

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

AUG 1 3 1999

THE ADMINISTRATOR

Dear Reader:

I am pleased to share the enclosed report, Aiming for Excellence: Actions to Encourage Stewardship and Accelerate Environmental Progress, as part of EPA's continued efforts to improve environmental and public health protection. At EPA, we are proud of the significant improvements we have made since 1995, when President Clinton and Vice President Gore first announced a reinvention agenda to make environmental and public health programs more efficient and effective. But we also know that more progress is needed. That is why, six months ago, we brought together experts and stakeholders from inside and outside the Agency to share their views on next steps to build on the progress we have already made. The outcome is presented in this report.

Specifically, the report describes 10 strategic actions the Agency will take in the next 12 to 18 months to motivate superior environmental performance and aid environmental compliance where needed. With firm goals in mind, we are now ready to begin the real work of implementation. We are excited about this challenge, and the opportunity it creates to improve the nation's environmental protection system.

Thank you for your continued interest in our efforts.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Browner

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