

Community Air Toxic Projects



EPA Region 3

Helene Drago



AIR TOXIC RISK BASED COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

- Reduce exposure to toxics in communities through voluntary, local action in partnership with EPA and S/L agencies
- Build community capacity and empower community decision-making
- Priorities based on community choices
- Supplement regulatory programs
- Measurable Results



Community-Based Programs

- Provide risk reduction to those who need it most
 - Achieve local reductions not otherwise feasible through national regulations
 - Reductions make a real difference to public health
- Empower Communities and build capacity for environmental stewardship
 - People feel listened to and empowered
 - They can see the risk reduction activity



Community-Based Programs

- Regulatory Agencies gain by being seen in a different light
 - An organization that listens and cares
 - An organization that works with others and focuses on real risks, results you can see
 - An organization that you want to see in your neighborhood and in your district



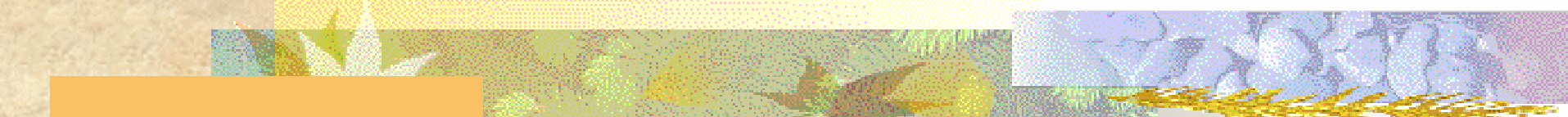
Grant Activity in 2004 to Support Risk Reduction Projects

- Environmental Justice Grants - \$500,000
- Pollution Prevention Grants - \$ 5 million
- Diesel Reduction grants (Clean School Bus, Voluntary Diesel Retrofit, Toyota settlement, etc) \$ millions
- Air Toxic Community Based Grants- \$600,000
- National Air Toxic Monitoring- \$6.2 million
- 105 base and supplemental awards
- Regional Geographic Initiative - \$1 million for Region 3 States



Philadelphia Air Toxic Risk Assessment

- Refined 1996 and 1999 air toxic inventory
- Re-running models: EMS- HAP, AIRMOD, ICS, OZIPR, HAPEM
- Re-assess Health Risk due to air toxics
- Project 2010 Health Risks



Philadelphia

Air Toxic Reduction Projects

- “Diesel Difference” coalition
- PhillyCarShare
- Stage 2 compliance assistance at gas stations
- “Don’t Top off your Gas Tank” initiative
- Potential projects for the future: Installation of a truck electrification station at the Walt Whitman truck stop on I-95, emission reductions at the Philadelphia International Airport



Maryland Environmental Benefits District Program

- community based initiative that focuses financial, technical, regulatory, and other resources to mitigate environmental problems in a targeted community.
- Current projects:
 - Diesel retrofits in Prince George's County and Baltimore
 - Outreach to auto body shops in Park Heights
- Possible future projects: ??



Delaware Air Toxic Assessment Study (DATAS)

- Enhanced Monitoring
- Improved Air Toxic Inventory
- Modeling to characterize air toxic risk



Air Toxic Monitoring Projects

- Allegheny County Air Toxic Monitoring - Enhanced monitoring at Neville Island and Pittsburgh to characterize air toxic exposure
- Virginia: Enhanced monitoring at Winchester, VA
- Pennsylvania: Coal fire monitoring study



Grants for FY' 2005

- Environmental Justice Grants
- Pollution Prevention Grants
- Diesel Reduction grants (Clean School Bus alone will provide \$65 million)
- National Air Toxic Monitoring Grant
- 105 Grant - base and supplemental awards
- Community Action for a Renewed Environment grant (CARE)



CARE

Funding Opportunity in 2005

- Focused on Toxic Reductions
- Multimedia (**air, water, waste, indoor, outdoor**)
- In partnership with Communities
- Voluntary



How it will work

- \$2 million for competitive grants in FY 2005
- RFP by the end of 2004
- Eligible grant recipients include state/local governments, community organizations and NGO's.
- Annual grant
- Two grant categories



Grant Category #1

Small grant (\$50-\$100k)

- *create* environmental toxic reduction partnerships
- *assess* the sources of exposure to toxic pollutants
- *estimate* the most significant sources of human health and ecological risks in the community

Grant Category #2

Large grant (\$300-\$500k)

- In FY'05 – Target existing organized community groups that can implement grant
- Implement toxic risk reduction projects in communities
- Community Group is decision maker
- Communities that receive the small grant will likely receive the large grant the following year
- HQ is expected to award at least one community in each Region with either a Category 1 or 2 grant



FINAL THOUGHTS

- MITIGATION AS WELL AS ASSESSMENT
- COMMUNITY IS PARTNER IN DECISION MAKING
- A LOT OF MONEY AVAILABLE FROM A VARIETY OF SOURCES