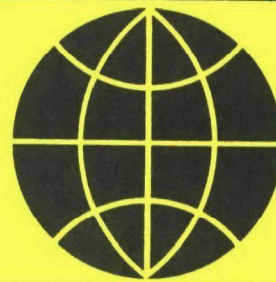


EPA and Poland



EPA and Poland are involved in more than 30 research and development projects under the Scientific Activities Overseas Program, funded by U.S.-owned Polish currency accrued through the sale of surplus agricultural products. The work is coordinated in Poland by the Ministry of Administration, Local Economy, and Environmental Protection.

Poland has large coal reserves and excellent agricultural land but is seriously deficient in water resources. Research has therefore concentrated on mining problems and the efficient use of water.

- EPA and Poltegor, the Polish mining research institute, are seeking environmentally acceptable methods to dispose of mining slag and of ash and slag wastes from coal-fired power plants. These wastes represent a major land-use problem and contribute to pollution of Poland's waters. Information from these projects may contribute to the solution of similar problems in the United States.
- An EPA-Polish team has tested seven different techniques for advanced treatment of wastewater from Polish textile manufacturing plants. One coagulation process cost about 50 percent less than conventional methods and required less time. As with all SAO demonstration projects, the results of this experiment can be used by American industry without restriction.
- EPA is working with Polish agricultural specialists to develop techniques for making use of animal wastes from Poland's hog industry, experimenting with methods to use the energy and protein content of these wastes. The ultimate goal is to derive both methane gas

and consumable protein (which is then fed back to the hogs), and to use the remaining wastewater for fertilizer and irrigation.

- EPA and Polish scientists are exploring methods of using effluent from sewage treatment as a coolant in industrial processes.

A booklet describing these and other projects in Poland is available from the Office of International Activities at EPA.



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