



EPA Region 2 *Clean and Green* Policy

EPA Region 2 issued the first green remediation policy on March 17, 2009. This is an update to the *Clean & Green* Policy.

The goal of the Region 2 *Clean & Green* Policy is to enhance the environmental benefits of federal cleanup programs by promoting technologies and practices that are sustainable. The objectives of [Green Remediation](#) are to: protect human health and the environment by achieving remedial action goals; support human and ecological use and reuse of remediated land; minimize impacts to water quality and water resources; reduce air emissions and greenhouse gas production; minimize material use and waste production; and conserve natural resources and energy.

This *Clean & Green* policy applies to: Superfund cleanups performed by Potentially Responsible Parties, by EPA and/or Army Corps of Engineer contractors, and by Federal Facilities; RCRA corrective action cleanups performed under EPA oversight; and cleanup work implemented through EPA's Brownfields grant program.

The policy establishes a preference for use of:

- 100% use of renewable energy, and energy conservation and efficiency approaches including EnergyStar equipment
- Cleaner fuels and clean diesel technologies and strategies
- Water conservation and efficiency approaches including WaterSense products
- Sustainable site design
- Industrial material reuse or recycling within regulatory requirements
- Recycling applications for materials generated at or removed from the site
- Environmentally Preferable Purchasing
- Greenhouse gas emission reduction technologies

Under this policy, certain green remediation practices will serve as touchstones for Region 2 response actions. These practices are the "point of departure" for Superfund cleanups, and will be standard unless a site-specific evaluation demonstrates impracticability or favors an alternative green approach. The Touchstone practices are listed at:

http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/green_remediation/touchstones.html

Region 2 has metrics to demonstrate the environmental benefits associated with implementing this *Clean & Green* policy. The Region uses existing progress reporting requirements in enforcement instruments, grants and contracts to collect data. Those metrics can be found at:

http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/green_remediation/metrics.html

Walter E. Mugdan, Director
Emergency and Remedial Response Division

March 11, 2010

Date of Update