

## EPA Finalizes Rule to Modernize Clean Water Act Reporting

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized a rule to modernize Clean Water Act reporting for municipalities, industries, and other facilities. The final rule will require regulated entities and state and federal regulators to use existing, available information technology to electronically report data required by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program instead of filing written paper reports.

EPA estimates that once the rule is fully implemented, the 46 states and the Virgin Islands Territory that are authorized to administer the NPDES program will collectively save approximately \$22.6 million each year as a result of switching from paper to electronic reporting. The final rule will make facility-specific information, such as inspection and enforcement history, pollutant monitoring results, and other data required by NPDES permits accessible to the public through EPA's website.

"Electronic reporting will give the public full transparency into water pollution sources, save millions of dollars, and lead to better water quality in American communities," said Cynthia Giles, Assistant Administrator for EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. "This rule will significantly reduce the burden and costs of paperwork, freeing up limited resources for states and other regulatory authorities to focus on the most serious water quality problems. After more than two years of working closely with states and a range of stakeholders, today we take a critical step to bring clean water protection into the modern age." For more information, go to:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/21b8983ffa5d0e4685257dd4006b85e2/bf177b9560441ead85257eca006d2bfc!OpenDocument>

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## The Department of Commerce and the Treasury Department Coordinated New Actions in Support of the Cuba Policy

On September 21, 2015, the Commerce and Treasury Departments took additional coordinated actions in support of the President's Cuba policy. These actions included a rule published by the Commerce Department's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) that amended the terms of existing license exceptions that are available for Cuba, increased the number of license exception provisions that are available for Cuba, created a new Cuba licensing policy to help ensure the safety of civil aviation and the safe operation of commercial passenger aircraft, and made the deemed export and deemed reexport license requirements for Cuba consistent with other sanctioned destinations. For more information on the Cuban policy, click on the link below:

<https://www.bis.doc.gov/index.php/policy-guidance/country-guidance/sanctioned-destinations/cuba>

## **SBA Recognizes Small Business Development Center's (SBDC) 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Contributions to the Nations Small Businesses**

Administrator Maria Contreras-Sweet of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) commended the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) program, the largest SBA-supported counseling and training network, on its 35 years of service to the American people.

“Over the last 35 years, millions of entrepreneurs have been able to launch and grow their businesses because of the counseling they’ve received at Small Business Development Centers across the country,” said SBA Administrator Contreras-Sweet. “SBA is proud of the partnership we have with the SBDC's and the role we’ve played in helping to fund and shape the world’s largest and strongest network of advisors. SBDCs give us a competitive advantage in the global economy. They ensure the uncommon ingenuity and hard work of our small business owners is matched by their financial acumen and mastery of business fundamentals.” The SBDC network counseled more than 1.2 million clients from 2009 through 2014, fueled by \$750 million in grants from the SBA. That has resulted in 82,000 new small businesses, access to \$24 billion in capital, and \$131 billion in small business revenue and sales.

The America’s SBDC (ASBDC) Network President Charles “Tee” Rowe added, “America’s small businesses are truly the engine of economic growth, and for 35 years, America’s SBDCs have been like spark plugs helping to keep that engine going. SBDCs are driving small business growth by helping to create a new business every 33 minutes and a new job every seven minutes.”

Since its start, the SBDCs services have adapted to meet the changing needs of entrepreneurs and their expanding global presence. They continue to help entrepreneurs achieve the American dream of business ownership. To learn more about the SBDC program or to locate the SBDC nearest you, visit [www.sba.gov/sbdc](http://www.sba.gov/sbdc) and to read this article in its entirety, visit:

<http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USSBA/bulletins/191815>



**EPA FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICES**

**SUBJECT: Revisions to Test Methods, Performance Specifications, and Testing Regulations for Air Emission Sources**

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-09-08/pdf/2015-20768.pdf>

**Federal Register:** Vol. 80, No.173/ Tuesday, September 8, 2015/Rules and Regulations

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency

**ACTION:** Proposed Rule

**SUMMARY:** This action proposes technical and editorial corrections and revisions to regulations related to source testing of emissions. This proposed rule will make corrections and updates to testing provisions that contain inaccuracies and outdated procedures, and provide alternatives to existing testing regulations. These revisions will improve the quality of data and provide testers flexibility to use recently-approved alternative procedures. Many of these changes were suggested by testers and other end-users, and they will not impose new substantive requirements on source owners or operators.

**SUBJECT: National Priorities List**

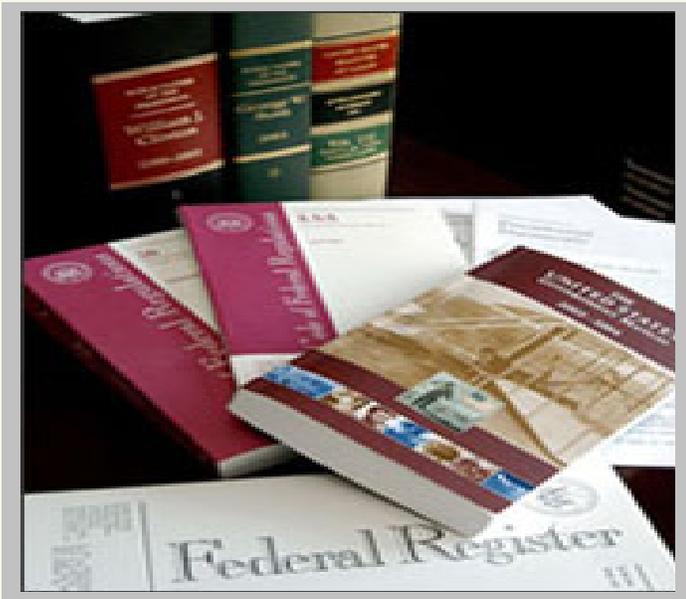
<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-09-30/pdf/2015-24330.pdf>

**Federal Register:** Vol. 80, No. 189/Wednesday, September 30, 2015/ Rules and Regulations

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency

**ACTION:** Proposed Rule

**SUMMARY:** The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (“CERCLA” or “the Act”), as amended, requires that the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (“NCP”) include a list of national priorities among the known releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants throughout the United States. The National Priorities List (“NPL”) constitutes this list. The NPL is intended primarily to guide the Environmental Protection Agency (“the EPA” or “the Agency”) in determining which sites warrant further investigation.



### **Franklin Paint Company in Massachusetts Reduces its Use of Toxics**

Franklin Paint Company, an employer of 28 people in Franklin, Massachusetts, produces about two million gallons of traffic and field marking paint annually.

Over the past two decades, the company has reformulated their products and eliminated the use of xylene and methanol, and dramatically reduced the use of lead compounds, chromium compounds, and toluene, resulting in an annual decrease of 900,000 pounds of reportable toxics use. The adoption of safer substitutes to these hazardous chemicals has made it possible for the company to promote its products as a greener alternative when compared to its competitors, receiving positive responses from customers.

Throughout the reformulation process, Franklin Paint Company has worked with the Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance (OTA) to find safer formulations, develop emergency contingency plans, and improve worker health and safety. The full case study of Franklin Paint Company’s accomplishments is available at:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/eea/ota/franklin-paint-company-final.pdf>

## Colorado Small Business Assistance Program Hosted Dry Cleaning Alternatives Fair

Dry cleaners learned how to convert their operations, reduce energy costs and improve sustainability at the 2015 Colorado Dry Cleaning Alternatives Trade Fair in Denver on June 14.

Experts presented on a variety of topics from efficient solvent use to boiler maintenance. Walter Avramenko of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment educated attendees about the hazards of perchloroethylene and discussed how plant and property owners share the significant financial burden for contamination. The presentations were followed by roundtable sessions, and more than 40 vendors were on hand to display alternative solvent machines and other advanced equipment.

The free, one-day event was hosted by the department's [Small Business Assistance Program](#) and environmental divisions of the [Rocky Mountain Fabricare Association](#).

“We want to encourage people to switch to more environmentally friendly alternatives,” Avramenko said. “Having these experts in one place can help the small business owner move toward optimal solutions.”

For more information, go to: <http://rmfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/DCTF-Program.pdf>



**COLORADO**  
Department of Public  
Health & Environment

<http://www2.epa.gov/resources-small-businesses>

## Small Business Institute 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

The conference promotes professional development opportunities through keynote speakers, workshops, and paper presentations. An important aspect of the conference is to allow members to share best teaching and research practices, and showcase our Best Papers Awards and Project-of-the Year winners at the Annual Awards Luncheon.

Highlights of SBI's Conference features

- Student Consulting Project of the Year Workshops and Competition
- Teaching and Curriculum Development Workshops
- Research in Small Business & Entrepreneurship Issues
- Sharing Best Practices in Our Programs
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