

EPA **HSED SACM Report**

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WELCOME!

Readers of the HSED SACM Monthly Report

As everyone associated with the Superfund Program is well aware, we began implementing the Superfund Accelerated Cleanup Model (SACM) during the past year. An important aspect of this effort is keeping HSED staff and personnel in the Regional offices well-informed about the broad range of activities that were begun in recent months to revise programmatic procedures to comply with SACM. Accordingly, HSED will prepare and periodically distribute a report that describes SACM-related efforts. Since this is the inaugural issue (January 1993), we invite your comments on its overall usefulness, appropriate distribution, format and so forth. Also, we are particularly interested in receiving input on planned or recently completed activities which are relevant to SACM implementation. If you have information or opinions that you would like to convey, please contact Delores Rodgers-Smith at (703) 603-8856.

HSED SACM Workgroup

The HSED SACM Workgroup meets weekly to coordinate SACM activities within HSED. Recent activities have included planning of training for Headquarters personnel, discussing "indicators" of SACM implementation, preparing a briefing package on SACM and publishing the HSED SACM Report.

ASSESSMENT UNDER SACM

SACM Assessment Workgroup

HSED has organized a staff-level SACM assessment workgroup under the guidance of the SACM Steering Committee. The workgroup, which will provide guidance on the "nuts and bolts" of implementing SACM, includes representatives from HSED, HSCD, ERD, OPM, OWPE, OGC (see glossary below) and the Regions. It will sponsor theme meetings which focus on integrating various aspects of current assessments. Meetings will be held on a monthly basis at EPA Headquarters.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

HSED SACM Workgroup meets every Tuesday.

SACM Training
Series of all hands meetings
(for Headquarters personnel)

- January 7th: SAB—site assessment screening (video)
- January 28th: TIB—UBK Model, Three-City Lead Study and soil cleanup levels
- February 11th: TIB—risk communication training
- February 25th: AOB—automated data review, QTM analytical services and field methods



Glossary of Selected Acronyms

AOB:	Analytical Operations Branch/HSED
ATSDR:	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
ERD:	Emergency Response Division/OERR
HSCD:	Hazardous Site Control Division/OERR
HSED:	Hazardous Site Evaluation Division/OERR
OERR:	Office of Emergency and Remedial Response/OSWER
OGC:	Office of General Counsel/EPA
OPM:	Office of Program Management/OERR
OSWER:	Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response/EPA
OWPE:	Office of Waste Programs Enforcement/OSWER
ROB:	Response Operations Branch/ERD
SAB:	Site Assessment Branch/HSED
TIB:	Toxics Integration Branch/HSED

Site Assessment

SAB prepared and revised the fact sheet on the site assessment process under SACM and, along with other fact sheets, distributed it to the Regions and States for comment. SAB is summarizing the comments and will meet with OWPE, HSCD, ERD and OGC to resolve any major issues raised by reviewers. SAB completed revisions to the fact sheet in December.

SAB and ERD/ROB are continuing to identify and assess issues involved in integrating removal and remedial site assessment activities into a single assessment under SACM. A questionnaire was recently distributed to OSCs and to removal field staff with the goal of obtaining Regional input and determining how combined assessments can meet both removal and remedial objectives.

Comparison of RA and PA/SI Data Requirements

SAB and ERD/ROB are jointly continuing the special project to compare removal assessments and PAs/SIs on program data requirements and to anticipate issues involved in integrating assessment activities into a single assessment under SACM. SAB will distribute a report on this project to Regional contacts. Future steps include formation of a workgroup and field implementation.

Checklist for Integrated ESI/RI Enforcement Support

SAB is coordinating with OWPE in developing a checklist for integrating Expanded Site Inspection (ESI) and Remedial Investigation (RI) enforcement support. The checklist will be designed to assist a site manager in coordinating the timing of PRP searches and other enforcement activities during site assessment. The expected completion date is February; initial drafts are under review by OWPE.

Benefits Analyses for ESI/RI Integration

SAB is preparing the final report for an analysis of the time and cost savings likely to result from integrating ESI and RI activities. The report concludes that site assessment could be accelerated by up to two years, along with modest cost savings, if ESI and RI are integrated. The expected completion date for this assessment is March 1993.

Pilot Projects

Region III SACM Pilot

AOB recently met with Region III Laboratory personnel to discuss progress in the Region III SACM pilot for data validation, a process which typically consumes a significant amount of resources. The new approach involves centralization of data review, a combination of manual and automated validation, and a tiered approach to selecting the desired level of review through the DQO process at the start of the project. Region III recently demonstrated the new process for Headquarters personnel.

OTHER

QA Standing Committee

The QA Standing Committee developed a mission statement at its meeting on November 23rd and discussed ways the group could gather information from ongoing activities in Headquarters and the Regions.

Data Useability

HSED is beginning to work with ERD to integrate the data useability documents for risk assessment, site assessment and removal. A model is being developed that will be used for discussion and comment by other Superfund participants.

Quick Turnaround Method Analytical Service

The new quick turnaround method (QTM) analytical service provides validated data to users with a 48-hour turnaround time. Region II has been piloting the service for one year and is planning to use it on several upcoming SACM projects in order to streamline the RI/FS process.

QTM analytical services may be able to substantially expedite the site assessment process. QTM analyses are especially well suited to screening and monitoring activities. Indeed, data is often available to users while the field crew is still on site! In addition, QTM services promote the multiple use of sample results.

HSED PARTICIPATION IN SACM WORKGROUPS

OERR SACM "Lunch Bunch":

Mission: Overall coordination of SACM activities and issue resolution.

Participants: OERR Division Directors

Schedule: Weekly

HSED SACM Workgroup:

Mission: To provide effective coordination and communication of SACM activities within HSED.

Lead: Ruth Bleyler

Participants: Chuck Sands, David Ouderkirk, Dee Rodgers-Smith

Schedule: Weekly

OSWER Communication Workgroup:

Mission: To effectively communicate information about the mission and accomplishments of the Superfund program.

Lead: Sherry Hawkins

Participants: (HSED) Tina Maragousis

SACM Site Assessment:

Mission: To integrate all site assessment activities under HSED, HSCD, ERD and OWPE.

Lead: Steve Chang

Participants: (HSED) Steve Caldwell, Barbara Bach, Ruth Bleyler, David Ouderkirk

Data Quality Objectives:

Mission: To revise and develop the DQO guidance for Superfund response activities.

Lead: Carolyn Offutt (HSCD)

Participants: (HSED) Ruth Bleyler, Steve Chang, Jim Barron

ATSDR/EPA:

Mission: To develop a plan for ATSDR's involvement in the EPA SACM program.

Lead: George Buynoski (ATSDR)

Participants: (EPA) Ron Borsellino, Joe LaFormara, Ruth Bleyler, Don Williams

SACM QA Standing Committee:

Mission: To ensure consistent and efficient application of appropriate levels of QA and QC to all phases of SACM environmental sampling.

Lead: Duane Geuder (OPM)

Participants: Carolyn Offutt, Bill Coakley, Ruth Bleyler, Hans Waetjen (OWPE)

Schedule: 3rd Tuesday of each month

Data Useability Integration:

Mission: To develop a "short sheet" on integrated data useability guidance.

Lead: Bill Coakley (ERD), Ruth Bleyler

Schedule: Twice monthly

Presumptive Remedies:

Mission: To accelerate remedy selection through use of presumptive remedies.

Lead: HSCD, ERD

Participants: (HSED) Steve Chang, Monique Curry