

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

## EPA's XL Evaluation Activities

*Completed as of September 1999*

### **1998 Preliminary Status Report** (Office of Reinvention Programs)

The *Preliminary Status Report* examined three XL projects that implemented Final Project Agreements (FPAs) for at least a year as of January 1998: Berry, Intel, and Weyerhaeuser. The report covers the projects' initial results on innovation and system change, as well as progress in meeting final project agreement commitments, stakeholder participation outcomes, environmental performance, and lessons learned.

### **1998 Evaluation of Project XL Stakeholder Processes** (3rd Party -- Resolve, Inc.)

In September 1998, a report entitled *Evaluation of Project XL Stakeholder Processes* (EPA-100-R-98-009) was prepared by Resolve, Inc. This report provided a review of the design and conduct of the stakeholder processes at four of the initial XL projects (Intel, Weyerhaeuser, HADCO, Merck). The report described the involvement of stakeholders in final project agreement (FPA) negotiation and implementation, with information on national and local stakeholder perspectives about their role. It outlined the various models developed by company sponsors and reported stakeholder perspectives on the processes as gathered in a survey.

### **XL Project Progress Reports** (Office of Reinvention Programs)

Progress Reports will be summary documents that will provide an overview of the status of each XL project in implementation for one year or more. The Progress Reports will be available for EPA, industry, and public audiences. The contents of Progress Reports will include: 1) a background section briefly describing the facility's XL project and anticipated environmental benefits; 2) regulatory flexibility being offered by EPA and other regulatory agencies; 3) innovations and system change; 4) the status of commitments made by the facility; 5) progress in environmental performance; 6) a list of stakeholder names and organizations; 7) a summary of the stakeholder participation plan for the project; and 8) a six-month outlook section. These progress reports are available on the Internet via EPA's Project XL web site for the following seven projects: Berry, Intel, Weyerhaeuser, HADCO, Witco (formerly OSi Specialties), Vandenberg Air Force Base, and Merck.

## **Evaluation Activities – Ongoing**

### **Project XL 1999 Comprehensive Report** (Office of Reinvention Programs)

The 1999 Comprehensive Report is designed to be a comprehensive compilation of the available information on Project XL related to project results and progress in innovation and system change. It presents technical and policy information on a series of specific topics that will be the basis for detailed exchanges among EPA staff and between the Agency and its constituencies. Information compiled in

progress reports, focus groups, stakeholder reports, and other documentation and information gained through the experience of XL, Regional, and program office staff is synthesized and described in this report. For an overview of the progress of the Project XL, the executive summary "Project XL: From Pilot to Practice" will be available separately. The report follows-up the work started in the *Project XL Preliminary Status Report* (EPA-100-R-98-008) and will be available in October 1999.

**Updating old and starting new Progress Reports (Office of Reinvention Programs)**

Update the seven completed Progress Reports by January 2000. The next progress reports will be completed for Lucent, Molex and Massachusetts DEP by December 1999.

**Cost/Benefit Analysis Framework (3rd Party -- Ecosense, Inc.)**

The purpose of the cost/benefit framework for Project XL is to develop an analysis plan that will permit effective evaluation of the financial costs and benefits accruing to XL projects. Ultimately, as part of a sampling plan, the information on transaction costs and project benefits for facilities, EPA, other stakeholders will be collected. The first projects that the sampling plan will focus on are Weyerhaeuser and New York Department of Environmental Conservation.

**Project XL Stakeholder Processes (3rd Party--Resolve/Georgia Institute of Technology)**

EPA plans to complete additional in-depth evaluations of the stakeholder development processes for up to seven XL projects in Fiscal Year 1999. The cases will be selected to clarify the purposes, techniques and impacts of stakeholder involvement at the various stages of decision making.