UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

APR 8 2003

THE ADMINISTRATOR

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Performance Track Incentives

TO: Jeff Holmstead, Assistant Administrator, OAR
Tracy Mehan, Assistant Administrator, OW
Steve Johnson, Assistant Administrator, OPPTS
Marianne Horinko, Assistant Administrator, OSWER

Over the past two years, the National Environmental Performance Track (PT) program has taken root and begun to flourish thanks to the hard work of OPEI and the program and regional offices. .The program currently has about 300 members who have collectively made over 1,000 commitments to improve performance beyond regulatory requirements. To ensure the continued success and growth of the program, I am now seeking your assistance in identifying and developing new ideas for regulatory, permitting, and other incentives for PT facilities.

As you know, PT members demonstrate environmental leadership by continually improving their environmental performance, reaching out to their communities, maintaining a strong environmental management system, and sustaining a good compliance record. As part of their membership, program participants receive incentives, such as public recognition and low priority for routine inspections. Currently we are working to finalize a rulemaking that would extend hazardous waste storage times, reduce MACT reporting requirements, and provide flexibility to POTWs in the program.

These incentives represent a good start, but the Agency must do more if the program is to continue to thrive and grow. Accordingly, I am asking each of your offices to conduct an evaluation and make recommendations for the establishment of new regulatory, permitting, or other incentives for PT members. As a general matter, these incentives should increase flexibility, innovation, and efficiency; decrease oversight and operational costs; and build on proven pilot projects while maintaining a high level of environmental performance. Moreover, to the extent possible, new incentives should minimize transaction costs for EPA, states, tribes, and PT members. Recommendations should be provided to Jessica Furey by May 30, 2003. She can be reached at 564-4332 if you have any questions.

Thank you for your continued support for the Performance Track program.

Christine Todd Whitman

cc: Linda Fisher
Tom Gibson

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