ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN - EIP INTRODUCTION

by

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Chapter 1

EIP Introduction

Chapter was compiled and reviewed by Greg L. Peterson.

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Site Program Overview

Introduction

Due to the commitment and participation of more than 100 professionals from site environmental coordinators, customer improvements and total quality are being incorporated into the *Environmental Implementation Plan (EIP)*. The EIP is now a living document that communicates an overview of site environmental programs and the facility plans that are designed to protect the environment and meet changing regulatory requirements.

Continuous improvement of environmental programs is enhanced through planned quarterly self-assessments during the "Reflections" process. Through the sharing of noteworthy practices, lessons learned, and ideas for improvement, the EIP provides a framework for environmental professionals to promote cost effective solutions and program improvements through teamwork and communication.

These efforts were initiated by the Central Environmental Committee Executive Committee (CECEC) and developed and coordinated by the EIP subcommittee. The EIP revision process is the baseline for a continuous improvement cycle. Although the EIP is a Westinghouse Savannah River Company (WSRC) document, the environmental-planning process involves and will benefit all site contractors. Together, we are committed to a "Partnership in Environmental Excellence."

Summary

DOE and the managing contractor, WSRC, are committed to operating SRS in a manner that protects the public health and safety and the environment. This philosophy is contained in DOE Order 5400.1, General Environmental Protection Program, the *SRS Strategic Environmental Plan*, and in the *SRS Mission, Vision, and Principles*.

Compliance with environmental regulations and DOE orders relating to environmental protection is an important part of SRS's program. An overview of the strategy to reach our site goal of environmental excellence and compliance with new and existing environmental regulations and DOE orders is found in Chapter Two. Demonstrating environmental excellence is a high priority embodied in DOE and WSRC policy.

SRS is striving constantly to improve its standing as a leader in environmental-protection activities. DOE-SR, WSRC, and other SRS contractors are committed to environmental excellence and compliance. Managing environmental programs is a major task. More than 1000 people are devoted full-time to environmental activities at SRS. As the environmental laws, regulations, and DOE orders change, SRS environmental professionals work together not only to determine what actions are necessary for compliance, but to determine the most cost-effective actions which will meet or exceed compliance requirements and promote natural-resource protection.

The *EIP* is a long-range environmental-protection plan which describes: the strategy for environmental compliance and excellence; site environmental-protection programs; management and support programs; environmental responsibilities; and environmental programs and plans submitted from SRS organizations.

The *EIP* complies with DOE Order 5400.1, Chapter III, by providing a long-range environmental-protection plan to give the site the what, when, how, and why for environmental requirements. Through the *EIP* planning process, which incorporates teamwork and proactive planning, a partnership in environmental excellence is formed.

To comply with DOE Order 5400.1, the *EIP* programs identify environmental requirements, program goals for compliance and natural-resource protection, and reference site procedures and guidance documents. Environmental coordinators compare their facility operations against requirements and goals to identify needs. Through communications and teamwork, environmental coordinators establish strategies to meeting the needs, identify activities to implement the strategies, identify needed resources, and develop a schedule to accomplish those activities.

The *EIP* is written primarily for WSRC management and environmental professionals, but it also will be useful to the DOE-SR and to the environmental coordinators other site contractors. The *EIP* is designed to complement the environmental planning efforts of DOE-SR and the other site contractors. The *EIP* publicizes site environmental programs and goals from all SRS organizations to promote a common site vision and direction for natural-resource protection and share-savings from cost-effective compliance programs to meet regulatory requirements. By including the environmental programs, plans, and responsibilities from all SRS contractors, the *EIP* provides an holistic view of SRS environmental activities, the inter- and intra-relationships among the environmental media for natural resource protection, and the teamwork by all organizations and environmental committees to achieve our site vision for SRS to be the recognized model for Environmental Excellence in the DOE Nuclear Weapons Complex.

Background

Formal sitewide environmental planning at the SRS began in 1986 with the development and adoption of the *Strategic Environmental Plan*. The *Strategic Environmental Plan* describes the philosophy, policy, and overall program direction of environmental programs at SRS. Input into the plan was obtained from a large number of operating contractor personnel, DOE, and the Environmental Advisory Committee. The document contains the following:

- philosophy and policy statements
- key planning assumptions
- visions for the future
- general objectives
- management strategy
- legal requirements
- program strategies for protecting groundwater and soil
- program strategies for protecting surface waters and wetlands

- program strategies for protecting the atmosphere
- program strategies for managing SRS land and wildlife

The Strategic Environmental Plan provided the basis for the EIP.

The EIP, WSRC-RP-89-453, was issued on August 1, 1989.

The Central Environmental Committee Executive Committee (CECEC) approved forming an *EIP* subcommittee in November 1991 to improve and facilitate the EIP revision process. The subcommittee members represent several site organizations. The subcommittee mission is to revise the *EIP* in a way that solicits and values CEC participation; optimizes the resource requirements for annual revisions; identifies and improves communicating environmental requirements and obligations; publicizes environmental activities, plans, and information; forecasts environmental changes and upcoming regulatory developments; meets or exceeds customers expectations; and combines ideas and perspectives of CEC members and EPD personnel.

A draft revision of the *EIP* was published in March 1992, which reflects the efforts by site environmental coordinators, CECEC, EPD, SRTC, and the *EIP* subcommittee.

In September 1992, the *EIP Action Plan* was developed to incorporate customer improvements and total quality into the EIP revision process.

The March 15, 1993, *EIP* revision represents the teamwork and commitment to environmental excellence by site environmental coordinators and professionals.

Objectives

The objectives to support SRS environmental planning through the *EIP* are the following:

- meet the long-range environmental-protection plan requirements of DOE Order 5400.1
- improve the communication of environmental requirements, roles and responsibilities, and program goals
- promote common site solutions through teamwork which result in share-savings from cost-effective compliance programs that meet both regulatory requirements and natural-resource protection goals
- forecast environmental needs to promote innovative and cost-effective programs which will meet compliance requirements through applied technology development
- encourage continuous planning and program improvement
- incorporate total quality throughout the *EIP* planning process
- integrate *EIP* with other environmental and budgetary plans
- complement environmental planning efforts of DOE-SR and the other site contractors
- meet customer expectations for a practical and useful long-range environmental plan

Strategy

The following is strategy for reaching the *EIP* objectives: (See Figure 1-1)

- forecast five-year program vision and identify milestones to meet the program objectives
- identify and communicate regulatory and other environmental-protection initiatives and requirements
- identify environmental resources (documents, procedures), site environmental responsibilities, and goals of environmental committees
- involve all site organizations in environmental planning to meet site goals and policies
- include the planning information with other SRS organizations (SREL, USFS, WSI) to obtain holistic view of SRS environmental programs
- conduct quarterly "Reflections" to facilitate environmental planning and continuous improvements
- coordinate the *EIP* revision to incorporate plans consistent with the SRS integrated planning system (*Site Development Plan, Mission Plans, Annual Operating Plans*)
- revise the *EIP* individual chapters throughout the year to promote customer involvement to enable a more focused review of individual environmental media programs and their relationship with other environmental media (holistic view)
- request identification of national environmental directions and initiatives by the Environmental Advisory Committee which will promote SRS environmental excellence
- request the Natural Resources Coordinating Committee's assistance to evaluate *EIP's* site environmental programs for alignment with natural resource protection goals and to identify mile markers to evaluate SRS progress in achieving natural-resource protection goals
- implement the *EIP Action Plan* initiatives
- evaluate if customer expectations for *EIP* are met

Figure 1-1. EIP Long-Range Environmental Protection Plan Strategy

Implementation

Communicating with site organizations, departments, and committees is essential to making the site environmental-planning process work. The *EIP* planning process gives the site the what, when, how, and why for environmental requirements. Through teamwork and proactive planning, a partnership for environmental excellence is formed to achieve our site vision for SRS to become the recognized model for environmental excellence in the DOE Nuclear Weapons Complex.

Based on this partnership in environmental excellence, the *EIP* revision process is being improved by customer involvement and communication. The *EIP Action Plan* submitted by the *EIP* subcommittee recommends implementing three initiatives (reflections, sectional revision, integrated planning) in order for the *EIP* to become a continuous planning and improvement process that incorporates total quality and is integrated with other environmental and budgetary plans. The *EIP Action Plan* is located in Appendix 4 for additional information.

A brief description of each of the three *EIP* initiatives follows.

Reflections

Reflections is a planned review of an environmental program by the EPD program coordinator and facility environmental coordinators to develop joint program ownership and understanding, and facilitate planning which identifies areas for continuous improvement.

When changing environmental conditions (regulatory laws, site issues) are identified, communications with and early involvement by site organizations in developing implementation plans and procedures will optimize resources and minimize the impact on site organizations. Also, a planned review of environmental programs by EPD and facility environmental coordinators facilitates closed-loop communications to assess the goals and performance of existing plans. While developing joint program ownership and understanding, the reflections process identifies areas for continuous improvement. A flowchart of the Reflections process is shown in Figure 1-2.

Sectional Revision

Sectional revision will replace the annual revision of the entire *EIP* by updating different chapters throughout the year (see table 1-1). Each chapter has several implementation programs that will need revision. This change is proposed to lessen the manpower for revision and enable a more concentrated and focused review of individual environmental programs by the environmental coordinators and EPD. This should encourage stake-holder participation and communication in assessing and developing revised goals, strategies, and objectives to meet identified environmental requirements and obligations. This also should improve the overall planning quality through increased program ownership.

Integrated Planning

Integrated planning is a process that incorporates planning information in the *EIP* revision into other documents. Programs and projects required to meet environmental compliance goals will need to be integrated into the financial planning documents. Information obtained from *EIP* environmental program self-assessments during reflections can be integrated into the annual environmental self-assessments. Existing detailed planning and guidance documents will be referenced to prevent duplication and to ensure that the information is accurate.

Figure 1.2. Reflections

Table 1-1. EIP Revision Schedule

<u>Month</u>	<u>Chapter</u>
January	Waste Management and Disposal
January	Environmental Responsibility Summary
February	Environmental Restoration
February	Natural Resource Protection
March	Strategic Plan for Environmental Compliance
April	EIP Introduction
April	Permitting
May	Atmospheric Protection Program
May	Site Organizations
June	Environmental Compliance Tracking and Data Management
July	Employee Education
July	Environmental Appraisal and Surveillance Program
August	Chemical Management, Pollution Prevention and Other Compliance Programs
September	Quality Assurance Program
October	Environmental Monitoring
October	Appendix Information
November	Executive Summary
November	Groundwater Protection
November	Division/Department Environmental Summary
December	Emergency Response, Environmental Occurrence Reporting, and Regulatory Notifications
December	Environmental Outreach

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