

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



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

JAN 15 2010

OFFICE OF
POLICY, ECONOMICS
AND INNOVATION

Thomas Balf
Project XL Coordinator
Campus Consortium for Environmental Excellence
2 Main Street, 4th Floor,
Gloucester, MA 01930

Dear Mr. Balf:

Thank you for completing the New England Universities Laboratories project under US EPA's Project eXcellence and Leadership (Project XL). The New England Labs project has been a successful partnership between the US EPA and the Campus Consortium for Environmental Excellence designed to achieve superior environmental performance. EPA would like to congratulate the Consortium on your hard work in fulfilling commitments made in the Final Project Agreement signed in September 1999. At this time would like to officially close out the record on the New England Labs project.

Through Project XL, over 50 project sponsors, numerous states, and other project stakeholders have negotiated project agreements leading 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 New England Labs project specifically has contributed to environmental gains by showing success in:

- 1) Piloting a more flexible, performance-based system for managing waste generated in university laboratories, where the organization was able to adapt to different situations and apply the most cost-effective approaches, while meeting the goals set. This was particularly challenging due to the need for harmonizing the requirements of the Occupation Safety and Health Act (OSHA) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
- 2) Encouraging chemical reuse and recycling, reducing costs, increasing efficiency, and improved education for laboratory professionals and researchers. In addition, the new system provides an improved management approach for laboratories resulting in increased pollution prevention and protection of human health and the environment.

Internet Address (URL) • <http://www.epa.gov>

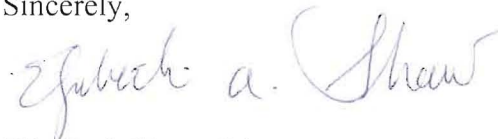
Recycled/Recyclable • Printed with Vegetable Oil Based Inks on 100% Postconsumer, Process Chlorine Free Recycled Paper

Most significantly, with EPA's publication of the May 23, 2006 "Standards Applicable to Generators of Hazardous Waste; Subpart K – Standards Applicable to Academic Laboratories Proposed Rule," the New England Labs project has come to full and successful fruition.

Although the Project XL initiative is coming to a close with the resolution of its original 52 projects, EPA's work on new approaches to environmental protection continues. We are grateful for the Consortium's early leadership and we welcome your continued interest in EPA's work.

In closing, 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 display at your facility. If we can be of assistance to you in the future, please do not hesitate to contact Gerald Filbin (202.566.2182) at EPA Headquarters.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Shaw, Director
National Center for Environmental Innovation

Enclosure
Certificate of Completion of Innovation Project

cc: Gerald Filbin, US EPA HQ
Sandra Panetta, US EPA HQ
Gina Snyder, EPA New England Region
Josh Secunda, EPA New England Region