Environmental Protection Agency

FY 2002 Annual Performance Plan and Congressional Justification

Quality Environmental Information

Strategic Goal: The public and decision makers at all levels will have access to information about environmental conditions and human health to inform decision making and help assess the general environmental health of communities. The public will also have access to educational services and information services and tools that provide for the reliable and secure exchange of quality environmental information.

Resource Summary
(Dollars in thousands)

		FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Request
Goal 07	**Quality Environmental Information**	**$123,206.7**	**$156,934.2**	**$178,253.4**	**$189,128.1**
Obj. 01	Increase Availability of Quality Health and Environmental Information.	$99,791.9	$86,211.5	$95,812.3	$117,378.7
Obj. 02	Provide Access to Tools for Using Environmental Information.	$23,351.0	$54,857.8	$63,302.4	$54,837.6
Obj. 03	Improve Agency Information Infrastructure and Security.	$63.8	$15,864.9	$19,138.7	$16,911.8
	Total Workyears	729.2	775.0	890.6	854.3

*For proper comparison with the FY 2002 request, the historic data has been converted to be consistent with the new 2000 Strategic Plan structure. Goal and Objective resources for FY 1999, FY 2000, and FY 2001 may therefore differ from the resources reported in the FY 2001 Annual Plan and Budget and the FY 2000 Annual Report.

Background and Context

Information about the environment underlies all environmental management decisions. The availability of and access to information as well as the analytical tools needed to understand it are essential for measuring environmental improvements and assessing progress. The more accurate, complete, timely, and accessible data are, the easier it will be to make decisions. This goal recognizes the importance of working with the public, the Agency's partners, and stakeholders to collect, manage, and make available the information needed at the national, regional, state, local, and tribal levels to make sound decisions leading to a cleaner, healthier environment.

Means and Strategy

The purpose of this goal is to empower the American public with information about the environment. Accurate and accessible environmental information better enables the public to understand conditions and make informed decisions about protecting the health and the environment of local communities. It can lead to creative and sustainable solutions to environmental problems and opportunities for pollution prevention. Environmental information of known and documented quality is crucial to sound decision making and to establishing public trust and confidence in those decisions. EPA and its partners will focus on six areas to accomplish this goal.

First, EPA will continue to increase the availability of health and environmental information by providing the public electronic and non-electronic access to accurate and reliable environmental data. This data will include information collected by EPA, our partners, and stakeholders.

Second, EPA will focus on information integration. EPA and the states are working together to develop a comprehensive and integrated information exchange network to facilitate information sharing among EPA, the states, other federal agencies, tribes, localities, and the regulated community. This will include standardized data formats and definitions, a centralized approached to receiving and distributing information, and improved access to timely and reliable environmental information. Information Integration will improve environmental decision making, improve data quality and accuracy, ensure security of sensitive data, avoid data redundancy, and reduce the burden on those who provide and those who access information.

Third, the Agency will solicit customer feedback to systematically improve information usability, clarity, accuracy, reliability, and scientific soundness. EPA will develop and implement necessary data standards and associated registries and ensure that data quality is known and appropriate for intended uses. EPA will also evaluate the appropriateness of data used in its decision-making processes. The Agency is committed to developing analytical and other tools to help users interpret and use environmental data and improve environmental decision making.

Fourth, EPA will provide the means for using and understanding environmental information. Environmental data is most meaningful when examined from a holistic perspective, that is, when users are able to examine all of the data about a particular location at once. Users must also have access to information that helps them understand the limitations of data and the content or context in which it is most useful.

Fifth, EPA is working to streamline information collection, making it more efficient and cost-effective by reducing unnecessary costs and burden to EPA, states, tribes and the regulated community. The Agency will critically examine the information reporting burdens we have placed on our partners and on the regulated community and ensure that information collection addresses specific needs.

Finally, the Agency believes that strengthening and securing its information infrastructure is fundamental to increasing the availability of environmental information. EPA must remain vigilant in maintaining a strong and secure information infrastructure that directly supports the mission of the Agency.

By focusing on these areas, EPA believes it will keep pace with the rapid advances in information technology and meet the growing demand for reliable, quality environmental information.

Also of great importance is a communications strategy that will serve the Agency and the public as they seek to avail themselves of environmental information. Effectively managing the process by which the public is educated and informed regarding the Agency's resources is pivotal to accomplishing the mission of the Agency. To this end, the Agency will expand its two-way communications with the public, on a continuous loop of public participation and interaction, for improved information exchange and effective information dissemination. EPA, through its public and congressional liaison functions, FACA functions, media relations, print and web content review and oversight responsibilities, and environmental education responsibilities, will implement strategies designed to inform and educate all segments of the public about Agency initiatives, policies, regulations, services and environmental information resources, and will develop and monitor feedback mechanisms to learn from them.

Research

The research program supports this goal through the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) and the Risk Assessment Forum (RAF). IRIS is an EPA database of Agency consensus health information on environmental contaminants. The database is used extensively by EPA, the states, and the general public where consistent, reliable toxicity information is needed for credible risk assessments. In FY 2002, the Agency will develop new and updated Agency consensus human health assessments of environmental substances of high priority to EPA and make them publicly available on IRIS. The Risk Assessment Forum promotes Agency-wide consensus on difficult and controversial risk assessment issues and ensures that this consensus is incorporated into appropriate Agency risk assessment guidance. In FY 2002, the RAF will develop technical papers to provide initial guidance on difficult cumulative risk assessment issues. These efforts provide data/guidance to improve the scientific basis for environmental decision making.

Strategic Objectives and FY 2002 Annual Performance Goals

Objective 01: Increase Availability of Quality Health and Environmental Information

- The Central Data Exchange, a key component of the environmental information exchange network, will become fully operational and 15 states will be using it to send data to EPA thereby improving data consistency with participating states.

- 100% of the publicly available facility data from EPA's national systems accessible on the EPA Website will be part of the Integrated Error Correction Process, reducing data error.

- EPA will reduce reporting burden, improve data quality, lower program costs, and speed data publication by increasing the amount of TRI electronic reporting from 70 to 85 percent.

- Improve public access to compliance and enforcement documents and data through multimedia data integration projects and other studies, analyses and communication/outreach activities.

Objective 02: Provide Access to Tools for Using Environmental Information

- Ensure that EPA's policies, programs and activities address disproportionately exposed and under-represented population issues so that no segment suffers disproportionately from adverse health and environmental effects.

Objective 03: Improve Agency Information Infrastructure and Security

- Complete risk assessments on the Agency's critical infrastructure systems, critical financial systems, and mission critical environmental systems.

Highlights

The unprecedented changes in information technology, combined with an increasing public demand for information, are fundamentally altering the way the Agency and the states collect, manage, analyze, use, secure, and provide access to environmental information. EPA is working with the states and tribes to strengthen our information quality, leverage information maintained by other government organizations, and develop new tools that provide the public with simultaneous access to multiple data sets, allowing users to understand local, state, regional, and national environmental conditions.

Information Integration will be key to achieving our objectives. Information integration builds on a strengthened partnership between EPA and the states. It uses an Internet-based, multi-media approach to environmental information exchange that is standards-based, highly connected, dynamic, flexible, and secure. Integration, with the broad-based voluntary participation of the states and EPA programs, will provide a wide range of shared environmental information to the states, tribes, localities, regulated community, EPA, and the public.

In 2002, EPA will launch a new grant program that will provide states and tribes assistance to develop the National Environmental Information Exchange Network (NEIEN). This new grant program will build on work currently underway in several states and assist states and tribes in evaluating their

readiness to participate in NEIEN, support their efforts to complete necessary changes to their information management systems to facilitate NEIEN participation, and enhance state information integration efforts.

The Central Data Exchange (CDX) will be EPA's enterprise-wide portal to the Agency's information network. It will also serve as EPA's node on NEIEN with the states. CDX will support and translate different data transmission formats used by states, facilities, and laboratories.

In partnership with states, the Agency will continue its efforts to expand publicly available information, both electronically via the Internet and through other non-electronic media. This includes the Envirofacts database, a major data warehouse that contains 11 national databases. It is used extensively by EPA, the states, and the public.

In 2002, the Agency will continue its efforts to promote public access through the Agency-wide Access to Interpretative Documents (AID, formally known as Enhanced Public Access). This project is intended to make all significant Agency guidance, policy statements, and site-specific interpretations of the environmental management practices of regulated entities electronically accessible to the states, industry, and the public in a secure manner.

EPA will continue to manage the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Program. The TRI Program provides the public with information on the releases and other waste management activities of toxic chemicals. Two laws, Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA) and Section 6607 of the Pollution Prevention Act (PPA), mandate that EPA annually collect information on listed toxic chemicals from certain industries and make the information available to the public through various means, including a publicly accessible national database. Using this information, citizens, businesses, community groups, researchers, and governments can work together to better protect the environment.

In 2002, EPA will continue its effort to reduce the TRI reporting burden on industry and improve TRI data quality by distributing its new software tool, TRI Made Easy (TRI-ME). EPA also will increase the percentage of TRI chemical forms that are submitted in digital format (electronically and via floppy disc). EPA will also continue to refine and expand the public's access to the TRI data by improving the TRI data access tools.

In 2002, the Agency will continue to modernize its information systems in cooperation with the states. Modernization efforts will include data integration and data quality. These projects will be planned and managed under an Agency-wide process that includes the Clinger-Cohen Act investment review and oversight by EPA management.

EPA's information technology (IT) program will maintain its commitment to strong customer service and strategic investment in new technology to ensure our continued ability to deliver IT service efficiently,

effectively, and securely. Through a continuous emphasis on acquiring the right IT skills, technologies, and services, EPA will take additional steps in strengthening and securing the Agency's IT infrastructure. As a part of this effort, the Agency will complete 30 risk assessments on the Agency's central infrastructure and financial and mission critical environmental systems. The results of these assessments will be documented and used to guide future investment decision making focused on improving IT security and services.

The Agency's Quality System is designed to ensure that the environmental data collected and used by the Agency are of appropriate quality for their intended use. Policies and procedures have been established throughout the Agency to assist individual data collectors, data users, and decision makers in defining their needs for environmental data and in ensuring that the data they develop and use meet the stated needs. All Agency organizations that collect or use environmental data and their managers and staff have responsibilities under the Agency's Quality System to develop and implement a quality system for their program consistent with the Agency's system. Organizations that receive Agency funds for environmental data collection and use must also develop and implement quality systems to ensure that their decisions are supported by data of known and documented quality. These organizations include contractors, not-for-profit organizations (such as universities) and state, local, and tribal governments.

EPA's Quality Staff will develop the Agency-wide policies and procedures for planning, documenting, implementing, and assessing data collection and use in Agency decisions. The Quality Staff will also develop training material on the various policies and oversee implementation of EPA organizations' Quality Systems. These Agency-wide policies are intended to ensure that the Agency gets the "right data" for its decisions.

To promote environmental literacy and help the nation meet its educational goals, EPA has created a national program to deliver environmental education training to educators across the country. A key ingredient of education reform is to provide teachers with the knowledge and skills they need to be more effective educators. Many efforts are underway to better equip teachers for the 21st century. Students and adults are provided knowledge about environmental issues along with important critical thinking and problem solving skills needed to be effective learners and decision makers.

The Agency will continue to contribute to the Agency-wide Enhanced Public Access Project. This Project is intended to make all significant Agency guidance, policy statements and site-specific interpretations of the regulated entities' environmental management practices electronically accessible to the Regions, states, industry and the public. In 2002, 90% of enforcement and compliance policy and guidance will be available on the Internet within thirty days of issuance. EPA will continue to manage telephone hotlines, disburse brochures and reports via the National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP), respond to public inquiries and maintain our national library networks to serve those without personal computers.

The Agency's environmental justice program will help communities access information to ensure that they do not experience a disproportionate amount of pollution. Since 1994, more than 950 grants have

been awarded to community organizations. As a result of these grant awards, community-based organizations (i.e., grassroots groups, churches, and other nonprofit organizations) have expanded citizen involvement and given residents the tools to learn more about exposure to environmental harms and about associated risks, and, consequently, to protect their families and their communities as they see fit. These small grants have served as the "seed-money" for empowerment of the residents of these communities, allowing them to speak for themselves and make their own decisions. In 2002, the program will continue to assist community-based organizations through the community small grants program.

Research

In FY 2002, to improve the scientific basis for decision making, the Agency will continue to provide technical guidance for conducting risk assessments. To achieve this goal, the Agency's Risk Assessment Forum will focus in three areas: cumulative risk assessment, ecological risk assessment, and risk assessments for children. Efforts will result in technical guidance on the identification of appropriate age groupings for exposure assessments for children, technical issue papers and a framework for preparing cumulative risk assessments. The Agency will also collect, manage, and present environmental information for the benefit of the Agency and the public in order to enhance the availability and utility of data, information, and tools for decision making. To that end, the Agency will develop new and/or update Agency consensus human health assessments of 9 environmental substances of high priority to EPA and make them publicly available on Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS).

External Factors

EPA's information comes from many sources, including states, tribes, local governments, research, and industry. Therefore, working in partnership with state and tribal governments is an essential element of our information programs, and seeking advice and input from the regulated community and the public will ground our information programs and approaches and make them more responsive to stakeholders' needs. To achieve a truly integrated environmental information network that increases efficiency and fosters information sharing, we must work with those who provide and use EPA's information to ensure that data are used properly, maintained effectively, and protected appropriately.

To be efficient and cost-effective, EPA's information systems and technology infrastructure must be flexible enough to respond to changes and take advantage of innovations in technology. To reduce our vulnerabilities and ensure that we can meet current and future information needs, EPA's systems and technology infrastructure must keep pace with advances in available technology.

Our evolving user community will also affect the success of our information efforts. As more states and tribes develop the ability to integrate their environmental information, we must adjust EPA's systems to ensure that we are able to receive and process reports from states and industry under Agency statutory requirements. Local citizens' organizations and the public at large are also increasingly involved in

environmental decision making, and their need for information and more sophisticated analytical tools is growing.

Environmental Protection Agency

FY 2002 Annual Performance Plan and Congressional Justification

Quality Environmental Information

Objective #1: Increase Availability of Quality Health and Environmental Information

Through 2006, EPA will continue to increase the availability of quality health and environmental information through educational services, partnerships, and other methods designed to meet EPA's major data needs, make data sets more compatible, make reporting and exchange methods more efficient, and foster informed decision making.

Resource Summary
(Dollars in thousands)

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Request
Increase Availability of Quality Health and Environmental Information	**$99,791.9**	**$86,211.5**	**$95,812.3**	**$117,378.7**
Environmental Program & Management	$98,732.2	$84,587.5	$93,835.1	$90,746.0
State and Tribal Assistance Grants	$0.0	$0.0	$0.0	$25,000.0
Hazardous Substance Superfund	$1,059.7	$1,624.0	$1,977.2	$1,632.7
Total Workyears	606.90	535.60	516.00	$492.5

Key Programs
(Dollars in thousands)

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Enacted	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Request
Toxic Release Inventory / Right-to-Know (RtK)	$0.0	$7,817.4	$13,602.7	$11,840.6
EMPACT	$1,235.1	$1,414.3	$0.0	$0.0
Reinventing Environmental Information (REI)	$12,547.8	$0.0	$0.0	$0.0
Reinvention Programs, Development and Coordination	$0.0	$0.0	$1,623.1	$1,791.3

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Enacted	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Request
Environmental Education Division	$7,398.3	$5,970.3	$9,578.1	$8,518.3
GLOBE	$0.0	$1,000.0	$997.8	$0.0
Small, Minority, Women-Owned Business Assistance	$2,064.4	$2,188.8	$2,040.8	$2,152.8
SBREFA	$760.3	$777.3	$570.6	$603.6
Center for Environmental Statistics (CEIS)	$3,965.8	$0.0	$0.0	$0.0
Information Technology Management	$4,234.8	$0.0	$1,270.4	$0.0
System Modernization	$0.0	$4,834.7	$8,099.2	$7,254.6
Congressional Projects	$0.0	$1,968.5	$1,917.1	$2,029.4
NACEPT Support	$2,490.0	$1,655.7	$1,556.2	$1,654.6
NAFTA Implementation	$537.0	$674.6	$402.2	$427.6
Direct Public Information and Assistance	$4,492.0	$4,196.0	$4,331.2	$11,097.8
Congressional/Legislative Analysis	$5,121.5	$4,164.2	$4,350.5	$4,787.6
National Association Liaison	$224.6	$254.9	$235.2	$258.7
Regional Operations and Liaison	$408.5	$467.3	$427.6	$470.6
Information Exchange Network	$0.0	$0.0	$0.0	$25,000.0
Public Access	$0.0	$10,283.8	$4,036.1	$5,623.3
Data Collection	$0.0	$955.3	$2,096.6	$1,299.6
Data Standards	$0.0	$4,283.8	$3,952.8	$3,356.4
Information Integration	$0.0	$890.0	$3,719.8	$3,500.0
Rent, Utilities and Security	$0.0	$0.0	$6,903.7	$7,377.3
Administrative Services	$28.1	$1,374.8	$575.5	$591.1

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Enacted	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Request
Regional Management	$0.0	$332.0	$779.8	$113.3

FY 2002 Request

Key to achieving quality information will be the further development of the National Environmental Exchange Network (NEIEN). NEIEN is a comprehensive and integrated information exchange network that is being designed to facilitate information sharing among EPA and its partners using standardized data formats and definitions, a centralized approached to receiving and distributing information, and improved access to timely and reliable environmental information. As envisioned, NEIEN will be an Internet-based system that will consist of computers, terminals, and databases that will enable information exchanges among participating partners.

NEIEN will fundamentally change the way the Agency and the states do business and will improve data accuracy, reduce burden, and improve the utility of environmental information for decision making at all levels. NEIEN builds on a strengthened partnership between EPA and the states. It uses an Internet-based, multi-media approach to environmental information exchange that is standards-based, highly connected, dynamic, flexible, and secure. NEIEN, with the broad-based voluntary participation of the states and EPA programs, will provide a wide range of shared environmental information to the states, tribes, localities, regulated community, EPA, and the public.

In 2002, EPA will launch a new grant program that will provide the states and tribes assistance to develop NEIEN. This new grant program will build on work currently underway in several states and assist states and tribes in evaluating their readiness to participate in NEIEN, enhance their efforts to complete necessary changes to their information management systems to facilitate NEIEN participation, and support state information integration efforts. The grant program would also provide training and other technical assistance programs to assist states and tribes in developing and implementing NEIEN.

The Central Data Exchange (CDX) is a focal point for securely receiving, translating, and forwarding data to EPA's data systems. In 2002, the CDX infrastructure, a key component of the NEIEN, will become fully operational and 15 states will use it to electronically provide data to EPA thereby improving data quality. Additionally, 100 percent of facility data from EPA's internet-available national systems data for facilities will be part of the Integrated Error Correction Process (IECP). Users of EPA's Website will have a tool for notifying the Agency of potential errors they find in our public access data systems. The IECP also includes an internal process by which the Agency will follow-up on all reported potential errors, with provisions for notifying the individual who reported the error of the corrections made.

EPA will continue to manage and support "EPA.Gov,"a comprehensive world-wide web site to ensure public access to Agency information such as databases, press releases, locator tools, fact sheets,

regulations, policy and guidance, and other Agency information. The Agency will continue to expand the capabilities of the Envirofacts database to provide comprehensive environmental information to Federal agencies, environmental interest groups, the regulated community, state and local communities, tribal governments, and the general public.

EPA will continue to operate and improve the TRI Program. As mandated by Section 313 of EPCRA and Section 6607 of the PPA, EPA will annually collect information on listed toxic chemicals from certain industries and make the information available to the public through various means, including a publicly accessible national database. EPA will continue its efforts to reduce the TRI reporting burden on industry and improve TRI data quality by releasing TRI-ME, Version 2.0. TRI-ME is an interactive and user-friendly software tool to assist facilities in determining and completing their TRI reporting obligations. In 2002, EPA also will increase the number of TRI chemical forms that are submitted in digital format (electronically and via floppy disc). Further, EPA will continue to refine and expand the public's access and understanding of the TRI data by improving the TRI data access tools.

In 2002, the Agency will modernize its programmatic information systems. Modernization efforts will include providing a single portal for receiving electronic environmental reports. We will further implement the use of standardized data formats in EPA's information systems. These projects will be planned and managed under an Agency-wide process that includes the Clinger-Cohen Act investment review and oversight by EPA management.

EPA pursues a collaborative approach to environmental protection that brings together public and private stakeholders within a community to identify local environmental concerns, set priorities and forge comprehensive solutions. This approach integrates environmental protection with public needs, considers long-term ecosystem health and fosters linkages between economic prosperity and environmental well-being. It encourages communities to create a vision of environmental health and quality of life and to adopt public activities compatible with that vision.

EPA has extensive responsibilities in supporting community-based environmental protection efforts. EPA strives to make environmental information and tools available to communities and citizens to help them make informed choices about their local environment, including where to live and work, decide what potential exposures are acceptable, assess the general environmental health of themselves and their families, identify pollution prevention opportunities, and build a consensus on actions to improve the local environment. One aspect of this effort is the successful implementation of the TRI program, building on the concept of right-to-know, which has greatly expanded the availability of chemical release information to the public. It has encouraged citizens and communities to become active participants in environmental decision-making.

In 2002, EPA will provide technical assistance to ongoing community-based environmental protection initiatives; disseminate a manual on how to perform community assessments; develop and provide training to build the capacity of EPA regions, states, local organizations and other partners to assist

communities in the use of tools, information and data; expand the community assessment tools and manual to include multimedia analysis; and continue broad collaboration with other agencies, governments, and organizations working to assist communities.

EPA assures that training and education materials and programs keep pace with the information and data that the Agency provides to the public. Communities receive not only data but the tools, training, and assistance to use those data in ways that help citizens make informed environmental decisions. EPA supports and encourages the interdisciplinary environmental education programs of state and local governments, schools and universities and nonprofit organizations through grants, teacher training, internships and national recognition of outstanding efforts and model programs. EPA works to build stronger partnerships with other governmental organizations and with the private sector to improve public understanding of the role of science in environmental decision-making.

Making information accessible to the public is a primary component of an effective strategy to expand the public's right-to-know. The environment in which the Pesticides program operates is constantly changing. New pesticide active ingredients are developed for registration; new uses are proposed; new standards (as with FQPA) are applied to old pesticides; and new information is received about pesticides and their impact on the environment. Because pesticides affect everyone, it is especially important that citizens have accessible, comprehensive, and useful information about their effects and uses.

EPA will continue to ensure that our website is continuously updated and maintained with the most recent developments and findings concerning pesticides information to help communities make informed decisions regarding their health and environment. The Agency will continue to coordinate with other Federal Agencies on Internet updates.

In support of the Agency's information initiatives, the environmental education program provides resources to educate students, teachers, communities, tribes and the general public about environmental and health protection. The educator training program delivers training to educate professionals nationwide. The grant program supports initiatives that encourage replication of model environmental education curricula programs and materials for formal and non-formal educators. The National Environmental Education Advisory Council provides EPA with advice on the implementation of the National Environmental Education Act; reports to Congress on the status of environmental education in the U.S.; and makes recommendations for improving environmental education.

The Agency will also utilize the National Advisory Council on Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT) and its standing committees, facilitate and monitor the Agency's response to NACEPT recommendations, and manage statutorily-mandated advisory committees dealing with implementation of the environmental side accords to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and with environmental and infrastructure issues along the U.S./Mexico border. The respective committees are: the Good Neighbor Environmental Board and the National and Governmental Advisory Committees. Through these stakeholder committees, EPA receives broad advice as national and international environmental

policy is developed and implemented. This is accomplished mainly by ensuring staff support and executing efficient and effective operation of EPA advisory committees. EPA has recently concentrated on enhancing the Agency's ability to use stakeholder processes, and its federal advisory capacity has improved vastly to enhance EPA's environmental decision making.

EPA controls an ever increasing quantity of correspondence, and routes, logs, and tracks Agency Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. The Office of Executive Secretariat guides and trains Agency personnel in FOIA and correspondence activities; prepares a yearly FOIA report to Congress; provides program oversight on FOIA; and manages and tracks executive correspondence.

The regulatory development process ensures the Agency's compliance with various statutes and Executive Orders. Through improved and streamlined regulatory processes that include increased public information, EPA is committed to providing quality information to stakeholders. EPA has also been a leader in the Federal government in the use of consensus building techniques to assist in the area of regulatory development. EPA will continue to develop negotiated rulemakings, policy dialogues and other consensus based stakeholder involvement techniques at the national, Regional, local and international levels. Involvement of stakeholders in crafting the programs and rules by which they will abide promotes innovative, effective and cost effective solutions and fosters earlier, more complete compliance with environmental protection measures.

In 2002, the Agency will continue to advance this objective by ensuring that EPA rulemakings adhere to all applicable statutory and executive requirements, and achieve environmental results with a minimum burden on the public. The Agency will continue to expand outreach to small entities such as small businesses, small governments, and small non-profits, establishing formal mechanisms and building partnerships to advocate small entity involvement in Agency rulemakings. EPA will complete Regulatory Flexibility analyses for all of its Rulemakings that may have significant impacts on a substantial number of small entities and initiate a small communities outreach program to gather information on impacts of EPA rules on small communities. The Small Business Ombudsman will augment the Small Entities Homepage with specific information on rules for 20% of the sectors identified by the Agency, and improve small entity outreach through training and technical assistance to Agency managers and Staff.

In support of this objective, the Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations (OCIR) responds to congressional requests for information, written and oral testimony, briefings, and briefing materials. It ensures that Congress receives the information needed to make policy and program decisions on environmental and public health issues. In addition to working with Congress, OCIR works closely with the Agency's program offices to keep them informed of current activities that affect their particular subject areas. OCIR develops legislative strategies to support the program offices and coordinates Agency appearances before congressional committees, as well as responses to congressional transcripts and Q&A's.

OCIR also serves as the Agency's primary point of contact for national associations and other groups representing state and local governments and for individual states and local governments on environmental issues, programs and initiatives. It ensures that these groups receive the information needed to make decisions on environmental and public health issues, and have an appropriate level EPA person available to participate in meetings or assemblies. This office works closely with the Agency=s program offices to keep them informed of current activities at the local level and of any policies the local governments and national associations may be advocating that affect a particular program office=s subject area. OCIR also supports the Local Government Advisory Committee and the Small Town Advisory Subcommittee.

As the lead for liaison with state and local agencies, OCIR provides regular, timely communication by preparing the Agency=s leadership to effectively address priority issues and develop appropriate responses. It works with states and state associations to ensure that state concerns are considered in Agency policies, guidance, and regulations. Additionally, OCIR functions as the lead on state issues relating to the National Environmental Performance Partnerships System.

The Agency's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization provides technical assistance to both Headquarters and Regional program office personnel to ensure that small, minority and women-owned businesses receive a "fair share@ of Agency procurement dollars. This Afair share@ may be received either directly or indirectly through EPA grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, or interagency agreements. Pursuant to P.L.102-389, the Agency has a national goal of 8% utilization of minority and women-owned businesses in the total value of Agency procurements and financial assistance agreements. This activity enhances the ability of small, minority and women-owned businesses to participate in the Agency's objective to protect public health and the environment.

The enforcement and compliance assurance program will continue to support data integration projects, such as Integrated Data for Enforcement Analysis (IDEA) which makes integrated compliance data from several media-specific data bases available nationally in an interactive, online mode. The enforcement and compliance assurance program will continue to work to increase states use of IDEA by demonstrating its analytical capabilities to support targeting and screening based on risk and other compliance concerns.

The enforcement and compliance assurance program will continue to contribute to the Agency-wide Enhanced Public Access Project, intended to make all significant Agency guidance, policy statements and site-specific interpretations of the regulated entities' environmental management practices electronically accessible to the Regions, states, industry and the public. In 2002, 90% of enforcement and compliance policy and guidance will be available on the Internet within thirty days of issuance. EPA intends to maintain summaries of all significant cases available on the Internet.

FY 2002 Change from FY 2001 Enacted

EPM

- (-$1,000,000) The FY 2002 Request is $1,000,000 below the FY 2001 Enacted budget level due to a reduction the Greater Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) program.

- (+$2,126,800) The FY 2002 Request is $2,126,800 above the FY 2001 Enacted budget level for increased payroll costs.

- (-$109,200) The FY 2002 Request is $109,200 below the FY 2001 Enacted budget level due to reductions taken to regional environmental education activities.

STAG

- (+$25,000,000) Establishment of state/tribal grants for the NEIEN program.

Annual Performance Goals and Performance Measures

Enhanced Public Access

In 2002 Improve public access to compliance and enforcement documents and data through multimedia data integration projects and other studies, analyses and communication/outreach activities.

In 2001 Improve public access to compliance and enforcement documents and data through multimedia data integration projects and other studies, analyses and communication/outreach activities.

In 2000 EPA improved public access to compliance and enforcement documents and data, particularly to high risk communities, through multimedia data integration projects and other studies, analyses and communication/outreach activities.

Performance Measures:	FY 1999 Actuals	FY 2000 Actuals	FY 2001 Estimate	FY 2002 Request	
Increase use of Sector Facilities Indexing Project website user sessions over FY99 levels		2			percent
Increase by 50% (over FY99 levels) the number of states with direct access to Integrated Data for enforcement Analysis (IDEA)		34			states
Percent of OECA policy and guidance documents available through the Internet		94			percent

By the end of FY 2001, all ten EPA Regions will have an enforcement and compliance web-site		10		Websites
Make 90% of enforcement and compliance policies and guidances issued this FY available on the Internet within 30 days of issuance		90	90	Percent
By April 2001, make summaries of all significant cases available on the Internet		100		Percent

Baseline: In FY 2001, we will accelerate our efforts to promote public access including activities such as Regional enforcement and compliance web-sites and access to enforcement and compliance documents newly issued in FY 2001.

Information Exchange Network

In 2002 The Central Data Exchange, a key component of the environmental information exchange network, will become fully operational and 15 states will be using it to send data to EPA thereby improving data consistency with participating states.

Performance Measures:	FY 1999 Actuals	FY 2000 Actuals	FY 2001 Estimate	FY 2002 Request	
States using the Central Data Exchange to send data to EPA.				15	States

Baseline: The FY 2001 baseline for this program is zero as it is a new program.

Data Quality

In 2002 100% of the publicly available facility data from EPA's national systems accessible on the EPA Website will be part of the Integrated Error Correction Process, reducing data error.

Performance Measures:	FY 1999 Actuals	FY 2000 Actuals	FY 2001 Estimate	FY 2002 Request	
Publicly available facility data from EPA's national systems, accessible on the EPA Website, will be part of the Integrated Error Correction Process.				100	Percent

Baseline: In FY 2001, 90% of the publically available facility data from EPA's national systems accessible on the EPA Website will be part of the Integrated Error Correction Process.

Process and Disseminate TRI Information - OEI

In 2002 EPA will reduce reporting burden, improve data quality, lower program costs, and speed data publication by increasing the amount of TRI electronic reporting from 70 to 85 percent.

In 2001 Process all submitted facility chemical release reports; publish annual summary of TRI data; provide improved information to the public about TRI chemicals; and maximize public access to TRI information.

In 2000 Processed all submitted facility chemical release reports, published annual summary of TRI data, provided improved information to the public about TRI chemicals, and maximized public access to TRI information.

Performance Measures:	FY 1999 Actuals	FY 2000 Actuals	FY 2001 Estimate	FY 2002 Request	
Total electronic reporting of all chemical submissions processed. (Includes diskette submissions created by ATRS and other reporting software programs, as well as web-based submissions.)				85	Percent
TRI Public Data Release		Published	1 Report		Published
Chemical submissions and revisions processed.		119,000	110,000		Forms
TRIS database complete and report issued		On Target	02/2001		Published
Data quality: keep data entry error rate below 1% per form			below 1%		Error Rate
Increase magnetic media use for TRI reporting			72%		Magnetic Media

Baseline: In FY 2001, TRI electronic reporting will be 70%.

Service Delivery

In 2002 EPA will support the improvement and availability of environmental education materials and programs by assisting states in increasing their delivery capacity, supporting correlations of national and state standards to environmental education guidelines and promoting research and evaluation.

Performance Measures:	FY 1999 Actuals	FY 2000 Actuals	FY 2001 Estimate	FY 2002 Request	
Educators trained				5,000	teachers
HQ grants that address capacity building				1	grant
HQ grants that address education reform issues				1	grant

Baseline: A contractor will be hired in FY 2001 to evaluate and report back to EPA on the effectiveness of guidance issued in FY 2000. The report will be completed and provided to EPA in FY 2001.

Verification and Validation of Performance Measures

Performance Measure: Total electronic reporting will comprise 85% of all TRI chemical submissions processed. (Includes diskette submissions created by ATRS and other reporting software programs, as well as web-based submissions.)
Performance Database: TRIS data management system
Data Source: Facility chemical release reports submitted by the regulated community
QA/QC Procedures: The Agency does not control the quality of the data submitted by the regulated community. However, EPA does work with the regulated community to improve the quality of their estimates. EPA also implements a process to verify that the information provided by the facilities is correctly entered into TRIS.
Data Quality Review: The quality of the data contained in the TRI chemical reports is dependent upon the quality of the data that the reporting facility uses to estimate its releases and other waste management quantities.
Data Limitations: Use of the data should be based on the user's understanding that the Agency does not have direct assurance of the accuracy of the facilities' measurement and reporting processes.
New/Improved Data or Systems: None

Performance Measure:15 states using the CDX to send data to EPA.
Performance Database: CDX facility (new)
Data Source: CDX facility (new)
QA/QC Procedures: In development
Data Quality Review: In development
Data Limitations: None
New/Improved Data or Systems: The CDX facility will be a new system and is in development at this time. When operational it will streamline the process by which the regulated community and the states provide information to EPA.

Performance Measure: 100% of publicly available facility data from EPA's national systems accessible on the EPA Website will be part of the Integrated Error Correction Process.
Performance Database: Integrated Error Correction Process (IECP)
Data Source: Records of possible data errors detected are generated by users of the EPA Website through the IECP on-line tool.
QA/QC Procedures: EPA implements a protocol for reviewing, routing, tracking and reporting the result of all error notices, from receipt through final resolution.
Data Quality Review: The IECP includes a process for review of all error reports and the associated data to determine whether any changes in the data are needed.
Data Limitations: None
New/Improved Data or Systems: The IECP provides a mechanism for identifying and correcting potential errors in EPA's publicly available data systems.

Performance Measure: EPA will make 90% of enforcement and compliance policies and guidances issued in FY 2002 available on the Internet within 30 days of issuance

Performance Database: Output Measure. Internal tracking system.

Data Source: Manual system. HQ will track date document was issued and uploaded to the internet.

QA/QC Procedures: None

Data Quality Review: None

Data Limitations: None

New/Improved Data or Systems: None

Coordination with Other Agencies

EPA works with its state partners under the State/EPA Information Management Workgroup. This workgroup has created seven different action teams to jointly develop key information projects. EPA also participates in multiple workgroups with other federal agencies including the U.S. Geological Survey, Federal Geographic Data Committee, and Chief Information Officer Council.

The TRI program coordinates with other federal agencies, particularly those that are required to report to TRI pursuant to Executive Order 12856, such as the Department of Energy and the Department of Defense. EPA works with the other agencies in helping them determine how their facilities should best report to TRI. Further, other agencies such as the Internal Revenue Service use TRI data. EPA works with these agencies to facilitate access and use of the data. The TRI program coordinates with other federal agencies in performing hazard assessments of TRI chemicals to ensure that consistent data sets are used and, to the extent possible, that interpretation of data is consistent.

In addition, the TRI is one of the leading systems of its type in the world. As such, EPA participates in a number of international fora on TRI-type systems. TRI is one part, with the Canadian equivalent of TRI, of the North American Pollutant Release and Transfer Register which is disseminated by the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation. In these arenas, EPA coordinates with the Department of State and other federal agencies.

The TRI program has substantial interaction with state agencies. States use TRI data for a number of purposes; for instance, many states use TRI data in geographic information systems. Each year, the National Conference of State Legislatures conducts an assessment of state TRI programs. This assessment gathers basic information about the state TRI programs, including data management and data use, as well as outreach and services for the public and for industry. The survey has found that some states enter some or all of the TRI data into their state database, while others download all of EPA's TRI data into their database. Most states conduct outreach programs to explain TRI reporting requirements to industry. In

addition, most states provide copies of the TRI reporting forms filed by facilities to the public upon request. States and EPA work together to ensure that data collected are effectively utilized.

EPA chairs the Federal Task Force for Environmental Education, which facilitates communication and collaboration among federal agencies and departments that have common interests in supporting and implementing environmental education. The Task Force emphasizes joint interagency environmental education projects that leverage both federal and no-federal dollars.
Members include the U.S. Departments of Education, Interior, Agriculture, and Energy, as well as NASA, NOAA and the National Science Foundation.

EPA will work with the Small Business Administration as appropriate on regulations that affect small businesses.

National Environmental Justice Program: Quarterly meetings are held with agencies named in Executive Order 12898 to review the environmental justice activities underway and to discuss participation in the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) and issues raised during NEJAC meetings.

Statutory Authorities

National Environmental Education Act

Federal Managers Financial Integrity Act (FMIFA)

Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)

Clinger-Cohen Act

Computer Security Act

Privacy Act

Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7601-7671q)

Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 - 1387)

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601-9675)

Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA)
section 313 (42 U.S.C. 110001-11050)

Government Paperwork Elimination Act

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) (7 U.S. C. 136-136y)

Pollution Prevention Act (PPA) (42 U.S.C. 13101-13109)

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 6901-6992k)

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) section 1445 (42 U.S.C. 300f-300j-26)

Toxic Substance Control Act section 14 (15 U.S.C. 2601-2692)

North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation

Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552)

Paperwork Reduction Act Amendment of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520)

Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

Congressional Review Act

Regulatory Flexibility Act

Executive Order 12866

Executive Order 12915 - Federal Implementation of the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation

Executive Order 12916 - Implementation of the Border Environment Cooperation Commission and the North American Development Bank

Plain Language Executive Order

Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA)

Electronic Freedom of Information Act

Congressional Review Act

CPRKA of 1986

Enterprise for the Americas Initiative Act (7 U.S.C. 5404)

Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Act (ERDDA) of 1981

Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5 U.S.C. App.)

Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA)

Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA)

North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation

Objective #2: Provide Access to Tools for Using Environmental Information

By 2006, EPA will provide access to new analytical or interpretive tools beyond 2000 levels so that the public can more easily and accurately use and interpret environmental information.

Resource Summary

(Dollars in thousands)

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Request
Provide Access to Tools for Using Environmental Information	**$23,351.0**	**$54,857.8**	**$63,302.4**	**$54,837.6**
Environmental Program & Management	$10,451.1	$36,102.5	$42,110.9	$40,812.6
Science & Technology	$11,662.7	$16,706.6	$17,735.8	$9,978.2
Hazardous Substance Superfund	$1,237.2	$2,048.7	$3,455.7	$4,046.8
Total Workyears	121.90	165.20	191.10	193.50

Key Programs

(Dollars in thousands)

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Enacted	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Request
Pesticide Registration	$265.1	$181.3	$0.0	$208.7
Pesticide Reregistration	$259.2	$180.2	$0.0	$201.1
Toxic Release Inventory / Right-to-Know (RtK)	$19,799.6	$1,096.3	$458.2	$1,707.2
EMPACT	$753.1	$2,730.7	$10,607.5	$0.0

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Enacted	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Request
Information Technology Management	$0.0	$12,552.8	$11,637.3	$12,599.6
System Modernization	$0.0	$1,705.8	$4,775.0	$5,835.4
Public Access	$0.0	$17,230.6	$11,245.3	$11,123.1
Data Collection	$0.0	$0.0	$0.0	$272.0
Data Standards	$0.0	$3,119.9	$3,092.5	$3,465.5
Geospatial	$0.0	$630.2	$522.3	$512.3
Information Integration	$0.0	$0.0	$1,940.8	$2,400.0
Rent, Utilities and Security	$0.0	$849.8	$2,950.7	$3,127.4
Administrative Services	$0.0	$581.8	$1,318.2	$1,434.6
Regional Management	$0.0	$59.5	$1,013.3	$317.5

FY 2002 Request

EPA will continue to support comprehensive approaches to environmental protection, including supporting information management approaches that integrate and interpret the many data sets and information sources that are used to support environmental decisions. These include the increased availability and accuracy of locational and spatial data and related mapping tools. To further enhance these efforts, the Agency is committed to working in partnership with the U.S. Geological Survey and the Federal Geographic Data Committee to implement a national spatial data infrastructure, which will enhance communities' ability to pinpoint the environmental information most relevant to their locale.

EPA, its partners, and stakeholders have analytical needs that require more than simple access to data. To understand what the data mean, and to then know how the data can be used, users need guidelines to aid data analysis and interpretation; metadata and contextual information to support understanding data and its limitations; reliable analytical tools for analysis; and targeted analytical products that help to answer key questions, save users time and effort, and demonstrate the use of best practices in environmental analysis.

EPA will provide environmental analysis that responds to the needs of its partners and stakeholders, complementing data access with analysis to support environmental understanding. On a continuing basis, EPA will carry out dialogues with its partners and stakeholders to make sure their needs are fully understood and are being addressed. Users will have choices between accessing data as submitted, using

EPA-provided analytical tools to help draw their own conclusions from the data, and using analytical information products that present information derived from the data. This environment will encourage and enable geospatial analyses to support community-based efforts, visualization to facilitate interpretation of data, and statistical analyses that use reliable software and algorithms to aid in data interpretation. EPA will promote analytical approaches that integrate data from different sources to provide a broader view and understanding of the environment, encouraging informed decision-making. Significantly, EPA will undertake a "best practices" series of documents specifying the proper steps for creating information for decision making. This is a crucial portion of the tools and background that will be developed to assure that data are used appropriately and effectively when combined from different sources. Insights gained from environmental analysis will support a fuller understanding of environmental outcome, and remaining problems and challenges. Environmental analysis will support better regulatory decision-making and greater knowledge of the environment. In turn, environmental analysis will lead to better targeting of those data gaps and opportunities that, when fulfilled, will provide the greatest benefits, at affordable costs and acceptable risks.

The EPA Quality System encompasses both management and technical activities pertaining to the planning, implementation, and assessment of environmental programs within the Agency's mission and scope. The goal of the Agency-wide Quality System is to ensure that environmental programs and decisions are supported by data of the type and quality needed and expected for their intended use, and that decisions involving environmental technology are supported by appropriate quality-assured engineering standards and practices.

In 2002, EPA will continue its national implementation of Window to My Environment (WME), an innovative new public access application that provides state-of-the-art interactive maps with links to federal, state, and local environmental data. WME provides the public with detailed information on environmental issues and conditions affecting the community or location of interest. In 2002, WME will be extended to eight EPA Regions.

In 2002, EPA will continue to update its programmatic and administrative information systems. Modernizing our administrative information systems will provide support for implementing Agency technology decisions which affect capacity on networks, data storage, and services to the Agency and public. Updating our programmatic systems will include acquiring Agency-wide corporate data sets and improving the accuracy of locational data. These projects will be planned and managed under an Agency-wide process that includes the Clinger-Cohen Act investment review and oversight by EPA management.

The Office of Environmental Justice (within the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance) will continue to manage the Agency's Environmental Justice Community Small Grants Program whose purpose is to assist community-based organizations that are working to develop solutions to local environmental issues. The Community Small Grants Program was established in 1994, and, since then, more than 950 grants of up to $20,000 each have been awarded to community organizations. As a result

of these grant awards, community-based organizations (i.e., grassroots groups, churches, and other nonprofit organizations) have expanded citizen involvement and given people the tools to learn more about exposure to environmental harms and risks, and, consequently, to protect their families and their communities as they see fit.

The Agency will continue to support the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) which provides the Agency significant input from all interested stakeholders such as community-based organizations, business and industry, academic institutions, state, tribal and local governments, non-governmental organizations, and environmental groups. Six subcommittees were created around EPA's broad statutory mandates and are sponsored by the related EPA office. The subcommittees are: Air/Water; Enforcement; Health/Research; Indigenous People; International; and Waste/Facility Siting.

The Agency will also continue to chair an Interagency Working Group (IWG) consisting of eleven departments and agencies as well as White House offices to ensure that environmental justice concerns are incorporated into all federal programs. In 2000, the IWG began implementation of an Action Agency which is centered around fifteen demonstration projects in diverse urban and rural communities in virtually all regions of the nation to achieve a variety of goals, ranging from environmental cleanup, brownfields and economic development, and children's health to community education and capacity building. To date, these demonstration projects have leveraged more than $12 million in public/private resources.

In support of the Agency's environmental justice efforts, criminal investigations and civil enforcement actions will be focused on industries that have repeatedly violated environmental laws in minority and/or low-income areas.

Research

EPA supports a portfolio of research and regulatory programs to develop and apply environmental health and ecological risk assessments methods, models, and information, ecological toxicity information, and improvements in monitoring, measurement, and data management technologies to protecting human health and the environment. Providing Americans with public access to sound environmental information is essential to protecting the environment. Access to environmental information enables the public to be involved and to make informed environmental decision. An important effort in striving toward that goal is the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS), which is an EPA database of Agency consensus health information on environmental contaminants. The database is used extensively by EPA Program Offices, Regions, the states, and the general public where consistent, reliable toxicity information is needed for credible risk assessments. Also under this objective are 1) the Agency's Risk Assessment Forum (RAF), which promotes EPA-wide consensus on difficult and controversial risk assessment issues and ensures that this consensus receives appropriate peer input and review, and is incorporated into EPA risk assessment

guidance; and 2) the Evaluation and Interpretation of Suitable Tests in AQUIRE[1] (EVISTA) database, which provides EPA's program offices and regions with ecological toxicity information.

IRIS

The human health effects information in IRIS is widely used for risk assessments and other health evaluations at all levels of government, as well as in the public and private sectors. The currency and credibility of health effects information is critical for credible risk assessments. As more risk-based decision-making takes place at the state and local levels, access to credible health effects information is essential, but difficult for individuals to find or generate. To ensure the quality, accuracy, credibility, and applicability of IRIS data, all assessments undergo external scientific peer review.

In FY 2002, the Agency's research program will continue its efforts to: 1) produce, update, and maintain health assessments in IRIS; 2) ensure appropriate external peer review of IRIS summaries and support documents; 3) facilitate Agency consensus and resolve issues in a timely manner; 4) maintain a widely-accessible Internet version of IRIS, available at the local level to support community-based environmental protection; 5) provide active outreach and communication with users; and 6) provide long-term maintenance of the IRIS web site, including explanatory materials and communication with users, and outreach to potential new users.

Risk Assessment Forum

The Agency's Risk Assessment Forum (RAF) will continue to develop a number of products to assist risk assessors, such as developing risk assessment guidelines, technical panel reports on special risk assessment issues, and peer consultation and peer review workshops addressing controversial risk assessment issues. In FY 2002, the RAF will focus in three areas: cumulative risk assessment, ecological risk assessment, and risk assessments for children.

EVISTA

EVISTA involves the development and maintenance of a high quality database as a means of providing ecological toxicity information to States, Regions and the public. The EVISTA database contains ecological toxicity information used to develop water quality criteria for the protection of aquatic life, wildlife and terrestrial plants. The database will make available evaluated and interpreted results of selected aquatic toxicity tests. EVISTA became available on the Internet in FY 2001 with the initial release of critically evaluated chemical effects data to support aquatic life and wildlife risk assessments and criteria development. In FY 2002, the Agency will continue to develop and maintain the EVISTA database.

[1]AQUIRE (Aquatic Toxicity Information Retrieval) is a database containing scientific papers published both nationally and internationally on the toxic effects of chemicals to aquatic organisms and plants.

FY 2002 Change from FY 2001 Enacted

EPM

- (-$4,620.7; -16.8 FTE) This reduction reflects elimination of the EMPACT program since environmental data is being made available to the public through other EPA programs.

- (-$201,900, -0.1 FTE) The FY 2002 request is $10.7 and 0.1 total workyears below the FY 2001 enacted budget level due to the Agency's streamlining and efficiency efforts which will allow it to reduce its workyear ceiling by 500 total workyears.

S&T

- (-$5,986.8; -8.0 FTE) This reduction reflects elimination of the EMPACT program since environmental data is being made available to the public through other EPA programs.

Research

S&T

- No significant change.

Annual Performance Goals and Performance Measures

Environmental Justice

In 2002 Ensure that EPA's policies, programs and activities address disproportionately exposed and under-represented population issues so that no segment suffers disproportionately from adverse health and environmental effects.

In 2001 Ensure that EPA's policies, programs and activities address disproportionately exposed and under-represented population issues so that no segment suffers disproportionately from adverse health and environmental effects.

In 2000 Through efforts such as the distribution of grants and holding community meetings, EPA worked to ensure that the Agency's policies, programs, and activities address minority and low income issues so no segment of the population suffers disproportionately from adverse environmental effects.

In 2000 As a result of public meetings held, no new "hot spots" were identified.

In 1999 EPA actively promoted environmental justice issues by holding 16 NEJAC meetings (exceeding the target of 10) and by providing environmental justice grants to 100 communities.

Performance Measures:	FY 1999 Actuals	FY 2000 Actuals	FY 2001 Estimate	FY 2002 Request	
EJ Community Grants	100				Grants

NEJAC Meetings	16			Meetings
Number of EPA-sponsored public meetings held where disproportionately disadvantaged communities participate.		31		meetings
Respond within 60 days to requests made to each Region and AA-ship to address complaints heard during public comment period at NEJAC.		75		percent
Number of grants awarded to low income, minority communities for addressing environmental problems.		62		grants
Conduct NEJAC meetings and focused Roundtables in local communities where problems have been identified.		18		meetings
Award 90 grants to organizations which address environmental problems in communities comprised primarily of low income and minority populations.		90	90	Grants
Hold 25 EPA-sponsored public meetings held where disproportionately impacted and disadvantaged communities participate		25		Meetings
Respond within 60 days to 75% of requests made to each Region and National Program Manager to address complaints heard during public comment period at NEJAC		75		Percent
Conduct 18 National Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (NEJAC) meetings and focused roundtables in local communities where problems have been identified.		18		Meetings
Hold meetings with the National Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (NEJAC) and communities disproportionately impacted by environmental hazards, which focus on environmental policy issues.			30	Meetings
Increase the cumulative number of demonstration projects established under the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice.		18	28	Projects

Baseline: A means of identifying problem areas is through: public comments received during the National Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (NEJAC) meetings; reviewing Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) filed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in which environmental justice (EJ) indicators occur as issues of concern which EPA will either resolve or work with the responsible agency to community's concern about new or renewals of permits under RCRA, CWA, CAA, etc.; and complaints filed under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

Improve EPA's Internet Site

In 1999 EPA improved the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of EPA's Internet site by increasing the number of Website hits by 42%, increasing the number of Internet site pages available by 41.4% and increasing the number of distinct hosts accessing the Website by 25.3%.

Performance Measures:	FY 1999 Actuals	FY 2000 Actuals	FY 2001 Estimate	FY 2002 Request	
Percentage of website hits.	42				Percent
Percentage of internet site pages available.	41.4				Percent
Percentage of distinct hosts accessing the Website.	25.3				Percent

Baseline:

Research

Risk Assessment

In 2002 Conduct outreach and training activities to provide guidance and support for Agency and external stakeholders on environmental decision-making and risk assessment.

In 2001 Provide guidance for risk assessment to improve the scientific basis of environmental decision making.

In 2000 EPA developed data interpretation and risk communication tools that improve our understanding of the risk from environmental stressors on human and ecological health and made them available to the public.

In 1999 Neurotoxicity guidelines and the chemical mixtures report were completed. The revised cancer guidelines have been delayed. EPA asked the Science Advisory Board to again review the cancer guidelines, and to review the chloroform risk assessment that applies the guidelines.

Performance Measures:	FY 1999 Actuals	FY 2000 Actuals	FY 2001 Estimate	FY 2002 Request
Publication of final Guidance for Carcinogenic Risk Assessment, Neurotoxicity Risk Assessment, and Health Risk Assessment of Chemical Mixtures.		2 Reports		

Develop a web-enabled inventory of environmental information that provides information about and access to data sets, databases, models, and documents produced by or used by the Agency.	1			inventory
The Agency's Risk Assessment Forum will develop a framework to integrate the assessment of cancer and noncancer endpoints.	0			framework
The Risk Assessment Forum will develop an improved framework for the use of Toxicity Equivalency Factors for dioxins, furans, and PCBs in aquatic and wildlife risk assessments.	0			framework
The Agency's Risk Assessment Forum will develop technical issue papers and develop a framework for preparing cumulative risk assessments.		1		framework
The Agency's Risk Assessment Forum will develop guidance on determining management objectives and selecting assessment endpoints for ecological risk assessment.		1		guidance
The Agency's Risk Assessment Forum will develop technical guidance on the identification of appropriate age groupings for exposure assessments for children.		1		guidance
Using a distance learning format, the Risk Assessment Forum will develop Internet-based training on the use of the ecological risk assessment guidelines.			1	RA training

Baseline: Historically, risk assessment guidelines training has occurred by developing presentation materials which supported classroom instruction. The administration of this training has been limited by the availability of personnel to conduct training and other factors necessary to support holding training sessions in the regions and laboratories. However, technological advances in recent years, specifically the capability of the Internet to deliver distance learning programs, make available a training vehicle that can overcome these limitations. The Forum will employ the Internet to provide training on the application of the Guidelines for Ecological Risk Assessment. The Internet training structure will be developed utilizing existing classroom materials. An Internet training environment will allow students to learn through interactive self-paced lessons and through periodic on-line instructor interaction.

Environmental Science Information

In 2002 Improve environmental decision making, risk assessment and risk communication by: 1) providing a web-enabled, searchable inventory of ORD information and tools; 2) illustrating cumulative risk assessment techniques; 3) synthesizing human health assessment information on environmental substances.

In 2001 Collect, manage, and present environmental information for the benefit of the Agency and the public in order to enhance the availability and utility of data, information, and tools for decision-making.

In 2000 Five of the 12 planned Agency-wide human health assessments were completed. Several assessments were not completed due to the necessity to resolve scientific issues and respond to peer review comments.

In 1999 Two IRIS summary documents were completed. Delays in completing other IRIS summaries are due mainly to science issues inherent to completing the assessments.

In 1999 Eight (8) pilot projects were completed in FY 1999 under the EMPACT program. These projects implemented timely and high quality environmental monitoring technologies in EMPACT cities.

Performance Measures:	FY 1999 Actuals	FY 2000 Actuals	FY 2001 Estimate	FY 2002 Request	
Add or update to IRIS 15 summaries of the potential adverse health effects of specific chemical substances.	2				Summaries
Develop Agency consensus human health assessments (new and updated assessments) of 12 environmental substances of high priority to EPA and make them publicly available on IRIS.		5		assessments	
Award 5-7 grants to EMPACT cities to implement timely and high quality environmental monitoring technologies.	8				Grants
Develop new and/or update Agency consensus human health assessments of 15 environmental substances of high priority to EPA and make them publicly available on IRIS.			15	assessments	
Develop a priority list of existing data, information, and tools to provide assistance to EPA laboratories in the initial development of their inventories, to be made publicly available through EIMS.			1		list
Risk Assessment Forum will develop 3 to 5					

case examples to illustrate selected aspects of the cumulative risk assessment framework.	3-5	case study
Develop Agency consensus human health assessments (new and updated assessments) of 9 environmental substances of high priority to EPA and make them publicly available on IRIS.	9	assessments
Expand the ORD inventory of environmental information in EIMS with project descriptions, data, models and other products by forming partnerships with 4 EPA Regions and 1 Lab as content providers.	1	inventory

Baseline: Currently, it is difficult to find, access and use the various research and information products produced by EPA. What is needed is a searchable, Web-enabled database of research projects, data, information and tools, such as the Environmental Information Management System (EIMS). The challenge facing EPA in 2002 is to adopt and implement business practices that result in a complete and continually up-to-date inventory in EIMS. Additional work supporting this goal includes a plan by the Risk Assessment Forum (RAF) to develop more comprehensive Agency-wide guidance on cumulative risk assessment. A technical panel convened under the auspices of the RAF has been working to develop a cumulative risk assessment framework and cumulative risk assessment case studies. The development of case studies is a critical step in the development of more comprehensive cumulative risk assessment guidance. A final area of effort under this goal relates to the synthesis of human health information. The Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) is a database of EPA consensus opinions of the human health effects that may result from exposure to various chemical substances found in the environment. The information in IRIS is widely used in risk assessments and regulations at the Federal, State, and local levels and by the public. Information in IRIS must be continually updated to reflect emerging new science and methodologies.

Verification and Validation of Performance Measures

Performance Measure: Hold meetings with the National Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (NEJAC) and communities disproportionately impacted by environmental hazards, which focus on environmental policy issues

Performance Database: Output Measure. Internal tracking system.

Data Source: HQ will keep track of these meetings manually.

QA/QC Procedures: None

Data Quality Review: None

Data Limitations: None

New/Improved Data or Systems: None

Performance Measure: Award a minimum of 90 grants to organizations which address environmental problems in communities comprised primarily of low income and minority populations

Performance Database: Output Measure. Internal tracking system.

Data Source: Manual system. (Regional Environmental Justice grant coordinators will input data.)

QA/QC Procedures: None

Data Quality Review: None

Data Limitations: None

New/Improved Data or Systems: None

Coordination with Other Agencies

With respect to community-based environmental programs, EPA coordinates with state, tribal, and local agencies and with non-governmental organizations to design and implement specific projects. The nature and degree of EPA's interaction with other entities varies widely, depending on the nature of the project and the location(s) in which it is implemented. EPA is working closely with the FGDC and the USGS to develop and implement the infrastructure for national spatial data.

In 2002, EPA will continue to coordinate with key federal data sharing partners including the USGS and the Fish and Wildlife Service as well as state and local data sharing partners in public access information initiatives such as Window-to-My-Environment and Enviromapper.

National Environmental Justice Program: Quarterly meetings are held with agencies named in Executive Order 12898 to review the environmental justice activities underway and to discuss participation in the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) and issues raised during NEJAC meetings.

Research

In developing health assessments for the IRIS data base, EPA interacts frequently with other Federal agencies involved in health assessments and research. In the initial drafting, documents such as

"Toxicological Profiles" produced by Health and Human Services/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (HHS/ATSDR) are routinely consulted for information. Assessments and research findings from the Food and Drug Administration, National Toxicology Program, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, and the National Library of Medicine are other examples of sources consulted and utilized. Federal agencies are also consulted for peer review of draft IRIS assessments. Finally, the IRIS web site has electronic links to other agencies' web sites for the education and convenience of the IRIS user.

Statutory Authorities

Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act

Pollution Prevention Act

Federal Fungicide, Insecticide and Rodenticide Act

Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act

Safe Drinking Water Act

Federal Managers Financial Integrity Act

Government Performance and Results Act

Paperwork Reduction Act

Freedom of Information Act

Computer Security Act

Privacy Act

Electronic Freedom of Information Act

Government Paperwork Elimination Act

National Environmental Education Act

Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)

Clinger-Cohen Act

Clean Air Act (CAA) (42 U.S.C. 7601-7671q)

Clean Water Act (CWA) (33 U.S.C. 1251 - 1387)

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) (42 U.S.C. 9601-9675)

Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) section 313 (42 U.S.C. 110001-11050)

Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5 U.S.C. App.)

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) (7 U.S. C. 136-136y)

Pollution Prevent Act (PPA) (42 U.S.C. 13101-13109)

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) (42 U.S.C. 6901-6992k)

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) section 1445 (42 U.S.C. 300f-300j-26)

Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) section 14 (15 U.S.C. 2601-2692)

North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation

Paperwork Reduction Act Amendment of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520)

Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA)

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

Congressional Review Act

Regulatory Flexibility Act

Executive Order 12866

Research

Clean Air Act (CAA) and amendments
Clean Water Act (CWA) and amendments
Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Act (ERDDA) of 1981
Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA)
Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)

Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA)
Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and amendments
Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA)
Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRKA) of 1986
Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)
Superfund Authorization Reauthorization Act (SARA)

Objective #3: Improve Agency Information Infrastructure and Security

Through 2006, EPA will continue to improve the reliability, capability, and security of EPA's information infrastructure.

Resource Summary
(Dollars in thousands)

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Request
Improve Agency Information Infrastructure and Security.	**$63.8**	**$15,864.9**	**$19,138.7**	**$16,911.8**
Environmental Program & Management	$63.8	$15,271.3	$16,642.5	$14,827.4
Hazardous Substance Superfund	$0.0	$593.6	$2,496.2	$2,084.4
Total Workyears	0.4	74.2	183.5	168.3

Key Programs
(Dollars in thousands)

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Enacted	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Request
EMPACT	$6,313.7	$252.6	$0.0	$0.0
Information Technology Management	$0.0	$13,919.4	$12,390.1	$12,675.8
System Modernization	$0.0	$200.0	$600.0	$600.0
Public Access	$0.0	$2,723.3	$420.9	$3,004.8
Information Integration	$0.0	$0.0	$199.6	$0.0
Rent, Utilities and Security	$0.0	$0.0	$409.9	$452.7

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Enacted	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Request
Administrative Services	$0.0	$68.1	$64.6	$0.0
Regional Management	$0.0	$0.0	$1,200.0	$0.0

FY 2002 Request

During 2002, EPA will continue to provide a robust and secure information infrastructure, thereby increasing the availability and accessibility of environmental information to customers and stakeholders. EPA's information technology (IT) support function consists of infrastructure support services, as well as policy and planning services. The Agency's IT infrastructure provides the basic foundation for development and management of all EPA information systems and information products. It comprises the Agency's hardware, software, and telecommunications assets and the technical services to support those infrastructure assets. These services range from mainframe, super computing, and distributed processing services to desktop computing support (including email, voice mail, Intranet/Internet connections, and training), local area network operations, and application development consulting.

Building and maintaining a credible and effective Agency IT program requires a strong commitment to customer service as well as a commitment to strategic investment in new technology to ensure efficient services delivery. It also requires a commitment to develop a highly skilled IT workforce capable of managing complex, multi-year information technology projects. EPA will continue to identify the skills, the technology and the services critical to effectively managing and securing the Agency's IT infrastructure. When acquiring these critical resources, EPA will ensure its investments are cost-effective and based on the investment principles established in the Clinger-Cohen Act.

The IT infrastructure planning process continues to be guided by the Agency's information priorities, including strengthening information security, ensuring data integrity, and leveraging new technology to support EPA environmental programs. With the emergence of the Internet as a fundamental business tool, EPA's new paradigm of security has become one that emphasizes not only mainframe security but also extends to the Agency's growing use of the Internet. The Agency will continue to emphasize the goal of strengthening security plans and organizational security programs through additional reviews and oversight on an Agency-wide scale. Increased efforts and investments will also be made to raise the awareness level of the EPA workforce to ensure managers understand their individual responsibilities for protecting information resources. In addition, EPA will continue its aggressive efforts to respond to evolving threats and integrate information security into its day-to-day business.

FY 2002 Change from FY 2001 Enacted

MULTI-APPROP

- (-$1,416,500, -12.4 FTE EPM, -$373,100 SF) Reflects a reduction to information resources operations.

Annual Performance Goals and Performance Measures

Information Security

In 2002 Complete risk assessments on the Agency's critical infrastructure systems, critical financial systems, and mission critical environmental systems.

Performance Measures:	FY 1999 Actuals	FY 2000 Actuals	FY 2001 Estimate	FY 2002 Request	
Critical infrastructure systems risk assessment findings will be formally documented and transmitted to systems owners and managers in a formal Risk Assessment document.				12	Systems
Critical financial systems risk assessment findings will be formally documented and transmitted to systems owners and managers in a formal Risk Assessment document.				13	Systems
Mission critical environmental systems risk assessment findings will be formally documented and transmitted to systems owners and managers in a formal Risk Assessment document.				5	Systems

Baseline: In FY 2001, OEI will complete four risk assessments. The breakout is as follows: Critical Infrastructure Systems is one, Mission Critical Systems are two, and Critical Financial Systems is one.

Verification and Validation of Performance Measures

Performance Measure: Risks assessment findings will be formally documented and transmitted to system owners and managers in a formal risk assessment document for the following:

12 critical infrastructure systems;
13 critical financial systems; and
5 missions critical environmental systems.

Performance Database: N/A
Data Source: Manual Files:

QA/QC Procedures: Acceptance review procedure exists for each risk assessment to ensure accuracy of the data in the reports.
Data Quality Review: N/A
Data Limitations: N/A
New/Improved Data or Systems: All reviewed systems will have data security, including integrity and confidentiality safeguards validated and improvements documented as appropriate. Systems owners are required to document security reports in security plans120 days after receipt of formal risk assessment.

Coordination with Other Agencies

EPA will continue to coordinate with other federal agencies on IT infrastructure and security issues by participating on the Federal Chief Information Officers' (CIO) Council. Comprised of members from the 28 largest federal agencies, the CIO Council serves as the primary mechanism for sharing information on IT best practices and for developing common solutions to IT challenges facing the federal government. EPA will continue to participate on the CIO Council Committees on security, capital planning, workforce development, interoperability, and e-government. EPA will also continue coordinating with state agencies on IT infrastructure and security issues through working with state organizations such as the National Association of State Information Resources Executives.

Statutory Authorities

Federal Advisory Committee Act

Government Information Security Reform Action

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

Clean Air Act and amendments

Clean Water Act and amendments

Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 1981

Toxic Substance Control Act

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act

Food Quality Protection Act

Safe Drinking Water Act and amendments

Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act

Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act

The Government Performance and Results Act (1993)

Government Management Reform Act (1994)

Clinger-Cohen Act

Paperwork Reduction Act,

Freedom of Information Act

Computer Security Act

Privacy Act

Electronic Freedom of Information Act