

Progress Toward Implementing **SUPERFUND**

Fiscal Year 1998

REPORT TO CONGRESS

Required by
Section 301(h) of the
Comprehensive Environmental Response,
Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980,
as amended by the Superfund Amendments and
Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY AND REMEDIAL RESPONSE
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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Notice

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Foreword

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continued its progress in protecting public health, welfare, and the environment through the Superfund program in fiscal year 1998 (FY98). As the Superfund program completed its 18th year, the Agency had begun remedial work at over 98 percent of the 1,436 sites on the National Priorities List (NPL), and completed construction on 585 of them. EPA is pleased to submit this Report documenting the fiscal year's achievements. Through administrative improvements implemented during the year, the Agency continued its efforts to accelerate the pace of cleanup, enhance the fairness of the Superfund program, reduce transaction costs, and expand public involvement.

Section 301(h) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA or Superfund), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, requires the Agency to report annually on response activities and accomplishments and to compare remedial and enforcement activities with those undertaken in previous fiscal years. During the fiscal year, PRPs continued to finance and conduct a high percentage of the remedial work: 22 percent of new remedial investigation/feasibility studies, 78 percent of new remedial designs, and 75 percent of new remedial actions. Continuing its successful efforts to compel PRPs to undertake cleanup, EPA entered into enforcement agreements worth approximately \$806 million in settlements and response work. The Agency and PRPs have also now undertaken more than 4,814 removal actions, including 324 during FY98. EPA also continued to encourage public involvement in the Superfund process, to enhance partnerships with states and Indian tribes, and to encourage the use and development of treatment technologies.

In addition to providing an overall perspective on progress in the past fiscal year, this Report contains the information Congress specifically requested in Section 301(h) of CERCLA, including a report on the status of remedial actions and enforcement activity in progress at the end of the fiscal year and an evaluation of newly developed feasible and achievable treatment technologies. The Report also includes a description of current minority firm participation in Superfund contracts and EPA's efforts to encourage increased participation, as required by Section 105(f). The Report fulfills the requirement of Section 301(h)(1)(E) by providing an extensive update on progress being made at sites subject to five-year reviews under Section 121(c).

Foreword (continued)

This Report also satisfies certain reporting requirements of CERCLA Section 120(e)(5), the *EPA Annual Report to Congress: Progress Toward Implementing CERCLA at EPA Facilities as Required by CERCLA Section 120(e)(5)*. The EPA Inspector General's report on the reasonableness and accuracy of the information in this Report, as required by CERCLA Section 301(h)(2), is included as Appendix D.

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Acronyms

ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution
AOC	Administrative Order on Consent
ARAR	Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirement
ASTM	American Society for Testing Materials
CA	Cooperative Agreement
CAG	Community Advisory Group
CD	Consent Decree
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response Cleanup and Liability Act
CERCLIS	CERCLA Information System
CPCA	Core Program Cooperative Agreement
CSI	Common Sense Initiative
DNAPL	Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid
DoD	Department of Defense
DOE	Department of Energy
DOI	Department of Interior
DOJ	Department of Justice
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ERT	Environmental Response Team
ESI	Expanded Site Investigation
FFEO	Federal Facilities Enforcement Office
FFRRO	Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office
FS	Feasibility Study
FUDS	Formerly Used Defense Sites
GAO	General Accounting Office
GSA	General Services Administration
GWRTAC	Ground Water Remediation Technologies Analysis Center
HMTRI	Hazardous Materials Training and Research Institute
HRS	Hazard Ranking System
HSRC	Hazardous Substance Research Center
HUD	Housing and Urban Development
IAG	Interagency Agreement
LSW	Lead Sites Workgroup
LTSC	Long-Term Contracting Strategy
MARLAP	Multi-Agency Radiation Laboratory Protocols
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste
NCP	National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan
NEPPS	National Environmental Performance Partnership System
NFRAP	No Further Remedial Action Planned
NIEHS	National Institute of Environmental Health Services
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPL	National Priorities List
NRC	Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Acronyms (continued)

NRRB	National Remedy Review Board
NTCR	Non-Time Critical Removal Action
NTIS	National Technology Information Service
OECA	Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
OERR	Office of Emergency and Remedial Response
OLM	Outyear Liability Model
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
ORIA	Office of Radiation and Indoor Air
OSC	On-Scene Coordinator
OSDBU	Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization
OSRE	Office of Site Remediation Enforcement
OU	Operable Unit
PA	Preliminary Assessment
PPA	Prospective Purchaser Agreement
PPG	Performance Partnership Grant
PRP	Potentially Responsible Party
RA	Remedial Action
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RD	Remedial Design
RI/FS	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
ROD	Record of Decision
RPM	Remedial Project Manager
SACA	Support Agency Cooperative Agreement
SACM	Superfund Accelerated Cleanup Model
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986
SBA	Small Business Administration
SHEMP	Safety, Health, and Environmental Management Program
SI	Site Inspection
SIP	Site Inspection Prioritization
SITE	Superfund Innovative Technology Evaluation
SMC	Superfund Management Council
SPIM	Superfund Program Implementation Manual
SSC	Superfund State Contract
SSL	Soil Screening Level
TAG	Technical Assistance Grant
TOSC	Technical Outreach Services for Communities
TRW	Technical Review Workgroup
UAO	Unilateral Administrative Order
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
UST	Underground Storage Tank
VCP	Voluntary Cleanup Program
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound