

DOE Sustainability Assistance Network (SAN) Notes
Thursday, February 16, 2012

1. Sustainability Performance Office (SPO) Highlights

Paul Estabrooks, SPO

The Sustainability Performance Office (SPO) extends its appreciation for sites' efforts expended in completing and submitting the Site Sustainability Plans and the Consolidated Energy Data Report (CEDR). This information is used to develop the 2012 DOE Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan and the annual energy report to Congress which is required by law. The CEDR is also used to develop the Department's annual greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory for the Office of Management and Budget and the Council on Environmental Quality.

The SPO will issue guidance for the development of the composite sustainability plans required by Order 436.1, *Departmental Sustainability*. The plans are developed at the program secretarial and under secretary level to provide a multi-year outlook on achieving the DOE sustainability goals.

The SPO and HS-22 recently initiated planning for the Department's observance of Earth Day. Earth Day at Forrestal will be celebrated from 16 to 20 April and at Germantown from 23 to 27 April.

Contact Bev Whitehead if you would like to participate in the Earth Day planning. Contact Bev also if you would like your Earth Day celebration show-cased at Forrestal and Germantown.

2. Buy It Green BIG LIST

Gabriel Adams, SPR

The Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) developed its successful Buy It Green (BIG) List and methodology to facilitate compliance with Executive Order 13423, *Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management*. The BIG List roll-out process included three videos on the what and why and how of buying green and three documents that described the goals of the Executive Order and how to use the BIG List.

Additional factors that contributed to the success of the BIG List are as follows.

- Contractors are directed to use the BIG List.
- BIG is the centralized, single location for required preferential purchasing for all SPR users.
- BIG lists current affirmative procurement, bio-preferred, EPEAT, Energy Star, and Water Sense products and links to their catalogs and/or websites.
- Purchases by M&O and non-M&O personnel are easily captured and reported.
- BIG is specifically tailored to SPR purchasing needs (because of its wider audience, the FedCenter materials must be very extensive).

As an additional sustainability check, any product that requires a material safety data sheet (MSDS) must be approved through SPR safety and environment channels before it can be added to BIG. This review ensures that products that would contribute to GHG emissions or increased waste generation are selected with care.

3. Extension of Sustainability Award Nominations

Josh Silverman, HS-22

The merger of the EStar Awards and the Department's Energy Management Awards programs into the DOE Sustainability Awards Program give sites until April 30, 2012 to nominate their sustainable energy and environment programs and practices. Nominations will be made through the Pollution Prevention Tracking and Reporting System (PPTRS). Information on the nomination and award process will be forthcoming.

4. Pollution Prevention Audit

Josh Silverman, HS-22

The Department received notice that the Inspector General does not intend to issue a Department-level report on its recent audit of the DOE pollution prevention program because the audit did not reveal any significant Department-level issues. The quality of data the sites collected and reported over the years contributed to the Inspector General's finding.

5. Sustainability and Compliance Reporting

EMS Audit Assistance

Josh Silverman, HS-22

To assist sites in complying with the requirement that environmental management systems (EMS) undergo an independent audit by a qualified external auditor every three years, HS is brokering an "auditor-exchange" under which an EMS qualified auditor from one site will conduct an audit at another site in return for some type of exchange of service. Contact Jerry DiCerbo (see contact information section) if you would like to participate in the EMS auditor exchange.

Audits must be completed by July of 2012 and must be accompanied with an acceptance of the audit findings completed by the cognizant senior manager.

Clean Air and GHG Update

Larry Stirling, HS-22

Facilities subject to the GHG Mandatory Reporting Rule (MRR) subparts issued in calendar year 2009 must submit their GHG annual report by March 31, 2012. Facilities subject to the GHG MRR subparts issued in calendar year 2010 must submit their annual report by September 28, 2012. Facilities subject to subparts issued in both calendar years must notify the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by March 31, 2012 that they will be delaying the calendar year 2011 GHG emissions report until September 28, 2012.

EPA recently

- extended the compliance date to three years after publication of the final National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutant (NESHAP) boiler rule;
- issued a settlement agreement that increased the use of reciprocating internal combustion engines (RICE) for emergency demand response use from 15 hours per year to the lesser of 60 hours per year or the amount required by an energy provider;
- updated the Significant New Alternatives Program (SNAP) for ozone depleting substances (ODS) to include Isobutane (R-600a) and R-441a, substances mainly applicable to refrigerators and freezers; and
- initiated information collection requests applicable to (1) producers, importers, and distributors of Class I ODS, and research institutions using such substance, and (2) Clean Air Act Title V major sources. The latter request regards the effectiveness of the Flexible Air Permits Rule and the Greenhouse Gas Tailoring Rule.

Sustainability Acquisition / Electronic Stewardship Update

Jeff Eagan, HS-21

Congratulations to the GreenBuy winners who were announced at the January Sustainable Acquisition conference call. Official email notifications will be forthcoming to the winning sites.

The next Sustainable Acquisition conference call is scheduled for Thursday, March 22.

Electronics stewardship data from fiscal year 2011 showed that DOE's EPEAT procurements exceeded the 95 percent level and that its electronics disposition rate was in the 98 to 99 percent range. Future efforts will be in the area of increasing the use of certified recyclers.

Calendar year reporting on power management revealed that the Department had almost achieved the target of 100 percent implementation. An objective for the present year is to clarify the definition of equipment excluded from power management implementation.

Contact Information:

Gabriel Adams – (504) 734-4503 – Gabriel.Adams@SPR.DOE.gov
Jerry DiCerbo – (202) 586-5047 – Gerald.DiCerbo@hq.doe.gov
Jeff Eagan – (202) 586-4598 – Jeff.Eagan@hq.doe.gov
Paul Estabrooks – (202) 586-2674 – Paul.Estabrooks@ee.doe.gov
Josh Silverman – (202) 586-6535 – Josh.Silverman@hq.doe.gov
Larry Stirling – (202) 586-2417 – John.Stirling@hq.doe.gov
Beverly Whitehead – (202) 586-6073 – Beverly.Whitehead@hq.doe.gov

Next SAN Conference Call: March 15, 2012

*Contact Beverly Whitehead (HS-21), (202) 586-6073, Beverly.Whitehead@hq.doe.gov,
with issues you would like to raise and/or presentations you would like to make.*