EPA REGION 10'S: Champions for Environmental Leadership and Green Government Innovation Recognition for 2004/2005

Below is a list of the recipients of EPA Region 10's 'Champions for Environmental Leadership and Green Government Innovation Recognition.' This effort was started in 2003 to acknowledge the good work that is being done by individuals and groups of federal agencies outside of EPA who are showing leadership by going above and beyond compliance and working to improve the environment and protecting our natural resources.

The FOUR Projects selected for recognition in the 2004/2005 year are:

McChord Air Force Base – 62nd Airlift Wing	**Base Recycling Program**	**The McChord 62nd Airlift Wing Recycling Program was recognized as the best performer in the DoD family in 1996.** Their innovation and forward thinking has helped increase a normal recycling area into one that has diversified and now includes non-standard recycling materials such as chainsaws, BBQ's, other large appliances, cooking grease, meat and other non-traditionally supported recycled material. McChord's Recycling Center opened in 1994, and has gone from saving an average of 40,000 lbs a month of recycled materials in its first year of operation to a record high of 8,859,478 lbs or recyclables diverted from the waste stream to regional recycling vendors, creating jobs and saving valuable resources. McChord's operation runs 7 days a week and has even opened up their facility to tens of thousands of military retirees in the area. Their goal for 2005 is to reach a 65% diversion rate and have implemented a recycling commodity tracking process to help reach this lofty goal. **McChord's total waste stream for 2004 was 7,470 tons of which 4,430 was recycled for a diversion rate of 59.3%. The installation saved $535,988 in landfill costs and the program itself generated $167,281 from the sale of recycled materials for a combined return of $703,269!**
Washington Army National Guard	**Washington Army National Guard Energy Conservation Program**	Since 1980, the Washington State Military Department has been developing and implementing several strategies to accomplish the goal of less energy usage. For example, they currently have over 60 sites online with a remote energy management system (EMS) that controls all of the HVAC functions and some lighting too. They have upgraded several of their facilities with the last several years with an average simple payback time of 5 years, maintained a database of energy usage and costs since **1991** which allows them baseline data to determine the buildings that are the most inefficient to focus on and targeted for audits and upgrades. **Since 1994 WANG can document over $8million saved in energy costs to date, and over 1 million MBTU in avoided energy use. This means an avoidance of approximately 110 million pounds of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere**. With their maintenance database they can automatically produce work orders for all of the equipment that is on line with their system. WANG is currently recommissioning their facilities in-house with maintenance staff in order to more effectively use outside air to cool. As a result, they are showing between 10-35% savings in usage in the facilities addressed so far. WANGs immediate goal calls for installing EMS systems in all new construction, and also any remodels that they undertake.

GSA	**GSA Northwest/Arctic Region Renewable Energy**	GSA is moving out and entering into agreements with others and city power companies to purchase Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) for the Jackson Federal building (1881 MWh) and the newly built Federal Courthouse (680 Mwh). GSA partnered with Seattle City Light (SCL), Bonneville Power Administration, US Dept of Energy and the WA State University Energy Program to install a photovoltaic (PV) demonstration project at the New Federal Courthouse. The 1.5 KW array was installed in Sept 2004 and is slated to include a data feed to the educational kiosk in the lobby of the building to inform visitors about development of the PV project and display 'real time data' on the electric power output of the system. **This is the FIRST solar power project in the downtown Seattle core!** The purchase of Renewable Energy Certificates (REC) from SCL was the FIRST instance of a Federal agency procuring RECs through SCL. **The REC approach was innovative and the first the city negotiated with a 'federal customer, thereby providing a template for other feds to follow, engaged SCL in the discussion and adoption of a program suitable for federal agencies, AND gave GSA experience in negotiating such a purchase under terms agreeable to the government which can be transferred nationally.** The project is a great example of a partnership overcoming obstacles and together completing a successful project. **Through diligent discussions, GSA and their partners were able to convince SCL of the value of having a PV project in the urban core**. The project, although small, is very visible from outside the building and is a prime part of many tours given of the newest Federal building in the downtown area.
Navy	**Navy Region Northwest Sustainability Program**	Commander, Navy Region Northwest (CNRNW) is committed to meeting the missions of the navy as well as focusing its efforts on adopting Sustainability as a guiding principle for strategic planning for mission and installation management. **CNRNW is committed to use the continuous improvement process of a Sustainability Management System (SMS) to sustain the Navy, uphold the community, and protect the environment.** This effort combined with other key areas will become part of the day-to-day operations at EVERY LEVEL within the Command. CNRNW temporarily delayed the creation of an EMS and instead focused their energy and resources as well as transformed the basic premise of an EMS into an SMS. **This new framework will allow CNRNW to affect the triple 'bottom line', and then use that information to strategically plan how the Navy will accomplish its mission.** By using SMS, the command will be better able to effectively and efficiently manage Navy assets, develop and support a qualified and well-trained workforce, promote and implement smart development, actively engage in community outreach efforts, comply with the letter and spirit of ALL laws and regulations, and also protect natural resources that are so precious to the Puget Sound Region. The SMS plans to integrate by developing a Sustainability Program Implementation Plan, charter a Sustainability Leadership team and Implementation Team, integrate sustainability into the Commanders Strategic Planning process, participate in the Joint Flag Officers council to identify and implement sustainability opportunities, develop performance metrics, and reinforce the culture shift towards Sustainable operations. **The Navy feels that by focusing immediately on their SMS rather than an EMS, the cost savings could be over $300 thousand will be saved as well as $35,000 annually by eliminating a duplicative system.**