United States Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (2261A)
EPA #300-N-01-006
Spring 2001

EPA

ISSUE #11

FedFacs

an environmental bulletin for federal facilities

Partnering at NAS Patuxent River is a CERCLA Reuse Success

Despite numerous potential pitfalls and constraints including multi-funding of the project, the Naval Air Station (NAS) Patuxent River partnering team succeeded in accelerating the CERCLA process for a former drum storage area, the Bohneyard, and preparing it for beneficial reuse.

Commissioned on April 1, 1943, NAS Patuxent River is naval aviation's premiere research, development, test, and evaluation facility. The NAS hosts the full spectrum of acquisition management, research and development capabilities, air and ground test and evaluation (T&E), aircraft logistics, and maintenance management for naval aviation. The station encompasses 7,900 acres and includes Webster Field Annex, an outlying parcel in St. Inigoes, Maryland, about eight miles

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Bohneyard drum storage in 1978. The drums were removed between 1979 and 1982.

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GSA's Stormwater Management Program

The General Services Administration (GSA) National Capital Region (NCR) has seized the opportunity to promote environmental excellence through its newly designed "stormwater pollution prevention" initiative that includes a stormwater management plan and training. The objective of the initiative is to impart a basic understanding of the causes of stormwater pollution and the types of activities that require stormwater permits, as well as provide a valuable reference tool for GSA facility managers. Training on implementing the stormwater management plan was provided for NCR property and project managers region-wide. GSA NCR is integrating this environmental initiative throughout the organizational culture by actively encouraging consideration of the impact of projects, activities, and operations on stormwater and the environment.

The environmental problem faced in this area is real. The percentages of paved surfaces and roof tops have dramatically decreased the natural filtration system of the surrounding soils. Washington, DC

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FEDENVIRONEWS-ONLINE DEBUTS

On December 8, 2000, the Federal Facilities Enforcement Office launched its first issue of FedEnviroNews-Online, a computerized, subscription-based, electronic newsletter. Subscribers to this monthly newsletter receive environmental news and information relevant to federal facilities.

Recent issues of FedEnviroNews-Online highlighted information on new policies, regulations, and protocols pertaining to federal facilities; national training, workshops, and conferences; and other information of interest to federal facility environmental practitioners. The format for FedEnviroNews-Online is succinct, allowing subscribers to quickly get information on a variety of topics, and then follow the instructions or links within each news item for further information.

Subscriptions to FedEnviroNews-Online are available free to federal facility environmental managers and staff, as well as state environmental practitioners. To subscribe, follow these steps:

1. Send an e-mail message addressed to: listserver@unixmail.rtpnc.epa.gov
2. Leave the subject line blank
3. In the body of the message, on one line, write: subscribe FEDENVIRONEWS-ONLINE first name lastname

   Note: Please adhere to spacing and case parameters (For example: subscribe FEDENVIRONEWS-ONLINE jane doe).
4. You should receive a welcome e-mail message within 24 hours indicating you have been added to the subscriber list.

For additional information, please contact Marie Muller, EPA Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance at muller.marie@epa.gov

Interagency Response to the Los Alamos National Laboratory Fire: Post-Cerro Grande Fire Flood Risk Assessment

The Cerro Grande Fire of May 2000 burned through watersheds of canyons that run through the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), possibly impacting the water quality of the Rio Grande and Cochiti Reservoir. An Interagency Flood Risk Assessment Team (IFRAT) was formed to better understand how contaminant transport from increased flooding due to the fire might affect downstream property owners, water users, and general public health. The IFRAT includes the following organizations: EPA Region VI, New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), Department of Energy, and New Mexico Health Department.

The Cerro Grande Fire has increased the potential for runoff and erosion events in waters that cross LANL property. Sampling and analysis efforts are being conducted by NMED, LANL, EPA, and other entities. The majority of the samples taken thus far were from the initial flood event during the monsoon of 2000. Additional samples will be taken during the Spring of 2001 snow runoff and the 2001 monsoon season. Sampling and analysis includes surface water, groundwater, sediment, soils, crops, fish, and wildlife in the areas that might be affected by the flood.

The initial sample results are being analyzed by the IFRAT Risk Assessors. The risk assessment team will consider several activities associated with water and sediment runoff from the fire and characterize the potential risk to the public and to the environment. The IFRAT has developed risk models for possible radionuclide, metal, and organic contamination in the Rio Grande and Cochiti Reservoir. Analysis of the preliminary results will occur in the Spring of 2001, while long-term analysis will continue to be monitored by the IFRAT.

An "Open House" was held on December 18, 2000, to share information regarding monsoon flooding and runoff from areas affected by the fire. Congressman Tom Udall delivered the opening remarks at the open house and encouraged the public to participate in the meeting. The IFRAT's main purpose for the meeting was to hear citizens' concerns about the fire, flooding, and the potential for flood related runoff of contaminants. For more information, visit the IFRAT's website at www.nmenv.state.nm.us/ifrat/.

Sampling and analysis includes surface water, groundwater, sediment, soils, crops, fish, and wildlife in the areas that might be affected by the flood.

For information on the Interagency Flood Risk Assessment Team, please contact Anna Treinies (EPA) at (214) 665-8348, Kirby Olson (NMED) at (505) 827-1558, or Lars Soholt (LANL) at (505) 667-2256.

EPA Selects Federal Facilities as Charter Members of National Environmental Achievement Track

EPA congratulates several federal facilities for their selection as charter members in the National Environmental Performance Track's Achievement Track program, including DOE's Strategic Petroleum Reserve facilities in both Louisiana and Texas, West Valley Demonstration Project in New York, Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico, and Kansas City Plant in Missouri; the U.S. Coast Guard Air Station in Massachusetts; NASA's White Sands Test Facility in New Mexico; and the U.S. Postal Service's Portland Processing and Distribution Center in Maine and Hartford Processing and Distribution Center and Hartford Vehicle Maintenance Facility in Connecticut. The National Environmental Performance Track's program recognizes and rewards both public and private sector facilities for exceeding environmental protection requirements.

The National Environmental Achievement Track is the first level of EPA's new National Environmental Performance Track program. EPA plans to launch the second level of the program, the Stewardship Track, in the Summer of 2001. The National Environmental Performance Track program was established by EPA to recognize and encourage top environmental performers — those businesses that go beyond compliance with regulatory requirements.

Each federal facility in the program has made voluntary commitments for specific environmental improvements in four areas over the next three years. Likewise, the other Achievement Track facilities have strong records in environmental management with more waste recycling and greater reductions in air and water pollution than are legally required. They have reduced their cumulative energy consumption by millions of kilowatts per year and are committing to an average of 22 percent improved energy efficiency. Commitments for future water use reductions average 31 percent. Some companies have even exceeded in virtually eliminating discharges to surface water, while others are significantly reducing discharges to groundwater to protect underground drinking water supplies. Waste reduction at these facilities is projected to average 44 percent per year, representing millions of pounds of saved resources as process and packaging materials are recycled or reused. Others are significantly reducing emissions of greenhouse gases to help protect the ozone layer, and some will cut their output of toxic air pollutants in half.

National Envionmental Performance Track

The expectation is that the program will motivate other facilities to achieve similar improvements, and complement existing regulatory activities. The program has been designed so that criteria for participation are proportional to the benefits and that small, medium, and large facilities will participate. Emphasis is being placed on continued environmental improvement, effective state/EPA partnerships, and the need to inform and involve citizens and communities.

Among the 228 charter members in the program are municipalities and several branches of the federal government. The roster of private sector companies includes small businesses and large corporations, representing the automotive, pharmaceutical, sports equipment, food processing, chemical, and petroleum industries, to name a few. The facilities and corporate headquarters are located in 38 states and Puerto Rico.

All federal facilities are encouraged to review the program qualifications and consider applying. Applications will be accepted again from August 1 through October 31, 2001. For further information on the National Environmental Performance Track and the process being recognized for similar achievements is available at www.epa.gov/performancetrack.

DOI CAFETERIA USES ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE FOOD SERVICE PACKAGING

Guest Services, Inc., which provides food service management operations to U.S. Government agencies under contract with the General Services Administration, has entered into a commercial agreement with EarthShell® Corporation, manufacturers of environmentally preferable food service packaging, for the procurement of disposable plates and bowls for the Department of the Interior's (DOI) Washington, DC cafeteria. The agreement began in March and will be reviewed after one year. EarthShell packaging has been used successfully in a pilot project with DOI for two years. The pilot project began on Earth Day 1999 and was originally scheduled to run for six months, but continued due to its success and positive feedback from DOI employees.

"We have tested the EarthShell products in both our cafeteria and in the Department of Agriculture composting facility," said Ken Naser, team leader of Solid and Hazardous Materials Management at DOI. "In both environments the products performed exceptionally well. Our cafeteria staff is pleased with the durability and usability of the plates and bowls, and the research staff at the composting facility is equally satisfied with EarthShell's compostability. This is the first food service packaging that combines performance with environmental advantages."

EarthShell, located in Annapolis Junction, Maryland, supplies DOI with foodservice packaging made primarily from natural limestone and starch. The manufacture of these products requires less total energy and results in lower greenhouse gas emissions than traditional rigid packaging. EarthShell packaging reduces risks to wildlife and the environment because it biodegrades when exposed to moisture in nature. EarthShell Packaging is recyclable through composting.

For more information about the EarthShell Corporation, visit their web site at www.EarthShell.com.

The Hammer

BIA Agrees to Fine and Cleanup for Underground Storage Tank Violations

In the Fall of 2000, EPA Region VIII and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) executed a settlement agreement regarding EPA's RCRA/Underground Storage Tank (UST) enforcement action involving the U.S. Department of Interior, BIA Aberdeen Area Office. The enforcement action against BIA was initiated in December 1997, and settlement was reached in May 1999. Finalization of the consent agreement was temporarily stayed pending a decision by the Department of Justice's Office of Legal Counsel (OLC) regarding EPA's UST penalty authority against federal facilities. Following the issuance of OLC's opinion upholding EPA's penalty authority in June 2000, the parties agreed to sign and file the previously-negotiated consent agreement. The action addresses the BIA Aberdeen Area Office's past non-compliance with several UST notices of violation issued over a five year period. The action includes approximately 52 BIA-owned USTs located at BIA facilities and grant schools within the BIA Aberdeen Area on nine Indian reservations in North and South Dakota.

The settlement provides for a penalty payment of $93,383 and the performance of three supplemental environmental projects (SEPs) valued at a minimum of $425,410. The supplemental environmental projects include establishing and implementing a multi-media environmental cleanup program at the Marty Indian School and removing three underground storage tanks at the school's tribally-owned store in Marty, South Dakota. These projects will improve environmental protection from UST leaks and enhance the quality of life in Indian country in that area.

Following EPA's enforcement action and a large-scale UST removal effort, BIA met the 1998 UST upgrade deadline and continues to perform site assessments and cleanup — where necessary — at the removal sites. Only eight tanks at four facilities subject to this action remain in the ground and one is under contract to be removed. The parties agreed that BIA's obligations under the consent agreement, including penalty payment, are subject to the availability of funds to ensure tribes or tribal programs are not negatively impacted by the settlement. Once gasoline or chemicals get into groundwater, it is extremely expensive and sometimes impossible to clean up the contamination. It makes more sense to emphasize leak detection over cleanup to keep contamination out of the water supplies.

For more information, please contact Amy Swanson of EPA Region VIII at (303) 312-6906.

FedFacs

is published by EPA's Federal Facilities Enforcement Office.

Joyce Johnson, FFEO, *Editor*
SciComm, Inc., *Layout*

To receive *FedFacs* in the mail, contact:

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U.S. EPA (2261A), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20044

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http://www.epa.gov/oeca/fedfac/ann/index.html

Region VI Settles Administrative Action Against BEP Fort Worth Facility

EPA Region VI filed a Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) on January 18, 2000, against the U. S. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of Engraving & Printing (BEP) in settlement of an administrative action filed against BEP's Western Currency Facility in Fort Worth, Texas. The Complaint alleged that BEP violated regulations concerning the state and federal air regulations including the Texas State Implementation Plan, New Source Performance Standards, and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants during the operation of its Western Currency Facility. As part of the CAFO, BEP submitted their supplemental environmental project (SEP) completion report on January 29, 2001. The final cost for the SEP was $257,587. BEP upgraded their air pollution control equipment on the chrome plating line and added air pollution control equipment to the nickel plating line. BEP is also recycling the rinse water from three chromic acid plating tanks thereby reducing the amount of liquid hazardous waste shipped each year.

For more information, please contact Toni Allen at (214) 665-7271 or Jan Gerro at (214) 665-2121.

Cannon Air Force Base Issued "Show Cause Letter" for Possible EPCRA § 313 Violation

Cannon Air Force Base, located 6 miles west of Clovis, New Mexico, was issued a "show cause letter" on February 1, 2001, under Executive Order 13148, "Greening the Government Through Leadership in Environmental Management." On May 3, 2000, an EPCRA compliance inspection was conducted at Cannon AFB. Prior notification had been given in order for facility personnel to ensure that appropriate documents were available for review. From the information provided by Cannon AFB, it appears the facility has failed to report

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THE HAMMER

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one toxic chemical (Naphthalene) to EPA and the State of New Mexico as required by EPCRA § 313.

Cannon AFB contends they are not in violation of EPCRA § 313 by taking the "motor vehicle exemption" for all aircraft refueled at the base. However, EPA guidance stipulates only aircraft stationed at the base may qualify for this exemption. Aircraft stationed at other federal facilities do not qualify for the exemption. The issue under discussion is whether EPA or DoD guidance should be followed in the case of a disagreement. In this case, the refueling of non-facility aircraft.

For more information, contact Rajen Patel at (214) 665-2788.

Region VI Settles With U.S. Army Pine Bluff Arsenal for Clean Air Act Violations

On February 7, 2001, EPA Region VI filed a simultaneous Complaint and Consent Agreement/Final Order settling Clean Air Act violations found at the U.S. Army's Pine Bluff Arsenal in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. The alleged violations were found during a multi-media inspection on February 7-10, 2000. Pine Bluff Arsenal uses and maintains refrigeration equipment to control humidity in numerous buildings. Thirteen pieces of refrigeration equipment were identified during the inspection that contained greater than 50 pounds of refrigerant. EPA alleged that the U.S. Army violated 40 C.F.R. Part 82, Subpart F, for 1) failure to maintain service records documenting the date and quantity of refrigerant added to the thirteen individual pieces of refrigeration equipment, and 2) failure to certify acquisition of recovery or recycling equipment. The U.S. Army will pay a cash penalty of $21,000.

For more information, please contact Ellen Chang Vaughan at (214) 665-7328 or Toni Allen at (214) 665-7271 EPA Region VI.

EPA Region VI FUDS Inventory

In 1998, Region VI began an effort to identify all formerly used defense sites (FUDS) in Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. Each of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) District offices were visited and FUDS files were reviewed and copied. In January of 2001, Region VI completed the draft inventory of FUDS, with a preliminary evaluation of risks at these sites, and provided it to USACE and to each of the state environmental agencies for review and comment.

In March of 2001, Region VI hosted a series of meetings, inviting each state environmental agency and their respective USACE District and Division offices to discuss EPA's draft report. The primary purpose of these meetings was to allow them to identify any mistakes EPA had made in identifying or evaluating each site. The report is expected to be finalized in May of 2001.

In January of 2001, Region VI completed the draft inventory of FUDS, with a preliminary evaluation of risks at these sites, and provided it to USACE and to each of the state environmental agencies for review and comment.

In the Region VI states, 907 FUDS were identified, mostly in New Mexico and Texas. Of these, 415 were recommended for further action and 42 were identified has having significant potential for listing on the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL). Also, due to a lack of file information, EPA was unable to complete the environmental evaluation of another 165 sites. To put the regional universe of FUDS in perspective, at the November 2000 meeting of the Association of State and Tribal Solid Waste Management Officials in Austin, Texas, USACE presented information that Region VI has the second highest number of sites, and the second highest "cost-to-complete" in the country, exceeding that of three other regions combined.

Region VI is coordinating the efforts of the RCRA New Mexico and Federal Facilities Section, RCRA Enforcement Section, and the Superfund Site Assessment Team to achieve the most impact with the fewest resources. Region VI is also attempting to establish a cooperative partnership with USACE and state environmental agencies with the goal of facilitating an integrated and effective FUDS program involving all stakeholders. Region VI anticipates an increasing role in providing technical assistance and consultation on FUDS.

For more information, please contact Michael Overbay of EPA Region VI at (214) 665-6482.

PCB PHASEOUT AT FEDERAL FACILITIES

EPA Region V initiated a project, funded through the PBT initiative, to seek reductions of the amount of PCBs in electrical equipment owned and operated by the federal government. The first phase of the project was to identify which federal facilities own electrical equipment with high concentration PCBs (>500 ppm). According to EPA's PCB Transformer Registration Database, when considering all the different federal departments and agencies that registered PCB transformers, the federal government is the single largest owner of PCB transformers. According to the database, and accounting for one known error, approximately 62 federal facilities registered 2215 PCB transformers (transformers containing fluids with >500 ppm PCBs) nationally, or a little over 10% of the total PCB transformers registered. The departments or agencies that registered the most PCB transformers are TVA, DoD, DOE, and DOT. The next phase of the project is to determine the most effective way EPA can seek reductions of the PCBs from the other federal departments or agencies.

Building A Road To Success: Government Partnering on Transportation and the Environment

EPA Region VI has teamed with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to improve transportation and environmental protection in Texas. There are more than 1,300 transportation projects undertaken annually in Texas totaling over $3 billion that can have potentially devastating effects on the environment. Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other environmental laws has helped to minimize environmental impacts. The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) recently challenged government agencies to "streamline" the process for addressing applicable environmental regulations to reduce the duration of transportation projects. It targets accelerated compliance with all applicable environmental requirements. In order to support this Department of Transportation (DOT) mandate, while continuing to meet burgeoning NEPA demands across its 5-state jurisdiction, the EPA Region VI Office of Planning and Coordination, within the Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division, established a staff position in Austin, Texas. The position is being used to work more closely with FHWA and related agencies on streamlining environmental compliance related to transportation projects in Texas.

Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other environmental laws has helped to minimize environmental impacts.

Through its efforts to enhance coordination with Texas transportation agencies, Region VI has begun a more comprehensive approach to addressing issues that serve as stumbling blocks to compliance with NEPA and other environmental regulatory authorities. Application of differing agency policies, interpretations, and definitions has driven a communication wedge between transportation and resource agencies. Acknowledging the critical nature of this matter, EPA, FHWA, and USACE have committed to partnering at a higher level of interaction, understanding, and problem solving to eliminate historical barriers and clearing the way for innovation and improvement.

In September 1998, EPA Region VI hosted an interagency Executive Summit on Transportation and Environmental Streamlining in Irving, Texas. At that meeting, there was general consensus among participants that the Region VI states would initiate streamlining activities appropriate to their state. In January 1999, a Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)/FHWA Streamlining meeting was held in Austin, Texas to identify opportunities and roadblocks to streamlining and to develop preliminary strategies to address these opportunities and eliminate roadblocks. Participants identified priority issues, corresponding strategies, and pilot projects. Another EPA-coordinated meeting was held in Austin on January 31, 2001, during which EPA, FHWA, and USACE discussed issues related to delays in authorizing transportation projects in Texas. Interagency participation was limited to these particular organizations, due to the nature of the issues. The participants reinforced that a partnering approach is the most effective way to resolve the issues and then prioritized the issues for action.

The issues primarily relate to permitting requirements of the Clean Water Act Section 404 and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, and several NEPA requirements. Recommendations for both interim and long-term resolutions were developed jointly by the federal agencies and brought to the attention of the TxDOT on February 14, 2001, through a daylong series of facilitated discussions at the executive and technical levels. Next steps for the federal partners include the formation of issue-driven, federal/state teams with TxDOT to further develop the recommendations into workable solutions. The overarching objective of this collaborative approach is not to create new formal agreements (MOUs or MOAs), but to build better working relationships among the agencies through improved communication, coordination, and resolution.

For more information, please contact Dominique Lueckenhoff, EPA Region VI, at (512) 916-5012.

Texas Pollution Prevention Partnership Takes Flight

The Texas Pollution Prevention Partnership (TXP3) held a full-day meeting on November 2, 2000, hosted by Chuck Gawenis of the Corpus Christi Army Depot (CCAD). The twenty TXP3 attendees toured the CCAD facility that performs scheduled maintenance and overhaul of the Army's Apache, Blackhawk, and Huey helicopters and several attendees took an aerial tour of the Corpus Christi area in a Huey helicopter. The TXP3 is a collaborative initiative of the Department of Defense (Air Force, Army,

Huey photo right to left: Chuck Gawenis (CCAD host), Israel Anderson (TXP3 Co-Chair), Ken Zarker (TNRCC), Col Pat Fink (HQ AETC), Glenda Swierc (TNRCC), Joyce Stubblefield (EPA Region VI), and Dr. Thom Rennie (TXP3 Co-Chair).

and Navy installations in Texas), the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC), EPA Region VI, Texas Army National Guard, NASA-Johnson Space Center, and other Civilian Federal Agencies. Its mission is to promote pollution prevention as the standard way of doing business for federal facilities by developing and implementing model initiatives, building trust, and producing measurable results. The TXP3 boasts numerous successes, including reductions of nearly one million pounds of hazardous waste and savings of over $2.7 million at federal facilities in Texas. The TXP3 meeting at CCAD included presentations and discussions on Army Pollution Prevention efforts, the DoD Munitions Issue, EPA Sector Facility Index Project (SFIP), TNRCC Clean Texas Program, and the TXP3-sponsored Green Base of the Future initiative.

The TXP3 also held a recent meeting at Goodfellow AFB, San Angelo, Texas, on March 6, 2001. Thanks to the efforts of TXP3 partner Col. Pat Fink (Chief, Environmental Directorate, HQ Air Education and Training Command, San Antonio), the TXP3 members sat in on a base Environmental Compliance Assessment and Management Program (ECAMP) Team meeting, toured the base Joint Service Fire School (main fire training school for Department of Defense), participated in an Environmental Leadership Course given to the Goodfellow AFB wing commander and senior leadership, and held its regular meeting. The next TXP3 meeting will be hosted by Joyce Stubblefield, EPA Region VI Federal Facilities Coordinator, in Dallas on May 23, 2001. Other P2 Partnerships in Region VI are being invited to attend the meeting. Tentative plans are for the August 2001 meeting to be held at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas.

For more information, contact TXP3 Co-Chairs Dr. Thom Rennie (DoD REC Region 6) at (214) 767-4678 and Israel Anderson (TNRCC) at (512) 239-5318.

Demonstrating Federal Leadership in the Western United States

On Earth Day 2000, a "Statement of Unity" was signed by leaders of the EPA, GSA, DOE, the National Park Service, Navy, and Air Force that created a "Federal Network for Sustainability" (FNS). Why was this collaborative network of Pacific region federal agencies created to focus on sustainability? Because sustainability is a concept about the interconnectedness of the environment, the economy, and social equity. Sustainability creates a long term approach to environmental protection and process improvements. It prevents pollution from the start. It calls for systems thinking and leverages scarce resources. The various missions of the federal agencies give expression to the concept of sustainability through individual programs and initiatives and through collective leadership values. The FNS seeks linkages and partnerships. During its first year, one focus of the FNS was on using the power of government as consumer and using environmental management plans (systems). Government can use sustainability principles as a framework to manage its own consumption and waste generation practices. The FNS hosted two Green Power Summit conferences and an Environmental Preferable Purchasing training program.

For more information on the FNS, contact Alan Hurt, Navy, at (619) 524-6253 (Hurt.Alan.C@asw.cnrsw.navy.mil) or Curtis Framel, DOE, (206) 553-7841 (curtis.framel@ee.doe.gov).

Anacostia Watershed Toxics Alliance

In 1987 the Anacostia Watershed Agreement was signed by the District of Columbia, Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, and the State of Maryland to collectively dedicate resources to the restoration of the "most polluted" watershed in the nation. Since this signing, a restoration committee was formed to provide the resources needed to accomplish the agreement's mission to evaluate the presence, sources, and impacts of toxic contaminants on the Anacostia River, and to evaluate and take actions to enhance the restoration of the watershed. Since its formation in 1991, the Anacostia Watershed Restoration Committee has adopted an action plan which, with the aid of many informal partners, has made remarkable progress in addressing the problems of toxics contamination in the river sediments and the watershed.

In March 1999, the Anacostia Watershed Toxics Alliance was created as a public-private partnership for the purpose of addressing the toxic sediments in the tidal Anacostia. The creation of the Alliance was based on the determination that 1) a watershed-wide focus on toxics and their management was needed in the Anacostia; 2) a solid scientific foundation was needed to support further action on the issue; and 3) an inclusive, voluntary public-private partnership was the appropriate vehicle to achieve that focus.

The Alliance will clean up the Anacostia in three phases:

Phase 1: Compilation and Evaluation of Existing Data

Phase 2: New Data Collection and Risk Assessment

Phase 3: Implementation of Cleanup and Restoration

Several subcommittees were formed to: collect and evaluate the data, recruit new members, contract needed restoration services, evaluate new and innovative cost-effective protocols, and conduct a risk assessment of the effects on human health and the ecosystem.

Several members of the AWTA have worked together to gather and analyze sampling results from several sites along the Anacostia and produce a GIS (Geographic Information System) to visually demonstrate the effects on human habitats and the ecosystem. This information will be updated periodically and can be used by researchers, students, and other interested parties. Anyone interested in seeing this demonstration and the progress made in the restoration process can visit the Anacostia Watershed Toxics Alliance at http://www.chesapeakebay.net/AWTA.

GSA Public Building Service Establishes Environmental Hotline

The General Services Administration (GSA) Public Building Service (PBS) Environmental Business Strategies Division established its PBS Environmental Hotline in October 2000. The objective of the new Environmental Hotline is to help integrate environmental requirements into day-to-day PBS business processes and improve overall environmental performance. Building on the successes of the PBS NEPA Hotline, PBS will now provide a range of environmental services (e.g., environmental remediation, hazardous waste, asbestos, indoor air quality (IAQ), sustainable design, and recycling) to GSA employees, contractors, and client agencies.

The PBS Environmental Hotline is a tool designed to assist PBS Regional Environmental Managers with technical environmental information and services.

The PBS Environmental Hotline is a tool designed to assist PBS Regional Environmental Managers with technical environmental information and services. For many PBS client agencies, the GSA Building Manager is the best first step to answer environmental questions and concerns. GSA Building Managers can discuss environmental regulations relating to their specific GSA properties, arrange for environmental sampling, and obtain technical support from the regional Environmental Manager. PBS Regional Environmental Managers are technical experts on environmental issues relating to their properties and can interpret regional environmental policies.

Where the client agency environmental issues are time-sensitive and beyond GSA in-house expertise or in cases where no GSA policies exist, the environmental issue will be directed to the PBS Environmental Hotline service. The Hotline is designed to quickly provide relevant environmental information. It is not a complaint line. The key to the success of the Environmental Hotline is collaboration between GSA and the client agency.

For more information or to offer suggestions for improving the hotline, please contact Jerry Hefner at (202) 501-4774.

Environmental Management Reviews Commence in Region VII

Region VII conducted its first Environmental Management Review (EMR) of the Hinton, Iowa, facility of the Western Area Power Administration Upper Great Plains Region (Western) on January 8-11, 2001. The review was conducted by a team of EPA and state specialists. Western is a division of the Department of Energy (DOE) and distributes hydroelectric power generated by other government agencies to small co-ops and municipal utilities.

An EMR evaluates an organization's environmental program and management system to determine the extent of the development and implementation of specific environmental protection programs and plans which, if properly managed, should ensure regulatory compliance and progress toward environmental excellence. In Region VII, federal facilities EMRs are scheduled through Diana Jackson, Federal Facilities Program Manager. The intent of an EMR is to assist federal facilities in improving environmental management systems, not to identify regulatory violations. Any violations discovered would be addressed outside the review process using the EPA self-audit policy.

The EMR at Western Area Power Administration focused on management and internal compliance auditing. Other areas observed were internal communications, documentation, and training related to the facility's environmental management system. The review team identified both successes and opportunities for improvement at the facility. No violations were observed.

As an indication of the success of the region's first EMR, Western Area Power Administration bestowed its Gold Star Award on the members of the review team for their contributions and assistance. William Rice, Region VII Acting Regional Administrator, presented the awards to the team members on behalf of the Western officials.

The EPA field team consisted of Ruben McCullers (ARTD/CRIB), Wes Bartley (ARTD/SWPP), and Clint Sperry (ENSV/ARCM). Denise Rayborn and Ken White of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources also participated in the review process, as did two EPA contractors. Joe Francis, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, joined the group for the opening and closing conferences.

GSA PACIFIC RIM REGION PARTICIPATES IN EPA ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT REVIEW PROGRAM

The General Services Administration (GSA) Pacific Rim Region supports national environmental program efforts through its voluntary participation in the EPA Environmental Management Review (EMR) Program. The GSA Public Building Service (PBS) has been working since 1999 on a national "Improving Environmental Performance" initiative. The objective of this initiative is to integrate environmental considerations into the PBS business to improve its environmental management program. The GSA Pacific Rim Region expected that the EPA EMR would provide an objective review of its environmental program activities as they relate to national programs. GSA plans to provide the EMR results to GSA building managers and client agencies occupying GSA space.

The EMR "Ground Rules Letter of Agreement" signed by EPA and GSA set the stage for the 5 days of intensive work led by Larry Woods of EPA Region IX. This EMR was designed to focus on:

1. Formality of Environmental Programs
2. Program Evaluation, Reporting, and Corrective Action
3. Environmental Planning and Risk Management

The review began on February 8, 2001, at GSA's Regional Office in San Francisco with interviews of GSA Headquarters and Regional Management Staff. The fieldwork was concluded at the Lukeville, Arizona, Border Station with a walk-through inspection and interviews of GSA management and client agency staff.

The final EMR report is expected from EPA in May 2001, however, the preliminary feedback is very positive. EPA has documented that the GSA Pacific Rim Region has unique environmental programs that directly enhance their environmental performance.

Contact Rebecca O'Dell at (415) 522-3337 for more information.

UpcomingEvents

May 24-25, 2001

Region VI Pollution Prevention Conference

Dallas, TX
www.p2.org/events

August 14-16, 2001

U.S. EPA Federal Facilities Conference and DoD Environmental Seminar

Chicago, IL
(312) 353-6478 or (630) 910-3213, ext. 224

Workshops and Conferences

EPA Region V and DoD to Provide Free Environmental Training

EPA and the Department of Defense (DoD) will conduct a combined 2001 U.S. EPA Federal Facilities Conference and DoD Environmental Seminar in Chicago, Illinois, on August 14th, 15th, and 16th. The Federal Facilities Conference portion will be held on August 14th and the morning of the 15th and will be directed toward federal agency environmental personnel. The Environmental Seminar portion will be held on the afternoon of August 15th and August 16th and will be intended for DoD environmental personnel. Attendees may register for either or both of the two training opportunities.

The purpose of the combined conference and seminar is to provide an educational opportunity for those who have responsibilities or concerns regarding the environmental management of DoD or other federal facilities. The conference agenda will consist of topics of importance and interest to these environmental managers.

The conference/seminar presentation media will include presentations, videos, discussion groups, and booths/exhibits. Conference participants will also be invited to tour the EPA Region V laboratory.

For more information, please contact Lee J. Regner at (312) 353-6478 or Hugh M. McAlear at (630) 910-3213, ext. 224.

Region VI Pollution Prevention Conference

The EPA Region VI Pollution Prevention Roundtable and the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable, in partnership with federal facilities and local industry and municipalities, is sponsoring a conference on May 24 and 25, 2001 at the Fairmont Hotel in Dallas. Going "Beyond Compliance Assistance Through Pollution Prevention" is a proposed theme for the conference as we strive to demonstrate how pollution prevention, energy efficiency, and water conservation can prevent compliance issues and be economically beneficial to facilities.

For more information contact Michele Russo at (202) 466-P2P2, michele russo@compuserve.com, or see www.p2.org/events.

Feds Unlock the Mysteries of EMSs

On March 22, 2001, environmental managers of federal agencies completed the last workshop in a series designed to unlock the mysteries of Environmental Management Systems (EMSs). The series of 2-hour workshops conducted since September 2000 has focused on the keys to planning and implementing EMSs. At each session, 20 to 30 federal representatives from DoD, DOE, and Civilian Federal Agencies participated in hands-on workshops at EPA Headquarters. Sponsored by the Executive Order 13148 (Greening the Government through Leadership in Environmental Management) EMS Sub-Work Group and supported by EPA's Federal Facilities Enforcement Office, the workshops provided basic information about EMS requirements, group exercises, and agency-specific examples. The workshops included practical planning skills in the following areas:

1. Auditing as a gap analysis and self-assessment tool
2. Writing environmental policy statements
3. Identifying environmental aspects and impacts
4. Setting and maintaining environmental objectives and targets
5. Establishing and maintaining emergency preparedness and response

To further assist federal agencies with their EMS obligations under E.O. 13148, the EMS Sub-Work Group is putting together agency-level self-assessment tools. These tools, or self-assessment instruments, will help agencies, facilities, and installations compare their existing management programs with EMS standards and guidance.

For further information, contact Sarah Hart of FFEO, after June 1, 2001 at (202) 564-2457 or hart.sarah@epa.gov.

Reducing Your Ecological Footprint Training

EPA Region VIII Federal Facilities Coordinator Dianne Thiel designed a training course based on the "footprint" model presented in the book *Our Ecological Footprint* by Mathis Wackernagel and William Rees. Ms. Thiel has conducted the two-hour course for EPA Region VIII staff, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and the Department of Energy Regional Office in Golden, CO. She plans to conduct the course for other federal agency personnel.

Actions we take every day have far-reaching impacts on the environment. Americans, because of our high standard of living and consumer culture, have larger environmental impacts than any other nation, with Canada and Europe not far behind. *Our Ecological Footprint* was written to help us understand the environmental impact of this lifestyle. An "ecological footprint" is the acres of ecologically productive land (and water) needed to supply the energy, food, and lumber we use, plus the land needed to handle our waste and absorb the carbon dioxide generated by burning fossil fuels.

The footprint model measures not just the resource consumption and pollution for which we are directly responsible, but also estimates our share of the pollution and resources used to make the products we buy. For example, an automobile

owner's footprint includes more than just gas and oil. It includes the energy and resources consumed to manufacture the vehicle and build roads. Ecological footprints are commonly calculated for countries or regions. The book and training provide questions to help estimate individual footprints as well as suggestions for actions to reduce footprints, such as using mass transit instead of driving.

For More Information, please contact Dianne Thiel at (303) 312-6389.

Region VI NEPA Training

Region VI hosted its second NEPA training the week of March 19-23 at the Magnolia in Dallas, Texas. The Shipley Group presented "How to Manage the NEPA Process and Write Effective NEPA Documents" to about twenty attendees from various federal and state agencies including DOE, INS, Army, Air Force, FAA, TXDOT, USFS, COE, and DOI. The goal is to offer informative and consistent training to the federal facility community. The region is working in conjunction with the Shipley Group to offer various NEPA workshops both in Dallas and in the states contiguous to Texas. Please contact Jana Harvill at (214) 665-8369 for more details.

Regions VI and VIII Join Forces to Conduct Environmental Justice Training at DOI Meeting

EPA Regions VI and VIII Environmental Justice programs joined forces to present Environmental Justice (EJ) training to Department of the Interior employees at the annual DOI Conference on the Environment held March 13-15 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The conference, titled "The Path Before Us: Environmental Stewardship for the 21st Century," was hosted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

As the lead federal agency for Environmental Justice, EPA was invited to present a training course to conference attendees on the subject. EPA representatives from Headquarters also participated in many other aspects of the conference.

The Environmental Justice training course was initially developed by Region VIII, but has been refined through collaboration with several Regions and Headquarters. The course aims to provide participants with an understanding of EJ concepts so that they may identify, facilitate, and respond to EJ issues more effectively in their organizations. The four-hour course includes a number of activities designed to involve participants in the material.

"The course was very well received." said Deldi Reyes, Region VIII EJ trainer. "Participation was lively, and people really engaged in the material we presented. Most importantly, I think they came away with a better understanding of environmental justice and how to effectively analyze and address the issues. In addition, the course evaluations were very positive."

"This training is really a great tool for environmental justice," Region VI EJ Trainer, Mary Wilson, said. "It gives participants an opportunity to examine their own ideas about what EJ is and isn't, and can provide a solid basis for analyzing issues surrounding EJ."

EPA is currently developing an expanded EJ Training, "EJ 101", for delivery to a wide range of audiences. The training is being developed through the EJ Training Collaborative, which is made up of EPA Regional and Headquarters representatives, other federal and state government partners, community-based organizations and academia. The Training Collaborative plans to pilot this new training sometime in fiscal year 2001.

If you would like additional information regarding the EJ pilot training development and implementation efforts, contact Deldi Reyes at (303) 312-6055 or Sheryl Good at (404) 562-9559.

EPA Region VI Conducts Sanitary Survey Training for the USDA Forest Service

EPA Recion VI conducted Sanitary Survey Training for the USDA Forest Service on April 23-27, 2001 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The course addressed how to conduct an onsite review of the water sources, facilities, equipment, operation, maintenance, and compliance data of a public water system to evaluate the adequacy of the system, its sources, operations, and distribution of safe drinking water. The course ran three and a half days, including one full day and three half days of classroom instruction and discussion and two half days of field exercises.

An interagency agreement was developed between EPA Region VI (Dallas) and Forest Service Region III (Albuquerque) to have the Drinking Water Academy conduct Sanitary Survey Training for the USDA Forest Service for about thirty employees. EPA Region VI provided the instructors and all the course materials and the Forest Service paid for all the necessary travel, per diem, equipment, training facilities, and the systems to be used during the field portion of the training. The training emphasized Non-Community Water Systems, of which the Forest Service has thousands.

Region VI staff visited four Forest Service water systems in September 2000. Region VI evaluated the water systems, met with the Forest Service officials to debrief them, and sent the Forest Service a written report based on the evaluation findings. The results of these evaluations were used in the Sanitary Survey training as case studies.

EPA Region VI is willing to conduct future training with other federal agencies, however, the agency must be able to cover the cost of the course, which includes travel for three instructors for a week and some minor charges for materials, usually totaling $4,000 - 5,000. Agencies may be able to use the IAG process to pay the expenses.

For more information, please contact Bill Davis of EPA Region VI at (214) 665-7536.

McGregor Cleanup Team Wins National Award

The cleanup team for Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant (NWIRP) at McGregor, Texas, has won the Secretary of the Navy's Environmental Cleanup Team Award. Each year the Secretary of the Navy recognizes one individual or team for demonstrating excellence in the Navy's cleanup program. NWIRP McGregor, located on 9,700 acres 20 miles southwest of Waco, Texas, is a closed Navy facility where former industrial activities included manufacturing weapons and solid-fuel rocket propulsion systems. The McGregor Team was selected because of its streamlined approach to cleanup, use of innovative technology, and cost savings. In an eight month period, the Team generated a conceptual design, evaluated several bench and pilot scale studies, and implemented full scale remediation systems, saving $6.5 million. In addition, the City of McGregor was given the Community Economic Development Award by the Texas Department of Economic Development in recognition of the redevelopment efforts at the facility.

The McGregor Team also won the Grand Award from the Consulting Engineers of Tennessee in association with the American Consulting Engineers Council for the innovative and low-cost remediation of perchlorate contaminated groundwater through an in situ system. Before closing in 1996, NWIRP McGregor stored, used, and disposed ammonium perchlorate (AP), an oxidizing agent used in solid rocket propellant. AP is a salt, very soluble and mobile in water, and may persist in the environment for decades. AP affects the thyroid by inhibiting hormone production.

In February 1999, the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) requested the Navy implement Interim Stabilization Measures to address migration of AP offsite in excess of Texas Provisional Drinking Water Standard of 22 ug/L. Two large raw water sources for 400,000 people were of concern, and the Navy's response resulted in several innovative remediation systems after bench scale studies were conducted.

The in situ treatment system for the Propellant Manufacturing Plant consists of a Permeable Bioreactive Barrier using three cutoff and collection trenches to intercept and treat groundwater before offsite migration. Each trench used either compost, granular activated carbon, or cotton seed/meal as a carbon source. Under normal flow conditions, AP was reduced from 20,000 ppb to 4.0 ppb detection limits. Since October 2000, rainfall over 200% of the normal has overpowered the system so that residence time is not sufficient for efficient bioremediation. A Calgon Ion Reactor has been installed in a pilot test mode to polish the water before discharge

Offsite in situ biotreatment on Texas A&M property consists of 200 borings (bioborings) in multiple lines backfilled with cottonseed meal, aggregate, sodium acetate, and AP-reducing microorganisms. The array of boreholes (15 to 20 rows of 11 boreholes) were placed along the AP plume. Early sampling from the new system indicates AP concentrations are trending down, although it is not clear whether the reduction is from degradation or dilution.

Onsite surficial soil contamination contributes to offsite AP migration after storm water runoff. Three soil treatment cells are under construction over existing soil contamination for in situ treatment. The cells are designed to infiltrate carbon and nutrient rich water back into the formation, manage contaminated soil from other areas, and provide water storage capacity when needed. Also, a pilot phytoremediation study northeast of Area F is ongoing where 2000 cottonwood whips have been planted. Early sample results are inconclusive. Normal maturation time is three years.

All ongoing remediation activities are Interim Measures. No final remedies have been selected.

For more information, contact David Neleigh at (214) 665- 6785, or Bob Sturdivant at (214) 665-7440.

GSA'S STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Continued from **page 1**

relies on antiquated combined storm water drainage and sewage systems to carry rainfall to treatment facilities. However, when as little as 0.27" of rain falls, the drainage system backs up, resulting in raw sewage being released into rivers and tributaries.

GSA NCR first became involved in EPA's Federal Agencies Committee of the Chesapeake Bay Program as a voluntary member. Because NCR owns and manages numerous facilities in the Chesapeake Bay watershed area it became apparent that its inventory could potentially impact the environment. GSA NCR soon became one of the programs leading proponents. Additionally, GSA realized its responsibility to the surrounding communities which prompted GSA to move to the forefront of this issue.

GSA NCR developed a comprehensive region-wide stormwater management plan in 2000, compiling best management practices and stormwater pollution prevention measures for all GSA facilities within the National Capital Region.

This program is still in its infancy, it is too early to assess the results in terms of reduced runoff and pollution. However, GSA NCR believes that, when fully implemented and accepted in the organizational culture, the new region-wide stormwater management plan will contribute significantly to overall improvement in the water quality of local streams, rivers, and the Chesapeake Bay. Furthermore, the program is designed to be easily adapted and implemented within other GSA regions nation-wide.

Contact Kelly Holland at (202) 708-5255 for further information on this initiative.

PARTNERING AT NAS PATUXENT RIVER

Continued from **page 1**

south of the NAS. Over 25 miles of shoreline, ranging from sandy beaches to tidal marshes, line three sides of the installation. Bordered by the Patuxent River and Chesapeake Bay, the NAS has three seaplane basins, six man-made freshwater ponds, and three tidal creeks.

In August 1998, the NAS Installation Restoration (IR) Program began formal partnering. The partnering meetings are intended to open the communication channels and avoid disputes, outline a mutual commitment on how to interact, and form a relationship of teamwork, cooperation, and good faith performance. Currently, the team includes representatives from the activity's IR program, Engineering Field Activity Chesapeake (EFA CHES), Maryland Department of the Environment, and the U.S. EPA. Contractor involvement consists of key representatives from the Navy's Comprehensive Long-term Environmental Action Navy (CLEAN) and RAC (Remedial Action Contractor) contracts, CH2M Hill and IT Corporation. Meetings are held once a month. This partnership results in more cost-effective actions, efficient use of dollars spent, and an improved quality of product.

The partnering meetings are intended to open the communication channels and avoid disputes, outline a mutual commitment on how to interact, and form a relationship of teamwork, cooperation, and good faith performance.

The NAS Supply Department Fuels Division approached the partnering team and inquired about reusing an existing CERCLA Site (Bohneyard or Site 6) for an aircraft fuel tanker parking lot. At the time, the fuel tanker parking areas and the fuel farm were not centrally located. The operations were about two miles apart. Site 6 is located next to the fuel farm and adjacent to the taxiways and runway. Moving and consolidating fuel operations in one area made sense and would save money. Thus, the Bohneyard was an ideal reuse candidate. Reuse of the CERCLA site also met the NAS's long-term operational needs by centralizing fuel tanker truck parking next to fuel storage.

Photograph of the Bohneyard fuel tanker parking lot in December 2000.

As a result, the partnering team decided to accelerate the CERCLA process. A series of expedited evaluations and onboard reviews were implemented to accelerate schedules for the proposed plan, record of decision (ROD), remedial design, and remedial action. Timing the construction schedule and the funding availability was critical to the plan's success. The team decided to separate the site into two operable units (OUs). This also aided in streamlining the process. The feasibility study (FS) evaluated several options including a cover. The OU-2 comprises groundwater and downstream surface water and sediment, and is currently under investigation.

The partnering team coordinated with the EPA biological technical assistance team (BTAG comprised of EPA, U.S. FWS, and NOAA members). Based on future reuse, the remedial investigation (RI) concluded that because the ecological habitat would be limited following construction and that the cover would eliminate the exposure pathway for ecological receptors, the ecological risk assessment was complete. The BTAG agreed with this conclusion. A gravel layer would be added as an additional barrier between the contaminated soil and the portions of the site that did not contain concrete.

In support of the NAS's mission, the alternative selected in the ROD involved constructing a concrete parking lot over about one-half of Site 6 (3 acres). A soil cover over a gravel layer was placed over the remaining area of the site. The ROD also included a remedy for Site 6A, an asphalt cover. This area is currently used for storage/staging of equipment. The ROD selected an asphalt cover to facilitate continued use as a storage facility. Site 6A is in the design phase. Institutional controls will consist of access restrictions to prevent trespassing, land use controls to restrict site development and access to groundwater, and monitoring to assess whether contaminants are migrating into the environment. The selected remedy achieves the goal of reusing a CERCLA site while protecting human health and the environment.

In order to meet the station's schedule, the conceptual design was completed while the RI and FS were ongoing. The ROD was signed on 9/29/99. The ROD was accepted on 10/12/99, and construction began on 10/26/99. Funding for the project was critically coordinated. Defense Fuels, Defense Base Operating, and Navy Environmental Restoration Account funds paid for the construction. Despite the possible pitfalls and constraints, construction began on schedule. The Bohneyard was ready for reuse in the Spring of 2000.

Sector Facility Indexing Project – Expansion to Federal Facilities

In response to widespread stakeholder interest, EPA is scheduled to announce in May the expansion of the Sector Facility Indexing Project (SFIP) to include a subset of federal facilities. This expansion means that communities can obtain important compliance and inspection information about local federal facilities, and the facilities themselves will be encouraged to become more accountable.

As a community-right-to-know project, SFIP is a computerized database of environmental information that is intended to make facility-level compliance data readily available to the public in one location on the internet. SFIP includes such information as a facility's compliance and enforcement history, information on pollutant releases and spills, and demographics of the surrounding community. All of this information is already publicly available. This project combines data from several existing EPA databases in order to allow easier access and review. The new federal facility subset will include all federal facilities which are considered to be major facilities in at least two of the three following programs: the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, or the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. This new subset will join the approximately 650 facilities in five industry sectors - pulp manufacturing, petroleum refining, automobile assembly, iron and steel, and primary smelting and refining of nonferrous metals - that initially comprised SFIP.

This expansion means that communities can obtain important compliance and inspection information about local federal facilities, and the facilities themselves will be encouraged to become more accountable.

When EPA launched the SFIP website (www.epa.gov/oeca/sfi) in May 1998, we committed to monitor and evaluate the progress of this project. User groups both inside and outside the Agency were consulted in our evaluation and the results were positive. Extensively accessed by a variety of users, the SFIP website has been found to be understandable and easy to navigate, resulting in numerous analyses to be undertaken that have used SFIP data. Users have commented that SFIP has met the challenge of summarizing complex compliance and pollutant release information from multiple statutory programs. Users have also stated that the project serves as an incentive to achieve and maintain compliance while helping to improve quality in the underlying databases.

With this expansion, we have continued to ensure that we maintain the public's confidence in the integrity of the data. Once again regions, states, and the affected facilities were given the opportunity to review the data and resolve any data quality issues through a coordinated EPA/state effort prior to release.

When the expansion is completed, we encourage you to use this information and provide us with comments by contacting Rob Lischinsky by phone at (202) 564-2628, by e-mail at lischinsky.robert@epa.gov, or by mail at U.S. EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (mailcode 2223A), Washington, DC 20460. Together we can work toward ensuring that everyone has easy access to important information relevant to the protection of our health and environment. Again, the website containing the initial five sectors is currently available at www.epa.gov/oeca/sfi.

Region III Stresses Affirmative Procurement

Issued in 1998, Executive Order 13101, "Greening the Government Through Waste Prevention, Recycling, and Federal Acquisition," was intended to strengthen the federal government's commitment to recycling and buying recycled content and environmentally preferable products. The executive order, in conjunction with the requirements of RCRA 6002 that directs federal purchasing decisions for recycled products, provides the baseline for the federal government's affirmative procurement policy. RCRA 6002 requires each procuring agency to procure items "composed of the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable." After E.O. 13101 was issued, the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) was amended to implement policies to assist government agencies in carrying out the requirements of the Executive Order.

EPA inspectors contacted 74 facilities in 2000 about their affirmative procurement procedures. In 2001, RCRA program personnel will contact an additional 30 to 40 federal facilities in Region III to focus attention on RCRA 6002 and affirmative procurement requirements. Federal agencies have responded in support of affirmative procurement. For example, the Department of Defense (DoD) through a 5-year, multi-million dollar contract for maintenance and repair of parking lots, has reused 3,328 tons of recycled asphalt and recycled 4,380 tons of asphalt.

For more information on E.O. 13101, consult the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive's web page at www.ofee.gov/index.html. Guidelines for procurement along with products and specifications can be found at www.epa.gov/cpg/ or http://pub.fss.gsa.gov/environ/recycled-prod.cfm.

EPA's Federal Facility Program Managers

Each EPA Region has a designated Federal Facilities Program Manager (FFPM), who, in conjunction with other EPA Regional staff, is responsible for coordinating the implementation of EPA's federal facilities policies and programs at the regional level. They serve as the primary regional point of contact for facility environmental managers. FFEO works closely with Regional FFPMs. Their responsibilities include giving program assistance and training for federal facilities; informing federal facilities about current environmental issues and developments; managing, tracking, overseeing, and planning compliance activities; encouraging pollution prevention; and coordinating with the region's media program staff to implement federal facilities enforcement programs.

FEDERAL FACILITIES PROGRAM MANAGERS

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AWTA	Anacostia Watershed Toxics Alliance
BEP	Bureau of Engraving & Printing
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFA	Civilian Federal Agency
DoD	Department of Defense
DOE	Department of Energy
DOI	Department of the Interior
DOJ	Department of Justice
DOT	Department of Transportation
EJ	Environmental Justice
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act
EMR	Environmental Management Review
EMS	Environmental Management System
FFEO	Federal Facilities Enforcement Office
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FUDS	Formerly Used Defense Sites
GIS	Geographic Information System
GSA	General Services Administration
LANL	Los Alamos National Laboratory
MDE	Maryland Department of the Environment
NAS	Naval Air Station
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NMED	New Mexico Environment Department
NPL	National Priorities List
OU	Operable Unit
P2	Pollution Prevention
PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyl
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RI/FS	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
ROD	Record of Decision
TNRCC	Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission
TXP3	Texas Pollution Prevention Partnership
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
UST	Underground Storage Tank