

U.S. Department of Energy
Quarterly Teleconference on Implementing
Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Requirements
September 25, 2003, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (EDT)

TOPICS

- Greening Our Electronic Equipment Purchases
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency RCRA 6002 Inspections

PARTICIPANTS:

U.S. Department Of Energy Headquarters

Don Lentzen (EH), Richard Langston, Mara Grissom, Alison Thomas (FEMP)

Office of the Federal Environmental Executive

Dana Arnold, Charles Johnson

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Will Garvey, Christopher Kent

Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition

Ted Smith

Albuquerque Operations Office: Darlene Baca

Kansas City Plant: Carolyn Lucas

Waste Isolation Plant

Chicago Operations Office:

Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory: Tom McGeachen

Fossil Energy/Albany Research Center

Strategic Petroleum Reserves: Joyce Francois

Golden Field Office

National Renewable Energy Laboratory: Don Carlile

Yucca Mountain Characterization Project: Delane Fitzpatrick-Maul

Idaho Operations Office

Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL): Heather Merrill

Oakland Operations Office: Karin King

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL): Bruce Campbell, Kent Wilson

Oak Ridge Operations Office

Oak Ridge Y-12 Facility: Anne Ostergaard

Richland Operations Office

Hanford Site: Ed Foss, Michael Hughes, Bob Moore

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL): Sandra Cannon, Judi Johannesen

Power Administrations

Western: Gene Iley

MINUTES

Introduction - Don Lentzen, DOE-HQ EO 13101 Manager

Notes from National Recycling Coalition Congress (see <http://www.nrc-recycle.org> for presentations)

- In Baltimore MD. ~500 in attendance, ~100 exhibitors.
- Tips from Andy Cox on how to make recycle message stick from among the 3000-4000 messages per day we all receive. Keep message clear, simple, and rewarding.
- Significant time spent on purchasing recycled.
- Communication with your customer and your vendor will help you design a creative approach in these times of tight recycling budgets.

2002 Electronic Equipment Report Card - Ted Smith, Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition (<http://www.svtc.org/cleancecc/pubs/2002report.htm>)

- SVTC – 21st anniversary. SVTC started with concerns for groundwater pollution from electronics manufacturing. Their current focus is on clean design and how to deal with e-waste. U.S. behind Japan and European Union in e-waste issues (WEEE & ROSS Directives).
- Procurement guidelines (developed for health care industry) at http://www.computertakeback.com/legislation_and_policy/hchw_procurement.cfm.
- By building end-of-life management into new purchase contracts, you can drive the market for green design of electronic equipment.

Questions:

Tom McGeachen: Do flat screen monitors have mercury?

Ted: Yes. Request flat screens in which the mercury is designed for easy removal and recovery at the end of the product's life.

Sandra Cannon: Have I heard correctly that Sylvania has a mercury free flat screen monitor?

Ted: Yes, but they are not ready for full marketing. Production is low and cost high.

Sandra Cannon: What are the criteria for the SVTC report card evaluation at <http://www.svtc.org/cleancecc/pubs/2002report.htm#guide?>

Ted: Extended Producer Responsibility, Use of Least Hazardous Materials, Worker Health and Safety, Degree of Accessibility of Information. Fujitsu has gone further in their equipment design and take back programs than other companies this year.

Federal Electronics Challenge - Christopher Kent, EPA, and Charles Johnson, OFEE
(<http://www.federalelectronicchallenge.net/>)

- The Federal government is the single largest purchaser of electronic equipment in the world - \$50 billion annually.
- The Federal government is the biggest generator of e-waste in nation with 10,000 computers excessed weekly.
- Federal employees need education on the electronics challenge, a permanent reuse/recycling system, and standards for best management.
- DoD, DOE, EPA and US Postal Service entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to drive design, purchasing, use, and retirement phases of electronic equipment by the Federal government.
- The Federal group has developed an electronic product assessment tool and design for environmental purchasing.
- Information about 3 commitment levels of membership to FEC online.
- Awards program.
- Teleconference 10/1/03 (1:00 PM Eastern) to describe Federal Electronics Challenge. (206-553-4602)

Energy Efficient Electronic Equipment - Alison Thomas, FEMP
(<http://www.eere.energy.gov/femp/procurement/>)

- In addition to Executive Order 13123 requiring federal agencies to reduce their use of energy and water, a new Executive Order 13221 requires the purchase of energy efficient standby power apparatus.
- Datacenter has database showing standby rating to allow federal agencies to compare products.
- Manufactures voluntarily supply data.
- FEMP Energy Efficient Product website has
 - Energy efficiency recommendations for a number of different products: appliances, office equipment (computers, printers, monitors), etc. with printable files
 - Cost effectiveness calculators
 - Information on where to find GSA Advantage and DLA E-mail
- Once a year FEMP hosts a teleworkshop on buying energy efficient products

Questions?

Tom McGeachen: Where is it on the website?

Alison: <http://oahu.lbl.gov/>

Sandra Cannon: Will the standby data be integrated with the energy efficiency data eventually on one web page?

Alison: By the end of FY2004.

Update on Office of the Federal Environmental Executive Activities and FY2002 Federal Score Card - Dana Arnold, OFEE (www.ofee.gov)

- OFEE has been working on
 - Environmental Management Systems
 - Federal Green Building Report

- Online Green Purchasing training for all five preferred procurement areas. The application is slower than desired but finally available, and funding is in place for continued development. Hopes to offer continuing education credit.
- CPG5 is coming out this fall.
- CPG4 is being finalized this fall.
- OFEE issued a RCRA Section 6002/Executive Order 13101 scorecard to Federal agency executives, based on the FY 2002 data submitted by agencies. They will publicly release the specific scores pending a report to Congress in 2004. Generally, DOE is doing better than most. They scored the highest in most categories except one for which they submitted no information.

Questions:

Tom McGeachen: NRC website doesn't have presentations up yet.
 Dana: Will resolve.

Data call for FY2003 reporting - Don Lentzen

(See "Reporting" at <http://www.eh.doe.gov/p2/ap/default.htm>)

- See the October 1, 2003 memorandum for guidance on submitting your site Affirmative Procurement (recycled product purchasing) report.
- The website for reporting will open in early October. To access the FY2003 DOE reporting website for RCRA 6002/EO13101 data, select "FY2003 Reporting System" at the top of the DOE's Buying Recycled and Environmentally Preferable Products Program website (<http://www.eh.doe.gov/p2/ap/default.htm>).
- Each individual accessing the website to submit data will need a new password. Contact Steve Heineman (p2support@eh.doe.gov) to request your user name and password and let him know of any problems you have accessing the reporting website or recommendations for improvement.
- DOE is asking all sites to report on all the designated products. Even though the Office of Management and Budget is only requiring reporting on one designated product per category, DOE has no way of measuring success without information on all products and the sites must have that information should EPA conduct a RCRA inspection of their site—part of which involves a checklist based on Section 6002--the purchase of designated products with recycled content.
- All sites should QA their data prior to submittal to ensure validity.
- The recycled product reporting website will close on December 30, 2003.

Questions:

Kent Wilson: So we have to report on all CPG items or just the subset of 8 focus items (one from each group)?

Don: All. If you are audited, you will need to have this data anyway, so collection of all data is necessary.

Tom McGeachen: Will we have separate passwords for each person entering data?

Don: Each person entering data should have their own password.

Sandra Cannon: December teleconference will provide walk-through of website.

RCRA Compliance Inspections - Will Garvey, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
(<http://www.eh.doe.gov/p2/ap/audit.htm>)

- The RCRA (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act) or multi-media inspections conducted at federal facilities include a checklist for compliance with RCRA Section 6002. The present checklist is the same as the one issued in 1999.
- Numerous such inspections have been conducted--sometimes on the site and sometimes as a request for written responses.
- Data will be reviewed this fall to determine if reinforcement is needed.
- Based on history, EPA expects that DOE facilities will do well in RCRA 6002 inspections.

Questions:

Kent Wilson: The RCRA inspection of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory was based on the calendar year instead of federal fiscal year. LLNL was required to report on all items and what the total purchases were--very similar to what we report to DOE—but it was time consuming and, therefore, costly to have to convert our fiscal year data into calendar year data.

Sandra Cannon: Did you ask if it would be OK to submit FY data?

Kent: No.

Tom McGeachen: CY is standard for EPA data.

Will: Will look into it.

DOE-HQ Inspection by EPA - Richard Langston, DOE Office of Procurement and Assistance Management

- EPA Region 3 conducted a paper RCRA 6002 inspection of DOE-HQ.
- The inspection involved Richard Langston (Procurement), Don Lenzen (EPP Program), Vehicle Fleet Manager, Ops Managers, Engineering and Facility Management, logistics and supplies people.
- Designated vehicular products were stressed, but DOE-HQ also had a self-assessment form to fill out on all the designated products. For instance, they asked which of the designated products are available through our supply stores.

DOE Field Inspection Experiences/Questions

Princeton Plasma Physics Lab had a RCRA 6002 inspection 4 years ago which focused on solid waste and emissions to air and water.

Sharing

Karin King reported she is still involved in the Federal Network for Sustainability, presently only open to Federal employees.

Next teleconference date: December 4, 2003

Suggested topics for the next teleconference

- X Walk through of FY2003 RCRA 6002 reporting website
- X U.S. Department of Agriculture designated of products requiring purchase with biobased content
- X Walk through latest version of BEES - environmentally preferable evaluation tool for construction products

Previously suggested topics

- X Environmentally Preferable Purchasing in Environmental Management Systems
- X Life cycle comparisons of products with seeming conflicting environmental qualities, such as recycled and zero VOC paint, solid plastic recycled and chipboard clipboards

Adjourn

INDICATOR PRODUCTS for FY2003

- Paper – sanitary tissue
- Non-Paper Office - toner cartridges
- Construction - concrete
- Landscaping - landscaping timbers
- Park and Recreation - benches and picnic tables
- Transportation - traffic barricades
- Vehicular - re-refined oil
- Miscellaneous - signage

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

DOE's "Buying Recycled and Environmentally Preferable Products Program" website for access to the reporting site, annual report, teleconference agenda and minutes, and sources of helpful information

U.S. Department of Energy's RCRA 6002/Executive Order 13101 home page
www.eh.doe.gov/p2 (select "Programs, Initiatives, & Reporting," then "Buying Green")

GENERAL PRODUCT INFORMATION

Database of product information

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
<http://www.epa.gov/oppt/epp/database.htm>

Biobased Products

U.S. Department of Agriculture
<http://usda-biobasedproducts.net/public/>

Energy Efficient Products

Federal Energy Management Program

<http://www.eren.doe.gov/femp/procurement/>

Recycled Products and Suppliers

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/index.htm>

Used Products - Materials Exchange

(especially chemicals, equipment, and hazardous materials) at other DOE facilities

Log on with user name (erhquser) and password (erhqdoe)

DOE Complex Wide Materials Exchange

<http://wastenot.er.doe.gov/DOEmatex/index.html>

SPECIFIC PRODUCT CATEGORIES

Carpet

Contract Language and Standards/Guidelines

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://yosemite1.epa.gov/oppt/eppstand2.nsf/Pages/DisplayAisle.html?Open&Hardware%20Store&Carpet>

Recycled Content Specifications and Suppliers

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products/carpet.htm>

Suppliers

Green Seal “Choose Green Report: Carpet”

http://www.greenseal.org/cgrs/Carpet_CGR.pdf

Cement/Concrete

Recycled Content Specifications and Suppliers

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products/cement.htm>

Cleaning Products

Contract Language and Standards/Guidelines

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://yosemite1.epa.gov/oppt/eppstand2.nsf/Pages/DisplayAisle.html?Open&Hardware%20Store&Cleaning%20supplies%20and%20equipment>

Decision Making Wizard for

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp/cleaners/select/>

Specifications and Process Used at PNNL

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

<http://www.pnl.gov/esp/greenguide/custodialproducts/>

Suppliers

Green Seal “Choose Green Report: Industrial and Institutional Cleaners”

http://www.greenseal.org/cgrs/CGR_I&I_cleaners.pdf

Construction Materials and Products**Contract Language**

U.S. Department of Energy

<http://www.pnl.gov/doesustainabledesign/>, see “Letters of Intent, Construction Contracts”

Paint**Recycled Content Specifications and Suppliers**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products/paint.htm>

Suppliers

Green Seal “Choose Green Report: Architectural Paints”

http://www.greenseal.org/cgrs/CGR_Paints.pdf

Toner Cartridges**Recycled Content Specifications and Suppliers**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products/toner.htm>

Supplier Examples of Quality Remanufactured Cartridges

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

http://www.pnl.gov/esp/greenguide/ap_toner.html