

MEMORANDUM

TO: Small Business Assistance Programs

FROM: Richard Rasmussen, Chairman Technical Sub-Committee

Subject: History and Activity of your Technical Sub-Committee

Technical Sub-Committee

Chairman: Richard Rasmussen - VA
Members: Renee Lesjak Bashel - WI
Amelia Gooding - IL
Tony Pendola - NC
Marian Mudar - NY
Jim Coyle - NY
Dan Nickey - IA
Chuck McCarty - VA
Jackie Neuber - IL
Linda Sadler - TN
Mark Shanahan - OH
Terry Polen - WV
Tom Nakely - EPA

The charge of the Technical Sub-Committee is to look at technical issues and rulemakings that are of interest and impact to small business and consequently the Small Business Assistance Programs. Technical issues and interests were approached as a basic building block in the early foundation of the National Steering Committee. Central to our involvement was a desire and what we felt was almost a mandate - get involved in EPA's rulemakings, policy decisions, and guidance development in the representation of small business interests. Early on, we tackled several weighty issues: the need for a confidentiality policy, the incredible "Once in Always In" policy, a common sense approach to Potential-to-Emit, participation in the development of the Wood Furniture MACT, along with input on other rulemakings, and guidance. We were successful with some and unsuccessful with others. But even with the areas we were not able to change we left a mark. Those that we can count as successful were:

1. The EPA development of the 507 Enforcement Policy and subsequent extension to all media through the creation of the Small Business Policy.
2. EPA Guidance: Potential to Emit (PTE) Guidance for Specific Source Categories, 1998, Tim Smith: (1) gasoline service stations; (2) gasoline bulk plants (bulk plants are small bulk gasoline distribution facilities that distribute less than 20,000 gallons per day, and that receive gasoline by truck rather than by rail or barge); (3) boilers (specifically, the guidance addresses natural gas and oil combustion in industrial boilers having a capacity of 100 million Btu/hours or less); (4) cotton gins; (5) coating sources; (6) printing, publishing and packaging operations; (7) degreasers using volatile organic solvents; and (8) hot mix asphalt plants.

3. I think our interest in PTE helped shape the decision that created the first PTE Transition Policy. This policy provided for a transition for treating sources with actual emissions below 50% of the major source threshold as minor sources as a means of limiting PTE and hence Title V permitting.
4. Active involvement in the "Reg Neg" process with the Wood Furniture MACT was unprecedented for a group such as ours. It sent a message that we were interested regulations that impacted small business and were willing to participate.
5. Recognition that we were around, willing and vocal to get involved on behalf of small businesses.

Well What Have We Done For You Lately.

With the creation of the Technical Subcommittee we in part went back to our program roots and rekindled the technical interests that stood the test of positive impacts for small businesses. We have accomplished the following since last August:

1. Reopened doors at the highest levels of EPA to let them know that we are interested in substantive conversation to further address "Once in Always In".
2. Outreach to EPA folks responsible for producing the now required "plain english" fact sheets and guides for rulemakings taking place n OAQPS. We have offered to serve as an editing staff.
3. Representation on STAPPA/ALAPCO Permitting Committee to help us keep abreast of timely air issues such as NSR reform, Deferrals of the 6 area source MACTs from Title V permitting, the addition of 32 new area source categories - what will be the impacts.
4. Sharing of regulatory perspective and information for the betterment of the whole. We have geographical diverse representation that allowed us to hear concerns from NY about the recently proposed coating MACTS. Discussion led to additional interest from several other members.
5. The first ever submittal of comments to a proposed rulemaking under the signature of our National Steering Committee Chair. Extensive comments were submitted: "The SBO/SBAP National Steering Committee offers the following comments regarding the proposed National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Surface Coating of Plastic Parts and Products (40 CFR Part 63)."
6. Identification of regional pockets of regulatory impacts on small business. The exposure of impacts and segments that may be important to the entirety of the programs. For example, Wood Building Products; Paper and other Web Coatings (Wisconsin indicated they have approximately 250 small business sources by applicable SIC- I guess I better look beyond Westvaco, International Paper to see what my impact may be.
7. And hopefully more timely notification of pending regulatory actions.

To set the stage for the 507 Roundtable Discussions. We will propose two questions:

- a. What technical issues do you feel need to be addressed in the coming year? PTE and Once In Always In are already on the agenda.
- b. How would you spend the committee resources - Review of regulations? Review and Comment on regulations? Review of Plain English materials? Administrative and policy conversations with EPA? Other?? Provide answer and justification.

Respectfully submitted: April 3, 2003