

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

RCRA SHOWCASE PILOTS: EXAMPLES OF INNOVATIVE CLEANUP PILOT IDEAS

EPA has set a goal to have 50 RCRA Showcase Pilots underway by the end of 2002. Please submit your innovative cleanup pilot idea today. Pilot ideas could come to the State or Region from many sources, including tribes, federal and state/local agencies, regulated industry, and environmental and community groups. We suggest consideration of pilots in one or more areas. Examples include pilots that:

→ **Work with companies with multiple facilities in an EPA Region or State to achieve program goals at all facilities.**

For example:

- S Work with company (and states) to develop uniform site characterization approaches or to make use of presumptive remedies.
- S Implement company commitment to meet Environmental Indicators at all facilities by a certain date, including a plan for achieving commitment.

→ **Improve stakeholder involvement and communication to resolve issues where cleanup progress is slow.**

For example:

- S Stakeholders and industry could use a facilitator/mediator to expedite the site remediation decision-making process.
- S Stakeholders, industry and regulators could establish an informal communications process to identify issues early and resolve them quickly.
- S Develop a State or Region-wide web-based system to facilitate public notification and involvement.

→ **Use site characterization technologies or strategies that efficiently assess Environmental Indicators.**

For example: Systematic planning, dynamic work plans, on-site analysis and innovative sampling methods could be used to characterize sites faster and more cost-effectively.

→ **Enhance the use of protective and accountable state non-RCRA Cleanup programs to achieve program goals.**

For example:

- S Explore the innovative use of appropriate non-traditional State cleanup authorities at one or more facilities in a State or Region.
- S Performance-based approaches that apply multiple authorities at the same site could provide more implementation flexibility throughout the corrective action process.

→ **Establish EPA Regional or state “corrective action expeditors” to focus on cleanups that are stalled or delayed.**

→ **Expedite achievement of program goals at federally-owned facilities.**

For example: Fully integrate multiple authorities at a federal facility, e.g., to characterize sites, meet Environmental Indicators, or achieve final cleanups.

→ **Use Superfund or emergency authorities at RCRA sites where the facility owner is recalcitrant or has limited funds.**

→ **Use innovative technologies to effectively achieve Environmental Indicators.**

For example: Permeable reactive barriers, in situ bioremediation, or phytoremediation.

→ **Enhance potential for redevelopment at RCRA sites.**

For example:

S Work through issues of property transfer or redefinition of “facility” at particular sites.

S Development by a State of innovative approaches or policies on property transfer or reuse of portions of facilities.

S Develop or implement innovative approaches to institutional controls, either at individual facilities or on a statewide basis, e.g., environmental easements, state authorities under state brownfields or other legislation.

→ **Form unique partnerships for cleanup and redevelopment planning, implementation, and problem-solving.**

For example: Partnerships with citizens/neighborhood advisory committees, schools, churches, environmental groups, economic development agencies, and redevelopment authorities.

→ **Promote common remedial strategies or innovative approaches at similar facilities within a particular sector (e.g., petroleum refineries).**

→ **Develop an industry consortium within a State or Region to explore particular remedies or technologies.**

→ **Integrate a RCRA corrective action within a broader cleanup area, e.g., cleanup of contaminated sediment, a broad brownfields or environmental justice area.**

→ **Use licensed site professionals to oversee analytical testing and remedial activities.**

→ **Use citizen monitors to observe operations and cleanup activities.**

(Rev. 5/31/02)