



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
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OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY
RESPONSE

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Guidance for Documenting and Reporting Performance in Achieving Land Revitalization

FROM: James E. Woolford, Director
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TO: Superfund National Policy Managers (Regions I-X)

Purpose:

This memo serves two purposes. First, it transmits the final Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation (OSRTI)/Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office (FFRRO) Guidance for Documenting and Reporting Performance in Achieving Land Revitalization, and second, it provides an update on our data collection implementation plans.

Background:

OSRTI and FFRRO have been leading a workgroup of Regional and Headquarters staff to develop both Program-specific guidance and a new CERCLIS module in order to satisfy the requirements of the OSWER-wide Cross Program Revitalization Measures (CPRM) Guidance. The workgroup submitted draft guidance on December 21, 2006 for Regional and Headquarters review. This guidance reflects the efforts of the workgroup and the comments received from the December draft.

Guidance Objectives:

This guidance outlines the procedures for identifying eligible acreage, determining when entire sites or portions of sites satisfy the measures, and clarifying how these new performance measures relate to existing measures. While working through all of the issues that needed to be addressed in the OSRTI/FFRRO guidance, the workgroup ended up making changes to several data collection practices. The workgroup found these changes necessary to accommodate the specific information required to meet the "acres

Protective for People Under Current Conditions” (acres PFP) and “acres Ready for Anticipated Use” (acres RAU) performance measures. The three most critical changes are:

Updating and Renaming Existing OSRTI and FFRRO Land Revitalization Performance Measures

The 2004 Superfund land revitalization measures, “acres and sites ready for reuse,” were renamed and updated to become “acres PFP” and “acres RAU.” The “Sitewide Ready-for-Reuse” performance measure, established in May 2006, was renamed the “Sitewide Ready for Anticipated Use” performance measure. Nothing else about the Sitewide measure has changed. Targets remain the same, and Sitewide RAU will be reported as a distinct measure (i.e., not just buried within the CPRM measures). Renaming the measure will allow for easy incorporation in the RAU measure. All sites that qualify for Sitewide RAU will be eligible to have their acres included in the RAU measure. The rationale for these changes was: 1) reduce confusion and lessen the burden of reporting multiple land revitalization measures with subtle differences; 2) reduce burden on the Regions to collect multiple performance measures with significant overlap; and 3) apply more protective criteria to land revitalization performance measures, especially as it relates to institutional controls (ICs).

Using Operable Units (OUs) to Measure PFP and RAU

To reduce the burden being placed on Regions, facilitate the collection of information in CERCLIS, and support the collection of accurate data, we recommend that Regions submit acres PFP or RAU on an OU basis. Parcels (rather than OUs) would be best used at Federal facility sites where property transfers outside the Federal government. Regardless of whether OUs or parcels are used to capture acres, all acres recorded must be supported by a major cleanup decision or property transfer document.

Applying the Human Exposures Under Control (HEUC) on an OU-Basis

Achieving the PFP measure means, at a minimum, that all identified human exposure pathways from contamination at the site are under control or below health-based levels for current land and/or ground water use conditions. “Under control” means that adequately protective controls are in place to prevent any unacceptable human exposure under current land and/or ground water use conditions. The HEUC measures are typically applied on a site-wide basis. Based on interactions with the Regions and HQ staff, we were assured these measures could be applied on an OU-basis. An effort to update the HEUC guidance is ongoing, and it will be necessary to make revisions to the OSRTI/FFRRO CPRM guidance so that terminology is consistent.

Implementation: Data Collection Plans

To have the new CPRM data entered into CERCLIS by the end of FY07, we must stick to a strict timeline for implementation, training, and data entry:

- April 25, 2007 -- Demonstration of the new CPRM module at the IMC/BC meeting (Region 9)
- May 2007 -- New CPRM module ready for testing at HQ and the Regions
- May 21-25, 2007 -- Demonstration of the new CPRM module at the NARPM Annual Training Conference (Baltimore, MD)
- June 25, 2007 (approximate) -- Release of the new CPRM module in CERCLIS
- July 2007 -- "CPRM University" (HQ will offer a hands-on training to IMCs and RPMs at HQ)
- July - September 2007 -- Data entry for all sites

The OSRTI/FFRRO checklist for documenting acres PFP and RAU is not included in the guidance. The workgroup is still developing the checklist to ensure that CERCLIS and the guidance mirror each other and we do not expect to have the checklist finalized for several weeks. However, we are making plans to send CERCLIS data reference sheets to the Regions prior to finalization of the checklist (within the next few weeks) to help prepare for the information that will be required once the checklist is ready. Furthermore, members of the workgroup are already on the agenda for some major national meetings this Spring to help explain the new data requirements. HQ is committed to helping Regions meet the September 2007 deadline for data entry. We are currently discussing, internally and with the Regions, the best way to do this.

Please refer any questions on this guidance to Melissa Friedland in OSRTI at (703) 603-8864 or friedland.melissa@epa.gov, or to Aimee Storm in FFRRO at (703) 603-0055 or storm.aimee@epa.gov.

Attachment

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