

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



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

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OFFICE OF  
POLICY, ECONOMICS  
AND INNOVATION

Edu Araujo, CSP  
Global EHS Director  
Momentive Performance Materials  
22 Corporate Woods Blvd. - 4th Floor  
Albany, NY 12211

Dear Mr. Araujo:

Thank you for completing the MPM Silicones Sistersville Plant project (originally the OSi Specialties, Inc. project) under US EPA's Project eXcellence and Leadership (Project XL). The MPM Silicones Sistersville Plant project has been a successful partnership between the US EPA, MPM Silicone's Sistersville Plant, and the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection designed to achieve superior environmental performance through air emission and waste stream reductions not otherwise required under EPA regulations. EPA would like to congratulate MPM Silicones on your hard work in fulfilling commitments made in the Final Project Agreement signed on October 17, 1997. We have received your "Tenth and Final Annual Report" dated July 30, 2008, and at this time would like to officially close out the record on the MPM Silicones Sistersville Plant 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 MPM Silicones Sistersville Plant project specifically has contributed to environmental gains by showing success in:

- 1) demonstrating an alternative path to compliance with air emission regulations (specifically by installing and operating a highly efficient thermal oxidizer to control air emissions from the unregulated copper unit vents);
- 2) reusing/recycling methanol, reducing generation of sludge at the facility; and
- 3) reducing/eliminating other waste streams throughout the course of the project.

Although the Project XL initiative is coming to a close with the resolution of its original 52 projects, 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 and maintains a focus on finding new ways to achieve superior environmental results and improve the efficiency of environmental protection. We are grateful for MPM Silicone's early leadership and we welcome your continued interest in EPA's work on innovative practices. You can find more information about NCEI and stay updated about EPA's latest innovation activities by going to <http://www.epa.gov/innovation/>.

EPA remains committed to learning from each partnership and individual investment in innovation. Results from completed pilot projects provide a valuable set of data for the Agency both in terms of potential program-wide changes and potential transferability of innovative approaches to other facilities. We thank you for the data supplied during the conduct of the MPM Sistersville project.

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 NCEI.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth A. Shaw, Director  
National Center for Environmental Innovation

cc: Lucia Pontiveros, West Virginia DEP  
Sharon D. Pérez-Suárez, US EPA, Region 3  
Sandra Panetta, US EPA HQ  
Tony Vandenberg, Momentive Performance Materials

Enclosure: Certificate of Completion of Innovation Project



# United States Environmental Protection Agency National Center for Environmental Innovation

This is to congratulate

## Momentive Performance Materials

On a successful partnership with the US EPA and the state of West Virginia to achieve superior environmental performance at the company's Sistersville, WV plant, through an alternative strategy for regulatory compliance. At project completion, implemented alternative air emission reductions, waste reduction initiatives, and other pollution prevention activities prevented nearly 10 million pounds of air pollutant and methanol/sludge releases, eliminated 24 million pounds per year of other recurring wastes, and saved the company over 12 million dollars annually – thus, emphatically demonstrating that alternative compliance paths can produce superior environmental and economic benefits.



*Elizabeth A. Shaw*

Elizabeth A. Shaw, Director  
National Center for Environmental Innovation

*November 3, 2008*

Date