

U.S. Department of Energy Quarterly Teleconference on Implementing Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Requirements October 22, 2009 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (EDT)

TOPICS

- Price Comparisons
- New Executive Order 13514
- BioPreferred Label and Biobased Toner Cartridges
- EPA Request for Input on CPG (Designated Recycled Content) Products
- CPG Product Updates: Bagged Cement, Plastic Office Trash Cans, Signs
- UNICOR Solar Panels
- Solar Decathlon
- FY2009 Reporting

MINUTES

Welcome – Don Lentzen (DOE-HQ Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program Lead)

DOE Site Discussion: Price Comparisons – Sandra Cannon
See [epp-ProductPrices-FY09-rev.xls](#)

Sandra Cannon walked us through the results of price comparisons of some indicator products: carpet, cartridges, copy paper, paint, and penetrating lubricant. Eight sites submitted prices—mostly for cartridges and copy paper. The results were shared with all DOE sites. The comparison helps us see how the price each site pays aligns with what other sites pay, taking into account differences that come into play at each site.

While this was to be a site discussion on techniques that have been successful in pushing prices down, telephone line interference usurped that discussion time.

OFEE Green Purchasing Update – Dana Arnold (OFEE)

Link to [ofee.gov](#)

http://www.whitehouse.gov/assets/documents/2009fedleader_eo_rel.pdf for new Executive Order 13514

Executive Order 13514, “Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance,” was issued October 5, 2009 by President Obama. The focus is integration of a strategy toward sustainability and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. EO13514 is an extension of EO13423 so both are in effect.

A number of studies are required before the implementing instructions for EO13514 will

be issued, which should be around January 2010.

Question (Cannon): Do you foresee EO13514 changing present reporting requirements?

Answer (Arnold): We have been hoping to consolidate all reports in one report but that conversation continues. The annual data call will soon be issued. The due date for Federal agencies to submit data is January 15, 2010 to the Office of Federal Procurement Policy, which has the lead.

The White House has a website open for the next 2 weeks where anyone with a .gov or .mil e-mail address can post suggestions for greening the Federal government.

USDA Biobased Products Update – Kate Lewis (USDA)

Link to www.usda.gov/biopreferred

Kate Lewis noted the comment period on the BioPreferred Label closed the end of September. USDA received nearly 40 comments from biobased product manufacturers, product vendors/suppliers, non-governmental agencies (NGOs), environmental groups and associations, the Department of Defense and several other Federal agencies. The comments ranged from product eligibility to label design. USDA is reviewing each stakeholder's comment before drafting the final rule and finalizing the label in 2010.

The Department of Defense will be piloting a new biobased product on the market—AgriTone cartridges by West Point Products. West Point is a manufacturer of remanufactured cartridges so the product meets both the CPG (EPA Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines) requirement to give preference to remanufactured cartridges as well as DOE's desire to transition to as many biobased products as possible. AgriTone cartridges contain 37% soy based content in the toner. The printers for which the biobased toner cartridges are available are:

- HP LaserJet 4200 series - Q1338A
- HP LaserJet 4300 series - Q5942A (LY)
- HP LaserJet 4345mfp - Q5942X (HY)
- HP LaserJet 4250/4350 series - Q1339A/Q5945A Universal

Kate asked DOE sites if they were interested in testing AgriTone cartridges to please let Don Lentzen know. The Pacific Northwest National Lab noted they are interested.

COMPREHENSIVE PROCUREMENT GUIDELINES (CPG)

EPA Request for Input on CPG (Designated Recycled Content) Products – Marlene RedDoor (EPA)

Link to <http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/conserve/tools/cpg/products/index.htm>

The CPG program is authorized by Congress under Section 6002 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and has been in effect for over 20+ years. The RCRA requirement to buy products containing recovered materials applies to procuring agencies that spend more than \$10,000/year on that item. Currently 61 products are designated, and EPA would like to hear input from DOE sites on these CPG products; such as

- What designated products are DOE sites having problems finding?
- Are there any products presently not designated but available in the marketplace and purchased by DOE that would better support DOE should they be designated?
- Is there information available on renewable products that would be considered better than recovered products that are currently designated?
- What could EPA do to enhance the supplier database?

Josh Gallegos (SNL-NM) said for Sandia National Labs in New Mexico recycled content signs are priced significantly higher than signage without recycled content. Because of this, current purchases of recycled content signs are very low. Sandia does have a new vendor for office supplies, however, who carries dry erase boards, pens, pencils, wrist rests, scissors, etc. with recycled content—none of which are presently designated but apparently readily available. Josh will share that information in detail with EPA and other DOE sites.

Sandra Cannon noted most aluminum and steel contains recycled content so if the signs are of those materials it is almost a given they contain the specified amount of recycled content. Because most steel and aluminum products do not denote the recycled content, it would help if EPA determined whether all aluminum and steel products do indeed contain the specified recycled content and posted that information on the CPG website. Two companies that carry recycled content signs and say their aluminum signs contain 25% post-consumer aluminum are:

- Howard Industries (<http://www.howardindustries.com/>, Tel. 800-458-0591) – Government Schedule GS-03F-0004T
- Traffic & Parking Control Company (<http://www.tapconet.com/>, Tel 262 814 7338)

Sandra also noted that plotter paper does not seem to be readily available with recycled content and plastic trash cans for the office cost roughly twice as much if they contain post-consumer recycled content.

Laurie True (PNNL) said the Pacific Northwest National Lab has been seeking post-consumer recycled content paper that is 98 bright and been unable to find it.

In general, Sandra noted DOE recommends the following:

- Developing a certified recycled content label (parallel to the USDA biobased label)
- Continually updating supplier information on the website
- Developing an auto feed to GSA Advantage website denoting at least all products listed as to whether they are designated or not. Out of 18 presently listed as having recycled content in their plastic trash cans, 5 said they do not and 6 either did not return calls or incorrect contact info is listed

Marlene asked DOE sites to send her information on products that DOE considers candidates for designation or that are no longer useful as CPG products.. Her e-mail address is reddoor.marlene@epa.gov.

Other CPG Product Updates – DOE Sites and Sandra Cannon

Bags of Cement

Concrete in bulk (delivered and poured from a truck) with the specified recycled content (fly ash, blast furnace slag, cenospheres, or silica fume) is generally available for most DOE sites. The issue historically has been our inability to find bagged cement with the specified recycled content. The problem it turns out is not lack of recycled content but lack of labeling.

Two brands that contain recycled content are Basalite and Quikrete. If the cement was produced in an area with fly ash, blast furnace slag,... available, the Basalite and Quikrete bags contain the recycled ingredient. If produced in an area where the specified recycled material is not available, the bags do not contain it.

Quikrete is developing a map for us to share with DOE sites which will denote that if you purchase bags of Quikrete in areas a, b, c you know they contain fly ash and can claim credit for that purchase. If you purchase bags of Quikrete in areas x, y, z you know they do not contain fly ash and should then denote those purchases not available. To date the Quikrete production areas we know are producing bags of cement with fly ash are Fremont, CA; Charlotte, NC; Nashville, TN; Pounding Mill, VA; and Martinsville, VA. In addition, Quikrete has a “Green Concrete Mix” which contains 50% or more recycled aggregate such as recycled concrete.

Basalite production codes that denote fly ash and/or blast furnace slag is in the product begin either with 1406 or 1409. The production codes are printed on the bag in front of the date.

We have asked both Basalite and Quikrete to label their bags denoting whether they contain the specified recycled content.

A third brand (FA-S10, FA-S-6, MS-S10, MS-S6) contains either fly ash (the FA brand) or silica fume (the MS brand). However, this brand is sold in bagged form only in the Chicago area.

Plastic Trash Containers for the Office

The Paducah Site was seeking 41-quart plastic trash cans for the office in gray, beige, or black with a minimum 20% post-consumer recycled content plastic. Paducah Site has price quotes of \$4-\$5 for non-compliant trash containers. The least expensive container we could find meeting Paducah's specifications costs \$8.33/container for orders over \$5K or \$8.50 otherwise. The container is black and contains 35% post-consumer recycled content. The manufacturer and contact information are Busch Systems International, Tel. 800-565-9931, www.buschsystems.com; Michelle Weller, michelle@buschsystems.com.

SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

UNICOR Solar Panels – Alan Edwards (UNICOR Program Manager)

Link to <http://www.unicor.gov/information/publications/pdfs/electronics/CATME1000.pdf>

UNICOR, also known as Federal Prison Industries, Inc (FPI), is a wholly-owned government corporation founded within the Federal Bureau of Prisons in the Department of Justice. UNICOR's mission is to employ and provide job skills training to the greatest number of inmates to help produce market-priced quality goods and services. They have 106 factories in over 64 locations and employ over 20,000 federal inmates.

Two of the 106 factories produce solar panels and the main solar panel manufacturing factory is located in Otisville, NY. This state-of-the-art factory produces 150 220W solar panels a day. Otisville, NY produces 24 megawatts (MW), and FPI is ramping up capacity to produce an additional 50MW to help agencies meet their Federal mandates. The panels can only be sold to Federal agencies. The manufacturing facility is ISO 9001 registered and uses state-of-the-art equipment from Spire Corporation. In addition to manufacturing, UNICOR Solar can provide an all-inclusive turnkey photovoltaic (PV) system for any Federal Agency. The major components of UNICOR's PV system and service offerings include design, supplies, construction, and financing as well as doing the feasibility study and economic analysis, evaluating energy savings,

obtaining building permits, designing the mechanical integration, and tracking American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 2009 funding.

Solar Decathlon Update – Richard King (EERE)

Link to <http://www.solardecathlon.org/>

The fourth annual Solar Decathlon was directed by Richard King and hosted by DOE on the National Mall. Twenty teams of college and university students have been designing, engineering, building, and testing solar-powered houses that, ideally, will be self-sufficient. Using off-the-shelf technology, the teams must produce enough electricity and hot water from solar panels to run a modern home with all of the conveniences we have come to expect. The Solar Decathlon is not only a competition but an event to which the public is invited to observe the powerful combination of solar energy, energy efficiency, and the best in home design.

The winning house is selected based on performance of the heating and cooling systems with computers and television sets running 6 hours/day. The house designed and built by German university students was the 2009 winner with the house by the University of Illinois coming in second.

REPORTING FY2009

Walk Through of FY2009 Data Entry Website and Process – Don Lentzen

Link to https://p2.hss.doe.gov/pptrs/d_selappl.aspx

All data must be entered into the PPRTS Database by December 1, 2009. Electronic equipment (EPEAT registered) and recycled products (CPG designated) have the same reporting requirements as last year. The main difference in this year's data collection is the designation of 41 more biobased products, which must be reported on. When reporting, please use the comment boxes to denote the impediments to purchasing any of the designated products so we can work to overcome those impediments.

Question (Jerry Hoch, West Valley Demonstration Project): How should we report biobased product data in the columns labeled purchased (y/n) and purchased conforming to biobased requirements (y/n) when the list only offers categories not specific products? The answers will be different for each product within any given category.

Answer (Don Lentzen): Answer yes to the purchase of any biobased category if you have one product in that category for which you can answer yes. Then indicate the quantity and dollar amount along with any other descriptions of the product. The comments section can be used to describe the purchase of products on the designated biobased products list that were purchased by the site but are not biobased.

Question (Brian Bowers, Isotek): How should DOE sites track reuse?

Answer (Sandra Cannon): Reuse should be reported where recycling is reported. Use the comments section to describe reuse.

Next teleconference

- Date – January 28, 2010
- Potential topics for the next teleconference. Please share your ideas. Some suggested so far are
 - How to find designated products
 - New custodial cleaning systems
 - Obstacles to purchasing retread tires and re-refined oil?
 - What's new on the office product scene?
 - Energy/water efficient products
 - Cafeteria Products (dishware)
 - Construction Materials: Insulation, paint, roofing sealant, water free urinals
 - Systems for tracking our designated product purchases
 - Other?

Adjourn

A few rules for successful teleconferencing:

- Because we only have a limited number of telephone lines available, all coordinators at one site should participate in the teleconference together on one telephone.
- Keep your phones on mute (if you are using a speakerphone) unless you are speaking.
- Announce your name and affiliation before speaking each time.
- All participants will be asked to introduce yourselves at the start of the teleconference and given the opportunity for comments and questions during the teleconference.

RESOURCE MATERIALS AND UPDATED EPP INFORMATION

NEWLY DESIGNATED RECYCLED PRODUCT AND NEW DEFINITION

Begin Purchasing and Collecting Purchasing Data by September 15, 2008

- Fertilizer
- Compost (new definition)

Web Info: <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products.htm>

NEWLY DESIGNATED BIOBASED PRODUCTS

Begin Purchasing and Collecting Purchasing Data by October 27, 2010

CLEANERS/SOLVENTS

- Food cleaners – 53%
- General purpose household cleaners – 39%
- Industrial cleaners – 41%
- Multipurpose cleaners – 56%
- Parts wash solutions – 65%

LUBRICANTS

- Chain & cable lubricants – 77%
- Corrosion preventatives – 53%
- Forming lubricants – 68%
- *Gear lubricants – 58%

Begin Purchasing and Collecting Purchasing Data by May 14, 2009 except where denoted

CLEANERS/SOLVENTS

- Adhesive and mastic removers – 58%
- Bath and spa cleaners – 74%
- Carpet and upholstery cleaners
 - General purpose cleaners – 54%
 - Spot removers – 7%
- Floor strippers – 78%
- Glass cleaners – 49%
- Graffiti and grease removers – 34%
- Hand cleaners and sanitizers
 - Hand cleaners – 64%
 - Sanitizers – 73%
- Laundry products
 - General purpose laundry – 34%
 - Pretreatment/spot removers – 46%

CONSTRUCTION

- *Carpets - 7%
- *Insulating foam (plastic) for residential and commercial construction – 7%
- *Panels - composite panels
 - Acoustical composite panels – 37%
 - Interior panels – 55%
 - Plastic lumber composite panels – 23%
 - Structural interior panels – 89%
 - Structural wall panels – 94%
- Release fluids - concrete and asphalt – 87%

DISHWARE

- Cutlery - disposable – 48%
- *Disposable containers – 72%

LUBRICANTS

- 2-cycle engine oils – 34%
- Firearm lubricants – 49%
- Greases
 - Food grade -42%
 - Multi-purpose – 72%
 - Rail track – 30%
 - Truck – 71%
 - Unspecified – 75%
- Metalworking fluids—straight oils
 - Straight oils – 66%
 - General purpose soluble, semi-synthetic, synthetic – 57%
 - High performance soluble, semi-synthetic, synthetic **(delayed preference compliance date)** – 40%

SEALANTS

- Wood and concrete sealers
 - Membrane concrete sealers – 11%
 - Penetrating liquid sealers – 79%

OTHER

- De-icers - general purpose de-icers – 93%
- Dust suppressants – 85%
- *Fertilizers - 71%
- Films
 - Non-durable – 85%
 - *Semi-durable (plastic bags) – 45%
- Fluid filled transformers
 - Synthetic esterbased transformer fluids **(delayed preference compliance date)** – 66%
 - Vegetable oil-based transformer fluids – 95%
- *Hydraulic fluids - stationary equipment – 44%
- Lip care products – 82%
- *Sorbents – 89% (proposed 52%)

Begin Purchasing and Collecting Purchasing Data by March 16, 2007 except where denoted

- Lubricants, penetrating – 68% biobased content by weight
- Diesel fuel additives – 90%
- Urethane roof coating/sealant – 20%
- Hydraulic fluids for mobile equipment (tractors, etc.) – 44%
- Bedding, bed linens, towels **(November 20, 2007 preference compliance date)** – 12%
- Water tank coating/sealant **(November 20, 2007 preference compliance date)** – 59%

* May overlap with recycled content requirements. Recycled content requirements have precedence.

Regulations: <http://www.biopreferred.gov/ProposedAndFinalRegulations.aspx>

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

DOE's "Environmentally Preferable Products Program" website for access to the reporting site, annual report, teleconference agenda and minutes, and sources of helpful information

U.S. Department of Energy's RCRA 6002/Executive Order 13423 home page
<http://www.hss.doe.gov/pp/epp/>

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Executive Orders, Regulations, Guidelines

Office of the Federal Environmental Executive
www.ofee.gov

Buying Green

FedCenter
<http://www.fedcenter.gov/programs/buygreen/>

What Is Green Purchasing, Anyway?

Office of Personnel Management
www.golearn.gov (Free Catalog Section, then Legislatively Mandated...Topics)

GENERAL PRODUCT INFORMATION

Environmentally Preferable Products

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
<http://yosemite1.epa.gov/oppt/epstand2.nsf>

Environmentally Preferable Products

U.S. Department of Energy
<http://www.hss.doe.gov/pp/epp/>

Alternative Fuels and Vehicles

U.S. Department of Energy
<http://www.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/epact/federal/>

Biobased Products

U.S. Department of Agriculture
<http://www.biopreferred.gov/?SMSESSION=NO>

Construction

Whole Building Design Guide -- Technical Guidance for Implementing the Guiding Principles for Federal Leadership in High Performance and Sustainable Buildings Memorandum of Understanding

<http://www.wbdg.org/sustainablemou>

The Federal Green Construction Guide for Specifiers with more than 60 model green construction spec sections

<http://fedgreenspecs.wbdg.org>

Energy/Water Efficient Products

Federal Energy Management Program

<http://www.eere.energy.gov/femp/procurement/>

Recycled Products and Suppliers

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/index.htm>

Materials Exchange Products

(especially chemicals, equipment, and hazardous materials) at other DOE facilities

Log on with user name (erhquser) and password (erhqdoe)

DOE Complex Wide Materials Exchange

<http://wastenot.er.doe.gov/me/login.aspx>

Substitutes for Ozone-Depleting Products

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/ozone/snap/lists/index.html>

SPECIFIC PRODUCT CATEGORIES

Carpet

Contract Language and Standards/Guidelines

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Select "carpet" at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/oppt/eppstand2.nsf/Pages/Search.html?Open>

California Carpet Standard

<http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/green/epp/standards.pdf>

Recycled Content Specifications and Suppliers

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products/carpet.htm>

Suppliers Meeting California Carpet Standard

<http://www.green.ca.gov/EPP/carpets.htm>

Cement/Concrete

Recycled Content Specifications and Suppliers

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products/cement.htm>

Cleaning Products

Contract Language and Standards/Guidelines

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Select “cleaning supplies” at

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/oppt/epstand2.nsf/Pages/Search.html?Open>

Suppliers

EcoLogo CCD 104 Hand Cleaners – Industrial

http://www.ecologo.org/en/seeourcriteria/details.asp?ccd_id=329

EcoLogo CCD 110 Cleaning and Degreasing Compounds

http://www.ecologo.org/en/seeourcriteria/details.asp?ccd_id=335

EcoLogo CCD 115 Odor Control Additives

http://www.ecologo.org/en/seeourcriteria/details.asp?ccd_id=340

EcoLogo CCD-146 Hard Surface Cleaners

http://www.ecologo.org/en/seeourcriteria/details.asp?ccd_id=371

EcoLogo CCD-147 Floor Care Products

http://www.ecologo.org/en/seeourcriteria/details.asp?ccd_id=372

EcoLogo CCD 148 Carpet and Upholstery Cleaners

http://www.ecologo.org/en/seeourcriteria/details.asp?ccd_id=373

EcoLogo CCD 166 Disinfectants and Disinfectant Cleaners

http://www.ecologo.org/en/seeourcriteria/details.asp?ccd_id=391

Green Seal GS-37 Industrial and Institutional Cleaners

<http://www.greenseal.org/findaproduct/index.cfm#cleaners>

Construction Materials and Products

Contract Language

U.S. Department of Energy

<http://www.hss.doe.gov/pp/epp/epspecs.html> , see “Construction Services”

Paint

Recycled Content Specifications and Suppliers

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products/paint.htm>

Suppliers

EcoLogo CCD-47 Surface Coatings (Paints, Stains, and Varnishes)

http://www.ecologo.org/en/seeourcriteria/details.asp?ccd_id=272

EcoLogo CCD-48 Surface Coatings (Recycled)

http://www.ecologo.org/en/seeourcriteria/details.asp?ccd_id=273

Green Seal GS-43 Recycled Content Latex Paint

http://www.greenseal.org/newsroom/GS-43_Recycled_Content_Latex_Paint.pdf

Toner Cartridges

Recycled Content Specifications and Suppliers

EcoLogo CCD-039 Printing Cartridges Remanufactured

http://www.ecologo.org/en/seeourcriteria/details.asp?ccd_id=264

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/procure/products/toner.htm>

DOWNLOAD AND RUN BEES 4.0 SOFTWARE

BEES (Building for Environmental and Economic Sustainability) software helps designers, builders, and product manufacturers identify the environmental and economic performance of construction materials. Developed by NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) Green Buildings Program with support from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program and the HUD Partnership for Advancing Technology in Housing (PATH) the tool is based on consensus standards and designed to be practical, flexible, and transparent.

Register for software at <http://www.bfrl.nist.gov/dae/software/bees/registration.html> (no cost involved):

- Fill out registration form
- Click submit

To install BEES 4.0:

- Download bees30dzip.exe, a 14.6 MB self-extracting file. (If prompted during the download, choose to save the file).
- From Windows Explorer, double click on bees30dzip.exe to start the self- extraction process.
- When prompted, choose a folder to unzip the file to and click Unzip.
- Using Windows Explorer, go to the folder you specified in Step 3, double click on Setup.exe and follow the directions on the screen. You will need to choose a folder in which to install BEES 3.0d. This folder must be different from the one you specified in Step 3.

To run BEES 4.0:

- Select Start->Programs->BEES->BEES 4.0

OR

- Go to "My Computer" or wherever you can see all folders and files on your computer. Do not try to open the BEES exe file from a software application, such as Word.
- Go to where you stored the BEES files (probably in a folder labeled "BEES")
- Open the BEES30d.exe file
- Go to "Analysis" at top of window
- Go to "Define Parameters"