



FACTS ON

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION FIVE
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Manpower Development Branch

The Region V Manpower Development Branch assists and administers educational and training activities in waste water treatment, water quality control, and air pollution control.

The branch encourages State environmental manpower planning and analyses manpower needs and availability. Its efforts are conducted in conjunction with those of other Federal agencies such as the Departments of Labor and Health, Education and Welfare and in close cooperation with State environmental and health agencies.

A major function of the Manpower Development Branch is to provide grants, contracts and technical assistance to state and local agencies and to academic institutions for the presentation of training courses for upgrading personnel in the operation and maintenance of water and waste water treatment facilities.

Within the scope of this function the branch administers Manpower Training Development Act funds for 16-48 week, on-the-job training courses for entry-level municipal operators. Also, it monitors and assists ongoing programs, including contracts with the State of Illinois for training public personnel by Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, with the Chicago Metropolitan Sanitary District, and with the State of Indiana for training at five sites by Indiana Vocational-Technical College.

In addition the branch directs training, financial support, and training assistance for advanced operator training funded under Water Pollution Control Act 5 (g) (1) grants. Furthermore, it anticipates State pilot programs in each of the six states during 1972-73.

The branch coordinates efforts with the Office of Water Quality, Division of Manpower, at the national level of EPA, to administer and facilitate recruitment and placement for Institutional (9 locations), Transition (Armed Service) and Public Service Careers programs for entry-level operator training.

It encourages wastewater treatment operators unable to attend formal training sessions to enroll in an EPA-sponsored correspondence course at

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minimal or no expense.

Also, the branch explores other avenues available for occupational training and upgrading in environmental areas. As a part of its operator training function, the branch develops additional resources through the Coordinating Areawide Manpower Planning System (CAMPS), Veterans Specially Funded Programs, the Vocational Education Act, the Environmental Education Acts, the Emergency Employment Act, the Intergovernmental Personnel Act, etc.

As a second major function, the branch develops and conducts short-term direct training courses for the professional development of Federal, State, and municipal personnel in planning, management, and operation of treatment facilities and in all areas of environmental programs.

It provides consultation and assistance to other agencies in developing their own technical training courses in water and air pollution control and water supply.

In addition the branch assesses direct training needs for governmental agencies in the region, develops training programs to meet the needs, and evaluates the direct training courses, seminars, the workshops in meeting State training needs.

A third major function of the branch is to review professional training grants to support educational institutions for graduate-level programs in pollution control and graduate fellowships for specialized research training in water pollution control.

Finally, the Manpower Development Branch conducts surveys and analyses to determine current need and availability of water and air pollution control manpower and to develop projections of future needs and availability.