## UNITED STATES

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY **REGION 6**

10625 Fallstone Rd. Houston, Texas 77099

## **Environmental Policy Statement Region 6 Houston Laboratory**

The mission of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is to protect human health and the environment. In order to accomplish that mission, Region 6 recognizes that it is essential that all Agency facilities set an example of environmental stewardship. The employees in the Region 6 Houston Laboratory are committed to operating an effective Environmental Management System (EMS) as part of an integrated framework for sustainable environmental stewardship. The Region 6 Houston Laboratory EMS is integrated with EPA's mission to protect human health and safeguard the environment. Our EMS will comply with all applicable environmental and energy statutes, regulations, and executive orders. In order to fulfill our mission, the Agency's charge will begin with our own employees, and we, therefore, establish the following policy.

With this policy, the Region 6 Houston Laboratory commits to implement an EMS that will utilize best practices to address continuing improvement and prevention of pollution. Since laboratories themselves can be substantial sources of pollution and hazardous production, the employees of this laboratory commit to the following environmental objectives:

- Ensure a commitment to comply with applicable legal requirements while conducting facility and mobile operations;
- Strive to continuously improve environmental performance;
- Employ source reduction and other pollution prevention approaches whenever practicable;
- Consider environmental factors when making planning, purchasing and operating decisions;
- Establish, track, and review specific environmental objectives and targets;
- Promote employee awareness and involvement regarding environmental performance with all persons working for or in behalf of the Region 6 Laboratory;
- Communicate and reinforce our commitment to EMS with vendors, customers, and other government entities; and,
- Make this Environmental Policy available to the public.

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These goals are consistent with EPA's Longstanding Commitment to Environmental Management Systems (signed by David Gibson, Director, Safety and Sustainability Division, on 1/18/2018). The Region 6 Houston Laboratory will ensure that this policy is documented, maintained, implemented, and reviewed for continuing suitability through periodic Management Reviews.

Anne L. Idsal

Region 6 Administrator

3/28/18