

March 29, 2002

Mr. Craig Hooks, Director
Federal Facilities Enforcement Office (MC-2261A)
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Mr. Hooks:

I am responding to Christine Todd Whitman's letter dated February 20, 2002, informing agencies of the need to submit progress reports in accordance with Section 307 of Executive Order 13148, "Greening the Government Through Leadership in Environmental Management." The FY 2001 Annual Progress Report for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is enclosed.

If any additional information is needed, please contact Thomas O. Martin, Director, Division of Facilities and Security at (301)415-8080.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Patricia G. Norry
Deputy Executive Director
for Management Services

Enclosure: As stated

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Nuclear Regulatory Commission
FY 2001 Annual Progress Report for
Executive Order 13148

Background:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) occupies two office buildings at its headquarters location in Rockville, Maryland. One White Flint North building (OWFN), 11555 Rockville Pike, is a Federally-owned building and Two White Flint North building (TWFN), 11545 Rockville Pike, is a leased building. NRC has delegated authority from the General Services Administration (GSA) to operate and maintain both buildings. NRC occupies a small warehouse facility in Rockville and several significantly smaller regional facilities that are office type leased space managed by the lessors.

NRC remains committed to complying with Executive Order (E.O.) 13148 to the maximum extent possible. We have made the following progress implementing the E.O. as described below.

Part 3 - Planning and Accountability

The following is a summary of NRC's achievements associated with the implementation of E.O. 13101, "Greening the Government Through Waste Prevention, Recycling, and Federal Acquisition," and E.O. 13123, "Greening the Government Through Efficient Energy Management." Although, as an Independent Agency, NRC is exempt from complying with E.O. 13149, "Greening the Government Through Fleet and Transportation Efficiency," we have made a concerted effort to meet the objectives of this E.O.

E.O. 13123

- We initiated discussions with PEPCO in conjunction with establishing a utility energy service contract to conduct energy audits and implement energy savings contracts.
- In FY 2001, we established a plan to replace existing fluorescent lights and exit signs in TWFN with energy efficient lights and signs. In OWFN and TWFN, we will install sensors in private offices to control overhead lights and install plug load managers to control task lights and electricity consuming equipment at employee workstations. The work is scheduled to be completed in FY 2002.

E.O. 13101

- We recycle Grade 1 and Grade 2 paper, cardboard, newspaper, aluminum, steel and tin cans, plastic and bottles, wood pallets, fluorescent light bulbs, and laser toner cartridges. In FY 2001, we expanded our recycling program to include nicad, lead acid, and lithium batteries.

- For our waste prevention program, we implemented electronic systems for record keeping, communications and for providing information to the public. As a result of these and other waste prevention programs, we purchased 2,000 fewer boxes of office paper in headquarters in FY 2001 than FY 2000. We also enhanced our program for the reuse of office supplies. We placed containers on each office floor for the return of unneeded supplies to our supply store for reuse. Under the Federal "Computers for School" program, NRC donated more than 1,500 items of used computer equipment to schools.

E.O. 13149

- The NRC vehicle fleet consists of 5 leased and 14 GSA vehicles, of which, two are Flexible Fuel Vehicles and one is an alternative Fuel Vehicle.

Part 4 - Promoting Environmental Management and Leadership

In FY 2001, a facility assessment of OWFN was conducted by GSA. The assessment recommended the replacement of the chillers which use ozone depleting refrigerant. GSA is developing a schedule for their replacement. In addition, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Public Health Service, conducted indoor air quality testing at OWFN and TWFN. No environmental deficiencies were identified. In FY 2002, GSA will conduct a facility assessment of TWFN and HHS will continue to conduct indoor air quality testing.

As provided in paragraph (f), in FY 2002, NRC will consider using EPA to provide technical assistance for conducting environmental management reviews at OWFN and TWFN and developing policies and guidance for conducting environmental compliance and audits.

Part 5 - Emergency Planning, Community Right-to-Know, and Pollution Prevention

NRC uses no toxic chemicals at its facilities. Contract requirements for janitorial, landscape, elevator maintenance, and building maintenance service prohibit the use of any toxic chemicals or ozone-depleting substances (except as needed in the OWFN chillers). NRC is not responsible for transferring or disposing of any chemicals. As indicated in Part 4, above, GSA is developing a schedule to replace the chillers in OWFN.

Part 6 - Landscaping Maintenance Practices

All guiding principles from the Guidance for Presidential Memorandum on Environmentally and Economically Beneficial Landscape Practices on Federal Landscape Grounds have been incorporated into NRC's landscaping program, policies, and practices, with the exception of #5; Create Outdoor Demonstration Projects. During NRC's FY 2002 Earth Day program, we will introduce our landscape public awareness and education program.

Part 7 - Acquisition and Procurement

NRC continues to bring environmental accountability into its acquisition process. The Agency's acquisition and project officer personnel continue to review specifications for products and services to ensure they comply with the Executive Order's initiatives in accordance with guidance issued in FY 1999 and FY 2000. In FY 2001, we broadened this guidance to include NRC Purchase Card holders by requiring them to consider environmentally preferable products when using the Purchase Card.