Report to Congress

# **RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY ACT:**

A REPORT ON AGENCIES' IMPLEMENTATION FOR FISCAL YEARS 2000 AND 2001

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Executive Office of The President Office of Federal Procurement Policy White House Task Force on Recycling

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an overview of the actions taken by Federal agencies during Fiscal Years (FY) 2000 and 2001 to implement section 6002 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA), which establishes the Federal buy-recycled program. It requires Federal agencies and their contractors and grantees to give preference to the purchase of recycled content products identified by the Environmental Protection Agency in the Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines.

RCRA section 6002 directs the Office of Federal Procurement Policy to report to Congress biennially on the Federal agencies' compliance with the buy-recycled requirements. Executive Order 13101 similarly requires the Federal Environmental Executive to report on Federal agencies' waste prevention, recycling, and affirmative procurement activities. In an effort to develop a more efficient and less burdensome reporting process, this report consolidates the two reporting requirements and is a collaborative effort by the Office of Federal Procurement Policy and the White House Task Force on Waste Prevention and Recycling, which is chaired by the Federal Environmental Executive.

#### **Report Highlights**

This report contains data on the FY 2000 and 2001 purchases of EPA-designated recycled content products by the top six procuring agencies: Department of Defense, Department of Energy, General Services Administration, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Department of Veterans' Affairs, and Department of Health and Human Services. These agencies accounted for more than 85 percent of annual Federal procurement expenditures in FY 2000 and 2001. A seventh agency, the U.S. Postal Service, voluntarily supplied data for this report. Several of the other agencies also supplied data on a voluntary basis.

The agencies report on their direct purchases of the EPA-designated products. The General Services Administration and Defense Logistics Agency supply data on the agencies' purchases of products directly from them. The agencies do not report on purchases made by contractors for supply or use in performance of a contract. Except for the Department of Energy and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, they agencies do not report on purchases made with the government purchase card. Even lacking the data on contract and credit card purchases, the six largest procuring agencies and the Postal Service reported purchasing slightly more than \$475 million worth of the EPA-designated recycled content products in FY 2000 and nearly \$500 million worth in FY 2001. In the ten years from FY 1992 through FY 2001, the agencies spent more than \$3.69 billion on EPA-designated recycled content products.

The agencies continued to purchase high levels of recycled content paper and concrete containing coal fly ash or ground granulated blast furnace slag. In FY 2001, purchases of recycled content paper and paper products accounted for 84 percent of total agency purchases of paper and paper products, the highest percentage ever reported. Purchases of recycled content concrete accounted

for 56 percent of total agency purchases of concrete in FY 2000 and 43 percent in FY 2001. Other substantial purchases of recycled content products include building insulation (40 percent in FY 2000 and 42 percent in FY 2001), polyester carpet (92 percent of polyester carpet purchases in FY 2000 and 71 percent in FY 2001), floor tiles and patio blocks (88 percent in FY 2000 and 83 percent in FY 2001), traffic cones and traffic barricades (49 percent in FY 2000 and 59 percent in FY 2001), recycling containers and waste containers (85 percent in both FY 2000 and FY 2001), plastic desktop accessories (increasing from 30 percent in FY 2000 to 61 percent in FY 2001), and plastic trash bags (92 percent in both FY 2000 and FY 2001).

Purchases of the vehicular products – re-refined lubricating oil, retread tires, and reclaimed engine coolant – continued to be relatively low. However, not all of the agencies provided purchasing data on these items. Purchases of re-refined oil hovered at the 25 percent level in both FY 2000 and 2001. Purchases of retread tires dropped from 23 percent in FY 1999 to 18 percent in FY 2000 and 19 percent in FY 2001. Only 13 percent of engine coolant purchases contained reclaimed coolant.

During FY 2000-2001, the Federal government continued to create the legal and policy framework necessary for successful implementation of the buy-recycled requirements. The Federal Acquisition Regulation was revised to implement Executive Order 13101. The General Services Administration and the Defense Logistics Agency made it easier for Federal agencies to identify recycled content products that they sell through the use of identifying labels and icons. The Small Business Administration identifies more than 1,700 small businesses that offer recycled content products. The National Industries for the Blind and the National Industry for the Severely Handicapped expanded the types of recycled content products available through their programs. Federal Prison Industries continues to offer rebuilt furniture and remanufactured toner cartridges and started electronics recycling. The Office of the Federal Environmental Executive also offered "green" purchasing training to thousands of agency acquisition, policy, and program staff. Agencies also began to implement environmental management systems, and several Federal facilities incorporated "green" purchasing into these systems.

The agencies continued to note that collecting and reporting data on their purchases of the EPAdesignated products is burdensome and difficult. The Office of Federal Procurement Policy and the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive, which co-chaired the White House Workgroup on Tracking and Reporting, reconvened the group to follow through on the recommendations to improve electronic reporting of data, streamline reporting, and create mechanisms for tracking purchasing data. As a result of the workgroup's recommendations, the Federal Procurement Data System reporting forms were revised to enable agencies to record data on acquisitions that require the supply or use of recycled content products. Agencies were able to begin tracking their purchases through FPDS in FY 2002. Implementation of additional recommendations, including a change to the type and amount of data collected and reported, will also begin in FY 2002.

## **CHAPTER 1:**

## **INTRODUCTION**

## STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Section 6002 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), 42 U.S.C. 6962, establishes the Federal "buy-recycled" program. In order to create markets for industrial by-products and for materials recovered in home and office recycling programs, it is Federal procurement policy to purchase products made with recovered materials to the maximum extent practicable. Under RCRA section 6002, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designates these products and provides recommendations for purchasing those products, including recommended percentages of recycled content. A copy of section 6002 can be found in Appendix A.

Section 6002 assigns responsibility to the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) to report biennially to Congress on the progress made by the Federal Government in implementing this policy. Executive Order (E.O.) 13101, "Greening the Government Through Waste Prevention, Recycling, and Federal Acquisition," similarly requires that the Federal Environmental Executive (FEE) report to the President biennially on the efforts of Federal agencies in the areas of affirmative procurement, waste prevention, and recycling. In an effort to develop a more efficient and less burdensome reporting process, OFPP and the White House Task Force on Waste Prevention and Recycling (Task Force), which is chaired by the FEE, jointly produce a single report on agencies' waste prevention, recycling, and affirmative.

Under E.O. 13101, EPA designates the recycled content products in the Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines (CPG) and provides recommendations in Recovered Materials Advisory Notices (RMANs). Between 1983 and 2000, EPA designated 54 products or categories of products. EPA proposed designating 11 additional products in August 2001. RCRA requires Federal agencies to amend their affirmative procurement plans and begin purchasing the EPAdesignated products within one year after EPA issues a final designation.

This is the 13<sup>th</sup> in the series of RCRA Reports to Congress. This report primarily covers agencies' activities during Fiscal Years 2000 and 2001, including Federal procurement of the 54 products designated by EPA through January 2000.

#### **REPORTING METHODOLOGY**

OFPP and the Task Force request procurement data from the six major procuring agencies: the Department of Defense (DoD), Department of Energy (DOE), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), General Services Administration (GSA), Department of Health and

Human Services (HHS)<sup>1</sup>, and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). These agencies represent 89 percent of the total procurement by the Federal government. Although not required to comply with the RCRA mandates, the United States Postal Service (USPS) voluntarily reports its procurement data. Because of their high dollar volume of procurement, these agencies should provide an accurate representation of the overall purchasing trends of the Federal government. Table 1 shows the percent of total procurement each of these agencies accounted for in FY 2000 and FY 2001.

Agency	Total 2000 Procurement (\$000)	% Overall 2000 Procurement	Total 2001 Procurement (\$000)	% Overall 2001 Procurement
DOD	\$142,047,609	65%	\$156,456,002	67%
DOE	16,909,511	8%	18,605,688	8%
NASA	11,066,765	5%	10,597,594	5%
GSA <sup>3</sup>	11,118,974	5%	12,619,696	5%
VA	5,286,214	2%	5,862,689	2%
HHS	4,541,865	2%	4,624,235	2%
TOTAL FOR THE AGENCIES	\$190,970,938	87%	\$208,765,904	89%
TOTAL FEDERAL PROCUREMENT	\$218,845,738		\$234,879,065	

Table 1. Total Procurement per Agency during FY 2000 and FY 2001<sup>2</sup>

Source: Federal Procurement Data System

The streamlined reporting methodology was implemented to lessen the administrative burden placed on the Federal agencies by the record keeping and reporting requirements of RCRA. Reducing or eliminating the reporting requirements does not excuse any agency from having to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The Department of Health and Human Services replaced the Department of Transportation in FY 2000. The Department of Transportation submitted data for FY 2000, which are included in this report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>USPS overall procurement percentages were not available and, therefore, could not be represented in the chart.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>The data shown for GSA represent GSA's procurements for its own use. They do not reflect orders placed by GSA for other agencies.

comply with the buy-recycled requirements of RCRA section 6002. Rather it simply relieves smaller agencies from having to manually collect and submit quantitative compliance data to OFPP and the Task Force.

As discussed in Chapter 2 of this report, OFPP and the Task Force convened an inter-agency workgroup to discuss automated mechanisms and other streamlined methodologies for data collection and reporting in order to improve reporting and also ease the burden of manual collection, calculation, and reporting on the part of the Federal agencies. The workgroup also examined related issues, such as reporting on purchases made using Federal purchase cards or as part of services contracts.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

As shown in Table 2, RCRA compliance by the major procuring agencies improved steadily between 1992 and 2001.<sup>4</sup> It is important to note that the higher dollar expenditures beginning in 1998 reflect both overall increases in purchases of recycled content products and increases in the quantity of EPA-designated products from 5 to 36 in 1998 and 54 in 2000.

Fiscal Year	Total \$ Spent	Total Recycled \$	% Recycled Dollars
1992	\$912,546,566	\$242,254,612	26.54%
1992	877,133,665	335,202,259	38.22%
1994	708,346,291	279,728,647	39.49%
1995	597,469,993	263,398,125	44.09%
1996	770,044,716	386,169,464	50.15%
1997	887,221,678	354,390,180	39.94%
1998	794,677,943	375,612,553	47.27%
1999	773,911,686	491,807,864	63.55%
2000	742,993,908	476,813,594	64.17%
2001	717,732,615	490,193,284	68.30%
TOTALS	7,782,079,061	3,695,570,582	

Table 2. Federal Expenditures on EPA-Designated Products: 1992-2001

As with the FY '98 - '99 report, the FY '00 - '01 recycled content purchases data are incomplete in part because of incomplete reporting by the Department of Defense. The Army did not submit any purchasing data to DoD for inclusion in DoD's report to OFPP and the Task Force. The

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>In 1994-1995, the Department of Agriculture was a major reporting agency, whereas in 1996-1999, due to an increase in procurement, the Department of Veterans Affairs replaced the Department of Agriculture as a major reporting agency. In 2000, due to an increase in procurement, the Department of Health and Human Services replaced the Department of Transportation as a major reporting agency.

other services reported their purchases for some, but not all, of the EPA-designated products, depending on availability of data.

Other major reporting agencies also continued to have difficulty in collecting and reporting data. VA is a decentralized agency, which makes data collection difficult. Also, a majority of VA employees use government purchase cards, which makes tracking of purchases extremely difficult because of the lack of an automated means of recording purchases of individual products.

Beyond the major procuring agencies, other Federal agencies are actively involved in implementing programs to buy recycled content products, recycle, and reduce waste. Selected activities by other agencies are highlighted in Chapter 3 of this report.

## **CHAPTER 2:**

## **ACTIVITY REPORT**

During 2000 and 2001, both OFPP and the Task Force promoted the acquisition of recycled content, energy-efficient, and environmentally preferable products and services. Some of the major initiatives and programs of OFPP and the Task Force are highlighted below.

#### **GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE STUDY**

During FY 2001, the General Accounting Office (GAO) reviewed Federal agency implementation of the RCRA reporting and purchasing requirements. Both OFPP and the Task Force participated in GAO's review. GAO's report, "Federal Procurement: Better Guidance and Monitoring Needed to Assess Purchases of Environmentally Friendly Products," (GAO-01-430, June 2001) discusses problems with record keeping and reporting and notes that most agencies are not conducting annual reviews and monitoring of their buy-recycled programs. The report highlights the problems with tracking credit card purchases and purchases made by contractors, as well as the difficulty of tracking purchases through the Federal Procurement Data System. In addition, the report notes that grant-administering agencies do not monitor grantees' implementation of the buy-recycled requirements, and it also notes that there has been little progress in purchasing environmentally preferable products, including biobased products. Appendix B summarizes the status of OFPP and Task Force responses to each of GAO's recommendations.

#### **REPORTING WORKGROUP**

Since data collection for section 6002 reporting was instituted in 1992, Federal agencies continue to express concern that reporting is burdensome because data are collected manually. To make reporting less burdensome and more accurate, E.O. 13101 directed the establishment of a workgroup to develop recommendations for streamlining the RCRA section 6002 tracking and reporting requirements. The Task Force and OFPP co-chair the White House Workgroup on Reporting. The workgroup's recommendations, which were discussed in the *1998-1999 Report to Congress*, addresses tracking and reporting of contractor purchases, bank card purchases, and purchases from central supply sources. The report also recommends automating the annual reporting survey.

During FY 2001, OFPP and the Task Force worked with GSA to revise the Federal Procurement Data System reporting to enable agencies to record data on contract actions that require the supply or use of recycled content products. The military and civilian agency Individual Contracting Action Report forms – DD 350 and SF 279, respectively – were revised to record whether EPA-designated recycled content products will be used in the performance of a contract and if yes, whether the contract includes the Recovered Materials Certification clause provided in the Federal Acquisition Regulation FAR). Agencies began recording these data in FY 2002. Implementation of other recommendations of the workgroup is on-going. These include conducting a credit card pilot to determine whether it is feasible to obtain information on product purchases and further streamlining of reporting.

## PARTNERSHIPS

The Task Force continues to work with the principal sources of supply–GSA, the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), the Government Printing Office, UNICOR, and the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program for the Blind and the Severely Disabled – to increase the range of recycled content, energy-efficient, and environmentally preferable products available to Federal agencies and make it easier for agencies to find these products through print and electronic catalogs, including GSA Advantage. The Federal Supply Service added a "CPG" icon to each stock item listed in GSA Advantage. The "CPG" icon indicates that the item is an EPA-designated item and that it contains percentages of recycled content compliant with EPA's recommendations. Some of the items in GSA's schedules are also identified by the "CPG" logo. DLA created similar icons to identify recycled content, energy- and water-efficient products, and products containing low levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

During FY 2001, the Task Force partnered with the Small Business Administration (SBA) to "green" PRO-Net, SBA's electronic gateway to procurement information on small businesses. PRO-Net is a search engine for acquisition professionals, a marketing tool for small businesses, and a link to Federal acquisition opportunities and other important procurement information. PRO-Net consists of over 200,000 small businesses. More than 27,000 federal purchasers use PRO-Net every week. PRO-Net now offers a "green" identifier that allows small businesses to indicate that they offer EPA-designated recycled content products.

Working with the Task Force, SBA identified North American Identification Codes (NAICS) for each of the EPA-designated recycled content products. SBA then informed small businesses about this new option for identifying the products they offer. Small businesses can identify the recycled content products they offer by the green NAICS identifiers, and users can search for small businesses by the green NAICS codes. More than 1,700 small businesses are currently identified as "green," based on the recycled content attribute.

The Task Force is now partnering with SBA and DLA to identify small businesses that offer energy-efficient products, water conserving technologies, and products meeting the State of California VOC standards.

## EDUCATING FEDERAL PURCHASE CARD HOLDERS

OFPP and the Task Force worked with GSA to develop a 'buy green' message to be sent to government purchase card holders on their July 2001, billing statements. The message, "You are required to buy recycled content and energy efficient products and services (Law & FAR 23)," was a government-wide reminder to purchase products with recycled content as designated by

EPA and to conserve energy by using energy-efficient appliances, tools, and office machines. GSA was asked to periodically include this reminder on billing statements, especially during April (in conjunction with Earth Day) and November (in conjunction with America Recycles Day). OFPP and the Task Force are looking for other opportunities to educate purchase card holders about the requirements to purchase recycled content, energy-efficient, environmentally preferable, and biobased products.

#### **GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT: SMART GREEN PURCHASING MEETING**

In conjunction with EPA and the Center for a New American Dream, the Task Force convened a meeting in July 2000 to share success stories in purchasing environmentally preferable products, learn what local governments are doing to foster purchasing of environmentally preferable products, and discuss how to move environmentally preferable purchasing forward. The meeting (1) brought together officials representing some of the most innovative local government procurement programs in the country to review positive success stories, examine obstacles to progress and explore promising strategies for accelerating green purchasing by Federal, city, state, and county government agencies; and (2) provided a venue to discuss how to increase public awareness and support for environmentally preferable purchasing programs. As an outcome of this meeting, The Center for a New American Dream is offering training on environmentally preferable purchasing and teleconferences on specific environmentally preferable purchasing issues, such as environmentally preferable paper and renewable energy.

#### AMERICA RECYCLES DAY

Millions of Americans have celebrated America Recycles Day (ARD) on November 15<sup>th</sup> annually since 1997. This national environmental partnership effort is aimed at increasing purchases of recycled content products, attracting nationwide media attention, and promoting public support from every sector for recycling and waste reduction. ARD reminds people that setting materials out at the curb is only the first step in the recycling system. They must also look for and buy products made from the materials collected in their recycling programs. Under this program, businesses, industry, government agencies, schools, and civic and environmental groups organize special events and develop education campaigns and incentive programs.

In 2000 and 2001, the Task Force sponsored a poster contest for the school-age children of Federal employees and Federal contractors. The children were asked to draw a poster reflecting the theme of America Recycles Day. Winners were selected from each grade, K-12, and the winning posters were turned into calendars which were widely distributed throughout the Federal government and to the sponsors of state-level ARD events.

In addition to participating in the poster contest, Federal agencies and facilities across the U.S. hosted a variety of educational programs, such as educational displays and environmental products trade fairs.

#### **PROMOTING RE-REFINED OIL AND RETREAD TIRES**

E.O. 13149, "Greening the Government Through Federal Fleet and Transportation Efficiency," was issued on April 21, 2000. Among other things, this E.O. directs agencies to purchase rerefined oil unless it is not reasonably available or does not meet the vehicle manufacturer's recommended performance standards. The E.O. further directs agencies to purchase the EPA-designated vehicular products, consider purchasing tires containing 5-10 percent postconsumer rubber, and consider using biobased vehicular products.

In April 2000, the Task Force hosted a re-refined oil summit for agency fleet and environmental personnel. As a follow-up to the summit, the Task Force convened an inter-agency workgroup composed of agencies interested in using re-refined oil. The participating agencies are the Departments of Defense, Energy, Treasury, Interior, Justice, Labor, Veterans Affairs, and Transportation, GSA, EPA, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The workgroup addressed the use of re-refined oil in: (1) the executive fleet vehicles used in the National Capital Area by the senior management of each agency, (2) vehicles leased from the GSA Interagency Fleet Management System, and (3) vehicles maintained by GSA on-site for DoD, DOE, and other agencies with concentrations of fleets.

Through the efforts of the workgroup members, particularly GSA's fleet management representatives, the Task Force was able to work with re-refined oil suppliers to develop commercial distribution sources of re-refined oil. These efforts led to the Grease Monkey chain offering re-refined oil in all of its stores, and Jiffy Lube conducting pilot sales of re-refined oil in several of its corporate-owned Northern California facilities. On July 20, 2000, GSA's Fleet Management Division issued a memorandum to GSA regional fleet managers reminding them of the requirement to use re-refined oil and directing them to aggressively seek out sources. GSA also identified Federal facilities with vehicle maintenance facilities that offer re-refined oil to other agencies. The Task Force created and maintains a list of all known distributors, by state, on its web site, www.ofee.gov. The inter-agency workgroup also identified retread tire performance issues and is working with GSA fleet management and the tire retreading industry to address these concerns.

#### ELECTRONICS DE-MANUFACTURING AND RECYCLING

The Department of Defense (DOD), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Department of Energy (DOE), the Department of the Interior (DOI), and the United States Postal Service (USPS), convened the "National Electronics Stewardship Workshop," in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, on February 26 - 28, 2001. The workshop, which was hosted by the Polymer Alliance Zone and West Virginia University, had approximately 140 participants including Federal, state, and local government, and private sector attendees. The purpose of the Workshop was to begin evaluating the methods and strategies to manage the purchase, use, and disposition of electronic equipment within their respective organizations and to attempt to develop common methodologies and operating guidelines. The President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), DOD, DOE, DOI, EPA, and USPS entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to develop a common strategy for using environmentally preferable and energy efficient technologies and practices to improve the quality, performance, and environmental management of electronic assets throughout their life cycle. Electronic assets covered by this MOU include, but are not limited to, equipment used in communication, information systems, military, and scientific applications.

As a follow up to the Shepherdstown's workshop, the MOU members, in conjunction with the OFPP, held a "Federal Government Electronics Stewardship Forum" on October 18-19, 2001. Forum attendees identified issues and/or recommendations which can be used to develop a federal government-wide strategy to implement environmentally preferable and energy efficient management practices and reduce the economic and life cycle costs of electronic equipment. The Forum was a unique opportunity to engage key senior-level executives from the environmental, information technology, and finance/acquisition communities to address these critical electronics stewardship issues. Participants included over 100 leading Federal agencies, the electronics industry, and public interest groups. Discussions and recommendations gathered from this Forum are being used to lay the foundation for the development of a government-wide strategy to influence the acquisition, management, and proper disposition of electronic assets.

#### MODEL AFFIRMATIVE PROCUREMENT PLAN

The Task Force revised and updated its Model Affirmative Procurement Plan for EPAdesignated recycled content products. The revised model contains implementation examples drawn from agency affirmative procurement plans and provides modules to create a broader plan encompassing other green purchasing requirements, such as environmentally preferable, biobased, and energy-efficient products. The Task Force distributed the model to the Federal agencies and posted it on its web site.

#### **PROMOTING ENVIRONMENTALLY BENIGN ADHESIVES**

The Task Force is working with USPS to promote the use of environmentally benign pressure sensitive adhesives by Federal agencies. E.O. 13148, "Greening the Government Through Leadership in Environmental Management," directs agencies to use these products once they become commercially available. "Environmentally benign pressure sensitive adhesives" are adhesives used for stamps, labels, and other paper products that can be easily treated and removed during the paper recycling process. USPS worked with adhesives manufacturers, paper mills, and label and other product vendors to develop adhesives that will minimally impact paper recycling. Adhesives create "stickies" during the paper recycling process, and these stickies either gum up the recycling and papermaking equipment or create off-specification product. The U.S. paper industry loses \$650 million annually on off-specification product or extra downtime to clean equipment. The Federal government accounts for as much as 40 percent of the adhesive market.

## NATIONAL RECYCLING CONGRESS – FEE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

In 2000 and 2001, the Task Force once again teamed up with the National Recycling Coalition to offer Federal educational sessions during the annual National Recycling Congress. The Federal program offered educational sessions on environmentally preferable purchasing, green contracting, greening Federal buildings, purchasing biobased products, and electronics recycling. NRC offered more than 50 educational sessions on waste prevention, recycling, and affirmative procurement that Federal employees were encouraged to attend. The Federal employees benefit from the Federal and NRC-sponsored sessions, the extensive exhibit program, and networking opportunities. Several agencies also use this opportunity to convene meetings of their recycling coordinators.

#### **EXECUTIVE ORDER 13101 INTER-AGENCY ADVISORY GROUP**

Created in November, 1997, the Executive Order 13101 Inter-Agency Advisory Group (EOIAG) consists of representatives from 30 Federal agencies. The EOIAG meets monthly to discuss issues associated with implementation of E.O. 13101 and promote purchasing of recycled content and environmentally preferable products. The EOIAG provides a forum to exchange information and ideas, hear presentations by product manufacturers and industry associations, and identify needs. The Task Force also consults with the EOIAG in forming workgroups to identify and address issues needing attention.

## THE WHITE HOUSE CLOSING THE CIRCLE AWARDS

The annual Closing the Circle Awards program recognizes the outstanding efforts of Federal employees and their facilities to promote, establish, or participate in waste prevention, recycling and affirmative procurement programs. The awards highlight the Federal government's commitment to environmental excellence and showcase model Federal programs and facilities and encourage further endeavors by Federal agencies. The Awards categories are Waste Prevention, Recycling, Affirmative Procurement, Environmental Preferability, Model Facilities, and Sowing the Seeds for Change. Awards also are presented under E.O. 13148, "Greening the Government Through Leadership in Environmental Management," to individuals for outstanding leadership in pollution prevention activities and for implementation of environmental management systems.

The Closing the Circle Awards program has had increasing success each year both in the quantity and quality of nominations received. The sixth and seventh Awards programs were held in 2000 and 2001. Twenty-seven awards were presented in 2000 (from 210 nominations), and 40 awards were presented in 2001 (from 150 nominations). DoD, DOE, DOT, DOI, and GSA held their own internal agency awards programs and submitted the winners as nominees for the White House awards.

#### FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION

In October 1998, the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Council initiated a FAR case to implement E.O. 13101. The Task Force and OFPP worked with the FAR Council to ensure that the revisions adequately covered all of the elements of E.O. 13101. The final FAR revisions were published in the *Federal Register* in June 2000 and require the use of 30 percent postconsumer recycled content paper; require that agencies consider the use of recycled content and environmentally preferable products from the beginning of acquisition planning, including development of specifications and statements of work; specify that RCRA section 6002 and the E.O. buy-recycled directives apply to micro-purchases (e.g., credit card purchases); retain provisions that agencies establish affirmative procurement programs for the EPA-designated recycled content products; provide that contracts for operation or maintenance of government facilities require contractors to buy EPA-designated recycled content products; and require that contractors provide documents printed or copied double-sided, if they are able to do so.

#### **GREENING THE GOVERNMENT REPORT**

E.O. 13101 directs the FEE to prepare a biennial report to the President on agency implementation of the "greening the government" executive orders. Working with the Office of Management and Budget, DOE's Federal Energy Management Program, EPA, and the White House Climate Change Task Force, the Task Force issued the first biennial report on April 22, 2000. *Greening the Government, A Report to the President on Federal Leadership and Progress* covers Federal agency activities with regard to the acquisition of "green" products, energy efficiency and renewable energy, the purchase and use of alternative fuel vehicles, the reduction in use of ozone depleting substances, pollution prevention and right-to-know, recycling and waste prevention, and market development.

## **EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

As required by E.O. 13101, the Task Force partnered with the Defense Acquisition University (DAU) to incorporate "green" purchasing training into DAU's courses. The Task Force also developed its own "green" purchasing training, which is offered to Federal agencies, to attendees to DAU's CON 301, Executive Contracting course, and to state and local agencies. The "green" purchasing training addresses the RCRA section 6002 buy-recycled requirements; EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guideline; FAR requirements for recycled content and energy-efficient products; the differences between recycled content, environmentally preferable, and biobased products; and product price, performance, and availability.

The Task Force also created a "green" contracting workshop that provides hands-on, practical instruction in writing green scopes of work and evaluation factors and introduces GSA's "green" leasing clauses. The workshop was offered during the 2000 and 2001 Federal educational sessions during the National Recycling Congress and to a Department of Justice-sponsored training session for agency procurement and program staff.

## **CHAPTER 3:**

## SUCCESS STORIES

This chapter highlights just a few of the many Federal agency success stories that occurred in FY 2000 and 2001. Several of the activities described below won White House Closing the Circle Awards for outstanding achievements in recycling, waste prevention, purchasing "green" products, and energy efficiency. All of the success stories serve as examples of environmental innovation and leadership for other Federal agencies.

#### **MAJOR AGENCIES**

The **Army's** Fort Eustis/Fort Story, Virginia facilities are using a combination of policy, training, and program promotion to increase purchases of recycled content products. The affirmative procurement policy states the facilities' preference for recycled content products, requires the validation of recycled content, and establishes an annual survey for monitoring the program's progress. Contracting, logistics, environmental management, and legal affairs personnel worked cooperatively to develop the affirmative procurement policy and were critical to its successful implementation. As a result, the 43 different commands and directorates purchase a range of recycled content and environmentally preferable products, including paper and paper products, non-paper office products, paint and construction products, and vehicular products. The Environmental and Natural Resources Division (ENRD) also initiated a green construction projects. ENRD will use information generated by the pilot to ensure that green construction becomes the standard on the installation.

The recycling program at **DOE's** Hanford, Washington facility saved \$1.3 million in 2000 by recycling more than 1,600 metric tons of sanitary waste and donating nearly \$350,000 worth of computers, printers, monitors, copiers, and other office and lab equipment to schools both within and outside Washington State. In partnership with DYNCorps, the Wireless Foundation, and Motorola, Hanford helped donate close to 100 wireless phones and accessories to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence to help victims call 911 in case of an emergency.

**GSA** developed an Affirmative Procurement Program for implementation throughout the agency. APP project initiatives include the development of agency-wide guidelines, educational materials, and training. GSA also revised the standard Solicitation for Offers used for building leases to add "green" clauses. These clauses cover recycling, indoor air, and the use of recycled content, energy efficient, and environmentally preferable products. There is an optional clause for construction waste management and a mandatory clause for the use of salvaged or re-used materials. GSA also revised the Facilities Standards for Public Buildings (P100) to incorporate sustainable design principles, including the use of recycled content and environmentally preferable products. **NASA** is reviewing SPECSINTACT, which includes 222 specifications, to require the use of recycled content products wherever applicable. NASA will then either modify its specifications or adopt DoD specifications, which have already been revised to require the use of recycled content.

NASA's Kennedy Space Center instituted a recycling program for the plastics used in their paint removal operations. The plastic blast media, which is used in lieu of sandblasting or other blasting media, is recovered and used to manufacture plastic picnic benches, fence posts, furniture and other plastic products.

#### **OTHER AGENCIES**

In August 2001, the **U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)** issued a policy stating that USDA agencies will use biodiesel and ethanol fuels in their fleet vehicles where practicable and reasonable in cost. Under the new policy, all USDA diesel fuel storage tanks nationwide will be filled with blends of 20 percent (B20) or higher biodiesel fuel. All USDA-maintained gasoline fueling facilities will buy and use ethanol-blended fuels containing at least 10 percent domestically produced ethanol to the extent practicable. Where ethanol fueling stations are available, USDA will use ethanol in its more than 700 E-85 flex-fuel vehicles. USDA agencies will purchase or lease alternative fuel vehicles, including E-85 flex-fuel vehicles, for geographic areas that offer alternative fueling. In addition, after a successful test of biodiesel as heating fuel, USDA's Beltsville Center is heating all of its buildings with biodiesel fuel.<sup>5</sup>

The **Department of the Interior (DOI)** tested EarthShell® Corporation's biobased plates and bowls in its headquarters cafeteria. An alternative to polystyrene, these products are biodegradable and compostable. As part of the test, USDA's Beltsville Agricultural Research Center tested the compostability of the products and found them to compost successfully under three different composting methods. DOI now routinely uses the EarthShell® products in its cafeteria, along with molded pulp food trays. DOI plans to test additional products, such as biobased cups and food wraps as soon as they become available.

**DOI, GSA**, and the **Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program (JWOD)** created a partnership to build and operate a green products store inside DOI's main headquarters building. Approximately half of the products offered are recycled content and environmentally preferable products. Collection bins enable DOI employees to recycle computer disks, transparencies, CDs, toner cartridges, and nickel-cadmium batteries. The store is open to the public and should increase education about recycled content and environmentally preferable products.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Other Federal agencies are also using biodiesel, ethanol, and other alternative fuels. Federal agencies consumed more than 1.3 million gasoline gallon equivalents (GGE) of alternative fuels in FY 2000, replacing gasoline and diesel fuel. Consistent with the number of AFVs in operation, the largest consumers of alternative fuels are the USPS (60 percent) and DOD (19 percent). The most commonly used alternative fuels are compressed natural gas (CNG) at 63 percent, E-85 (85% ethanol, 15% gasoline) at 25 percent, and biodiesel at 8 percent.

DOI's **National Park Service** and the **Fish and Wildlife Service**, in conjunction with the **Army Corps of Engineers**, incorporated environmental standards into the uniform supply contract. Among the environmental attributes of the contract are the use of recycled content fabrics and the use of recycled content and biodegradable packaging. The recycled content products include a 100 percent recycled content fleece jacket, which contains fibers made from recovered soda bottles. In addition, the uniform catalog is available electronically, thereby reducing the number of catalogs from approximately 40,000 every two years to 3,000 every two years.

The **Department of the Treasury** revised and updated its Affirmative Procurement Program guidance and distributed it to the Treasury bureau procurement offices. Treasury also issued Treasury Directive 75-97, "Department of the Treasury Waste Prevention, Recycling and Acquisition," which establishes policies and assigns responsibilities for implementing E.O. 13101.

**EPA** chaired an interagency workgroup that defined and solicited environmentally preferable copier paper. The workgroup identified three key environmental attributes: postconsumer recycled content higher than the 30 percent postconsumer level established by Executive Order 13101, the use of alternatives to chlorine bleaching, and the recyclability of the ream wrappers used to package individual reams of copier paper. Eleven agencies participated in the pilot solicitation: the Executive Office of the President, the Government Printing Office, GSA, EPA, DOE, DOT, DOJ, DOI, USDA, NASA, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The copier paper purchased by the agencies contains 100 percent postconsumer fiber, is process chlorine free, and has recyclable ream wrappers. The paper cost \$27.30 per carton, which is approximately 12 percent more than currently available 30 percent postconsumer content copier paper. While the agencies generally found that the paper performed well, there were problems with double-sided copying and printing when humidity was high. EPA, DOI, and DOJ have decided to continue using the paper, but the other agencies are not because of the performance concerns and cost differential.

The **National Institute of the Severely Handicapped (NISH)** is greening the janitorial services it offers to agencies. As part of an agreement with the JWOD Program, DOI developed and sponsored two intensive green custodial training sessions for nonprofit organizations participating in the JWOD program that perform custodial contracts or furnish cleaning chemicals to the Government. Under the same agreement, EPA sponsored the development of guidance to assist JWOD-associated nonprofit agencies in increasing the environmental preferability of their product offerings. The guidance is accessible on the JWOD Program web site at www.jwod.gov and on the National Industries for the Blind (NIB) and NISH web sites at www.nib.org or www.nish.org.

The **Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)** played a key role in establishing commercial sources of re-refined oil in the National Capital area. NRC worked with a local service station, which now supplies re-refined oil to NRC and other government agencies. All 19 NRC

headquarters vehicles are serviced with re-refined oil.

NRC also implemented electronic systems for record keeping and communications. As a result of these and other waste prevention programs, NRC purchased 2,000 fewer boxes of office paper in headquarters in 2001 than in 2000.

The **Office of Personnel Management (OPM)** implemented two electronic systems that are greatly reducing OPM's use of paper. OPM electronically publishes 17,000 employment listings daily on USA Jobs, which is the Federal government's central repository of Federal employment listings. OPM also publishes all of its major procurement solicitations exclusively on the Internet, which saves 45,000 sheets of paper annually.

## **GUIDANCE AND TRAINING TO PURCHASE CARD HOLDERS**

In FY 2000, Federal employees used more than 670,000 purchase cards to make 23.5 million transactions, including their purchases of EPA-designated products. The increasing use of government purchase cards greatly reduces the time and paperwork associated with purchases. However, because there are no tracking systems for purchase card purchases, agencies cannot easily monitor their compliance with the buy-recycled requirements when purchase cards are used. E.O. 13101 directed Federal executive agencies to provide guidance and training to their purchase card holders regarding the requirement to purchase EPA-designated products. The FY 2001 survey of agency activities asked agencies whether they established guidance and training for their purchase card holders. The following agencies responded to this question.

- DoD reported that it provided guidance to purchase card holders.
- DOE revised its Government Purchase Card Manual to reference the requirement to purchase EPA-designated products, require purchase card holders to be familiar with DOE's Affirmative Procurement Program, and report on their purchases of EPA-designated products. DOE also created on-line affirmative procurement training for purchase card users.
- Some of the NASA facilities incorporated the requirement to purchase EPA-designated products into their training for purchase card holders. The guidance includes the current list of EPA-designated products. The government bankcard contacts were trained in FY 2000 about affirmative procurement. NASA also has an awareness initiative that is used in training center personnel; the training tools include a recycling and affirmative procurement flyer, web site, and table top display.
- GSA instituted an Affirmative Procurement Program and provided training to each of its regions, including to purchase card holders. GSA Region 7 also established an electronic training program for its purchase card holders.

- Under VA Directive 0052, September 6, 1994, VA provides training at quarterly training seminars.
- HHS issued a memorandum to Department personnel informing them of the requirement to buy EPA-designated products when they use the government purchase card.
- USPS has not provided guidance or training to its purchase card holders.
- The Department of Commerce posted purchase card guidance on its acquisition web site.
- DOT prepared a brochure on purchasing the EPA-designated products. The brochure includes a list of the products and was distributed to the purchase card holders. In addition, the Federal Railroad Administration issued guidance through its purchase card manual, which is updated annually.
- In addition to providing training, EPA issued a Purchase Card Bulletin reminding its purchase card holders about the E.O. 13101 requirements to purchase recycled content and environmentally preferable products. The bulletin provided a reference to the "buying green" portion of EPA's on-line purchase card training for additional information and guidance.
- The Federal Communications Commission established guidance for purchase card holders.
- FEMA's training for new purchase card holders includes information on required sources and the use of environmentally preferable products. FEMA is revising the guidance for purchase card holders and will include information on purchasing the EPA-designated products.
- The Government Printing Office advised all credit card holders of the requirements to purchase EPA-designated products.
- In FY 2001, NRC issued guidance and provided training to all purchase card holders. The purchase card holder guidance is posted on NRC's internal web site.
- The Selective Service System reported that it established guidance for purchase card holders and provided training in FY 2001.
- The Social Security Administration (SSA) added a module on purchasing the EPAdesignated products to its micro-purchasing training. SSA also issued two "Acquisition Alerts" addressing the requirement to purchase paper products containing 30 percent postconsumer fiber.

## **CHAPTER 4:**

## DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

This chapter summarizes the agencies' recycling and affirmative procurement activities. It covers reported data on recycling, affirmative procurement of the EPA-designated items, and specification revisions. For FY 2000, the reporting agencies provided data on purchases of the 36 items designated by EPA through November of 1997. For FY 2001, agencies reported on the 54 items designated through January 2000.

Agencies made a good effort to report data on these categories for FY 2000 and FY 2001. The data reported reflect direct purchases of the EPA-designated items and purchases made through GSA and DLA. As in past years, data for credit card purchases and purchases made through services contracts either are not provided or are estimated because there is no electronic means for agencies to record and report these figures. In addition, in the case where some of these items were not a major procurement item for an agency, data may be incomplete or unreported. Since these would not have been high volume items for those agencies, overall data should not be seriously impacted.

This chapter provides a summary of the overall purchasing data for the EPA-designated items as reported by the seven agencies highlighted in this report. Several of the other agencies provided purchasing data, which also are included in this chapter. Appendix B contains detailed charts showing the actual breakdown of the data by each of the seven reporting agencies.

As previously noted, HHS replaced DOT as one of the six reporting agencies for FY 2000 and 2001. However, DOT submitted FY 2000 purchasing information, which is included in the text below.

## RECYCLING

All of the agencies report that all or nearly all of their offices, sites, and residential housing (where available), have recycling programs, as shown in Table 3. Waste diversion rates vary from 10 to 52 percent. The high rates reported by DoD and DOE are significant because both agencies include construction and demolition debris when calculating their solid waste generation and recycling rates.

Agency	Percentage of offices/sites with recycling programs ('00/'01)	Percentage of residential housing with recycling ('00/'01)	Percentage of demolition projects including recovery of construction materials ('00/'01)	Percentage of solid waste diverted to recycling ('00'01)
DoD	70/70	70/70	40/50	45/36
DOE	90/92	100/100	84/78	43/52
NASA	100/100	N/A	27/3	11/10
GSA	91.9/81	N/A	52.5/47	30.8/32
VA	60/90	49/72	7/7	Health care facilities: 12/12 National cemeteries: 5/not reported
HHS	100/100	N/A	N/A	12/20
USPS	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported

Table 3. Recycling by Selected Federal Agencies, FY '00 and '01

In FY 2001, other agencies were given the opportunity to voluntarily report on their recycling activities and reported the following:

- Only 25 percent of the Department of Housing and Urban Development's offices and sites have active office products recycling programs.
- The Department of State reported that all of its offices and sites have active office products recycling programs, although it did not report a recycling rate.
- DOT's administrations reported that, in FY 2000, 50-100 percent of their offices and sites had an active office products recycling program. Recycling rates varied from at least 10 percent for the Coast Guard to 90 percent for the Maritime Administration. In addition, the Maritime Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, and Coast Guard included construction waste recycling in some or all of their demolition projects.

- EPA reported that all of its offices and sites have active office products recycling programs, although it did not report a recycling rate.
- The Federal Communication Commission reported that all of its offices and sites have office products recycling programs, with a 50 percent recycling rate.
- FEMA reported that all of its offices and sites have active office products recycling programs, with a recovery rate of 20 percent. Thirty percent of FEMA's demolition projects included the recovery of construction materials.
- GPO reported that all of its offices and sites have active office products recycling programs, although it did not report a recycling rate for either year.
- The National Reconnaissance Office headquarters facility recycled significant amounts of material, including fluorescent bulbs, and electronics. The program exceeded its FY 2000 goals for recovering paper, glass, plastic, fluorescent bulbs, and toner cartridges.
- NRC recycles a broad range of materials including various grades of paper, metal, plastic, and glass beverage containers, pallets, fluorescent bulbs, toner cartridges, and batteries. The recycling program generated more than \$175,000 in revenue between 1996 and 2001.
- The Selective Service System reported that all of its offices and sites have active office products recycling programs, although it did not report a recycling rate.
- SSA reported that all of its offices and sites have active office products recycling programs, with a 35 percent recycling rate.

## **AFFIRMATIVE PROCUREMENT**

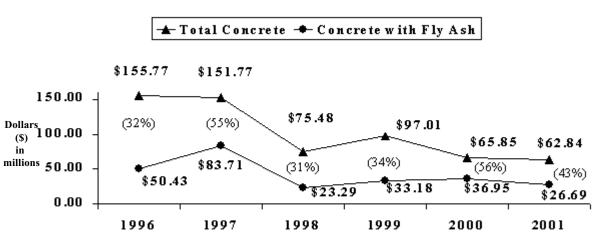
## **Cement and Concrete**

The six reporting agencies and USPS spent nearly \$37 million on cement and concrete containing coal fly ash and/or ground granulated blast furnace slag (GGBF slag) in FY 2000 and nearly \$27 million in FY 2001. The percentage of total dollars spent on cement and concrete containing coal fly and/or GGBF slag was 56.11 percent in FY 2000 and 42.47 percent in FY 2001. The agencies may have purchased greater amounts of recycled content cement or concrete as part of construction contracts, but these data are not reported by the agencies because of difficulties in tracking the purchases of individual materials under large construction contracts.

In FY 2000, more than 50 percent of the cement or concrete purchases by DoD, DOE, GSA, and NASA contained coal fly ash and/or GGBF slag. In FY 2001, purchases by DoD and DOE exceeded 50 percent, but GSA and NASA reported significant decreases compared to FY 1998

and 1999, to 10 percent and 8.9 percent, respectively.

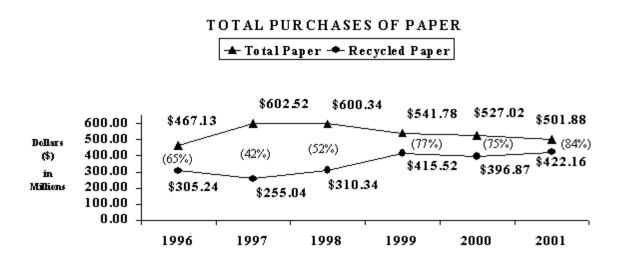
DOT purchased \$136,312 worth of cement or concrete containing coal fly ash or slag in FY 2000. This represents 26 percent of its total cement and concrete purchases.



#### TO TAL PURCHASES OF CONCRETE

#### **Paper and Paper Products**

The seven agencies reported spending nearly \$397 million on recycled content paper in FY 2000 and \$442 million in FY 2001. The percentage of total dollars spent on paper and paper products was 75.3 percent in FY 2000 and 84.12 percent in FY 2001. There was a slight decrease in FY 2000 from the FY 1999 levels but an increase in FY 2001 to the highest percentage since 1996. DOT purchased \$165,509 worth of recycled content paper from sources other than GPO and GSA, which represents 40 percent of total paper purchases.

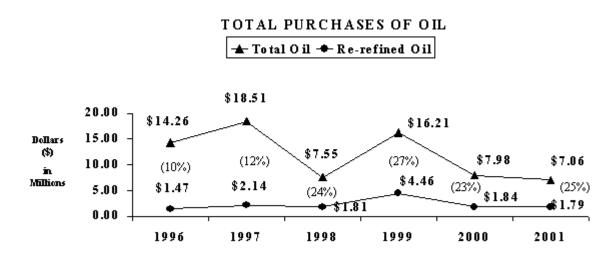


#### **Re-refined Oil**

Overall purchases of re-refined lubricating oil continue to account for only 25 percent of agency purchases of lubricating oil. However, individual military services such as the Army and Air Force purchase significant amounts of re-refined oil from the Defense Supply Center Richmond.

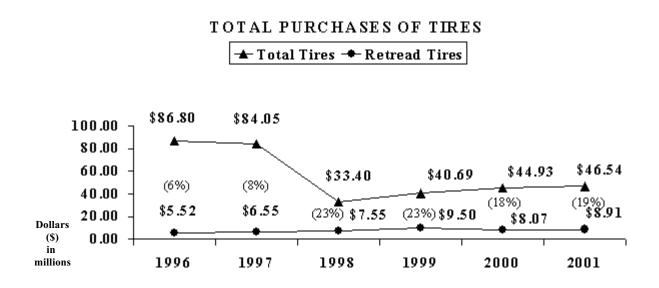
In FY 2000, the seven agencies spent nearly \$1.84 million on re-refined oil (23 percent of all lubricating oil purchases), while in FY 2001, they spent \$1.79 million on re-refined oil (25 percent of all oil lubricating purchases). DOE reported that in FY 2001, more than 44 percent of its purchases of lubricating oil contained re-refined oil.

DOT reported that only 17 percent of its lubricating oil purchases contained re-refined oil in FY 2000. This represents purchases made from service stations as part of vehicle service. The Coast Guard also purchased re-refined oil in bulk from the Defense Supply Center Richmond for non-marine applications in FY 2000.



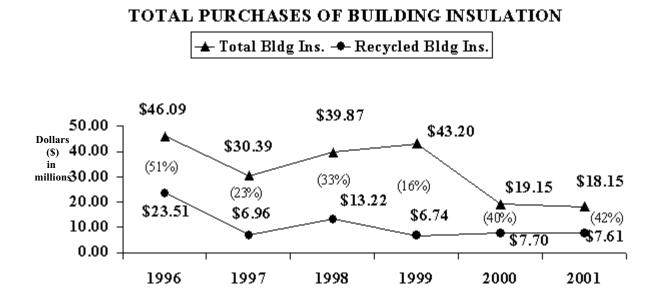
#### **Retread Tires**

Agency purchases of retread tires continue to be low. In FY 2000, the seven agencies purchased \$8 million worth of retread tires, which was only 17.97 percent of their tire purchases. In FY 2001, they spent nearly \$9 million on retread tires, or 19 percent of their tire purchases. This is a decline from the FY 1999 level of 23.4 percent. Part of the reason for the decline is HHS replaced DOT as a reporting agency and reported no purchases of retread tires in FY 2000 and FY 2001. However, DOT reported purchasing only \$6,045 worth of retreads in FY 2000. In addition, the two major users of retread tires, DoD and USPS, reported significant declines in their usage of retreads.



#### **Building Insulation Products**

The agencies continued to increase their purchases of recycled content building insulation products to \$7.7 million in FY 2000 and \$7.61 million in FY 2001. The percentage of total dollars spent on recycled content insulation increased to 40.23 percent in FY 2000 and 41.91 percent in FY 2001, despite HHS reporting no purchases of building insulation. DOT reported that 42 percent of contracts that required the use of building insulation required the use of recycled content building insulation in FY 2000.

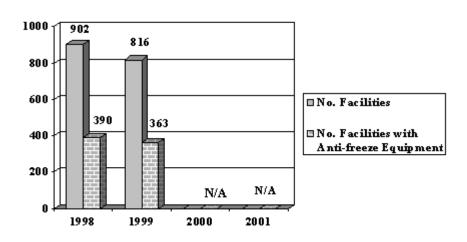


#### **Reclaimed Engine Coolants**

For FY 2000, agencies were asked to report the number of vehicle maintenance facilities that they operate. DoD did not report these data, which caused a reduction in the total number of facilities reported from 816 facilities in FY 1999 to 355 in FY 2000. DoD had previously reported that it operated approximately 465-470 facilities. The seven agencies reported that they operated only 25 engine coolant recycling facilities, down significantly from 363 facilities in FY 1999, again reflecting that DoD did not report the 350 facilities it reported in prior years. DOT reported that only 4 of its 21 facilities operated engine coolant recycling equipment in FY 2000.

The Postal Service was not able to provide data on the use of reclaimed engine coolant due to the decentralized nature of their vehicle maintenance facilities (VMFs). USPS encourages the use of reclaimed engine coolant, and many USPS VMFs maintain closed loop reclamation systems, purchase reclaimed engine coolant, or use extended-use engine coolant, which is capable of remaining in an engine for up to five years before replacement.

In FY 2001, the agencies were asked to report on their purchases of recycled content engine coolant, as well as on their usage of coolant recycling equipment. With VA and USPS not reporting, and only one GSA region reporting purchases, the agencies reported spending \$37,927 on recycled content engine coolant, or 13.7 percent of their purchases of engine coolant.

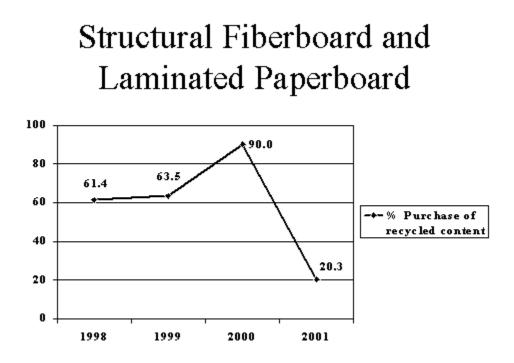


## Engine Coolants Use

**Structural Fiberboard and Laminated Paperboard** 

Only DOE, GSA, and VA provided data for both years. The agencies purchased \$189,700 worth of recycled content structural fiberboard and laminated paperboard in FY 2000 and \$510,890

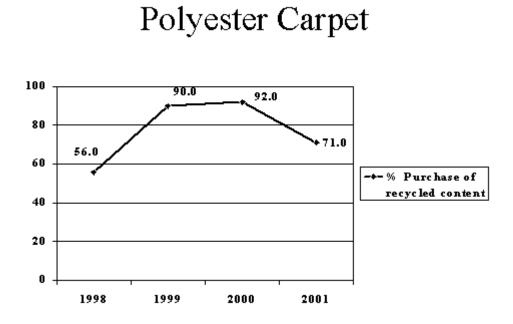
worth in FY 2001. DOT reported that half of its purchases of these products contained recycled materials. HHS and USPS reported no purchases of these products (virgin or recycled content) in either FY 2000 or FY 2001, DoD reported no purchases of recycled content product in FY 2000, and NASA reported no purchases of these products (virgin or recycled content) in FY 2001. In addition, GSA's purchases decreased significantly. As a result, the percentage of total dollars spent on recycled content structural fiberboard and laminated paperboard dropped to 20.31 percent in FY 2001, compared to 90 percent in FY 2000 and 63.5 percent in FY 1999.



#### **Polyester Carpet**

Only DOE, NASA, and VA provided data for both FY 2000 and FY 2001. The agencies purchased \$6 million worth of recycled content polyester carpet in FY 2000 but only \$1.25 million worth in FY 2001. Part of this drop reflects the fact that GSA did not report its carpet purchases for FY 2001. HHS did not report carpet purchases (virgin or recycled content) for either year. DOT reported purchasing \$188,000 worth of recycled content carpet in FY 2000.

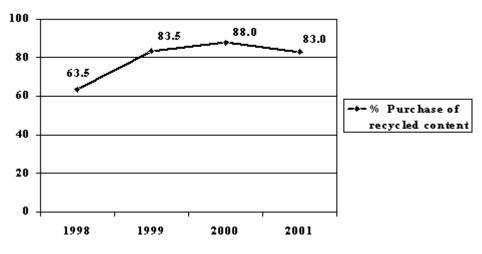
DoD did not report its carpet purchases (virgin or recycled content) for either year, primarily because most carpet is purchased as part of services contracts. However, the Navy reported that it has issued Guide Specifications for purchasing carpet with recycled content, and it is Navy policy to give preference to purchasing EPA-designated items. In addition, DLA reported purchasing \$111,850 worth of recycled content carpet.



#### **Floor Tiles and Patio Blocks**

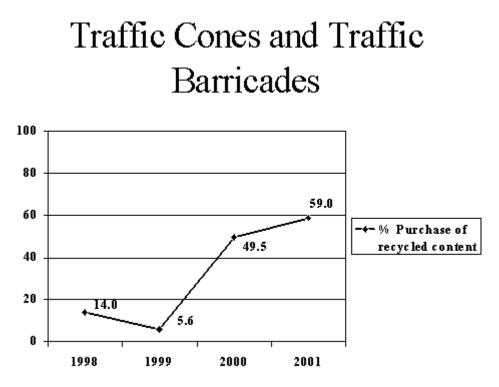
Only DOE, NASA, and VA provided data on these items. These agencies purchased \$487,861 worth of recycled content floor tiles and patio blocks in FY 2000 (88 percent) and \$581,607 worth in FY 2001 (83 percent). DOT reported that the Coast Guard purchased \$2,000 worth of recycled content floor tiles in FY 2000. In addition, the Navy reported that it is Navy policy to give preference to the purchase of EPA-designated products.

# Floor Tiles and Patio Blocks



#### **Traffic Cones and Traffic Barricades**

DoD, DOE, GSA, NASA, and VA provided data for these items. HHS does not purchase these products, and USPS did not provide purchasing data. DOT reported purchasing \$145 worth of recycled content traffic cones and barricades in FY 2000. The other agencies reported spending \$16,026 for recycled content traffic cones and traffic barricades in FY 2000 and \$125,046 worth in FY 2001. The increase primarily reflects large DoD purchases of both virgin and recycled content traffic control devices.



#### Hydraulic Mulch and Compost

As discussed in the FY 1998 - 1999 Report to Congress, OFPP and the Task Force no longer request purchasing data on these items because the agencies report that they either do not purchase items or cannot collect data on their purchases because the items are acquired as part of services contracts. However, it is known that individual facilities have composting programs. For example, NASA reported that the Ames Research Center's green waste/composting program saves at least \$12,000 annually in avoided disposal costs and mulch purchasing costs. The composting program also has saved Ames \$30,000 since 1994 on bio-remediation.

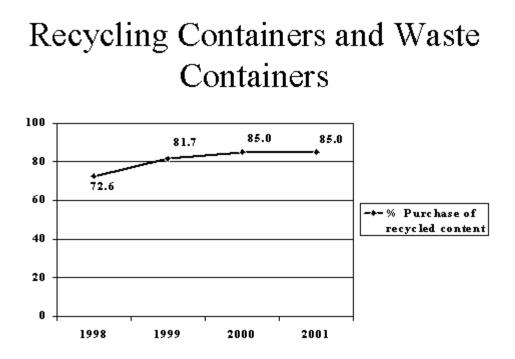
The Navy operates composting facilities at several of its installation. During the reporting period, an \$800,000 in-vessel composting system was installed at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island to compost food, yard trimmings, and other organics generate at the installation.

#### **Office Recycling and Waste Containers**

Five of the agencies reported their purchases of these products in FY 2000, but only three agencies reported their purchases in FY 2001. Neither DoD nor HHS reported their purchases for either year. GSA and USPS did not report their purchases in FY 2001. As with other items, the Navy reported that it gives preference to EPA-designated products. DLA reported purchasing less than \$300 worth of recycled content office recycling containers and waste containers.

The agencies reported purchasing \$214,839 worth of these products in FY 2000 and \$186,137 worth in FY 2001, which is approximately 85 percent of their total purchases of these products. DOT reported purchasing \$600 worth of recycled content waste containers in FY 2000.

In April 2000, USPS initiated a national contract with Boise Cascade to supply paper products and office supplies, including recycling and waste containers. The use of this contract will provide office recycling and waste containers to all USPS offices, as well as purchasing data.

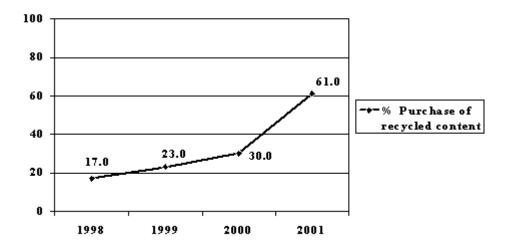


**Playground Surfaces and Running Tracks** 

As discussed in the FY 1998 - 1999 Report to Congress, because only one agency reported purchases in FY 1998, the Task Force and OFPP no longer request purchasing data for these items.

#### **Plastic Desktop Accessories**

The agencies spent \$382,891 on recycled content plastic desktop accessories in FY 2000 and \$1.24 million in FY 2001. The percentage of purchases was 30.12 percent and 61.13 percent, respectively. DOT reported purchasing slightly more than \$4,000 worth of plastic desktop accessories in FY 2000.

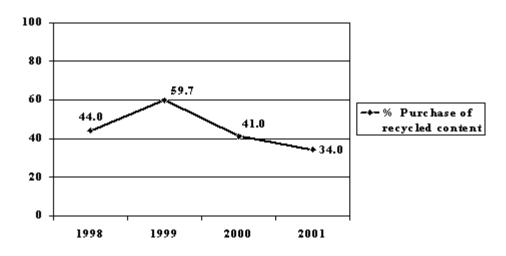


# Plastic Desktop Accessories

#### **Toner Cartridges**

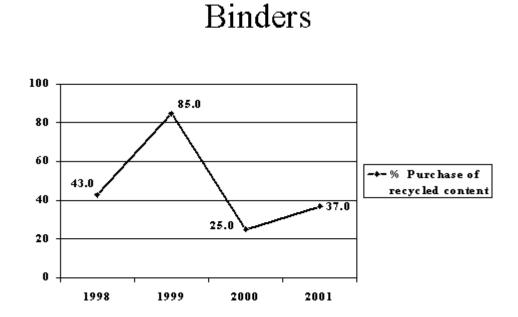
The agencies purchased nearly \$8 million worth of remanufactured toner cartridges in FY 2000 and nearly \$9 million worth in FY 2001. The percentage of dollars spent on toner cartridges was 41.32 percent and 34.48 percent, respectively, a significant decrease from data reported in FY 1998 and FY 1999. DOT reported purchasing nearly \$200,000 worth of remanufactured toner cartridges in FY 2000 or 26 percent of toner cartridges purchased.

# Remanufactured Toner Cartridges



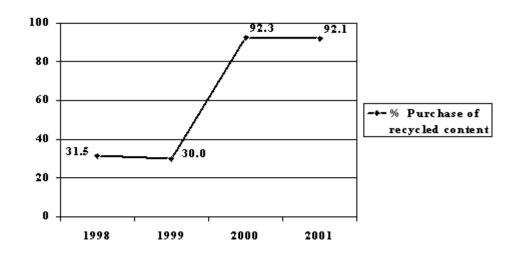
### Binders

The agencies purchased \$576,211 worth of recycled content binders in FY 2000 and \$676,166 worth in FY 2001, or 24.78 percent and 36.84 percent of total binder purchases. This is a significant drop from the 85 percent reported by the agencies in FY 1999, reflecting a big drop in USPS' reported purchases of recycled content binders in FY 2000. DOT purchased less than \$5,000 worth of recycled content binders in FY 2000.



#### **Plastic Trash Bags**

Only DOE, GSA, NASA, and VA reported purchases of recycled content plastic trash bags for both years. HHS reported purchases for FY 2001. These agencies reported purchasing slightly more than \$3 million worth of recycled content trash bags in FY 2000 and \$3.47 million worth in FY 2001. In addition, DLA reported purchasing more than \$600,000 worth of recycled content plastic trash bags, and DOT purchased \$32,500 worth in FY 2000. The percentage of dollars spent on recycled content product increased significantly from 30 percent in FY 1999 to 92.3 percent in FY 2000 and 92.1 percent in FY 2001, reflecting a significant increase in purchasing by VA.



# Plastic Trash Bags

#### **CPG3 ITEMS**

On January 19, 2000, EPA designated 18 additional products. In the FY 2001 data request, for each of these products, the reporting agencies were asked (1) whether they purchase the product, (2) whether they have responsibility for or control over specifications for the product, (3) to provide information to demonstrate their compliance or commitment to purchase the product with recycled content, and (4) whether there were any technical impediments to purchasing the product.

Five of the six reporting agencies – DoD, DOE, NASA, GSA, and VA – provided information. HHS reported that it did not purchase any of the items, and USPS did not respond. Several of the other agencies also provided information on their purchasing of the newly designated items. The responses for each product are summarized below.

DoD reported that the Navy either has specifications for the CPG3 items or is revising specifications to permit or require the use of recycled content. GSA, VA, GPO, and HUD also reported revising specifications for one or more of the CPG3 items to permit or require the use of recycled content.

The agencies reported no or limited availability of some of the CPG3 products. Performance impediments reported by the agencies are noted below.

## **Carpet Cushion**

Carpet cushion, also known as carpet underlay, is padding placed beneath carpet. Carpet cushion improves the insulation properties of carpet, reduces the impact of foot traffic or furniture indentation, enhances comfort, and prolongs appearance. It is available in a variety of thicknesses—the most common being <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>- and <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-inch—and used in both residential and commercial settings.

DoD, DOE, GSA, and VA reported purchasing this item, although DoD and VA did not provide purchasing data. DOE and GSA purchased more than \$16,000 and \$11,000 worth of recycled content carpet cushion, respectively. EPA, HUD, and the Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH) also reported purchasing this item but not the amounts purchased. None of the agencies reported technical impediments to purchasing recycled content carpet cushion.

### **Flowable Fill**

Flowable fill is commonly used as an economical fill or backfill in road construction. It is usually a mixture of coal fly ash, water, a coarse aggregate (such as sand), and Portland cement. Flowable fill can take the place of concrete, compacted soils, or sand commonly used to fill around pipes or void areas. Other applications include filling in bridge abutments, foundation sub-bases, or abandoned man holes and wells. Both coal fly ash and spent foundry sand can be used in flowable fill.

DoD, DOE, GSA, and NASA reported purchasing this item, although DoD and GSA did not provide purchasing data. DOE and NASA purchased more than \$78,000 and \$23,000 worth of recycled content flowable fill, respectively. None of the agencies reported technical impediments to purchasing recycled content flowable fill.

## **Railroad Grade Crossing Surfaces**

Railroad grade crossings are surfacing materials placed between railroad tracks, and between the track and the road at highway and street railroad crossings, to enhance automobile and pedestrian safety. Railroad grade crossings are made from recovered rubber, concrete containing coal fly ash, or steel.

Only DoD and DOE reported purchasing this item. DoD did not report purchasing data, and. DOE reported purchasing \$552 worth of recycled content railroad grade crossing surfaces. None of the agencies reported technical impediments to purchasing this item.

#### **Park Benches and Picnic Tables**

Park benches and picnic tables are typically found in parks, outdoor recreational facilities, and on the grounds of office buildings. Recycled milk jugs and aluminum and steel cans can be used to manufacture these items.

DoD, DOE, NASA, GSA, and VA reported purchasing these items, although DoD, VA, and GSA did not provide purchasing data. DOE and NASA reported purchasing more than \$9,500 and \$53,000 worth of recycled content park benches and picnic tables, respectively. In addition, DOC, GPO, EPA, HUD, and SSA also reported purchasing these items but did not providing data. None of the agencies reported technical impediments to purchasing recycled content park benches and picnic tables.

#### **Playground Equipment**

Playground equipment such as slides, swings, climbing equipment, merry-go-rounds, and seesaws can be made with recovered wood, steel, aluminum, and various plastic resins. A typical set of playground equipment made with recovered-content plastic lumber can contain plastic recovered from between 31,500 and 63,000 milk and water jugs.

Only DoD and GSA reported purchasing this item. DoD did not reported purchasing data, while GSA reported purchasing more than \$67,000 worth of recycled content products. EPA and SSA also reported purchasing playground equipment but did not report purchasing data. None of the agencies reported technical impediments to purchasing recycled content playground equipment.

#### **Food Waste Compost**

Composting is the biological process of converting organic waste under controlled conditions into a product that provides organic matter and nutrients to the soil. Compost improves soil texture, promotes new plant growth, can suppress some plant diseases, and can prevent soil erosion when used as cover for seeded grasses. Yard trimmings compost utilizes organic waste from lawns and gardens -- grass, leaves, and twigs -- to create an effective soil amendment. Food waste compost uses food waste such as fruit and vegetable trimmings and kitchen preparation residuals. Together, yard and food wastes comprise nearly 22 percent of municipal solid waste.

DoD, DOE, and VA reported purchasing compost or composting on-site. DoD did not provide purchasing data but reported that Naval Air Station Whidbey Island purchased and installed an almost \$800,000 in-vessel composting system, which will enable to facility to expand its composting operations. DOE reported purchasing more than \$67,000 worth of landscaping

compost and more than \$2,300 worth of food waste compost. VA reported spending more than \$28,500 on compost. DOC, EPA, and GPO also reported purchasing this item; GPO reported purchasing \$200 worth.

The only technical impediment was noted by DOE's Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, which reported that "revegetation" specifications preclude the use of compost in establishing native vegetation on INEEL lands because a special fertilizer blend is created for each project based on soil testing.

### Plastic Lumber Landscaping Timbers and Posts

Plastic lumber landscaping timbers and posts are used in urban plazas, zoos, and outside office buildings – in fact, the National Park Service alone has more than a dozen projects planned with these recycled-content products. These products are manufactured from recovered plastics or composites of recovered plastics mixed with wood or fiberglass).

DoD, DOE, GSA, and VA reported purchasing these items, although DoD and VA did not provide purchasing data. DoD noted that the Naval Station Norfolk uses recycled plastic pier pilings and fenders. DOE and GSA reported purchasing more than \$3,900 and \$1,200 worth or recycled content landscaping timbers or posts, respectively. EPA also reported purchasing these items but did not provide purchasing data. None of the agencies reported technical impediments to purchasing these products.

# Solid Plastic Binders, Plastic Clipboards, Plastic File Folders, Plastic Clip Portfolios, and Plastic Presentation Folders

These office products can be made with a variety of recovered materials, including recovered plastics.

DoD, DOE, NASA, GSA, and VA reported purchasing these items, although DoD and NASA did not provide data. USPS reported purchasing all office supplies through a centralized, national contract that provides automatic product substitutions. DOE, GSA, and VA reported purchasing \$52,000, \$38,000, and \$49,000 worth of recycled content products, respectively. EPA, HUD, and the State Department also reported purchasing these items but did not provide purchasing data. DOC reported purchasing approximately \$1,000 worth, while GPO reported purchasing more than \$11,000 worth of recycled content products. The only technical impediment reported was the unavailability of clear products.

#### **Adsorbents and Absorbents**

Absorbents and adsorbents (referred to as "sorbents") are used in environmental, industrial, agricultural, medical, and scientific applications to retain or clean up liquids and gases. Absorbents incorporate substances throughout the body of the absorbing material, while

adsorbents gather substances over the surface of the material. Sorbents can be manufactured using recovered paper, textiles, plastics, wood, and other materials. EPA's designation covers sorbents containing recovered materials for use in oil and solvent clean-ups and for use as animal bedding, although recycled content sorbents can be used in other applications.

DoD, DOE, NASA, GSA, and VA reported purchasing sorbents. DOD reported purchasing this item but only provided purchasing data for DLA, which purchased slightly more than \$1,600 worth of recycled content sorbents. DOE, NASA, and VA purchased \$30,000, \$400, and \$150 worth of recycled content sorbents, respectively, although total sorbent purchases were significantly higher. DOE reported purchasing more than \$172,000 worth of sorbents, and NASA reported purchasing more than \$8,600 worth. GSA purchased more than \$4,300 of sorbents, but none with recycled content. EPA, SSA, AFRH also reported purchasing this item but did not provide purchasing data. DOC, GPO, and FEMA each reported purchasing less than \$3,000 worth of sorbents.

Several of the DOE facilities noted that the types of absorbents needed either were unavailable with recycled content or did not meet performance needs.

#### **Industrial Drums**

Industrial drums are used for shipping and storing liquid or solid materials, such as chemical and petroleum products. According to the Plastic Drum Institute, between 12 and 15 million plastic drums are manufactured annually. Steel, plastic, and pressed fiberboard drums can be manufactured with recovered steel, high density polyethylene, and recovered paperboard, respectively.

DoD, DOE, NASA, and VA reported purchasing industrial drums, although DoD and VA did not provide purchasing data. DOE reported purchasing nearly \$2 million worth of industrial drums, including \$950,000 worth of recycled content drums. NASA reported purchasing \$15,000 worth of recycled content industrial drums. EPA also reported purchasing industrial drums but did not report purchasing data. FEMA report purchasing \$1,500 worth of this item. Agencies managing hazardous waste noted performance constraints to using refurbished or recycled content industrial drums.

#### **Awards and Plaques**

Government agencies purchase awards and plaques each year for awards programs, recognition ceremonies, and other initiatives. Awards can be made from blown glass while plaques can be made with a variety of recovered materials including wood, paper, plastic, and plastic/wood composites.

DoD, DOE, GSA, and VA purchased awards and plaques, although DoD did not provide purchasing data. DOE, GSA, and VA reported purchasing \$100,000, \$2,500, and \$2,000 worth

or recycled content awards and plaques, respectively. EPA and HUD reported purchasing awards and plaques but did not provide purchasing data. DOC, GPO, and Selective Service reported purchasing less than \$250, \$1,000, and \$5,000 worth of recycled content awards and plaques, respectively.

A possible barrier noted by the agencies is the limited availability of recycled content awards and plaques that satisfy the visual appeal the agencies want their awards to convey.

# Mats

Mats are temporary or semipermanent protective floor coverings used for numerous applications including protecting carpet from wear and tear or providing traction on stairs or slippery floors. Manufacturing mats with recovered content diverts a whole range of materials from disposal including postconsumer rubber, various plastic resins, and some metals.

DoD, DOE, NASA, GSA, and VA reported purchasing mats, although DoD did not provide purchasing data. DOE reported spending more than \$38,000 on this item, including \$7,000 worth of recycled content mats. GSA and VA reported purchasing more than \$4,400 and \$1,100 worth of recycled content mats, respectively. NASA reported purchasing more than \$2,400 worth of this item, with none containing recycled materials. HUD and DOC reported purchasing \$10,600 and less than \$1,000 worth of recycled content mats, respectively. GPO, EPA, and SSA reported purchasing mats but did not provide data.

Several of the DOE facilities noted that they had special needs for the formulation of mats and could not find recycled content mats meeting those needs. None of the other agencies reported technical impediments to purchasing recycled content mats.

## Signs, Sign Supports, and Posts

Signs made from recovered materials are used for public roads and highways, as well as inside and outside of office buildings, museums, parks, and other public places. EPA's designation pertains to plastic signs used for non-road applications (e.g., building signs, trail signs) and to aluminum roadway and non-roadway signs. The designation also covers any associated plastic or steel supports.

DoD, DOE, NASA, GSA, and VA reported purchasing this item, although DoD and VA did not provide purchasing data. DOE reported purchasing more than \$400,000 worth of signage, with almost \$200,000 spent on recycled content products. NASA and GSA reported purchasing small amounts of recycled content signs: \$500 and almost \$200 worth, respectively. DOC, GPO, EPA, FEMA, and SSA also reported purchasing these items but did not provide data. The Federal Communications Commission reported purchasing \$30,000 worth of signage.

A possible barrier noted by GSA is the limited availability of indoor signage meeting GSA's

appearance and visibility standards. Similarly, several of the DOE facilities reported that signs meeting their performance needs were not available.

# Manual-Grade Strapping

Strapping is used in transport packaging to hold products in place on pallets or in other methods of commercial, bulk shipment to prevent tampering and pilferage during shipping. EPA's designation is limited to manual-grade strapping products that are made from recovered polypropylene, polyethylene terephthalate, and steel.

DoD, DOE, and VA reported purchasing this item, but only DOE provided purchasing data. DOE reported purchasing more than \$30,000 worth of strapping, with more than \$4,500 worth containing recycled materials. DOC and GPO reported purchasing this item, with DOC purchasing \$4,000 worth of recycled content strapping.

One DOE facility, the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, reported that it could not locate recycled content strapping meeting its specifications for a particular application. None of the other agencies reported technical impediments to purchasing recycled content strapping.

# PURCHASES OF OTHER RECYCLED CONTENT PRODUCTS

In FY 2001, agencies were given an opportunity to report on purchases of recycled content products other than those designated by EPA. Agencies had the option of reporting:

- A summary of a project in which the product(s) were used,
- Dollars spent on products,
- Number of contracts issued that included recycling content products,
- Affirmative procurement policies issued,
- Pilot projects for acquiring recycled content products, or
- Other relevant information.

**DOE:** Nine DOE facilities reported purchases of non-designated recycled content products. The most extensive list came from the Argonne National Laboratory-East, which constructed a new shipping and receiving facility using recycled content products. More than 15 building materials were chosen for their recycled content or other environmental characteristics, including:

- Recycled content concrete block
- Recycled gravel, asphalt, and sub-base
- Reused existing excavated soil
- Recycled content structural steel
- Recycled content and sustainable lumber
- Recycled content ceiling tiles
- Recycled content gypsum wallboard

- Natural linoleum flooring
- Energy-efficient mechanical and electrical systems
- Native trees and grasses

Other DOE facilities purchased rebuilt engine parts, used large tonnages of recovered steel for scientific applications, and purchased refilled ink jet cartridges, nylon carpet, bubble envelopes, hot cups, plastic tape/flags, sheet protectors, transparencies, and other office supplies. The Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) also purchased 100 percent recycled content plastic slip sheets, which are used between transuranic waste disposal containers.

**GSA:** GSA's Region 5 office purchased recycled content gypsum panel, gypsum drywall, and acoustical ceiling tiles.

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR:** The Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration purchased recycled content office partitions in FY '01.

**EPA:** EPA uses a "Green Rider" when it acquires new facilities. The "Green Rider" includes non-EPA-designated products, such as base and subbase materials, bathroom dividers/partitions, ceiling tiles, ceiling suspensions, ceramic tile, cubicle components, framing steel, gypsum wallboard, office furniture, and tabletops containing recycled plastic.

# **SPECIFICATIONS**

RCRA Section 6002(d) requires Federal agencies that are responsible for preparing specifications to remove any requirements or biases that specify the use of virgin products or that prohibits the use of products containing recovered materials. Agencies must also assure that their specifications for guideline items require the use of recovered materials to the maximum extent possible without jeopardizing the intended use of the item.

In the RCRA questionnaire for FY '00 and FY '01, the agencies were asked to specify the number of Federal Supply class or group specifications which they control. Agencies were then asked to identify how many of these specifications had been reviewed and revised in accordance with RCRA 6002(d). An overall summary of agency performance is provided below.

With the exception of HHS, which does not have responsibility or control over a particular Federal supply class or group of specifications, the agencies control thousands of government standards and specifications. They were asked to provide a count of how many specifications were revised to remove language that either required the use of virgin materials or prohibited the use of recovered materials and provide a count of how many specifications were revised to add preference language for recovered materials. The results were as follows:

Agency	Remove Requirements for the Purchase of Virgin Materials	Remove Language Prohibiting the Use of Recovered Materials	Add Preference Language for the Use of Recovered Materials
DOD	completed in prior years	completed in prior years	completed in prior years
DOE	537	502	870
NASA	0	0	0
GSA	completed in prior years	completed in prior years	completed in prior years
VA	0	0	0
HHS	N/A	N/A	N/A

# FISCAL YEAR 2000

## FISCAL YEAR 2001

Agency	Remove	Remove Language	Add Preference
	Requirements for	Prohibiting the Use	Language for the
	the Purchase of	of Recovered	Use of Recovered
	Virgin Materials	Materials	Materials
DOD	completed in prior years	completed in prior years	DLA revised 118; services completed revisions in prior years
DOE	completed in prior	completed in prior	completed in prior
	years	years	years
NASA	reviewing	reviewing	reviewing
	construction specs	construction specs	construction specs
GSA	completed in prior	completed in prior	completed in prior
	years	years	years
VA	18	0	18
HHS	N/A	N/A	N/A

As part of acquisition reform, Federal agencies are replacing government specifications and commercial item descriptions with consensus specifications, such as ASTM standards and specifications. Of the remaining government specifications, most have now been revised to remove language requiring the use of virgin materials, to remove language prohibiting the use of recovered materials, and to include preference language for the use of recovered materials. NASA is in the process of a complete review of SPECSINTACT, which includes 22 specifications, to require the use of recovered materials, in each section where application. This will result in modifications to NASA standards or adoption of DoD specifications, which already meet the RCRA requirements.

# **CHAPTER 5:**

# **CURRENT AND FUTURE INITIATIVES**

OFPP and the Task Force have worked on several major green purchasing-related projects from FY 1996 to the present and have achieved a number of successes in institutionalizing the buy-recycled requirements within Federal purchasing. The status of the FY 2000 and FY 2001 projects reported in the last Report to Congress is provided in this chapter. A brief overview of FY 2002 projects also is provided. The next Report to Congress will elaborate on progress and success of each.

### TRAINING

As discussed in Chapter 2, the Task Force is providing green purchasing training to individual agencies, to multiple agency contracting officers attending Executive Contracting Officer courses, and to attendees to the annual National Recycling Congress. The Task Force's green purchasing presentation is available electronically on the Task Force's web site, www.ofee.gov. The Task Force and the agencies have used the presentation to train hundreds of agency environmental, facilities, and acquisition personnel from DOD, DOE, HHS, DOJ, EPA, Coast Guard, NASA, and Treasury, among others. In the future, the Task Force will explore the feasibility of offering "train the trainer" training to agency staff and to creating an on-line green purchasing program to be added to the Office of Personnel Management's GovOnLine e-learning web site.

### **CREATING A GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE**

OFPP and the Task Force continued to work on creating an infrastructure to support green acquisition. Specific activities are discussed in Chapter 2 of this report and include revisions to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), greening the Small Business Administration's PRO-Net to identify small businesses that offer green products and services, and greening the products and services offered by the JWOD organizations.

In addition, the Task Force continues to work with GSA to incorporate recycled content products into the Whole Building Design Guide, an electronic resource for identifying sustainable building principles, practices, and products. The Task Force and OFPP participate in an inter-agency sustainable facilities workgroup chaired by DOE's Federal Energy Management Program. The Task Force will be working with this workgroup to identify and publish best practices and contract clauses and to promote the use of the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system in the design, construction, and renovation of Federal buildings.

#### **GREENING THE GOVERNMENT REPORT**

As discussed in Chapter 2, the Task Force, working with OMB, the White House Climate Change Task Force, and DOE, prepared "*Greening the Government – A Report to the President on Federal Leadership and Progress*." In FY 2002, the Task Force, OMB, DOE, USDA, and DOI are preparing the second biennial report. The report reviews and summarizes Federal agency accomplishments in the following key areas: market development (including acquisition), energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy, the use of alternative fuels, recycling and waste prevention programs, and environmental management systems.

### **COMPREHENSIVE PROCUREMENT GUIDELINE**

EPA published the third CPG in January 2000. CPG3 designated an additional 18 products: carpet cushion, flowable fill, railroad grade crossing surfaces, park benches and picnic tables, playground equipment, food waste compost, plastic lumber landscaping timbers and posts, plastic office supplies, awards and plaques, industrial drums, strapping, mats, signage, and absorbents and adsorbents. EPA updated its product specific fact sheets and vendor lists and made them available electronically on the CPG web site. EPA proposed to designate an additional 11 products in the fourth CPG in August 2001 and plans to issue final designations in the fall of 2002.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

E.O. 13148 established a framework for integrating environmental considerations into each Federal agency's mission through a variety of directives and goals, including implementation of Environmental Management Systems (EMS) at agency facilities. An EMS is a systematic approach to ensuring that an organization's environmental priorities and interests are incorporated into that organization's operational, planning, and management decisions. Properly designed, an EMS provides facilities a mechanism to address environmental issues through measured response rather than crisis management. E.O. 13148 requires that an EMS be implemented at appropriate Federal facilities based on the facility size, complexity, and environmental aspects by the end of 2005.

The Bush Administration is working to significantly increase the Federal government's understanding and use of EMS as a planning and implementation tool to help Federal agencies better carry out their mission and be better environmental stewards. EMS will better equip agencies with the information, resources, strategy, and feedback they need to ensure they are continuously improving performance and reducing environmental impact.

Numerous facilities across the Federal government are in various stages of implementing an EMS. While most are beginning the education process critical to ensuring a commitment to EMS across the facility, some are in the final stages of the EMS development process and are actively pursuing third party certification of their facility EMS. At present, 15 Federal facilities

are formally registered to the ISO 14001 EMS standard, and 11 others are either self-declared as conforming to an EMS framework or are in EPA's formal EMS recognition system.

The FEE believes that waste prevention, recycling, and green purchasing can be vital components of a facility's EMS. At least one Federal facility, Fort Lewis in Washington, has implemented a recycled content products Affirmative Procurement Program as part of its EMS. The Office of the Federal Environmental Executive will be working with the agencies to promote the use of EMSs, including waste prevention, recycling, and green purchasing.

## **BIOBASED PRODUCTS**

Section 9002 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-171) (the 2002 Farm Bill) creates a biobased products purchasing program similar to the recycled content purchasing program under RCRA. The text of section 9002 can be found in Appendix A. USDA will designate biobased products and provide recommendations for purchasing the designated products. Agencies are required to establish affirmative procurement programs for the products and to report on their purchases for inclusion in a report to Congress. The 2002 Farm Bill also establishes a voluntary labeling program for biobased products to make it easier for agencies to identify products meeting USDA's recommendations.

The biobased products program provides an opportunity to create new markets for agricultural products and to promote Federal acquisition of products that contain both biobased and recycled materials. OFPP and the Task Force will provide assistance to USDA in establishing the program by ensuring that the FAR is revised to incorporate the new requirements, promoting the buy bio requirement to Federal agencies, and incorporating the new buy bio requirements into the green training program offered by the Task Force. The Task Force is encouraging cooperation between USDA and EPA in future product designations. In addition, beginning with the 2003 awards, the annual White House Closing the Circle Awards will include a new category for purchasing biobased products.

# **CHAPTER 6:**

# **CONCLUSIONS**

## PROGRESS

Over the last 10 years, the Federal government made strong progress in increasing its purchases of recycled content products and, thereby, creating markets for industrial by-products and materials recovered in home and office recycling programs. During the FY 2000-2001 reporting cycle, purchases of recycled content products rose to more than 68 percent of total purchases of the EPA-designated products – a 42 percent increase in 10 years. However, the data we collect remains estimated at best and are only captured from direct federal purchasing. In most cases, they do not include purchases made with Federal purchase cards, through large contracts, federal supply schedules, or grants. The Office of Federal Procurement Policy and the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive thus continue to focus efforts on improving the infrastructure for better implementation and compliance.

# INFRASTRUCTURE

Our objective is to make it easier for agencies to identify and obtain EPA-designated products. With EPA's creation of the CPG website and GSA and DLA making it easier to identify products through the use of icons, agencies now have better access to the information they need to request and buy recycled content products. Some of the other infrastructure improvements achieved during the FY 200-2001 reporting period include:

- Issuing policy guidance such as the FAR changes and annual reporting survey.
- Tracking implementation through the FPDS.
- Streamlining annual data collection required by OFPP and the FEE.
- Collaborating with central supply sources such as GSA Advantage and DLA FLIS to identify recycled content products and highlight green options with special notices and catalogs.
- Collaborating with mandatory source providers such as JWOD and UNICOR so that they offer more recycled content products and embrace waste prevention and recycling strategies.
- Coordinating with state, local and non-governmental organizations to advance Federal policies and practices.
- Partnering with the National Recycling Congress to provide Federal training and workshops at NRC's annual conferences.
- Working with SBA to identify for agencies and private contractors small businesses that recycle, produce recycled content products, or offer services with recycled content products.

- Offering training and education to all Federal agencies and especially for the procurement community, through the CON 301 courses, teleconferences, and other presentations.
- Encouraging the use of environmental management systems (EMS), which can and should include recycling and green procurement initiatives.

## CHANGE ON THE HORIZON

Presently, many Federal agencies recognize the importance of working in concert to advance all green procurement programs and outreach. They realize the importance of compliance, systematic implementation, and comprehensive planning. The number of priority programs for green purchasing – recycled content, energy efficient, environmentally preferable, and biobased products – continues to increase. With these programs now maturing individually, agencies are recognizing that these programs can achieve much more collectively. Therefore, OMB and the FEE are working together to provide a comprehensive strategy and framework that stresses compliance and encourages the implementation of comprehensive EMS. In April 2001, OMB and the Council on Environmental Quality jointly issued a guidance letter applauding agencies that have effective EMS. OMB's June 2002 Circular No. A-11 on budget preparation and execution included direction on Environmental Management in section 31.2, stating:

"Federal agencies should develop and implement environmental management systems in order to integrate environmental accountability into agency day-to-day decision-making and long-term planning processes across all agency missions, activities and functions. These efforts must be funded within guidance totals. They should include, but not be limited to, the following components: initial self-assessments, development of performance measures, policy, and establishment of management systems."

EMS enables agencies to take a systematic management approach to implementing and measuring the success of all their environmental initiatives, including green purchasing.

### SHORT-TERM STRATEGY

While we are putting in place the infrastructure for a long-term comprehensive strategy to green procurement, we continue to streamline the annual reporting requirements and short-term goals. Specifically, for the FY 2002-2003 reporting period, we are changing what agencies report to emphasize management controls, goal setting, and self-auditing. To ensure better compliance, we will use the FPDS reports to measure agencies' implementation of the RCRA section 6002 requirements through flow down in their large contracts (greater than \$25,000). In addition, we have asked agencies to conduct periodic audits and spot checks of their own FPDS reports to monitor compliance and identify problems. The FEE is requesting updates and submission of agencies' Affirmative Procurement Plans, E.O. 13101 strategic plans, and goals for review.

# LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

In response to recommendations from the OFPP and OFEE co-chaired White House Work Group on Tracking and Reporting, we have further streamlined data collection and reporting for the 2002-2003 reporting period. For the next report, we are requesting that agencies only report on eight indicator items representing each of the eight categories in which EPA designates recycled content products:

- commercial sanitary tissue products,
- toner cartridges,
- concrete, landscaping timbers,
- park benches and picnic tables,
- traffic barricades,
- re-refined oil, and
- signage.

The Work Group selected these products for several reasons, including agencies' ability to report on purchases of the items, widespread use of them by all agencies, and the need to increase purchasing of these particular products. If the new streamlined data collection and reporting procedures work well in the next reporting cycle, we will require all Federal agencies to report this way beginning in FY 2004.

In addition to these changes, OFPP and OFEE are pursuing a number of other initiatives and potential pilots in FY 2003, such as capturing data on recycled content product and other green purchases made with the Federal purchase card and pursuing reporting of vehicular products – rerefined oil and retread tires – through the Federal Automotive Statistical Tracking (FAST) system. The FEE will encourage all agencies to implement effective EMS. OFPP and OFEE will work closely with the Department of Agriculture to integrate the new requirements to purchase biobased products with these and other procurement policies. Also, we plan to continue working with Congress, all interested agencies, and other organizations to increase the amount of recycled content products purchased by the Federal government and improve methods of measuring our success.

If you have any comments, suggestions or questions about the contents of this report, please contact the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive at 202-564-1297 or the Office of Federal Procurement Policy at 202-395-3501.

# **APPENDIX** A

Statutory Requirements

#### **RCRA SECTION 6002**

#### 42 USC Sec. 6962. - Federal procurement

#### (a) Application of section

Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a procuring agency shall comply with the requirements set forth in this section and any regulations issued under this section, with respect to any purchase or acquisition of a procurement item where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or where the quantity of such items or of functionally equivalent items purchased or acquired in the course of the preceding fiscal year was \$10,000 or more.

#### (b) Procurement subject to other law

Any procurement, by any procuring agency, which is subject to regulations of the Administrator under section 6964 of this title (as promulgated before October 21, 1976, under comparable provisions of prior law) shall not be subject to the requirements of this section to the extent that such requirements are inconsistent with such regulations.

#### (c) Requirements

(1) After the date specified in applicable guidelines prepared pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, each procuring agency which procures any items designated in such guidelines shall procure such items composed of the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable (and in the case of paper, the highest percentage of the postconsumer recovered materials referred to in subsection (h)(1) of this section practicable), consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, considering such guidelines. The decision not to procure such items shall be based on a determination that such procurement items -

(A) are not reasonably available within a reasonable period of time;

(B) fail to meet the performance standards set forth in the applicable specifications or fail to meet the reasonable performance standards of the procuring agencies; or

(C) are only available at an unreasonable price. Any determination under subparagraph (B) shall be made on the basis of the guidelines of the National Institute of Standards and Technology in any case in which such material is covered by such guidelines.

(2) Agencies that generate heat, mechanical, or electrical energy from fossil fuel in systems that have the technical capability of using energy or fuels derived from solid waste as a primary or supplementary fuel shall use such capability to the maximum extent practicable.

(3) (A) After the date specified in any applicable guidelines prepared pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, contracting officers shall require that vendors:

(i) certify that the percentage of recovered materials to be used in the performance of the contract will be at least the amount required by applicable specifications or other contractual requirements and

(ii) estimate the percentage of the total material utilized for the performance of the contract which is recovered materials.

(B) Chause (ii) of subparagraph (A) applies only to a contract in an amount greater than \$100,000.

(d) Specifications

All Federal agencies that have the responsibility for drafting or reviewing specifications for procurement items procured by Federal agencies shall -

(1) as expeditiously as possible but in any event no later than eighteen months after November 8, 1984, eliminate from such specifications -

(A) any exclusion of recovered materials and

(B) any requirement that items be manufactured from virgin materials; and

(2) within one year after the date of publication of applicable guidelines under subsection (e) of this section, or as otherwise specified in such guidelines, assure that such specifications require the use of recovered materials to the maximum extent possible without jeopardizing the intended end use of the item.

(e) Guidelines

The Administrator, after consultation with the Administrator of General Services, the Secretary of Commerce (acting through the National Institute of Standards and Technology), and the Public Printer, shall prepare, and from time to time revise, guidelines for the use of procuring agencies in complying with the requirements of this section. Such guidelines shall -

(1) designate those items which are or can be produced with recovered materials and whose procurement by procuring agencies will carry out the objectives of this section, and in the case of paper, provide for maximizing the use of post consumer recovered materials referred to in subsection (h)(1) of this section; and

(2) set forth recommended practices with respect to the procurement of recovered materials and items containing such materials and with respect to certification by vendors of the percentage of recovered materials used, and shall provide information as to the availability, relative price, and performance of such materials and items and where appropriate shall recommend the level of recovered material to be contained in the procured product. The Administrator shall prepare final guidelines for paper within one hundred and eighty days after November 8, 1984, and for three additional product categories (including tires) by October 1, 1985. In making the designation under paragraph (1), the Administrator shall consider, but is not limited in his considerations, to -

(A) the availability of such items;

(B) the impact of the procurement of such items by procuring agencies on the volume of solid waste which must be treated, stored or disposed of;

(C) the economic and technological feasibility of producing and using such items; and

(D) other uses for such recovered materials.

(f) Procurement of services

A procuring agency shall, to the maximum extent practicable, manage or arrange for the procurement of solid waste management services in a manner which maximizes energy and resource recovery.

#### (g) Executive Office

The Office of Procurement Policy in the Executive Office of the President, in cooperation with the Administrator, shall implement the requirements of this section. It shall be the responsibility of the Office of Procurement Policy to coordinate this policy with other policies for Federal procurement, in such a way as to maximize the use of recovered resources, and to, every two years beginning in 1984, report to the Congress on actions taken by Federal agencies and the progress made in the implementation of this section, including agency compliance with subsection (d) of this section.

(h) "Recovered materials" defined

As used in this section, in the case of paper products, the term "recovered materials" includes -

(1) postconsumer materials such as -

(A) paper, paperboard, and fibrous wastes from retail stores, office buildings, homes, and so forth, after they have passed through their end-usage as a consumer item, including: used corrugated boxes; old newspapers; old magazines; mixed waste paper; tabulating cards; and used cordage; and

(B) all paper, paperboard, and fibrous wastes that enter and are collected from municipal solid waste, and

(2) manufacturing, forest residues, and other wastes such as -

(A) dry paper and paperboard waste generated after completion of the papermaking process (that is, those manufacturing operations up to and including the cutting and trimming of the paper machine reel into smaller rolls or rough sheets) including: envelope cuttings, bindery trimmings, and other paper and paperboard waste, resulting from printing, cutting, forming, and other converting operations; bag, box, and carton manufacturing wastes; and butt rolls, mill wrappers, and rejected unused stock; and

(B) finished paper and paperboard from obsolete inventories of paper and paperboard manufacturers, merchants, wholesalers, dealers, printers, converters, or others;

(C) fibrous byproducts of harvesting, manufacturing, extractive, or wood-cutting processes, flax, straw, linters, bagasse, slash, and other forest residues;

(D) wastes generated by the conversion of goods made from fibrous material (that is, waste rope from cordage manufacture, textile mill waste, and cuttings); and

(E) fibers recovered from waste water which otherwise would enter the waste stream.

(i) Procurement program

(1) Within one year after the date of publication of applicable guidelines under subsection (e) of this section, each procuring agency shall develop an affirmative procurement program which will assure that items composed of recovered materials will be purchased to the maximum extent practicable and which is consistent with applicable provisions of Federal procurement law.

(2) Each affirmative procurement program required under this subsection shall, at a minimum, contain -

(A) a recovered materials preference program;

(B) an agency promotion program to promote the preference program adopted under subparagraph (A);

(C) a program for requiring estimates of the total percentage of recovered material utilized in the performance of a contract; certification of minimum recovered material content actually utilized, where appropriate; and reasonable verification procedures for estimates and certifications; and

(D) annual review and monitoring of the effectiveness of an agency's affirmative procurement program.

In the case of paper, the recovered materials preference program required under subparagraph (A) shall provide for the maximum use of the post consumer recovered materials referred to in subsection (h)(1) of this section.

(3) In developing the preference program, the following options shall be considered for adoption:

(A) Case-by-Case Policy Development: Subject to the limitations of subsection (c)(1)(A) through (C) of this section, a policy of awarding contracts to the vendor offering an item composed of the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable (and in the case of paper, the highest percentage of the post consumer recovered materials referred to in subsection (h)(1) of this section). Subject to such limitations, agencies may make an award to a vendor offering items with less than the maximum recovered materials content.

(B) Minimum Content Standards: Minimum recovered materials content specifications which are set in such a way as to assure that the recovered materials content (and in the case of paper, the content of post consumer materials referred to in subsection (h)(1) of this section) required is the maximum available without jeopardizing the intended end use of the item, or violating the limitations of subsection (c)(1)(A) through (C) of this section.

Procuring agencies shall adopt one of the options set forth in subparagraphs (A) and (B) or a substantially equivalent alternative, for inclusion in the affirmative procurement program.

# SEC. 9002. FEDERAL PROCUREMENT OF BIOBASED PRODUCTS.

(a) APPLICATION OF SECTION.—Except as provided in subsection (c), each Federal agency shall comply with the requirements set forth in this section and any regulations issued under this section, with respect to any purchase or acquisition of a procurement item where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or where the quantity of such items or of functionally equivalent items purchased or acquired in the course of the preceding fiscal year was \$10,000 or more.

(b) PROCUREMENT SUBJECT TO OTHER LAW.—Any procurement, by any Federal agency, which is subject to regulations of the Administrator under section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6962), shall not be subject to the requirements of this section to the extent that such requirements are inconsistent with such regulations.

(c) PROCUREMENT PREFERENCE.—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), after the date specified in applicable guidelines prepared pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, each Federal agency which procures any items designated in such guidelines shall, in making procurement decisions, give preference to such items composed of the highest percentage of biobased products practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, considering such guidelines.

(2) AGENCY FLEXIBILITY.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), an agency may decide not to procure such items if the agency determines that the items—

(A) are not reasonably available within a reasonable period of time;

(B) fail to meet the performance standards set forth in the applicable specifications or fail to meet the reasonable performance standards of the procuring agencies; or

(C) are available only at an unreasonable price.

(3) After the date specified in any applicable guidelines prepared pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, contracting offices shall require that, with respect to biobased products, vendors certify that the biobased products to be used in the performance of the contract will comply with the applicable specifications or other contractual requirements.

(d) SPECIFICATIONS.—All Federal agencies that have the responsibility for drafting or reviewing specifications for procurement items procured by Federal agencies shall, within one year after the date of publication of applicable guidelines under subsection (e), or as otherwise specified in such guidelines, assure that such specifications require the use of biobased products consistent with the requirements of this section. (e) GUIDELINES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, after consultation with the Administrator, the Administrator of General Services, and the Secretary of Commerce (acting through the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology), shall prepare, and from time to time revise, guidelines for the use of procuring agencies in complying with the requirements of this section. Such guidelines shall—

(A) designate those items which are or can be produced with biobased products and whose procurement by procuring agencies will carry out the objectives of this section;

(B) set forth recommended practices with respect to the procurement of biobased products and items containing such materials and with respect to certification by vendors of the percentage of biobased products used; and

(C) provide information as to the availability, relative price, performance, and environmental and public health benefits, of such materials and items and where appropriate shall recommend the level of biobased material to be contained in the procured product.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In making the designation under paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary shall, at a minimum, consider—

(A) the availability of such items; and

(B) the economic and technological feasibility of using such items, including life cycle costs.

(3) FINAL GUIDELINES.—The Secretary shall prepare final guidelines under this section within 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(f) OFFICE OF FEDERAL PROCUREMENT POLICY.—The Office of Federal Procurement Policy, in cooperation with the Secretary, shall implement the requirements of this section. It shall be the responsibility of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy to coordinate this policy with other policies for Federal procurement to implement the requirements of this section, and, every two years beginning in 2003, to report to the Congress on actions taken by Federal agencies and the progress made in the implementation of this section, including agency compliance with subsection (d).

(g) PROCUREMENT PROGRAM.—(1) Within one year after the date of publication of applicable guidelines under subsection (e), each Federal agency shall develop a procurement program which will assure that items composed of biobased products will be purchased to the maximum extent practicable and which is consistent with applicable provisions of Federal procurement law.

(2) Each procurement program required under this subsection shall, at a minimum, contain—

(A) a biobased products preference program;

(B) an agency promotion program to promote the preference program adopted under subparagraph (A); and

(C) annual review and monitoring of the effectiveness of an agency's procurement program.

(3) In developing the preference program, the following options shall be considered for adoption:

(A) CASE-BY-CASE POLICY DEVELOPMENT.—Subject to the limitations of subsection (c)(2) (A) through (C), a policy of awarding contracts to the vendor offering an item composed of the highest percentage of biobased products practicable. Subject to such limitations, agencies may make an award to a vendor offering items with less than the maximum biobased products content.

(B) MINIMUM CONTENT STANDARDS.—Minimum biobased products content specifications which are set in such a way as to assure that the biobased products content required is consistent with the requirements of this section, without violating the limitations of subsection (c)(2) (A) through (C). Federal agencies shall adopt one of the options set forth in subparagraphs (A) and (B) or a substantially equivalent alternative, for inclusion in the procurement program.

(h) LABELING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator, shall establish a voluntary program under which the Secretary authorizes producers of biobased products to use the label "U.S.D.A. Certified Biobased Product".

(2) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.—Within one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator, shall issue criteria for determining which products may qualify to receive the label under paragraph (1). The criteria shall encourage the purchase of products with the maximum biobased content, and should, to the maximum extent possible, be consistent with the guidelines issued under subsection (e).

(3) USE OF THE LABEL.—The Secretary shall ensure that the label referred to in paragraph (1) is used only on products that meet the criteria issued pursuant to

paragraph (2).

(4) RECOGNITION.—The Secretary shall establish a voluntary program to recognize Federal agencies and private entities that use a substantial amount of biobased products.

(i) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this section shall apply to the procurement of motor vehicle fuels or electricity.

(j) FUNDING.—

(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

(2) FUNDING FOR TESTING OF BIOBASED PRODUCTS.--

(A) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2007 to support testing of biobased products to carry out this section.

(B) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts made available under subparagraph (A) may be used to support contracts or cooperative agreements with entities that have experience and special skills to conduct such testing.

(C) PRIORITY.—At the discretion of the Secretary, the Secretary may give priority to the testing of products for which private sector firms provide cost sharing for the testing.

# **APPENDIX B**

Status of Responses to GAO Recommendations

## Status of Recommendations in June 2001 GAO Report

<u>GAO Recommendation 1</u>: To help agencies purchase recycled content products, we recommend that the Federal Environmental Executive and the Administrator of EPA work with officials at the major procuring agencies to develop a process to provide the procuring agencies with current information on the availability of the designated recycled content products. In addition, these officials should determine how these products can be more effectively promoted.

<u>Status</u>: EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines web site includes information on sources of the designated products. Until now, the list was static and updated annually, so the company information was not always current. EPA is developing a more flexible listing system that can be updated more frequently. The agencies conducted beta test of this new system, and EPA is now adding the new listing system to its CPG web site, www.epa.gov/cpg.

The Task Force chaired an inter-agency workgroup on re-refined oil. Among other things, the workgroup identified commercial sources of re-refined oil. This information is posted on the Task Force's web site, www.ofee.gov. The Task Force also obtained from GSA a list of the federal facilities with cross-service agreements and posted the list on the Task Force's web site. Under cross-service agreements, facilities with vehicle maintenance facilities offer vehicle maintenance services to other agencies. Many of the facilities with cross-service agreements offer re-refined oil.

The Task Force worked with the Small Business Administration to green PRO-Net, SBA's electronic database of small businesses. PRO-Net currently lists more than 2,000 small businesses that offer EPA-designated products. SBA is working with the Defense Logistics Agency to add additional green characteristics, including energy-efficiency, water-efficiency, and low or no VOC content.

In GSA Advantage, GSA's electronic catalog, there is a search function for recycled content products, and EPA-designated products can be identified by a "CPG" icon. Use of an icon is voluntary, and identification of a product is optional with the vendor. In 2001, GSA told the Task Force that it would send a letter to the schedule contractors requiring them to identify compliant EPA-designated products. In 2002, GSA informed Senator Jeffords that it was revising its regulations to require vendors to identify compliant products.

The Defense Logistics Agency also is identifying green products via icons. DLA created environmental attribute codes (ENACs) to identify these products. There are ENACs for rerefined oil, reclaimed engine coolants, remanufactured toner cartridges, energy-efficient products, water-saving products, and EPA-designated products that meet or exceed EPA's recommended recycled content levels. <u>GAO Recommendation 2</u>: To help agencies implement the RCRA requirement to annually monitor and review the effectiveness of affirmative procurement programs, we recommend that the Director, OMB, instruct the Director of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy to provide procuring agencies with more specific guidance on fulfilling the RCRA review and monitoring requirements and, in conjunction with the Federal Environmental Executive, use the results of the agencies' efforts in their reports to the Congress and the President.

<u>Status</u>: The Reporting Workgroup prepared changes to the annual RCRA data call that would add questions about agency audits of their affirmative procurement programs. It would require the agencies to assess the new Federal Procurement Data System data for compliance and/or trends. It also would require the agencies to report on the percentage of facilities that conducted contracting and/or environmental audits for compliance with the buy-recycled requirements. The proposed changes were approved by the Executive Order 13101 Inter-agency Advisory Group and the E.O. 13101 Steering Committee and are strongly supported by DoD, NASA, and DOE. The proposal includes a draft facility-level audit questionnaire prepared by NASA.

<u>GAO Recommendation 3</u>: If the White House Task Force recommendation revising the Federal Procurement Data System (or its replacement) is implemented, then the Director, OMB, should instruct the Director of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy to provide guidance to the federal procuring agencies on using the information added to the system to periodically review contractors' compliance with the RCRA requirements for purchasing recycled-content products.

<u>Status</u>: Beginning in FY '02, agencies are required to enter data into FPDS on their purchases of EPA-designated products. Agencies cannot use FPDS to track purchases of individual products because the product codes are too broad, covering several items. Also, the contracting officer enters the product code for the item that will be purchased in the largest dollar amount, which in the case of a contract for multiple products or a services contract, might or might not be an EPA-designated product. Instead, agencies will enter codes indicating whether the contract requires the supply or use of EPA-designated products and whether all of the designated products will have recycled content or if not, the justification for not buying recycled. Data will be available to the Task Force and to OFPP by agency, major subdivisions within an agency, and possibly by individual facility. It will enable agencies to begin auditing contracts for non-compliance with the buy-recycled requirements.

The Reporting Workgroup developed guidance to the agencies on how to fill out these new data fields. The guidance will be transmitted to the agencies in the next version of the FPDS guidance manual.

<u>GAO Recommendation 4</u>: To ensure that grantees purchase recycled-content products as required by RCRA, the Director of the Office of Federal Financial Management, OMB, in coordination with federal agencies, should amend the common rule so that it incorporates the RCRA requirements, as recommended in the Federal Environmental Executive's Report to the President entitled Greening the Government.

Status: There are two guiding documents for assistance agreements with state and local agencies:

the "common rule" and OMB Circular A-102, Grants and Cooperative Agreements with State and Local Governments. OMB Circular A-102 was revised in 1994 to add a paragraph requiring agencies to implement RCRA section 6002 and to require State and local agencies to comply with section 6002. However, the common rule has not been revised. As a result, agency implementation of this RCRA provision is inconsistent. The Department of Energy's Weatherization program, for example, requires recipients of its funds to comply with RCRA. Like other grant-administering agencies, however, DOE does not monitor compliance. OFFM does not request reports from agencies on grantees' compliance with the RCRA buy-recycled requirement.

The Task Force reviewed agency grant regulations for provisions requiring compliance with the RCRA buy-recycled requirements. Agencies have revised their regulations for grants to colleges, universities, and institutions of higher education. With the exception of DOE, agencies have not revised their regulations for grants to state and local governments. The FEE intends to contact Agency Environmental Executives to request that they update their requirements and begin outreach to the recipients of assistance funds.

# **APPENDIX C**

Data Analysis Charts

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					% racycled tile			<b>\$</b> 700,417	•	503,154		\$ 29,851		15 167,412		I Res/Blocks		> rec. desktop	96/ 062/24	\$1,424,000	· 1,2/1,110		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	ə 59,649	5 53,437				Desiclop Acc.		% recycled tile			\$		\$ 423 745		7	110	"		Tiles/Blocks		
					A3 M4			\$ 581,607	\$	\$ 503,154	•	\$ 4,326		\$ 74,127		Rec. Tiles/Blocks		31.56%	\$724,663	\$341,772	5 382,891	\$ 30,504		9		\$	57	8	Rec. Desktop Acc		34.08%			5 497 901	TEU1/UU	400 78K	e	ANV VAL	540'AC		SUMPLEMENT WAL			-
				Sauch that v		R19 457		\$ 211.417	•	\$ 14,663 \$	I	\$ 20,781	\$ 3,578	\$ 73,211	\$ 99,186	Traffic cones		% rec. toner 28.47%			\$ 18,932,906	\$ 3,193,644	5 7,144,858	\$ 404,714	\$ 2,026,577	\$ 249,597	\$ 5,435,684	5	Tone		% rec. cones \$5.41%	356.087	000,200 S	100 CC	· · · · · ·		¥ 4,013	5 1,725	512'8	179		Traffin Annua		
				90.UJ%	2 000, 200 V		407.040	\$ 125.048 I S		6,710	-	\$ 16,540	\$ 2,168	\$ 84,045	-			28.47%	\$8,031,306		\$ 7,824,001	\$ 208,875	\$ 3,154,415		\$ 1,522,612	\$ 6,744	\$ 2,628,069	\$ 303,266										5 1,725		5 179	Hec. Cones			
				% rec. tracks #DIV/0				•		•	•		•	•		Run. Tracks		% rec. binders 25.08%	\$17,751,024	\$15,425,996		\$ 580,894	\$ 307,630	\$ 76,359	\$ 212,688	\$ 125,658	\$ 1,007,097	\$ 14,702	Binders		% rec. tracks #DiV/01			_	NN NA	N/A	<b>VN</b>	<u>vn</u>	<u>vn</u>		Hun, Tracks			
				PDIV/01					• •		•			•		Rec. tracks			\$4,451,087	\$3,874,876	\$ 576,211		\$ 179,169		\$ 97,812		N	\$ 7,752	Rec. Binders		NOV/01			VN .	VN	<u>v</u> N	VN.	<u>v</u> n	V.N	5	Rec. tracks			

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		Ī	Ī			These floures	<b>GSA supple</b>	ON LUNITIME LI	In addition to						2000 GSA Bennut* .		SdSD	\$	HHS	NASA	GSA			3				TIMEST VON TAN	Bana	USPS		SHIP	Veva	Neo Non			3		New HCRA Items Totals (Continued)
						must be added to the	data on Federal Suppl	wants) and the fighter			% rec. trashbags 21.57%		21,000,104	1.20'10'10'1		S 13 806 6		\$ 1,988,920		543,714	5 66,564	5 799,315		1 rushbags		VAI 1504000 ADVID	Hadah (7) and a second	1.12.22.1	•								Nanduno-Animu	Mistakioanaa	s (Continued)
					A Concentration of Second	These floures must be added to the agency purchases to provide total nurchases	USA supplies data on Federal Supply System purchases for each CPG item.	I ON Items bought outsid			21.57%		4,65/,691			_		\$ 1.998.920	\$	\$ 503,696	\$ 4,030	5		Rec. Trashbags								5					MUICIVComposi		
					ovide wat pot citates.	nvide total murchases	each CPG Item.	in accurve in agency supplied lighter on liens bought outside of the GSA Federal Supply System.																		74 rec. containers 84.81%			\$ 219,488		\$ 137,571	\$	<b>S</b> 19,024		\$ 62,893	5	Waste Containers		
							•	ply System,	,					2001 GSA Report		THE REPORT OF A DESCRIPTION		1006	2001	1005 X 4 4	1.2 M 2 CT 1002 - 10 C M 2	2001 X** XX	1.52.7 A 12001 - S.A.A.A.	-		04.81%			\$ 186,137	\$	\$ 137,571	\$	\$ 3,162		\$ 45,404	*	Rec. Containers		
														「「「「なんない」となっているのでき		Uses.						DOE				% rec. desktop 34.46%	\$ 4,301,004	\$ 2,261,083	\$ 2,039,321	S	\$	\$	\$	\$ 122,778	\$	\$ 5,453	Desktop Acc.		
											% rec. trashbags 23.94%		\$ 22,316,396	<b>\$</b> 18,544,859 <b>\$</b>							\$ 81,287	\$ 1,203,634		Trashbegs		34.46%		\$ 235,626	\$	\$ 865,558 \$	•	•	\$	\$	*	\$ 2,414	Rec. Desktop Acc		
											23.94%		\$ 5,341,987	\$ 1,868,456			000'010'2	•	8	2	8	\$ 1,055,212		Rec. Trashbage		% rec. toner 25.86%		9,179,600	25,733,923	10,266,962		\$ 282.524			5	**	Toner Cart.		
																										25.80%	\$ 8,959,100	86,924	8,872,178	\$ 76,147	\$ 3.547.346	1,440	\$ 1.478.422	\$ 124,287	3,285,156	8	Rec. Cartridges		
																										% rec. binders 30.02%	\$ 13,889,208	_	1,835,374			5 61.090			1,0	\$ 13,540	Binders		
																											\$ 4,168,891	\$ 3,492,725	\$ 676,166	\$ 13,395	98.221	59,590	\$ 115,634	\$ 53,662	\$ 332,775	\$ 2,868	Rec. Binders		

				5661	<b>GAGE</b>	1997	188	1988	1999	6661	1 <b>1 1 1 1</b>								1998	1998	9861		1002	2 1998	≈ <b>366</b> [≪	1998			T	T		Ι	Jac			1007	8	187	1907	1997					T		1996	1996	1996	»1996 ×	1996	1996	1996			Original
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		9,501,829	5,752,076	2,717	98	19,54	000,000		76.890	2,794,068	Id I I'res	2					7 548 20	5.000.000	79	5,350	22,81	143,00	742 00	81 74	1.691.63	<b>Retread Tires</b>					6,548,549	4,873,56	V.N	2,14	20,120	030,10	1.00,00	190,00		ad Time				0,010,00	700'/80'0	3 207 85		WA	31 8	27 222	149.10	805.203	ad Thrae			
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% recycled		43,200,276	8,042,571	477,750	24,922	231,842	1,010,000	1 540 330	159.129	29,714,732	liding ins.			Variation of	R	200,000,00	20 828 05	9 521 286	1.022.998	159,016	367,816	18,323,740	010,007	242 624	9.159.892	ilding Ins.			% recycled 22.90%		30,365,828	11,000,000	XN VN	65,478	1,/90,449	2,340,801	0001144	CO4 / 1 / 1	14 747 405	Ildian Ine				1.84 000'04	10,107,630	040,000	1 01000	103 865	1 707 1010	4 657 915	AKD 54A	22 52 621	ilding ine			
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		6 740.632	2.010.643	290,780	1,012	217,029	1,321,700	101,012	520 LUI	2,792,396	veled ins.					10,623,014	12 222 122	1 830 321	25 422	10,200	80,525	7,866,160	200,000		100 010	Recycled Ins.					6,957,681	1,650,000	NA	8,485	1,370,104	333,020	200,0/4	0.25,125,5	necycled Ins.					669,700,62	1,010,118	5,800,227	Central Cont	106 800	1 336 CA	000 290	11,100,001	14 120 864				

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	ſ	T	ſ				ſ		5	-	5	5	5	-	-	-				-				-	5	•	5	5	-	5			
							% flyash		62,840,279	20,980,000	257,966	•	754,519	13,048,913	4,175,006	23,623,875	Concrete					% thyash	189,059,69	20,980,000	351,241		613,974	7,973,661	11,751,343	24,180,482	Concrete		Control Control
		T		Ī			42.47%		5	*	\$	•	•	•	••			Γ				56.11%	5	S	*	\$	\$	*	S	••			
									26,690,204	6,923,400	102,906		67,220	1,352,945	2,886,383	15,357,350	Fly Ash						36,951,652	6,923,400	50,405	•	407,438	6,965,351	8,150,913	14,434,145	Fly Ash		
			ŀ						•	Ş	\$	\$	\$	*	**								••	••	\$	\$	\$	\$	*7	\$			
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							% recycled 8		501,878,459 1	22,140 1	9,800,869	26,995 1	33,094 1	66,555	55,856 1	165,672,950 1				-		% necycled 7	24,755 \$	14,728 \$	7,117,754	14,980 1	81,775 1	34,414 8	94,505 1	10,001 1			
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									422, 161, 762	268,322	7,413,222	807	2,248	3,633	14,363	125,373	led Paper						396,874,745	266,462	6,025,366	8	2,031	2,195	11.447	107,428,727	<b>Recycled Paper</b>		
-			┞	╞		-	_		762 \$	140 \$	,222 \$	/298 \$	,433 \$	1,534 \$	,404 \$	,731 \$						+	745 \$	755 \$	300 \$	20 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50	22 50	88 5	412 \$	727 \$			-
							×										₽ Q					×									2		
							% re-refined		7,065,906	539,578	108,373	3,843	205,987		221,483	5,986,662						X re-refined	7,981,691	1,197,196	113,812	3.480	186,231		705.895	5,773,097			
	_		ŀ	Ì			25.34%		\$	\$	<b>\$</b>	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 1	Pa Pa			1		23,12%	**	\$	•		~	•		••			
									1,78	5			•	16		93	<b>Rerefined Oil</b>						1,84	40			N		23	-	Rerefined OII		
	_				_	_			,790,470 \$	539,578	7,538 \$	3,843 \$	8,516 \$	906 \$	0,443 \$	2,647 \$			_	-	-	-	,845,626 \$	467,331 \$	6,905 \$	3480 5	0.587 \$		238.735 \$	,108,608 \$			-
							% retreed		46,541,228	15,512,340	159,328	16,21	334,34	19,285,51	786,258	10,467,22	Time					* 7474	44,935,736	15,482,340 \$	203,14		120,549	11.912.014	920.657	16.317.132	*		
		┢		ł			d 19.19%		\$ \$	\$	\$ 8	<b>\$</b> E	7 \$	7 \$	\$ 8	5 5	R		┨			% retreed 17.97%	8	9	*	•	~	••	2 2	•	3		
							•		8,919,547	5,752,075			36	1,467	88	1,570	<b>Retreed Three</b>						8,076	5,752			-	8	5		Retread Tires		
-									,547 \$	,075 \$	4,432 \$	- \$	36,276 \$	467,077 \$	88,771 \$	916 \$						╉	8,076,261 \$	5,752,076 \$		-	14.802 \$	660.689 S	110.030 \$	.534,163 \$			
			ŀ				* 7		18,	8				1		8,	<b>Building Ins.</b>					2	19,	6				_			Building Inc.	•	
							% recycled 41.91%		18,157,910	6,593,714	384,968	•	16,619	241,711	265,553	9,663,345						% recycled 40.23%	19,157,298	6,593,714 \$	477,749		719,760	.324.100	582.396	9,459,577	2		
							41.91%		*	\$	*	\$	**	\$	\$	5	Rec					10.23%	\$	••	•	5	•	•	~	"	Rect		
									7,610,312	2,175,926	291,950			1,229,013	200,296	3,711,	Recycled Ins.						7,706,415	2,175,926	290,780		320,826	937.400	475,118	3,506,365	Recycled Ins.		
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		O NEW CPU	Total 2000 Original CPG		0 Recycled ( 0 Recycled			8 New CPG	Total 1998 Original CPG		o necycleu i	B Recycled (			Total 1996 Recycled CPG	Cubuna cho				o Cru	Total 2000 Recycled CPG			Total 1998 CPG	B Recycled (		0.010	Total 1996 Recycled CPG	Original CPG heme	hasing Sun
,	% recycled				Total 2000 Recycled Original CPG Total 2000 Recycled New CPG		% recycled					Total 1998 Recycled Original CPG		% recycled		Ungenal CPU and New CPU iteme				% recycled			% recycled			nam (nai ei	e martes			CPG Purchasing Summary Data Analysis
	•	5 78,043,749 742 0003 006	\$ 864,950,159		\$ 451,454,699 \$ 25.358.895		5 794,677,943 47,27%		\$ 756,631,171		3 19,407,942	\$ 356,204,611			\$ 386,169,464 \$ 770 n44 715					\$ 664,950,159 A7 Mark	\$ 451,454,699			\$ 756.631.171		501.10X	¥ 770,044,716	\$ 386,169,464		
		Total 2001 New CPG	Total 2001 Original C		Total 2001 Recycled Original CPG Total 2001 Recycled New CPG			Total 1999 New CPG	Total 1999 Original C		Total 1999 Recycled New CPG	Total 1999 Recycled (		IOM INV CPG	Total 1997 Recycled CPG					Total 2001 CPG	Total 2001 recycled C			Lorg 0651 Juni 1990 CPG	4		Total 1997 CPG	Total 1997 Recycled CPG		
	% recycled					a included		5				Original CPG \$		States States					techael		-					The way in the recycled				
	5 717,732,815 68.30%	8	\$ 636,483,782	490,193,284	. 40	v.eeres	\$ 773,911,696	3	778	49	\$ 22,413,326	466		S 887,241,678	\$ 354,390,180				13.40×	\$ 636,483,782	\$ 467,172,285		a / JO,00/,/ 10	S 469,394,538		39.94%	\$ 887,241,678	\$ 354,390,180		

.

# RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY ACT (RCRA) AGENCY REPORTS

# **APPENDIX D**

Pertinent Web Sites

# **PERTINENT WEB SITES**

Office of the Federal Environmental Executive/White House Task Force on Waste Prevention and Recycling

www.ofee.gov

- Federal Acquisition Network <u>http://www.arnet.gov/</u>
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines Program www.epa.gov/cgp
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Environmental Management Systems www.epa.gov/ems
- U.S. Department of Energy, Federal Energy Management Program www.eren.doe.gov/femp/procurement
- U.S. General Services Administration, Federal Supply Service https://www.gsaadvantage.gov/ http://pub.fss.gsa.gov/environ/recycled-prod.html
- U.S. General Services Administration, Federal Procurement Data Center <u>http://www.fpdc.gov/</u>
- U.S. Department of Defense, Defense Logistics Agency <u>http://www.dscr.dla.mil/products/epa/eppcat.htm</u>
- Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Catalog www.jwod.com
- Federal Prison Industries, Inc. (UNICOR) <u>www.unicor.gov</u>
- U.S. Small Business Administration, Procurement Network www.pro-net.sba.gov
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Bioproducts <u>http://www.oit.doe.gov/agriculture/</u>