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United States
Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, D.C. 20460

The Administrator

MEMORANDUM

TO : The President of the United States

SUBJECT: Notes on EPA Performance for the Sperling Breakfast

Since EPA is the subject of so much attention at the moment, I believe you can expect questions on our performance when you meet for breakfast with the Sperling Group. As you stated at your most recent press conference, your Administration has a strong record on the environment, and EPA has numerous accomplishments of which we may all be proud. Allow me to list some of these achievements so that you will have them at hand if needed.

- o We are moving rapidly and effectively to carry out the Superfund program. The law itself is new and complex. Still, out of 418 dump sites designated in December for priority cleanup, we have already begun cleanup at over 130. And, far from being slow, we have already obligated more than 80 percent of Superfund dollars available as of the end of the last fiscal year.
- o We have energized the Nation's hazardous waste program under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The previous Administration failed for 4 years to establish a complete hazardous waste management program. Now, however, all the core RCRA regulations are on the street, including permit standards for storage and treatment facilities, incinerators, and land disposal sites for hazardous waste. You should know, too, that these rules are more stringent than those under development by the previous Administration. Thirty-five States are managing the early phase of the program, and the first permit applications are now being processed.
- o We are improving environmental protection, while saving the economy money. For example, we expanded the air "bubble" concept to allow more firms to participate. The "bubble" allows a firm to vary emission controls at each stack in order to find the most efficient mix of controls. But total emissions from the plant may not exceed the limit set for all stacks combined. Bubbles proposed in 1982 alone would save the economy roughly \$600 million, while actually reducing total pollutants in the air.

- o We have not been afraid to make tough environmental decisions. For example, we expected that our review of regulations governing lead in gasoline would show that the national trend toward lead-free gasoline would justify allowing small refiners unrestricted use of lead as an octane enhancer. Instead, our data showed that lead, even in the amounts emitted by these small refiners, could have chilling effects on human health and behavior. So our final rule reduced the amount of lead any refiner may use in a leaded product. As a result we will have 34 percent less lead in gasoline by 1990.
- o Increasingly, States are signing on as full partners in support of the environment. Congress requires that EPA share program responsibility with the States in most programs, and we have committed ourselves to achieve a full partnership with States. When we took office, only 33 percent of delegable program activities had been transferred to the States. That number now stands at over 56 percent, an all-time high. This accomplishment is especially notable since States have taken on this work while understanding that the Federal grants to assist State programs are being reduced and will eventually cease.
- o EPA's internal efficiency is producing essential environmental improvements. By law, EPA must write rules governing toxic wastes discharged into the Nation's streams by major industries. In over 3 years of trying, the previous Administration proposed only five, and issued only one of these essential rules. Now, under newly negotiated, tight court deadlines, 12 rules are in effect, and the rest either have been proposed or are otherwise on schedule. The new rules already in effect will remove 96 percent of the toxics which affected industries had been putting into the water.
- o EPA's enforcement program is aggressive and vigorous. We have hired 21 new criminal investigators, and, while we prefer to negotiate settlements when we can, we have referred 51 new cases to the Department of Justice in the hazardous waste area alone. Our results are measured in increased compliance. Compliance by municipal sewage systems is up from 79 percent to 87 percent. Non-compliance by major sources of air pollution has been reduced to a figure under 4 percent.

I trust you will find that this information meets your needs. If you or someone on your staff wishes to learn more about these items, I would be delighted to discuss them.

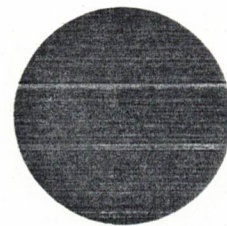
Anne M. Burford



Annual Report to the President

The Protection of Our Environment

Anne M. Gorsuch
Administrator



**The Honorable
Ronald Reagan**
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

This month marks the completion of my first year serving as your Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This report summarizes some of the major efforts and accomplishments during that time to further the mission for which the Agency was founded: the protection of our environment, and to do so within the framework of the initiatives of your Administration—regulatory reform, better science, state and local involvement, and improved, more efficient management. With your enthusiastic support, EPA has made progress in pursuing its critically important mandate.

Significant environmental gains have been registered in the following broad and important categories:

The Health of Our Citizens.

First and foremost, EPA is pledged to safeguarding the health and welfare of the American people and the protection of their environment. Our reforms, in all instances, hone true to that objective. Improved efficiency at EPA translates directly into better environmental protection.

Better Science. Sound environmental regulation can only be as good as the scientific foundation upon which it is based. The Agency frequently finds itself at the frontier of health-related research, in an ongoing effort to determine the risks to humans posed by synthetic substances and waste products. To assure the best possible scientific information, EPA has undertaken a number of reforms in the area of research and development.

Regulatory Reform. Regulatory reform is one of the major pillars of your economic recovery program and an area in which EPA is making a substantial contribution. The Agency has actively been reviewing its entire body of regulations to eliminate needless red tape. The result of this effort conservatively will add up to a savings of \$6 to 7 billion as a result of our first year's work.

Elimination of Backlogs. One of the most immediate and pressing tasks confronted upon taking charge of EPA was the elimination of costly, time-consuming delays as the Agency ground down under the weight of its own backlog of paperwork. With the adoption of procedural reforms and more businesslike management structures, all backlogs have been addressed and many have been drastically reduced.

State Partnerships. We are strengthening positive working relationships with state and local governments. The major laws EPA administers provide for delegation of key program responsibilities to the States, should they decide to accept. In accordance with your philosophy of New Federalism, we want to make sure that the responsibilities transferred are substantive, and not token.

Improved Management. Finally, we are improving the basic organizational structure of the Agency. We have initiated reforms that promise to produce a more streamlined organization—one that will be more responsive in delivering the highest quality environmental protection at the lowest practical public expenditure.

Such innovations in environmental protection are a traditional Republican mainstay. EPA was founded under a Republican Administration. Seven of its 11 years of existence have been under GOP leadership, and the cause of national conservation goes back to President Theodore Roosevelt, a Republican. This Administration carries forward that tradition. I am confident that the quality of America's land, air and water will be better for our efforts.

We have only made a start in this first year, but it is a start in which we take pride.

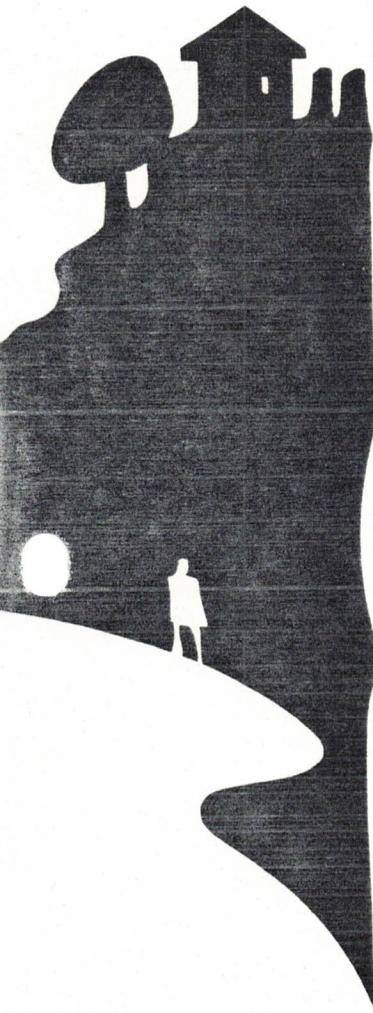
Sincerely,



Anne M. Gorsuch

May 1982

Introduction



The creation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") on December 2, 1970, was the product of an effort to streamline the Federal Government and a desire to respond positively to the environmental concerns of the country.

Prior to EPA, the Federal Government's environmental control functions had been spread across several federal departments and agencies, including Interior, Agriculture, Health, Education and Welfare, and the Atomic Energy Commission. Fifteen programs were brought together to make up the new Agency, which began with a Fiscal Year 1971 operating budget of \$303 million and 7,198 permanent employees. Today EPA's operating budget is approximately \$1.3 billion and employs just under 10,000 permanent employees.

EPA is charged with protecting the nation's environment by:

- administering laws passed by Congress,
- ensuring compliance with those laws, and
- performing research to support its activities.

EPA is responsible for ensuring compliance with these laws and is committed to a vigorous enforcement program. The Agency's enforcement philosophy is to encourage voluntary compliance by communities and private industry, but to adopt a firm posture where cooperation is not forthcoming. Most laws administered by EPA contemplate a partnership with States to perform direct enforcement activities needed to meet environmental standards. States now shoulder a substantial share of this enforcement responsibility.

Science provides much of the base for environmental protection. EPA's research activities span the spectrum of research interests: developing and standardizing techniques to detect pollutants; assessing their impact on human health and the environment; developing and evaluating techniques for pollution control; and transferring information to the public.

These functions constitute the principal work of EPA. Its activities enter into nearly every aspect of daily life, just as the environment it protects affects all Americans, as well as citizens of our neighboring countries.

The major laws administered by EPA include:

- Clean Water Act, as amended, is the basic authority for water pollution control programs. The goal of the Act is to make national waters fishable and swimmable.
- Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended in 1977, permits EPA to regulate the quality of water in public drinking water systems and the disposal of wastes into injection wells.
- The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 ("RCRA") authorizes EPA to establish regulations and programs to ensure safe waste treatment and disposal.
- Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act ("FIFRA"), as amended, directs EPA to regulate the manufacture, distribution, and use of pesticides and conduct

research into their health and environmental effects.

- Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976 ("TSCA"), provides authority to regulate the manufacture, distribution and use of chemical substances.
- Clean Air Act, as amended in 1977, provides the basic legal authority for the nation's air pollution control programs, and is designed to enhance the quality of air resources.
- Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 ("Superfund") establishes a program to deal with release of hazardous substances in spills and from inactive and abandoned disposal sites.
- Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 permits EPA to protect the oceans from the indiscriminate dumping of waste.

The Health of Our Citizens

Every program directly affects the air we breathe, the food we eat, the water we drink and swim in, and the land on which we live.

Of all the tasks, large and mundane, for which EPA is responsible, the overriding goal is the protection of the physical health of the American people. Every program administered by the Agency directly affects the air we breathe, the food we eat, the water we drink and swim in, and the land on which we live—in short, all those things which directly affect human health.

The Agency takes pride in the substantial progress which has been made during the past year toward making our world a healthier, and therefore more pleasant one in which to live.

Some of the Agency's most notable accomplishments can be found in the actions EPA has taken in response to the health threats posed by disposal of pollutants, including hazardous waste. Under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA):

- The almost 58,000 generators of hazardous wastes are now required to properly identify these wastes, ensure they are sent to legitimate hazardous waste management facilities, properly package and label them, and maintain vital records of the amounts, types, and ultimate disposition of these materials.
- Over 14,000 transporters of hazardous wastes are required to comply with a manifest system to ensure that shipments are sent to and received by legitimate hazardous waste management facilities.
- Almost 10,000 hazardous waste facilities are now registered with EPA. To determine

if these facilities are meeting EPA's standards, over 2,000 inspections have been carried out by EPA Regional personnel.

- Over half the states have been authorized to carry out their own hazardous waste programs on an interim basis.

As part of EPA's efforts to administer RCRA, EPA had, by March 1982:

- Issued compliance orders at 300 facilities, with penalties in appropriate cases.
- Filed 62 civil actions in Federal court.

One of EPA's priorities in 1981 was also its newest duty: to administer the Superfund program which was enacted by Congress in December 1980 to deal with the release of hazardous substances in spills and from inactive and abandoned disposal sites.

To implement Superfund, EPA first had to establish an effective organizational system. To this end, the Agency:

- Supervised the merging of the RCRA and Superfund programs under a newly established Assistant Administrator for Solid Waste and Emergency Response.
- Began new accounting procedures to ensure proper fund management.
- Instituted a Superfund community relations program to promote the local support that is crucial to achieving Superfund's goals.

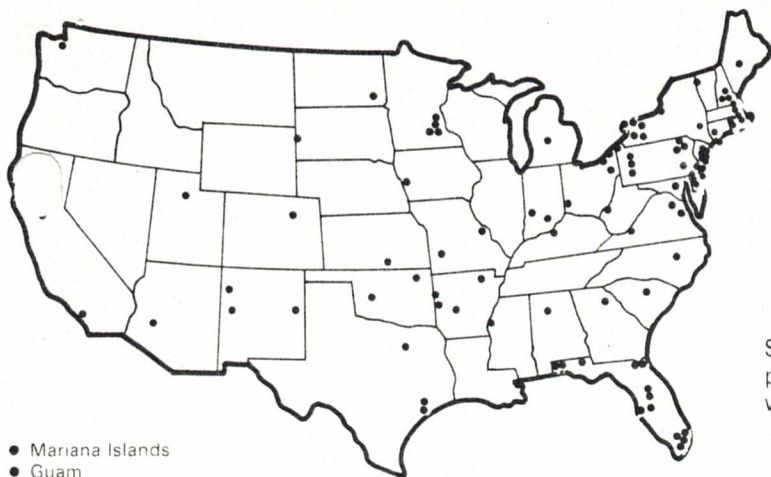
Under Superfund, EPA can take either removal or remedial action. Removal actions are

short-term or emergency in nature, similar to those undertaken to clean up accidental spills of oil and hazardous substances. To date, EPA has authorized \$20.8 million for removal actions at 61 locations.

The remedial program is intended to clean up problem hazardous waste sites. By April 1982, the Agency had:

- Allocated over \$45 million for cleanup at 48 sites.
- Compiled and published (in October 1981) an Interim Priority List of 115 sites. Depending on current circumstances at each site, funds are available and clean-up work can begin.

EPA revised the National Oil and Hazardous Substance Response Plan to reflect and implement the new authorities under the Superfund legislation. In addition to streamlining the existing oil response mechanism under the Clean Water Act, the new plan sets out the criteria and procedures for using Superfund money to respond to hazardous substance spills and sites. The revision is the cornerstone of the



Superfund's 115 top priority hazardous waste sites

- Mariana Islands
- Guam
- American Samoa

Superfund program and is written in the spirit of regulatory reform. The provisions are concise, its language is nontechnical and the requirements are flexible. In addition, the plan establishes a strong federal-state partnership for implementing the Superfund program.

Hazardous waste sites are evaluated by state and EPA personnel, including Field Investigation Teams stationed at EPA Regional Offices. Staffed under contract by 180 trained professionals with a breadth of technical skills, the teams carried out 2,347 preliminary assessments, 1,769 site inspections, and 279 field investigations during 1981.

Making the most out of the limited monies in Superfund requires that every effort be made to have any private

parties responsible for a site, manage and finance its clean-up.

The Superfund legislation authorizes judicial and administrative action to compel responsible parties to undertake cleanup. Where use of these mechanisms does not abate hazards, the Agency will proceed with remedial actions and is empowered to seek recovery of all the funds expended. EPA established a task force in February 1982 to notify as many responsible parties as had then been identified of their potential liability should fund monies be used at sites with which they were associated. EPA believes these communications give a clearer picture of whether prelitigation private-party cleanup, administrative or judicial orders to compel clean-up, or fund-response with cost-recovery, would be appropriate at individual sites. As of April 1982, EPA had:

- Issued notice letters to over 850 individuals or firms at 75 sites on the list.

- Issued notice letters to 29 responsible parties at 7 sites not on the list.

While Superfund and the related solid waste clean-up activities received considerable publicity in 1981, there were other less publicized, but nonetheless important, activities taken by EPA to help protect the health of our citizens.

- EPA set in place a coordinated fish monitoring strategy to determine levels of toxic contamination in the Great Lakes, and surveyed sediments in 17 harbors and river mouths on the Great Lakes to determine toxic sources and trends.

- EPA prepared eight health advisory documents to inform state authorities and water facility operators of health risks posed by unfamiliar contaminants. These include toxicological information as well as monitoring and removal data.

- EPA initiated the review of ocean dumping regulations to assess the comparative risks of land versus ocean disposal.

- To protect our water, EPA conducted 110 on-scene oil response actions, monitored over 5,000 removals, completed over 2,000 spill prevention inspections and conducted 25 damage assessments.

- Final standards for disposal of Uranium Mill Tailings at inactive sites are complete.

- In EPA's toxics program, actions are being taken to obtain more testing data when valid concerns about new chemicals are raised. EPA banned importation of two

new potentially dangerous chemicals pending submission of additional data.

- Emphasis has been placed on finding acceptable PCB disposal methods. Two high-temperature commercial incinerators for PCBs have been approved, as well as incineration aboard the ship Vulcanus. EPA also has approved two chemical destruction processes which reduce PCBs to easily disposable substances and allow the residual oil to be cleaned and reused.

- In January 1982, the U.S., including two EPA representatives, participated in an international meeting of experts concerning protection of stratospheric ozone. Further cooperation is anticipated in this area.

- EPA has released a long-awaited study of environmental pollution in the Niagara frontier which affects both the U.S. and Canada. This comprehensive review reveals that substantial progress has been made in controlling many of the water contamination problems in the Niagara frontier. EPA is undertaking additional actions to provide further assistance in the area.

- Both the Administrator and Deputy Administrator have been personally involved in high-level and technical meetings with Mexican officials to further U.S.-Mexican cooperation on environmental issues and to develop new approaches to the existing air and water pollution problems.



EPA's new administration firmly believes that there cannot be good regulation without good science. Without adequate scientific understanding, steps necessary for the protection of human health might never be taken and, conversely, wholly unnecessary regulations might be foisted upon the public. To avoid these pitfalls, EPA is taking steps to improve the scientific basis of its regulations, including selecting 15 to 25 rule proposals each year for special review by its Science Advisory Board.

Other activities to produce better scientific and technical understanding include:

- Insisting that any proposed regulation whose rationale depends on scientific assumptions undergo a thorough peer review by knowledgeable scientists to test the validity of those assumptions; and
- The production of certain Air Quality Criteria documents that serve as the primary scientific basis for the establishment or revision of national ambient air quality standards under the Clean Air Act: CO (Carbon Monoxide), NO_x (Nitrogen Oxides), HC (Hydrocarbons), SO_x/PM (Sulfur Oxides and Particulate Matter).

Comprehensive health assessments are near completion for seven chemical solvents: Carbon Tetrachloride, Methylchloroform, Methylene Chloride, Chlorofluorocarbon 113, Tetrachloroethylene, Trichloroethylene, and Toluene. This information will be submitted to the Science Advisory Board for public and peer review.

Without adequate scientific understanding, steps necessary for the protection of human health might never be taken.

This is the first time EPA has prepared a single document which addresses the varied scientific health assessment needs of EPA's many regulatory programs.

Several projects (which influence the Agency's approach to health and risk assessment) are in varying stages of completion:

- Exposure assessment guidelines have been developed for Agency-wide use.
- Guidelines for mutagenicity risk assessment have been reviewed and are being revised based on the public comments. They will receive peer review by the Science Advisory Board.
- Guidelines for risk assessments on reproductive toxicity are under development. A workshop has been successfully completed and proceedings have been published. Notably, this workshop included prominent academic and industry scientists and is a cornerstone for the continued development of the Agency's reproductive toxicity guidelines.

These projects serve to bring uniformity and consistency to future Agency risk assessment activities. The peer and public reviews afford increased opportunity for industry and academic involvement

in the development of the risk assessment process.

Further steps toward better science include the following:

- EPA sponsored an International Hazardous Waste Symposium in October 1981. The Symposium contributed significantly to advancing world-wide knowledge of proper methods for dealing with the hazardous waste disposal problem.

- EPA participated in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development ("OECD") Chemicals Program. In June 1981, the OECD Council reached an agreement binding on member countries that test data on chemicals produced in one country will be accepted as valid in all others for assessment purposes.

- Under the U.S.-Canada Memorandum of Intent on Transboundary Air Pollution, five bilateral work groups under EPA chairmanship are providing technical support for the negotiations. The final technical reports will assist the Administration in its negotiations and in the resolution of major scientific uncertainties concerning acid precipitation.

- EPA completed analysis of 14 chemicals leading to the development of water quality criteria documents; initiated research on the toxic effects of some organic compounds; and gathered additional scientific data to revise criteria documents for the 65 water pollutants which will form the basis for the development of water quality standards.



Regulatory Reform

When the Reagan Administration took over EPA management, it found that success in protecting the environment appeared to be measured by the ever-increasing amounts of tax dollars being spent on producing regulations. A program of vigorous regulatory reform and relief was clearly necessary. The Agency's potential to provide regulatory relief to the American economy amounts to as much as \$6-7 billion in direct costs. Within this opportunity, top Agency management had two goals:

- To focus on activities that would produce significant environmental protection without stifling economic growth; and
- To revise existing regulations to provide industries and states greater flexibility in meeting our nation's environmental goals.

Since beginning its regulatory reform program, EPA has produced significant pay-offs. Without compromising its responsibility to protect the environment, EPA has successfully implemented the following regulatory reform and relief measures:

- EPA responded to the President's request for regulatory relief for the auto industry by announcing the Agency's intent to change several regulatory requirements. As a result, air quality protection is being achieved at a greatly reduced regulatory cost burden. Relief measures taken include: consolidating the CO and NO_x waiver proceedings; assuring adequate time to meet regulatory requirements; al-

A program of vigorous regulatory reform and relief was clearly necessary.

lowing manufacturers to self-certify high-altitude vehicles and forego assembly-line testing at high altitude; reducing the number of annual assembly-line tests; streamlining the preproduction testing program; deciding not to pursue on-board controls for refueling hydrocarbon emissions, and deferring the 1983 truck noise standard to 1986. These initiatives, and others planned to be taken, should save manufacturers and consumers more than \$4 billion over the next five years.

- EPA has made progress on paperwork reduction. In October 1981, the Agency completed an inventory of its information collection activities, and for the first time, now has a complete information collection budget linked to its fiscal budget. In specific program areas, improvement has been dramatic. For example, reporting burdens under RCRA have been reduced by about 3 million hours without affecting program quality.
- The Agency established a small business ombudsman in EPA's Office of Policy Analysis to help small businesses that experience difficulties in meeting or understanding regulatory requirements.
- EPA is aggressively moving to expand the cost savings from emissions trading. The best known example of

emissions trading is the use of "bubble" trades—so named because a firm is allowed to place an imaginary bubble over all its sources of air pollution at a particular site and develop its own alternative for reducing air pollution to the total amount allowed under the bubble. These trades can be accomplished within a plant or firm or by transactions among firms.

To date, 19 air "bubbles" have been approved by EPA. These will save industry approximately \$40 million. At least 90 others are under development and could produce savings of \$200 million. In addition, the adoption of generic emissions trading rules by many states will produce greater reliance on the trading process and is expected to produce savings of nearly \$1 billion.

- EPA has reduced the time it takes for the Agency to act on State Implementation Plan (SIP) revisions through new processing techniques that include conducting administrative procedures in parallel with the state. EPA now comments on proposed SIPs concurrently with the state's public comment period (instead of after). The improved techniques have resulted in a savings of up to 70% over the previous average time.
- EPA's toxics program is encouraging negotiated testing agreements as substitutes for rulemaking, to allow appropriate and necessary testing to begin earlier and test data to be generated more quickly.
- Similarly, the Agency's toxics program is issuing test

methodologies as guidelines rather than as requirements. This provides greater flexibility as well as the ability to take advantage of the latest test methodologies.

- Progress has been made in overhauling the much criticized and expensive sewage treatment construction grants program. This regulatory reform is based on the idea of producing only those regulations that are mandated by law or which are necessary for effective program management. Guidances are to be discretionary—not regulations in disguise. A serious problem in years past was lack of local funds to provide plant maintenance. EPA's new regulations require the approval of a user-charge system before a community receives money for certain grants. This approach will foster fiscal responsibility and should provide environmental benefits for many years to come.

Major reforms in the construction grants program were accomplished through EPA's 1981 legislative initiatives to streamline the program, redirect its focus from public works to environmental needs, and reduce the long-term federal commitment by 60% from \$90 to \$36 billion. As a result of prompt Congressional action on this effort, the program was reauthorized for FY 83-85 at \$2.4 billion annually (down from \$5 billion in FY 82). Over a three-year phase-in period, eligibility categories will be restricted to present treatment needs, the Federal share will be reduced to 55%, and states will be given greater flexibility in allocating funds.

State and Local Involvement

EPA's new leadership views the Agency's relationship with states and localities as a true partnership. The previous pattern of EPA dictating to the states, treating them at best as junior partners, not only makes for bad relations—it also makes for bad regulations, and, therefore, poor environmental protection. This Administration believes that the people most affected by a problem should have a significant voice in deciding the solution. Therefore, one of EPA's primary goals in its first year has been to increase the involvement of state and local governments in the Agency's decisionmaking and actual operation of programs for pollution abatement and control. In seeking to delegate more authority and decisionmaking to the states, EPA has accomplished the following:

- More than doubled the number of states which now operate the New Source Performance Standards program.
- Increased by 50% the states which operate the Hazardous Air Pollutant program.
- Increased by 60% the states which have interim RCRA Phase I authorization.

Perhaps most importantly, a combination of Federal programs and state initiatives have built, over the last decade, a highly-trained, well-motivated workforce in state and local environmental agencies across the country. The quality program alone has invested nearly one-half billion dollars in state programs. States have moved into this

area strongly, strengthening their statutes and providing real financial support, to the point where Federal contributions now represent less than half of the operational costs of state environmental programs.

Solid Waste

Under RCRA, the states have the primary responsibility for managing solid, including hazardous, waste. The first task is to gear up the priority hazardous waste regulatory programs for which Congress intended states to be primarily responsible. In FY-1981 and 1982, EPA will provide a total of \$71.7 million to the states for developing their own regulatory programs and will complete the basic regulatory framework.

The second major task facing states under RCRA is to evaluate nonhazardous waste disposal facilities on the basis of EPA criteria which place restrictions on facilities that allow open burning or are in wetlands, floodplains, habitats of endangered species, or recharge zones for principal sources of local drinking water. EPA has published the first installment of an inventory of nonhazardous disposal facilities that fail to meet the criteria.

The third task is to develop and implement comprehensive plans for managing non-hazardous solid waste. Development of the state plans has been a long and arduous process. To aid these efforts in FY-1981, EPA:

- Provided technical assistance and \$8 million in financial assistance to the states to help them develop their plans.

The people most affected by a problem should have a significant voice in deciding the solution.

- Received state plans from over half the states for review according to EPA guidelines.
- Approved 14 state plans with the remainder expected to be approved in 1982 and 1983.

Water

As the result of a recent legal settlement between EPA and a number of industries, the burden of underground injection control regulations has been lessened without weakening their effectiveness.

- There are now more flexible standards for judging the mechanical integrity of injection wells, a reduction in routine monitoring requirements by well operators and greater leeway for states to define the extent of their underground drinking water sources. These changes are expected to result in economic savings of \$65 to \$75 million over the next five years.
- During 1981 seven additional states agreed to accept delegation of the construction grants program, bringing the total to 45. This is an important step toward the President's goal of a New Federalism.

Toxics and Pesticides

- Improved information flow among states has been fostered. Through a grant to the National Governors Association ("NGA"), states now have access to the computerized Chemical Substances Information Network. NGA also acts as a clearinghouse to publicize state toxic substances management practices and to allow experts from one state to advise their counterparts in another.

- EPA has employed retired engineers in its ten Regional Offices to help states and local districts inspect asbestos in schools and advise on appropriate containment or removal techniques where warranted.

Air, Noise and Radiation

- Work is underway to transfer from EPA to the states responsibility for ensuring that new plants satisfy new source performance standards ("NSPS") and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants ("NESHAPS"). Currently, approximately 67% of the NSPS and NESHAPS compliance work is being administered either partially or fully by the states. Systems now in place will result in this figure totalling over 87% by the end of FY 1982.

In addition to the Clean Air Act, the Office of Air, Noise, and Radiation also administers and manages national programs relating to noise abatement and control and radiation programs. In 1981, the Office of Noise Abatement and Control began phasing out the Federal noise program.

Reduction of Backlogs

- Twenty-one states requested training assistance as EPA transfers control of noise programs to them. Nine state training sessions have already been conducted with 16 more scheduled in FY 82. Approximately 500 state and local noise officials will have been trained before the noise program is completely phased out as a federal responsibility.

- Approximately \$1.5 million in noise control equipment was made available to states, localities, and universities from EPA.

- Fifteen states requested assistance from EPA in designing public support programs.

- Twenty-four states will have active noise abatement programs in place by September 1982.

- EPA provided support to the Conference of State Radiation Program Directors in the form of technical expertise and financial grants.

- The Agency has assisted several states and Indian nations on special radiation surveys by direct involvement or by equipment loan.

An unglamorous, but nonetheless important, task facing EPA's new leadership in 1981 was the elimination of backlogs which had accumulated throughout Agency programs. Were these backlogs allowed to stand, or worse, to continue growing, opportunities for innovation and reform in environmental protection would have been thwarted. This was not permitted to happen. Significant progress has been made in this area.

- In the past three months, the Office of Pesticides and Toxic Substances has reduced its backlog of chemical reviews from 417 to 123, a 71% reduction. Similarly, the backlog of amended registration reviews has been reduced 56%.

- EPA is now firmly on schedule to produce six effluent guidelines standards this fiscal year and an additional ten next year. In the previous five years, only one such guideline, although required by law, had been produced.

- In 1979, the Agency received 70 applications for 301h waivers under the Clean Water Act. These are requests from publicly owned treatment works for a variance from secondary treatment requirements when discharging into marine waters. Of these 70 applications, 30 involved discharges of more than 16 million gallons per day. When the new Administration took office last year, a few of these applications were finally coming to

Were backlogs allowed to stand, opportunities for innovation and reform in environmental protection would have been thwarted.

completion, but the majority still remained incomplete. Under the new leadership, half of the 30 major projects were completed by the end of calendar year 1981 and the remaining major projects are scheduled for completion by October 1, 1982. The 40 smaller projects can be evaluated by the end of December 1982.

- The backlog of State Implementation Plans for air quality was reduced by more than 63% between August 1981 and April 1982 and should be eliminated altogether by mid-1982.

- In May 1981, EPA had approximately 500 wastewater treatment construction grant projects on which final audit issues had not been resolved. The backlog had accumulated in spite of the fact that each audit was supposed to be resolved within six months. Prompt action was required. As of February 15, 1982, there were only 14 projects which had not been resolved within the six-month period.

- Prior to the current Administration, EPA had missed five legislative deadlines for decisions on testing of priority chemicals. The Agency is now on schedule in addressing the backlog of testing decisions and responding to new recommendations.

- The Office of Toxic Substances' publication of notices of receipt of pre-manufacture notices and its review of exemptions for test marketing new substances have been streamlined and now comply with statutory deadlines.

- Some of the most dramatic reductions in backlogs have been achieved in EPA's pesticide program. All registration programs have seen reductions (ranging from 40% to 100%) in the backlogs which existed when the new Administration took office.

Improved Management

Procedures have been instituted to control costs, eliminate fraud, waste and abuse, and streamline operations.

Effective environmental protection requires that every dollar be spent wisely and efficiently. We owe it not only to our environment, but also to the American taxpayers.

Accordingly, new procedures have been instituted to control costs, eliminate fraud, waste and abuse, and streamline operations to make them more efficient, effective and responsive.

Some of the more noteworthy management accomplishments at EPA during the first year of the Reagan Administration include:

Budget Reform

The 1983 budget increases funding for hazardous waste and Superfund by \$36 million, maintains a strong enforcement program, preserves essential research and development, maintains the wastewater treatment construction grants program at \$2.4 billion, and substantially reduces the regulatory burden on state and local governments.

The 1983 budget is a sound and effective environmental protection plan which will cost \$85 million less than in 1982 and \$237 million less than in 1981. Reductions in the last two years are in marked contrast to the increases which had occurred in every prior year of EPA's existence.

Management Accountability

The Agency designed and began operating the Administrator's Accountability

System, which enables the Administrator to identify at a glance:

- major initiatives being carried out on schedule,
- areas where successful performance may require additional attention, and
- the specific manager responsible for results.

Grants Administration

The Agency is revising grant regulations and procedures to strengthen management and simplify administrative requirements for recipients. This will streamline the process while better guarding against waste, fraud, and abuse. The revisions will also eliminate unnecessary requirements, limit the paperwork required of grantees, and develop consistency across all of EPA's financial assistance programs.

Contracts Administration

EPA has institutionalized the review and approval of contract expenditures at the highest Agency levels (Assistant Administrators) to ensure that Agency resources are used in the most efficient and cost effective manner.

General Administrative Procedures

The Agency has eliminated or simplified many of its forms and records, is automating aspects of its personnel and financial management systems, and has refined and fully automated the Merit Pay System.

Consolidated Financial Assistance

A consolidated financial assistance program will make it easier for states to do business with EPA. The consolidation allows a single application for all program funds, a single comprehensive public review, a coordinated EPA review, consolidated reporting by the grantee, a single evaluation, and an integrated audit. The mechanism is flexible so that a state may consolidate some of its assistance while continuing to be eligible for categorical awards under other programs.

Efficiencies concerning cash management, overtime, leased space, publication distribution, audit resolutions, telephones, travel expenses, procurement, contract processing, library subscriptions, printing and the purchase of capital equipment have been undertaken, resulting in savings of hundreds of thousands of dollars to the American taxpayer.

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

= Recreation, "Outdoors",
Conservation, Wildlife
organizations

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF BLACKS IN ENERGY
AMERICAN COKE & COAL CHEMICAL INSTITUTE
AMERICAN CONSERVATIVE UNION
AMERICAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION
AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
AMERICAN FISHING TACKLE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN FOREST INSTITUTE
AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN GAS ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN HORSE COUNCIL
AMERICAN HOTEL & MOTEL ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF MINING, METALLURGICAL & PETROLEUM ENGINEERS
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PETROLEUM GEOLOGISTS
AMERICAN IRON ORE ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN IRON & STEEL INSTITUTE
AMERICAN LAND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE COUNCIL
AMERICAN MINING CONGRESS
AMERICAN MOTORCYCLISTS ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN NUCLEAR SOCIETY
AMERICAN OIL CHEMISTS SOCIETY
AMERICAN PAPER INSTITUTE
AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE
AMERICAN PETROLEUM REFINERS ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN PULPWOOD ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN RECREATION COALITION
AMERICAN SHEEP PRODUCERS COUNCIL
AMERICAN SKI FEDERATION
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS
AMERICAN WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS, INC.
AMERICANISM EDUCATIONAL LEAGUE
AMERICANS FOR CONSTITUTIONAL ACTION
AMERICANS FOR ENERGY INDEPENDENCE
AMERICANS FOR NUCLEAR ENERGY
ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS OF AMERICA
ASSOCIATION OF BITUMINOUS CONTRACTORS
ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION ENGINEERS
ASSOCIATION OF CONSULTING FORESTERS
ASSOCIATION OF IRON & STEEL ENGINEERS
ASSOCIATION OF OIL PIPELINES
ATOMIC INDUSTRIAL FORUM
BASS ANGLERS SPORTSMEN'S SOCIETY
BITUMINOUS COAL OPERATORS ASSOCIATION
CAMPFIRE CLUB OF AMERICA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE U.S.

CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS OF AMERICA
COALITION FOR RESPONSIBLE MINING LAW
COMMITTEE FOR THE SURVIVAL OF A FREE CONGRESS
CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL PARK CONCESSIONERS
CONSERVATIVE CAUCUS
COPPER DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
DOMESTIC PETROLEUM COUNCIL
DUCKS UNLIMITED
EAST COAST FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ASSOCIATION
ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
EDISON ELECTRIC INSTITUTE
ENERGY CONSUMERS AND PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH LETTER
FARM AND LAND INSTITUTE
FARM-WATER ALLIANCE
FEDERAL TIMBER PURCHASERS ASSOCIATION
FERROALLOYS ASSOCIATION
FOREST FARMERS OF AMERICA
FOREST INDUSTRIES COUNCIL
FREE ENTERPRISE IN ACTION FOUNDATION
FUND FOR A CONSERVATIVE MAJORITY
GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES COUNCIL
HARDWOOD PLYWOOD MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION
HERITAGE FOUNDATION
HIGHWAY CARRIERS ASSOCIATION
HIGHWAY USERS FEDERATION
INDEPENDENT PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
INDEPENDENT PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION OF THE MOUNTAIN STATES
INDEPENDENT REFINERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
INLAND FOREST RESOURCE COUNCIL
INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY STUDIES
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DRILLING CONTRACTORS
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS & JOINERS
INTERNATIONAL PRECIOUS METALS INSTITUTE
INTERNATIONAL SNOWMOBILE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS
INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE FOUNDATION
INTERSTATE MINING COMPACT COMMISSION
INTERSTATE NATURAL GAS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
INTERSTATE OIL COMPACT COMMISSION
INTERSTATE PRODUCERS LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION
KAMPGROUND OWNERS ASSOCIATION
LEAD-ZINC PRODUCERS COMMITTEE
LIAISON COMMITTEE OF COOPERATIVE OIL AND GAS ASSOCIATIONS
MID CONTINENT OIL & GAS ASSOCIATION
MINERAL INSULATION MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION
MINING AND RECLAMATION COUNCIL OF AMERICA
MOTORCYCLE INDUSTRY COUNCIL
MZURI SAFARI CLUB
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR FREE ENTERPRISE
THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONCESSIONAIRES
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURERS
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OUTDOOR RECREATION LIAISON OFFICERS
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PROPERTY OWNERS
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE FORESTERS
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE UNIVERSITIES AND LAND GRANT COLLEGES
NATIONAL BOATING FEDERATION
NATIONAL CAMPERS & HIKERS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL CAMPGROUND OWNERS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL CLUB ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL COAL ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL COALITION FOR GROWTH
NATIONAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF FORESTRY ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVES
NATIONAL CRUSHED STONE ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL FARM ORGANIZATION
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS
NATIONAL FOREST PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL GRANGE
NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL
NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL SAND ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL INHOLDERS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL LIMESTONE INSTITUTE
NATIONAL LUMBER AND BUILDING MATERIAL DEALERS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL MARINE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL MOTORSPORTS COMMITTEE
NATIONAL OUTDOOR COALITION
NATIONAL PETROLEUM REFINERS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL SAND & GRAVEL ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS FOUNDATION
NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL SPA & POOL INSTITUTE
NATIONAL SPORTING GOODS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL TIME SHARING COUNCIL
NATIONAL TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL TURKEY FOUNDATION
NATIONAL UTILITY CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL WATER CONGRESS
NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL
NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL WOOL MARKETING CORP.
NATURAL GAS SUPPLY ASSOCIATION
NORTHEASTERN LUMBER MANUFACTURERS
NORTHWEST PINE ASSOCIATION
NORTHWEST TIMBER ASSOCIATION
OPEN PIT MINING ASSOCIATION
OUTDOOR WRITERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
OUTDOORS UNLIMITED

POULTRY & EGG INSTITUTE
 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
 PUBLIC LANDS COUNCIL
 RECREATION VEHICLE DEALERS ASSOCIATION
 RECREATION VEHICLE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
 RESOURCES FOR THE FUTURE
 ROCKY MOUNTAIN OIL & GAS ASSOCIATION
 SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL
 SAGEBRUSH REBELLION
 SILVER INSTITUTE
 SILVER USERS ASSOCIATION
 SLURRY TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION
 SMALL BUSINESS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
 SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT
 SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS
 SOUTHERN FOREST PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION
 SPORT FISHERY RESEARCH FOUNDATION
 SPORT FISHING INSTITUTE
 SPORTING GOODS MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION
 SURETY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
 SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION
 THE AMERICAN WAY
 THE BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE
 THE COASTAL CORPORATION
 THE CONTINENTAL GROUP
 THE METALLURGICAL SOCIETY OF THE AIME
 THE MINING SUPPLIERS TRADE ASSOCIATION
 THE NEW COALITION FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHANGE
 THE SEQUOIA INSTITUTE
 UNITED MOBILE SPORTSFISHERMEN
 UNITED STATES INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL
 UNITED STEELWORKERS OF AMERICA
 UNITED 4-WHEEL DRIVE ASSOCIATION
 UNIVERSITIES COUNCIL ON WATER RESOURCES
 UPPER MISSOURI WATER USERS ASSOCIATION
 URBAN LAND INSTITUTE
 URBAN WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTER
 U.S. SKI ASSOCIATION
 VALUE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION
 WATER RESOURCES CONGRESS
 WESTERN OIL & GAS ASSOCIATION
 WESTERN RANGE ASSOCIATION
 WESTERN RESOURCE ALLIANCE
 WESTERN STATES WATER COUNCIL
 WESTERN WOOD PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION
 WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE
 WATERFOWL HABITAT OWNERS ALLIANCE

(updated 11/16/82)
 204 Organizations

ON THE RECORD OPPOSITION

Sierra Club*

The Wilderness Society*

National Wildlife Federation

National Audubon Society*

Friends of the Earth*

Izaak Walton League

National Parks and Conservation Association

Defenders of Wildlife*

The Humane Society

Environmental Policy Center*

Natural Resources Defense Council*

Environmental Defense Fund*

Environmental Action*

Greenpeace

Solar Lobby*

*=Indictment Co-sponsor.

- o Also attached are maps of the National Parks and National Wildlife Refuges for scheduling considerations. Obviously, such visits provide ideal photo opportunities.



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

March 15, 1983

NOTE TO MISSY HODAP:

Following are nearby refuges which may be appropriate areas for an announcement of the wetlands legislation (brochures/maps are attached for all but one):

<u>Wetland Area</u>	<u>Area affected by legislation</u>
1. BLACKWATER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE (NWR) (Maryland)	Surrounding privately held marshland only.
2. CHINCOTAGUE NWR (Virginia)	Wildcat Marsh -- acquisition has been approved by Migratory Bird Commission and is underway. Once purchased, would not be affected by bill.
<p>NOTE: For Refuges such as Blackwater and Chincoteague, areas which could be affected by passage of the bill are those marshlands within the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission-approved refuge boundaries which have not yet been purchased. The bill not only would give an additional level of protection for these areas but also would provide needed revenues for their purchase (through the raised price of the duck stamp and extension of the Wetlands Loan Act). Acquisition of these areas sometimes takes years.</p>	
3. BRIGANTINE NWR (New Jersey) BARNEGAT (no map available, about 20 miles north of Brigantine)	Scattered privately held marshland between Brigantine and Barnegat
4. PRIME HOOK NWR (Delaware) BOMBAY HOOK NWR (Delaware)	Surrounding privately held marshland only.
5. EASTERN NECK NWR (Maryland) (Almost all wetland but a very small refuge with no visitor facilities)	Surrounding privately held Eastern Shore marshes.

Kathy Yasuda
Emily S. DeRocco



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

April 18, 1983

MEMORANDUM

TO: Craig L. Fuller
Assistant to the President for Cabinet Affairs

FROM: Assistant to the Secretary

SUBJECT: DOI Program Review

Craig, here are a few additional positive resource actions for your review:

- o We have recently proposed an extension of regulations for the protection of the humpback whale, an endangered species, at Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. The rules limit large and small vessel entry into Glacier Bay, place operating restrictions on all vessels within the Bay, and restrict commercial fishing activities at the mouth of the Bay. Under the proposal, the protective rules on vessels would be extended through the end of the summer -- to August 31, 1983 -- and those relating to commercial fishing, through the end of the year -- to December 31, 1983.
- o Mr. and Mrs. Fogelson (the former Miss Greer Garson) have notified the National Park Service of their interest in donating \$500,000 to construct a visitor center and museum at Pecos National Monument (New Mexico). The museum would house artifacts excavated from the Pecos Pueblo.

Referencing our recent reports which included examples of private sector/volunteer donations of service, time and dollars to our national parks, I have suggested to Secretary Watt that we initiate a certificate awards program through which the Administration would recognize the valuable contributions of individual citizens, corporations, and organizations to our national park heritage. We will keep you apprised of our efforts to implement such a program; presentations of these signed certificates offer substantial opportunities for local photo and press events during travel.

Emily S. DeRocco
Emily S. DeRocco



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

March 11, 1983

MEMORANDUM

TO: Missy Hodap, Staff Assistant

FROM: Emily S. DeRocco, Assistant to the Secretary *ES DeRocco*

SUBJECT: Upcoming DOI Actions

Missy, this is our first attempt to channel to you "opportunity actions" for your consideration. We are anxious for feedback on the type of information included, as well as format, to ensure we are meeting your needs.

- o The 200th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1783 will be celebrated in the fall of 1983. The Treaty ended the Revolutionary War and launched our Nation. Two ceremonies are being planned at national historical parks to commemorate this significant bicentennial event: September 3, at Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia, and October 19, at Colonial National Historical Park in Virginia. Both ceremonies are expected to attract national and international participation.
- o There are 52 units of the National Park System that have never been "formally" established by the National Park Service. Authorizing legislation for units in the National Park System generally can be placed into three categories in terms of how to establish a unit. In the first category, the legislation specifies that the Interior Secretary shall or may take specific actions to establish a park unit. The second category authorizes the Secretary to establish a unit, but does not specify how establishment should occur. A third category includes legislation not identifying the Interior Secretary as the responsible party for establishment per se.

In legal terms, "formal" establishment of a park unit is not terribly important. The majority of so-called unestablished units are already open to the public and have operating budgets and personnel. However, unestablished units represent loose ends and sloppy management and are an

example of the need to "take care" of what the Federal Government now owns, rather than reaching out for more and more land.

Attachment A lists the park units that could be formally established at any time through appropriate ceremonies at the park sites.

- o There are currently pending 12 nominations for National Historic Landmark designation. Designation ceremonies on-site would be appropriate for these properties. This is a "timeless" proposal.

The National Historic Landmarks Program identifies historic properties possessing national significance and results in the designation of those properties as National Historic Landmarks by the Secretary of the Interior. It is a prestigious old line program authorized by the Historic Sites Act of 1935. The object of the program is to preserve the most important historic properties in the Nation, preferably in private and local hands, by recognizing them with the distinction of being National Historic Landmarks. In addition, the program serves to identify historic properties that might qualify for inclusion in the National Park System.

Attachment B lists the pending National Historic Landmark nominations.

- o Also attached are maps of the National Parks and National Wildlife Refuges for scheduling considerations. Obviously, such visits provide ideal photo opportunities.

Next week, we will be forwarding information on specific accomplishments in our Park Restoration and Improvement Program; private sector initiatives/gifts to improve the National Parks; and a new Fish and Wildlife policy which is a key "Federalism" initiative to allow States management control over resident wildlife and to further define appropriate Federal/State roles in fish and wildlife management.



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

March 21, 1983

MEMORANDUM

TO: Missy Hodap, Staff Assistant

FROM: Emily S. DeRocco, Assistant to the Secretary *ES. DeRocco*

SUBJECT: Upcoming DOI Actions

Missy, the following action items are submitted for your consideration:

- We are prepared to designate 5 new National Natural Landmarks. The National Natural Landmarks Program, established in 1962, identifies and recognizes those nationally significant areas that illustrate the ecological and geological character of the United States. Landmark designation and listing on the National Registry of Natural Landmarks fosters a greater awareness of our natural history and encourages existing owners to preserve nationally significant areas without regulating property use and without relying on federal acquisition for resource protection.

The 5 nominated areas are described in Attachment A.

- In January 1981, we found our Nation's parklands suffering from neglect. Our national parks, enjoyed by 291+ million visitors annually, had deteriorated; health and safety hazards were rampant. Secretary Watt immediately created the Park Restoration and Improvement Program (PRIP) -- a 5-year, \$1 billion effort to protect the natural resource base and improve the physical facilities in the national parks. President Reagan has publicly applauded this initiative.

Attachment B is a listing and description of several PRIP accomplishments. PRIP signs are now being posted at the national parks where restoration and improvement projects are completed or underway. Additionally, before and after photo displays are being developed. Visits to these parks

and the PRIP projects would be attractive opportunities to consider in conjunction with the President's trip scheduling. Note that the first entry on Attachment B is at Coulee Dam National Recreation Area; the 50th anniversary of Coulee Dam occurs July 15, and will be celebrated with a major on-site national ceremony which the President may wish to consider in line with his commitment to Western water resource projects.

- In support of the President's Private Sector Initiatives program, the National Park Service has an extensive "volunteers-in-the-parks" program underway. Several examples of volunteer work which could be appropriately and easily recognized (in speeches and/or during park visits) follow. Note that we have volunteer efforts underway in a majority of the national parks, so this initiative could be tied to visits to any of the parks that fit within the President's travel schedule.

-- A new visitor center and park beautification project are nearing completion in Montrose, Colorado. The visitor center evolved from an abandoned gas station, with structure, land, rehabilitation, design, exhibitry and labor all donated from the Kiwanis, Chamber of Commerce, City of Montrose, other civic organizations, and private companies. The Atlantic Richfield Company joined with civic organizations to sponsor the planting of shrubs and trees adjacent to the visitor center, as part of ARCO's continuing program, "A Growing Concern."

-- Close to home, in Great Falls Park, Virginia, a volunteer trails crew monitors and repairs the entire network of trails, and volunteers from the horseback riding community provide assistance, input and labor to maintain existing horse trails.

Volunteers at Catoctin Mountain Park donated more than 223 hours of service in horse care and patrolling the park.

A Rock Creek Park volunteer operates the Park's gardening program, with more than 2,000 gardeners operating in 9 sites.

- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is moving to address the steady decline of the black duck population. The black duck, a close relative of the mallard, has been in a steady decline for 30 years. FWS announced in September 1982 that it would further reduce the black duck harvest in the 1983 hunting season in consultation with the two flyways and Canada. The Service is now coordinating a major Federal/State public information and hunter education program to address the black duck problem. We are working with 17 States who strongly support the effort to develop

a major education program for waterfowl hunters -- one of the key constituencies of this Administration. As the Nation's first and foremost conservationists, hunters are eager to work with us to address such waterfowl and wildlife population problems. Because this program touches on the President's federalism goals and wildlife protection programs, this initiative would be appropriate material for speeches and/or wetland visitations.

- Interior has just announced its new Fish and Wildlife Policy which promotes cooperative Federal/State relationships and reaffirms the State's basic role in fish and wildlife management. This new policy is a good example of the President's "new federalism." Additional information is available for use in speeches.
- A potential close-to-home wildlife habitat visit, the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center consists of 4,700 acres in Prince Georges and Anne Arundel Counties, Maryland. It includes three Research Natural Areas representing the three major habitat types of the Upper Coastal Plain: Bottomland Forest, Terrace Woodland, and Upland Forest. Patuxent was the first major wildlife research station in the U.S. (See attached brochure.)
- The Fish and Wildlife Service participates in extensive work with the U.S. Customs Service to confiscate illegally imported endangered species products. In a visit to an appropriate port facility, the President could address the illegal importation; visual displays of confiscated products are available. This ties to other Administration initiatives to halt illegal drug traffic into the U.S. and to improve port facilities. The Fish and Wildlife Service has inspectors stationed in New York City, Miami, New Orleans, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Honolulu, Dallas/Fort Worth, and Chicago.