

Environmental Results Program: Linking Compliance Assistance, Self-Certification and Performance Measures

Description

EPA has been partnering with states to design and develop integrated enforcement programs based on an innovative program called Environmental Results Program (ERP) developed by the state of Massachusetts. The session will consist of a combination of brief presentations and Q&A sessions with the panel. Presentations will cover an overview of ERP and EPA's partnership activities with the states, and a presentation from the perspective of several states who are in the process of designing or implementing ERP for different sectors. ERP consists of a set of three linked tools – compliance assistance, inspection and performance measurement, and an annual certification of compliance signed by a senior company official. The three tools, including the compliance assistance which includes a multi-media, user-friendly workbook and targeted workshops, work together to produce improved performance by participating facilities, which often are the smaller sources or smaller businesses within a state's regulatory system. Massachusetts DEP established ERP on the premise that small business compliance will improve if facilities have a better knowledge and understanding of the state's regulatory requirements and if company officials are held accountable for certifying compliance.

Goals/Outcomes

To demonstrate to the compliance assistance provider audience how ERP has been utilized as an innovative environmental management approach to successfully link regulatory requirements with compliance assistance and performance measurement and has produced results.

Key Questions

- How are states measuring the success of their ERP programs?
- Why should compliance assistance providers be interested in the ERP approach to environmental regulation?
- Are there specific types of environmental problems/issues that are more appropriate than others for utilizing an ERP approach?
- How does ERP allow states and EPA to focus limited resources and leverage additional resources on the most pressing environmental problems?
- What challenges have states faced in developing ERP?

Presenters

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