



National Tribal Compliance Assurance Priority

EPA's Enforcement & Compliance Assurance Program

National Environmental Partnership Summit

May 10, 2006



Background

- Joint undertaking by EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance & Regional offices
 - Coordinated with all EPA's media programs -- Water, Pesticides, Toxics, and Waste
 - Coordination with EPA's American Indian Environmental Office and Office of Environmental Information
- On-going dialogue with tribes and tribal organizations
- Leveraging resources with other federal agencies and non-federal organizations
- Committed to three years of intense work
 - Fiscal years 2005 through 2007



Overarching Goals

- Improve human health and the environment in Indian country through achievement of regulatory compliance by facilities in or affecting Indian country
- Significantly expand tribal compliance assurance presence through development of tribal compliance assurance programs, with emphasis on training tribal inspectors
- Continue to address other high priority areas of interest to EPA and tribes



Specific Goals


- Accomplish goals through **capacity building** and **direct implementation**
 - Three programmatic focus areas:
 - Schools
 - Drinking water
 - Solid Waste
 - Additional focus areas:
 - Data in Indian country
 - Training tribal environmental professionals
 - Performance measures for each focus area



Schools

- Schools and children's health are a priority for both EPA and tribes across the nation.
 - Environmental issues of concern include: asbestos, lead-based paint, and disposal of spent school lab chemicals
- Provide compliance assistance and beyond compliance information (pollution prevention) information
- Conduct inspections and follow-up with appropriate enforcement response
- Promote tribal connection in HealthySEAT and Schools Chemical Cleanout Campaign
- Work with the Bureau of Indian Affairs to identify schools, understand issues, and address problems

- Healthy School Environments Assessment Tool
- School districts can evaluate and manage facilities for key environmental, safety and health issues
- Download from web and customize
- Webcast training available (6/20 & 7/27)
- <http://www.epa.gov/schools/healthyseat/>



School Chemical Cleanout Campaign (SC3)

- Outdated, unknown chemicals can be dangerous, lead to accidents
- SC3 seeks to remove old chemicals, implement pollution prevention, raise awareness
- Pilots are underway, including Poarch Band of Creek Indians
- Interagency effort to expand SC3 nationally—announce in Fall, 2006
- <http://www.epa.gov/sc3/>





Drinking Water

- Safe drinking water is one of the highest priorities for EPA and tribes
- National and regional coordination on technical assistance, compliance assurance and
- Focus on approaches to assessing results and identifying “root causes” of compliance problems
- EPA is committed to reaching 100% of identified, federally regulated tribal public water systems
 - Via compliance and technical assistance and in providing appropriate follow-up for systems with significant non-compliance



Solid Waste

- Continue assisting tribes to develop and implement integrated solid waste management plans
 - Plans address code, public education, purchasing, recycling and collections
- Education and infrastructure are key to encouraging proper waste disposal and stopping illegal dumping
- Close coordination among tribes and federal government to address common issues (economies of scale)



Data, Training & Information

- Ensure EPA databases contain up-to-date information on regulated facilities in Indian country
- Facilitate the training of tribal environmental professionals and
 - Increase the number of tribal compliance monitoring inspectors
- Provide focused compliance and technical assistance information via the Internet and directly to tribes and regulated facilities



Measuring Results

- **Compliance Assistance**

- Reached over 3000 tribal entities
- Provided to 812 tribal drinking water systems
- Provided to 449 tribes for solid waste issues
- Provided to 86 BIA Schools

- **Inspections**

- Conducted 118 inspections at BIA schools

- **Training**

- 558 tribal environmental professionals trained

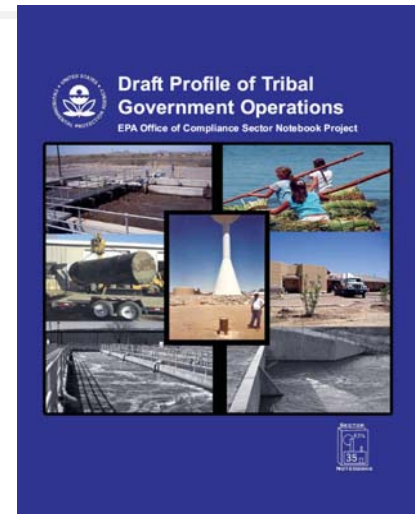


Measuring Results

- Drinking Water
 - 283 nitrate or microbial rule violations addressed (Goal was 120)
 - Addressed nitrate or microbial violations at 63 of the 108 drinking water systems that were SNC exceptions for one or both of those rules (Goal was 7)
- Solid Waste
 - Assessed 21 solid waste landfills

Profile of Tribal Government Operations

- Provides comprehensive information about tribal environmental responsibilities
 - Organized by governmental operation
 - Solid waste, water supply, public safety, buildings, pesticides, auto fleets, etc.
- Explains processes tribes can adopt to achieve and maintain environmental compliance as efficiently as possible
- Offer information about building technical, administrative, and financial capacity
- One of 36 “Sector Notebooks”





On-line Environmental Resources for Indian Country

- Assist tribes identify environmental issues associated with specific services and activities and how to address compliance issues
 - Public water systems, schools, waste management, pesticides, vehicles, forestry, construction, and more
 - Links to federal, state, tribal resources
- Existing, similar non-tribal site
www.lgean.org/html/city.cfm
- On-line in Summer 2006



FY 2006 Work

- Focus on measurement and data
 - Measure our activities and effectively track results
 - Identify facilities located inside Indian country and those outside of Indian country with significant impacts on Indian country
- Increase the number of tribal environmental professionals trained
- Coordinate with regions and tribes



In Conclusion...

- Much success and significant work remains
 - Continue positive, regular dialogue tribes
 - Ensure measurement and reporting of activities
 - Analyze data to better understand “root causes” of noncompliance and most effective way to ensure compliance
 - Target OECA and Regional FTE and Funds
- Plan for the Future
 - Possible FY 2008 through 2011 continuation



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