



West Point Environmental Compliance Officers

Aspects Identification

February 7, 2005

Steps in Identifying Environmental Aspects

- Survey all activities, products, and services in your area of responsibility and list those that have the possibility of interacting with the environment.
- Record those activities, products, services that you believe should be further evaluated by the West Point EMS Cross Functional Team (CFT) for significance.
 - The criteria on the following slide should be used to determine which activities, products, or services should be included.
- Finally, indicate the environmental aspects and impacts related to each activity, product, or service.

Criteria To Be Used By ECOs to Create Baseline List

- **1. Activities, Products, or Services to be included:**
 - Those that have obvious regulatory or other requirements
 - Those that have visible impacts on the environment
 - Those that may not have visible impacts but are known to potentially cause harm to the environment or human health
- **2. Activities, Products, or Services that need not be included:**
 - Those that have minor and temporary impact on the environment
 - Those that have previously been declared by qualified, competent experts to be insignificant
 - Those that do not satisfy any of the criteria in #1 above

Sources of Information for Environmental Aspects

- Experienced and knowledgeable personnel
- Operations plans
- Records of past emergencies or other environmental incidents
- Brainstorming
- Physical Walk Through

Brainstorming

- Is most effective when participants have a detailed understanding of West Point's activities, operations, processes, products, and services.
- A brainstorming team would review West Point's operations and reflect on the likely sources of environmental interactions (aspects).
- Brainstorming should consider the daily work activities conducted at West Point and then move on to consider intermittent activities.

Doing the Physical Walk Through

- A walk-through of all areas and operations at the facility serves as a visual “trigger” to ensure that activities that should be included in the analysis are not overlooked
- Requires sufficient time
- Typically the walk-through team would visit each work area and visually identify all of the activities, operations, processes, products, and services that could contribute to significant aspects
- Following a walk-through, the team compares its list of “contributors” against the initial list and makes any necessary adjustments

Guidance for ECOs to Identify Environmental Aspects

- Do you have operations, activities or products that interact with the environment, ecology, or natural/cultural resources at West Point?
- Do you have any ongoing or planned effluents, emissions, spills, or waste generated?
- Do you have the potential for unplanned effluents, emissions, spills, or waste?
- What maintenance or cleaning materials and substances that you use interact with the environment?
- Do you have operations that use large amounts of electrical energy?
- Do you have operations that use large quantity of water?
- Do you use non-renewable resources?
- Does anything else come to mind that might interact with the environment?

Sample Environmental Aspects

- Air Emissions
- Non-Hazardous Waste Generation
- Hazardous Waste Generation
- Radiation Emissions
- Biological Waste Generation
- Material Spills/Leaks to Water or Ground
- Toxic Substances Spills
- Pesticides Application
- Liquid Discharges (Point and Non-Point) to Surface and/or Ground Waters
- Energy Consumption
- Water Consumption
- Natural Resources and Raw Materials Consumption
- Ecological Disturbance
- Cultural Resources Disturbance
- Generation of Noise and Other Emissions

Sample Environmental Impacts

- Toxics Contamination or Addition to Air, Land, Waterway
- Reduced Visibility
- Air Pollution
- Human Health Impact
- Resource Depletion
- Soil Contamination
- Groundwater Contamination
- Surface Water Contamination
- Hazardous Material Dispersal
- Biological Material Dispersal
- Solid Material Dispersal
- Ecological Damage
- Ozone Depletion
- Greenhouse Gas Contribution
- Habitat Alteration
- Introduction of Non-Native Species
- Pesticide Damage
- Historical Property Damage
- Loss of Public Access to Recreational Resources
- Destruction of Archeological Resources
- Soil Compaction
- Wind/Water Erosion
- Heat Damage

Practical Exercise

- Review sample West Point activities, products, and services
- Determine aspects and impacts
- Questions?