

**Multimedia Subcommittee Conference Call
October 9, 2007**

Meeting Minutes

1. Participants: Tom Coogan, Dave Fiedler, Rosyln Jackson, Linda Sadler, Chip Scroggs, Angela Suber, and Audrey Zelanko.
2. National Multimedia Compliance Assistance Initiative – September 26, 2007 Conference Call Summary.

The following participated in the call:

- Renee Basher, Wisconsin Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP)
- Jeanette Brown, EPA Office of Small & Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU)
- Dave Fiedler, Michigan SBEAP
- Annette Fulgenzie, Illinois SBEAP
- Francis Hartwell, Vice Chair of the National Compliance Advisory Panel (NCAP)
- Ken Legler, Chair of the NCAP:
- Mark McDermid, Representing ECOS Cross Media Committee
- Angela Suber, Acting EPA Small Business Ombudsman
- Debbie Thomas, EPA Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA)
- Beverly Updike, EPA OSDBU

The following issues were discussed:

Defining the Problem

Small Businesses need comprehensive compliance assistance. The capacity to deliver comprehensive compliance assistance varies greatly among the states. On a national level, this need is not being met. Section 507 programs are only authorized to provide compliance assistance on air regulations. Title V fees are the funding mechanism for the Section 507 programs. This funding cannot be used for non-air related outreach. For many states, Title V fees are inadequate for providing the necessary resources to conduct assistance on air regulations, let alone regulation pertaining to land, water, and waste.

Compliance Assistance Provided by OECA

Within each EPA Region is a compliance assistance coordinator. They track the compliance assistance activities performed by the various programs and work with the state's SBEAPs. In addition, OECA provides direct assistance to businesses through their National Compliance Assistance Centers.

Possible Solutions

Legislative Strategy.

Three states (Illinois, Michigan and Texas) have sent letters to their congressional delegation asking for legislative authorization and funding for SBEAPs. The offices of Senators Obama, Durbin, and Cornyn and have recently expressed an interest in the issue. EPA staff have been told by their legal council they cannot participate in discussions pertaining to drafting new legislation.

EPA Strategy

Purpose of these conference calls is the get ideas from EPA on how to strengthen states' SBEAPs. Additional EPA officials representing the air, water and other programs need to participate in future meetings.

Key Action items

- Set up a meeting in October to discuss the legislative strategy (McDermid)
 - Provide Angela Suber a white paper summarizing the initiative (Fiedler)
 - Bring additional staff EPA to the table for the next conference call who can contribute ideas to the discussion about "What can be done to provide comprehensive assistance by focusing resources, attention and initiatives?"(Suber).
 - Schedule the next conference call (Brown and McDermid)
 - What issues would arise is an MOU or policy was created to give SBEAPs the flexibility to use their Title V funding to provide compliance assistance on all environmental programs, not just air?
3. Dave Fiedler will send out a draft white paper to the subcommittee members to get their input before sending forward to the National Steering Committee.
 4. Next Meeting
 - Tuesday, November 13, 2007 at 2:00 pm (EST).