



OECA's Action Plan

“Compliance assistance and strong, consistent enforcement are critical to achieving the human health and environmental benefits expected from our environmental laws.”

—Assistant Administrator Granta Y. Nakayama

By offering compliance assistance to those who want to comply with environmental regulations and standing ready with a strong enforcement program, we ensure that the public receives the benefits promised by our environmental laws. We focus our enforcement efforts on national priority problem areas that were identified through consultation with EPA Regions and States. Additionally, to ensure protection of all communities we address environmental justice concerns within each of these priority areas.

Reducing Water Contamination from Wet Weather Overflows

Prevent contamination of waterways by controlling wet weather discharges from

- Sewer overflows
- Concentrated animal feeding operations
- Contaminated storm water run-off

Reducing Public Exposure to Air Toxics

Reduce public exposure to toxic air emissions by requiring compliance with Maximum Achievable Control Technology Standards.

Protecting Air Quality

Enforce the Clean Air Act including the Clean Air Interstate Rule, the Clean Air Mercury Rule, and the New Source Review and Prevention of Significant Deterioration requirements to install modern pollution controls in new and modified facilities.

Ensuring Financial Responsibility for Hazardous Waste Sites

Ensure that operators of facilities handling hazardous waste have adequate funds to prevent releases to the environment that could harm public health.

Ensuring Proper Handling of Hazardous Wastes at Mineral Processing Facilities

Ensure that large mineral processing facilities handle hazardous wastes properly to prevent releases into the environment.

Building Tribal Capacity

Build tribes' capacity to enforce compliance with environmental laws in Indian country.

Accelerate the Pace of Environmental Protection Through Enforcement and Compliance

Reporting Environmental Violations

Citizens can help EPA by reporting potentially harmful environmental activities in their communities and workplaces. Visit www.epa.gov/compliance to report environmental violations.



Using Criminal Enforcement to Address the Most Serious Violations

EPA protects the public by criminally prosecuting willful, intentional and serious violations. This type of enforcement is a powerful deterrent to illegal conduct that can harm public health and the environment.

Working with Customs to Stop Illegal Imports and Exports

OECA works with the U.S. Customs Service to prevent illegal imports or exports of materials that can harm the environment or the public's health.

Promoting Environmental Justice through Collaboration and Assessment

OECA works with community organizations and others, and uses geographic assessment tools to identify and address issues in communities with potential environmental justice concerns.