US ERA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

### DOCUMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATOR DETERMINATION

Interim Final 2/5/99

# RCRA Corrective Action Environmental Indicator (EI) RCRIS code (CA725)

### **Current Human Exposures Under Control**

Facility	Address:	200 Darrow Road, Akron, OH
Facility	EPA ID #:	OHD 000 723 973
1.	groundwater, su	e relevant/significant information on known and reasonably suspected releases to soil, arface water/sediments, and air, subject to RCRA Corrective Action (e.g., from Solid Wastenits (SWMU), Regulated Units (RU), and Areas of Concern (AOC)), been <b>considered</b> in this in?
	<u>X</u>	If yes - check here and continue with #2 below.
		If no - re-evaluate existing data, or
		if data are not available skip to #6 and enter "IN" (more information needed) status code.
~ ~		

### **BACKGROUND**

**Facility Name:** 

## **Definition of Environmental Indicators (for the RCRA Corrective Action)**

Ashland Chemical Company

Environmental Indicators (EI) are measures being used by the RCRA Corrective Action program to go beyond programmatic activity measures (e.g., reports received and approved, etc.) to track changes in the quality of the environment. The two EI developed to-date indicate the quality of the environment in relation to current human exposures to contamination and the migration of contaminated groundwater. An EI for non-human (ecological) receptors is intended to be developed in the future.

## **Definition of "Current Human Exposures Under Control" EI**

A positive "Current Human Exposures Under Control" EI determination ("YE" status code) indicates that there are no "unacceptable" human exposures to "contamination" (i.e., contaminants in concentrations in excess of appropriate risk-based levels) that can be reasonably expected under current land- and groundwater-use conditions (for all "contamination" subject to RCRA corrective action at or from the identified facility (i.e., site-wide)).

### **Relationship of EI to Final Remedies**

While Final remedies remain the long-term objective of the RCRA Corrective Action program the EI are near-term objectives which are currently being used as Program measures for the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, GPRA). The "Current Human Exposures Under Control" EI are for reasonably expected human exposures under current land- and groundwater-use conditions ONLY, and do not consider potential future land- or groundwater-use conditions or ecological receptors. The RCRA Corrective Action program's overall mission to protect human health and the environment requires that Final remedies address these issues (i.e., potential future human exposure scenarios, future land and groundwater uses, and ecological receptors).

### **Duration / Applicability of EI Determinations**

EI Determinations status codes should remain in RCRIS national database ONLY as long as they remain true (i.e., RCRIS status codes must be changed when the regulatory authorities become aware of contrary information).

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2. Are groundwater, soil, surface water, sediments, or air **media** known or reasonably suspected to be "contaminated" above appropriately protective risk-based "levels" (applicable promulgated standards, as well as other appropriate standards, guidelines, guidance, or criteria) from releases subject to RCRA Corrective Action (from SWMUs, RUs or AOCs)?

	Yes	<u>No</u>	?	Rationale / Key Contaminants
Groundwater	X			VOCs, LNAPL
Air (indoors) <sup>2</sup>		X		
Surface Soil (e.g., <2 ft)	X			VOCs
Surface Water		X		
Sediment		X		
Subsurf. Soil (e.g., >2 ft)	X			VOCs, LNAPL
Air (outdoors)		X		

If no (for all media) - skip to #6, and enter "YE," status code after providing or citing appropriate "levels," and referencing sufficient supporting documentation demonstrating that these "levels" are not exceeded.



If yes (for any media) - continue after identifying key contaminants in each "contaminated" medium, citing appropriate "levels" (or provide an explanation for the determination that the medium could pose an unacceptable risk), and referencing supporting documentation.

If unknown (for any media) - skip to #6 and enter "IN" status code.

## Rationale and Reference(s):

Measured values were compared to risk-based screening levels that were calculated by Ashland with USEPA oversight. Equations assumed a Hazard Index of 1 and a lifetime cancer risk of both 10<sup>-6</sup> and 10<sup>-4</sup>. Surface soil VOCs were not shown to exist in elevated concentrations in outdoor air. A "yes" above indicates that measured concentrations were above risk-based screening levels.

Groundwater and surface water remedial objectives are MCLs. Soil remedial objectives are PRGs that were calculated in the Health Based Preliminary Remediation Goals Report, July 7, 1994

Source: Final Corrective Measures Study Report, January 16, 1997

# Footnotes:

<sup>1</sup> "Contamination" and "contaminated" describes media containing contaminants (in any form, NAPL and/or dissolved, vapors, or solids, that are subject to RCRA) in concentrations in excess of appropriately protective risk-based "levels" (for the media, that identify risks within the acceptable risk range).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Recent evidence (from the Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment, and others) suggest that unacceptable indoor air concentrations are more common in structures above groundwater with volatile contaminants than previously believed. This is a rapidly developing field and reviewers are encouraged to look to the latest guidance for the appropriate methods and scale of demonstration necessary to be reasonably certain that indoor air (in structures located above (and adjacent to) groundwater with volatile contaminants) does not present unacceptable risks.

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3. Are there **complete pathways** between "contamination" and human receptors such that exposures can be reasonably expected under the current (land- and groundwater-use) conditions?

Summary Exposure Pathway Evaluation Table

## Potential **Human Receptors** (Under Current Conditions)

"Contaminated" Media Resid	Workers	Day-Care	Construction	Trespassers	Recreation	$Food^3$	
Groundwater	_no	_no	_no	_no			_no
Air (indoors)							
Soil (surface, e.g., <2 ft)	_no	_yes	_no	_no	_no	_no	_no
Surface Water	_no	_no			_yes	_no	_no
Sediment							
Soil (subsurface e.g., >2 ft)				_no			_no
Air (outdoors)							

Instructions for **Summary Exposure Pathway Evaluation Table**:

- 1. Strike-out specific Media including Human Receptors' spaces for Media which are not "contaminated" as identified in #2 above.
- 2. enter "yes" or "no" for potential "completeness" under each "Contaminated" Media -- Human Receptor combination (Pathway).

Note: In order to focus the evaluation to the most probable combinations some potential "Contaminated" Media - Human Receptor combinations (Pathways) do not have check spaces ("\_\_\_"). While these combinations may not be probable in most situations they may be possible in some settings and should be added as necessary.

	. If no (pathways are not complete for any contaminated media-receptor combination) - skip
	to #6, and enter "YE" status code, after explaining and/or referencing condition(s) in-
	place, whether natural or man-made, preventing a complete exposure pathway from each
	contaminated medium (e.g., use optional <u>Pathway Evaluation Work Sheet</u> to analyze major pathways).
37	If yes (pathways are complete for any "Contaminated" Media - Human Receptor

If unknown (for any "Contaminated" Media - Human Receptor combination) - skip to #6 and enter "IN" status code.

## Rationale and Reference(s):

Workers may be exposed to contaminated surface soil. The surface water is in a small industrial trench that runs between the facility and several railroad tracks and is not secured. The groundwater is not a drinking water source. The site is secured by a chain link fence. No near-term construction is planned on-site. A soil vapor extraction system, and a groundwater recovery and treatment system are in place on site as an interim measure. These systems hinder construction, lest the system be disrupted.

combination) - continue after providing supporting explanation.

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<sup>3</sup> Indirect Pathway/Receptor (e.g., vegetables, fruits, crops, meat and dairy products, fish, shellfish, etc.)

4. Can the **exposures** from any of the complete pathways identified in #3 be reasonably expected to be "**significant**" (i.e., potentially "unacceptable" because exposures can be reasonably expected to be: 1) greater in magnitude (intensity, frequency and/or duration) than assumed in the derivation of the acceptable "levels" (used to identify the "contamination"); or 2) the combination of exposure magnitude (perhaps even though low) and contaminant concentrations (which may be substantially above the acceptable "levels") could result in greater than acceptable risks)?

	If no (exposures can not be reasonably expected to be significant (i.e., potentially "unacceptable") for any complete exposure pathway) - skip to #6 and enter "YE" status code after explaining and/or referencing documentation justifying why the exposures (from each of the complete pathways) to "contamination" (identified in #3) are not expected to be "significant."
_	If yes (exposures could be reasonably expected to be "significant" (i.e., potentially "unacceptable") for any complete exposure pathway) - continue after providing a description (of each potentially "unacceptable" exposure pathway) and explaining and/or referencing documentation justifying why the exposures (from each of the remaining complete pathways) to "contamination" (identified in #3) are not expected to be "significant."
	If unknown (for any complete pathway) - skip to #6 and enter "IN" status code

## Rationale and Reference(s):

Workers do not routinely spend a significant amount of time in outdoor areas and the majority of outdoor surfaces are covered by asphalt. The seeps to surface water are in an industrial area near several railroad tracks; the area is not attractive for recreational use. The corrective measures implementation plan set health-based clean-up goals that ensure that after the Corrective Measures are implemented, any possible future exposures will not pose an unacceptable risk via any pathway.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> If there is any question on whether the identified exposures are "significant" (i.e., potentially "unacceptable") consult a human health Risk Assessment specialist with appropriate education, training and experience.

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	If yes (all "significant" exposures have been shown to be within acceptable limits) - continue and enter "YE" after summarizing <u>and</u> referencing documentation justifying why all "significant" exposures to "contamination" are within acceptable limits (e.g., a site-specific Human Health Risk Assessment).
	If no (there are current exposures that can be reasonably expected to be "unacceptable")-continue and enter "NO" status code after providing a description of each potentially "unacceptable" exposure.
	If unknown (for any potentially "unacceptable" exposure) - continue and enter "IN" status code

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(CA725), and ob	priate PCRIS					
Check the appropriate RCRIS status codes for the Current Human Exposures Under Control EI even (CA725), and obtain Supervisor (or appropriate Manager) signature and date on the EI determination (and attach appropriate supporting documentation as well as a map of the facility):						
<u>X</u>	review of t	"Current Human Exposures Under Control he information contained in this EI Determined to be "Under Control" at theAshlan_facility, EPA ID	nation, "( d, Akron	Current Human E 		
	determinat	ow Road, Akron, OH under current and rea ion will be re-evaluated when the Agency/ the facility.	-	-		
	NO - "Cui	rrent Human Exposures" are NOT "Under C	Control."			
	IN - More	e information is needed to make a determin	ation.			
Completed by	(signature	·)	Date	2/24/00		
	(print)	Paula Williams	_ _			
	(title)	Toxicologist	_			
Supervisor	(signature	·)	Date			
	(print)	Joseph Boyle	_			
	(title)	Chief, Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Branch	_			
	(EPA Reg	ion or State) Region V	_			

FINAL NOTE: THE HUMAN EXPOSURES ELIS A QUALITATIVE SCREENING OF EXPOSURES AND THE DETERMINATIONS WITHIN THIS DOCUMENT SHOULD NOT BE USED AS THE SOLE BASIS FOR RESTRICTING THE SCOPE OF MORE DETAILED (E.G., SITE-SPECIFIC) ASSESSMENTS OF RISK.

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(e-mail)

### DOCUMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATOR DETERMINATION

Interim Final 2/5/99

# RCRA Corrective Action Environmental Indicator (EI) RCRIS code (CA750)

## Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control

Facility Name:	Ashland Chemical Company					
Facility Address:	200 Darrow Road, Akron, OH					
Facility EPA ID #:	OHD 000 723 973					
groundwater	able relevant/significant information on known and reasonably suspected releases to the media, subject to RCRA Corrective Action (e.g., from Solid Waste Management Units gulated Units (RU), and Areas of Concern (AOC)), been <b>considered</b> in this EI determination?  If yes - check here and continue with #2 below.  If no - re-evaluate existing data, or  if data are not available skip to #6 and enter"IN" (more information needed) status code.					

#### **BACKGROUND**

## **Definition of Environmental Indicators (for the RCRA Corrective Action)**

Environmental Indicators (EI) are measures being used by the RCRA Corrective Action program to go beyond programmatic activity measures (e.g., reports received and approved, etc.) to track changes in the quality of the environment. The two EI developed to-date indicate the quality of the environment in relation to current human exposures to contamination and the migration of contaminated groundwater. An EI for non-human (ecological) receptors is intended to be developed in the future.

## <u>Definition of "Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control" EI</u>

A positive "Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control" EI determination ("YE" status code) indicates that the migration of "contaminated" groundwater has stabilized, and that monitoring will be conducted to confirm that contaminated groundwater remains within the original "area of contaminated groundwater" (for all groundwater "contamination" subject to RCRA corrective action at or from the identified facility (i.e., site-wide)).

### **Relationship of EI to Final Remedies**

While Final remedies remain the long-term objective of the RCRA Corrective Action program the EI are near-term objectives which are currently being used as Program measures for the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, GPRA). The "Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control" EI pertains ONLY to the physical migration (i.e., further spread) of contaminated ground water and contaminants within groundwater (e.g., non-aqueous phase liquids or NAPLs). Achieving this EI does not substitute for achieving other stabilization or final remedy requirements and expectations associated with sources of contamination and the need to restore, wherever practicable, contaminated groundwater to be suitable for its designated current and future uses.

### **Duration / Applicability of EI Determinations**

EI Determinations status codes should remain in RCRIS national database ONLY as long as they remain true (i.e., RCRIS status codes must be changed when the regulatory authorities become aware of contrary information).

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2.	Is <b>groundwater</b> known or reasonably suspected to be "contaminated" above appropriately protective
	"levels" (i.e., applicable promulgated standards, as well as other appropriate standards, guidelines,
	guidance, or criteria) from releases subject to RCRA Corrective Action, anywhere at, or from, the facility?

<u>X</u>	If yes - continue after identifying key contaminants, citing appropriate "levels," and referencing supporting documentation.
	If no - skip to #8 and enter "YE" status code, after citing appropriate "levels," and referencing supporting documentation to demonstrate that groundwater is not "contaminated."
	If unknown - skip to #8 and enter "IN" status code.

## Rationale and Reference(s):

The 1994 CMS report states that groundwater is contaminated with VOCs and SVOCs, including LNAPL. The list of detected constituents is long; it can be found in the CMS report, Table 1 (attached). Chemicals that exceed MCLs or Region 9 PRG values (PRGs were used when an MCL was not available) are: acetone, benzene, chloroform, 1,1-dichloroethene,total 1,2-dichloroethene, 1,2-dichloroethane, hexane, methylene chloride, 1,1,1-tirchloroethane, thrichlorethene, tetrachloroethene, toluene, and vinyl chloride. No contaminants were detected in the groundwater from the deeper aquifer. No contaminants were detected in the surface water of the Little Cuyahoga River.

### Footnotes:

<sup>1</sup>"Contamination" and "contaminated" describes media containing contaminants (in any form, NAPL and/or dissolved, vapors, or solids, that are subject to RCRA) in concentrations in excess of appropriate "levels" (appropriate for the protection of the groundwater resource and its beneficial uses).

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3. Has the **migration** of contaminated groundwater **stabilized** (such that contaminated groundwater is expected to remain within "existing area of contaminated groundwater" as defined by the monitoring locations designated at the time of this determination)?

X	If yes - continue, after presenting or referencing the physical evidence (e.g., groundwater sampling/measurement/migration barrier data) and rationale why contaminated
	groundwater is expected to remain within the (horizontal or vertical) dimensions of the
	"existing area of groundwater contamination" <sup>2</sup> ).
	If no (contaminated groundwater is observed or expected to migrate beyond the designated locations defining the "existing area of groundwater contamination" <sup>2</sup> ) - skip to #8 and enter "NO" status code, after providing an explanation.
	If unknown - skip to #8 and enter "IN" status code.

Rationale and Reference(s):

In November of 2000, Ashland installed a groundwater recovery trench to collect seeps from the bottom of a slope. This system captures and treats groundwater that was previously released to surface water. Wells at the top of the slope recover and treat contaminated groundwater as well.

Most of the trench is constructed such that the bottom of the trench encounters shale bedrock. There is a portion of the trench that does not encounter the bedrock. One of the three recovery points is located in this gap to compensate for the lack of a lower boundary.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "existing area of contaminated groundwater" is an area (with horizontal and vertical dimensions) that has been verifiably demonstrated to contain all relevant groundwater contamination for this determination, and is defined by designated (monitoring) locations proximate to the outer perimeter of "contamination" that can and will be sampled/tested in the future to physically verify that all "contaminated" groundwater remains within this area, and that the further migration of "contaminated" groundwater is not occurring. Reasonable allowances in the proximity of the monitoring locations are permissible to incorporate formal remedy decisions (i.e., including public participation) allowing a limited area for natural attenuation.

4.	Does "contaminated" groundwater discharge into surface water bodies?					
		If yes - continue after identifying potentially affected surface water bodies.				
	_X	If no - skip to #7 (and enter a "YE" status code in #8, if #7 = yes) after providing a explanation and/or referencing documentation supporting that groundwater "contamination" does not enter surface water bodies.				
		If unknown - skip to #8 and enter "IN" status code.				
	Rationale and Re	ference(s):				

Rationale and Reference(s):

The design of the trench recovery system prevents discharge to surface water by using liners to separate groundwater from surface water in the trench. The efficacy of the trench liners will be confirmed with surface water sampling that is part of the monitoring plan.

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5.	maximum concentration <sup>3</sup> of each contaminant discharging into surface water likely to be "insignificant" (i.e., the maximum concentration <sup>3</sup> of each contaminant discharging into surface water is less than 10 times their appropriate groundwater "level," and there are no other conditions (e.g., the nature, and number, of discharging contaminants, or environmental setting), which significantly increase the potential for unacceptable impacts to surface water, sediments, or eco-systems at these concentrations)?		
		If yes - skip to #7 (and enter "YE" status code in #8 if #7 = yes), after documenting: 1) the maximum known or reasonably suspected concentration <sup>3</sup> of <u>key</u> contaminants discharged above their groundwater "level," the value of the appropriate "level(s)," and if there is evidence that the concentrations are increasing; and 2) provide a statement of professional judgement/explanation (or reference documentation) supporting that the discharge of groundwater contaminants into the surface water is not anticipated to have unacceptable impacts to the receiving surface water, sediments, or eco-system.	
		If no - (the discharge of "contaminated" groundwater into surface water is potentially significant) - continue after documenting: 1) the maximum known or reasonably suspected concentration <sup>3</sup> of <u>each</u> contaminant discharged above its groundwater "level," the value of the appropriate "level(s)," and if there is evidence that the concentrations are increasing; and 2) for any contaminants discharging into surface water in concentrations greater than 100 times their appropriate groundwater "levels," the estimated total amount (mass in kg/yr) of each of these contaminants that are being discharged (loaded) into the surface water body (at the time of the determination), and identify if there is evidence that the amount of discharging contaminants is increasing.	
		If unknown - enter "IN" status code in #8.	

Rationale and Reference(s):

 $<sup>^3</sup>$  As measured in groundwater prior to entry to the groundwater-surface water/sediment interaction (e.g., hyporheic) zone.

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6.	Can the <b>discharge</b> of "contaminated" groundwater into surface water be shown to be " <b>currently</b> acceptable" (i.e., not cause impacts to surface water, sediments or eco-systems that should not be allowed to continue until a final remedy decision can be made and implemented <sup>4</sup> )?		
		If yes - continue after either: 1) identifying the Final Remedy decision incorporating these conditions, or other site-specific criteria (developed for the protection of the site's surface water, sediments, and eco-systems), and referencing supporting documentation demonstrating that these criteria are not exceeded by the discharging groundwater; OR 2) providing or referencing an interim-assessment, appropriate to the potential for impact, that shows the discharge of groundwater contaminants into the surface water is (in the opinion of a trained specialists, including ecologist) adequately protective of receiving surface water, sediments, and eco-systems, until such time when a full assessment and final remedy decision can be made. Factors which should be considered in the interim-assessment (where appropriate to help identify the impact associated with discharging groundwater) include: surface water body size, flow, use/classification/habitats and contaminant loading limits, other sources of surface water/sediment contamination, surface water and sediment sample results and comparisons to available and appropriate surface water and sediment "levels," as well as any other factors, such as effects on ecological receptors (e.g., via bio-assays/benthic surveys or site-specific ecological Risk Assessments), that the overseeing regulatory agency would deem appropriate for making the EI determination.	
		If no - (the discharge of "contaminated" groundwater can not be shown to be "currently acceptable") - skip to #8 and enter "NO" status code, after documenting the currently unacceptable impacts to the surface water body, sediments, and/or eco-systems.	
		If unknown - skip to 8 and enter "IN" status code.	

Rationale and Reference(s):

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Note, because areas of inflowing groundwater can be critical habitats (e.g., nurseries or thermal refugia) for many species, appropriate specialist (e.g., ecologist) should be included in management decisions that could eliminate these areas by significantly altering or reversing groundwater flow pathways near surface water bodies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The understanding of the impacts of contaminated groundwater discharges into surface water bodies is a rapidly developing field and reviewers are encouraged to look to the latest guidance for the appropriate methods and scale of demonstration to be reasonably certain that discharges are not causing currently unacceptable impacts to the surface waters, sediments or eco-systems.

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7.	Will groundwater <b>monitoring</b> / measurement data (and surface water/sediment/ecological data, as
	necessary) be collected in the future to verify that contaminated groundwater has remained within the
	horizontal (or vertical, as necessary) dimensions of the "existing area of contaminated groundwater?"

<u>X</u>	If yes - continue after providing or citing documentation for planned activities or future		
	sampling/measurement events. Specifically identify the well/measurement locations		
	which will be tested in the future to verify the expectation (identified in #3) that		
	groundwater contamination will not be migrating horizontally (or vertically, as necessary)		
	beyond the "existing area of groundwater contamination."		
	If no - enter "NO" status code in #8.		
	II II O CHICA TO Status Code III II O.		
	If unknown - enter "IN" status code in #8.		

Rationale and Reference(s):

Monitoring will include measurement of water table elevation and LNAPL thickness as well as sampling for the following chemicals: benzene, chlorobenzene, 1,1-dichloroethene, trans-1,2-trichloroethane, vinyl chloride, carbon tetrachloride, 1,2-dichloroethane, cis-1,2-dichloroethene, ehtylbenzene, tetrachloroethene, 1,1,1-trichloroethene, and xylenes (total). Monitoring wells are located near the potential source areas, closely downgradient of the interceptor trench, and downgradient of the facility near the Little Cuyahoga river. Wells will be sampled semi-annually for 2 years, and annually thereafter until remediation goals are met. The remediation goals are risk-based concentrations that are expected to result in a reduction in lifetime cancer risk to less than 1 in 10<sup>4</sup>, and no adverse non-cancer health effects. Surface water will also be sampled.

(phone #) (e-mail)

# Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control Environmental Indicator (EI) RCRIS code (CA750)

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8.	Check the appropriate RCRIS status codes for the Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control EI (event code CA750), and obtain Supervisor (or appropriate Manager) signature and date on the EI determination below (attach appropriate supporting documentation as well as a map of the facility).				
		YE - Yes, "Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control" has been verified. Based on a review of the information contained in this EI determination, it has been determined that the "Migration of Contaminated Groundwater" is "Under Control" at the _Ashland Chemical Company			
	Completed by	(signature)	Date		
		(print) (title)			
	Supervisor	(signature) (print) (title) (EPA Region or State)			
	Locations where References may be found:				
	7 <sup>th</sup> floor, 77 W.	Jackson, Chicago, IL			
	•	ne and e-mail numbers			
	(name				