

FISCAL YEAR 2007 PROJECT Persistent, Bioaccumulative, & Toxics (PBT) & Other Priority Chemicals

Mercury Reduction & Control Strategies in the Northeast

Project Strategy: Reduce mercury products in the waste stream; where that is not feasible establish a comprehensive collection system for mercury products; establish effective mercury reduction programs in the states by sharing information on program activities, successes, and challenges

The Northeast state environmental and health agencies are concerned about elevated levels of mercury in the environment throughout the region. To address this problem the states have joined together in an effort to better understand the nature and extent of this problem and to develop joint approaches to reduce and control this pollutant.

The New England Governor's and Eastern Canadian Premiers approved a regional Mercury Action Plan in FY 1998. In FY 2007 NEWMOA will continue to collaborate with the Mercury Task Force convened by the New England Governor's Conference/Eastern Canadian Premiers Secretariat on several efforts related to the Action Plan. These efforts include:

- managing a Mercury Workgroup
- preparing a paper documenting achievements in mercury reduction in the region
- assisting states with coordination, communications, and implementation of NEWMOA's Mercury Education and Reduction Model Legislation, which was developed by the state environmental agencies
- managing the Interstate Mercury Education and Reduction Clearinghouse (IMERC) (see full project description)
- managing outreach and assistance projects for schools (see full project descriptions)
- managing a number of web-based projects to facilitate mercury information sharing (see full project description)
- managing a lamp recycling outreach project (see full project description)

The effort is funded by grants from EPA and state contracts and dues.

For more information visit www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury/ or contact: Terri Goldberg, NEWMOA, (617) 367-8558 x302; tgoldberg@newmoa.org.