



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NATIONAL HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS
RESEARCH LABORATORY
GULF ECOLOGY DIVISION
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OFFICE OF
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Environmental Management System Implementation Policy

The US Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Research and Development (ORD) mission is to perform state-of-the-art research to identify, understand, and solve current and future environmental problems, provide responsive technical support to EPA's mission, integrate the work of ORD's scientific partners (other agencies, nations, private sector organizations, and academia), provide leadership in addressing emerging environmental issues, and advance the science and technology of risk assessment and risk management.

ORD continues to encourage and set an example of research and development activities which use effective environmental management systems (EMS) that focus on regulatory compliance, pollution prevention, resource preservation, and public outreach. With this policy, the National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory - Gulf Ecology Division (GED) joins other ORD sites in committing to implement EMS for our own employees, operations, and facilities. Collectively, ORD will become a leader in executing a model environmental management system within the Agency.

At GED, we commit to reduce the environmental impacts and consumption of natural resources from our facility operations and comply with all legal and applicable requirements. Our environmental management system will be designed to meet the following goals:

- ensure compliance by meeting or exceeding all applicable environmental requirements while conducting research activities;
- strive to continuously improve environmental performance;
- integrate source reduction and other pollution prevention approaches into day to day research activities;
- consider the environment when making all planning, purchasing and operating decisions;
- establish, track and review specific environmental performance goals and employee awareness; and
- share performance information with our research partners and other interested parties.

8.21.02

Date

William H. Benson

Division Director