



Manchester Environmental Laboratory Environmental Policy Statement

The Manchester Environmental Laboratory is home to the USEPA Region 10 Laboratory, the State of Washington Department of Ecology Laboratory and the USEPA Region 10 Environmental Services Assistance Team, along with associated support staff. The goal of the employees of the Manchester Environmental Laboratory is to make our air cleaner, our water purer, and our land better protected from contamination and the impacts of human development. The employees of the Manchester Environmental Laboratory work toward this goal by applying science in support of our media programs. To accomplish this task, we maintain a fully equipped laboratory to produce physical, chemical and biological data for environmental decision-making. Since laboratories themselves can be substantial sources of pollution and hazardous waste production, the employees of this laboratory commit to the following environmental management policy:

Compliance with Relevant Laws:

We will comply fully with the letter and the spirit of all applicable federal, state and local environmental legislation and regulatory requirements. Where existing laws and regulations are not adequate to assure protection of human health, safety and the environment, we will establish and meet our own health, safety and environmental standards. To sustain this commitment, the requirements of our Environmental Management System will apply to all activities and employees and we will implement programs and procedures to assure compliance. We will provide appropriate environmental training and educate employees to be environmentally responsible on the job and at home.

Pollution Prevention:

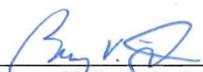
We will minimize risk and protect our employees and the community in which we operate by employing safe technologies and operating procedures in both routine and emergency conditions. We will minimize the amount and toxicity of waste generated and will ensure the safe treatment and disposal of waste. We will seek to use energy more efficiently throughout our operations. We will consider environmental factors and full acquisition, use and disposal costs when making planning, purchasing and operating decisions.

Communication:

We will communicate and reinforce our commitment to health, safety and environmental quality to our employees, vendors, customers, other government entities and the community in which we operate. We will solicit their input in meeting our goals and will offer them assistance in meeting their goals. We will work cooperatively with others to further common environmental objectives.

Continual Improvement:

We will seek opportunities to improve our adherence to these principles of environmental management and will periodically report our progress to the public. Above all, Manchester Laboratory employees will strive to continuously improve our efforts to create a cleaner and safer environment.



Barry V. Pepich, PhD
USEPA R10 Lab Director

12/11/08
Date



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WDOE Lab Director

12/11/2008
Date



David Dobb
ESAT Team Leader

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