Acting on Climate Change & Materials Management

NEWMOA Annual Report
Being involved with NEWMOA for over 20 years, most recently as NEWMOA’s outgoing Chair, gives me some insights into the organization’s evolution over these years – as it has addressed waste management issues of the 1980s to today’s challenges. Formed to promote and facilitate coordination amongst the eight-member Northeast States to address waste management issues and problems, NEWMOA remains true to that mission – more so in these times of diminishing financial resources. We are a strong allegiance of states, truly working together to share our experiences and lessons learned in managing solid and hazardous waste problems and seeking out solutions.

I direct your attention to NEWMOA-by-the-Numbers, on the following page of this Report, to better understand the level of networking and coordination that occurs. NEWMOA-sponsored training allows us to provide cost-effective technical training to our staff in ways that we could not accomplish on our own. Many training events these days are web-based conferences that allow us to bring high quality training directly to a large number of staff in our regional and central offices. NEWMOA Workgroups (now numbering more than 25) are where “nuts and bolts” topical discussions occur on a wide range of issues, including hazardous waste regulations, Brownfields development, solid waste management, mercury, toxics, and pollution prevention. Email listservs, newsletters, and web resources complement these personal forms of networking and information sharing. NEWMOA has taken full advantage of information technology for networking and training. Gone are the days when face-to-face meetings were the primary form of information exchange.

Identifying and meeting future challenges in waste management is an important focus area of NEWMOA. In the past year, we have developed a Climate-Waste Action Plan that acknowledges the significant impact that materials use and waste management have on greenhouse gas emissions. We are developing regional demonstration projects that address some of the most significant opportunities for addressing greenhouse gas impacts associated with commercial waste paper through reduction and recycling initiatives.

NEWMOA continues to be active in assisting states with implementation of mercury product laws through the Interstate Mercury Education and Reduction Clearinghouse (IMERC). Through IMERC data sharing efforts, we have been able to estimate an overall 46 percent reduction in mercury use in manufactured products that were sold in the U.S. from 2001-2007.

As we approach the twentieth anniversary of the federal Pollution Prevention Act, I am reminded of NEWMOA’s early involvement in fostering coordination and information sharing that was so instrumental in the formative years of state pollution prevention and assistance programs. That coordination continues today.

I encourage you to review the specific program area reports that follow and which provide more detail on NEWMOA’s activities and accomplishments. NEWMOA’s success is largely due to a talented and dedicated staff that provides the programmatic and administrative support needed to carry out the priority initiatives of the member states, as well as state agency staff that participate in Workgroups, trainings and specific projects, and the NEWMOA Directors who provide guidance and leadership. I would like to thank EPA Regions 1, 2, and Headquarters for their active participation in NEWMOA and their support for numerous projects and initiatives over the years.
### Fiscal Year 2009

#### NEWMOA-by-the-Numbers

- **36** NEWMOA-sponsored training events, including web-conferences and face-to-face workshops.
- **Approximately 1,400 participants** in NEWMOA-sponsored training events, including web conferences and face-to-face workshops.
- **9 face-to-face training events involving approximately 110 participants** that were sponsored by other groups at which NEWMOA staff made presentations.
- **15 face-to-face meetings** of NEWMOA Directors and Workgroups, involving **approximately 210 people** focusing on construction and demolition waste recycling, pollution prevention, the Common Measures Project, and Brownfields activities in the region.
- **14 face-to-face meetings** sponsored by other groups in which NEWMOA staff participated.
- **More than 482,500 visits to NEWMOA’s website** and approximately **1,234,775 pages downloaded** from the website by those visitors.
- **15 NEWMOA listservs** involving approximately **2,050 participants**.
- **Approximately 3,000 Northeast Assistance and P2 News newsletters** distributed (2 issues).
- **22 online databases or downloadable tools** developed and maintained by NEWMOA.
- **More than 500 companies** reporting on their mercury-added products to the participating states through IMERC.
- **More than 4,400 products** in the online Mercury-added Products Database (not including a single product that was reported by multiple companies).
- **8 NEWMOA-member states**.
- **14 IMERC-member states**.
- **20 NEWMOA Directors** that met four times for two days each.
- **28 NEWMOA Workgroups or Committees** involving approximately **560 participants** and **4 Networking Groups** involving approximately **80 participants**.
- **9 NEWMOA Fiscal Year 2009 staff**.

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*For more information on NEWMOA’s projects, visit www.newmoa.org.*
The Environmental Commissioners and Directors from the New England States challenged NEWMOA and the air and water interstates to identify regional activities to address climate change as a priority in 2007. As a result of this challenge, the NEWMOA Board of Directors, which includes the state environmental agency directors of pollution prevention, hazardous and solid waste management, and waste site cleanup programs, developed a NEWMOA Climate-Waste Action Plan. The Plan presents a strategy for mitigating and adapting to climate change through improving waste prevention and recycling initiatives, increasing renewable energy on contaminated sites, implementing "greener" site remediation, and improving management and recycling of disaster debris. It is the culmination of a year and a half long discussion among the NEWMOA member state Program Directors about their climate change, waste management, and pollution prevention initiatives, and how these efforts could be made more effective/leveraged through regional collaboration.

All of the NEWMOA-member state environmental agencies implement programs to prevent and properly manage pollution and waste. Redoubling the efforts of these programs are key elements of the NEWMOA Climate-Waste Action Plan. The experiences of the NEWMOA-member programs have shown that there are significant opportunities for increasing waste prevention and recycling for municipal solid waste, construction and demolition debris, non-hazardous and hazardous industrial waste, commercial waste, and others.

A number of northeastern states have adopted climate action goals. For many of the states, these generally reference the regional goals established by the New England Governors’ Conference (NEG), and provide a basis for states to develop plans for achieving regional and state goals. These long-term goals mirror those of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to which both the United States and Canada are signatories. NEWMOA’s overall Climate-Waste Action Plan goals are to:

- Assist the Northeast states in achieving their greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals by supporting and helping states implement programs that mitigate the climate, energy, and overall environmental impacts of products and materials use, waste generation, waste management, and site remediation; and
- Promote effective prevention and management strategies to assist states in adapting to the impacts of a warmer climate in the near term.

The Action Plan identifies the following guiding principles for regional climate-waste action:

- Effectively minimizing the contribution of waste management to climate change will require coordination and collaboration in the efforts of the Northeast states.
- A life cycle view should be taken when evaluating the climate impacts of any material or waste, including the impacts of materials throughout the supply chain.
- Actions to foster pollution prevention, reuse, recycling, waste management, and waste site cleanup should be implemented to minimize energy consumption and GHG emissions.
- Actions should focus on the materials and waste streams with the greatest overall climate impact.
- Addressing climate change can have unintended consequences, and these should be addressed proactively (e.g., preventing the generation of wastes containing toxic chemicals from new energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies). Efforts to reduce waste and mitigate climate change should not result in significant contamination of land, air, and water or negative public health impacts.
- Renewable energy and energy efficiency are critical to successful climate change mitigation because they reduce fossil fuel emissions. Closed landfills, Brownfields,
and other contaminated sites can provide sites for developing renewable energy and for supporting waste reuse and recycling activities.

- Waste programs should anticipate the impacts of a warmer climate on the types and amounts of waste generated and develop strategies and initiatives to adapt to these changes.

Through the Action Plan, the NEWMOA-member state programs commit to sharing information, conducting research, discussing and developing joint policy actions, coordinating implementation of programs, and conducting needed training and capacity building. The following are eight waste-related strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change that NEWMOA would like to facilitate in conjunction with member states and appropriate partners:

- Minimize life cycle impacts of waste
- Increase waste reuse and recycling
- Reduce methane gas emissions from landfills
- Promote greater awareness of what the public can do to reduce waste and address climate change
- Improve overall data gathering and waste planning support
- Increase the use of former solid waste landfills and other contaminated sites for renewable energy, waste reuse, and recycling development
- Promote green remediation practices at waste site cleanups
- Improve planning for management of disaster debris

The Plan outlines actions under each of these strategy areas for follow-up and further development. For more information, visit: www.newmoa.org.

All Northeast states are working to divert discarded material from solid waste disposal. These efforts address many important environmental goals, including:

- Capturing the highest value of discarded material through re-use and recycling
- Reducing the generation of greenhouse gases
- Preserving capacity in our existing disposal facilities
- Avoiding the need to develop new solid waste management facilities

While states regulate the facilities that manage solid waste to ensure that they do not damage public health and the environment, decisions about how waste material is recycled and disposed are made by a variety of parties (e.g., waste generators, haulers, brokers, and facilities). Collaborating through NEWMOA helps the Northeast state agencies to establish multi-state goals and strategies for achieving them, and significantly increases states’ leverage to influence recycling and re-use decisions. By increasing the supply of material diverted from disposal, the states can jointly encourage the development of new markets in the region for the diverted materials.

In 2009, NEWMOA's solid waste work focused on two specific types of commonly-discarded material:

- Debris from construction and demolition (known as C&D debris)
- Material that can be beneficially re-used without endangering public health and the environment
Construction & Demolition Debris

Wastes from construction and demolition activities are a major component of the solid waste generated in Northeast states. These discarded materials are commonly managed regionally, as they are removed from job sites, sorted at processors, and recycled or disposed of at solid waste management facilities. State laws, rules, and policies influence the industry’s decisions about how to manage this waste stream.

In 2007, the Environmental Commissioners of the New England states asked through the Environment Committee of the New England Governor’s Conference how the states could work cooperatively to improve recycling of C&D debris. NEWMOA responded by developing several regional projects.

With support from a grant provided by the EPA, one of NEWMOA’s key solid waste program accomplishments in FY 2009 was the publication of Construction and Demolition Waste Management in the Northeast in 2006. The Report presents data on the generation, processing, recovery, and disposal of the C&D debris generated from building projects in the eight-state region. The Report shows that only a small portion of the waste materials from these projects are reused or recycled outside of the landfill environment, and the only materials recovered consistently at a significant percentage are metals. The Report documents many opportunities to significantly expand recycling of many of the materials found in C&D debris. See sidebar on page 6 for more on the Report’s highlights.

Gypsum Wallboard Recycling

During FY 2009, NEWMOA led a multi-state effort to promote recovery and re-use of gypsum wallboard, one of the more environmentally problematic materials in C&D debris. C&D debris processing facilities generate residuals that are used as either grading or shaping material at closing landfills, or as alternative daily cover (ADC) at operating landfills. Gypsum wallboard or drywall is a significant component of C&D debris. As waste wallboard is handled, it breaks and crumbles and becomes difficult to recover.

As a result, the fines and other residuals generated from C&D debris processing typically contain significant quantities of gypsum. When these fines are used at landfills, the gypsum reacts with other material and water, and generates hydrogen sulfide gas. This gas has a significant odor and creates both public health and nuisance problems, which are being addressed by all of the NEWMOA states.

In FY 2009, NEWMOA coordinated an interstate effort to:

- Develop a common understanding of the barriers and opportunities for waste gypsum wallboard recycling and reuse in the region
- Develop policy recommendations that would expand reuse and recycling

NEWMOA and the states talked with several current and potential users of recycled gypsum to understand the market barriers and opportunities and identify a variety of possible policy strategies that might influence recycling. NEWMOA’s C&D Debris Workgroup has found that recycling options for the old wallboard removed from renovation and demolition projects are limited and not practical at this time. The states have agreed to consider five strategies that appear promising for supporting increased wallboard recycling:

- Banning the disposal of wallboard
- Requiring wallboard recycling at state building projects
- Developing common terminology and facility reporting requirements
- Requiring waste management planning before permits can be obtained
- Implementing product stewardship for new wallboard scrap

Some states have implemented or are planning to implement one or more of these strategies. In FY 2010, NEWMOA will publish a paper outlining these strategies, to provide a basis for future regional discussions and strategic planning.
Construction & Demolition Waste Management in the Northeast in 2006

The NEWMOA Report, Construction and Demolition Waste Management in the Northeast in 2006, published in June 2009, describes the quantity of construction and demolition (C&D) debris that is generated, processed, recovered, and disposed in the NEWMOA-member states. The purpose of this Report is to help the member states and EPA understand how C&D debris is managed in the Northeast. States and EPA can use the Report to assess baseline data from which to measure progress, identify possible regulatory or reporting changes, and inform their policy-making. The Report has four primary findings:

- The availability and quality of data describing C&D debris management is not consistent among the Northeast states making aggregation and comparisons challenging.
- Most C&D debris ends up in a landfill – in 2006, approximately 10 percent of estimated waste generation was recovered for an end use outside of a landfill.
- There is significant potential to increase recovery of C&D debris – metal was the only C&D material recovered at a significant percentage in 2006.
- Some changes have occurred in C&D debris management since 2006, although their effects on C&D debris disposal, processing, and materials recovery have not been analyzed.

Beneficial Use Determinations

Many manufacturing facilities generate material that is not incorporated into their products and ends up being disposed. Much of this by-product material is not contaminated and can be reused if a market exists. All of the NEWMOA states have established processes to evaluate requests to use a particular waste in a particular use; approvals are known as “Beneficial Use Determinations”, or “BUDs”. Since many of the use/re-use locations are the same from one state to the next, states can make faster and more cost-effective decisions if they have access to BUDs that have already been approved in other states. Several years ago, NEWMOA developed a database to help state BUD program staff efficiently and effectively obtain information on the determinations made by other states.

In FY 2009, NEWMOA’s multi-year effort to enhance interstate BUD data sharing reached a major milestone with the roll-out of an improved database with easier data entry and new capacity to generate reports. This database allows the NEWMOA member states plus California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Iowa, Indiana, Minnesota, Michigan, Nebraska, Washington, and Wisconsin to share their BUD decisions and implementation experiences.

This database could be a national repository for all the BUDs that states issue. NEWMOA is actively seeking funding for additional improvements, and for the development of a public version of the database that could encourage businesses to expand their reuse of discarded materials by providing information about how states have allowed materials to be reused.

Looking forward to FY 2010, NEWMOA’s capacity to support state solid waste programs is becoming ever more important as our member states and NEWMOA face increasingly severe fiscal constraints. Our challenge is to make maximum strategic use of the resources that are available to support our key priorities.
In Fiscal Year 2009, NEWMOA was asked to help states to facilitate the development of an Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse (IC2). The ten states that have come together to form the IC2, including California, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, and Washington, were interested in addressing pressing challenges in the current way that governments address toxic chemicals. The state environmental and health agencies involved in forming the IC2 are concerned about:

- Regulatory fragmentation in the current approach to addressing toxics in the environment in the U.S.
- Lack of state authority to address priority toxics in products in a more strategic and targeted way
- Chemical-by-chemical programs that are resource intensive – for example our efforts to address mercury, flame retardants, Bisphenol-a, phthalates, and many more
- Having an overarching approach that is coordinated across states is important to addressing toxic chemicals at their source

The Maine legislature passed “Toxic Chemicals Children’s Products” legislation in 2008, and is working with other states with similar laws and programs to successfully implement this new law. We need to make maximum use of the resources in our state and others to achieve our objectives. The formation of an interstate clearinghouse to share information and activities and to facilitate coordination of our efforts is a logical step. In FY 2009, under their new toxics legislation Maine, Washington State, and others were actively developing lists of priority chemicals for action. The forum created by the IC2 provided valuable help with facilitating collaboration among the states agencies that are involved in these challenging efforts.

The Webinars that the IC2 began to hold in FY 2009 were a great way to share information. These events are particularly important to a small state like Maine where traveling to meetings and workshops has become increasingly difficult because of out-of-state travel restrictions. We are able to access expertise and speakers that we could not get any other way.

State agencies and others are also looking toward the White House and Congress to reform the Toxics Substances Control Act (TSCA) in the next few years. There have been recent statements by industry groups, the Administrator of the EPA, state agencies, non-governmental organizations, and others calling for TSCA to be modernized. The 30 plus year old law needs major revisions to address the many regulatory, data, and public health challenges associated with chemicals in the environment. I believe that we will need to actively engage in discussions about TSCA and the federal framework over the next few years.

NEWMOA’s leadership in helping to initiate the IC2 in 2009 has demonstrated the confidence the Association’s members have in its work. During the past year, NEWMOA has helped the IC2 begin to develop a proposal for a governance structure, hold meetings, and make initial plans for an online repository or database of key information that state agencies need to implement their programs and laws, like Maine’s Toxic Chemicals in Children’s Products Act.

NEWMOAs experience over the past ten years helping states implement their mercury reduction laws through the Interstate Mercury Education and Reduction Clearinghouse (IMERC) has been critical in developing the capacity within the organization to take on a challenging effort like helping to create the IC2. NEWMOA has learned so much from its
work on IMERC. I believe that the ability of the states to form the IC2 will be much quicker because of NEWMOA’s experience and expertise.

**Interstate Mercury Education & Reduction Clearinghouse (IMERC)**

IMERC’s efforts are vital to states in the region in our efforts to continue to reduce mercury use in products. In FY 2009, IMERC continued its assistance to states with implementation of their product notification (i.e., reporting) and bans and phase-out requirements. However, this past year IMERC focused more than ever on assisting states with implementing their product labeling requirements. Product labeling for mercury content is critical for the public to understand what they are purchasing.

Maine DEP recently asked some university researchers to study the recycling of compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) in the state. They found that there are about 200 qualified retail facilities and about 165 transfer stations that are taking back CFLs for recycling. However, when they estimated the actual recycling rate for these products, they found that there is a low rate that is actually occurring, even though there are so many outlets for consumers to use. The research pointed out that the public is uniformed about the mercury in the lamps and the need to recycle them. Among other challenges, the information available on various websites in the state was not user friendly. The Agency was not effectively getting the word out to the public.

Proper labeling of products can help ensure that people know that CFLs and other mercury-added products contain mercury. In Maine, we have found that most people do not recognize the Hg in a circle as the chemical symbol for mercury, and they do not know that they need to recycle their bulbs.

This year IMERC began to address this challenge. The Clearinghouse members prepared a report for the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) on state requirements for labeling mercury-added fluorescent lamps. This report was written to provide background for the FTC to assist them in their
efforts to develop new rules for labeling of lamps. NEWMOA submitted this report and a letter to the FTC early in FY 2010 providing extensive comments on the kinds of changes that are needed in the labeling of lamps to help the public better understand what they ought to do.

In addition to the FTC rulemaking, the law in Vermont governing labeling of fluorescent lamps was amended, which has resulted in the need for greater coordination and collaboration among the Northeast states in implementation of mercury-added product labeling requirements. Throughout FY 2009, IMERC held meetings and conference calls to facilitate greater involvement of all the states in the review of alternative plans for labeling mercury-added products and compliance with mercury product labeling requirements. This planning effort during FY 2009 will result in greater collaboration in the future among the IMERC-member states to improve labeling of products and education of the public on what items contain mercury.

We have seen tremendous reductions in certain categories of mercury-added products over the past ten or so years. IMERC is helping the states to quantify these reductions. However, there are mercury-added products that continue to present challenges that we need to address. Among these are neon signs that can contain relatively high amounts of mercury and are frequently made or repaired in small workshops, where there is potential for significant mercury releases and exposures. The users of these signs, including restaurants, bars, salons, corner stores, and other small retail businesses rarely understand that they contain mercury and need to be managed properly and recycled. We also need to expand our efforts to promote fluorescent lamp and thermostat recycling in the region. We will continue to turn to NEWMOA and IMERC to assist us with addressing these challenges in the future.

**Review of Compact Fluorescent Lamp Recycling Initiatives**

In FY 2009, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) contracted with NEWMOA to prepare a report on compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL) collection and recycling programs in the U.S. and abroad. The main purpose of the Report, *Review of Compact Fluorescent Lamp Recycling Initiatives in the U.S. & Internationally*, was to examine these programs to highlight lessons learned and possible approaches to adopt in Massachusetts.

The Report presents the results of CFL collection and recycling programs across the U.S. and in other countries for which information is publicly available. The structures of the CFL recycling programs implemented to date depend on the location, community acceptance, stakeholder involvement, and available funding. NEWMOAs initial review of the CFL collection and recycling data that is available suggests that the most successful CFL recycling efforts employ a variety of approaches. Common programs in the U.S. and in other countries include:

- Consumer mail-back programs, such as manufacturer and lamp recycler-sponsored recycling kits
- Retail-sponsored collection programs at hardware and other stores, wholesale facilities, and other commercial locations
- Utility-sponsored collection programs at a variety of locations
- Publically-sponsored collection programs, such as household hazardous waste (HHW) collection facilities, municipal collection sites, and curbside recycling services
- Extended producer responsibility programs, such as the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) initiative in Europe and the recently enacted law in Maine that requires manufacturers to implement approved CFL collection and recycling programs

raining state hazardous waste inspectors to maintain and improve their proficiency and effectiveness has become ever more challenging for state environmental agencies. Both EPA and state hazardous waste (HW) program budgets and resources have been trimmed each year by cuts and rescissions to the EPA Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) budget and federal grants to states, as well as by cuts to state budgets. Consequently, the training opportunities provided through NEWMOA are a critical component of the states’ efforts to ensure that their hazardous waste inspectors remain proficient in a complex array of regulatory requirements. NEWMOA provides a forum for combining state and federal resources to meet training needs at a modest cost. NEWMOA also enables state and EPA professionals to exchange information on specific program issues and concerns, regulatory interpretations, and new state and federal approaches through monthly calls and web-conferences.

To ensure that NEWMOA’s training and information exchange plans address current state priorities, NEWMOA polls member-state hazardous waste program managers to learn about their priorities for the coming year. The results of the polling are discussed in conference calls with state and EPA managers and staff to build consensus on the training and information exchange topics for monthly web conferences and conference calls, as well as a day-long “Advanced Hazardous Waste Inspector” face-to-face workshop. The results of these planning efforts are summarized in a NEWMOA Annual Training Plan. As the Hazardous Waste Program Area Chair, I reviewed and approved the NEWMOA Training Plan for FY 2009.

The annual “Advanced Hazardous Waste Inspector Training Workshops” for 2009 were held at the EPA Region 2 Laboratory in Edison, NJ and in Sturbridge, MA. Each of these workshops included a presentation by Claudie Grout of ENVISION Exceptional Instruction, Durham, New Hampshire on the Land Disposal Restrictions (LDRs) in the federal hazardous waste regulations. Ms. Grout is an exceptionally talented instructor, who previously provided training to the Northeast states through a contract with EPA Region 1. Most of her training work is with corporate clients on Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), RCRA, and other federal regulatory requirements. At NEWMOA’s training, she summarized EPA’s regulatory requirements and guidance concerning implementation of the LDRs; presented several example cases to illustrate how the requirements should be applied and what inspectors should look for; and facilitated a lively discussion and question and answer period. She also provided a number of references and computer links where inspectors can secure additional help with interpreting this challenging body of regulations.

Each of the workshops also featured a presentation by Kevin Leary of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Office of Hazardous Materials Standards (OHMS) on the DOT rules governing hazardous waste storage and shipment. Mr. Leary reviewed the rules applicable to
hazardous waste storage and transfer facilities and explained how the regulations are interpreted and applied. He also described DOT’s outreach to the regulated community and the Agency’s approach to compliance and enforcement activities.

In the third session, different topics were covered to accommodate the training priorities of the participating states. At the Edison workshop, Robert Heiss, Director of the EPA, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA), International Compliance Assurance Division teamed up with Abdool Jabar of the EPA Region 2 Hazardous Waste Program. They explained the requirements applicable to facility operators engaged in managing international shipments of waste and described cases to illustrate key issues of concern. This is a particular priority for New York and New Jersey because a significant number of these facilities are operating in these states.

At the Sturbridge workshop, state hazardous waste program managers Lynn Metcalf, VT DEC; Tammy Calligandes, NH DES; and David Stokes, CT DEP described and demonstrated electronic checklists and other tools and innovations designed to improve state hazardous waste program efficiency and effectiveness in their respective states.

In FY 2009, NEWMOA held monthly web conferences on topics selected by state hazardous waste program managers. Topics covered through these calls included:

- State and EPA regulatory and policy initiatives on waste pharmaceuticals
- EPA’s Definition of Solid Waste
- Clean Water Act and RCRA regulatory interface
- State and EPA requirements and policies regarding the secondary use of contaminated off-specification chemicals
- EPA’s proposed Universal Waste Rule on pharmaceuticals
- RCRA and Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) interface concerning regulations applicable to polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), pesticides, and other chemicals
- State compliance and enforcement program initiatives and outreach concerning non-notifiers
- State regulation of used oil, including state specifications, policies, and procedures
- EPA’s regulations concerning recycling and the definition of waste
- Nanotechnology
- Green chemistry
- State and EPA policies and procedures on generator knowledge and third party hazardous waste determinations
In FY 2009, NEWMOA’s Assistance and Pollution Prevention (P2) Roundtable accomplishments included:

- Holding web conferences
- Publishing newsletters
- Launching the EFACT™ tool
- Organizing a meeting of programs in EPA Region 2
- Implementing the regional Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange (P2Rx)™ Center
- Managing the Regional Hospitality and Marina Workgroups
- Participating in the national dialogue surrounding chemicals policy

**A & P2 Webinars**

Many state agencies are experiencing severe out-of-state travel restrictions, and web conferences are a great way to provide education and outreach to a large number of people. We held five webinars (www.newmoa.org/prevention/webconferences/index.cfm) this year focusing on:

- Program Survival During the Economic Crisis: Is There a Path from Barely Surviving to Thriving?
- Energy Management Planning: Methods & Examples
- Energy Efficiency Assessments
- Zero Waste Programs & Initiatives
- Results of the Common Measures Project

The Northeast Assistance and Pollution Prevention Roundtable Steering Committee and members selected the webinar topics. The Steering Committee met four times during the year via conference call to share state and EPA updates, plan the webinars, work on the newsletter, and plan other events and activities outlined in this Annual Report. At the beginning of the year, we conducted a survey on training priorities, and the Steering Committee used the survey results to select priority training topics. These sessions were timely and informative and helped us address key issues that we are facing.

**Newsletters**

NEWMOA published two issues of the Northeast Assistance and Pollution Prevention News (www.newmoa.org/prevention/newsletter.cfm) this year. The Spring NEWMOA newsletter highlighted the current pollution and waste prevention and related activities of state and local programs in the Northeast that focus on climate change mitigation (www.newmoa.org/prevention/newsletters/19_1/19_1.pdf). Every day there seems to be news coverage of some aspect of climate change – whether it is debates concerning the magnitude of the human contribution to global warming; results of studies on emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs); new technologies to mitigate or address climate change impacts; scientific research on the impacts of a warmer planet; or actions on the part of nations, states, and municipalities. Many inside and out of government agencies consider climate change to be the most significant environmental challenge facing the world. The NEWMOA newsletter covered regional activities underway in the Northeast and West Coast as well as climate action initiatives of the member states. The newsletter demonstrated the breadth of innovative climate change actions in the region.
NEWMOA’s fall newsletter captured the efforts of governments in the Northeast to go green (www.newmoa.org/prevention/newsletters/18_1/vol18_1.pdf). Environmental agencies in the region are increasingly promoting green practices to a wide variety of audiences within their jurisdictions, while at the same time developing initiatives to “walk the talk” and demonstrate sustainability leadership. The government programs described in the newsletter have initiated a variety of greening government approaches that provide models from which others can learn.

**Sector Outreach Support — Hospitality & Marinas**

In 2008, NEWMOA formed a regional Hospitality Workgroup (www.newmoa.org/prevention/workgroups.cfm#hosp). The Workgroup convened by conference calls throughout fiscal year 2009 and discussed the challenges facing the programs and the increasing interest in measuring the outcomes of their efforts. I am excited because this Workgroup will be breaking new ground in that it will organize at least one webinar that will be open to folks beyond the NEWMOA state members. Initial discussions indicate that those in the hospitality sector are interested in learning more about solid waste reduction and green cleaning.

Marinas and boat yards can have a large number of impacts on the marine environment, including point and non-point source wastewater discharges, stormwater runoff, hazardous and solid waste generation, hazardous air emissions, fuel spills, spills of other hazardous materials, and discharges from boat washing and maintenance operations. The state environmental agencies in the Northeast have been working with EPA and each other on the development and implementation of compliance and pollution prevention assistance strategies and tools for marinas in the region (see www.newmoa.org/prevention/projects/nemarina/index.cfm). Since 2002, NEWMOA has been assisting its member states and EPA marina outreach and assistance efforts by organizing and facilitating a regional Marina Workgroup. In FY 2009, the group’s conference calls focused on sharing information on plans underway in each state and how these can be coordinated with EPA Region 1’s marina outreach strategy.

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**Pollution Prevention Internship P2Rx Topic Hub™**

Pollution prevention (P2) internships are different from other environmental internships because of the focus on reducing or eliminating waste at the source, which can save water, energy, and money. NEWMOA launched the P2 Internship Topic Hub to help educate technical assistance programs, policy makers, and educators that might be considering starting such a program, as well as raise awareness of these programs among potential interns and host companies. The Topic Hub also helps improve and sustain existing P2 intern programs.

The P2 Internship Topic Hub highlights the various approaches existing programs throughout the U.S. have taken in implementing their internship programs. Topics covered include: getting a program started, recruiting student interns, recruiting program clients, providing technical assistance and support for the students, listing the different tasks that student interns conduct, training students, identifying the costs of the programs, and measuring the results.


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**Meeting of States & EPA Program Staff for EPA Region 2**

Our regional meeting for state and federal programs in EPA Region 2 was very valuable this year. During the meeting, EPA Regional staff discussed their efforts on assistance and P2, particularly related to grants. The staffs from state and local programs talked about their activities and the challenges they have been facing. We also discussed how states’ and NEWMOA’s priorities fit with the EPA Regional priorities (www.newmoa.org/prevention/cwm/reg2meas09/index.cfm). Plans were discussed for follow-up conference calls between New Jersey and New York state pollution prevention programs and EPA Region 2.
I am excited about the measurement efforts that NEWMOA is involved with, including the Energy and Materials Flow and Cost Tracker (EMFACT™) tool and the P2 Results Data System. NEWMOA launched EMFACT™ online this year after working on developing the tool for several years - www.newmoa.org/prevention/emfact/register.cfm. NEWMOA and the Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance (OTA) for Toxics Use Reduction have collaborated to develop and test EMFACT™.

EMFACT™ is designed to enable environmental managers, equipment operators, process engineers at small to medium-sized manufacturers to see exactly where they are with regards to environmental impacts from their operations. This project builds upon the current application of environmental management accounting as a critical aspect of sustainable production and P2.

The primary beneficiaries of this tool are companies and organizations that implement it to aid in setting P2 priorities, identifying value-added opportunities for sustainable production, and implementing other materials and energy efficiency improvements. State and local environmental and technical assistance programs and private sector consultants also benefit by having a tool to help their client companies identify P2 opportunities and quantify the benefits and costs. NEWMOA contracted with Sullivan International Group to develop the EMFACT™ tool and to provide
training support. After launching the tool online and posting a number of supporting materials and user guidance in the spring, NEWMOA conducted five workshops and two webinars to train potential users and promote EMFACT™. NEWMOA will continue to provide training and support for EMFACT™ users in FY 2010.

Comments to EPA on P2 Strategy

EPA Headquarters proposed a national P2 Strategic Plan in FY 2009 to help guide the Agency’s efforts over the next five years. EPA shared a draft of the strategic plan with the NEWMOA member states and many others and requested comments and suggestions. NEWMOA submitted a lengthy letter on behalf of its members with suggestions for improving the strategic plan. The Association looks forward to working with EPA on its efforts to implement this plan.

Safer Chemicals & P2

In FY 2009, NEWMOA provided facilitation support for an emerging interstate effort, called the Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse (IC2) (see sidebar on page 8). The participating state programs turned to NEWMOA to support this effort because of the Association’s long involvement in P2, reduction of priority chemicals, and organizing conferences and workshops over the past five years. My state P2 program staff and others have been actively involved in the discussions about forming the IC2 and are very excited about this initiative. We are particularly interested in the discussions about methodologies for assessing safer alternative chemicals.

There is an emerging national discussion underway concerning reform of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). This is likely to be a focus of much discussion over the next few years. I believe that the effort to reform TSCA must engage state programs, like the one in New Jersey, that have been involved with P2 to learn from our experience on the ground working with companies to promote switching to safer formulations and to ensure that whatever reforms that Congress enacts reflect the ongoing value of P2 initiatives. I also think that this discussion provides an opportunity to reform and update the Pollution Prevention Act. This Act is largely a policy statement that asserts that source reduction should be the preferred method of pollution mitigation. I feel that now we have the opportunity to “put some teeth” into the Act. I think this could go a long way towards elevating P2 to the level it deserves and could greatly elevate the importance of state source reduction programs.

A major challenge facing our programs is not only how to function effectively with dwindling resources but to grow to meet the ever increasing complexity of the issues we face. This is where NEWMOAs ability to coordinate regional approaches is invaluable. We anticipate tough times for the foreseeable future, but I feel optimistic that we will rise to meet the challenges and continue to advance source reduction in the region and be a leader on national P2 and sustainability.

Greening the Hospitality Industry – Support for Outreach & Assistance

Lodging facilities and restaurants can have significant environmental impacts, including generation of food and other solid wastes, energy consumption, wastewater and stormwater discharges, and use of toxic cleaners and other potentially harmful products. There is a high degree of interest in and work underway with this sector in the Northeast. States, including Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont have initiated programs to certify green lodging facilities. In Maine and Rhode Island, these efforts have expanded to restaurants. NEWMOA’s Hospitality Workgroup met by conference call throughout the fiscal year to discuss the challenges facing this sector and how to address them. NEWMOA also initiated a project to develop support tools to assist the efforts of the state and local programs to quantify the environmental outcomes of their hospitality certification and assistance initiatives. The Workgroup plans to continue working on measurement tools, holding regular conference calls, and supporting other information sharing activities in FY 2010. For more information, visit www.newmoa.org/prevention/projects/hospitality/index.cfm.
State environmental agencies have increasingly been facing the dual pressures to oversee ever growing numbers of pollution sources with fewer resources and to demonstrate that agency compliance assurance efforts are yielding measurable results. The States Common Measures Project began in 2006 as a multi-state effort to address both of these pressures by:

- Evaluating the performance of targeted business sectors using common measures and statistical approaches
- Using the results to identify particularly effective strategies states employ to promote good environmental performance on the part of the regulated community

The Common Measures Project was designed to support state efforts to develop and use common measures of environmental performance for one or more business sectors/groups across several NEWMOA member and other states. Under the Project, funded through a three year grant from the EPA State Innovations Grant Program, 10 participating states – California, Colorado, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington – applied a measurement methodology developed by Massachusetts DEP for the Environmental Results Program (ERP) to businesses that are small quantity generators (SQGs) of hazardous waste.

ERP measurement uses statistical approaches to efficiently and effectively measure the environmental performance of a group. The Program starts by identifying and understanding the group to be measured. Next, the agency selects a set of compliance and beyond compliance measures that can reveal critical information about performance. The approach requires the agency staff to inspect a relatively small random subset of the group and uses statistical analyses to generalize the findings to the entire group with a selected confidence level and confidence intervals. The results yield a comparison of the performance of a selected group across states. This information can then form the basis for fact-based discussions and decisions on deploying and targeting limited inspection, assistance, and enforcement resources.

NEWMOA compared the data obtained from each state through the Common Measures Project about the performance of the state’s SQGs and compared them to the other states to highlight statistically valid differences. Participating states provided descriptions of the amount and nature of compliance and beyond compliance assistance provided, compliance inspection triggers and frequency, and enforcement tools and reporting requirements in place during the three years prior to the project. The program design information was compared to the performance results to identify if there were any oversight practices among the states that could be associated with higher performance rates. This analysis indicated that onsite compliance and beyond compliance assistance appear to be associated with higher performance levels.

In FY 2009, the Common Measures Project was completed, and The States Common Measures Project Final Report was posted on the NEWMOA website. The Report presents the results, methodology, conclusions, and recommendations from this successful initiative. Through the Project a statistical analysis tool, the ERP Performance Analyzer, was developed to streamline the data management, statistical analysis, and presentation of results. The conclusions of the Report are presented on page 17. For more information on the Common Measures Project, go to: www.newmoa.org/hazardouswaste/measures/report.cfm.
Common Measures Project Conclusions

The purpose of the Common Measures Project was to advance the use of valid statistical methods and measurement tools to enable comparison of performance changes across states resulting from the use of various environmental compliance assurance approaches. The Project goals were to:

- Improve the ability of state environmental agencies to develop, implement, and analyze innovative performance measures for targeted business sectors
- Improve the ability of the state environmental agencies to develop and implement innovative compliance strategies, including Environmental Results Projects (ERP)

The Common Measures Project was a success and achieved the project goals. The Project resulted in three important findings:

- The Common Measures approach has tremendous potential to generate meaningful data about the environmental performance of any group. This information can be invaluable in making informed and strategic agency decisions about the best way to promote better performance and achieve compliance.
- Comprehensive measurement can sometimes lead to surprising results. The Common Measures Project clearly showed that for the SQG sector, the quantity and frequency of inspections and enforcement actions (the traditional compliance approach) did not account for differences in performance – the key factor accounting for higher performance was assistance and outreach activities.
- Deploying this measurement approach more widely will take senior management commitment and dedicated time and resources. States need continued assistance from EPA to build internal capacity, including use of the ERP Performance Analyzer tool. In addition, in order to invest the resources to implement a Common Measures approach, states need relief from the traditional inspection requirements.

Over a three year period, the ten project states were able to use the same set of common measures to evaluate the environmental performance of a common group of facilities. The project also created a replicable template that can be used by other agencies to build the capacity to measure group performance and to use the information to identify the most efficient and effective strategies for promoting better environmental performance.

Achieving the full benefits of the States Common Measures Project requires the widespread adoption of ERP-type measurement across environmental agencies. EPA should promote and expand the use of ERP-type measurement in both “core” and other work in states and EPA. The challenge going forward is to take meaningful steps to capitalize on the potential created by this Project. The ten participating states remain hopeful that EPA will continue to be open to innovation and provide the key leadership and financial support for this proven compliance approach.

This year was particularly busy for NEWMOA’s Waste Site Cleanup (WSC) Program. Not only did we hold workshops on three priority technical topics, we also held a meeting between state and EPA Brownfields programs, prepared two information sharing documents, and initiated an effort to affect change at EPA in the process for handling certain sites. For years, the top priority of NEWMOA’s WSC program has been to provide training, workshops, and seminars to increase technical capabilities among state program staff and the private industry representatives with whom we work. Although training remains important, the fiscal pressures states face have elevated the need to work together on information sharing and coordinated action on program implementation issues.

Information Sharing

NEWMOA is a great asset to the states in terms of information sharing and dissemination. In FY 2009, Rhode Island was working on developing guidance on investigating and remediating vapor intrusion problems and wanted to learn the technical basis of other state approaches and the guidance information available. Rhode Island posed a series of questions that NEWMOA disseminated to the other states. NEWMOA compiled the responses into a matrix that then was provided to all states for their use. Later in FY 2009, Maine was focused on developing new sources of funding to run its programs and wanted to know how other states fund their WSC programs. Again, NEWMOA queried the other states, compiled responses and developed a matrix for state use. This effort showed that states fund their programs differently, with some relying primarily on special fees and taxes while others are supported only minimally by fees and rely more on other sources, such as federal grants.

NEWMOA also organized an April 2009 meeting of the States and EPA Brownfields Program staff. We discussed state grants, and we heard about what is new in each of the states and at the national level, such as plans for implementing the economic stimulus funding targeted to the Brownfields program. At this meeting, states expressed an interest in learning more about the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) process and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from EPA. PCBs are regulated differently than other contaminants and are subject to EPA’s TSCA program. The TSCA review and oversight requirements are often unclear to states and the regulated communities, and this can lead to delays in Brownfields projects and can add to the overall cost of cleanup. The discussion at the April 2009 meeting lead to follow-up efforts by NEWMOA to better define and articulate state concerns, and engage EPA in a dialogue to better understand and improve the process. While this work began in FY 2009, it is anticipated to continue throughout FY 2010.

Waste Site Cleanup Training

NEWMOA organized workshops on three topics in FY 2009: field-based characterization; greener cleanups; and contaminated sediments. We selected training topics based on discussions with the Waste Site Cleanup Steering Committee, who get input from their respective staff. We focused our NEWMOA efforts on training because this is a need that all the member states share and have difficulty arranging for on their own.

Inadequate site characterization can lead to project delays, unnecessary expenses, and uncertain results. Using traditional site characterization methods to provide enough information to address financial uncertainties can be cost
prohibitive. A combination of improved upfront project planning, the use of innovative sampling methods and field-based characterization technologies, and the ability to interpret the data and adapt the workplan in the field has the potential to reduce the time and expense of performing a quality site characterization while simultaneously yielding better information to make informed decisions. In November 2008, NEWMOA organized the workshop, “Getting More Bang for Your Buck: Real-time Data Collection & Interpretation for Better Decision-Making”, to provide a unique hands-on opportunity for several companies in the region to showcase their field equipment, technology, and interpretation capabilities. To maximize attendance, the workshop was held in two locations, Concord, New Hampshire and Sturbridge, Massachusetts and over 140 state and federal staff, and consultants attended. For copies of the presentations, go to: www.newmoa.org/cleanup/cwm/data2008.

Energy and climate change are a primary focus for the waste site cleanup programs. WSC programs need to work toward making changes in our approaches so that our cleanups are conducted in greener, more energy-efficient ways and minimize greenhouse gas emissions. To help WSC programs understand how they can contribute to the overall effort of reducing GHG emissions, NEWMOA held a full day workshop, “Greening Cleanup: What Does It Mean and How Do You Do It?” in April 2009. The workshop was held in Pomfret, Connecticut and Portsmouth, New Hampshire and together was attended by over 155 people. For copies of the presentations, go to: www.newmoa.org/cleanup/cwm/greener.

The final priority training topic of FY 2009 was contaminated sediment sites. Many Brownfields and other potentially contaminated properties contain, or are adjacent to wetlands and/or surface water bodies, such as streams and ponds. It is important to consider the impact of potential contamination on these ecosystems, particularly the sediments. However, due to difficult accessibility issues, sites with contaminated sediments pose a significant challenge to WSC programs. To provide information to better address these challenges, we decided to hold two workshops: one focused on characterizing contaminated sediments in FY 2009 and a follow-on workshop focused on remediating sediment sites in FY 2010. In September 2009, NEWMOA held the workshop “Contaminated Sediment Sites: Characterization and Decision-Making” in Pomfret, Connecticut and Westford, Massachusetts. They were well attended by a total of more than 140 participants from EPA and state regulatory agencies, as well as consultants. For copies of the presentations, go to: www.newmoa.org/cleanup/cwm/sediments.

NEWMOA’s WSC accomplishments in FY 2009 reflect the important issues affecting the state programs, from technical training on new and emerging topics, to identifying funding sources. From a program perspective, managing and maintaining our programs during the economic downturn is our greatest challenge into the next year. In addition to reductions in staff, states are facing increased demands to work on an even greater number of sites. Under these conditions, NEWMOA’s value to the states becomes even greater.
NEWMOA relies on dues, grants, contracts, and special contributions for funding. The first and original source is state dues. The New England states request that EPA Region 1-New England make a portion of their RCRA state hazardous waste program assistance funds available as dues and general support, in the form of a grant to NEWMOA. The NEWMOA Board of Directors determines the specific amount each year in consultation with EPA Region 1-New England. New York and New Jersey elect to pay their annual dues directly to NEWMOA. IMERC-member states also pay annual dues directly to NEWMOA to fund IMERC’s activities.

EPA grants support solid waste activities, assistance and pollution prevention projects, the Common Measures Project, hazardous waste inspector training, and participation in federal regulatory development. Grants for these activities are awarded by a combination of EPA Region 1-New England, Region 2, and Headquarters, and occasionally by other agencies and institutions.

Contributions from member states in the form of contracts make up the third source of funding. Several states contribute directly to fund projects of particular interest, as well as to support NEWMOA’s mercury reduction, IMERC, oil spill cleanup, and Brownfields programs.

### NEWMOA’s Balance Sheet
October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Revenue</strong></th>
<th><strong>$</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Dues, Contracts, Fees &amp; Contributions</td>
<td>180,537</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Grants*</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Expenditures</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff Salaries &amp; Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel &amp; Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contracts</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,056,000</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Net Assets</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets at Beginning of Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets at End of Year</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Change in Assets (loss)</strong></td>
<td><strong>($50,993)</strong></td>
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</table>

*Federal grants include $142,000 in state assistance grants allocated to NEWMOA at the request of the New England states. Federal grants also include awards to states that were provided to NEWMOA through state contracts.*
About NEWMOA

The Northeast Waste Management Officials’ Association (NEWMOA) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan interstate association that has a membership composed of the hazardous waste, solid waste, waste site cleanup, and pollution prevention program directors for the environmental agencies in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont. NEWMOA was established by the Governors of the New England states as an official regional organization to coordinate interstate hazardous and solid waste, pollution prevention, and waste site cleanup activities, and was formally recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 1986.

NEWMOA's Mission

NEWMOA’s mission is to develop and sustain an effective partnership of states that helps achieve a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment by exploring, developing, promoting, and implementing environmentally sound solutions for:

- Reducing materials use and preventing pollution and waste,
- Properly reusing and recycling discarded materials that have value,
- Safely managing solid and hazardous wastes, and
- Remediating contaminated sites.

The group fulfills this mission by providing a variety of support services that:

- facilitate communication and cooperation among member states, between the states and the EPA, and between the states and other stakeholders;
- provide research on and evaluation of emerging issues, best practices, and data to help state programs maximize efficiency and effectiveness; and
- facilitate development of regional approaches to solving critical environmental problems.
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