



## OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXECUTIVE

WHITE HOUSE TASK FORCE ON WASTE PREVENTION AND RECYCLING

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*PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP THROUGHOUT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT*

### **Office of the Federal Environmental Executive**

Promoting Sustainable Environmental Stewardship Throughout the Federal Government

For Immediate Release

April 7, 2005

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### **WHITE HOUSE HONORS OUTSTANDING FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP**

Today, Federal Environmental Executive Edwin Piñero announced the winners of the 2005 White House Closing the Circle Awards for outstanding Federal environmental stewardship. These awards recognize Federal facilities and employees for innovative practices and programs that have improved environmental performance and conditions at Federal facilities.

“We recognize those programs and individuals who understand that environmental stewardship delivers dividends not only for the environment and the American people, but also for the Federal government’s mission and operations,” said Mr. Piñero. “The Federal community is finding new and better ways of operating in order to achieve the same outcome with less use of our natural resources and less impact on the environment and the community – that is, we are becoming more sustainable. We achieve this outcome by employing practices that lead to sustainable buildings, green purchasing, energy efficiency, waste prevention, and recycling. These practices address the entire life cycle of our activities, from design, to purchasing, to waste prevention, and ultimately reusing or recycling the wastes we do generate.”

This year, 11 winners and 15 honorable mentions were selected from nearly 200 nominations in the areas of environmental management systems, pollution prevention, recycling, green product purchasing, alternative fuels, and sustainable building. The awards will be presented in a White House ceremony in June.

Created by executive order, the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive (OFEE) is a chartered task force under the White House Council on Environmental Quality. It works to promote sustainable environmental stewardship throughout the Federal government by assisting agencies in integrating environmental considerations into their operations. OFEE assists agencies with such sustainable practices as implementing environmental management systems, purchasing green products, constructing sustainable buildings, electronics stewardship, and waste prevention and recycling.

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## **2005 White House Closing the Circle Awards Winners**

### **Recycling-Military**

#### **Department of Defense**

Little Rock Air Force Base, AR

Team/ Project: Little Rock AFB Recycling Center

*Recycling Successes at Little Rock AFB AR*

The Little Rock Air Force Base (AFB) Recycling Center, in Arkansas, operates an extensive recycling program consisting of traditional recyclables, recyclables from vehicle maintenance, and recyclables from construction and demolition debris. The program collected and recycled more than 3,000 tons of recyclable materials in 2004. The daily recycling rate for Little Rock AFB is 1.9 pounds per day per person, 0.5 pound better than the national average published by the EPA. In 2004, the base diverted 20,000 pounds of plastic and pulverized 35,000 pounds of glass. The base saved more than \$10,000 last year by recycling 5,000 gallons of antifreeze and continued its ambitious used oil-recycling program by recycling more than 20,000 gallons of used oil. To date, the base has recycled more than 7.1 million pounds of asphalt, which is used in base roadways.

### **Recycling-Civilian**

#### **Department of Homeland Security**

Integrated Support Command (ISC) Kodiak, AK

Team/ Project: Environmental & Fire Protection Branch, Facilities Engineering Division

*Model Consumer Recycling Program at Integrated Support Command Kodiak Alaska*

Due to the high cost of shipping recyclable materials off-island, the Coast Guard's Integrated Support Command (ISC) in Kodiak, Alaska, partnered with local, non-profit organizations, one of which employs physically and mentally disabled individuals, to transfer materials off-island. The total amount of savings in solid waste disposal fees exceeded \$37,000 and the recycled material sold for close to \$27,000, equaling a total savings of \$64,000. During FY 2004, almost 749,000 pounds of material were recycled, eclipsing the FY 1999 total by more than five times. Since the program began in 1999, nearly 2.3 million pounds of material have been collected and diverted from the island landfill to recycling centers in the continental U.S.

## **Department of Justice**

Federal Correctional Complex, Florence, CO

Individual: Mike Berger

*Protecting Our Environment is the Right Thing To Do*

Upon Mr. Berger's arrival in 1996 at the Federal Correctional Complex (FCC) in Florence, Colorado, there were no records of any recycling efforts on behalf of the entire complex. With two bailers, he began to organize the recycling of corrugated containers, steel cans and some paper with a crew of one to three inmates. Mr. Berger developed a recycle yard where he installed bailers, compactors, and trailers. By 1999, the recycle program at FCC Florence involved the entire complex. In 2000, he eliminated the use of outside trash contractors and ran a complete operation single handedly. This operation has now grown to 26 inmate workers in order to manage the large volume of recyclables and removal of the solid waste. Since 1996, Mr. Berger and his program have diverted more than 4 million pounds of recyclable materials from local landfills, with a total revenue exceeding \$230,000.

## **Waste Pollution/Prevention-Military**

### **Department of Defense**

Luke Air Force Base, AZ

Team/ Project: Luke AFB Pollution Prevention Team

*Defining the Next Era of Pollution Prevention at Luke AFB*

Luke Air Force Base (AFB) has successfully implemented numerous pollution prevention initiatives, redefining pollution prevention and waste minimization in the Air Force. Their entire pollution prevention program was overhauled to reduce the generation of non-hazardous solid wastes and hazardous wastes, increase solid waste diversion, and enhanced awareness at Luke AFB and the local surrounding community. This pollution prevention effort resulted in the elimination of 12 hazardous waste streams, resulting in a savings of \$77,000 in avoided disposal costs in 2004. A partial list of the base's accomplishments: Base-wide hazardous material turn-ins were reduced by 89 percent, resulting in a \$33,000 reduction in labpack and disposal costs for 2004. After reviewing more than 3,200 material safety data sheets, the base was able to change 600 requirements, which resulted in the reduction of volatile organic compounds emissions by 82 percent and a reduction in the amount of flammables stored locally by 57 percent. The base also reduced the waste from paint gun cleaning by 99 percent by regenerating solvent in-house and compacting the hazardous constituents filtered out of the waste. In addition, the base installed a dental mercury recovery system that captures 99 percent of fine particulates that otherwise would be discharged with the waste water from the dental clinics.

## **Waste Pollution/Prevention-Civilian**

### **Department of Homeland Security**

USCG Air Station Borinquen Aguadilla, Puerto Rico

Team/ Project: AIRSTA Borinquen Facilities Engineering

*Source Reduction and Green Initiatives at USCG Air Station Borinquen*

Over the past four years, USCG Air Station Borinquen, Puerto Rico, has changed from a focus almost entirely on hazardous waste disposal activities to a unit-wide waste prevention effort led by a full-time environmental protection specialist with cross departmental and community support. These pollution prevention efforts have led to increased usage of energy efficient products, replacement of solvent-based cleaners with a self-recycling solvent system and a biobased aqueous parts cleaner, and an aggressive recycling program. After reviewing numerous potential vehicles, the unit decided to purchase a zero emissions environmentally friendly alternative electric vehicles and converted the charging system from grid to solar. USCG Air Station Borinquen reduced lighting wattage by 75 percent by installing low wattage compact fluorescent bulbs in housing areas. Additionally, close to 3,000 gallons of non virgin JP-5 were recycled, saving the unit \$10,000 in fuel, storage and disposal fees. This year, roughly 175,000 lbs of recycled material was diverted from the solid waste stream representing a tenfold increase from FY 2000.

## **Sustainable Design/ Green Buildings-Civilian**

### **Department of Transportation**

FAA-Northwest Mountain Region, Renton, WA

Team/ Project: Seattle TRACON Design Team

LEED Gold Certified Seattle TRACON

The Seattle Terminal Radar Approach Control (TRACON) facility in Renton, Washington, was designed utilizing the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building criteria and was awarded LEED Gold Certification by the U.S. Green Building Council in May 2004. Upon its commissioning, Seattle TRACON became the first LEED Gold Certified building in the Department of Transportation. Key features that make this a LEED-Gold building are the use of green materials, stormwater management, energy efficiency, natural landscaping, and use of a chemical-free treatment system for the cooling tower. More than 90 percent of the total building materials have a minimum weighted average of 20 percent postconsumer recycled content or 40 percent postindustrial recycled content. Implementation of the facilities stormwater management plan resulted in a treatment system designed to remove 80 percent of the average annual post development total suspended solids and 40 percent of the average annual post development total phosphorus. Seattle TRACON's use of natural landscape vegetation and water efficient interior fixtures resulted in a combined annual reduction of 246,000 gallons of water, 30 percent over baseline calculations.

**Energy Efficiency in Transportation-Civilian**  
**National Aeronautics and Space Administration**

Headquarters, Washington, DC

Team/ Project: NASA Motor Vehicle Efficiency Team

*NASA Motor Vehicle Efficiency*

The Energy Policy Act and Executive Order 13149, *Greening the Government Through Federal Fleet and Transportation Efficiency*, require Federal agencies to acquire alternative fuel vehicles as 75 percent of their new acquisitions of light-duty vehicles. Alternative fuels include ethanol, compressed and liquified natural gas, propane, and biodiesel. Agencies also are required to increase the fuel economy of their vehicles and reduce their petroleum fuel consumption. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) exceeded the 75 percent alternative fuel vehicle acquisition requirement for 125 vehicles by acquiring 330 total credits in FY 2004. NASA acquired 308 light-duty vehicles in 2004, 167 of which were EPA-covered, and gained 61 credits for using biodiesel. The agency also used alternative fuels for 27 percent of its operation of AFVs, an increase of 18 percent over FY 2003. Additionally, NASA successfully met the Executive Order 13149 goal of a 1 mpg fuel economy increase in FY 2002, and is making significant progress towards meeting the goal of 3 mpg by FY 2005. NASA fleets were able to reduce the agency's annual petroleum consumption by more than 233,000 gallons of gasoline equivalent. Part of this reduction was achieved by the 2.6 mpg fleet average fuel economy in 2004 for covered, conventional petroleum light-duty vehicles.

**Energy Efficiency in Transportation-Military**

**Department of Defense**

US Marine Corps, Washington, DC

Team/ Project: US Marine Corps

*Petroleum Reduction for Marine Corps Transportation*

The Marine Corps has exceeded the Energy Policy Act (EPA) requirements for the past five years, led Department of Defense and other Federal agencies in the adoption of biodiesel, introduced and expanded the use of neighborhood electric vehicles, and met the 2005 requirements for Executive Order 13149 in 2003, two years ahead of schedule. During FY 2004 the Marine Corps had a 27.5 percent fuel reduction and a 243 percent compliance with EPA, while using more than 1.2 million gallons of biodiesel. In addition to the 28 neighborhood electric vehicles purchased last year, the Marine Corps is seeking to procure 48 hybrid vehicles for use by its recruiting force and is taking an active step for the future of hydrogen-powered fuel cell vehicles.

## **EMS-Civilian**

### **Department of Health and Human Services**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia

Team/ Project: CDC, Environmental Protection Section (EPS)

*CDC's Leadership, Innovation, and Execution of a Corporate Environmental Management System (EMS)*

Advancing its internal environmental quality and facility business practices, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia, initiated the development of a comprehensive environmental management system for its 10 research campuses located throughout the country. In order to reduce the quantity of CDC solid waste disposed at local landfills, an innovative, cost-saving approach was achieved through a partnership between CDC and neighboring Emory University. The "CDC/Emory Recycles" partnership offered a low cost solution to traditionally more expensive recycling efforts, which otherwise would have made recycling prohibitive. This program successfully reroutes approximately 180,000 lbs annually of recyclable materials from the local landfill and saves natural resources in the process. Another initiative used funds recovered from recycled batteries to finance the replacement of mercury thermometers, thereby reducing the mercury hazard in laboratories. The CDC developed the Chemical Hazard Tracking System in house, which is used to manage more than 15,000 chemical containers.

## **EMS-Military**

### **Department of Defense**

Defense Supply Center Richmond, VA

Team/ Project: Defense Supply Center Richmond

*Environmental Management Systems Used at DSCR Facility*

The Defense Supply Center Richmond has proven that Environmental Management Systems (EMS) can help provide the structure for Federal facilities and their local communities to jointly address environmental issues through positive interaction between stakeholders and local governments. Through hands-on involvement by stakeholders in the EMS development process, all parties have achieved an increased level of confidence and accomplishments related to overall management. DSCR's partnership, known as the Virginia Regional Environmental Management System, includes local and state government agencies, other military facilities located in Virginia, and corporations. With an EMS in place, program partners have identified and successfully managed both individual and joint environmental responsibilities. They are able to work together to prevent new environmental security risks and significantly strengthen their lines of communication with each other and their stakeholders. Partners have also identified and are addressing stakeholder priority issues such as water, waste, air quality, natural resource impacts, encroachments and growth. The program partners share best practices and work together to establish and measure objectives and targets.

### **Green Purchasing-Civilian**

#### **Environmental Protection Agency**

US EPA Headquarters Washington, DC

Team/ Project: EPA's Green Office Supply BPA Team

*EPA's Green Office Supply BPA*

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) initiated a Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) with Corporate Express for "green" office products, which gives employees access to more than 1,000 items that fulfill both Executive Order 13101 and statutory requirements for buying green products. Corporate Express created an on-line catalogue of green products, including recycled content, biobased, and environmentally preferable products. The BPA will be mandatory for all EPA offices and labs nationwide, encompassing more than 18,000 employees in approximately 70 facilities across the country. The BPA requires reporting so EPA can track the progress of green product purchasing. It is only through EPA's BPA that it is now possible to develop a baseline against which to measure progress in its green purchasing efforts. With the BPA, EPA will help divert tons of materials from landfills, save large amounts of energy, and make our air and water cleaner and healthier.

## **2005 Honorable Mentions**

### **Recycling-Military**

#### **Department of Defense**

Fort Campbell Army Installation Environmental Division, KY

Team/ Project: Fort Campbell DPW Environmental Division P2 Branch

*Fort Campbell, Driven to Excel*

### **Recycling-Civilian**

#### **Department of Energy**

Pantex Plant-Albuquerque, NM

Team/ Project: Craig Snider, Bill Allen, Julie Marlar, Debra Halliday, Dave McBride, Jim Frangos, Robert Wright, Brian McKnight, Will Groves, Don Burgin, Brice Kitchens, Clyde tabor, Tommy Johnson, Waste Operations Engineering Technicians

*Pantex Environmental Partnerships*

### **Waste Military/Prevention-Military**

#### **Department of Defense**

Radford Army Ammunition Plant, VA

Team/ Project: Radford P2 Team

*Pollution Prevention For the (Bio) Masses-A Harmonious Solution*

#### **Department of Defense**

Fort Monroe, Hampton, VA

Team/ Project: Fort Monroe DPW/L

*Design, Debacle, Demolition, Deconstruction: Fort Monroe's Building Deconstruction Program*

## **Waste Pollution/ Prevention Civilian**

### **Department of Energy**

Sandia National Laboratories, Organization 6334 Albuquerque, NM

Team/ Project: Delfino Aragon, Jake Aragon, Victor Barba, Delfino Bird, Allen Gonzales, Robert E. Griego, Thomas Gutierrez, Donald Jaramillo, Richard Lucero, Steve Lucero, Joseph Minichello, Yvonne Molina, Carlos Molinar, Eloy Montano, Leroy Padilla, Fred Perea

*Waste Reduction Techniques Applied to Landscaping*

### **Department of Energy**

US Strategic Petroleum Reserve New Orleans, LA

Team/ Project: William Gibson, Dan Kelley, Lionel Gele, Bill Vierling, Kathy Batiste, Jim Quern, Nate Ellis, Bob, McGough, Kirkland Jones, Brian Tuminello, Bill Bozzo, Terry Baxter, David Folse, Ed Kapinas, Steve Espinoza, Tim Lewis, Dick McCalla, Kevin Luckianow

*Preventing Downstream Emissions through Sustainable Product Stewardship*

## **Sustainable Design/ Green Buildings-Civilian**

### **Department of Labor**

Potomac Job Corps center Redevelopment, DC

Team/ Project: Department of Labor/ ETA, PBDewberry

*Sustainable Building Strategies for the Potomac Job Corps Center Redevelopment*

### **Department of the Interior**

Baca Dlo' ay azhi School, Prewitt, NM

Team/ Project: Baca Dlo' ay azhi School

*Baca Dlo' ay azhi Consolidation Replacement School*

## **Sustainable Design/ Green Buildings-Military**

### **Department of Defense**

Galveston District, Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston, TX

Team/ Project: Fort Point Sustainable Security Design Project team

*Fort Point Sustainable Security Design*

## **Energy Efficiency in Transportation-Civilian**

### **Department of Homeland Security**

Transportation Security Administration, Arlington, VA

Team/ Project: TSA Fleet and Transit Benefit Management Program

*TSA Fleet and transit Benefit Management Program*

## **Energy Efficiency in Transportation-Military**

### **Department of Defense**

United States Air Force, Ft. Belvoir, VA

Team/ Project: Air Force Petroleum Office

*Promotion of Alternative Fuels and Motor Vehicle purchasing in the Federal Government*



**EMS-Military**

**Department of Defense**

132d Fighter Wing Des Moines, IA

Team/ Project: 132d Fighter Wing, Iowa National Guard

*Implementing Environmental and Occupational Health Management System at the des Moines Air Base*

**Green Purchasing-Civilian**

**Department of Agriculture**

Agricultural Research Service, SPA, College Station, TX

Team/ Project: Southern Plains Area

*Closing the Circle Award for Green Purchasing Category*

**Department of Energy**

DOE Headquarters Washington, DC

Team/ Project: US Department of Energy's Preferred Procurement Partnership: Mark Decot, Shab Fardanesh, Alison Thomas, Richard Langston, Don Lentzen

*US Department of Energy's Preferred Procurement Partnership*

**Green Purchasing-Military**

**Department of Defense**

Seymour Johnson AFB Goldsboro, NC

Team/ Project: 4CES/CEV Pollution Prevention Section

*Bio-Based Detergents and Green Purchasing*