

NATIONAL COMPLIANCE ADVISORY PANEL RECENT ACTIVITIES



The National Compliance Advisory Panel (NCAP) is committed to supporting the state SBAPs and CAPs, and develops and implements strategies and activities structured to achieve that goal, in coordination with the SBO/SBAP National Steering Committee.

NCAP Statement on Multi-Media Services - As small business owners/representatives, the NCAP strongly supports the concept of “one-stop-shopping” for small businesses, appreciates and recognizes those programs that have expanded their scope, and encourages the conversion of other state SBAPs to multi-media services. This White Paper, which has just been finalized, is intended to express the NCAP’s support for conversion to multi-media services. The NCAP intends to use this document in its outreach efforts on behalf of the state programs, and hopes that states will use it as a tool to try to convince state environmental managers and legislators in their pursuit of providing multi-media services.

NCAP Guidelines – The NCAP was established in 2001. Its original guidelines were fashioned after the guidelines of the SBO/SBAP National Steering Committee. Through the past three years, various situations have arisen which indicated that the guidelines did not adequately address the needs of the NCAP. Thus, revised guidelines were developed and thoroughly reviewed by all members. Final revised NCAP Guidelines were approved during the NCAP meeting held in conjunction with the National Conference in Sacramento. Although final, the SBO/SBAP National Steering Committee opted to provide comments to the NCAP. Those comments are presently under consideration by a NCAP committee.

Congressional Outreach - On February 26-27, 2003, NCAP members met with high-ranking members of Congress or their staffs in Washington, DC. to increase their awareness of the SBO/SBAP Program. Members felt that this Congressional Outreach effort was extremely successful and that it significantly raised awareness, as well as provided the vehicle for establishing a direct line of communication. The NCAP has outlined a potential outreach initiative which would involve state CAPs and the NCAP to garner support for conversion to multi-media services and to seek additional funding, beyond emission fees, for the state SBAPs. Any efforts in this regard will be fully coordinated with the SBO/SBAP National Steering Committee.

2004 Annual CAP Training - The NCAP was very involved in developing and presenting the 2004 Annual CAP Training session held on Saturday, June 5 in Sacramento, California, again in conjunction with the Annual SBO/SBAP National Conference. The agenda for the annual CAP Training is developed in a collaborative effort between the NCAP and EPA’s Small Business Division, with various members of the NCAP participating as presenters.

NCAP News – The last issue of the “NCAP News” was issued in November 2004. Based on discussions among the members and with the SBO/SBAP National Steering Committee, the NCAP regional representatives sent the newsletter to all – state CAP members, SBOs and SBAPs – in their respective regions. The “NCAP News” highlights activities undertaken by state CAPs. State CAPs are requested to provide input for future issues of the newsletter.

Regional Call Participation – During the 2003 National Conference in Baltimore, the NCAP requested that the National Steering Committee poll regional representatives on potential participation by NCAP regional representatives in regional calls. The poll indicated that, while not all regions have regular conference calls, those that do would welcome participation by NCAP members. Please invite your NCAP regional representative to participate. This is another effort by the NCAP to establish more direct communication with state CAPs and SBAPs in their regions.

SBO/SBAP National Steering Committee Subcommittees – The National Steering Committee has expressed an interest in having the NCAP represented in its various subcommittees to directly provide the small business perspective. NCAP members are willing to participate. To date, Reimar von Kalben, Region 8 representative, serves on the Awards Subcommittee and Gary Dawson, Region 4 representative, serves on the Promotional Subcommittee. NCAP Vice Chair Frances Hartwell also serves on the 2005 National Conference Planning Committee.

Special Events and Activities – NCAP Chair Ken Legler and Vice Chair Frances Hartwell were featured speakers during the “Small Business Forum” held in Washington, DC on October 6, 2004, to provide the small business perspective on current key EPA initiatives. Gary Dawson, Region 4 representative, also participated in the Forum. All three participated in a meeting of stakeholders on October 7, 2004 to discuss the proposed Area Source Rules, and NCAP Chair Ken Legler participated in a meeting with top EPA management to discuss potential conversion of state SBAPs to provide multi-media services, also held on October 7, 2004.