Environmental Protection Agency

FY 2001 Annual Performance Plan and Congressional Justification

Expansion of Americans' Right to Know about their Environment

Strategic Goal: Easy access to a wealth of information about the state of their local environment will expand citizen involvement and give people tools to protect their families and their communities as they see fit. Increased information exchange between scientists, public health officials, businesses, citizens, and all levels of government will foster greater knowledge about the environment and what can be done to protect it.

Resource Summary

(Dollars in thousands)

		FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Enacted	FY 2001 Request	FY 2001 Req. v. FY 2000 Ena.
Goal 07	Expansion of Americans' Right-to- Know About their Environment	\$139,083.2	\$159,640.1	\$185,109.1	\$25,469.0
Obj. 01	Increase Quality/Quantity of Education, Outreach, Data Availability	\$71,008.1	\$98,700.3	\$120,751.8	\$22,051.5
Obj. 02	Improve Public's Ability to Reduce Exposure	\$42,114.6	\$37,839.7	\$39,605.9	\$1,766.2
Obj. 03	Enhance Ability to Protect Public Health	\$25,960.5	\$23,100.1	\$24,751.4	\$1,651.3
	Total Workyears	778.8	818.4	809.5	(8.9)

Background and Context

Providing the American public with access to sound environmental information and involving the public in our work are essential parts of a comprehensive approach to protecting the environment.

This goal is premised on the concept that the U.S. public has a right to know about the pollutants in their environment, including land, air and water pollution as well as potential health effects of the chemicals used in the food they consume and everyday products they purchase. This premise is especially important to minority, low-income, and Native American communities that suffer a disproportionate share of health effects from poor environmental conditions.

Access to environmental information enables the American public to make informed decisions about their local environment. It also leads to creative and sustainable solutions to environmental problems, as well as opportunities for preventing pollution. The Agency believes that

the U.S. public has the right to information to improve public policy and environmental decision-making.

Means and Strategy

The purpose of this goal is to empower the American public with information, enabling them to make informed decisions regarding environmental issues in their communities. EPA will accomplish this goal through three strategic objectives: expand environmental education, outreach and data availability; improve the public's ability to reduce exposure; and enhance the public's ability to protect health and the environment. These objectives will be met by expanding the range of data it collects and improving the quality and usability of the data. The Agency will also ensure the data are widely available through the Internet, mass media and other sources.

Right to Know has become a part of EPA's mission. The Agency has accelerated its efforts to improve the accuracy of its data, and to reduce the burdens to industry associated with reporting. Also, the Agency is working to enhance the coordination of data collection activities with states and to improve our data collection methods and use the latest technologies to consolidate information on a single Internet site.

The Agency has redesigned its internal structure to better meet information demands. EPA's new approach to information management employs a single program manager and office responsible for information management, policy and information technology stewardship across the Agency. This Office is responsible for developing and implementing information standards and accountability systems that will improve environmental information within the Agency and the information provided to the public. This Office is focusing its work on reducing information collection and reporting burden; filling significant data gaps; and providing integrated environmental and public health information and statistics to the public.

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 2001, the Agency has a goal of completing 21 chemical assessments and making them available in 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 2001, the RAF will be developing technical papers to provide initial guidance on difficult cumulative risk assessment issues and a framework for cumulative risk assessment to serve as a foundation for the potential future development of cumulative risk assessment guidelines. These efforts provide data/guidance to improve the scientific basis for environmental decision making.

Strategic Objectives and FY 2001 Annual Performance Goals

Objective 01: Increase Quality/Quantity of Education, Outreach, Data Availability

- 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. Identify and manage national EJ "hot spots" and
 advise Administrator.
- 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: Improve Public's Ability to Reduce Exposure

 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.

Objective 03: Enhance Ability to Protect Public Health

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

Highlights

The increasing public access to electronic media offers unprecedented opportunities for EPA to provide citizens with the information necessary to effect substantial environmental improvements. In support of this objective and the President's "Right-to-Know" goals, EPA will continue to increase the amount and quality of publicly available information on environmental programs. EPA also realizes that while it is important to provide up-to-date, accurate information, it must also ensure that the public finds the information useful. The Agency collects data in a variety of systems, on diverse environmental pollutants that impact land, air, water, as well as data on potential health effects of chemicals in food and manufactured products. EPA is aggressively seeking to integrate all relevant sources of data and information to enhance user-friendliness for the non-technical user and to support comprehensive approaches to environmental protection.

In 2001, EPA will continue to coordinate with the National Advisory Council on Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT) and its standing committees to identify and foster new environmental technologies. Other activities include facilitating and monitoring the Agency's response to NACEPT recommendations that are accepted by the Administrator, and managing statutorily-mandated advisory committees dealing with the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) implementation and U.S./Mexico border issues. The advisory committees are: the

National Advisory Committee/Governmental Advisory Committee and the Good Neighbor Environmental Board.

The Agency will establish a Federal environmental information system that will integrate environmental information. The system will be fully compatible with state and tribal systems, allow for electronic receipt and dissemination of information and incorporate data quality and error correction processes.

Key to achieving high quality will be the Information Integration Initiative. In partnership with the states and tribes, and in close consultation with our environmental information stakeholders, we will develop a single integrated multi-media core of environmental data and tools – an integrated environmental information system. Under the new system, EPA's individual media programs (i.e, air, water, hazardous waste, etc.) will maintain flexibility to develop "plug-in" modules that will incorporate program-specific requirements. However, at its core, the new system will be a single, shared and integrated system.

Efforts to allow better integration with our state and local partners will continue, including support to the Local Government Advisory Committee and the Small Town Advisory Subcommittee. In addition, EPA will design and manage meetings and conference calls and work with states and state associations to ensure that state concerns are considered in Agency policies, guidance, and regulations.

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 One-Stop Reporting initiative, the Reinventing Environmental Information (REI) initiative, and the Envirofacts database. In 2001, the Agency will accelerate its efforts to promote public access. The 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 databases available nationally in an interactive, online mode. The Agency 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. Another data integration project, the Sector Facility Indexing Project (SFIP), will be continued in 2001. SFIP, a White House Reinvention initiative, allows the public to monitor the records of nearby facilities, provides the regulated community with a means of comparing performance against competitors, and assists government agencies in making cross-media comparisons. EPA is committed to increasing use of the SFIP by increasing public awareness of the project, ensuring customer satisfaction with the information provided, and sustaining the utility of the SFIP as a compliance and analytical tool. EPA believes that these efforts will yield an increase in web site user sessions over the 1999 levels.

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 2001, 90% of enforcement and compliance policy and guidance will be available on the Internet within thirty days

of issuance. EPA intends to add summaries of all significant cases available on the Internet by April 2001. Further, by the end of 2001, all ten EPA regional offices will have an enforcement and compliance website. 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 will continue to participate in the Environmental Monitoring for Public Access and Community Tracking (EMPACT) program. A Presidential initiative begun in 1998, EMPACT to date has set up systems to provide real-time data to the nations' 86 largest metropolitan cities. EPA is working with four EMPACT cities to implement the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance 's Clean Water Compliance Watch in those cities. EPA will provide reliable, accurate, and user-friendly information in a time- relevant period to the cities' residents regarding the environmental/public health condition in the communities' water bodies during urban wet weather events and 24-hour National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) wastewater non-compliance events reported by the regulated entity. In 2001 the Agency will focus on the technology transference of this project to other EMPACT metropolitan cities.

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 500 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 2001, the program will continue to assist community-based organizations through the community small grants program.

Under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA), EPA is committed to expanding environmental release information gathered under the Toxic Release Inventory (TRI). In 2001, EPA will process 110,000 facility reports and issue the TRI Public Data Release for reporting year 1999. EPA will continue to expand the use of the Internet for delivering this information, and we are making information available by zip code and facility. Over the last ten years, there has been a significant decrease in the amount of toxic materials released into the environment, according to TRI reporting by facilities.

In October 1999, EPA finalized a rule to lower the TRI reporting threshold for certain persistent bioaccumulative toxics (PBT) chemicals and to add other PBT chemicals to the section 313 list of toxic chemicals reported under TRI. PBT chemicals are of particular concern not only because they are toxic but also because they may remain in the environment for a long period of time, are not readily destroyed, and may build up or accumulate in plant, animal tissue, and in cases involving mercury, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and lead, human tissue. Currently, facilities that manufacture or process less then 25,000 pounds or otherwise use less than 10,000 pounds of a listed chemical do not need to report releases. Lowering these thresholds for PBTs will assure that we get reporting on a larger fraction of the releases of these chemicals. In August 1999, EPA

proposed a rule to lower the threshold for reporting lead releases to TRI. Lead remains in the environment for long periods of time and at high levels is toxic to humans. Currently, facilities are not required to report their lead and lead compound releases unless they manufacture or process more than 25,000 pounds or use more than 10,000 pounds. Under the proposed rule, the reporting threshold would be lowered to 10 pounds. This would substantially increase TRI reporting by industry by about 1,390 facilities or about 15,000 reports.

EPA will ensure that small, minority and women-owned businesses receive a "fair share" of Agency procurement dollars. This "fair 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 will enhance the ability of small, minority and women-owned businesses to participate in the Agency's objective to protect public health.

Research

In 2001, the Agency will provide guidance for risk assessment to improve the scientific basis for decision making. 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 21 environmental substances of high priority to EPA and make them publicly available on IRIS.

External Factors

EPA relies heavily on partnerships with the states, tribes, local governments and regulated parties to protect the environment and human health. EPA's success depends on the ability of these entities to access the decision-making process as it relates to their local environment. In addition, EPA relies upon information management reforms that are essential to the Agency's approach to environmental protection. Examples of management reforms designed to improve the availability of environmental performance data to the public include implementation of data standards for major systems and the subsequent information collection and data integration. The Agency is promoting advanced technology, including the Internet, to disseminate environmental information at the local level. New technology, emerging environmental problems or newly identified priorities could affect the time frame for achieving the Goal 7 objectives.

The ability of the Agency to achieve its strategic goal of expansion of Americans' Right-to-Know about their environment is influenced by several factors over which the Agency has only partial control. As such, success of these programs partially depends on the voluntary cooperation and collaboration between EPA and the private sector and the general public. The success of the Agency's Right-to-Know or public outreach efforts is ultimately determined by increased understanding by the public and their actions to improve their environment. We believe that with increased education, outreach and data availability, the public will be better able to participate in decisions that lead to solving the nation's environmental problems.

Environmental Protection Agency

FY 2001 Annual Performance Plan and Congressional Justification Expansion of Americans' Right to Know About Their Environment

Objective #1: Increase Quality/Quantity of Education, Outreach, Data Availability

By 2005, EPA will improve the ability of the American public to participate in the protection of human health and the environment by increasing the quality and quantity of general environmental education, outreach and data availability programs, especially in disproportionally impacted and disadvantaged communities.

Resource Summary (Dollars in thousands)

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Enacted	FY 2001 Request	FY 2001 Req. v. FY 2000 Ena.
Increase Quality/Quantity of Education, Outreach, Data Availability	\$71,008.1	\$98,700.3	\$120,751.8	\$22,051.5
Environmental Program & Management	\$68,977.9	\$91,727.3	\$99,767.8	\$8,040.5
Science & Technology	\$0.0	\$3,540.5	\$1,640.6	(\$1,899.9)
State and Tribal Assistance Grants	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$16,000.0	\$16,000.0
Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$2,030.2	\$3,432.5	\$3,343.4	(\$89.1)
Total Workyears	403.7	450.5	438.6	(11.9)

Key Programs

(Dollars in thousands)

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Enacted	FY 2001 Request
EMPACT	\$1,261.7	\$1,903.3	\$644.4
Reinventing Environmental Information (REI)	\$12,547.8	\$0.0	\$0.0
Environmental Education	\$7,767.6	\$7,271.1	\$9,390.7
GLOBE	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0
SBREFA	\$760.3	\$777.3	\$801.9
Small Business Ombudsman	\$1,110.3	\$1,120.3	\$1,162.6
Center for Environmental Statistics (CEIS)	\$3,965.8	\$0.0	\$0.0
Information Technology Management	\$4,234.8	\$0.0	\$0.0
System Modernization	\$0.0	\$13,692.9	\$13,692.9
NACEPT Support	\$0.0	\$1,822.5	\$2,166.7
NAFTA Implementation	\$0.0	\$507.2	\$603.7
Direct Public Information and Assistance	\$0.0	\$4,248.9	\$4,789.3
Integrated Information Initiative (I-3)	\$0.0	\$866.7	\$30,936.0
Rent, Utilities and Security	\$0.0	\$413.0	\$426.9
Administrative Services	\$28.1	\$1,472.2	\$1,558.8
Regional Management	\$0.0	\$254.3	\$405.5

FY 2001 Request

EPA continues efforts to provide an ever increasing quantity of information to the public so that the public will be able to make informed and educated decisions on environmental issues affecting their communities. Information will be made available to educators, academic institutions, scholars, the public, news organizations, and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners so they may make more informed decisions that will help protect public health and the environment.

The effective management of EPA's data is central to the measurement of its progress in delivering environmental protection. As the Agency continues to excel in a new era of information technology and enhanced public access to data, EPA will ensure that the Agency's data is timely, accurate, integrated, and useful to the public, and is able to effectively inform decision-making. The Agency will work to promote data quality, reduce the burden associated with data collection and reporting and enhance public access.

The Agency will establish a Federal environmental information system that will integrate environmental information. The system will be fully compatible with state and tribal systems, allow for electronic receipt and dissemination of information and incorporate data quality and error correction processes.

A critical new way in which EPA will enhance its partnership with states is the Information Integration Initiative (I-3). I-3 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. Working in partnership with the States and Tribes, the Agency will establish a single, integrated multi-media core of environmental data and information. This core will support a broad data exchange network with the States and Tribes. In addition, under this system, EPA's individual media programs (air, water, hazardous waste, etc.) will maintain flexibility to develop applications that meet program-unique data needs, but at its core, the new system will be a single, shared and integrated system more conducive to ensuring data quality and accuracy. The Information Integration Initiative will provide increased data accuracy, and more reliable and high quality environmental data that will promote better understanding, and improved accountability.

Working together, EPA, states and tribes will establish data standards and shared business practices that cover most of the environmental information that regulated entities report to government. The information system will improve the capability to carry out key environmental management functions such as permitting and enforcement with greater efficiency.

Throughout this effort, EPA will work closely with the private sector software development industry. Our partnership with the states and tribes to develop standardized requirements and business practices will stimulate the private sector to create commercial off-the-shelf software for use by states and reporting entities. Adopting a standardized approach will drive down costs and development time and increase functionality. Regulated businesses that must comply with regulatory requirements and monitor their own environmental performance, environmental

organizations performing environmental analyses, and citizens interested in environmental conditions in their communities will all benefit from affordable, reliable commercial software that is readily available in the marketplace.

In partnership with the states, EPA continues to implement the Reinventing Environmental Information (REI) initiative, a multi-year commitment to implement key information management reforms that are essential to support the Agency's new approaches to environmental protection these reforms are important building blocks of I-3, and will continue in close coordination with that effort. Key elements of REI include the implementation of data standards for major systems and increased availability of electronic reporting methods for regulated entities. Through a cooperative approach with state environmental agencies, the Agency will focus on streamlining reporting by regulated entities and ultimately improving the availability of environmental performance data to the public. A central component is the establishment of a standard facility identifier for regulated entities.

In addition, EPA will manage and support 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 more targeted environmental information to Federal agencies, environmental interest groups, the regulated community, state and local communities, Tribal governments, and the general public.

Multimedia resources serve to implement a grant program to educate students, individuals, tribes and communities about environmental and health protection. This program supports educational and training programs that encourage replication of model environmental education curricula programs and materials for educators and teachers. It also supports youth programs such as the President's Environmental Youth Awards. The National Environmental Education Act specifically earmarks the percentage of appropriated funds that must be used for activities under certain sections of the Act. In addition to the grants funded at Headquarters, the Regions fund approximately 200 to 250 grants per year, depending on the number of grant applications received.

The Agency uses various media resources to aid and increase public understanding of science, thereby increasing public awareness of environmental issues and their technological and scientific solutions. Resources for the Vice President's GLOBE initiative will be used to convene workshops and meetings to involve scientists and educators in selecting appropriate environmental observations that will be used to coordinate the work of students, teachers, and scientists to study and understand the environment. Students will learn how to protect the environment and improve their math and science skills.

The will also support the National Advisory Council on Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT) and its standing committees, facilitate and monitor the Agency's response to NACEPT recommendations that are accepted by the Administrator, and manage statutorily-mandated advisory committees dealing with NAFTA implementation and U.S./Mexico border issues. The committees are: the Good Neighbor Environmental Board and the National Advisory Committee/Governmental Advisory Committee. With these resources, EPA receives broad stakeholder advice as national and international environmental policy is developed and

implemented. This is accomplished mainly by ensuring staff support and the efficient and effective operation of EPA advisory committees. In the past two years, EPA's reinvention initiatives have concentrated on enhancing the Agency's ability to use stakeholder processes in environmental decision-making. This effort has expanded with an increasing emphasis on the public's "right-to-know." The below summary of program evaluations describes EPA's activities and results in achieving quality management of the Advisory Committee Program. It reflects the progress made toward measuring the effectiveness and impact of this important process for public participation in 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 Agency will improve public access to water quality data in 2001 through the Environmental Monitoring for Public Access and Community Tracking (EMPACT) project. The project provides user-friendly information to the public in the nation's largest 86 metropolitan areas regarding the compliance status of local water dischargers and what non-compliance means for the communities environment and public health condition. EPA's watershed based electronic outreach efforts, including Surf Your Watershed and the Index of Watershed Indicators (IWI), directly support efforts to implement the President's "Right-to-Know" goal by providing up-to-date, accurate information on the conditions and stressors in their communities.

The IWI combines numerous indicators of aquatic resource health to characterize the condition and vulnerability of more than 2,000 watersheds in the United States. Several Federal, state and non-governmental organizations contributed data and technical support to this Index. These same agencies share in our past water quality successes and will continue to be involved in addressing the problems IWI brings to light. The IWI will also enable managers and community residents to understand and take action to protect the watersheds where they live. The watershed information provided by IWI can also lead to more specific information about their water, how they compare to similar watersheds, and what may be causing problems. Updating the IWI report annually (and more frequently on the Internet) will provide current information on human and environmental health. Additionally, the updates will be supplemented with more data and educational material each year.

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 2001, 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.

Enforcement

EPA's enforcement and compliance assurance program will accelerate its efforts to promote public access during 2001. The 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. 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. Another data integration project, the Sector Facility Indexing Project (SFIP), will be continued in 2001. SFIP, a White House Reinvention initiative, allows the public to monitor the records of nearby facilities, provides the regulated community with a means of comparing performance against competitors, and assists government agencies in making crossmedia comparisons. EPA is committed to increasing use of the SFIP by increasing public awareness of the project, ensuring customer satisfaction with the information provided, and sustaining the utility of the SFIP as a compliance and analytical tool. In addition to the awareness of SFIP generated by external publications relying on its data, EPA will continue its outreach efforts to the public, industry, and research community to promote the project and will ensure continued value by updating the information three times per year. EPA believes that these efforts will yield a 5% increase in web site user sessions over the FY 1999 levels.

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 2001, 90% of enforcement and compliance policy and guidance will be available on the Internet within thirty days of issuance. EPA intends to add summaries of all significant cases available on the Internet by April 2001. Furthermore, by the end of 2001, all ten EPA regional offices will have an enforcement and compliance website.

The enforcement and compliance assurance program will continue to participate in the Environmental Monitoring for Public Access and Community Tracking (EMPACT) program. The enforcement and compliance assurance program is working with four EMPACT cities to implement OECA's Clean Water Compliance Watch (CWA2) in those cities. The objective of the project is

to provide reliable, accurate, and user-friendly information in a time relevant period to the public on the environmental/public health condition in a community's water bodies during urban wet weather combined sewer overflow (CSO), sanitary sewer overflow (SSO), and stormwater events and 24- hour National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) wastewater non-compliance events reported by the regulated entity. In 2001 the enforcement and compliance assurance program will focus on the technology transference of this project to other EMPACT metropolitan cities.

Environmental Justice

In 2001, EPA's environmental justice program will continue its educations, outreach, and data availability initiatives. 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 500 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. In sum, these small grants have served as the "seed-money" for empowerment of the residents of these communities which have allowed them to speak for themselves and to make their own decisions.

The Agency will continue to support the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) 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 cognizant EPA office. The subcommittees are: Air/Water; Enforcement; Health/Research; Indigenous People; International; and Waste/Facility Siting.

With respect to data availability, an Environmental Justice application will be developed in 2000 and 2001 under the leadership of the Office. The Environmental Justice application will:

- Develop an Environmental Justice Web Query interface using some of the Envirofacts Web standards to provide searching capability by facility name and/or geographic reference identifiers.
- Provide Web Query Results in a matrix.
- Provide direct access to Enviro Mapper.
- Provide demographic data on the most recent census data available. Health data (such as county level mortality statistics) will be provided from federal sources such as data collected by the National Center for Health Statistics, the Centers for Disease Control, the Agency for Toxic Standards and Disease Registry and other health departments and agencies.

The Agency supports and encourages user-friendly environmental justice programs of state governments and tribal governments. In 1998, this grants program was awarded to provide incentives to states and tribes to promote environmental justice programs. Five (5) grant funds of up to 100,000 were awarded to support projects, programs or activities that promote environmental justice in 1998, for 1999, five (5) more grants were awarded. Participation is limited to state or tribal environmental agencies that manage or are eligible to manage an EPA program. Projects which include community-based organizations are given priority. The program conducts outreach and technical assistance to states local governments, and stakeholders on environmental justice issues as they relate to brownfields, hazardous waste management and site cleanup.

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.

EPA will also continue to cooperate with other countries to advance common goals for environmental educations, meaningful public participation in environmental decision-making, and developing sustainable communities. In 1999, the program conducted a series of lectures and presentations on the issue of environmental justice and sustainable development in Chile. Additionally, the Office participated in an Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development seminar in France on the "Social and Environmental Interface."

Finally, the Agency also reviews environmental impacts of proposed major Federal actions as required by the National Environmental Policy Act, Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice. The reviews focus on resource protection and mitigation of adverse impacts to water and air resources, especially from land management and highway projects.

FY 2001 Change from FY 2000 Enacted

MULTI-APPROP

• (+\$14,069,300 EPM, +\$16,000,000 STAG) Provides resources for the Information Integration Initiative, which 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.

EPM

- (-\$2,490,500) Resources are not provided for Congressional earmarks.
- (+3,435,800) Reflects restoration of Environmental Education activities that were cut in 2000.
- (+\$465,000; +5.0 FTE) Reflects a shift of resources from local/small government outreach to the Innovative Community Partnership Program in the new Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation (formerly the Office of Reinvention).
- (+\$400,000) Reflects a shift of resources to higher priority FACA activities.
- (+\$1,200,000) Reflects increased payroll costs and recalculations of administrative expenses.
- (-\$199,240) Resources are not provided for Congressional earmark.

S&T

• (-\$1,992,400) Resources are not provided for Congressional earmark.

Annual Performance Goals and Performance Measures

Enhanced Public Access

- 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 Improve 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 Estimate	FY 200 Request	
Increase use of Sector Facilities Indexing Project website user sessions over FY99 levels		5		percent
Increase by 50% (over FY99 levels) the number of states with direct access to Integrated Data for enforcement Analysis (IDEA)		21		states
Percent of OECA policy and guidance documents available through the Internet		90		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 in FY 2001 available on the Internet within 30 days of issuance			90	Percent
By April 2001, make summaries of all significant cases available on the Internet			100	Percent
Increase by 5% the use of Sector Facilities Indexing Project website user sessions over FY 99 levels			5	Percent

Baseline:

In FY 2001, we will accelerate our efforts to promote public access including activities such as use of the Sector Facility Indexing Project (SFIP) web-site, Regional enforcement and compliance web-sites, and access to enforcement and compliance documents newly issued in FY 2001.

Environmental Justice

- 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 Identify and manage hot spots where national environmental justice issues occur and to advise the Administrator on available solutions.
- In 2000 Ensure that EPA's policies, programs and activities incl. public mtgs, address minority & low income comm. issues so that no segment of the pop. suffers disprop. from adverse health or env. effects, & that all people live in clean, healthy & sustainable comm. consistent w/ Executive Order 12898.
- 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 Estimate	FY 2001 Request
EJ Community Grants	100		Grants
NEJAC Meetings	16		Meetings

Number of EPA-sponsored public meetings held where disproportionately disadvantaged communities participate.		25		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.		70		grants
Conduct NEJAC meetings and focused Roundtables in local communities where problems have been identified.		18		meetings
Increase to 20, the number of states that have environmental justice programs			20	States
Award 100 grants to low income, minority communities for addressing environmental problems			100	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 NEJAC meetings and focused Roundtables in local communities where problems have been identified			18	Meetings

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 resolve; comminity's concern about new or renewals of permits under RCRA, CWA, CAA, etc.; and complaints filed under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

Verification and Validation of Performance Measures

Performance Measure: Increase by 5% the number of website user sessions over FY 99 levels.

Performance Database: Sector Facility Indexing Project database and Web Site (envirosense.com.stats) records statistics on SFIP user sessions on a monthly and weekly basis.

Data Source: Sector Facility Indexing Project database, accessible through the Internet to interested public and private parties, records user sessions. This information is transferred by an EPA contractor to the envirosense.com.stats database.

QA/QC Procedures: OECA website managers oversee the data collection and maintenance.

Data Quality Review: None

Data Limitations: User sessions may be under-counted because only one user session per day from one server/site is recorded.

New/Improved Data or Systems: None

Performance Measure: By the end of FY 2001, all ten EPA Regions will have an enforcement and compliance web site.

Performance Database: Output Measure. No database.

Data Source: None

QA/QC Procedures: None

Data Quality Review: None

Data Limitations: None

New/Improved Data or Systems: None

Performance Measure: EPA will make 90% of enforcement and compliance policies and guidances issued in FY 2001 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

Performance Measure: By April 2001, make summaries of all FY 2000 significant cases

available on the Internet.

Performance Database: Output Measure. No database.

Data Source: None

QA/QC Procedures: None

Data Quality Review: None

Data Limitations: None

New/Improved Data or Systems: None

Performance Measure: Hold 25 EPA-sponsored public meetings in which disproportionately

impacted and disadvantaged communities participate.

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: Increase to 20, the number of states that have environmental justice

programs.

Performance Database: Output Measure. Internal tracking system.

Data Source: HQ and the Regions will keep track of the number of states.

QA/QC Procedures: None

Data Quality Review: None

Data Limitations: None

New/Improved Data or Systems: None

Performance Measure: Respond within 60 days to 75% of requests made to each Region and AA-ship to address complaints heard during public comment period at NEJAC.

Performance Database: Output Measure. Internal tracking system.

Data Source: HQ will keep track of responses sent.

QA/QC Procedures: None

Data Quality Review: None

Data Limitations: None

New/Improved Data or Systems: None

Performance Measure: 100 grants awarded to low income, minority communities for addressing environmental problems

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

Performance Measure: Conduct 18 NEJAC meetings and focused Roundtables in local communities where problems have been identified

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

Coordination with Other Agencies

EPA, in cooperation with U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and with the supporting efforts of the U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Corps of Engineers, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS), will continue its work to characterize watershed conditions and to document non-point and point source pollution in watersheds across the Nation. Approximately two interagency workshops are held each year to discuss the future of Index of Watershed Indicators (IWI), and progress made on improving the individual indicators and the Index as a whole. EPA and USGS have also formalized a working group to explore and develop additional data based upon the mutual interest of EPA and USGS.

EPA will work with other Agencies to ensure consistency in environmental information offered to the public and 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.

EPA will consult with stakeholders through a data quality/data gaps conference, focus group meetings, the ECOS Data Management Subcommittee, informal discussions with environmental and industry groups, and review by a public advisory committee, National Advisory Council on Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT).

Statutory Authorities

National Environmental Education Act

Federal Managers Financial Integrity Act (FMFIA)

Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)

Clinger-Cohen Act

Computer Security Act

Privacy Act

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

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)

Northe American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation

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

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

Plain Language Executive Order

Environmental Protection Agency

FY 2001 Annual Performance Plan and Congressional Justification

Expansion of Americans' Right to Know About Their Environment

Objective # 2: Improve Public's Ability to Reduce Exposure

By 2005, EPA will improve the ability of the public to reduce exposure to specific environmental and human health risks by making current, accurate substance-specific information widely and easily accessible.

Resource Summary

(Dollars in thousands)

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Enacted	FY 2001 Request	FY 2001 Req. v. FY 2000 Ena.
Improve Public's Ability to Reduce Exposure	\$42,114.6	\$37,839.7	\$39,605.9	\$1,766.2
Environmental Program & Management	\$42,114.6	\$37,839.7	\$39,605.9	\$1,766.2
Total Workyears	223.8	222.3	225.9	3.6

Key Programs

(Dollars in thousands)

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Enacted	FY 2001 Request
Drinking Water Consumer Awareness	\$1,622.9	\$1,537.2	\$1,595.8
Pesticide Registration	\$5,634.9	\$4,019.3	\$4,446.1
Pesticide Reregistration	\$5,882.4	\$4,018.1	\$4,446.1
Toxic Release Inventory / Right-to-Know (RtK)	\$19,799.6	\$17,671.8	\$17,647.7
EMPACT	\$753.1	\$1,436.4	\$3,307.6
Rent, Utilities and Security	\$0.0	\$436.8	\$451.6
Administrative Services	\$0.0	\$484.4	\$499.1

FY 2001 Request

To support the public's Right-to-Know, the Agency must identify information needs and tailor the data collection, presentation and dissemination accordingly. The more comprehensive the information is, the more useful it can be. One priority for the Agency is to continue to identify information gaps that reduce the ability of the public to make sound environmental decisions. Without information on relative levels and types of emissions, for instance, a town might not be able to make the best choice in siting a new playground. Gaps could be associated with specific pesticides and chemicals, drinking water contaminants, specific industrial sectors or specific data elements and reference sources.

EPA will continue supporting comprehensive approaches to environmental protection. These approaches include community-based environmental and ecosystem protection on a facility-and location-specific basis, rather than more media- (air, water, etc.) or statute-specific basis the Agency has used in the past. A complementary and supporting information management approach coordinates and integrates the separate Agency 'points of view' to provide a comprehensive view of environmental data. The increased availability and accuracy of locational and spatial data, the establishment of the central structure required to support data standards, and a registry of environmental data form the foundation for this new strategy for environmental data management. In time, these new information technology methods will help fundamentally change the way EPA conducts its information management business. To further enhance these changes, the Agency is committed to working in partnership with the Federal Geographic Data Committee to implement a national spacial data infrastructure, which will enhance communities' ability to pinpoint the environmental information most relevant to their locale.

The public, EPA, states, tribes, and local staff, companies, and other stakeholders have analytical needs that require more than simple access to data. In other words, data access is not sufficient for many users. To understand what the data mean, 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.

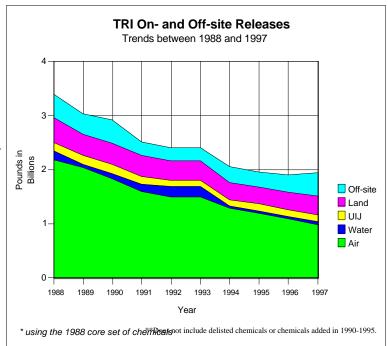
EPA will provide environmental analysis that responds to these needs, complementing data access with analysis to support environmental understanding. On a continuing basis, EPA will carry out dialogues with its partners, stakeholders, and users to make sure their needs are fully understood and are being addressed. Users will have choices between accessing raw data, 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. The analytical environment will provide capabilities for 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 more holistic view and understanding of the environment, encouraging informed decision-making and actions that will be more protective of human health and the environment. Insights gained from environmental analysis will support a fuller understanding of environmental outcomes, 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.

An essential part of a comprehensive national approach to environmental protection is the full and active participation of the American public and their communities in environmental priority setting, risk reduction, remediation, and both short-term and long-term environmental planning. Informed public and their communities can better assess the relative severity of environmental risks, especially those focused in specific geographic locations. Local residents must be fully informed to best weigh the opportunities for prevention or remediation, and the tradeoffs and uncertainties that underlie many environmental decisions. Communities that have access to the information and data that characterize risks from chemical and pesticide use and industry and agricultural production within their boundaries are better prepared than those without access to information to make decisions about their day-to-day activities.

Providing understandable, accessible, accurate, comprehensive and timely information on chemical emissions and pesticide use to the broadest audience possible will enable residents and communities to reduce their environmental and human health risks associated with many of these materials allowing the public to make responsible decisions about protecting itself and the environment.

EPA builds partnerships with state, tribal and local governments and non-governmental organizations ensure that environmental information is widely available. EPA upgrading the electronic distribution of environmental by significantly information expanding the type and amount of information available on the Internet and by providing easy access to data. example, communities For increasingly can obtain TRI and pollution prevention data via the Internet, to help in evaluating environmental problems.

Reductions in TRI Releases Points to Progress



Under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA), EPA successfully provides the public with valuable chemical release data through the Toxic Release Inventory (TRI). EPCRA requires that companies in certain industry sectors report annually to EPA the amounts of more than 600 specified toxic chemicals and chemical categories released into the environment at their facilities. EPA compiles this information and makes it available to the public in an annual report. With this information, communities know what toxic chemicals are released in their communities, and companies can identify opportunities for source reduction. Over the life of the TRI program, EPA has noted continuing declines in chemical releases in the reporting industrial sectors.

Incorporating the most recent scientific developments is important to maintaining an effective TRI program. Lead and lead compounds are currently on the TRI list due to their toxicity; they are also persistent and bioaccumulative. Persistant Bioaccumulative Toxic chemicals (PBTs) are of special concern because they do not readily break down into less harmful components in the environment - they persist. They also bioaccumulate, that is they enter the food chain and build up into higher concentrations in plant or animal tissues, and cases involving mercury, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and lead, human tissue. EPA is lowering the reporting threshold for certain PBT chemicals to assure that the public has information on toxic chemicals that are persistent and bioaccumulative but are manufactured, processed or used in lower volumes than what is currently reported to TRI. These refinements to TRI will allow the public access to more comprehensive information. The Agency is working to provide a broader environmental picture for local communities by offering more contextual and background information, such as comparisons across chemicals or geographic areas and industrial sectors.

EPA continues to support the base TRI program, which includes processing reporting forms and providing consolidated data to the public. In 2001 EPA expects to process approximately

110,000 facility reports (Toxic Release Inventory Form R's), and subsequently will issue the TRI Public Data Release for reporting year 1999. EPA presents the TRI data in various forms and media to meet the needs of individual and community data users.

Pesticides

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 proposed; new standards (as with FQPA) are applied to old pesticides; and new information is received about pesticides and their impact in 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 training, education materials and programs reflect the most recent developments and findings concerning pesticides. EPA will provide tools, training and assistance to communities to enable them to use the data. A catalogue of tools is under development that will provide information on the characteristics and effects of pesticides. The tools include databases, information hotlines, and descriptions of programs and initiatives that affect local environments. This catalogue will be available as a printed manual and on the Internet with links to other EPA information sites. The catalogue will include descriptions of analytical tools, technical guidelines and other information to help communities learn about risks of pesticides.

EPA will continue to coordinate with other Federal Agencies on outreach initiatives, FQPA activities, Internet updates, improvements on consumer labels and distribution to grocers of the consumer brochure on the health effects of pesticides. A website is also being developed to make this material and other pesticide related information available to a wide public audience. EPA will continue to maintain the National Pesticide Telecommunications Network, an 800-telephone number service that provides communities and the public information on pesticides.

Assistance to Communities

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, how to decide what potential exposures are acceptable, to assess the general environmental health of themselves and their families, to identify pollution prevention opportunities, and to 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.

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.

EPA is working with universities to incorporate risk assessment and pollution prevention approaches into engineering curricula. The Agency is developing a textbook on Green Process Design and other instructional materials for use by engineering schools. These materials will be made available through the Internet and easily accessible to the public.

An important focus of the 1996 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act is to provide better information to consumers on the quality and safety of their drinking water. Pursuant to that statute, EPA promulgated a rule in 1998 requiring systems to issue annual drinking water consumer confidence reports. These reports provide the American public, for the first time, with regular information on the quality of their drinking water. Consumer confidence reports apply to approximately 56,000 community water systems that serve about 92 percent of the population, i.e., 248 million people. In addition, EPA is initiating activities (e.g., polls, focus groups) to ensure that the public is satisfied with the information they are receiving about the quality and safety of their tap water.

In 2001, drinking water systems will be providing their customers with an annual consumer confidence report containing such detailed information as:

- --the rivers, lakes, aquifers that are the source(s) of their drinking water;
- --likely sources of any contaminants;
- --whether or not the tap water meets EPA's safety standards;
- --health risks in systems that violate the safety standards;
- --actions taken to remedy violations; and
- --ways for vulnerable populations to avoid cryptosporidium.

These annual consumer confidence reports are to be mailed by large water suppliers, either as a bill insert or a separate mailing. Smaller systems (those serving less than 10,000 people) may be able to post their report in a central location or print it in a local newspaper.

FY 2001 Change from FY 2000 Enacted

EPM

• (+\$2,165,200) Reflects a cost-of-living adjustment and an increase for the EMPACT program.

Annual Performance Goals and Performance Measures

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Reports

In 2001	Ensure that 100% of community water systems are complying with the Consumer Confidence Rule (CCR) by issuing annual consumer confidence reports.						
In 2000	All community water systems will issue annual consumer confidence reports according to the rule promulgated in August 1998.						
In 1999	EPA achieved its goal of partnering with the states in implementation activities to ensure that all public water systems large, medium and especially small are informed of both the requirements of the consumer confidence report regulation and implementation tools for complying with this rule.						
Performance Measures: FY 1999 FY 2000 FY 2001 Actuals Estimate Request							
•	water systems that will comply ulation to publish consumer reports.		55,000	55,000	CWSs		
agreement o	states with which EPA has an n the most efficient and ethods (e.g., training, outreach) nting this rule in each state.	50			States		
•	served by CWSs that will comply ulation to publish consumer reports.		249 Million	249 million	People		

Baseline: All community water systems are expected to be in compliance by the end of 2000.

Expand Local Information on Toxic Substances

In 2001	Provide information and analytical tools to the public for assessing the risks posed by the release of toxic substances in communities.					
In 2000	Provide information and analytical tools to the public for assessing the risks posed by the release of toxic substances in communities.					
In 1999	In 1999 The TRI Persistent Bio-accumulative Toxics rule was proposed. The final rule was published in the Federal Register in October 1999 (FY 2000).					
Performance	Measures:	FY 1999 Actuals	FY 2000 Estimate	FY 2001 Request		
Addition of l	PBTs to TRI rule-making	Final			Rule	
Provide curre information	ent national risk screening to the public		1998 (data)	1999 (data)	Reports	
Completion	of community risk identification analyses		2	2	Analyses	

Process and Disseminate TRI Information - OEI

identification analyses will be completed in FY 2000.

Baseline:

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.

Release of national risk screening information first occurred in FY 1999. First community risk

In 2000 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.

Performance Measures:	FY 1999 Actuals	FY 2000 Estimate	FY 2001 Request	
TRI Public Data Release		1 Report	1 Report	Published
Form R's Processed		110,000	110,000	Forms
TRIS database complete and report issued		02/2001	02/2001	Published
Data quality: keep data entry error rate below 1% per for	m	below 1%	below 1%	Error Rate
Increase magnetic media use for TRI reporting		72%	72%	Magnetic Media

Baseline: Number of facilities reporting and number of chemicals included in TRI compared with prior year; types of public access methods and % magnetic reporting prior year.

Verification and Validation of Performance Measures

Performance Measure: Form R's processed

Performance Database: TRIM: Toxic Release Inventory Modernization. (Replaces Toxic Release Inventory System (TRIS)) Contains information reported on TRI annual submissions. TRIM contains modules for tracking statistical information

Data Source: Information provided by regulated community.

QA/QC Procedures: QA/QC Protocol Document lists various edit checks, data scrubs, corrections, and normalizations such as city and county name, allowing for more accurate and complete results during data searches.

Data Quality Review: Internal review of hard copy transcription. Not available for reporting year 1998 data but will be reinstituted for subsequent years. Includes a manual comparison of data entered with data received.

Data Limitations: Data are self-reported. Guidance directs values to be based on best readily available information. High variability in data collection may exist among facilities.

New/Improved Data or Systems: TRIM is the result of a two-year modernization process.

Performance Measure: Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) database complete and report issued

Performance Database: Output measure. No database.

Data Source: N/A

QA/QC Procedures: N/A

Data Quality Review: N/A

Data Limitations: N/A

New/Improved Data or Systems: N/A

Coordination with Other Agencies

While the TRI program does not coordinate extensively with other federal agencies, it 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 (GIS). Each year, the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) 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 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 are collected and effectively utilized.

With respect to community-based environmental programs, EPA may coordinate on an adhoc basis 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 Federal geographic Data Committee to develop the infrastructure for national spacial data. EMPACT projects also coordinate with the US Geological Survey to integrate data collection efforts.

As part of the development process for the pesticides consumer brochure, EPA works with stakeholders through the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC), which includes Department of Agriculture and Food and Drug Administration representatives. The PPDC, a committee under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, brings together a broad cross-section of knowledgeable individuals from organizations representing divergent views to discuss pesticide regulatory policy and implementation issues regarding pesticides. The committee consists of a well balanced cross-section of members from industry/trade associations, pesticide user and commodity groups, consumer and environmental/public interest groups and others.

Statutory Authorities

Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA)

Pollution Prevention Act (PPA)

Federal Fungicide, Insecticide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)

Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA)

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA)

Federal Managers Financial Integrity Act (FMFIA)

Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)

Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA)

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

Computer Security Act

Privacy Act

Electronic Freedom of Information Act

Environmental Protection Agency

FY 2001 Annual Performance Plan and Congressional Justification Expansion of Americans' Right to Know About Their Environment

Objective # 3: Enhance Ability to Protect Public Health

By 2005, EPA will meet or exceed the Agency's customer service standards in providing sound environmental information to federal, state, local, and tribal partners to enhance their ability to protect human health and the environment.

Resource Summary (Dollars in thousands)

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Enacted	FY 2001 Request	FY 2001 Req. v. FY 2000 Ena.
Enhance Ability to Protect Public Health	\$25,960.5	\$23,100.1	\$24,751.4	\$1,651.3
Environmental Program & Management	\$14,031.1	\$11,425.3	\$11,499.9	\$74.6
Science & Technology	\$11,662.7	\$11,502.8	\$12,907.0	\$1,404.2
Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$266.7	\$172.0	\$344.5	\$172.5
Total Workyears	151.3	145.6	145.0	(0.6)

Key Programs

(Dollars in thousands)

	FY 1999 Enacted	FY 2000 Enacted	FY 2001 Request
EMPACT	\$6,313.7	\$6,351.8	\$7,137.6
Small, Minority, Women-Owned Business Assistance	\$2,064.4	\$2,188.3	\$2,367.4
Congressional Projects	\$0.0	\$1,968.5	\$2,173.3
Congressional/Legislative Analysis	\$0.0	\$3,119.0	\$3,274.6
National Association Liaison	\$0.0	\$322.4	\$337.4
Regional Operations and Liaison	\$0.0	\$598.3	\$613.5
Administrative Services	\$0.0	\$68.1	\$70.3

FY 2001 Request

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 (OSDBU) 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 "fair 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.

EMPACT

In 2001, EPA will continue to provide grants directly to metropolitan areas for local projects that show innovative and effective ways to monitor and deliver real-time information to citizens. These projects may address a community's interest in clean air, clean water, lead contamination, ocean pollution, overall ecosystem quality, or other important environmental aspects where Americans live, work, learn, and play. These metropolitan area pilots will emphasize active partnerships between local and state government, research institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the private sector, and the Federal government to provide timely environmental information to the public.

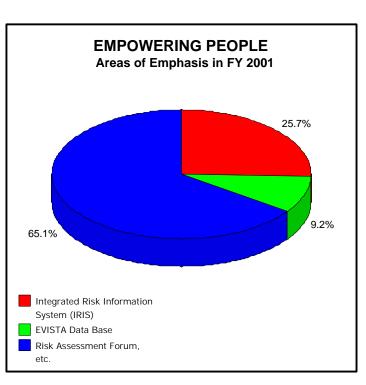
In 2001 funding will be made available directly to metropolitan areas to adopt new technologies that have been proven effective and/or used by other EMPACT metropolitan areas to monitor and report local environmental conditions. These grants will help to build capacity in EMPACT communities to sustain time relevant environmental monitoring.

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 the American with public access to sound environmental information is essential to protecting the environment. Access to environmental information enables the public to be involved and informed environmental decision makers. 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 EVISTA (Evaluation and Interpretation of Suitable Tests in AQUIRE¹) database, which provides EPA's program offices and regions with ecological toxicity information. Following is a discussion of the FY 2001 research program.

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. Risk assessors request EPA to provide it. To ensure the quality, accuracy, credibility, and applicability of IRIS data, assessments undergo external scientific peer review.



¹AQUIRE (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.

In FY 2001, the Agency 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. In FY 2001, the Agency has a goal of completing 21 chemical assessments and making them available on IRIS.

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 2001, 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 database effort for EVISTA will contain 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. In FY 2001, EVISTA will be available on the Internet with the initial release of critically evaluated chemical effects data to support aquatic life and wildlife risk assessments and criteria development.

FY 2001 Change from FY 2000 Enacted

EPM

- (-\$882,900, -10.8 FTE) Reflects decreased emphasis in regional activities under this objective.
- (+\$505,000) Reflects a cost-of-living adjustment.

S&T

• (+\$1,038,400) Reflects a cost-of-living adjustment and an increase for the EMPACT program.

SUPERFUND

• (+\$172,500) Reflects a cost-of-living adjustment.

Research

S&T

• (+\$564,000, +2.1 workyears) The R&D program, including infrastructure support costs, is spread across eight of the ten goals in the Agency's GPRA/budget structure. Based on a review of actual infrastructure utilization under each goal (i.e., utilization of workyears and associated PC&B, travel, operating expenses, and working capital fund), adjustments are being made across goals to more accurately reflect expectations for use in FY 2001.

Annual Performance Goals and Performance Measures

Environmental Information

In 2001	Collect, manage, and present environmental information for the benefit of the Agency and				
	public by funding Environmental Monitoring for Public Access and Community Tracking				
	(EMPACT) grants to an additional 6-9 EMPACT Metro areas.				

In 2000 Collect, manage, and present environmental information for the benefit of the Agency and public by funding Environmental Monitoring for Public Access and Community Tracking (EMPACT) grants to an additional 6-9 EMPACT Metro areas.

Performance Measures:	FY 1999 Actuals	FY 2000 Estimate	FY 2001 Request	
Number of grants awarded to EMPACT Metro Areas.		6-9	6-9	Grants

Baseline: A total of 16 grants are planned to have been awarded in FY 2000.

Research

Risk Assessment

In 2001	Provide guidance for risk assessment to improve the scientific basis of environmental decision-making.
In 2000	Develop data interpretation tools and risk communication tools to provide time relevant information to the public and environmental communities.
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 Estimate	FY 2001 Request	
Publication of final Guidance for Carcinogenic Risk Assessment, Neurotoxicity Risk Assessment, and Health Risk Assessment of Chemical Mixtures.				
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 non-cancer endpoints.		1		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.		1		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 groups for exposure assessments for children.			1	Guidance
abbodding to children.			1	Juluance

Baseline:

The enactment of the Food Quality Protection Act and a number of community based assessment initiatives have highlighted the need for EPA guidance on assessing the cumulative impacts, especially on children, from multiple environmental stressors. The Risk Assessment Forum (RAF) is developing technical papers providing initial guidance on difficult cumulative risk assessment issues and a framework for cumulative risk assessment to serve as a foundation for the potential future development of cumulative risk assessment guidelines. The RAF will also develop guidance on defining children's subgroups and identifying the appropriate age groups for children's exposure assessments. During development of the Guidelines for Ecological Risk Assessment, many reviewers asked that additional detailed information be provided. The Objectives project focuses on the translation of broad management goals into more specific management objectives. Background information has been gathered to support development of the forthcoming Assessment Endpoints guidance document

Environmental Science Information

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 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.

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 FY 2000 FY 2001 Actuals Estimate Request

Add or update to IRIS 15 summaries of the potential adverse health effects of specific chemical substances.

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.

Award 5-7 grants to EMPACT cities to implement timely and high quality environmental monitoring technologies.

Develop new and/or update Agency consensus human health assessments of 21 environmental substances of high priority to EPA and make them publicly available on IRIS.

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.

Baseline:

Environmental data are collected by ORD scientists and engineers and maintained in searchable databases for the benefit of researchers and managers within the Agency. In general such data are not available beyond the group of those who collected or produced it. ORD's Science Information Management System, the Environmental Information Management System (EIMS) is being developed to provide a repository for descriptive information (metadata) about the data, models, documents, and analytical tools created or used by ORD, in an easily accessible format, which is not now available to the public.

Research

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Assessments

Grants

Assessments

List

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1

Verification and Validation of Performance Measures

Performance Measure: The Agency's Risk Assessment Forum will develop technical issue papers and develop a framework for preparing cumulative risk assessments.

Performance Database: Output

Data Source: N/A

QA/QC Procedures: N/A

Data Quality Review: N/A

Data Limitations: N/A

New/Improved Data or Systems: N/A

Performance Measure: The Agency's Risk Assessment Forum will develop guidance on determining management objectives and selecting assessment endpoints for ecological risk assessment.

Performance Database: Output

Data Source: N/A

QA/QC Procedures: N/A

Data Quality Review: N/A

Data Limitations: N/A

New/Improved Data or Systems: N/A

Coordination with Other Agencies

EPA is working closely with several Federal agencies in the implementation of the EMPACT program. Collaboration with these Federal agencies is critical to achieving EMPACT's goal of building capacity in EMPACT metropolitan areas to sustain collection, delivery and accessibility of time relevant environmental monitoring data that is useful to day-to-day decision-making. EPA's Federal partners in the EMPACT Program, US Geological Survey (USGS), and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), as well as the Department of Energy (DOE), have significant expertise in the collection, and management of real-time environmental monitoring data. EPA is working closely with these agencies to leverage their experience and expertise in providing accurate, real-time environmental information to the general public.

To help EPA meet EMPACT's goal of facilitating the translation and delivery of environmental monitoring data into useful information that EMPACT communities can use to make daily decisions, EPA is also collaborating with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). EPA and HUD are working in partnership on several pilot projects that focus on joint agency use of tools for communication of environmental information in urban areas.

EPA is also collaborating with the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) to develop common information standards and an information management policy for the EMPACT program that will ensure data consistency among all EMPACT data providers.

Finally, EPA is working closely with the National Partnership for Reinventing Government (NPR) on the development of EMPACT's national survey to identify local environmental priorities in EMPACT metropolitan areas across the country, and to facilitate collaboration with other Federal programs and initiatives relevant to the goals and objectives of the EMPACT Program. This partnership will help EMPACT to eliminate duplication, cut through red tape, and better coordinate Federal funding.

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 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

Federal Advisory Committee Act

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

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)

CPRKA of 1986

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)

Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA)