



# Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs

Small Business Stationary Source Technical and Environmental Compliance Assistance Program, 507 Programs, Compliance Assistance Provider, Technical Assistance Programs, Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs - many different names; all describing the same program.

Section 507 of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 required each state to create a program to help small businesses understand and comply with air pollution regulations. Congress did this to provide a resource for smaller businesses previously unaffected by environmental requirements. Around the country, each state, two territories, and the District of Columbia now house a free, non-regulatory assistance programs consisting of three components:

## Small Business Technical Assistance Program *SBEAP*

Provides the detailed technical assistance, publications, and tools to help small businesses come into or remain in compliance with environmental regulations.

## Compliance Advisory Panel *CAP*

Advisory panel made up of small business owners and representatives appointed by state Governors and Legislatures to consult and advise on SBEAP program content.

## Small Business Ombudsman *SBO*

An advocate acting on behalf of small businesses as it relates to environmental issues.

## How Small Is a Small Business?

- 100 or fewer individuals - Clean Air Act definition; Other acts include other definitions
- Not considered a major stationary source;
- Does not emit 50 tons or more per year of any regulated pollutant or 75 tons per year of all regulated pollutants;
- Typical customers of the program usually employ less than 25 individuals.



## Location of the Programs

SBEAPs and SBOs may be found in any number of places, including:

- Environmental Agencies
- Economic Development Agencies
- University System
- Health Departments
- Pollution Prevention Programs
- Small Business Development Centers
- Office of the Secretary or Agency Director



## Size of the Programs

The number of individuals in the SBEAP/SBO programs varies from 0-38 depending on the particular state. The average SBEAP operates with a staff of three.



## Program Budgets

SBEAP/SBO/CAP budgets range from \$0 to \$2,333,000. Most of the programs operate with budgets of less than \$300,000.



**Steering the Future of the SBEAPs**

In 1995, the SBEAPs formed a Steering committee to help encourage better communication around the country between the state programs and EPA.



One representative and an alternate from each EPA region serves on the Steering Committee. Committee representatives participate in monthly conference calls, serve as conduits for information to other assistance providers in the region, and act as focal points of contact to disseminate information to and from the SBEAP service providers. The Steering Committee provides a vehicle for identifying and resolving problems faced by the SBEAPs.



**EPA Small Business Ombudsman  
Office of Small and Disadvantaged  
Business Utilization**

This Office within EPA houses the EPA National Small Business Ombudsman. The SBO represents small businesses and acts as a key link between the state programs and the agency.

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**2006 Steering Committee  
Representatives and Alternates**

- Region 1: Judy Mirro (VT)  
Rudy Cartier (NH)
- Region 2: Maria Rivera (PR)  
James R. Coyle (NY)
- Region 3: Richard Rasmussen (VA)  
Terry L. Polen (WV)
- Region 4: Lee Tate (GA)  
Edythe McKinney (NC)
- Region 5: Rick Carleski (OH)  
Jackie Sims (IL)
- Region 6: Darren Morrissey (AR)  
Melinda Houlihan (TX)
- Region 7: Cathy Colglazier (KS)  
No Alternate Designated
- Region 8: Dan Clark (WY)  
Greg Sorenson (UT)
- Region 9: Terrell Ferreira (CA)  
No Alternate Designated
- Region 10: Sally Tarowsky, (ID)  
Rebecca Hillwig, (OR)

**Chairman: Dan Nickey (IA)**  
[nickey@uni.edu](mailto:nickey@uni.edu)  
**Vice Chairman: Annette Fulgenzi (IL)**  
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