



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901**

OFFICE OF THE  
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

March 15, 2010

**Region 9 Policy on Carbon Neutrality and Zero Waste**

**Introduction:** Executive Order 13514, Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance (Order), signed by President Obama in October 2009, requires federal agencies to lead by example in implementing sustainable practices and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

**Region 9 Goals:** In furtherance of the Executive Order and the Administrator's priorities, I am establishing two leadership goals for the Region 9 office:

- **Carbon Neutrality for Region 9 by January 1, 2012**
- **Zero Waste-to-Landfill /Incinerator by January 1, 2012**

**Carbon Neutrality for Region 9:** In order to help others reduce their carbon footprint, we need to first lead by example. There are three main elements to the R9 carbon profile: the energy used in our office; the emissions from our commutes to work; and the impacts from our work-related travel. There are significant opportunities to reduce our footprint in all these areas. We need to continue to implement energy conservation and efficiency measures in our office. We need to widely adopt video conferencing and other web-based technologies to help us communicate more and travel less. With our limited travel funds, we will prioritize travel within Region 9. Additionally, we will work on reducing the number of people going to the same place at the same time. We will widely utilize tools and policies such as Flexiplace to increase productivity, reduce hours spent commuting and help us be even more COOP-ready. The remaining emissions will be offset through local Region 9 projects.

**Zero Waste:** We can achieve Zero Waste by minimizing waste through reduced consumption and reuse; sorting and diverting waste to composting and recycling; and purchasing environmentally preferable products. The benefits of achieving our Zero Waste goal include:

reducing upstream resource extraction; minimizing energy from production and transportation; and helping us achieve our greenhouse gas reduction goals. It is now time to transform R9 into a truly paperless environment.

**Roles and Responsibilities:** I am asking all of you to work with the Sustainable Region 9 Advisory Committee to turn these goals into reality, and to complete Division work plans, to implement this policy, by May 3, 2010. Everyone's support is essential in this effort to lead by example and achieve a more sustainable world.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Blumenfeld', with a stylized, cursive script.

Jared Blumenfeld  
Regional Administrator