

U.S. Department of Energy
Quarterly Teleconference on Implementing
Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Requirements
April 28, 2005 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (EDT)

TOPICS

- Top products to focus on in FY2005 (over \$1M purchased but under 100% goal)
- 7 newly designated recycled content products

PARTICIPANTS:

DOE HEADQUARTERS PREFERRED PROCUREMENT PROGRAMS: Don Lentzen, Mark Decot, Emile Boulos

DOE-HQ Other: Kevin Groppe, Michael Raizen

OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES:

Office of the Federal Environmental Executive: Dana Arnold

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Holly Elwood, Sue Nogas

CIVILIAN RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT

Yucca Mountain Project: Delane Fitzpatrick-Maul, Joyce Stephens, Marcelle Brown

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

National Renewable Energy Laboratory: Susan Huffnagle

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Office of River Protection: Gae Neath

Richland Operations Office: Tom Ferns

Hanford Site: Jessica Blankenship, Joe Coenenberg, Ed Foss, Nancy Ware, Dick Weldon

Waste Isolation Pilot Plant: Celeste Marsh

FOSSIL ENERGY: Wendy Ferris

National Energy Technology Laboratory: Bruce Webster, Erika Ingle, Marsha Stiles

Strategic Petroleum Reserves: Christina Bigelow

NUCLEAR ENERGY, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory: Darrell Brown, Anne Dustin

POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATIONS

Western Area Power Administration: Gene Iley

SCIENCE

Ames Laboratory: Dan Kayser

Brookhaven National Laboratory: Peter Pohl

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory: Bob Johnson

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory: Sandra Cannon, Wayne Larson
Stanford Linear Accelerator Center: Pamela Wright-Brunache
Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility: Dennis Dobbins, Julie Leverenz

NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION HEADQUARTERS

Albuquerque Service Center: Anne Howe
Los Alamos National Laboratory: Jim Stanton
Naval Reactors
Pittsburgh: Toni Denapoli, Ron Sand, Greg Sawl
Pantex: Julie Marlar
Sandia National Laboratory: Sam McCord
Y-12 Site Office: Jan Gilbert Jackson
Y-12 National Security Complex: Anne Ostergaard, Aprell Patterson

OTHER

Other: Barbara Matos (Veterans Administration), Linda Mesaros (Mesaros Associates, Inc.)

MINUTES

Welcome - Don Lentzen (DOE-HQ Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program Lead)

Office of the Federal Environmental Executive Update – Dana Arnold (OFEE)

- USDA has not released the biobased products proposed for designation to the Office of Management and Budget.
- Please sign up for the Federal Electronic Challenge (www.federalelectronicchallenge.net).

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Update – Holly Elwood (EPP)

- The internal EPA electronic catalog for office supplies, including many green office supply options, will be mandatory by May 1st for all EPA offices across the nation. The system offers products with more positive environmental attributes, avoiding those without positive environmental attributes where possible.
- A new version of the *Federal Guide for Green Construction Specs* reflecting public comments will be released soon. Visit <http://fedgreenspecs.wbdg.org> for more information.
- The report, *Incorporating Green Purchasing in Your Environmental Management System*, is now published on the Internet (www.epa.gov/epp/ems.htm).
- On November 15, 2004, eleven federal agencies signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), committing to meet the goals of the Federal Electronics Challenge by greening the purchasing, use, and disposal of their electronic equipment. John Shaw, your DOE Environmental Executive, signed this MOU, which means DOE strongly encourages all your facilities across the country to become FEC Partners by filling out the FEC baseline survey and setting specific goals for your facilities. Go to www.federalelectronicchallenge.net to find out more and access the survey and goal identification forms. To view the MOU DOE signed, go to <http://www.federalelectronicchallenge.net/tools/memorand.pdf>.
- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's government wide Federal electronics recycling contract is in place and can be used by any Federal agency or their contractor (<http://www.epa.gov/oam/read/>).

- Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT - <http://www.epeat.net>)
 - EPEAT is a voluntary program/ tool to compare environmental performance of computer equipment.
 - EPEAT identifies criteria in eight environmental performance categories and was developed in conjunction with institutional purchasers, major computer manufacturers, non-profits, and electronic recyclers
 - It is important for all Federal agencies to include EPEAT criteria in our solicitations and contracts for computer equipment so we send a consistent message to vendors as to what we expect AND vendors can rely on that consistency rather than try to meet different demands from different customers.
 - EPEAT identifies three levels of success: bronze, silver, and gold – depending on which criteria are met.
 - Vendors will self-evaluate products and declare achievements.

DOE BuyBio Project Update – Mark Decot (DOE-HQ Buy Bio Project Lead)

- The U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters Preferred Procurement Partnership won Honorable Mention for the Closing the Circle award in the category of Green Purchasing.
- Update on designation of biobased products:
 - The U. S. Department of Agriculture has identified 120 items/products that could be designated for purchase with biobased content.
 - The rule for the first set of proposed products is in process and will consist of 6 items. Once announced, the public will have 30 days to comment before the first set of products are officially designated, which is expected by the end of summer.
 - The second and third rules will propose 10 items each.
 - The deadline for Federal agencies to have their biobased procurement plans established is January 11, 2006.
- The “U.S. Department of Energy Buys Bio for Energy Security” display is presently in two locations: the Visitor Center at the National Renewable Energy Lab and the Midwest Weatherization Assistance Office, which will rotate to a few public employee recognition events. The posters are available for any DOE site to display. Send requests to sandra.cannon@pnl.gov.
- The U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters is presently purchasing two biobased products: biobased window cleaner from JWOD through the Government supply store and biobased Interface carpet on contract.

Comment – Linda Mesaros (Mesaros Associates, Inc.): The USDA rules will be part of the FAR. Also during the hearing of the new Deputy Secretary for USDA, many questions concerned the biobased program, resulting in more leadership for the program .

Delane Fitzpatrick-Maul (YMP): What are the six items to be designated first?

Dana Arnold (OFEE): The six products have yet to be announced, but cleaning products are not one of the initial group of biobased products USDA is proposing.

Top Products to Focus on in FY2005 – Over \$1M Purchased but Under 100% Goal

- **Remanufactured toner cartridges** - \$8M purchased – 46% remanufactured purchased - Sandra Cannon (PNNL):
 - **Designation:** Toner cartridges are the only cartridges designated. Neither ink jet nor plotter nor copy machine cartridges are designated.
 - **Cost:** Remanufactured toner cartridges are roughly half the cost of virgin cartridges.
 - **Availability:** At any given time, the market will not have remanufactured cartridges available for new printers on the market. List the printers affected when reporting.
 - **Performance:** Like any other product, there are good quality and poor quality remanufactured cartridges. The protocol for identifying good quality remanufactured cartridges and a list of manufacturers of remanufactured cartridges is available on the DOE EPP website (<http://www.eh.doe.gov/p2/ap/default.htm>). Click on the toner cartridge icon.
 - **Warranty:** In general, printer manufactures only warranty damage to their printers if caused by that company's toner cartridge. If any other cartridge (virgin or remanufactured) causes malfunction of the printer, the printer manufacturer typically will not be responsible.
 - **Specific Problems:**
 - Indicators are the Hewlett Packard 5500 printer may have a computer chip making use of remanufactured cartridges difficult. Symptoms experienced so far are:
 - HP 5500 printer gives message saying it cannot calibrate with the remanufactured cartridge in it. The way around it is to hit ok, ok, ok to finally obtain printer function.
 - Each time the printer is used, at least one of the following problems occurs:
 - Indicator comes on saying no toner left but in fact lots of toner remains
 - Colors are inaccurate (red is pink, for example) or totally lacking
 - Prints are sometimes faded, blotchy, or smeared
 - Periodically printer stops all together
 - HP 4050 black & white also known to give "cannot calibrate" and "toner low" inaccurate messages
 - Xerox will not function unless the toner cartridges, transparencies, etc. are Xerox products.

Comments –Dana Arnold (OFEE): When remanufactured toner cartridges were first designated, color printers were not so prevalent on the market so we did not verify availability of quality remanufactured cartridges for such printers. We may need to revisit that.

Anne Dustin (INL): Idaho National Lab is purchasing remanufactured cartridges for black and white laser printers from a local company and having no problems but has not yet found quality remanufactured cartridges for its color laser printers.

Erika Ingle (NETL) – National Energy Technology Lab has successfully used re-manufactured toner cartridges for color printers using local vendors, which saves us \$40K/year. Our color printers are mostly 4500s and 4600s.

Sam McCord (SNL) : Sandia National Lab is not using remanufactured toner cartridges in our HP 5500 color printers.

- **Recycled uncoated printing paper** (paper for color printers) - \$6M – 78% - Dennis Dobbins and Julie Leverenz (JLAB)
 - Jefferson Lab has a site-wide copier/printer paper contract for recycled content paper. Reams of paper are available at central locations throughout the Lab for networked and desktop printers. This reduces individual paper purchases and prices while improving recycled content paper compliance.
 - However, recycled paper has not worked well in the Lab's high speed copier (CLC 5000), which specifically excludes recycled paper because of dust content. We continue to work with the copy machine manufacturer and DOE to identify a suitable paper that does not cause jams and produces high-quality color images.
 - Image Runner C 3200 color printer more readily accepts recycled paper, and Xerox does not preclude recycled paper but they find the Hammermill 32 lb works better—cost of \$60/ream.
 - Yucca Mountain is unable to find recycled paper with good enough quality for color documents. Black and white printers currently use recycled paper.

Comments – Bob Johnson (Fermi): Fermi has a newer Image Runner Printer/Copier (CC800), which can use 30% post-consumer, 20 lb recycled paper

Delane Fitzpatrick-Maul (YMP): Information added after the teleconference is that Yucca Mountain is unable to find recycled paper with good enough quality for color documents from high speed production copiers. Network color and black and white printers currently use recycled paper.

Stan Kophs (PNNL): Information added after the teleconference is that PNNL uses 30% post-consumer, 8.5x11-inch, 28 lb, 96 bright acid free paper by Wausau supplied by Service Paper Company (Dennis Adams at 800-829-0081) in a Xerox 2045 color printer. The cost is \$7.51/ream.

Tom McGeachen (PPPL): Information added after the teleconference is that PPPL uses 30% post-consumer, 8.5x11-inch, 20 lb, 88 bright laser paper by Weyerhaeuser (<http://www.weyerhaeuser.com/ourbusinesses/pulppaperpckging/businesspapers/business/stockite>)

mlist.asp) (order no. 8155) in their Xerox Phaser 8400 color printer. The cost is \$6.39/ream, which PPPL purchases by the case (10 reams) and is finding the results very good so far.

- **Retread tires** - \$1M purchased – 14% retread purchased – Ed Foss (Fluor Hanford)

Fluor Hanford is the service center for General Services Administration fleet vehicles and, as such, must comply with GSA requirements, which per the National Maintenance Control Center's Policy document dated September 18, 2000 are:

- Retread tires shall be procured to the maximum extent practical when suitable for the intended use, reasonably available, convenient for our vehicle operators, economical and of good quality.
- Retread tires shall not be used on sedans, station wagons, and passenger vans.
- Retread tires are not allowed on the front (steering) axle of buses and large trucks but can be used on the rear (non-steering wheels).
- If uncertain about the applicability of retreads on a particular vehicle, please contact the local Fleet Management Center to resolve the issue.

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Comments – Christine Bigelow (SPR): Strategic Petroleum Reserve is not able to use retread tires on emergency response vehicles.

Sandra Cannon (PNNL):

- Retread tires that meet Federal specification ZZ-T-381 (Tires, Pneumatic, Vehicular—Highway) for passenger vehicles not readily available
- Retread tires that meet Federal specs for trucks and large equipment are available and a major cost savings (call 888-473-8732 for supplier information).
- Retread tires that meet Federal specs are used on airplanes, Post Office trucks, etc.

Dana Arnold: There are legitimate reasons for not using retread tires. The goal is to use them whenever possible.

Question – Dick Weldon (Hanford Site): Does DOE have any prohibitions concerning the use of retread tires?

Answer (after the teleconference) – Per Betty (“BJ”) Morris (HQ NNSA), DOE does not have any restrictions on retread tires. DEAR policy 923.703 was revised September 2, 2003 to include requirements in Executive Order 13149, which specifically says sites should give preference to retread tires along with re-refined oils and biobased motor vehicle product. However, the justified exceptions are applicable where retread tires are either not available for the particular vehicle/equipment or do not meet performance specifications. Cost is not an issue for retread tires because they cost considerably less than virgin tires.

- **Concrete with fly ash/blasting grit** (FY05 cenospheres/silica fume) - \$5M – 72% - Sandra Cannon (PNNL)

- Some sites do not have regional accessibility to concrete with fly ash/blasting grit or the new additives, cenospheres/silica fume.
- Fly ash makes concrete stronger.
- Information added after the teleconference: Bags of premixed concrete do not seem to be available with fly ash, etc. Can we encourage that it be included in premixed concrete or do technical reasons preclude that?
- **Recycled binders** - \$1M – 49% - Sandra Cannon (PNNL) – Information added after the teleconference:
 - Reuse is key for internal binders
 - Set up an Office Products Exchange to share binders and other excess/slightly used office products
 - Binders clean up well with vinegar.
 - Recycled binders are available from Boise Office Solutions (Guy Brown), Corporate Express (Pacific Office Solutions), Javits-Wagner-O'Day

7 Newly Designated Products: Approach to Incorporating in Purchasing Systems + Suppliers, Cost, Performance, and Obstacles to Overcome - DOE Sites Link to: <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products.htm>

- **Approach** – Christina Bigelow (SPR)
 - Distributed laminated cards to staff with credit cards. The cards list all products requiring recycled content and highlight the 7 newly designated products.
 - Talked with stakeholders to identify path forward for purchasing newly designated products
 - Have incorporated new products in design review packages
- **Furniture – Office** – Delane Fitzpatrick-Maul (YMP)
 - Information Yucca Mountain Project has to share applies only to purchases of furniture from the Federal government sectors of the major furniture manufacturers.
 - The following criteria should be evaluated when purchasing furniture: 1) LEED certified manufacturing facility, 2) ISO 14000 certified, 3) ergonomic issues, 4) low mercury lighting, 5) biobased and recycled content (all steel has 25-30% recycled content), 6) daylight views, 7) minimal packaging, 8) low or no volatile organic compounds released from new components, 9) reusability, and 10) recyclability or disassembly for end use disposition. Several office furniture manufacturers are LEED and ISO14001 certified.

Comment – Christine Bigelow (SPR): SPR repairs rather than replaces its office furniture. Are we out of compliance by doing this?
 Answer: No, reuse is more environmental than buying new because reuse uses no energy, water, or other such resources.

- **Blasting Grit** – No discussion.
- **Vehicle Parts – Rebuilt** – Christine Bigelow (SPR)
 - Rebuilt vehicle parts have a stigma of that needs to be overcome. Rebuilt parts must meet same specifications as new parts.
 - Only significant issues are with defense and emergency vehicles.
- **Pipe – Non-Pressure** – no discussion
- **Roofing Materials** – no discussion
- **Ramps – Modular Threshold** – no discussion
- **Racks – Bicycle** – no discussion

Next teleconference

- Date - July 28, 2005
- Scheduled: Walk through latest version of BEES - environmentally preferable evaluation tool for construction products, in particular those with biobased and recycled content (such as carpet and transformer oils)
- Other potential topics for the next teleconference. Please share your ideas. Some suggested so far are
- Life cycle comparisons of products with seeming conflicting environmental qualities, such as recycled and zero VOC paint, solid plastic recycled and chipboard clipboards

Adjourn

MAGNIFICENT SEVEN: NEWLY DESIGNATED RECYCLED PRODUCTS

Begin Purchasing and Collecting Purchasing Data by May 1, 2005

- Blasting Grit
- Furniture - Office
- Pipe – Non-Pressure
- Racks - Bicycle
- Ramps – Modular Threshold
- Roofing Materials
- Vehicle Parts - Rebuilt

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

DOE's "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
<http://www.eh.doe.gov/p2/ap/default.htm>

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Executive Orders, Regulations, Guidelines

Office of the Federal Environmental Executive

<http://ofee.gov/gp/gp.htm>

What Is Green Purchasing, Anyway?

Office of Personnel Management

www.golearn.gov (Free Catalog Section, then Legislatively Mandated...Topics)

GENERAL PRODUCT INFORMATION

Environmentally Preferable Products

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/oppt/epp/database.htm>

Alternative Fuels/Vehicles

U.S. Department of Energy

<http://www.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/epact/federal/>

Biobased Products

U.S. Department of Agriculture

<http://www.biobased.oce.usda.gov/public/index.cfm>

Energy/Water Efficient Products

Federal Energy Management Program

<http://www.eere.energy.gov/femp/technologies/eeproducts.cfm>

Recycled Products and Suppliers

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines

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

Materials Exchange Products

(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>

Substitutes for Ozone-Depleting Products

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/ozone/snap/lists/index.html>

SPECIFIC PRODUCT CATEGORIES

Carpet

Contract Language and Standards/Guidelines

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Select "carpet" at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/oppt/epstand2.nsf/Pages/Search.html?Open>

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

Select "concrete" at

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/oppt/epstand2.nsf/Pages/Search.html?Open>

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>