EPA Headquarters
Environmental Management Policy

The mission of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is to protect human health and safeguard the natural environment by setting standards for environmental protection, developing regulations to maintain those standards, assisting others in reducing or preventing pollution, conducting research to identify, understand, and solve environmental issues, and promoting environmental education through information sharing and partnerships.

EPA Headquarters (HQ) commits to identify and manage the actual and potential environmental impacts of its operations and decisions, and to continuously improve its environmental performance through use of a formal environmental management system (EMS).

The HQ EMS serves as a model for the Agency, other Federal facilities, and the broader community, and supports these commitments:

Å Meet or exceed all applicable environmental laws, regulations, policies, and other voluntary commitments;

Å Provide a safe and healthy work environment for our employees, and ensure that all employees are trained and able to actively participate in improving our environmental performance;

Å Employ source reduction and other pollution prevention approaches whenever practicable;

Å Assess the environmental impacts of acquisitions early in the process, and apply such assessments to all planning, budgeting, and purchasing decisions;

Å Establish specific environmental performance goals, and track and review our performance to ensure continuous improvement in how we operate and make decisions;

Å Promote open discussion with stakeholders on ways to reduce our environmental footprint, and share information on our environmental performance with the public.

David J. O'Connor *2/16/05*

David J. OôConnor, Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Administration and Resources Management
EPA Environmental Executive