

March 27, 2003

Mr. David Kling, Director
Federal Facilities Enforcement Office (MC-2261A)
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Mr. Kling:

I am responding to John Peter Suarez's letter dated February 25, 2003, informing agencies of the need to submit progress reports in accordance with Section 307 of Executive Order (E.O.) 13148, "Greening the Government Through Leadership in Environmental Management." The 2002 Annual Progress Report for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is enclosed. Please be advised that in accordance with the guidance for the calendar year 2002 annual report, we did not respond to Section 503 of E.O. 13148.

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
2002 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 occupies a small warehouse facility in Rockville and several significantly smaller regional facilities that are office type leased space managed by the lessors.

Section 201 of Executive Order (E.O.) 13148 establishes goals for each agency to develop and implement an Environmental Management System (EMS) policy. The guidance for calendar year 2002 Annual Report defines "appropriate facilities" which must have an EMS. NRC has no facilities which meet the "appropriate facilities" criteria.

Even though NRC is not required to develop an EMS policy, we remain committed to comply with E.O. 13148 to the maximum extent possible. We have made the following progress implementing the E.O. as described below:

Section 305 (b). Policies, Strategies, and Plans

NRC policy is to incorporate the requirements of the E.O. into all facility maintenance contracts. As such, each contract specification prohibits the use of toxic chemicals, hazardous substances, and pollutants. As a method of self-assessment, annual indoor air quality testing is performed by the Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service. Additionally, an independent contractor performs an annual safety and health survey.

Section 401. Agency and Facility Environmental Management System

NRC is not required to develop or implement environmental management systems.

Section 502. Release Reduction: Toxic Chemicals

There are no toxic chemicals at NRC 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 noted in Section 505, below).

Section 505. Reduction on Ozone-Depleting Substances

In FY 2002, a facility assessment of OWFN was conducted by the General Services Administration (GSA). The assessment recommended the replacement of the chillers which use ozone depleting refrigerants. GSA is developing a schedule for their replacement. At TWFN, two chillers use ozone depleting refrigerant. We have informed GSA to notify the lessor so an appropriate schedule can be developed to replace the chillers that use the ozone depleting refrigerant.

Section 701. Limiting Procurement of Toxic Chemicals, Hazardous Substances, and Other Pollutants

NRC continues to bring environmental accountability into its procurement and acquisition process. The agency's contracting and project officer personnel review applicable facility related specifications for products and services to ensure they comply with the E.O.'s requirements.