

FACT SHEET



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs)

Compliance and enforcement programs of
IDEM's Office of Air Quality, Land Quality and Water Quality

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www.idem.IN.gov

100 N. Senate Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46204

Description:

- A Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) is an environmentally beneficial project that a respondent agrees to undertake as part of an enforcement action settlement.
- A SEP must improve, restore, protect, or reduce risks to the public and/or the environment beyond that achieved by compliance with applicable laws, rules, and/or permits.
- SEPs provide a significant benefit by providing respondents an opportunity to fund environmentally beneficial projects.
- Qualified SEPs fall into eight (8) categories:
 - Pollution Prevention
 - Pollution Reduction/Pollution Control
 - Environmental Conservation, Protection, and Restoration
 - Environmental Audits
 - Comprehensive Environmental Training
 - Community Involvement
 - Public Awareness
 - Public Health

Environmental Impacts:

- Conducting a SEP provides an efficient way to achieve real environmental progress in the wake of an environmental violation.
- A SEP must describe and quantify the environmental benefits in order to be approved.

IDEM's Role:

- The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is responsible for protecting human health and the environment while providing for safe industrial, agricultural, commercial, and governmental operations vital to a prosperous economy.
- The compliance and enforcement programs of IDEM's Offices of Air, Land and Water Quality actively work to determine and document whether a regulated entity is complying with Indiana's environmental requirements and enforcing those requirements. Their mission is to respond to violations in a timely, consistent manner, achieve compliance, deter future violations and misconduct in others, and preserve a level playing field for those that abide by laws.
- IDEM's compliance and enforcement programs are able to incorporate a SEP into settlement agreements with respondents.
- It is the policy of IDEM to encourage the consideration, development, and implementation of SEPs to further the state's goals of protecting and enhancing human health and the environment.

SEP Idea Library:

- IDEM has created a SEP Idea Library to provide companies with ideas for potential SEPs for their consideration during negotiation of an enforcement action.
- The SEP Idea Library lists categorical ideas of projects that are generally approved for SEPs.

Citizen's Role:

- All Hoosiers play an important role in protecting public health and our environment. Citizens are encouraged to learn more about environmental management in Indiana, how IDEM works to provide

compliance and technical assistance and enforce regulations, and simple actions that individuals can take to protect Indiana's air, land and water.

More Information:

- For information about environmental management in Indiana, including pollution prevention tips for individuals, visit IDEM's website at www.idem.IN.gov.
- For IDEM's enforcement policies, including the Supplemental Environmental Project Policy (ID # ENF-003 (R1)), visit IDEM's Nonrule Policies Web page at www.IN.gov/ideM/4694.htm, and view the documents under the heading of Multiple Program Areas.
- For the SEP Idea Library, visit IDEM's Enforcement Web page at www.IN.gov/ideM/4107.htm.
- For questions, comments or concerns about IDEM's enforcement policies, please feel free to contact any of the following IDEM offices:
 - Office of Air Quality Compliance and Enforcement Branch at (317) 232-8457.
 - Office of Land Quality Compliance and Response Branch at (317) 234-8243.
 - Office of Water Quality Water Compliance Branch at (317) 233-5963.