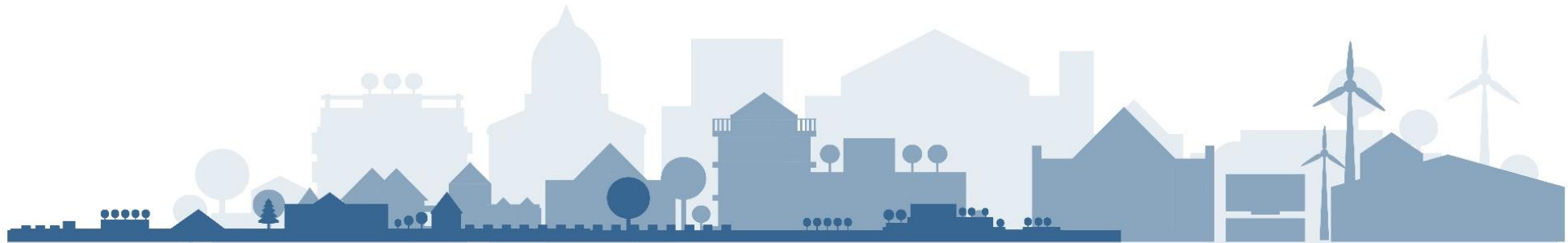




Environmental Protection Agency

Welcome



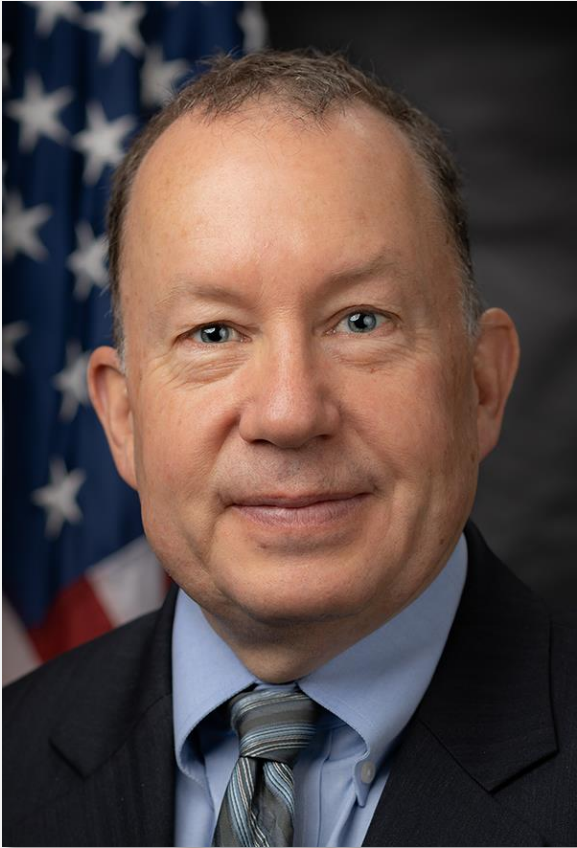
Small Business Environmental Assistance Program's
Annual Training
September 8-11, 2020



Denise Sirmons
Office Director

EPA's Office of Small & Disadvantaged Business Utilization





Douglas Benevento

EPA's Associate Deputy Administrator

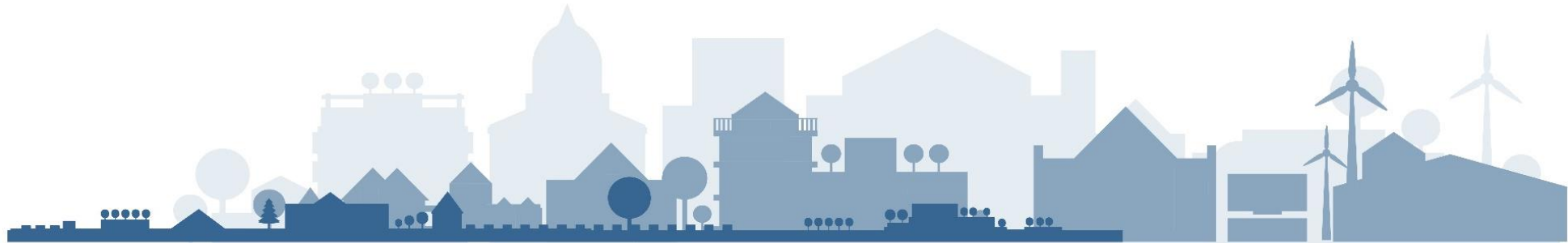




Environmental Protection Agency

Paula Hoag

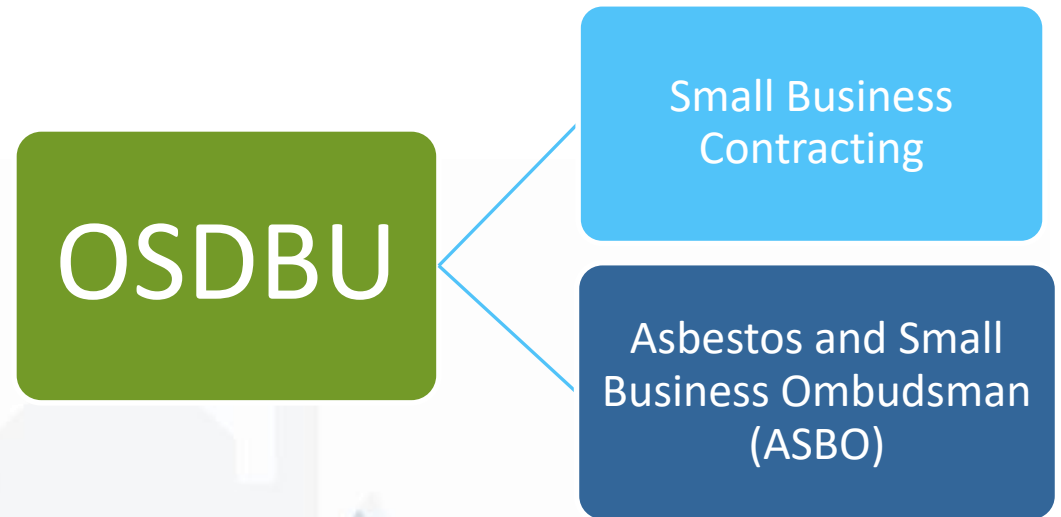
**EPA's Asbestos and Small Business
Ombudsman Program Update**



Small Business Environmental Assistance Program's
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OSDBU Program Areas

The Office of Small and Disadvantage Business Utilization (OSDBU) is responsible for the oversight and execution of EPA's small business programs, as mandated by statute, regulations, executive orders and policies.



ASBO: One Program, Two Distinct Roles

EPA Asbestos Ombudsman

Mandated under the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)
(15 U.S.C. § 2641-2656)

EPA Small Business Ombudsman

Established under Section 507 of the
1990 Clean Air Act amendments
(42 U.S.C. § 7661f(d)).



ASBO: Three Cross-Cutting Functions



Advocate

We advocate for small business interests during the EPA rulemaking process



Connect

We serve as the EPA small business liaison and connect small businesses to federal, state and local resources



Serve

We provide hotline assistance to the general public and fund a national website to support small businesses in environmental regulatory compliance

OSDBU's Strategic Goals 2018-2022

Vision: A *Small Business First* culture that is fully integrated into EPA's core operations, programs and acquisitions over the next five years.

- 1. Equip and engage OSDBU's workforce as a professional cadre of small business experts**
- 2. Operate as a valued partner in the work of EPA**
- 3. Serve as an effective advocate and resource for small businesses**
- 4. Continuously improve operational efficiency and effectiveness**

ASBO's Small Business Experts

1. Equip and engage OSDBU's workforce as a professional cadre of small business experts

- **Three new team members**
 - **Small Business Ombudsman promoted from within**
 - **New program analyst with asbestos and rule-writing experience**
 - **New S.E.E. brings perspective from outside EPA**
- **Staff training and team development**

ASBO's Partnerships

2. Operate as a valued partner in the work of EPA

➤ Inreach

- EPA program offices (e.g., Air, Water, Land, Chemical Safety)
- EPA Regional Offices
- EPA regulatory planning committee and policy office

➤ Outreach

- State SBEAPS and Ombudsmen
- Small Business Trade Associations
- Federal Agencies and general public

ASBO Advocacy and Resources

3. Serve as an effective advocate and resource for small businesses

➤ EPA Rule Development

- Member of EPA's Regulatory Steering Committee
- Communicating Agency rulemakings and small business engagement activities via monthly bulletin and outreach events

➤ EPA Cooperative Agreement

- Fund and oversee Nationalsbeap.org website
- Support annual SBEAP Training

ASBO Improvements

4. Continuously improve operational efficiency and effectiveness

➤ Internal Operations

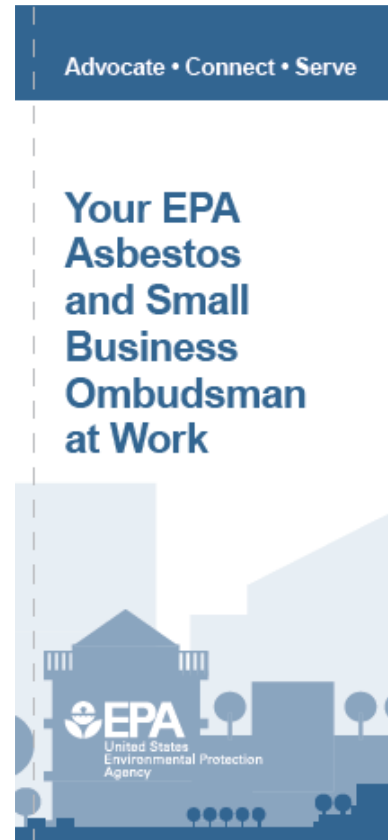
- EPA's ASBO Program Charter to clarify role and align within Agency
- Adapting to virtual collaboration environment

➤ Communications

- Redesigned the SmallBiz@EPA newsletter based on reader feedback
- Finalizing outreach materials and program guide to define and market ASBO Program and partnerships

NEW! Outreach Materials

Trifold brochure



Promotional Flyer



ASBO Goals: FY2021-2022

- **Develop ASBO reporting strategy and recommendation plan**
- **Improve communication channels throughout the country on environmental small business topics**
- **Support meaningful engagement with small business trade associations**
- **Strengthen internal EPA partnerships in ensuring early and two-way small business engagement opportunities**

ASBO Team

Paula Hoag

EPA's Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO)

Lea Carmichael

EPA ASBO - Program Analyst

Elnora Thompson

EPA ASBO - Management Analyst

Harriet Edwards

ASBO Hotline Staff/EPA S.E.E. Grantee

Chester Eiland

ASBO Hotline Staff/EPA S.E.E. Grantee

Samuel Gila

ASBO Communications Staff/EPA S.E.E. Grantee

Contact Us



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