



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8**

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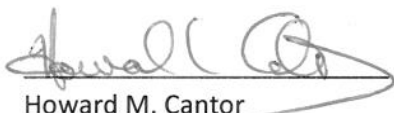
Region 8's Environmental Management System (EMS) Policy

Preamble


EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment. Therefore, it is of paramount importance that we not only reduce the environmental impacts of our facilities and work activities to the greatest extent possible, but we also demonstrate leadership by example in achieving these goals. Each day, opportunities are presented to each of us to improve our environmental performance and reduce our consumption of the earth's limited resources. To fully take advantage of these opportunities, each employee needs to integrate the guiding principles of our EMS into our daily activities and the decisions we make. By fully embracing and practicing these principles, our Region will demonstrate leadership and commitment to the protection of the environment which will serve as a lasting model for others to follow.

EPA Region 8's EMS Guiding Principles

- We will strive to ensure that we meet or exceed all applicable environmental legal requirements.
- We will endeavor to reduce our ecological footprint by reducing our use of natural resources through source reduction and pollution prevention.
- We will continue to integrate renewable energy and materials into our facilities and operations to the extent possible, and require consideration of environmental factors in our acquisitions and operating decisions.
- We will use our facilities as learning labs, evaluating new ideas and technologies that may increase our environmental performance and serve as a model for others to learn by.
- We will work to increase staff knowledge about ways to reduce our ecological footprint and move our region towards sustainability through continual communication and training.
- We will establish, track and review specific environmental performance goals, and hold ourselves accountable for progress toward our goals.
- We will demonstrate continual improvement in our own environmental performance as an example of our expectation of environmental performance by those we regulate.


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