

Fostering Collaboration and Delivery of NIEHS Grantee Products in EPA Efforts to Assess and Remediate Hazardous Waste Sites

The research funded by the NIEHS Superfund Research Program has provided valuable information for use at hazardous waste sites. The goal of this effort is to build upon past successes (see a few examples below) and seek new opportunities where NIEHS grantees are given the opportunity to engage EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, the EPA Regions and the Office of Research and Development, to identify research products that might support EPA hazardous waste site assessment and clean up.

- 1) A workgroup will be established to facilitate this effort. Members may include:
 - EPA:
 - i. OSWER (OSRTL, OEM)
 - ii. ORD Superfund Technical Liaisons, NCEA, National Program Directors
 - iii. Regional Technical Staff or Remedial Project Managers
 - NIEHS
 - i. Superfund Research Program
 - ii. Other parts of NIEHS
 - ATSDR
 - i. HQ DHAC, DTEM
 - ii. Regional liaisons
- 2) Annual progress reports or final reports will be reviewed by the workgroup to identify promising research products which may have application at hazardous waste sites. Initially, 1-2 such products will be selected to pilot this effort. The workgroup could perform their reviews via teleconference, or preferably at the annual SRP meeting.
- 3) Once the promising research products are identified, the workgroup will devise a plan to engage the appropriate components of EPA and possibly other federal or state components, enlist support for collaboration, and determine the most productive/efficient way to further explore the value of the products. This could include the following:
 - Teleconference Seminars between PIs and potential interested partners
 - Identification of hazardous waste sites to test out the products
 - Consideration of additional applied research efforts to demonstrate the value of the products, validate or commercialize. This might involve EPA support or NIEHS support
 - Site visits to waste sites for consideration
 - Building upon the K.C. Donnelly approach with sediment bioassays
- 4) Products that are utilized in EPA waste site remediation will be documented in publication, a report back to NIEHS, and in the NIEHS SRP newsletter.

- 5) Based on this process, the workgroup may develop lessons learned and best practices for SRP research translation.

Examples- Previous Engagement

R1- STL assisted in samples from hazardous waste site for NIEHS researcher

R1, 4, 6 & 9 – STL arranged for grantee seminars in Regions and NIEHS and grantees have presented research projects at annual regional risk assessors meetings.

R5 – Provide review of grant proposals

R10 – STL assisted in contacts for K.C. Donnelley in development of sediment bioassays
NIEHS and grantees have presented research projects at EPA meetings of regional risk assessors and RPMs