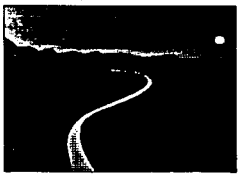
King George County Landfill and Recycling Center

Project XL



Project XL

Good for the Environment
Good for Business
Good for Communities

Overview of Presentation

- Beyond Compliance: Next Steps in Environmental Protection
- Reinvention and Project XL
- XL Project Benefits and Criteria
- XL in Region 3
- Developing an XL Project
- Stakeholder Process

Beyond Compliance: Next Steps in Environmental Protection

- 30 years of environmental progress, using 'command & control' measures
- Remaining challenges difficult to address through traditional regulatory approaches
  - Non-point run-off
  - Regional air pollution
  - Brownfields development
  - Responding to, incorporating, new technologies
  - Sprawl
- Innovative policy tools and techniques needed

Ensuring Environmental Protection Today

- More knowledge among stakeholders and the public = more problem-solving resources and expertise.
- Pollution control also includes:
  - Pollution Prevention
  - Encouraging sustainable development
  - Environmental Justice
- Recognizing potential role for industry in rule development and implementation.

"Reinvention" Within EPA

A broad-based, agency-wide strategy for achieving cleaner, cheaper, smarter results from environmental programs.

- Focus on:
  - Strengthening existing programs
  - Developing new approaches that take next step on top of 'command and control' regulatory mechanisms

What Is Project XL?

- **EXcellence and Leadership**
- **Voluntary Program**
- **Tests innovative ways to achieve better, more cost effective public health and environmental protection.**
- **Transferring lessons learned into improved regulations, policies and procedures nationally.**

XL Proposal Criteria

I. Superior environmental results

II. Cost savings, paperwork reduction, and operational flexibility

III. Stakeholder involvement and support

IV. Innovation and multimedia pollution prevention

V. Transferability to other facilities, sectors,communities

VI. Feasibility (technically and administratively)

VII. Monitoring, reporting, accountability, and evaluation methods

VIII. Avoiding shifting of risk burden

Achievements To Date

★ 35 final projects and proposals as of July 2000

★ Projects sponsored by:
- ★ private firms
- ★ states
- ★ federal agencies
- ★ communities.

Completed Region 3 XL Projects

Streamlined environmental permitting
- → Saves time during production changes
- → Reduces air emissions by 20% beyond requirements through a facility-wide cap.

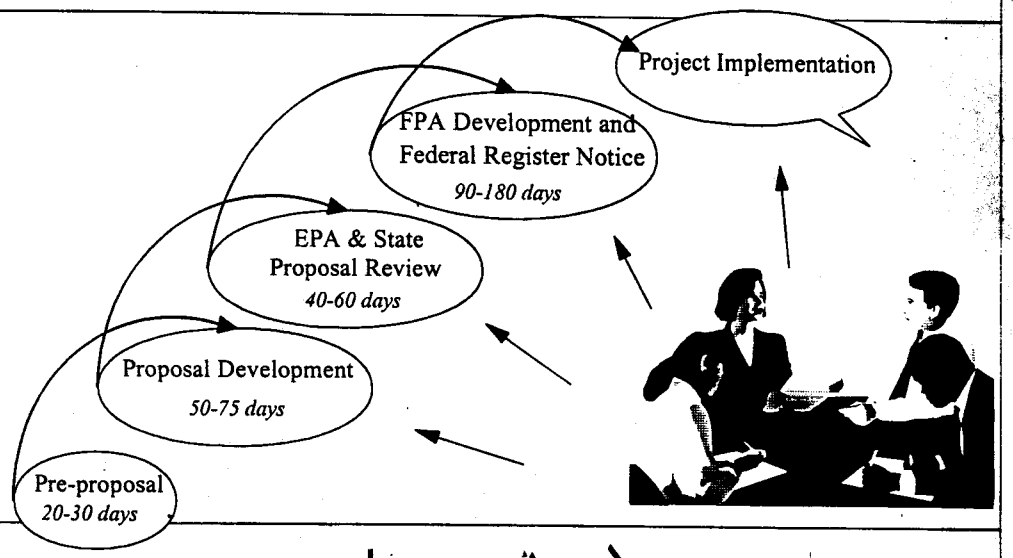
Testing EPA role in implentation of Environmental Management System (EMS) at microelectronics facilities.

Deferring regulations to encourage waste minimization and pollution prevention
Sludge reduction 800K lbs/yr;
98% reduction in air organics not currently regulated.

Expedited cleanup of former Sharon Steel Fairmount Coke Works Superfund site and redevelopment of this brownfield property.

Developing an XL Project

In 6-12 Months



Major XL Phases

- **Preproposal**
- **Proposal Development**
- **EPA & State/Local Agency Review (Selection)**
- **Formal Project Agreement (FPA) Development**
- **Project Implementation**
- **Evaluation**

Stakeholder Process

- Stakeholder acceptance: Key Project XL evaluation criteria.
- The stakeholder process builds trust between the sponsor(s) and stakeholder, including community.

Stakeholder Process

Balancing the needs and interests of the sponsor and stakeholders, within statutory legal requirements

How You Can Participate in the Stakeholder Process

- Direct Participant = work directly with Sponsors
- Commentor = Comment on documents
- General Public = Open access to process and information

Stakeholder Process for King George XL Project

- Sponsors (WM, VADEQ, County) run the stakeholder process
- Sponsors contact potential stakeholders
- Sponsors are stakeholders
- Additional stakeholders may include other companies, community groups, individuals, and federal agencies
- Anyone affected by the XL Project

What to Expect as a Stakeholder

- Open and transparent process
- Everyone will have access to information
- Everyone treated with respect
- Opportunity to influence outcome
- Responsibility to work for positive outcome

Ground Rules for participating in stakeholder process

- Define roles and responsibilities of Stakeholders
- Agree on process ground rules
- Methods for decision making

What Else Can You or Your Organization Do to Help

- Inform others of the process
- Help Sponsors develop a mailing list
- Help Sponsors with stakeholder involvement plan
- Participate in public meetings

Next Step

- Sponsors and stakeholders must agree on a Final Project Agreement that documents and outlines the project.

Formal Project Agreement

- Formal Project Agreement (FPA) contains the project details and commitments
- FPA can be signed by stakeholders.
- FPA is not a legal contract.
- FPA will be implemented under an order or specific rulemaking.

FPA Development

- Led by project sponsor
- Assembles stakeholder group
- Leads interactive meetings/discussions
- Negotiates details/commitments
- Visible, accessible process through public meetings and open access to information

FPA Steps

- Notify stakeholders, invite public
- Identify direct participants
- Establish groundrules
- Conduct negotiations
- Federal Register Notice
- Discuss comments and changes
- Sign FPA and post on the website

Final Process Steps

- Complete implementation mechanism
  - rule, permit, policy change
  - concurrent with FPA development or later
- Project implementation
- Monitoring/evaluation
  - progress reports and stakeholder meetings
  - modification of FPA, if needed
  - overall success/failure, broader applications?

Project XL

Environmental Excellence and Leadership