

2008 and 2020 Measures for RCRA Corrective Action NAPL Alliance Meeting

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Today I am going to talk about the future of the RCRA Corrective Action Program.

I'm going to give you an overview of where the RCRA CA program has been and where we are going.

To date, we have been very successful.

For the past 8 years, the CA program has been focused on stabilizing the most highly contaminated RCRA facilities as measured through the two environmental indicators – HE & GW.

We've done very well. Over 1650 RCRA facilities have HE under control and about 1350 have GW under control.

The two environmental indicators have resonated well with OMB, Congress and the public, but now we are working on pushing the highest priority sites to final cleanup.

Outline

- 2008 Goals Overview and Status
- 2020 Corrective Action Initiative

National FY 2008 Goals

- Site Assessment: 100%
- Human Exposure EI: 95%
- Groundwater EI: 80%
- Remedy Selection: 30%
- Construction Completion: 20%

•In the past we were only tracking the Program's progress toward the 2 EIs. Now we are tracking 5 goals that lead the program toward achieving final cleanups.

•The first goal is that all sites on the 2008 baseline will have been assessed. This means enough assessment work has been done so that a site can be ranked. For this goal, we will be tracking whether or not the facility has a NCAPs ranking.

•We still have the two EI goals, human exposures and groundwater, but in 2008 our groundwater goal increases to 80%.

•The last two goals, remedy select and construction complete are the goals we are using to shift emphasis from stabilizing sites to moving towards final cleanup.

•When setting targets for these goals, we wanted to set aggressive targets that stretch the program and make it more efficient.

•We think this approach worked well for the EIs.

•Remedy selection – 30% -

•Construction Complete – 20% -

National 2006 - 2008 Projections

	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Site Assessment	98%	100%	100%
Human EI	82%	89%	95%
Groundwater EI	68%	76%	80%
Remedy Selection	21%	26%	30%
Construction Completion	13%	17%	20%

Baseline from 1714 to 1968 facilities.

Challenges to Meeting 2008 Goals

- Selecting and completing final remedies at operating facilities.
- Attrition of staff with expertise in working with facilities to select final remedies.
 - Addressed by Corrective Action training initiatives.
- Vapor Intrusion

2020 Corrective Action Initiative

- Inspirational goal from the 2003 RCRA vision paper: *Beyond RCRA: Waste and Materials Management in the Year 2020*
- Established a corrective action 2020 workgroup of states and EPA to develop an implementation strategy

MLH challenged us to all take the inspirational goal seriously and develop a strategy to achieve it.

We've been working to answer the questions:

Which facilities?

What are we trying to achieve by 2020?

How do we measure progress towards 2020?

How do we accelerate cleanup progress?

2020 Goal

- What does it mean to “largely complete” corrective action at all facilities by 2020?
- The workgroup recommended remedy construction complete at all facilities as the 2020 goal.
 - Through EPA’s strategic planning process we are setting the goal at 95%.

2020 Corrective Action Baseline

- Baseline criteria:
 - Facilities currently on the 2008 baseline for corrective action
 - Other facilities that are on the permitting track (2006 permitting baseline)
 - Any other facilities deemed appropriate and important by the region or authorized state to address through the RCRA corrective action program

Matt Hale letter to the regions asking them to develop a draft list of facilities by January 31, 2006.

Some states and regions are sending letters to facilities notifying them that they will be on the new baseline.

Addressing 2020 Challenges

- Incorporate the 2020 goal into a future EPA strategic plans
- Develop the 2020 baseline list of facilities
- Develop ways to accelerate the cleanup progress
- Develop a strategy to select and implement final remedies at operating facilities
- Develop and provide training as necessary

Training Toward Achieving 2008 and 2020 Goals

- RCRA Project Manager Curriculum
- Corrective Action Road Show