

USEPA Region 2 Environmental Management System Policy

On April 21, 2000, Executive Order (EO) 13148, "Greening the Government Through Leadership in Environmental Management," was issued by the Office of the President. This Order established goals and requirements for Federal agencies to improve environmental performance through management systems and an emphasis on pollution prevention.

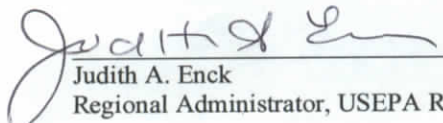
As one of his first orders of business, President Obama issued Executive Order 13514, reaffirming the need to promote environmental stewardship that was initiated under E.O. 13148 and ensuring that environmental management systems would continue to be incorporated into the strategic goals of all Federal Agencies through calendar year 2015.

Inspired by President Obama's leadership, we pledge to reinvigorate Region 2's EMS programs not only to safeguard the environment, but also to promote environmental stewardship by establishing EMS programs for all Region 2 Facilities. We are excited at the prospect of being the first federal agency to devise and implement an EMS in the Caribbean and pledge to assist and support the Caribbean Environmental Protection Division in this undertaking.

As noted in our original EPA Environmental Management System Implementation Policy, the Region 2 will continually strive to meet the following goals of the EMS:

- Ensure compliance by meeting or exceeding all applicable environmental and legal requirements.
- Continuously improve environmental performance in terms of both regulated and unregulated environmental impacts.
- Employ source reduction and other pollution prevention approaches whenever possible.
- Require consideration of environmental factors when making planning, purchasing and operating decisions.
- Establish, track and review specific environmental objectives and targets.
- Provide training to educate our employees and others working in Region 2 office and lab space to be environmentally responsible on the job, including encouraging the use of reusable dishware and aiming toward zero waste at all EPA Region 2 meetings, events and functions.
- Work cooperatively with other stakeholders to further common environmental objectives.
- Recognize and reward accomplishments and take corrective action to address non-conformances.
- Share information on environmental performance with our employees and the public and allow appropriate opportunities for input into EMS development and implementation.
- Maintain documentation of all efforts and steps to execute the Region 2 EMS.

In addition to our annual reviews on environmental goals and adherence to this policy, we invite interested parties to provide us with input that will improve our efforts to promote environmental stewardship.


Judith A. Enck
Regional Administrator, USEPA Region 2

Date

11/9/11

