

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT

Mission

Promote cost effective Department of Energy (DOE) mission accomplishment by providing corporate policy and guidance to meet current and future environmental compliance requirements, developing guidance for Departmental environmental stewardship responsibilities and setting goals to minimize the environmental impacts of DOE operations.

Functions

1. Serves as the central Departmental coordinating point for advocating DOE's position on environmental requirements and regulations proposed by other federal agencies (e.g., the Environmental Protection Agency).
2. Provides technical support to the Department's program offices and field elements in understanding and implementing environmental requirements.
3. Provides corporate leadership in promoting environmental protection through interaction with internal and external entities, advocating the Departmental position on emerging environmental requirements affecting DOE operations and issuance of guidance on Departmental compliance with newly promulgated requirements.
4. Promotes the implementation of environmental management systems throughout the Department to ensure that consideration of the environmental impacts of DOE operations are integrated into DOE's integrated Safety Management Systems.
5. Maintains effective liaison with other DOE and Environment, Safety and Health (EH) offices.
6. Assures that the Office implements an integrated approach to customer and stakeholder needs.
7. Participates in support of the Office of Planning and Management in the Strategic Planning and Program Planning Processes. Ensures that work plans conform to priorities resulting from these processes.

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT

OFFICE OF AIR, WATER AND RADIATION PROTECTION POLICY AND GUIDANCE

Mission

Assure Department-wide understanding and compliance with air, water and radiation environmental protection laws, regulations and standards. The Office's scope in the radiation protection includes affecting the public and environment, radioactive waste disposal management standards and cleanup standards.

Functions

1. Develops Departmental environmental protection policies, standards, and guidance for air, water, and radiation consistent with Federal laws and regulations.
2. Acts as the coordinator and advocate for the Department with other Federal agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, for Department of Energy policy positions and concerns in those agencies' rulemaking efforts in order to assure the Department's position is reflected in the formulation of other agencies' regulations that may affect Department of Energy facilities, operations, and activities.
3. In the area of radiation protection standards for the public and the environment, represents the Department in national and international radiation protection organizations, policy setting organizations, and on risk management and standard setting organizations including the Committee on Interagency Radiation Research and Policy Coordination, the international Committee on Radiological Protection, and the National Committee on Radiological Protection.
4. Develops policy and provides guidance and tools to assist in the estimation of risk and risk management for protection of the public from radiation and other hazardous materials.
5. Develops guidance and coordinates activities to implement the cultural resource management program, including activities affecting Indian Tribal cultural resource sites and items consistent with Federal laws and regulations.
6. Develops policy and guidance to advocate and assist Departmental elements in implementing environmental management systems approaches into environmental programs and the integration of environmental management with integrated safety management.
7. Develops policy and guidance to assist Departmental elements in the implementation of effective institutional controls.
8. Provides a focal point for cross-cutting environmental performance information. Coordinates, validates, and distributes statutory, regulatory and executive order-mandates and corporate environmental reports.
9. Coordinates and develops the Departmental position on emerging air, water, radiation environmental and cultural resource protection requirements.

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT

OFFICE OF NEPA POLICY AND COMPLIANCE

Mission

Assure that the Department's proposed actions comply with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and related environmental review requirements (e.g., National Historic Preservation Act, Endangered Species Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and others) that are necessary prior to project implementation.

Functions

1. As the focus of Departmental NEPA expertise, advises the Department programs on applicability of NEPA and other related environmental review requirements.
2. Develops regulations, orders, policies, and guidance for understanding and implementing NEPA and related environmental review requirements.
3. Performs independent assessments of Department projects and programs, when necessary, to assure that NEPA requirements are met.
4. Recommends approval of NEPA documents, as appropriate, after conducting independent review to ensure both technical and legal adequacy (the latter in consultation with the Office of General Counsel).
5. Provides technical support, on request, to Program/Field organizations in resolving significant NEPA compliance issues with other Federal, state and local agencies.
6. Provides dedicated environmental support to the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management.
7. Works with NEPA Compliance Officers in Program/Field elements to provide training on NEPA and related requirements and policies.
8. Maintains cognizance of the activities of the Department of Energy and other Federal agencies, as well as judicial branch activities that may set legal precedents for Departmental NEPA implementation.

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT

OFFICE OF POLLUTION PREVENTION AND RESOURCE CONSERVATION POLICY AND GUIDANCE

Mission

Promote cost effective Department of Energy (DOE) accomplishment by minimizing the environmental impacts of DOE operations.

Functions

1. Assesses and develops strategies, policies and guidance for meeting DOE goals for pollution prevention, waste minimization and the acquisition of environmentally preferable products. Prepares externally required corporate reports documenting the Department's progress in these areas.
2. Develops internal Departmental policies and guidance for Departmental compliance with applicable Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, Pollution Prevention Act, and Toxic Substances Control Act issues and requirements.
3. Acts as the coordinator and advocate for the Department with other Federal agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of the Interior, or Department of Energy policy positions and concerns in those agencies' rulemaking efforts in order to assure the Department's position is reflected in the formulation of other agencies' regulations that may affect DOE facilities, operations and activities.
4. Provides corporate support to program and field elements in the interpretation and implementation of statutory and emerging regulatory environmental requirements relative to hazardous waste management, toxic chemical inventory reporting, natural resource trusteeship, and hazardous substance release response.
5. Formulates procedural methodologies for streamlining/accelerating waste management and environmental restoration efforts compliant with statutory and regulatory environmental requirements, and in cooperation with the Office of Environmental Management, provides multi-disciplinary teams of environmental specialists to support field elements in implementing streamlining methodologies.
6. Provides a Department-wide focal point for cross-cutting environmental compliance/performance information. Coordinates, validates, and distributes statutory, regulatory and executive order-mandated corporate environmental reports.