

PERMIT COORDINATION AND MICHIGAN BUSINESS ONE STOP

The DNRE administers approximately 65 permit and licensing programs, including personal licenses or certification programs, business and operational licenses, and other activities that require a permit or registration. Understandably, when a company is considering the start-up or expansion of a business, it can be time consuming and somewhat overwhelming to identify all the authorizations required for the new venture. To simplify the process, the EAP provides information to assist with these evaluations. Throughout FY 2010, the EAP staff participated extensively with a statewide initiative called the Michigan Business One Stop (One Stop). The One Stop, found online at www.michigan.gov/business, is Michigan's premier business-service tool developed by regulatory departments to consolidate requirements. Throughout FY 2010, the EAP integrated eight DNRE personal license and certification programs and afforded online submission of renewals and payments for the integrated One Stop program authorizations.

CLEAN DIESEL

The Michigan Clean Diesel Initiative (MiCDI) is a group of government, industry, and nonprofit organizations working together to address diesel engine pollution in Michigan. The objectives of the MiCDI are to help the state of Michigan achieve improvements in the federal air quality standards for particulate matter and ozone. The MiCDI is a part of the Midwest Clean Diesel Coalition and the U.S. EPA National Clean Diesel Campaign. The National Clean Diesel Campaign offers innovative programs and financing to address diesel engines by promoting a variety of cost-effective emission reduction strategies, including: switching to cleaner fuels; retrofitting, repairing, repowering, and replacing equipment; and reducing idling.

In FY 2010, Michigan received \$352,941 in clean diesel grant funds under Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) by agreeing to match \$235,294 of this federal funding each year with private or state in-kind funding. In 2009 and 2010, the MiCDI funded a school bus project for the Detroit Public Schools to retrofit at least 160 of their school buses with diesel engine exhaust control equipment. The Detroit Public Schools bus project also has an educational component that provided information to school children, staff, parents and the community, served by the Detroit Public Schools, about the overall expected health and air quality benefits of the project.

Through 2010, the OPPCA staff working in concert with the regulatory program staff in the Air Quality Division, provided more than \$1.6 million in DERA-related grants under the Michigan Clean Diesel Recovery and Reinvestment Project, a federal stimulus grant project funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) of 2009. The six entities receiving Recovery Act grant awards under the Michigan Clean Diesel Recovery and Reinvestment Project were: 1) Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority of Detroit-Nicholson Terminal and Dock (\$141,700); 2) Detroit Wayne County Port Authority of Detroit - Waterfront Petroleum Terminal Company (\$309,913); 3) Okemos Public Schools (\$199,252); 4) Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision (\$479,747); 5) Whiteline Express, Ltd. (\$79,200); and 6) Zeeland Public Schools (\$402,648).

The reduction of emissions in metropolitan areas resulting from the MiCDI helps the general public at large by enhancing Michigan's capability of meeting the national ambient air quality standards and reducing the likelihood that Michigan businesses and residents will have to implement measures to reduce air pollution related to the use of mobile vehicle sources.



Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment
www.michigan.gov/dnre

Sustainable, long-term protection of Michigan's environment is best achieved through a program that offers tools that facilitate voluntary compliance in addition to traditional compliance activities like inspections and enforcement. Programs implemented by the Office of Pollution Prevention and Compliance Assistance (OPPCA) do just that. They help businesses and citizens voluntarily 'green' their community and protect their environment for generations to come by empowering Michigan businesses with information to make the right decisions for their community and environment. Ultimately, wise resource choices result in less raw material and energy use which reduce costs while providing environmental benefits.

The following report summarizes the OPPCA, Environmental Assistance Program (EAP) primary activities and accomplishments for fiscal year (FY) 2010. For more detail on the EAP activities, please go to www.michigan.gov/environmentalassistance.

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EAP ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Environmental Assistance Program (EAP) offers multi-media environmental assistance to businesses, industry, governmental officials, and the general public on all major Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE) programs. People can contact the DNRE Environmental Assistance Center (EAC) at 1-800-662-9278, or dnre-assist@michigan.gov, to obtain the DNRE program information from the EAP specialists or be referred to program staff in the regulatory divisions for timely and accurate assistance.

In FY 2010, the EAC handled 18,062 inquiries, of which approximately 66 percent were from the general public, 22 percent from businesses, 9 percent from government entities, and 3 percent from other sectors.

Beyond providing one-stop, person-to-person assistance, the EAP staff also provided the following compliance assistance and pollution reduction services during FY 2010, helping Michigan businesses voluntarily meet or surpass environmental regulations and assisting residents as they take proactive steps to protect and enhance our outstanding natural resources:

- Published over 70 new or updated plain English publications and 12 new online videos providing around the clock access to accurate regulatory information.
- Published the 2010 Michigan Guide to Environmental, Health, and Safety Regulations, distributing 616 copies through workshops and selling 79 copies via online sales through the Michigan e-store.
- Held 39 training events with 2,735 participants, many sponsored in collaboration with the DNRE regulatory programs, academia, organizations, municipalities, and Michigan businesses.
- Maintained the DNRE public directory or "Who Does What List" and the DNRE Publication Center Database providing the public with independent, immediate access to the DNRE staff and resources.
- Provided outreach via the social media and publications on new regulations and environmental topics or events like the new open burning regulations, new air emission standards for auto body shops, and more.
- Completed a dry cleaning Environmental Results Program (ERP) and published a final report on the initial and final compliance rates in the industry while initiating a new, auto body ERP.
- Assisted new businesses interested in locating to Michigan and existing businesses looking to expand with navigating through the approximate 65 DNRE permitting and licensing programs and determining which authorizations are necessary to establish or expand their operations in Michigan.
- Secured \$352,941 from federal grant dollars and \$235,294 from private or state in-kind funding matches for reducing air emissions from diesel engines in metropolitan areas.
- Processed 94 notices of intent to perform an environmental audit and 20 voluntary disclosures for immunity.

OUTREACH CAMPAIGNS

The OPPCA implements outreach campaigns customized to educate businesses and the general public on how to comply with environmental regulations and how to take advantage of pollution prevention opportunities available to them. Many OPPCA campaigns go beyond traditional assistance materials and cover multimedia issues or those that span across multiple programs and regulations (e.g. including air, water, and waste matters as opposed to just waste matters related to a topic or business sector). In FY 2010, the EAP outreach efforts focused on open burning and proper disposal of unused medications. The EAP staff partnered with the Department of Community Health and external organizations to educate Michigan businesses and residents on ways to reduce the public health and environmental impacts related to the topics.

Newly initiated in FY 2010, is the auto body ERP, a campaign initiated by the EAP staff that integrates compliance assistance, facility self-assessment and self-certification, agency inspections, and a statistically-based performance measurement. The ERPs provide an innovative approach to providing compliance assurance to businesses the DNRE currently has few resources to inspect using traditional methods. The purpose of the ERP is to educate auto body shops about the new federal standards that they must meet beginning January 2011. The EAP staff has coordinated Michigan's involvement in the auto body ERP with all six states located in the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Region 5. During FY 2010, the EAP staff conducted 26 multimedia audits at auto body shops and established a baseline of compliance prior to providing compliance assistance. The EAP staff also assisted in the development of a self-certification document to be used by auto body facilities subject to the new standards. To educate nearly 2,000 auto body shops about the new environmental requirements, the EAP staff partnered with vendors that service auto body shops and the Automotive Service Association of Michigan and held numerous meetings throughout the state where the EAP staff participated to answer questions. Through this partnership, the EAP staff has educated hundreds of painters and auto body shops staff about the requirements related to the new rule as well as other environmental requirements related to waste, water, and pollution prevention techniques. The next stages in the ERP include providing one-on-one assistance to shops about compliance with the new rule, development of additional outreach materials, and providing guidance to the U.S. EPA on how to implement follow-up inspections on shops in the six state regions. The ERP for auto body shops is expected to serve as a model for how to regulate small business sectors and achieve measurable results with limited resources.

WORKSHOP/TRAINING EVENTS

The OPPCA coordinates scheduling, logistics, registration, and speakers for hosting training events related to the DNRE programs. In FY 2010, the OPPCA hosted 39 training events with 2,735 participants. Partners collaborating in some of the events included: Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, Michigan Air and Waste Management Association, Michigan Association of Conservation Districts, Michigan Health and Hospital Association, Automotive Recyclers of Michigan, Michigan State University Extension, and the U.S. EPA. The premier DNRE training event of FY 2010 was the Michigan Environmental Compliance Conference with 608 attendees. Examples of other training events occurring in FY 2010 include the Michigan Green Healthcare Conference, Environmental Regulations Affecting Municipalities Conference, 2nd Annual Michigan Green Chemistry Conference, Michigan Science Teachers Association Annual Workshop, Northern Michigan Waterways Hazardous Material Spill Planning Committee (No-Spills) Conference, Brownfield Redevelopment Workshop, Sara Title III Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Training, and the Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership Train the Trainer Workshop.



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Environmental Education is intended to facilitate an understanding by Michigan citizens of the natural environment, including an understanding of basic sciences, ecological sciences, and of the connection between people, air, land, water, and other living things, as well as how these systems relate to the global environment. This understanding fosters informed decisions regarding protection and conservation of the environment and use of the natural resources in a wise and prudent fashion. Environmental Education is facilitated largely through curriculum, internships, and partnerships with universities, businesses, and associations.

In order to help integrate environmental education curriculum into Michigan's schools, the Environmental Education program developed the Michigan Environmental Education Curriculum Support (MEECS), a science-based curriculum impacting grades 4-9 that includes units on ecosystems and biodiversity, land use, water quality, air quality, and energy resources. Since 2006, the department has trained more than 3,400 educators on MEECS, including approximately 200 during FY 2010.

Internships with the OPPCA Environmental Education program provide direct environmental experience for college students. The department's efforts have resulted in the coordination of 70 semester-long internships to date. The students gain valuable experiences and the DNRE receives support on projects and an opportunity to mentor students in the process.

Partnerships extend the benefits of the Environmental Education program provided by the DNRE. These partnerships include projects undertaken in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Education; Michigan Alliance for Environmental and Outdoor Education; Michigan Association of Conservation Districts; Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative; Michigan No Child Left Inside Coalition; Central Michigan University; Eastern Michigan University; Wayne State University; Michigan Envirothon; Great Lakes Young Writers' Initiative; and the Great Lakes Education Collaborative.

PUBLICATIONS/VIDEOS

The OPPCA publishes regulatory guidance materials, both online and hard copy, in coordination with program staff that provides independent, immediate access to compliance assistance resources for those who need the information. The publications also provide an easy, consistent means for regulatory staff to answer program questions. The OPPCA publications range from Frequently Asked Questions and brochures to more extensive fact sheets, subject area guidance documents, and comprehensive guidebooks like the Michigan Guide to Environmental, Health, and Safety Regulations, 6th Edition published in FY 2010. The OPPCA staff published over 70 new or updated plain English compliance assistance publications in FY 2010, on a variety of topics, some of which included: Municipalities with Separate Storm Sewer Systems, Geothermal Heat Pump Systems, Mixed Medical Waste, Electronic Equipment, Fluorescent Light Drum – Top Bulb Crushers, Disposal of Unused Medications, Helping Fish and Wildlife on Your Lakeshore Property, and Anhydrous Ammonia Fertilizer. The OPPCA also published 12 new online videos in FY 2010 providing around the clock access to accurate regulatory information. The videos addressed new federal rules for gasoline stations, auto body shops, and small spray painting operations and tutorials for the Michigan Air Emissions Reporting System. The OPPCA staff also published a biweekly DNRE Calendar and quarterly OPPCA Bulletin highlighting decisions and actions before the DNRE as well as training and outreach opportunities. Each edition of the OPPCA Bulletin included a Compliance Assistance Corner article providing regulatory guidance on a current topic of interest to the regulated community.

SARA TITLE III

The Michigan SARA Title III Program implements the reporting requirements of the federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, also known as Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act. In 2010, there were approximately 7,560 facilities in Michigan's online database for which 6,048 hazardous chemical inventory reports were submitted and 518 emergency planning notifications were updated. There were 41 written follow-up hazardous chemical release reports submitted to the Program, and 775 facilities submitted their Toxic Chemical Release Inventories online. The Program responded to approximately 30 requests for information pursuant to Community Right-to-Know and Freedom of Information Act. In addition to responding to numerous phone calls and emails, the program provided training at 11 workshops and conferences during the year, published an updated guidebook, and maintained current information on the Web pages specific to SARA Title III, Release Reporting, and Emergency Planning.

ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT

The Environmental Audit Privilege and Immunity Law removes the fear of disclosure of information regarding violations by businesses and municipalities to state agencies that would lead to enforcement and penalties. It also provides incentives for businesses to perform environmental audits and promptly report and correct violations, leading to increased compliance with environmental requirements and further protection of Michigan's outstanding natural resources. The program has two main elements: a privilege that protects the audit report and personnel from disclosure (they cannot be used in legal proceedings against the company) and immunity provisions can be sought for violations that are reported and corrected in accordance with the law. Obtaining privilege involves filing a document called a "Notice of Intent to Perform an Environmental Audit" prior to performing the audit. Immunity provisions can be sought later by promptly filing a document called a "Voluntary Disclosure" and correcting the observed violations. For calendar year 2010, 94 notices of intent to perform an audit and 20 voluntary disclosures were filed indicating increased compliance with environmental regulations.