

# Regional Administrator's 400-Day Plan 2008 Accomplishments - Region 6

## *Increased environmental progress by practicing the 'art of the possible'*

### Principles of 'a better way'

- Reward results, not programs
- Collaboration, not polarization
- Lead with science and technology
- Solutions transcend political boundaries
- Assure compliance, enforce the law



### Looking back 400 days

*"The American people have placed their trust in us to protect the land, air and water of our Nation. They expect better environmental results sooner. Over the next 400 days, we will join forces with our partners to finish or reach a significant point of achievement on our shared priorities."*

-- Lawrence E. Starfield

### Clean The Air

Ensure clean air for communities

- ▶ Kick off an area-wide challenge/campaign maximizing the number of diesel retrofit/replacement projects qualifying for TERP DFW area funding; December 2007 <sup>2</sup>  
✓ Exceeded with 50% more applications than in FY07
- ▶ Seek a commitment with DFW Airport Board of Directors to lower emissions; December 2007 <sup>2</sup>  
✓ Completed. Emissions submitted and approved; December 2008
- ▶ Propose to approve or disapprove the DFW SIP; May - July 2008 <sup>2,3</sup>  
✓ Completed. DFW SIP announced; July 1, published July 14, 2008
- ▶ Complete DFW SIP strategy, based on comments received, progress of initiatives and ozone air quality improvements; December 2008 <sup>2,3</sup>  
✓ Completed. Signed and announced December 16, 2008
- ▶ Propose Houston's reclassification from moderate to severe 8-hour ozone nonattainment in response to the Texas Governor's request; December 2007 <sup>2,3</sup>  
✓ Completed. Published; December 31, 2007
- ▶ Final approval of the Houston reclassification, and schedule for SIP submittal; June 2008 <sup>2,3</sup>  
✓ Completed. Houston's reclassification published; October 1, 2008
- ▶ Beaumont attainment for the 8-hour ozone standard; February 2008 <sup>2</sup>  
✓ Completed. Beaumont's attainment announced; February 29, 2008
- ▶ Early emissions strategy to achieve reductions in the Houston-Galveston area; October 2008  
✓ Completed. Houston-Galveston early emissions strategy; October 2008
- ▶ Approve Ozone Flex agreements for 3 communities, putting in place steps for early attainment of 8-hour ozone standard; October 2008  
✓ Exceeded. Agreements signed with Oklahoma City, Tulsa, and Austin; September 2008

### Restore And Protect The Water <sup>1,2</sup>

Ensure safe drinking water

- ▶ Drinking water meeting all health standards (person-month basis) for at least 93.5% of the Region's population served by Community Water Systems; September 2008 <sup>2</sup>  
✓ Exceeded. 96%

Provide leadership to restore and protect watersheds and coastal waters

- ▶ Enlist 20 additional communities in water conservation/efficiency partnerships to save 3M gallons of water per year; December 2008  
✓ Exceeded. Enlisted 32 new partners
- ▶ Release the Highest Contributing Watershed Report and develop a strategy for targeting nutrient reduction efforts; September 2008 <sup>2</sup>  
✓ Completed and awaiting publication by USGS
- ▶ Complete rock placement for Shell Beach portion of Lake Borgne CWPPRA project  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Initiate construction phase of 2 additional CWPPRA projects as approved by Task Force; December 2008  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Improved water quality conditions in 1 watershed and 7 more in progress; September 2008  
✓ Completed

### Recycle And Renew Polluted Land

Make land available for Reuse

- ▶ Approve Tar Creek OU4 Superfund Site final remedy; March 2008 <sup>2</sup>  
✓ Completed February 2008
- ▶ Complete 1 major transaction that promotes redevelopment in the Region; September 2008  
✓ Completed one major transaction at the new Family Life Center, Progressive Church site, the anchor project in Marrero, LA
- ▶ Prepare 3 site-wide Superfund sites ready for reuse  
✓ Exceeded with 15 Ready for Reuse sites
- ▶ Complete remedies at 4 nationally significant Superfund sites  
✓ Exceeded with 5; approximately 17% of the national total
- ▶ Attain human health protection by eliminating potential exposure pathways at 1 Superfund site  
✓ Exceeded by protecting human health at 5 sites in 2008
- ▶ Control groundwater migration at 2 Superfund sites and 2 priority RCRA facilities  
✓ Exceeded. Attained groundwater migration at 4 Superfund and 4 RCRA sites in 2008

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## Recycle And Renew Polluted Land (cont.)

Make land available for Reuse

- ▶ Complete or oversee 25 removal actions or emergency responses within the Superfund program  
✓ Exceeded. Completed 40 removal actions
- ▶ Conduct 50 Brownfield assessments; reach 25 final Superfund site assessment decisions  
✓ Exceeded. Conducted 87 Brownfield assessments; reached 25 final Superfund site assessment decisions
- ▶ Control Human Exposure to toxins at 2 priority RCRA facilities  
✓ Exceeded. Accomplished control at 3 priority RCRA facilities
- ▶ Bring 10 hazardous waste management facilities in place to prevent releases to air, soil and groundwater  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Select corrective action remedies at 4 priority RCRA facilities; complete corrective action construction at 4 priority RCRA facilities  
✓ Exceeded. Accomplished 11 remedies and 13 construction completions at priority RCRA facilities
- ▶ Reduce toxic chemicals by 50,000 lbs through the NPEP Program  
✓ Exceeded. Reduced 1.65M lbs of toxic chemicals through the NPEP Program
- ▶ Issue 3 Ready for Reuse Determinations promoting RCRA facilities revitalization  
✓ Exceeded. Determined 4 RCRA facilities Ready for Reuse. Co-hosted 1-day Reuse Workshop in Baton Rouge

## Make Compliance Our Enforcement Objective

Prioritize decisions to maximize environmental benefits

- ▶ Conduct 15 inspections/exercises at oil storage facilities with Facility Response Plans <sup>2</sup>  
✓ Exceeded. Conducted 22 inspections/exercises in 2008
- ▶ Complete 2 PRP-lead removals with enforceable instruments  
✓ Exceeded. Conducted 4 PRP lead removals
- ▶ Reach settlement or enforcement action with viable PRPs before remedial action start at 95% of Superfund sites  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Address 100% of Superfund site's Statute of Limitations cases with unaddressed total costs equal to or greater than \$200,000  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Pilot a Self Audit program with Texas Homebuilders Association to improve compliance with stormwater regulations; December 2008  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Initiate an air toxics inspection targeting initiative/pilot with City of Houston; Spring 2008  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Conduct 10 CAA inspections in or affecting nonattainment areas <sup>2,3</sup>  
✓ Exceeded. Conducted 13 inspections

- ▶ Undertake 5 CAA enforcement actions in or affecting nonattainment areas  
✓ Exceeded. 6 enforcement actions; 2 resulted in reductions in sulfur oxides/volatile organic compounds of 18M lbs/yr and 50K lbs/yr
- ▶ Conduct 75% CAFO inspections in impaired watersheds  
✓ Exceeded. 80% CAFO inspections in impaired watersheds
- ▶ Conduct 50% NPDES inspections in impaired watersheds  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Develop a regional SSO enforcement strategy  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Develop a comprehensive regional safe drinking water enforcement strategy addressing all systems, regardless of size  
✓ Completed

## Promote Innovative Approaches to Environmental Problem-solving

Alternative Asbestos Control Method (AACM) <sup>2</sup>

- ▶ Complete 3 pilot tests and peer review; September 2008 <sup>2</sup>  
✓ Completed and peer reviewed. Comparison document will be peer reviewed/posted on the R6 website. Pilot tests report completed by January 31, 2009
- ▶ Provide scientific evaluation to help Agency decision makers decide future course of action on AACM; November 2008  
✓ Coordinating AACM Comparison Report with ORD to complete the scientific activities for Agency review

Blue Skyways Collaborative (BSC) <sup>2,3</sup>

- ▶ BSC partners reach the \$600M funding mark; announce 25 new members to reach 136; increase greenhouse gases emission reductions from 500K tons to 1M tons; increase diesel engine retrofits achieved from 11,742 to 12,742K; December 2008 <sup>2,3</sup>  
✓ Exceeded. Hosted 5th annual BSC conference; October 2008

Dallas Sustainable Skylines (DSSI)

- ▶ Host the filming of an OAQPS "Climate, Air Quality and Energy" feature to highlight DSSI partners progress/successes with the 7 core projects; in reducing and/or avoiding over 250K tons/year of CO<sub>2</sub>, 581 tons/year of SO<sub>2</sub>, and 181 tons/year of NO<sub>x</sub>  
✓ Exceeded. Film released October 22, 2008

Seek positive opportunities for collaboration with regulated parties

- ▶ Cowboys Stadium progressing toward Performance Track membership by continuing EMS development <sup>2</sup>  
✓ Cowboys announced commitment on October 16, 2008
- ▶ Complete final Trinity River Project EIS review; December 2008  
✓ EIS submission delayed until Spring 2009
- ▶ Convene a forum with stakeholders following publication of the revised EPA CAFO regulation; December 2008  
✓ Exceeded. Conducted 2 stakeholder meetings

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## Help Protect The Security of America <sup>1 2 3</sup>

### Disaster Response and Preparedness

- ▶ Complete 'Pairing' agreement with Region 7 on emergency preparedness and response, and agreement to conduct joint exercises on emergency operations and water security; December 2008  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Complete Region 6 training and Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) facility; December 2008  
✓ Construction completion due March 2009 due to contractual issues with the lessor
- ▶ Increase Response Support Corps by 15%  
✓ Exceeded. Increased from 87 to 234; a 169% increase
- ▶ Conduct 8-10 table and/or field exercises <sup>3</sup>  
✓ Exceeded. 17 field exercises in 2008
- ▶ Maintain an emergency response readiness score of 80% or better  
✓ Exceeded. Achieved a score of 97.8%
- ▶ Conduct 125 risk management plan audits  
✓ Exceeded. Conducted 127 audits during 2008
- ▶ Conduct 3 event/activities with Sister City communities along the border <sup>3</sup>  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Improve Internal Preparedness by conducting 2 exercises; training of staff on COOP and evacuation plans  
✓ Completed. Conducted exercise training on COOP and evacuation plans
- ▶ Complete installation of 6 RadNet Monitors; September 2008  
✓ Completed installations of 6 monitors in Baton Rouge, San Antonio, Tulsa, Little Rock, Ft. Smith, and Lubbock

## Assist Recovery Efforts in Louisiana <sup>2 3</sup>

### Address priorities of hurricane response

- ▶ Complete associated FEMA assignments, and transition work to Louisiana officials; August 2008 <sup>2 3</sup>  
✓ Completed

## Develop Collaborative Networks

### Address state-specific priorities and objectives <sup>2</sup>

- ▶ Assist TX, LA, and AR with clean air plans for nonattainment areas  
✓ Completed DFW and Houston SIP actions; approved 8 LA maintenance plans; provided support for future AR, LA and TX redesignation to attainment
- ▶ Assisting OK in addressing Northeastern OK water quality pollution  
✓ Completed. Reduced chicken litter volumes and P-loading in Illinois River Watershed through Stamper Project
- ▶ Assist OK with infrastructure needs driven by public water supply standards  
✓ Completed. Awarded drinking water SRF and CWA section 319 funds to improve drinking water quality in the Eucha-Spavinaw watershed

- ▶ Provide AR with up-to-date information on oil and gas exploration and development monitoring  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Work with AR to improve management water quality planning activities  
✓ Completed. Developed an MOU in AR on monitoring and evaluated program resources to ensure adequate water program staffing levels
- ▶ Assist AR with carbon emission guidelines  
✓ Completed. Hosted August 5, 2008 Clean Energy Climate Change Summit.
- ▶ Maximize participation in the TX Emissions Reduction Program  
✓ Exceeded. Established R6 call center
- ▶ Assist TX in implementation of new federal drinking water standards in TX through training and/or technical assistance as requested  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Work with NM on 319 watershed protection grants and review of water quality standards  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Continue Superfund transition of Molycorp (Conoco) to NMED  
✓ Completed transition with MOU from Superfund to NMED
- ▶ Assist LA with implementation of the LA Clean Waters Program  
✓ Completed. Established the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation as the first LA Clean Waters Program partner

### Address tribal priorities and objectives <sup>2</sup>

- ▶ Narrow environmental protection gaps in tribal priority area of open dumping <sup>3</sup>  
✓ Completed. 29 open dumps were closed in FY08
- ▶ Assist the Pueblo of Sandia with the inspection of 1 facility on Pueblo lands; Spring 2008  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Assist San Felipe Pueblo in developing a plan ensuring all Pueblo members receive safe clean drinking water; Spring 2008  
✓ Completed
- ▶ MOUs with Haskell Indian Nations University and University of North Texas to encourage development of environmental studies programs and tribal environmental professionals; September 2008  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Hold interagency meeting to address improving environmental conditions on tribal lands; June 2008  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Initiate water quality assessment of domestic water wells on tribal lands; December 2008  
✓ Completed. Approved workplans for 6 tribes to begin domestic water well assessments; October 2008

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## Develop Collaborative Networks (cont.)

Address tribal priorities and objectives <sup>2</sup>

- ▶ Drinking water meeting all health standards (person-month basis) for at least 93.5% of tribal population served by Community Water Systems; September 2008 <sup>2</sup>  
✓ Exceeded. 98%

Address community priorities and objectives

- ▶ Host Third Annual "Beyond Translation Forum"; October 2008 <sup>2</sup>  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Conduct 2 pilot projects to prepare environmental justice communities for emergency situations; October 2008  
✓ Response to assist EJ communities during Hurricanes Ike and Gustav delayed actions
- ▶ Increase pesticides study awareness for 300 workers and their families in the Rio Grande Valley, TX area  
✓ Completed through health clinics hosted by UTEP at EL Paso Migrant Workers Assistance Center
- ▶ Increase environmental health awareness and related careers for 200 students  
✓ Exceeded. Reached out to 2,500 students

## Improve The Environment Along The US/Mexico Border

Provide border residents safe drinking water and adequate sanitation <sup>1 2 3</sup>

- ▶ Partner with NM and TX to improve environmental conditions along the Border  
✓ Exceeded. Provided 5,162 additional Border residents safe drinking water and 31,686 with wastewater services
- ▶ Reduce border project unliquidated obligations by \$45M; December 2008 <sup>2</sup>  
✓ Exceeded. \$52M disbursed; September 2008
- ▶ Complete 11 BEIF water/wastewater border projects; December 2008 <sup>1 2 3</sup>  
✓ Completed 6 projects. Hurricane Dolly delayed 5 projects which are due for completion in FY09
- ▶ Clean up in excess of 600,000 additional tires as part of the Border Strategy  
✓ Exceeded. Cleaned up 789,000 additional tires along US/Mexico Border

## Energy Production and Efficiency <sup>1 2</sup>

Promote innovative energy projects to meet the nation's energy needs

- ▶ Release a region wide consolidated energy and climate change strategy; March 2008  
✓ Completed. Draft completed March 2008; final publication released June 2008

## Managing Resources Wisely <sup>2 3</sup>

Annual Commitment System

- ▶ Meet all priority measures in the organizational assessment; September 2008 <sup>2 3</sup>  
✓ Completed

Implement a strategic human capital program <sup>1</sup>

- ▶ Revise/update the Regional PeoplePlan  
✓ Completed by moving core elements into each Division's People Plans ensuring consistency in priority areas
- ▶ Provide 45 training courses to Region 6's EPA staff  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Through monthly meetings of the Labor Management Committee, seek collaborative ways to improve the workplace  
✓ Completed
- ▶ Provide coaching sessions to at least 40 managers  
✓ Exceeded goal by providing training to 52 managers and 10 senior executives
- ▶ Initiate the second class of Leadership Development Program; July 2008  
✓ Completed the second class with 24 participants and a productive, state-of-the-art leadership curriculum

Ensure integrity of our financial management

- ▶ Achieve a \$150M reduction in ULOs in Region 6; December 2008  
✓ Completed

## Questions?

**Please talk with your supervisor about our goals**



**Our 2008 Accomplishments Report  
is available at  
[www.epa.gov/region6](http://www.epa.gov/region6)**