United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Air and Energy Engineering
Research Laboratory
Research Triangle Park NC 27711

Research and Development

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EPA

Project Summary

Control Technology Center Current Status and Future Plans

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The report gives the current status of, and future plans for, the Control Technology Center (CTC). Initially established to help reduce public exposure to toxic air pollutants in the ambient air, the CTC's program has been expanded to also include emission source and control technology assessments associated with air toxics, particulate matter, sulfur and nitrogen oxides, and volatile organic compounds, as well as emission measurements.

This Project Summary was developed by EPA's Air and Energy Engineering Research Laboratory, Research Triangle Park, NC, to announce key findings of the research project that is fully documented in a separate report of the same title (see Project Report ordering information at back).

Overview

In June 1985, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a strategy to reduce public exposure to toxic air pollutants in the ambient air. The strategy called for state and local authorities to take on an additional regulatory role, with EPA providing technical and financial assistance to their efforts.

As a result of this shift in responsibility, EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) and Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) developed and implemented the Control Technology Center (CTC), an innovative technical assistance program for state and local air pollution agencies and EPA's regional offices. The program has since been expanded to include not only air toxics but also emission source and control technology assessments associated with air toxics, particulate matter, oxides of sulfur and nitrogen, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs); and emission measurements. Even though the CTC is not EPA's only technical assistance effort for state and local agencies, it is unique in its structure, which is described in this report. The CTC is designed to be flexible so that it can respond quickly to needs as they arise.

Three types of services are provided by the CTC: telephone HOTLINE calls, direct engineering assistance, and technical guidance. The CTC HOTLINE is a telephone number that state and local agencies can call for easy access to EPA personnel who can provide prompt assistance in a variety of ways including consultations, references to pertinent literature, and access to EPA technical data and analyses. Direct engineering assistance is short-term (about 3 months or less) and each project provides technical assistance to one state or local agency. It tends to be specific in nature and may not be applicable to problems in other locations. Technical guidance tends to be longer-term (up to a year), broader in scope, and of national interest.

The CTC is a successful program that has shown significant growth since its formation less than 2 years ago. The number of HOTLINE calls and requests for assistance received from state and local agencies continues to grow. Engineering assistance and technical guidance have been well received with over 200 requests received for two of the completed project reports. Feedback from state and local agency personnel and groups such as STAPPA/ALAPCO has been positive. The continued increase in the number of calls and

requests for assistance indicates the need for this program and further potential for growth.

This report documents the activity of the CTC from its beginning in December 1986 through August 31, 1988. Beginning in 1989, the CTC plans to issue a year-end report at the end of each fiscal year to discuss the CTC's activities for the year. This report includes a discussion of how the CTC was established, how the program has grown, and future plans.

Sharon L. Nolen, *is both the author and the EPA Project Officer (see below).*

The complete report, entitled "Control Technology Center Current Status and Future Plans," (Order No. PB 89-124 622/AS; Cost: $13.95, subject to change) will be available only from:

National Technical Information Service
5285 Port Royal Road
Springfield, VA 22161
Telephone: 703-487-4650

The EPA Project Officer can be contacted at:

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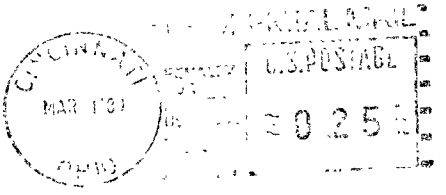

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