Message

From: Traylor, Patrick [traylor.patrick@epa.gov]
Sent: 12/3/2018 5:44:33 PM
To: Cook, Steven [cook.steven@epa.gov]; Breen, Barry [Breen.Barry@epa.gov]; Shaw, Betsy [Shaw.Betsy@epa.gov]; Woods, Clint [woods.clint@epa.gov]; Forsgren, Lee [Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov]; Bolen, Brittany [bolen.brittany@epa.gov]; Nishida, Jane [Nishida.Jane@epa.gov]; Leadership_Deputy_Regional_Administrators [Leadership_Deputy_Regional_Administrators@epa.gov]
CC: Dombrowski, John [Dombrowski.John@epa.gov]; Mia, Marcia [Mia.Marcia@epa.gov]; Starfield, Lawrence [Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov]; Bodine, Susan [bodine.susan@epa.gov]
Subject: Oil & Natural Gas Extraction Compliance Assistance Portal
Attachments: Oil and Natural Gas Extraction Portal Fact Sheet (12-3-2018).docx

With the release of the FY 2018-2022 EPA Strategic Plan, the Agency committed to expanding its compliance assistance work by continuing to partner with third-party organizations and federal agencies to support 17 existing web-based, sector-specific Compliance Assistance Centers and develop new centers (see Goal 2, Objective 2.1). I am pleased to announce that to meet this commitment, OECA funded a Cooperative Agreement with the National Center for Manufacturing Sciences (NCMS), to develop a new Compliance Assistance Center resource for the oil and natural gas extraction industry. The goal of the new web-based oil and natural gas extraction compliance assistance portal (Portal) is to help small and medium-sized oil and natural gas extraction companies, that may not have resources to acquire their own environmental experts, comply with their environmental regulatory obligations. We would like to partner with you and your subject matter experts to get your feedback and comments to ensure the content of the Portal is meaningful to this industry. Additional information on the Portal is provided in the attachment.

The success of the Portal is tied to ensuring clear, concise, correct, and relevant regulatory information and that the information is easily found and accessible. To facilitate your comments on the content, Portal webpages were copied to Word documents and made available on a One-Drive. We ask that you and your subject matter experts access the Word documents and:

- Use track changes to recommend edits;
- Focus comments on regulatory / technical misstatements versus editorial changes; and
- Identify any resources (e.g., web pages, guidance documents) that can be linked to or incorporated into the Portal.

We also welcome comments on the structure, function, and organization of the Portal itself.

In addition to EPA feedback on the draft Portal and its content, NCMS has reached out to the following oil and gas extraction stakeholders regarding the Portal development and potential partnerships:

- State Review of Oil and Natural Gas Environmental Regulations (STRONGER)
- University of Texas at Austin Petroleum Extension (PETEX)
- GPA Midstream
- Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC)
- The Shale Gas Caucus (SGC) of the ECOS Waste Committee
- Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association (OIPA)

The need for web-based oil and natural gas extraction compliance assistance resources for small and medium sized oil and natural gas extraction companies was collectively echoed by these organizations. NCMS is currently exploring the development of MOUs to formalize a continued collaborative working relationship with these organizations to support the Portal development and long-term maintenance.

Please submit your feedback and comments on the Portal by December 14, 2018, to Marcia Mia (mia.marcia@epa.gov / 202.564.7042), and please contact her if you have any questions as well. Thank you in advance for your valuable input.

Warm regards,
Patrick

Patrick Traylor
Deputy Assistant Administrator
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
202.809.8796 (m)
202.564.5238 (o)