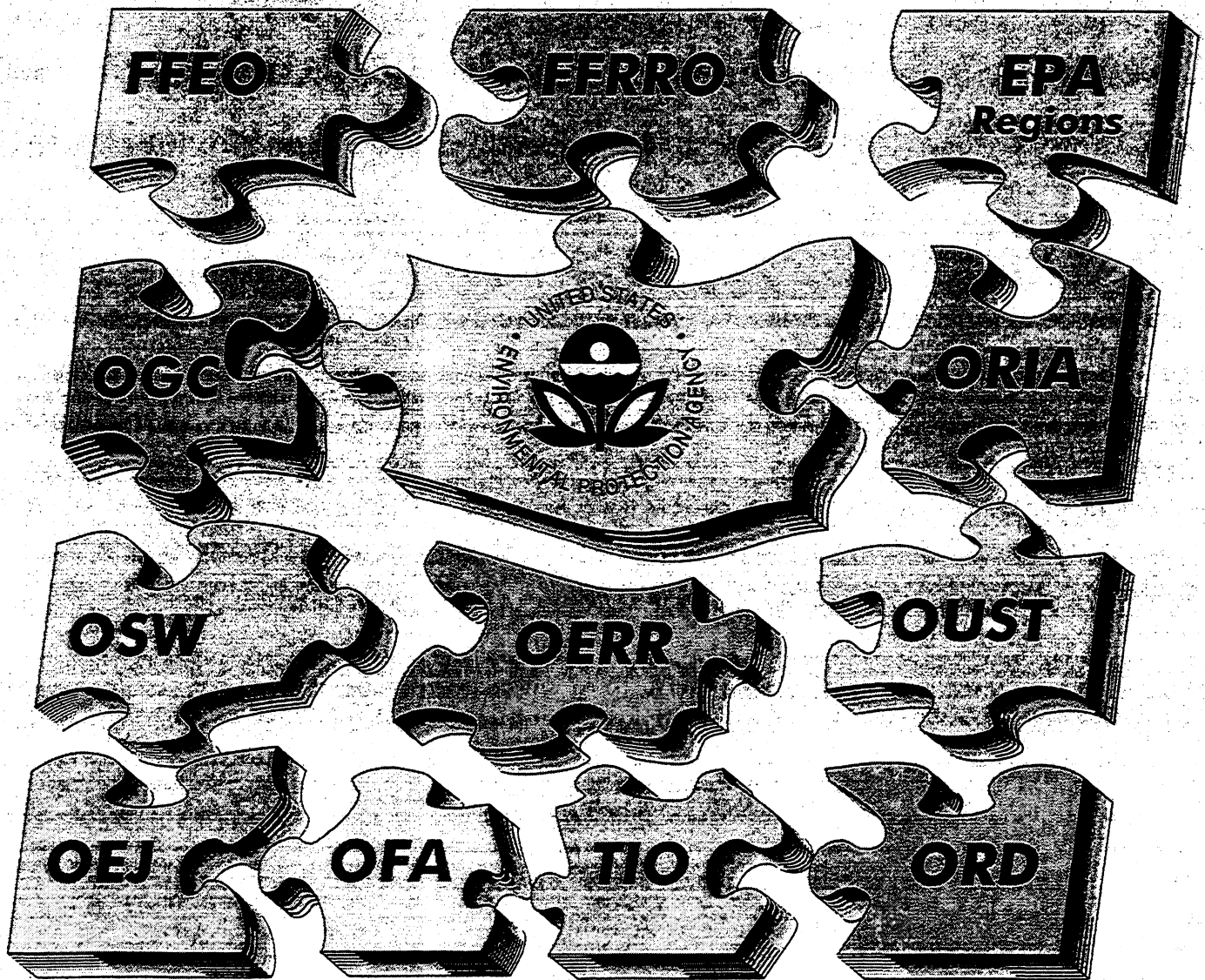




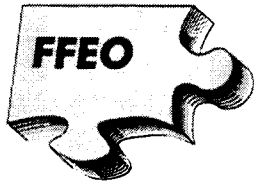
# Fitting the Pieces Together: The Role of EPA Offices in Federal Facilities Cleanup and Reuse



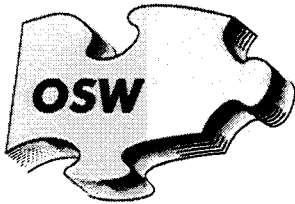
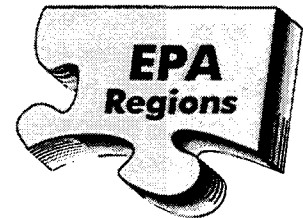
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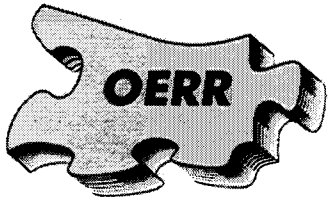
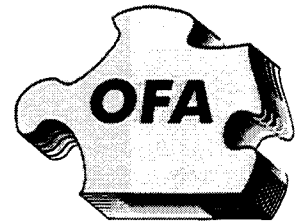
# INTRODUCTION



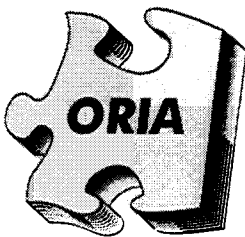
Many offices at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provide information about or assistance with environmental issues related to federal facilities. More than 10 offices at EPA, each having a distinct role and mission, provide a wide range of products and services related to the cleanup and reuse of federal facilities.



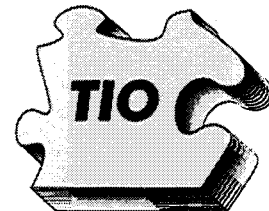
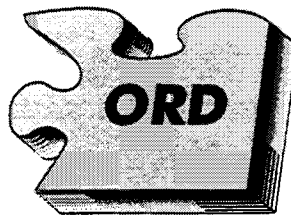
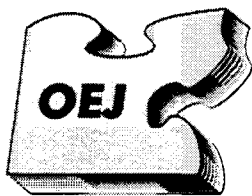
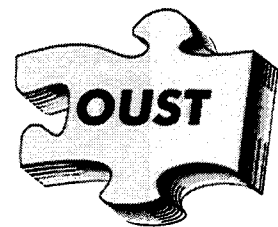
These offices are located at EPA Headquarters and in the EPA regions.



Some of these offices are dedicated solely to issues affecting federal facilities, while others are involved in activities that affect federal facilities, as well as other types of sites.



With so many EPA offices involved in federal facilities cleanup, getting the assistance you need—from the right office—can be a puzzling process. This brochure is designed to help you understand how the many pieces fit together.



## BACKGROUND



*"By working collaboratively and focusing on teamwork, partnering, and public involvement, EPA has delivered a truly successful program to federal facility communities. And we've done so while protecting, and even improving, the conditions of human health, the environment, and local economies."*

— JAMES WOOLFORD, DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL FACILITIES RESTORATION AND REUSE OFFICE

**A**cross the country, thousands of federal facilities are contaminated with hazardous waste, unexploded ordnance, radioactive waste, fuels, and a variety of other toxic contaminants. Those facilities include many different types of sites, such as abandoned mines, nuclear weapons production plants, fuel distribution areas, and landfills. The Department of Energy (DOE) is responsible for more than 10,000 potentially contaminated sites, the Department of Defense (DoD) for more than 21,000, and the Department of the Interior (DOI) for more than 26,000. Current

estimates indicate that it will cost between \$200 and \$350 billion to address DOE's sites, about \$30 billion to address DoD's sites, and between \$4 and \$8 billion to address DOI's sites. Other federal entities face environmental challenges, as well, although to a lesser degree. The federal facilities profile below summarizes the environmental problems at selected federal entities.

To facilitate cleanup and reuse, EPA has taken on a major role in forging proactive, creative solutions to environmental problems at federal facilities. Within EPA, there are several offices that conduct activities relating

**Federal Facilities Profile\***

FEDERAL ENTITY	DOE	DoD	DOI	USDA	NASA
Most Common Types of Contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Radioactive wastes</li> <li>• Hazardous wastes</li> <li>• Mixed wastes</li> <li>• Fissile material</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fuels</li> <li>• Solvents</li> <li>• Industrial wastes</li> <li>• Unexploded ordnance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mining wastes</li> <li>• Municipal wastes</li> <li>• Industrial wastes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hazardous wastes</li> <li>• Mining wastes</li> <li>• Chemical wastes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fuels</li> <li>• Solvents</li> <li>• Industrial waste</li> </ul>
Estimated Number of Potentially Contaminated Sites	10,000	21,400	26,000	3,000	730
Major Source Types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Former weapons production facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Underground storage tanks</li> <li>• Landfills</li> <li>• Spill areas</li> <li>• Storage areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abandoned mines</li> <li>• Oil and gas production facilities</li> <li>• Landfills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abandoned mines</li> <li>• Landfills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Underground storage tanks</li> <li>• Spill areas</li> </ul>
Current Estimate of Cost to Complete Cleanup	\$200 to \$350 billion	\$30 billion	\$4 to \$8 billion	\$2.5 billion	\$1.5 to \$2 billion

Source: EPA 1996. "Superfund/Oil Program Implementation Manual, Fiscal Year 1997."

\* Does not include all federal agencies.

to federal facilities. To provide a unified program to federal facility communities, these offices often collaborate on initiatives to meet stakeholder needs. The offices which are most involved in federal facility activities include:

- *Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office (FFRRO)*
- *Federal Facilities Enforcement Office (FFEO)*
- *EPA regional offices that handle federal facility activities*

Several other EPA offices also are involved in activities pertaining to federal facilities. These offices include:

- *Office of Emergency and Remedial Response (OERR)*
- *Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ)*

- *Office of Federal Activities (OFA)*
- *Office of General Counsel (OGC)*
- *Office of Radiation and Indoor Air (ORIA)*
- *Office of Research and Development (ORD)*
- *Office of Solid Waste (OSW)*
- *Office of Underground Storage Tanks (OUST)*
- *Technology Innovation Office (TIO)*

The following pages provide an overview of the mission and role of these offices as they relate to federal facilities.

# AT A GLANCE: EPA OFFICES INVOLVED IN FEDERAL FACILITIES CLEANUP AND REUSE

EPA Office	Federal Facility Activities
FFRRO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports policy development and implementation regarding restoration and reuse of federal facilities</li> <li>• Supports policy development and resource management for the Fast Track Cleanup Program for closing and realigning bases</li> <li>• Facilitates participation by stakeholders in cleanup and reuse activities</li> <li>• Provides outreach and supports training to promote faster, more effective, and less costly cleanups</li> </ul>
FFEO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participates in enforcement negotiations</li> <li>• Tracks compliance by federal facilities</li> <li>• Oversees enforcement activities undertaken by the EPA Regions</li> <li>• Develops national federal facility enforcement and compliance policy and guidance</li> </ul>
EPA Regional Offices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide regulatory and technical oversight of federal facility cleanup programs</li> <li>• Implement the Fast Track Cleanup Program at closing and realigning bases</li> <li>• Promote community involvement in restoration and reuse decision making</li> <li>• Manage enforcement programs</li> <li>• Manage tracking, oversight, and compliance planning activities</li> </ul>
OERR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develops national policy, regulations, and guidelines for the control of hazardous waste sites and the prevention of and response to spills of oil and hazardous substances</li> <li>• Provides technical guidance to federal facilities on implementing the Federal Superfund Response Program</li> <li>• Develops and provides national guidance for the implementation of Superfund administrative reforms</li> </ul>
OEJ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manages a national environmental justice program to ensure integration of environmental justice into all agency operations</li> <li>• Ensures that the agency evaluates the effects of environmental burdens on minority populations, low-income populations, and American Indian tribes</li> <li>• Implements remedies to reduce disproportionate risks in communities</li> </ul>

## AT A GLANCE: EPA OFFICES INVOLVED IN FEDERAL FACILITIES CLEANUP AND REUSE (CONTINUED)

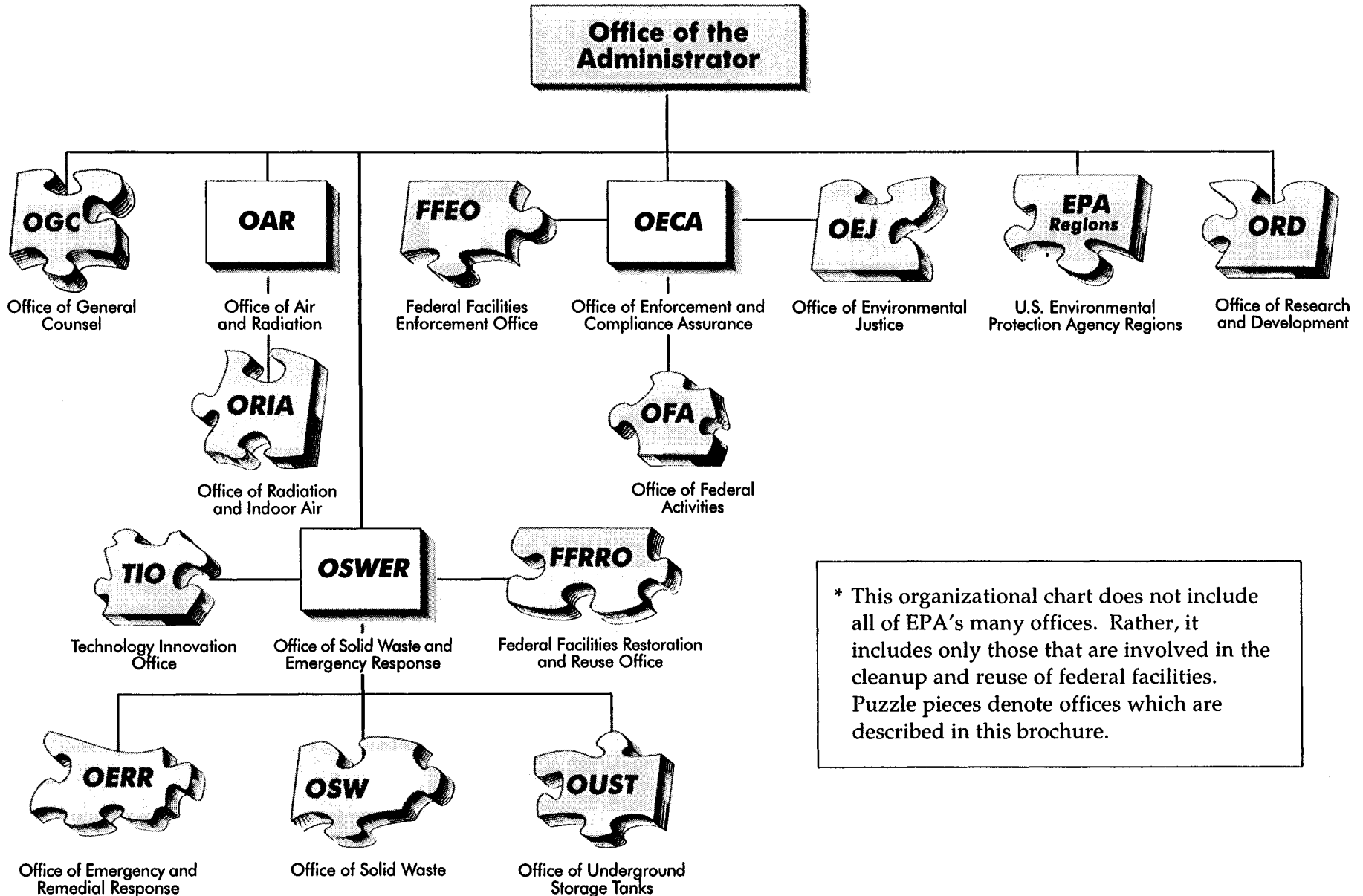
EPA Office	Federal Facility Activities
OFA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implements the Administrator's responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act</li> <li>• Reviews documents in accordance with its authority under Section 309</li> </ul>
OGC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides legal advice and counsel in rulemakings, dispute resolution, and grant and contract matters related to the cleanup of federal facilities</li> <li>• Assists in the formulation and administration of the Agency's guidance and policies for federal facilities</li> </ul>
ORIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develops directives and guidance for radiation cleanups at Superfund sites</li> <li>• Produces technical documents on risk assessment and remediation technologies</li> <li>• Provides monitoring assistance and technical assistance with modeling and land use issues regarding radioactive contamination cleanup</li> <li>• Sets EPA radiation health and safety standards for the potential disposal of high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel</li> </ul>
ORD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leads efforts to meet the research and development needs of EPA</li> <li>• Develops technical guidance on natural attenuation and active processes</li> <li>• Provides site-specific technical assistance ranging from reviewing documents to conducting field studies</li> <li>• Assists in research activities in which federal facilities are involved</li> <li>• Coordinates research efforts with other EPA offices</li> </ul>
OSW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Works closely with other federal agencies, tribes, industry, and the concerned public to ensure the safe management of hazardous and nonhazardous waste</li> <li>• Works in partnership with other federal agencies to develop and pilot test waste management programs</li> <li>• Ensures the safe management of municipal, industrial, and extractive solid wastes</li> </ul>

## AT A GLANCE: EPA OFFICES INVOLVED IN FEDERAL FACILITIES CLEANUP AND REUSE (CONTINUED)

EPA Office	Federal Facility Activities
OUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develops federal regulations to prevent, detect, and clean up releases from underground storage tank systems containing petroleum and hazardous substances</li> <li>• Provides information materials that can help federal facilities comply with leak prevention, leak detection, and corrective action requirements</li> <li>• Encourages risk-based corrective action, alternative cleanup technologies, and streamlined administrative procedures</li> </ul>
TIO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotes the use of innovative treatment technologies</li> <li>• Streamlines the permitting process and development of orders to enable the use of innovative treatment technologies</li> <li>• Chairs and coordinates the activities of the Federal Remediation Technology Roundtable</li> <li>• Facilitates efforts to establish public-private partnership demonstration and testing of technologies at federal facilities through the Clean Sites Program and Remedial Technologies Development Forum</li> </ul>

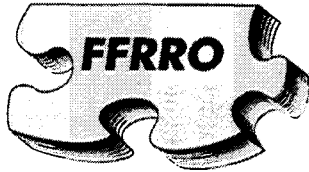


# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART\*: EPA OFFICES INVOLVED IN FEDERAL FACILITIES CLEANUP AND REUSE



\* This organizational chart does not include all of EPA's many offices. Rather, it includes only those that are involved in the cleanup and reuse of federal facilities. Puzzle pieces denote offices which are described in this brochure.

# FEDERAL FACILITIES RESTORATION AND REUSE OFFICE



*"Our mission is to build partnerships that provide faster, more effective, and less costly cleanup and reuse of federal facilities."*

— JAMES WOOLFORD, DIRECTOR, FFRRO

## **Mission**

To overcome the difficulties posed by contamination at federal facilities, the Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office (FFRRO) works with DoD, DOE, and other federal entities to help them develop creative, cost-effective solutions to their environmental problems. FFRRO's overall mission is to facilitate faster, more effective, and less costly cleanup and reuse of federal facilities. By focusing on partnering and public involvement, FFRRO and its counterpart offices in the EPA regions have made great strides in improving federal facilities cleanup.

## **Role**

FFRRO is located in the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER). FFRRO has the lead role in communicating with Congress, other federal agencies, states, and program stakeholders in these matters. Formed in 1994, FFRRO functions with the following specific goals in mind:

- *Protect human health and the environment at and near federal facilities, while also minimizing the expenditure of taxpayer dollars*
- *Rebuild local communities while protecting human health and the environment*
- *Enhance the cleanup process*

- *Ensure effective stakeholder involvement at federal facilities by putting citizens first*

In support of these goals, FFRRO is responsible for activities that support policy development and implementation, outreach and training, stakeholder participation, and interagency coordination.

***Support for policy development and implementation:*** Active participation in the development and implementation of policy and guidance that affect cleanup and reuse at federal facilities is a commitment of FFRRO. Particular emphasis is placed on policy development and resource management for the Fast Track Cleanup Program at closing and realigning military bases.

To ensure that policies are implemented consistently throughout the nation, FFRRO communicates regularly with staff of the EPA regions. This coordinated effort allows the quick identification and resolution of implementation issues.

***Outreach and Training:*** Outreach efforts by FFRRO include the dissemination of information through the production of publications. FFRRO produces brochures, success stories, and fact sheets on issues such as partnering, stakeholder involvement, innovative technology use, and environmental justice at federal facilities.

In addition, FFRRO provides support for training courses that enhance the knowledge and capabilities of federal and state staff tasked with implementing the cleanup program. Information about workshops, conferences, meetings, and seminars can be found on FFRRO's home page (<http://www.epa.gov/swerffrr>), which provides users with an interactive calendar of events.

**Stakeholder participation:** FFRRO coordinated meetings and managed the Federal Facilities Environmental Restoration Dialogue Committee (FFERDC), which brought together various stakeholders to develop consensus recommendations aimed at improving the process for making decisions for cleanup efforts at federal facilities. These recommendations are outlined in the FFERDC report. As a result of the FFERDC report, about 250 restoration advisory boards (RAB) and 10 site-specific advisory boards (SSAB) have been established at installations nationwide. RABs, which include community members, military officials, and state and federal regulators, foster teamwork by bringing members of the community together with military officials and government regulators to discuss cleanup issues. Similarly, DOE's SSABs are independent citizen boards that develop consensus recommendations for government decision makers.

Environmental groups, labor organizations, and community groups with which FFRRO currently collaborates include:

- *Citizens for Environmental Justice*
- *The Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials*
- *The National Association of Attorneys General*
- *The International City/County Management Association*

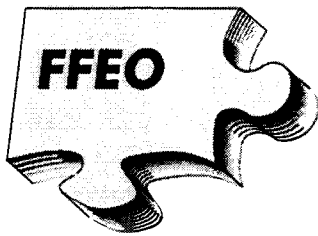
Working with representatives of these entities helps FFRRO to ensure that social, cultural, and economic factors are considered when making decisions at federal facilities.

**Interagency coordination:** FFRRO is committed to close participation with other federal agencies. To that end, FFRRO participates on the Defense Environmental Response Task Force (DERTF). The DERTF was created by Congress to provide recommendations on environmental restoration at BRAC facilities.

FFRRO also participates on DOE's Environmental Management Advisory Board (EMAB), which provides a forum for representatives of EPA, academia, and private industry to research and discuss issues concerning DOE's Environmental Management Program. These issues include privatization, the 2006 Plan, and strategic integration. After recommendations are approved by the EMAB, they are forwarded to DOE's Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management for consideration and response.

In addition, FFRRO co-chairs the FFLC, a coordinating body within EPA that provides direction and leadership on federal facility cleanup efforts. The FFLC is a forum for addressing a wide spectrum of federal facility cleanup issues, including compliance, technical, enforcement, financial, budgeting, and legislative and political issues. The Federal Facilities Leadership Council (FFLC) includes regional federal facility project managers, regional counsels, and Headquarters staff from FFRRO and FFEO.

# FEDERAL FACILITIES ENFORCEMENT OFFICE



*"Our goal is to work closely with federal agencies to improve management of environmental programs and specifically to ensure compliance with the nation's environmental laws by using a wide variety of enforcement and compliance tools to provide equal protection of human health and the environment."*

— CRAIG HOOKS, ACTING DIRECTOR, FFEO

## Mission

The Federal Facilities Enforcement Office (FFEO) is EPA's front-line office in ensuring that federal facilities take all necessary actions to prevent, control, and abate environmental pollution. FFEO efforts include:

- *Participating in enforcement negotiations*
- *Tracking compliance by federal facilities*
- *Overseeing enforcement activities undertaken by the EPA regions*
- *Developing national federal facility enforcement and compliance policy and guidance*

FFEO is responsible for resolving federal enforcement disputes between EPA and other agencies. In nationally significant cases, FFEO coordinates actions with the EPA regions to issue compliance orders and develop interagency agreements.

## Role

FFEO is located in the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA). FFEO coordinates OECA's federal facilities enforcement, compliance assurance, and assistance efforts to meet those requirements and has the lead role in communicating with Congress, other agencies, states, and program stakeholders on those matters.

FFEO's Site Remediation and Enforcement staff work primarily with federal agencies and other offices in EPA to streamline enforcement

and cleanup at federal facilities. Specific responsibilities include:

- *Reviewing, coordinating, and participating in the negotiation and implementation of interagency agreements and memoranda of understanding under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)*
- *Coordinating development of CERCLA enforcement policy with EPA regions through the Federal Facilities Leadership Council (FFLC)*
- *Developing regulations, policies, guidance, and strategies for federal facilities enforcement under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and other environmental statutes*

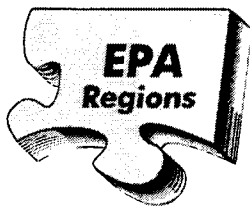
FFEO's Planning, Prevention, and Compliance staff are responsible for initiatives to prevent noncompliance and to oversee compliance and enforcement activities at federal facilities. Responsibilities include:

- *Developing, coordinating, and tracking compliance assurance and assistance efforts related to federal facilities, thereby improving environmental management and auditing programs*
- *Promoting goals related to pollution prevention and environmental justice through implementation of Executive Orders 12856, 12898, and other Executive Orders*

- *Managing the Federal Facilities Multi-Media Enforcement and Compliance Program, the environmental management program for oversight of federal agencies' environmental compliance budget requests (known as the "Fed Plan" [formerly known as the A-106 program])*
- *Facilitating the use of innovative environmental technologies to attain prevention, compliance, and cleanup goals*

FFEO heads up the EPA/Federal Agency Environmental Roundtable, in which 50 federal departments and agencies participate. The roundtable was established under authority of Executive Order 12088 to fulfill EPA's mandate to provide consultation and technical assistance to other federal agencies. The roundtable has been in continual operation at EPA for more than 10 years, and offers staff of federal agencies a steady stream of information to keep them up-to-date on EPA policy, existing and pending standards and regulations, and the latest in environmental research.

# REGIONAL FEDERAL FACILITY OFFICES



*"In addition to staff at EPA Headquarters, over 300 staff support the federal facilities program at EPA's ten regional offices. Most of the success of the federal facilities program can be attributed to EPA's regional federal facilities site managers, support staff, and their management."*

— JAMES WOOLFORD, DIRECTOR, FFRRO

EPA regional federal facility offices are responsible for assuring compliance with environmental laws, such as RCRA and CERCLA, and regulations. They also are responsible for the coordination and implementation of the policies and programs of FFRRO and FFEO at the regional level. Regional offices are involved in a variety of activities associated with federal facilities, including:

- *Managing enforcement programs*
- *Managing tracking, oversight, and compliance planning activities*
- *Providing technical and program assistance, training, and outreach for federal facilities*
- *Encouraging pollution prevention at federal facilities*
- *Encouraging use of innovative remedial technologies*
- *Fostering innovative project management in the execution of streamlined response actions*
- *Working to creatively solve problems with federal facility partners in the use of resources*
- *Acting as mediator between the state's hazardous waste authority and the federal facility*
- *Implementing the Fast Track Cleanup Program at closing and realigning bases*
- *Promoting community involvement in restoration and reuse decision making*

EPA regional project managers have played a significant role in accelerating the cleanup program at federal facilities. Following are a few of their many success stories.

## **Fostering Innovation**

At the **Sacramento Army Depot**, located in Sacramento, California, a partnership consisting of **EPA Region 9**, the Army, state and local agencies, and the community expedited cleanup of the installation's contaminated soil and groundwater, which facilitated the transfer and reuse of property. This successful base conversion effort has contributed to the revitalization of the local economy. Packard-Bell relocated its world headquarters to the installation, creating more than 3,000 new jobs.

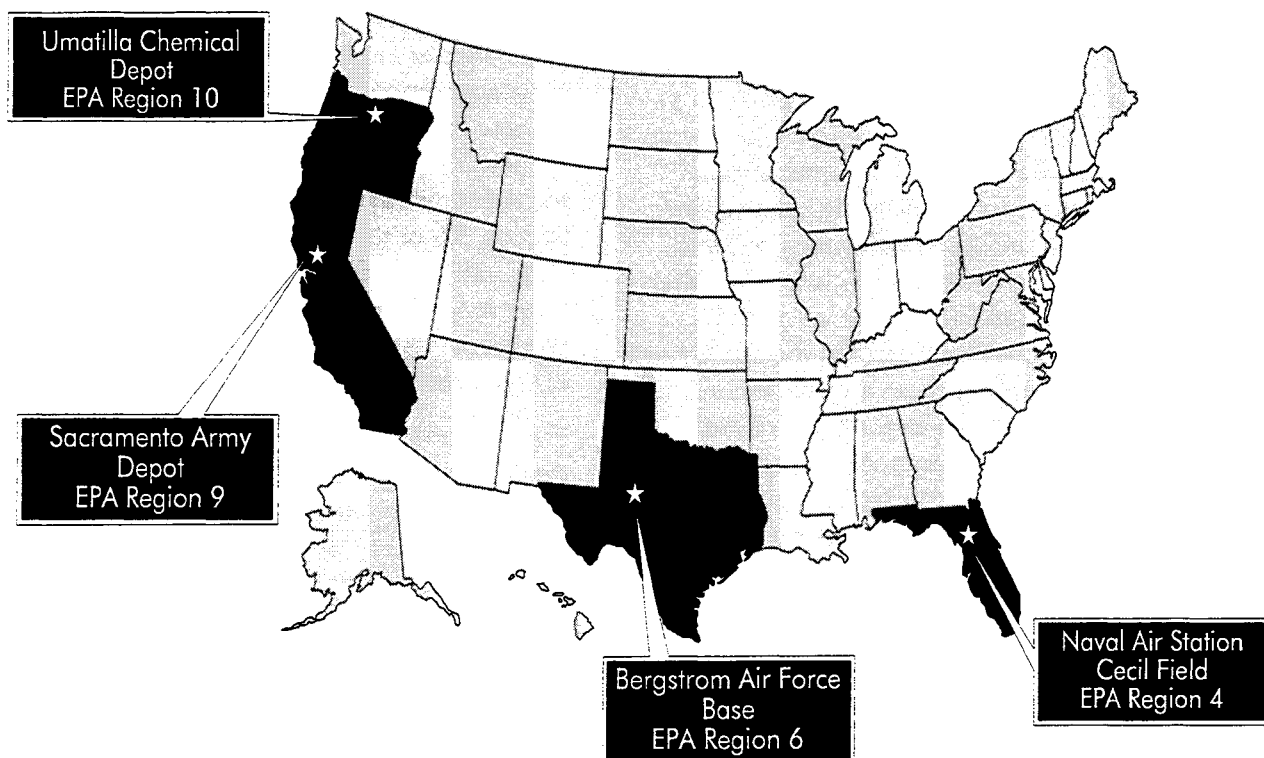
**Bergstrom Air Force Base**, located in Austin, Texas was placed on a fast-track cleanup schedule to meet the city's need for a new airport. An executive team made up of staff of **EPA Region 6**, city agencies, state agencies, and the Air Force Base Conversion Agency was formed to facilitate restoration and conversion. The team is working to expedite site investigation and cleanup plans. As a result, the April 1999 deadline for the opening of the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport will be met.

## Working for Creative Problem Solving

At **Umatilla Chemical Depot**, located in Hermiston, Oregon, EPA Region 10 advocated the use of innovative treatment and on-site analytical technologies for the cleanup of explosives and metals in soil and groundwater. Use of bioremediation and solidification/stabilization treatment and on-site colorimetric, immunoassay, and x-ray fluorescence field methods has avoided more than \$14 million in cleanup costs. The on-site colorimetric and immunoassay methods have provided real-time data for monitoring soil and groundwater treatment processes, reducing sample costs from \$250 per sample to \$60 per sample, and reducing the time needed to conduct analysis from three weeks to one day. Technology evaluation and implementation was made possible by close coordination among Umatilla Chemical Depot, EPA Region 10, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, the

U.S. Army Environmental Center, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers-Seattle District, and the Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory.

The efforts of the cleanup team at **Naval Air Station Cecil Field**, located in Jacksonville, Florida, resulted in cost-avoidance of more than \$9 million. These efforts clearly show how effective partnerships based on mutual trust can solve environmental problems, while saving time and money. The Navy, EPA Region 4, and the Florida State Department of Environmental Protection developed several time-saving methods of reviewing cleanup documents. The community, through the RAB, also was involved in the review process. The partners reached consensus on cleanup decisions and implemented innovative ways of conducting sampling of contamination at the site. The success of these common-sense approaches depended on mutual trust among team members. The team developed a rapid investigation program and revamped its approach to reviewing decision documents.



## OTHER EPA OFFICES



### **Office of Emergency and Remedial Response**

EPA's Office of  
Emergency and

Remedial Response (OERR) is committed to protecting human health and the environment now and in the future by reducing risks posed by abandoned and uncontrolled hazardous waste sites; ensuring those responsible for contamination are held accountable for cleaning it up; promoting economic redevelopment of contaminated properties; and by involving the public early and in a meaningful way in the Superfund process. OERR does these things by developing national policy, regulations, and guidelines for control of hazardous waste sites, and preventing and responding to spills of oil and hazardous substances.

OERR provides technical guidance to federal facilities on implementing the Superfund Program, including emergency response and long-term site cleanup and remediation. OERR focuses on accelerating cleanups at both federal facilities and other sites, and seeks to find ways to make clean ups faster, fairer, and more efficient by involving affected communities early in the Superfund process and giving them a voice, including providing assistance in the form of Technical Assistance Grants, support through Community Advisory Groups, and involving the affected community in the risk assessment and remedy selection.

### **Office of Environmental Justice**

EPA's Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) manages a national program to ensure integration of environmental justice into all operations of EPA. OEJ ensures that EPA evaluates the impacts of environmental burdens on minority populations, low-income populations, and American Indian Tribes. OEJ also identifies and implements remedies that can reduce disproportionate risks in communities. Through the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice, EPA provides leadership to the other federal agencies as they work to implement Executive Order 12898, and use the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) draft guidance on environmental justice to meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

### **Office of Federal Activities**

The Office of Federal Activities (OFA) has program responsibilities for the Environmental Review Process, also known as EPA's "309 Review Process." The program implements the Administrator's responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, which authorizes EPA to review certain actions of other federal agencies in accordance with the requirements of NEPA and to make the results of those reviews public.

If another federal agency prepares an environmental impact statement (a NEPA document) related to a cleanup action, EPA will review that document in accordance with its authority under Section 309. In most situations, the environmental impact statement is reviewed by the EPA regional office in which the project is located.



## **Office of General Counsel**

The Office of General Counsel (OGC) works closely with FFRRO, FFEO, and other EPA program offices involved in federal facilities cleanup. Specifically, OGC provides legal advice and counsel in rule makings, dispute resolution, and grant and contract matters that may arise in the federal facilities cleanup process. OGC also assists in the formulation and administration of EPA's guidances and policies for federal facilities.

## **The Office of Radiation and Indoor Air**

The EPA Office of Radiation and Indoor Air (ORIA) protects the public and the environment from exposures to radiation and indoor air pollutants. In carrying out its radiation protection activities, the office plays an important role in the cleanup and operation of federal facilities that use or store radioactive materials. Working closely with the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER), ORIA develops directives and guidance for radiation cleanups at Superfund sites, some of which are operated by DOE and DoD. To further support Superfund radiation cleanups, ORIA also produces technical documents on risk assessment and remediation technologies. Additionally, through its Headquarters staff, EPA regions, and two laboratories, ORIA provides technical assistance with modeling and land use issues to other EPA programs and to other federal agencies involved in cleaning up radioactive contamination.

Since 1992, ORIA has been extensively involved in regulating the release of radionuclides from a Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), operated by DOE. ORIA responsibilities include finalizing EPA safety standards for radioactive waste disposal and issuing compliance criteria. Further, before the plant can begin operation, ORIA must certify

that the facility complies with EPA standards and, every five years thereafter, must recertify compliance. ORIA also is responsible for setting EPA radiation health and safety standards for the potential disposal of high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel at a DOE site at Yucca Mountain, Nevada.

Under the Uranium Mill Tailing Radiation Control Act, ORIA standards limit radon emissions from DOE-controlled uranium mill tailings piles. Mill tailings are wastes generated during the refining of uranium ore.

## **Office of Research and Development**

EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) is the scientific and technological arm of EPA, responsible for the research and development needs of EPA. ORD pursues a basic strategy of risk assessment and risk management to remediate environmental and health problems. ORD is active in a number of research activities in which federal facilities are involved, such as development of guidance on the use of natural attenuation and other bioprocesses. In carrying out such research, ORD interacts with a number of other EPA offices, such as OSWER; the Office of Water; the Office of Pesticides, Prevention, and Toxic Substances; regional and state offices; DoD; industry; and academia. ORD focuses on the advancement of basic, peer-reviewed scientific research and the implementation of cost-effective, common-sense technology.

## **Office of Solid Waste**

The mission of the Office of Solid Waste (OSW) is to protect human health and the environment by fostering responsible national waste management practices. The program's goals are: to conserve resources by reducing waste; to prevent future waste disposal problems by writing results-oriented

regulations; and to clean up areas where waste may have spilled, leaked, or been improperly disposed of. OSW programs are primarily managed and implemented by individual states.

In addition to states, OSW works closely with other federal agencies, tribes, industry, and the concerned public to ensure the safe management of hazardous and nonhazardous waste. These shared responsibilities help to more accurately measure program performance. Nearly all RCRA policies and regulations are directly relevant to federal facilities.

In administering the national waste management program, OSW maintains a national inventory system of RCRA hazardous waste handlers. The inventory contains the identification and location data for all hazardous waste handlers, including federally owned and operated facilities that treat, store, or dispose of hazardous waste.

OSW routinely partners with other federal agencies to develop and pilot many waste management programs. Of particular note is the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, initiated by DOE several years ago. This project is one of the first attempts to safely dispose of radioactive waste using RCRA-approved disposal methods. More recently, OSW worked closely with DoD and the individual military services to issue a rule that identifies when conventional and chemical military munitions become hazardous waste under RCRA. This rule also contains provisions for storing and transporting munitions that are hazardous waste.

OSW's RCRA responsibilities also are to ensure the safe management of municipal, industrial, and extractive solid wastes. Management policies for these wastes rely heavily on voluntary and educational programs directed at all sectors, including federal facilities.

One of RCRA's chief provisions establishes a government buy-recycled program to enhance markets for materials diverted or recovered from the solid waste stream. OSW designates items that are made with recovered materials and recommends practices for procuring these items. Once such items are designated, federal facilities (and their contractors) that use appropriated federal funds must begin purchasing the designated recycled items. OSW designates these recycled content items in a Comprehensive Procurement Guideline and its related Recovered Materials Advisory Notice. Currently, there are 19 items in seven product categories containing recycled content that are available for government procuring agencies to purchase. Item designations are codified in 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 247.

### **Office of Underground Storage Tanks**

Many federal facilities own or operate underground storage tanks (UST) that contain petroleum and other regulated substances. Under Subtitle I of RCRA, EPA's Office of Underground Storage Tanks (OUST) has developed regulations to prevent, detect, and clean up releases from UST systems. OUST developed the regulations and the UST program to be flexible and to be implemented by state agencies. Every state and many local governments now have active UST cleanup programs. Federal facilities, like other owners and operators of USTs, work with their state agencies to remediate sites affected by leaking USTs.

One of OUST's highest priorities is to help state UST agencies achieve faster, cheaper, and more effective cleanups. OUST's ongoing efforts focus on three approaches to meeting that goal: encouraging risk-based corrective action programs in states, promoting the use of alternative cleanup technologies, and

supporting activities that streamline state administrative procedures.

OUST has developed a variety of outreach materials to assist tank owners and operators to comply with UST regulations and to improve UST cleanups. For more information on the federal program or to order publications, contact the RCRA/Superfund/UST Hotline at 1-800-424-9346 or visit OUST's Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/OUST/>.

### **Technology Innovation Office**

EPA's Technology Innovation Office (TIO) promotes the development and use of innovative technologies for site assessment and remediation. TIO's mission is to increase the application of innovative treatment technologies by government and industry at contaminated waste sites. Increased use of such technologies will be accomplished through the removal of regulatory and institutional impediments, and the provision of better technology and market information to TIO's targeted audience which includes federal agencies, states, consulting engineering firms, potentially responsible parties, technology developers, and the investment community.

TIO accomplishes its mission at federal facilities by:

- *Promoting the use of innovative treatment technologies when such treatment is appropriate*
- *Encouraging the evaluation and use of new field measurement and monitoring methods*
- *Streamlining the permitting process and development of orders to enable the use of innovative treatment technologies*
- *Researching and disseminating information about innovative technologies that aid in the characterization and cleanup of contamination*

TIO sponsors the Federal Remediation Technologies Roundtable, which was established in 1990 as an interagency committee to exchange information and provide a forum for joint action to support the development and demonstration of innovative technologies for remediation of hazardous waste. The Roundtable includes members from EPA, DoD, DOE, DOI, NASA, and other federal agencies. Members currently are working to standardize the collection and reporting of cost and performance information on innovative technologies.

# FOR MORE INFORMATION ON FEDERAL FACILITIES

EPA Office	Main Telephone and Fax Number 	Mailing Address 	Internet Address 
Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office (FFRRO)	Ph (202) 260-9924 Fax (202) 260-5646	401 M Street, SW Washington, DC 20460 MC: 5101	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/swerffrr">http://www.epa.gov/swerffrr</a>
Federal Facilities Enforcement Office (FFEO)	Ph (202) 564-2466 Fax (202) 501-0069	401 M Street, SW Washington, DC 20460 MC: 2261A	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/oearth/index/html">http://www.epa.gov/oearth/index/html</a>
Office of Emergency and Remedial Response (OERR)	Ph (703) 603-8960 Fax (703) 603-9146	401 M Street, SW Washington, DC 20460 MC: 5201G	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/oswer/superfund">http://www.epa.gov/oswer/superfund</a>
Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ)	Ph (202) 564-2515 Fax (202) 501-0740	401 M Street, SW Washington, DC 20460 MC: 2201A	<a href="http://es.inel.gov/oeca/oelj.html">http://es.inel.gov/oeca/oelj.html</a>
Office of Federal Activities (OFA)	Ph (202) 564-2400 Fax (202) 564-0070	401 M Street, SW Washington, DC 20044 MC: 2251A	<a href="http://es.inel.gov/oeca/OFA">http://es.inel.gov/oeca/OFA</a>
Office of General Counsel (OGC)	Ph (202) 260-8040 Fax (202) 260-8046	401 M Street, SW Washington, DC 20460 MC: 2310	None
Office of Radiation and Indoor Air (ORIA)	Ph (202) 233-9320 Fax (202) 233-9651	401 M Street, SW Washington, DC 20460 MC: 6601J	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/oar/oria.html">http://www.epa.gov/oar/oria.html</a>
Office of Research and Development (ORD)	Ph (202) 260-7676 Fax (202) 260-9761	401 M Street, SW Washington, DC 20460 MC: 8101	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/ORD">http://www.epa.gov/ORD</a>
Office of Solid Waste (OSW)	Ph (703) 308-8895 Fax (703) 308-0513	401 M Street, SW Washington, DC 20460 MC: 5301W	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer">http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer</a>
Office of Underground Storage Tanks (OUST)	Ph (703) 603-9900 Fax (703) 603-9163	401 M Street, SW Washington, DC 20460 MC: 5401G	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/OUST/">http://www.epa.gov/OUST/</a>
Technology Innovation Office (TIO)	Ph (703) 603-9910 Fax (703) 603-9135	401 M Street, SW Washington, DC 20460 MC: 5102G	<a href="http://www.cluein.com">http://www.cluein.com</a>
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters (General Information)	Ph (202) 260-2090	401 M Street, SW Washington, DC 20460	<a href="http://www.epa.gov">http://www.epa.gov</a>



## **SUMMARY**

EPA has many resources that can provide assistance on environmental issues related to federal facilities. Understanding the distinct roles of the various offices at EPA will enable you to locate more easily a vast wealth of information and resources. Once you know which offices of the Agency are responsible for handling the various aspects of the federal facilities program, you can go straight to the source for the information you need most. Hopefully, this brochure will help you to forge sound working relationships with key personnel at the Agency and solve the puzzle of how to communicate effectively with EPA.

To order additional copies of this brochure, contact the Superfund Document Center at:

Phone (703) 603-9232

Facsimile (703) 603-9240.