For pollution assessments and transport, EPA is working with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) on technology transfer using satellite imagery. In FY 2006, EPA will be working to further distribute NASA satellite products to and NOAA air quality forecast products to Regions, states, local agencies, and Tribes to provide better understanding of air quality on a day-to-day basis and to assist with PM forecasting. EPA will also work with NASA in FY 2005 to develop a better understanding of PM formation using satellite data. EPA works with the Department of the Army, Department of Defense on advancing emission measurement technology and with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce for meteorological support for our modeling and monitoring efforts.

To better understand the magnitude, sources, and causes of mobile source pollution, EPA works with the Departments of Energy (DOE) and Transportation (DOT) to fund research projects. A program to characterize the exhaust emissions from light-duty gasoline vehicles is being co-funded by DOE and DOT. Other DOT mobile source projects include TRANSIMS (TRansportation ANalysis and SIMulation System) and other transportation modeling projects; DOE is funding these projects through the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. EPA also works closely with DOE on refinery cost modeling analyses and the development of clean fuel programs. For mobile sources program outreach, the Agency is participating in a collaborative effort with DOT's Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration designed to educate the public about the impacts of transportation choices on traffic congestion, air quality, and human health. This community-based public education initiative also includes the Centers for Disease Control. In addition, EPA is working with DOE to identify opportunities in the Clean Cities program. EPA also works with other Federal agencies such as the U.S. Coast Guard on air emission issues. Other programs targeted to reduce air toxics from mobile sources are coordinated with DOT. These partnerships can involve policy assessments and toxic emission reduction strategies in different regions of the country.

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To develop new continuous source monitoring technology for toxic metals emitted from smokestacks, EPA has partnered with the Department of Defense (DOD). This partnership will provide a new source monitoring tool that will streamline source monitoring requirements that a number of DOD incinerators are required to meet and improve the operation of DOD incinerators with real-time emissions information resulting in reduced releases of air toxics to the environment. In time, this technology is expected to be available for use at non-DOD facilities.

For the clean fuel programs, EPA works closely with the DOE on refinery cost modeling analyses. For mobile sources program outreach, the Agency is participating in a collaborative effort with DOT's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) designed to educate the public about the impacts of transportation choices on traffic congestion, air quality, and public health. This community-based public education initiative also includes the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). In addition, EPA works with DOE to identify opportunities in the Clean Cities program. EPA also works cooperatively with DOE to better characterize gasoline PM emissions and characterize the contribution of gasoline vehicles and engine emissions to ambient PM levels.

To reduce air toxic emissions that do not inadvertently increase worker exposures, EPA is continuing to work closely with the Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to coordinate the development of EPA and OSHA standards. EPA also works closely with other health agencies such as the CDC, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health on health risk characterization. To assess atmospheric deposition and characterize ecological effects, EPA works with the Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Department of the Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Agency has worked extensively with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on the National Health and Nutritional Evaluation Study to identify mercury accumulations in humans. EPA also has worked with DOE on the 'Fate of Mercury' study to characterize mercury transport and traceability in Lake Superior.

To determine the extent to which agricultural activities contribute to air pollution, EPA will continue to work closely with the USDA through the joint USDA/EPA AAQTF. The AAQTF is a workgroup set up by Congress to oversee agricultural air quality-related issues and to develop cost-effective ways in which the agricultural community can improve air quality. In addition, the AAQTF coordinates research on agricultural air quality issues to avoid duplication and ensure data quality and sound interpretation of data.

In developing regional and international air quality programs and projects, EPA works primarily with the Department of State, the Agency for International Development, and the Department of Energy as well as with regional organizations. EPA's international air quality management program will complement EPA's programs on children's health, Trade and the Environment, and trans-boundary air pollution. In addition, EPA will partner with others worldwide, including international organizations such as the United Nations Environment Programme, the European

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Union, the OECD, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and our colleagues in Canada, Mexico, Europe, and Japan.

EPA works primarily with the Department of State, the Agency for International Development, and the Department of Energy in developing international air quality programs and projects, and in working on regional agreements as well as with regional organizations.

Objective: Healthier Indoor Air

EPA works closely through a variety of mechanisms with a broad range of Federal, state, Tribal, and local government agencies, industry, non-profit organizations, and individuals, as well as other nations, to promote more effective approaches to identifying and solving indoor air quality problems. At the Federal level, EPA works closely with several departments or agencies:

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- Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on home health and safety issues, especially those affecting children;
- Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to identify and mitigate the health hazards of consumer products designed for indoor use;
- Department of Education (DoEd) to encourage construction and operation of schools with good indoor air quality; and
- Department of Agriculture (USDA) to encourage USDA Extension Agents to conduct local projects designed to reduce risks from indoor air quality

EPA plays a leadership role on the President's Task Force on Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Children, particularly with respect to asthma and school environmental health issues.

As Co-chair of the interagency Committee on Indoor Air Quality (CIAQ), EPA works with the CPSC, the Department of Energy, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to review EPA draft publications, arrange the distribution of EPA publications, and coordinate the efforts of Federal agencies with those of state and local agencies concerned with indoor air issues.

Objective: Protect the Ozone Layer

In an effort to curb the illegal importation of ODSs, an interagency task force was formed consisting of representatives from EPA, the Departments of Justice, Homeland Security, State, and Commerce, and the Internal Revenue Service. Venting of illegally imported chemicals has

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the potential to prevent the United States from meeting the goals of the Montreal Protocol to restore the ozone layer.

EPA works very closely with the Department of State and other Federal agencies as appropriate in international negotiations among Parties to the Protocol. EPA works with the Office of the United States Trade Representative to analyze potential trade implications in stratospheric protection regulations that affect imports and exports.

EPA is working with USDA and the Department of State to facilitate research and development of alternatives to methyl bromide. EPA collaborates with these agencies to prepare U.S. requests for emergency and critical use exemptions of methyl bromide. EPA is providing input to USDA on rulemakings for methyl bromide-related programs. EPA consults with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on the potential for domestic methyl bromide needs.

EPA also coordinates closely with FDA to ensure that sufficient supplies of CFCs are available for the production of life-saving metered-dose inhalers for the treatment of asthma and other lung diseases. This partnership between EPA and FDA combines the critical goals of protecting public health and limiting damage to the stratospheric ozone layer.

EPA works with the Centers for Disease Control and the National Weather Service to coordinate the Ultraviolet Radiation (UV) Index and the health messages that accompany index reports. EPA is a member of the Federal Council on Skin Cancer Prevention, which educates and protects all Federal employees from the risks of overexposure to UV radiation.

In addition to collecting its own UV data, EPA coordinates with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to monitor the state of the stratospheric ozone layer. EPA works with NASA on assessing essential uses and other exemptions for critical shuttle and rocket needs, as well as effects of direct emissions of high-speed aircraft flying in the stratosphere.

EPA coordinates with the Small Business Administration to ensure that proposed rules are developed in accordance with the Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Objective: Radiation

In addition to the specific activities described above, EPA continues to work with Federal agencies including NRC, DOE, and DHS to prevent metals and finished products suspected of having radioactive contamination from entering the country. EPA also works with the Department of Transportation on initiatives to promote use of non-nuclear density gauges for highway paving, and with the DOE and NRC to develop state-of-the-art tracking systems for radioactive sources in U.S. commerce.

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Objective: Reduce Greenhouse Gas Intensity

Voluntary climate protection programs government-wide stimulate the development and use of renewable energy technologies and energy efficient products that will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The effort is led by EPA and DOE with significant involvement from USDA, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Agencies throughout the government make significant contributions to the climate protection programs. For example, DOE will pursue actions such as promoting the research, development, and deployment of advanced technologies (for example, renewable energy sources). The Treasury Department will administer proposed tax incentives for specific investments that will reduce emissions. EPA is working with DOE to demonstrate technologies that oxidize ventilation air methane from coal mines. EPA is broadening its public information transportation choices campaign as a joint effort with DOT. EPA coordinates with each of the above-mentioned agencies to ensure that our programs are complementary and in no way duplicative.

This coordination is evident in work recently completed by an interagency task force, including representatives from the Department of State, EPA, DOE, USDA, DOT, OMB, Department of Commerce, USGCRP, NOAA, NASA, and the Department of Defense, to prepare the Third National Communication to the Secretariat as required under the FCCC. The FCCC was ratified by the United States Senate in 1992. A portion of the Third National Communication describes policies and measures (such as ENERGY STAR and EPA's Clean Automotive Technology initiative) undertaken by the U.S. to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, implementation status of the policies and measures, and their actual and projected benefits. One result of this interagency review process has been a refinement of future goals for these policies and measures which were communicated to the Secretariat of the FCCC in 2002. The "U.S. Climate Action Report 2002: Third National Communication of the United States of America under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change" is available at: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/usnc3.pdf>.

EPA works primarily with the Department of State, the Agency for International Development, and the Department of Energy as well as with regional organizations in implementing climate-related programs and projects. In addition, EPA partners with others worldwide, including international organizations such as the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the International Energy Agency, the OECD, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and our colleagues in Canada, Mexico, Europe and Japan.

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Objective: Enhance Science and Research

As noted, EPA works with the National Park Service in operating CASTNET. DOE will pursue actions such as promoting the research, development, and deployment of advanced technologies (for example, renewable energy sources). In the case of fuel cell vehicle technology, EPA is working closely with DOE as the Administration's FreedomCAR initiative develops, taking the lead on emissions-related issues.

The President's call for a greatly expanded and coordinated interagency PM research effort led to the creation, in 1999, of the Particulate Matter Workgroup, which is administered by the Air Quality Research Subcommittee of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources (CENR). This workgroup, co-chaired by EPA and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), has completed its *Strategic Research Plan for Particulate Matter*¹ to guide the coordinated Federal research program over the next 5 to 10 years.

The body of national PM research dealing with atmospheric sciences is coordinated under NARSTO². Its membership of more than 65 organizations includes all major Federal, state, and provincial governments; private industry; and utility sponsors of atmospheric sciences research in Canada, Mexico, and the U.S. NARSTO recently released an assessment of PM atmospheric science, "Particulate Matter Science for Policy Makers: A NARSTO Assessment,"³ to assist policy makers as they implement their national air quality standards for PM. It presents the latest understanding of the PM atmospheric phenomena over North America, and recommends additional work to fill identified gaps.

EPA's Air Toxics Research Program is coordinated as needed with other Federal agencies, such as the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and the National Toxicology Program (as a source of toxicity testing data). The Health Effects Institute conducts complementary research related to air toxics that is coordinated with EPA activities. In addition, EPA conducts research on advanced source measurement approaches jointly with the Department of Defense through the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (SERDP).

Goal 2- Clean and Safe Water

Objective: Protect Human Health

The 1996 SDWA amendments include a provision that mandates joint EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) study of waterborne diseases and occurrence studies in public water supplies.

¹ Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, Air Quality Research Subcommittee (2002). Strategic Research Plan for Particulate Matter. <www.al.noaa.gov/WWWHD/pubdocs/AQRS/reports/SRPPM.html>. Accessed 2004 Feb 3.

² Formerly an acronym for "North American Research Strategy for Tropospheric Ozone," the term NARSTO is now simply a wordmark signifying a public-private partnership across the U.S., Canada, and Mexico for dealing with multiple features of tropospheric pollution, including ozone and suspended particulate matter.

³ NARSTO (2003). Particulate Matter Science for Policy Makers: A NARSTO Assessment. www.cgenv.com/narsto. Accessed 2004 Feb 3.