

6. REVIEW OF MAJOR LEGAL ACTIONS

This chapter summarizes major cases that have affected the local government sector and contains information on supplemental environmental projects (SEPs) negotiated in some cases. As indicated in EPA's Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Accomplishments Reports from 1992 to 1997, many significant enforcement actions were resolved involving the local government sector. Appendix E presents examples of environment related law violations and enforcement cases against local governments. As shown in Appendix E, the 147 cases can be categorized as follows:

- Ⓒ CAA-8 cases
- Ⓒ CERCLA-31 cases
- Ⓒ CWA-67 cases
- Ⓒ SDWA-12 cases
- Ⓒ Ocean Dumping Ban Act and Marine Protective Research and Sanctuaries Act-4 cases
- Ⓒ RCRA-7 cases
- Ⓒ TSCA/FIFRA/EPCRA-14 cases
- Ⓒ Multimedia-4 cases.

6.1 SELECTED ENFORCEMENT CASES

This section features 12 examples of enforcement cases resolved between 1992 and 1997 involving the local government sector. One case involves CAA violations, three involve CWA violations, two involve SDWA violations, one involves a RCRA violation, three involve CERCLA violations, and two involve TSCA violations. Nine of the 12 cases resulted in the assessment of a penalty. Penalties ranged from \$5,500 to \$2.8 million. In the CWA case *U.S. v. City of Hoboken, NJ* (1994), the Hoboken, Union City, Weehawken Sewerage Authority agreed to pay stipulated penalties in the amount of \$2.8 million for its violations of a January 1991 consent decree. This \$2.8 million includes a

payment of \$1,152,000 that will be made to EPA, \$850,000 to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, and the remainder to the Interstate Sanitation Commission.

Some of the settlements required defendants to initiate cleanup projects for the remedial action.

In *U.S. v. School District of Philadelphia, PA* (1997): a complaint and consent decree was filed that seeks the cleanup and disposal of PCBs that are in 29 transformers located at 12 schools. The school district must also comply with the PCB rule and implement a PCB management plan. The plan would provide for the repair, inspection, cleanup, and proper disposal of PCB-contaminated materials. The school district must remove or upgrade all of the PCB transformers within 3 years and submit bimonthly progress reports to EPA to facilitate monitoring of the school district's cleanup efforts.

U.S. v. Kansas Bureau of Water (1995) involved the Kansas' Bureau of Water issuing 25 wastewater treatment orders against various municipalities and trailer courts in Kansas. The consent orders to cities, including Lawrence, Topeka, and Leavenworth, initiate projects to eliminate the discharge of water treatment sludge to streams. The orders to trailer courts in Pittsburg, Kansas, have resulted in ongoing efforts to form sewer districts that will be connected to the Pittsburg wastewater treatment plant. These sewer districts will help eliminate sewage discharges into abandoned mine shafts.

In *U.S. v. City and County of Denver, CO* (1995), violations included an exceedence of performance standards by air emissions from the treatment plant on two occasions, failure to notify EPA and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, failure to recycle vapor-phase carbon units and implement change-out procedures, and failure to submit a schedule for proposed corrective measures. The city will pay a penalty of \$79,550.

In *U.S. v. City of San Diego, CA* (1997), a stipulated final order settled an enforcement action that addressed deficiencies with San Diego's sewage treatment facilities. The order calls for the city to continue work on infrastructure projects, replace 200 miles of decaying concrete sewers, audit pump stations and force mains, increase efforts to reduce grease loadings to the system, and upgrade its data collection and modeling capabilities. The order also requires \$60 to \$200 million for projects.

In the 1996 CWA case of *U.S. v. City of Blackhawk, CO*, the city allowed the illegal construction of a water supply pump station on Clear Creek (without a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers CWA permit), including excavation and backfilling of about 1,800 square feet of river bed on the north fork of Clear

Creek. The result was a temporary loss of wetlands and destruction of aquatic life. The penalty payment was \$61,515.

In *U.S. v. Town of Hempstead, NY* (1997), the town had two violations: an unpermitted discharge into an underground injection well and the endangerment of a Department of Highways facility in Roosevelt. An administrative/consent order was issued that required the town to implement a compliance/closure plan, pay a \$5,500 penalty, perform a facility audit, and provide employee training. The town will: 1) inventory and address facilities where there may be Class V injection wells, 2) test for pesticides, and 3) keep the public informed of the status of closure implementation at the Roosevelt facility.

In *U.S. v. City of New York Department of Transportation, NY* (1995 and 1997), the city generated hazardous paint chips during bridge repainting operations without a RCRA identification number or manifests, and stored wastes without a permit or authorization. A joint penalty (with contractor) of \$25,000 was assessed and an administrative consent agreement/consent order (CACO) issued. The city drafted a lead-based paint removal protocol, the implementation of which will cost the city more than \$5 million. The city must pay a civil penalty of \$145,000.

In the CERCLA case *U.S. v. City of Algoma, Algoma Municipal Landfill, WI*, settled in 1992, a consent decree was issued requiring the city and eight potentially responsible parties to implement the remedy selected by the record of decision. Defendants will reimburse EPA and the state for their future oversight costs and pay 90 percent of EPA's past oversight costs. Settlement is for \$1.3 million. Monitoring detected an exceedance of the maximum contaminant levels for cadmium, iron, and manganese.

The case of *U.S. v. City of Jacksonville, AR* (1994), involved two consent decrees that were lodged for the Jacksonville and Rogers Road Municipal Landfill Superfund Sites. Both sites have soils contaminated with dioxin that was produced by a herbicide manufacturer. An estimated 800 cubic yards of soil is contaminated. The city agreed to pay \$100,000 in past costs.

In *U.S. v. Montgomery County Solid Waste District (MCSWD), Moraine, OH* (1996), excess waste from an incinerator operated by the MCSWD was sent to a municipal landfill. Thirty-one municipalities are members of the MCSWD. The landfilled waste included commercial or industrial waste containing hazardous substances. The defendants will pay \$60,000 for previous oversight costs and 50 percent of remaining oversight costs.

U.S. v. New York City, NY Board of Education, which was settled in 1996, involved an allegation that the head of the board's Asbestos Task Force knowingly submitted false information on 375 Asbestos Hazards Emergency Response Act (AHERA) management plans. A CACO was issued under AHERA that requires a payment of \$1.5 million, systematic reinspection of each of the 1,069 schools for asbestos, and the preparation of new management plans to ensure that all buildings are in compliance.

6.2 SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

SEPs are compliance agreements that reduce a facility's stipulated penalty in return for an environmental project that exceeds the value of the reduction. Often, these projects fund pollution prevention activities that can significantly reduce the future pollutant loadings of a facility. Exhibit 6-1 presents examples of SEPs negotiated as part of case settlements with local governments. It should be noted that the information contained in Exhibit 6-1 is not comprehensive and provides only a sample of the types of SEPs developed for local governments.

Exhibit 6-1. Examples of Supplemental Environmental Projects – Local Government Sector

EPA Region	Statute/ Type of Action	Type of SEP	Estimated Cost	Expected Environmental Benefits	Final Assessed Penalty	Final Penalty After Mitigation
City of Haverhill, MA 1	RCRA	Pollution Prevention and Reduction	\$100,000	Construction of a permanent household hazardous waste collection facility and quarterly household waste collections.	\$176,735	\$17,708
New Jersey Transit Bus Operations, NJ 2	RCRA	Pollution Prevention	\$184,300	Removal and disposal of asbestos insulation from two locations.	\$322,704	\$130,000
Jefferson County/Cahaba River, AL 4	CWA	Environmental Restoration and Protection	\$30 million	Acquisition and maintenance of protected areas; restoration, protection, and enhancement of the water quality; reduction and prevention of erosion and nonpoint source pollution of the Cahaba and Black Warrior Rivers.	unknown	\$750,000
Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority, TN 4	EPCRA	Pollution Reduction	unknown	Purchase of equipment used to de-ice runways will reduce the amount of the de-icing fluid, ethylene glycol, that is needed.	\$60,000	\$9,000
City and County of Honolulu 9	CWA	Public Health, Pollution Reduction and Other Program Specific SEPs	\$42 million	Treatment and reuse of wastewater and sludge. By the year 2001, Honolulu will recycle 10 million gallons of wastewater per day.	unknown	\$950,000

7. COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES

During the 1990s, many regulatory agencies, including EPA, have focused on designing programs that help industry comply with environmental requirements. One of the sectors to benefit from such programs is local governments. This chapter highlights the activities and initiatives designed by EPA and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to improve and facilitate local government compliance with environmental statutes and regulations. The chapter concludes with information on various associations and organizations relevant to local governments.

7.1 EPA INITIATIVES AND VOLUNTARY PROGRAMS

National Small Flows Clearinghouse

Funded by EPA, the National Small Flows Clearinghouse (NSFC) provides information about innovative, low-cost wastewater treatments for small communities (i.e., communities with populations less than 10,000). Emphasis is placed on finding practical, alternative solutions for “small flows” wastewater problems. A “small flows” system is one that has 1 million gallons or less of wastewater flowing through it each day, ranging from septic systems to small sewage treatment plants. NSFC helps homeowners, renters, citizens’ groups, local industry leaders, research scientists, educators, local and state government officials, and related professionals. The program addresses a range of wastewater-related topics, including treatment technologies, design and monitoring information, planning strategies, regulations, and education. (Contact: NSFC at (800) 624-8301, email at webmaster@estd.wvu.edu, or visit NSFC’s website at <http://names.nsfc.wvu.edu/nsfc/>.)

Project XL for Communities

Project XL was initiated in March 1995 as part of President Clinton’s *Reinventing Environmental Regulation* initiative. This project seeks to achieve cost-effective environmental benefits by providing participants regulatory flexibility on the condition that they produce greater environmental benefits. EPA and program participants negotiate and sign a final project agreement that details specific environmental objectives that the regulated entity shall satisfy. EPA provides regulatory flexibility as an incentive for the participant’s superior environmental performance. Participants are encouraged to seek stakeholder support from local governments,

businesses, and environmental groups. EPA hopes to implement 50 pilot projects in four categories, including industrial facilities, communities, and government facilities regulated by EPA. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. For additional information regarding XL projects, including application procedures and criteria, see the April 23, 1997 Federal Register Notice. (Contact: Fax-on-Demand Hotline at (202) 260-8590, Web: http://yosemite.epa.gov/xl/xl_home.nsf/all/homepage or <http://www.epa.gov/ProjectXL>, or Christopher Knopes at EPA's Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation at (202) 260-9298.)

Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse Brownfields. A Brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. EPA's Brownfields Initiative strategies include funding pilot programs and other research efforts, clarifying liability issues, entering into partnerships, conducting outreach activities, developing job training programs, and addressing environmental justice concerns. (Contact: Linda Garczynski at (202) 260-4039 or visit the EPA Brownfields website at <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>.)

Catalog of Federal Funding Sources for Watershed Protection

EPA's Office of Water has developed a *Catalog of Federal Funding Sources for Watershed Protection* to inform watershed partners of federal money that may be available to fund a variety of watershed protection projects. The information presented reflects sources available as of September 1997. The Office of Water plans to update the catalog periodically. (Contact: This catalog can be viewed at <http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/wacademy/fund.html>.)

The Watershed Academy

Public and private organizations, academic institutions, and citizens and their governments in thousands of communities across the nation are forming partnerships and learning new ways to manage their watersheds together. EPA's Office of Water established the Watershed Academy to provide training for watershed managers based on local, state, tribal, and federal experiences in implementing watershed approaches throughout the past decade. The Watershed Academy provides technical watershed information and outreach through live training courses, the Internet, and published documents. The academy also maintains a training catalog listing information

regarding more advanced training. (Contact: Email the Watershed Academy at public-access@epamail.epa.gov or visit the website at <http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/wacademy.htm>.)

Climate Wise Program

In October 1993, President Clinton unveiled the Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) in honor of the United States' commitment to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2000. Climate Wise, a project jointly sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy and EPA, is one of the projects initiated under CCAP.

Climate Wise is a partnership between government and industry that offers companies a nonregulatory approach to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Climate Wise state and local government "allies" work with U.S. industries to develop flexible, comprehensive strategies for achieving energy efficiency and pollution prevention. They help local business identify and implement projects that often require little capital investment, but promise a high rate of return. Companies that become Climate Wise partners receive technical assistance and financing information to help them develop and implement cost-effective changes. (Contact: Climate Wise Clearinghouse at (301) 230-4736 or visit the Climate Wise website at <http://www.epa.gov/climatewise/allies.htm> or <http://www.epa.gov/climatewise/index.htm>.)

State and Local Outreach Program

EPA's State and Local Outreach Program was created in 1989 and incorporated into the CCAP in 1993 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2000. This program forms partnerships with state and local governments to help them increase their understanding of the impacts of climate change and reduce their emissions of greenhouse gases. State and local authorities are critical players in the effort to reduce these emissions, because they have jurisdiction over activities that create direct and indirect impacts, including land use, transportation, building codes, and waste management. Moreover, states and localities account for a significant percentage of global emissions of greenhouse gases. The mission of the program is to empower decision makers at the state and local level to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by providing them with specialized products and services.

Cities and counties become partners in the State and Local Outreach Program through initiatives coordinated by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI). ICLEI organizes campaigns that provide incentives for local governments to conduct energy audits and

emissions inventories, reduce energy consumption, and increase public awareness. The State and Local Outreach Program supports energy and innovative ideas of states and localities by providing a host of activities and services. These include technical and financial assistance workshops and training, guidance documents, software tools, analytic models, and opportunities for recognition and profile. (Contact: State and Local Outreach Program Website at <http://es.epa.gov/partners/stateloc/stateloc.html>.)

Small Community Outreach Project for Environmental Issues (SCOPE)

The Small Community Outreach Project for Environmental Issues (SCOPE) seeks to help small communities obtain optimal environmental quality and public health while minimizing the financial burdens of compliance by increasing the quantity and quality of local government participation in the development of environmental regulations. SCOPE's mission is to minimize the effects of environmental regulations on small entities by conveying the communities' concerns and values to EPA at an early stage of the rulemaking process. SCOPE focuses on those governments with populations under 50,000 that will be affected by a particular potential regulation. SCOPE is funded through a cooperative agreement with EPA and is coordinated by the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA). NASPAA is a nationwide network of 240 graduate schools of public affairs and administration and university-based centers of governmental affairs. University faculty conduct the outreach discussions and meet at least twice with local government officials to get their input into how a potential environmental regulation might affect their community. Currently, SCOPE is limited to small communities in the Southeast United States; however, NASPAA expects future expansion of the program to other regions. (Contact: Deborah Rosenbloom of NASPAA at 202-628-8965 or visit the SCOPE website at www.naspaa.org.)

Transportation Partners

The Transportation Partners program was initiated as part of the CCAP, which directed EPA to develop an innovative, non-regulatory approach to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from the transportation sector. The program was started in 1995 to support the voluntary efforts of local officials, citizens, and businesses to improve the efficiency of transportation systems and reduce the demand for vehicle travel. The goal of the Transportation Partners program is to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from the transportation sector by voluntarily reducing vehicle miles traveled. Effective measures include telecommuting, transit- and pedestrian-oriented community design, and market-based reforms. These measures have significant side benefits, such as reducing traffic congestion, increasing worker productivity, making neighborhoods safer and

more livable, and generating revenues that can reduce the funding for transportation infrastructure without increasing general taxes.

The Transportation Partners program has partnerships with approximately 100 local governments and citizens' organizations. The program provides members with technical and outreach support to assist them in implementing transportation measures that they have decided are appropriate for their communities. The program also provides members with public recognition of their efforts to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. (Contact: View the Transportation Partners' website at <http://es.epa.gov/partners/transp/tranpart.html>.)

Local Government Advisory Committee

The Local Government Advisory Committee is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The purpose of the committee is to advise, consult with, and make recommendations to the Administrator of EPA on matters related to the implementation of federal environmental requirements by local governments. The committee's activities include changes in the regulatory planning and development process to involve local governments more effectively; changes needed to allow flexibility to accommodate local needs without compromising environmental performance, accountability, or fairness; and ways EPA and states can help local governments deal with the challenge of financing environmental protection, identify ways to encourage innovation and explore ways to speed dissemination of new environmental protection techniques and technologies. (Contact: EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations website: <http://www.epa.gov/regional/lgac.htm>.)

Small Community Advisory Committee

The Small Community Advisory Committee is a subcommittee of the Local Government Advisory Committee. The purpose of the subcommittee is to be a standing advisory group to aid small towns with environmental issues by improving and protecting the environment in which they live. The committee is made up of 16 members from small towns across the country. The members consist of elected local government officials, appointed officials, technical officials, representatives from small water districts, and citizen activists. The objectives of the committee include: changing how EPA and state agencies develop regulations; informing legislative bodies of the cost of providing environmental protection to small towns; and advising EPA of the range of technical service available to help. The Small Community Advisory Committee oversees the implementation of the Small Town Task Force Report. The report was created by EPA in 1992 as mandated by Congress. The purpose of the task force was to advise EPA on how to work

better with small communities to improve compliance with environmental regulations. (Contact: Steve Wilson, EPA Small Community Coordinator at (202) 260-2294, or Small Town Task Force website: <http://www.epa.gov/regional/small1.htm>.)

Local Government Environmental Assistance Network

The Local Government Environmental Assistance Network (LGEAN) is a forum and clearinghouse of environmental information for local governments. LGEAN provides environmental management, planning, and regulatory information for local government elected and appointed officials, managers, and staff. LGEAN enables local officials to interact with their peers and others on-line. In an effort to reach all local governments, LGEAN publishes a quarterly newsletter, *SCAN*, and manages both a toll-free and fax-on-demand service. EPA is a partner in LGEAN and has provided technical and financial resources. (Contact: View the website: <http://www.lgean.org>, or call toll-free 877-TO-LGEAN.)

Municipal Environmental Management Systems

EPA's Office of Wastewater Management and Office of Compliance have sponsored a two-year project to assist small and medium-sized public sector organizations in developing and implementing an ISO 14001 Environmental Management System (EMS). At the end of the two-year project EPA expects that each of the participants will have all of the elements of an ISO 14001 EMS. Additional goals for this project include: evaluating the effect of the ISO 14001 EMS on the management of environmental issues; tracking costs, staff commitment, benefits, hurdles, environmental performance, interested stakeholder involvement, and pollution prevention activities; and communicating results and lessons learned across the public and private sector. EPA selected the Global Environment & Technology Foundation to lead the Municipalities Initiative and to provide on-going training, technical assistance, and EMS coaching to each of the municipal organizations throughout the project. (Contact: EPA's website <http://www.epa.gov/owmitnet/impiso.htm>, or visit GlobeNet <http://www.iso14000.net>.)

The Mayors Desk

The Mayors Desk is an EPA-sponsored program started in August 1998. The purpose of this program is to provide information dealing with environmental issues to mayors across the country. The goal of providing such information is to improve the mayors' access to the policy development process. An appointed EPA liaison operates the desk, acts as the Agency's point of contact, and serves as an information resource who channels mayors to those people in the

program offices who are working on specific issues and projects. (Contact: Richard Dickerson of EPA at (202) 260-6029.)

Energy Star® Buildings and Green Lights® Partnership

In 1991, EPA introduced Green Lights®, a program designed for businesses and organizations to proactively combat pollution by installing energy-efficient lighting technologies in their commercial and industrial buildings. In April 1995, Green Lights® expanded into Energy Star® Buildings— a strategy that optimizes whole-building energy-efficiency opportunities.

The energy needed to run commercial and industrial buildings in the United States produces 19 percent of U.S. carbon dioxide emissions, 12 percent of nitrogen oxides, and 25 percent of sulfur dioxide, at a cost of \$110 billion a year. If implemented in every U.S. commercial and industrial building, Energy Star® Buildings' upgrade approach could prevent up to 35 percent of the emissions associated with these buildings and cut the nation's energy bill by up to \$25 billion annually.

The more than 2,500 participants include corporations, small businesses, universities, health care facilities, nonprofit organizations, school districts, and federal and local governments. As of January 1, 1998, Energy Star® Buildings and Green Lights® Program participants have reduced their annual energy use by 7 billion kilowatt hours and annually save more than \$517 million. By joining, participants agree to upgrade 90 percent of their owned facilities with energy-efficient lighting and 50 percent of their owned facilities with whole-building upgrades, where profitable, over a seven-year period. Energy Star® participants first reduce their energy loads with the Green Lights® approach to building tune-ups, then focus on "right sizing" their heating and cooling equipment to match their new energy needs. EPA predicts this strategy will prevent more than 5.5 MMTCE of carbon dioxide by the year 2000. EPA's Office of Air and Radiation is responsible for operating the Energy Star® Buildings and Green Lights® Program. (Contact: Energy Star Hotline, 1-888-STAR-YES (1-888-872-7937) or Maria Tikoff Vargas, Co-Director at (202) 564-9178 or visit the website at <http://www.epa.gov/buildings>.)

Indoor Environments Program

The Indoor Environments Program was formed in 1995 to increase the public's understanding of indoor air quality (IAQ) and its effect on public health. IAQ is widely recognized as among the highest environmental risks people face on a day-to-day basis. To address this issue, the Agency uses voluntary relationships with public and private organizations, as well as the general public,

to inform individuals and institutions about simple and low-cost steps they can take to reduce risks. Using the best science available, the Indoor Environments Program develops and disseminates information, guidance, and solution-based technologies. The program serves as a catalyst for action by guiding research, using innovative and creative risk communication tools, and building public/private partnerships. (Contact: View the Indoor Environments Program's website at <http://es.epa.gov/partners/indoor/indoor.html>.)

WasteWi\$e Program

The WasteWi\$e Program was started in 1994 by EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response. The program is aimed at reducing municipal solid wastes by promoting waste prevention, recycling collection, and the manufacturing and purchase of recycled products. As of 1998, the program had about 700 business, government, and institutional partners. Partners agree to identify and implement actions to reduce their solid wastes by setting waste reduction goals and providing EPA with yearly progress reports for a three-year period. EPA, in turn, provides partners with technical assistance, publications, networking opportunities, and national and regional recognition. (Contact: WasteWi\$e Hotline at (800) 372-9473 or Joanne Oxley, EPA Program Manager, (703) 308-0199.)

NICE³

The U.S. Department of Energy sponsors a grant program called National Industrial Competitiveness through Energy, Environment, and Economics (NICE³). The NICE³ program provides funding to state and industry partnerships (large and small businesses) for projects demonstrating advances in energy efficiency and clean production technologies. The goal of the NICE³ program is to demonstrate the performance and economics of innovative technologies in the U.S., leading to the commercialization of improved industrial manufacturing processes. These processes should conserve energy, reduce waste, and improve industrial cost-competitiveness. Industry applicants must submit project proposals through a state energy, pollution prevention, or business development office. Awardees receive a one-time, three-year grant of up to \$400,000, representing up to 50 percent of a project's total cost. In addition, up to \$25,000 is available to support the state applicant's cost share. (Contact: View the website at <http://www.oit.doe.gov/Access/nice3>; Steve Blazek, DOE, (303) 75-4723; or Eric Hass, DOE, (303) 275-4728.)

Design for the Environment

The Design for the Environment (DfE) is working with several industries to identify cost-effective pollution prevention strategies that reduce risks to workers and the environment. DfE helps businesses compare and evaluate the performance, cost, pollution prevention benefits, and human health and environmental risks associated with existing and alternative technologies. The goal of these projects is to encourage businesses to consider and use cleaner products, processes, and technologies. For more information about the DfE Program, call (202) 260-1678. (Contact: EPA's Pollution Prevention Information Clearinghouse at (202) 260-1023 or visit the DfE Website at <http://www.epa.gov/dfe>.)

Clean Water Action Plan

In 1998, EPA and the USDA were charged with developing a Clean Water Action Plan designed to speed the restoration of the nation's waterways. This plan aims to achieve clean water by strengthening public health protections, targeting community-based watershed protection efforts at high priority areas, and providing communities with new resources to control polluted runoff. This action plan is being built around four key tools: 1) watershed approaches, 2) strong federal and state standards, 3) natural resource stewardship, and 4) informed citizens and officials. (Contact: View the Clean Water Action Plan website at <http://www.epa.gov/cleanwater/action/overview.html>.)

7.2 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE INITIATIVES AND VOLUNTARY PROGRAMS

National Drinking Water Clearinghouse

The National Drinking Water Clearinghouse (NDWC) was established in 1991 at West Virginia University to develop and maintain services and information related to small community drinking water systems. Funded by the Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service, the NDWC is an extension of that organization's commitment to provide technical assistance to America's rural water facilities. NDWC assists small communities (fewer than 10,000) by collecting, developing, and providing timely information relevant to drinking water issues. Two quarterly newsletters (*On Tap* and *Water Sense*) are available to help small communities with their drinking water needs. NDWC also offers approximately 200 free or low-cost educational products, including brochures, videotapes, and government publications, on topics ranging from drinking water regulations to financial management. Furthermore, NDWC's databases offer a variety of drinking water information relating to groundwater protection, water system design,

water treatment processes, water conservation, and drinking water regulations. Technical assistants are available to conduct a search to help individuals find answers to questions or refer individuals to the appropriate organization. (Contact: Call NDWC at (800) 624-8301 or visit NDWC's website at <http://names.nsf.edu/ndwc/>.)

Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community

The Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community (EZ/EC) program is designed to afford communities real opportunities for growth and revitalization. The framework of the program addresses four key principles: economic opportunities (e.g., create jobs within the community and throughout the region), sustainable community development, community-based partnerships (e.g., partnerships with local governments, community groups, health and social service groups, and environmental groups), and strategic vision for change (e.g., what the community will become). This program is designed to empower people and communities all across the nation by inspiring Americans to work together to create jobs and opportunity. (Contact: EZ/EC Team at (800) 645-4712, email to ezec@rurdev.gov, or view EZ/EC's website at <http://www.ezec.gov>.)

National Rural Development Partnership

The National Rural Development Partnership, through 37 State Rural Development Councils and a National Rural Development Council, brings together federal, state, local, and tribal governments, as well as the private for-profit and non-profit sectors, to work in partnership for the improvement of rural America's communities. Through an information-based, learning-while-doing approach, the National Rural Development Partnership addresses complex rural problems in new ways: building crucial intergovernmental and intragovernmental relations; promoting strategic development; conducting partnership activities; making better use of existing resources; intervening in a problem-solving role; addressing regulatory and administrative impediments; and representing a new model of governance. (Contact: National Rural Development Partnership at (202) 690-2394, or view the website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/nrdp>.)

7.3 SUMMARY OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

International City/County Management Association

777 North Capitol Street, NE
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20002
Phone: (202) 289-4262
Fax: (202) 962-3500
Website: <http://www.icma.org/>

Founded in 1914, the International City/County Management Association is the professional and educational association for more than 8,000 appointed administrators and assistant administrators serving cities, counties, other local governments, and regional entities around the world.

National Association of County & City Health Officials

1100 17th Street, Second Floor
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: (202) 783-5550
Fax: (202) 783-1583
Email: info@NACCHO.org
Website: <http://www.naccho.org/>

In July 1994, the National Association of County Health Officials and the U.S. Conference of Local Health Officers combined to form a unified organization representing local public health. NACCHO is a nonprofit membership organization serving all of nearly 3,000 local health departments nationwide—in cities, counties, townships, and districts. NACCHO provides education, information, research, and technical assistance to local health departments and facilitates partnerships among local, state, and federal agencies to promote and strengthen public health.

National Association of Counties

440 1st Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: (202) 393-6226
Fax: (202) 393-2630
Website: <http://www.naco.org/>

The National Association of Counties (NACo) was created in 1935 when county officials wanted to have a strong voice in the nation's capital. NACo's membership totals nearly 1,800 counties, representing more than 85 percent of the nation's population. NACo, the only national organization that represents county governments in the United States, continues to follow the traditions established by those early county officials. NACo provides an extensive line of services, including legislative, research, and technical, as well as public affairs. The association acts as a liaison with other levels of government, works to improve public understanding of counties, serves as a national advocate for counties, and provides them with resources to help them find innovative methods to meet the challenges they face. NACo is involved in a number of special projects that deal with such issues as the environment, sustainable communities, volunteerism, and intergenerational studies.

National Association of Towns and Townships

444 N. Capitol Street, NW, Suite 208
Washington, DC 20001-1202
Phone: (202) 624-3550
Fax: (202) 624-3554
Website: <http://natat.org/>

The purpose of the National Association of Towns and Townships (NATaT) is to strengthen the effectiveness of town and township governments. It does so by educating lawmakers and public policy officials about how small town governments operate and by advocating policies on their behalf in Washington, DC. NATaT works to assure smaller local governments equal access to vital federal resources.

National Center for Small Communities

444 N. Capitol Street, NW, Suite 208

Washington, DC 20001-1202

Phone: (202) 624-3550

Fax: (202) 624-3554

Website: <http://natat.org/>

The National Center for Small Communities (NCSC) is the only national, nonprofit organization devoted to serving the leaders of America's smaller communities. The mission of NCSC is to provide small town decision makers with the tools to govern effectively and the skills to expand local economies, protect natural resources, and preserve community character.

National Environmental Training Association

3020 East Camelback Road, Suite 399

Phoenix, AZ 85016

Phone: (602) 956-6099

Fax: (602) 956-6399

Website: <http://www.envirotraining.org/>

Founded in 1977 with support from EPA, the National Environmental Training Association (NETA) is an international nonprofit educational and professional society dedicated to promoting competency and excellence in environmental and safety and health training. With 1,600 members worldwide, NETA is the network for academic, government, industrial, utility, and consulting trainers and training managers responsible for protecting public health, workers, and the environment. NETA's programs and services include a certified environmental trainer program; annual conference and workshops; environmental, health, and safety training skills workshops; development of standards in environmental occupations; Internet trainers forum; and a newsletter.

National League of Cities

1301 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004
Phone: (202) 626-3000
Fax: (202) 626-3043
Website: <http://www.nlc.org/>

The National League of Cities (NLC) is the country's largest and most representative organization serving municipal governments. Founded in 1924 by 10 state municipal leagues, today its direct members include 49 state municipal leagues and 1,500 communities of all sizes. Through the membership of the state municipal leagues, NLC represents more than 18,000 municipalities. Acting on behalf of local governments, NLC's goals include influencing national policy and building understanding and support for cities and towns. Through a wide range of programs and services, NLC assists local leaders in their jobs as policy makers and public servants.

The National Pollution Prevention Roundtable

2000 P Street NW, Suite 708
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: (202) 466-7272
Fax: (202) 466-7964
Website: <http://www.p2.org/>

The National Pollution Prevention Roundtable (the Roundtable) is the largest membership organization in the United States devoted solely to pollution prevention. The Roundtable provides a national forum for promoting the development, implementation, and evaluation of efforts to avoid, eliminate, or reduce pollution at the source. The Roundtable's voting membership includes state, local, and tribal government pollution prevention programs. Affiliate members include representatives from federal agencies, non-profit organizations, trade associations, academic institutions, and private industry. Public sector members located in every state and internationally operate programs that provide pollution prevention information and technical assistance to thousands of industrial, commercial, and agricultural facilities each year. This information helps many of these facilities reduce the cost of both production and environmental compliance. The result is improved efficiency, increased competitiveness and a better environment.

National Rural Water Association

2915 S. 13th Street
Duncan, OK 73533
Phone: (580) 252-0629
Fax: (580) 255-4476
Website: <http://www.nrwa.org>

The National Rural Water Association (NRWA) is a federation of 45 state rural water associations. These state associations represent more than 18,000 water and wastewater utilities across America, making NRWA the largest utility membership organization in the nation. In cooperation with state associations, NRWA is constantly working to improve the quality of utility services for rural Americans, while protecting natural resources.

Public Technology, Inc.

1301 Pennsylvania Avenue., NW
Washington, DC 20004
Phone: (800) 852-4934
Fax: (202) 626-2498
Website: <http://www.pti.nw.dc.us/>

Public Technology, Inc. (PTI), is the nonprofit technology research, development, and commercialization organization for all cities and counties in the United States. The National League of Cities, the National Association of Counties, and the International City/County Management Association provide PTI with its policy direction, while a select group of city and county members conduct applied R&D and technology transfer functions.

State and Territorial Air Pollution Program Administrators and the Association of Local Air Pollution Control Officials

444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 307

Washington, DC 20001

Phone: (202) 624-7864

Fax: (202) 624-7863

Email: 4clair@sso.org

Website: <http://www.4cleanair.org/>

The State and Territorial Air Pollution Program Administrators (STAPPA) and the Association of Local Air Pollution Control Officials (ALAPCO) are the two national associations representing air pollution control agencies in the 54 states and territories and more than 150 major metropolitan areas across the United States. State and local air pollution control officials formed STAPPA and ALAPCO over 25 years ago to improve their effectiveness as managers of air quality programs. The associations encourage the exchange of information among air pollution control officials; enhance communication and cooperation among federal, state, and local regulatory agencies; and promote good management of air resources.

Water Environment Federation

601 Wythe Street

Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: (703) 684-2400

Fax: (703) 684-2492

Website: <http://www.wef.org>

The Water Environment Federation (WEF) is a federation of local educational and technical associations, including some specific to wastewater operations. WEF guides technical developments in water quality and provides the public with the latest information on wastewater treatment and water quality protection. WEF also participates in the development and review of government policies on water and environmental issues. WEF is involved in nonpoint source pollution, hazardous waste, biosolid recycling, and groundwater contamination.

CSO Partnership

P.O. Box 26505
Richmond, VA 23261
Phone: (804) 780-5293
Fax: (804) 649-9661
Email: CSOInfo@csop.com
Website: <http://www.csop.com>

CSO Partnership is a nationwide coalition of small and medium-sized communities with combined sewer systems. The Partnership provides its members, and on a more limited basis, members of the public, with critical information on all aspects of CSO regulation and control.

American Public Works Association

2345 Grand Blvd., Suite 500
Kansas City, MO 64108
Telephone: (202)393-2792
Email: apwa@bbs.pubworks.org
Website: <http://www.pubworks.org>

The American Public Works Association (APWA) provides manuals and technical information on municipal management and regulations. Its Internet site provides general information on emergency management, public buildings, solid waste, and water, as well as contacts for acquiring additional information.

American Water Works Association

6666 West Quincy Avenue
Denver, CO 80235
Telephone: (303) 794-7711
Fax: (303) 795-1440
Website: <http://www.awwa.org>

American Water Works Association's (AWWA) educational service provides teleconferences, conferences, workshops, and seminars on various topics relating to water resources and management, technical support on water issues, and Internet access. The small utility network is a free service designed for water systems serving fewer than 3,300 people in the United States and Canada.

International Conference of Building Officials

5360 Workman Mill Road
Whittier, CA 90601-2290
Telephone: (800) 284-4406
Fax: (562) 692-3853
Website: <http://www.icbo.org>

The International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO) provides building service codes, guidelines for new buildings, and assistance and education in building and managing municipal facilities. The ICBO Internet site provides building standards, a building resource guide, and links to related sites.

National Association of Local Government Environmental Professionals

1350 New York Avenue, NW
Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20005-4798
Telephone: (202) 879-4093
Website: <http://www.nalgep.org>

The National Association of Local Government Environmental Professionals (NALGEP) works to meet the training and information needs of professionals responsible for environmental compliance and policy at the local level.

National Association of Regional Councils

1700 K Street, Suite 1300
Washington, DC 20006
Telephone: (202) 437-0710
Website address: <http://www.narc.org>

The National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) is a membership organization of regional councils that offers technical assistance, educational services, and public policy support to regional government officials. Topics include economic development, water quality, water supply, air quality, aging, housing, workforce training, and solid waste.

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