

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

MAR 18 2005

OFFICE OF POLICY,
ECONOMICS, AND INNOVATION

Mr. Paul Eckerson
Molex Incorporated
700 Kingbird Road
Lincoln, NE 68521

Dear Mr Eckerson:

August of 2000 marked the completion of the Molex Inc. Project XL, a successful partnership between the US EPA, the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ), and Molex, Inc. to achieve superior environmental and public health protection through more cost effective means. EPA would like to congratulate Molex Inc. on the fulfillment of the commitments you made in the Final Project Agreement signed on August 11, 1998.

Through Project eXcellence and Leadership (Project XL) over 50 project sponsors, numerous states, and other project stakeholders have contributed to significant environmental and public health gains across the nation. Broad accomplishments of Project XL include building partnerships to achieve positive environmental results and testing new incentives to produce these results. The Molex Inc. project specifically has contributed to environmental gains by: 1) reducing the level of metals loading in effluent discharged from the facility to publicly-owned treatment works (POTW), 2) increasing the reclamation of metals from waste streams, and 3) reducing the amount of material that would otherwise require landfill disposal.

Although the Agency is no longer accepting new XL proposals, EPA's work on innovative approaches to environmental protection continues. In June of 2003 EPA established the National Center for Environmental Innovation (NCEI). The work of NCEI builds on the foundation created by Project XL to maintain a focus on finding new ways to improve environmental results in order to bring about the next generation of environmental protection. We welcome any interest you might have in the work of NCEI. You can find more information about NCEI and stay informed about EPA's latest innovation activities by going to <http://www.epa.gov/innovation/>. Please also find our NCEI brochure enclosed.

EPA remains committed to learning from each individual investment in innovation. Results from completed pilots provide a valuable set of data for the Agency both in terms of potential program-wide changes and potential transferability to other facilities. We thank you

for your assistance in analyzing the Molex project. It was used as a pilot to test EPA's Innovation Analysis Modules which are now available to assist in determining whether innovative approaches can deliver environmental results that surpass the traditional way of doing business. You can find the Modules at <http://www.epa.gov/evaluate/module.htm>.

At this time we would like to officially close out the record on the Molex Inc. Project XL. We received the Final Report on November 13, 2000. Please let us know if there are additional final project materials that should be part of our files. We want to be sure to have a complete record available and accessible to all project stakeholders. If you would like to view EPA's current project record please click on "Molex Incorporated" after entering the following URL into your internet browser: <http://www.epa.gov/projectxl/implemen.htm>.

In closing, we would like to thank you again for your participation in Project XL and your successful demonstration of excellence and leadership in public health and environmental protection. We are enclosing a certificate in recognition of your achievements which we hope you will enjoy putting on display at your facility. If we can be of any assistance to you in the future, please do not hesitate to contact me (202.566.2119) or Betsy Shaw (202.566.0495) at NCEI.

Sincerely,



Jay Benforado, Director
National Center for Environmental Innovation

cc: David Doyle, EPA Region 7
David Erickson, EPA Region 7
Sandra Panetta, EPA NCEI
Mitch Kidwell, EPA NCEI
Randolph Wood, NDEQ
Bill Gidley, NDEQ
Brian Gorman, NDEQ
Annette Kovar, NDEQ
Beth Mann, Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department
Rick Shibata, City of Lincoln
Lyle Christensen, City of Lincoln

Enclosures:

NCEI Brochure

Certificate of Completion of Innovation Project - Molex Inc.