

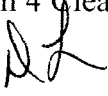


UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

DEC 17 2013

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Updated Region 4 Clean and Green Policy, November 2013

FROM: Diedre Lloyd 
Superfund Division Green Remediation Coordinator

TO: Franklin E. Hill, Director
Superfund Division

This memorandum and the attached Clean and Green Policy for Region 4 have been prepared as an update to the previous Region 4 Clean and Green Policy signed on February 17, 2010. The current, updated regional policy maintains the general elements of protective cleanups as outlined in the 2010 policy and incorporates strengthened language with respect to protective cleanups which include “consultation with communities regarding action impacts consistent with existing requirements” and “consideration of anticipated future land use” which emphasize that the updated Region 4 Clean and Green Policy is not intended to compromise cleanup goals or objectives but will ensure cleanups remain protective of human health and the environment. The updated policy also includes and addresses how any past and future climatic changes that may result in programmatic vulnerabilities are identified, evaluated and how regionally protective remedies will be implemented and where this information can be found.

Minor adjustments to the policy language have also been made to better reflect the Environmental Protection Agency’s Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response five principles for Greener Cleanups which include the conversion of language on sustainable reuse to language that reflects land management and ecosystem protection. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (404) 229-9500.

Attachments: Updated Region 4 Clean and Green Policy



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4 SUPERFUND DIVISION

Clean and Green Policy

Background

The goal of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4 Superfund Division's *Clean and Green Policy* is to enhance the environmental benefits of federal cleanup programs by promoting technologies and practices that are sustainable. The objectives of this policy are to:

- Protect human health and the environment;
- Support land management and ecosystems protection;
- Minimize impacts to water quality and water resources;
- Reduce air toxics emissions and greenhouse gas production;
- Minimize material use and waste production;
- Conserve natural resources and energy;
- Consult with communities regarding response action impacts consistent with existing requirements;
- Consider anticipated future land use; and
- Ensure any past and future climatic changes that result in programmatic vulnerabilities are identified, evaluated and regional protectiveness remedies implemented.

This *Clean and Green Policy* complies with all applicable laws and regulations and applies to all Superfund cleanups, including those performed by Potential Responsible Parties (PRP-lead), EPA and/or the US Army Corps of Engineers contractors (Fund-lead), and Federal Facilities. In accordance with the EPA Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) Principles for Greener Cleanups (<http://www.epa.gov/oswer/greenercleanups/principles.html>), issued on August 27, 2009, Region 4's Superfund Division *Clean and Green Policy* encourages cleanup practices that:

- Employ 100% use of renewable energy, and energy conservation and efficiency approaches including EnergyStar equipment, to the extent possible;
- Use cleaner fuels (i.e. biodiesel), diesel emission controls and retrofits, and employ greenhouse gas emission reduction strategies (i.e. anti-idling plans);
- Utilize water conservation and efficiency approaches including WaterSense products;
- Incorporate green and sustainable site design;
- Utilize reused or recycled industrial materials within regulatory requirements;
- Require recycling or reuse of materials generated at or removed from site;
- Use environmentally preferable purchasing and environmentally sustainable evaluation criteria in major competitive source selection;
- Ensure methane recovery from landfills;
- Support greenhouse gas emissions reduction technologies;
- Support renewable resources after cleanup is completed; and

- Implement Environmental Management System (EMS) practices such as reducing the use of paper by requiring electronic transmittal of project documents and implementation of on-site waste reduction and recycling programs.

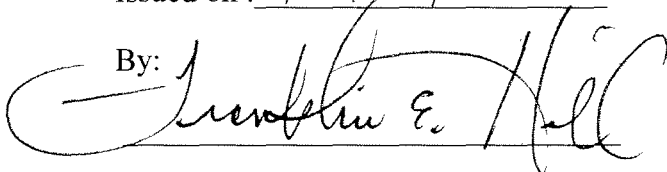
These sustainability practices will be evaluated on a site-by-site basis. Sustainability should be incorporated where determined appropriate into Superfund cleanups performed by EPA or under EPA oversight.

Use of these and other green remediation technologies and /or techniques are the “point of departure” for Region 4 Superfund Division cleanups and will be the standard unless site-specific evaluation demonstrates impracticability or favors an alternative approach. In accordance with OSWER Principles for Greener Cleanups..... “*This approach should be considered during any phase of work, including site investigation, evaluation of cleanup options, and optimization of design, implementation, and operation of new or existing cleanups. All cleanup approaches, and all elements of the cleanup process, can be optimized to enhance their overall environmental outcome; therefore, green remediation involves more than merely adopting a specific technology or technique*”.....As such, this **Clean and Green Policy** does not fundamentally change how and why cleanup decisions are made, but calls for more sustainable methods of implementing cleanups. In implementing this policy, project managers are encouraged to consider the application of lifecycle analysis tools. These tools can help account for the manufacture, use, and transport of materials, products, equipment and generated wastes associated with all phases of the cleanup.

A comprehensive set of green approaches to site cleanup may be found at www.clu-in.org/greenremediation and at <http://www.epa.gov/region4/superfund/allresource/greenr/greenr.html>, along with a comprehensive plan to address climatic changes nationally and regionally. The national draft plan can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/pdfs/EPA-climate-change-adaptation-plan-final-for-public-comment-2-7-13.pdf> and the regional draft plan can be found at <http://epa.gov/climatechange/Downloads/impacts-adaptation/region-4-plan.pdf>.

Region 4 Superfund Division intends to measure the environmental benefits associated with implementing this **Clean and Green Policy** to the extent possible. Measures based on tracking quantities of materials reduced, reused or recycled; carbon or greenhouse gas reduction; and , water conserved or replenished will be established. Region 4 may use existing progress reporting requirements in enforcement instruments, grant and contracts to collect this data. The data may also be collected through regional or national measurement assessment tools.

Issued on : 12/17/2013

By: 

Franklin E. Hill, Director
Superfund Division
USEPA Region 4