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NJDEP Site Remediation Requirements Checklists

In order to improve the quality of submittals made to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), the Department has recently developed checklists for each submittal type.

The following information has been provided by the [NJDEP Site Remediation & Waste Management Web site](#):

"The checklists are intended for use by those conducting remediation to double check the completeness and

quality of technical documents prior to submittal to the Department."

The NJDEP is strongly recommending that the correct checklist be provided with all document submittal as its inclusion may help to reduce the Department's review time and oversight costs.

The checklists are available for download in both [Adobe PDF](#) and [Excel Spreadsheet](#) formats from the NJDEP website.

Current and future updates to the checklists will be highlighted in the [What's New](#) section of the NJDEP Web site. (Posted to NJDEP Web site on August 3, 2007)



Senate Passes New Energy Bill

On Thursday June 21, 2007, the Senate passed an energy bill that includes an increase in automobile fuel economy, calling for more ethanol and the first boost in gas mileage in decades, and regulations to prevent energy price-gouging.

"This bill starts America on a path toward reducing our reliance on oil," stated Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nevada.

The measure, passed by a 65-27 majority, now awaits action by the House, but legislation will likely not be sent to President Bush until later this year.

The bill would require that the average fuel efficiency of automobiles be increased from 22.7 mpg to 35 mpg for cars, trucks, and SUVs by 2020. The bills supporters saw that the new fuel efficiency standard would save 2.5 million barrels of oil a day by 2025.

Opponents of the bill, however, claim that the bill is focused too much on fuel efficiency and renewables, and that it does nothing to increase domestic oil or natural gas production.

The bill also calls for new appliance and lighting efficiency standards along with grants, loan guarantees and other assistance to promote research into fuel efficient vehicles.

Left out of the bill were

(Cont'd on pg. 2)





EPA Reports Latest Inventory of Chemicals Released

The following information has been provided by the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#) Web site:

The EPA released data on March 22, 2007 from its [Toxics Release Inventory](#) (TRI), which provides information on toxic chemicals used and released in 2005 by refineries, chemical manufacturers, utilities, and other facilities across the nation.

For EPA Region III, the 2005 TRI data indicates a small in-

crease of 0.4 percent (1.5 million pounds) of on and off site chemical releases (when compared with 2004 data). A total of 383.3 million pounds of chemicals were released during 2005 to the air, water or landfills by facilities in the mid-Atlantic region.

Review of the last five years of TRI data for the mid-Atlantic region shows a 17.5 percent reduction in toxic pollutants based on the release of 464.7

million pounds in 2000.

To learn more about the latest chemical releases for Region III, please visit the [EPA Press Release](#) Web page.

TRI information is easily accessible online to the news media and the public via the [TRI Explorer](#). For detailed information on a specific facility, please visit the [TRI Query](#) (Posted to EPA Web site on March 22, 2007)



“Vapor intrusion refers to the migration of volatile chemicals from the subsurface into overlying buildings.”

Updated NJDEP Vapor Intrusion Guidance

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has recently updated their Vapor Intrusion Guidance. The following information has been provided by the [NJDEP Site Remediation & Waste Management Web site](#):

“The presence of volatile chemicals in contaminated soil or

ground water offers the potential for chemical vapors to migrate through subsurface soils and/or preferential pathways (such as underground utilities) thereby impacting the indoor air quality of area buildings. Vapor intrusion refers to this migration of volatile chemicals from the subsurface into overlying buildings.”

The Vapor Intrusion informa-

tion linked from the NJDEP Web page represents specific guidance developed by the NJDEP to help assist in the investigation of the vapor intrusion pathway at contaminated sites.

The NJDEP will update the screening level tables included in the document following the release of new EPA Region III

New legislation calls on automakers to improve fuel efficiency.



Senate Passes New Energy Bill (cont'd from pg. 1)

requirements for electric utilities to produce at least 15% of their electricity from renewable fuels (such as biomass, wind, and other renewables). Southern Senators objected, citing the region's inability to meet such a standard, resulting in Senate Republicans refusing to allow the measure to come

to a vote if such a requirement was included.

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Philly Public Schools Undergo Voluntary Environmental Review



The school district will audit 62 of its schools for federal environmental regulation compliance., says the [U.S. EPA](#). The district's facilities will also be assessed for compliance

with asbestos requirements. *"The School District of Philadelphia is the first public school district in the nation to voluntarily sign up for a comprehensive environmental health check of its school buildings under an agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency."*

Under this agreement, EPA will reduce or eliminate penalties for violations found during self-audits if they are disclosed, promptly corrected and steps are put in place to prevent recurrence. The Philadel-

phia school district agreed to complete its asbestos audits within three years and the comprehensive audit within four years.

To learn more about Philadelphia's Voluntary Initiative, please visit the [EPA Press Release](#) Web page. [EPA's self-audit policy](#) is also available online. (Posted to EPA Web site on March 13, 2007)

"The School District of Philadelphia is the first ... to voluntarily sign up for a comprehensive environmental health check..."

Updated NJDEP Vapor Intrusion Guidance (con'td from pg.2)

toxicity factor information; and it will also update the guidance document as advancements are made to the state of the science in the evaluation of the vapor intrusion pathway.

To learn more about this update, please visit the NJDEP [Vapor](#)



[Intrusion](#) Web page. Updated [Vapor Intrusion Guidance Tables](#) are also available for download.

Current and future updates to the document and the associated tables will be highlighted in the [What's New](#) section of the NJDEP Web site. (Posted to NJDEP Web site on March 28, 2007)

Replacement of TPH Method 418.1

In response to the US EPA's withdraw of all analytical methods that use Freon 113 as a solvent (methods 413.1, 413.2, and 418.1) on March 12, 2007, the NJDEP Site Remediation Program (SRP) will stop accepting data generated by Method 418.1 for all samples collected after September 30, 2007.

The SRP will continue to accept TPH analytical data from the method for all samples collected prior to this date.

For all samples collected after September 30, 2007 there are two methods considered to be acceptable alternatives to Method 418.1 for analysis of petroleum products.

When contamination at a site is known to be diesel fuel/heating oil/#2 fuel oil the Diesel Range Organics (DRO) options are USEPA Method 8015B or NJDEP Method OQA-QAM0025, Rev. 6. When the identity of the petroleum contamination is not known, Method OQA-QAM0025, Rev. 6.

To learn more, please visit the [NJDEP TPH Guidance](#) Web page. (Posted to the NJDEP SRP Web site on June 21, 2007)





**React Environmental
Professional
Services
Group's Environmental Newsletter**

6901 Kingsessing Ave,
Suite 201
P.O. Box 5377
Philadelphia, PA 19142

Phone: 215-729-3220

Fax: 215-729-1557

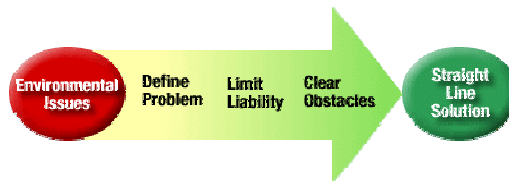
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Sewage Spills Into Schuylkill River

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) Regional Director Joseph A. Feola announced Monday August 20, 2007 that an equipment failure at the Oaks Sewage Treatment Plant in Upper Providence Township, Montgomery County, has resulted in the release of an unknown amount of partially-treated wastewater into the Schuylkill River.

"This release has created higher turbidity in the river. Downstream water suppliers have been notified and will protect the public by monitoring the quality of raw water to avoid taking in turbid water."

An on-site PADEP water quality specialist has reported elevated solids in the effluent coming from the treatment plant, where a new pump

station was put online on August 19. As of now, the PADEP says that there is no threat to drinking water supplies. Downstream water suppliers, as well as Montgomery, Chester and Philadelphia counties have all been notified of the release.

Based on the information provided about the wastewater release, Philly RiverCast (which provides a daily forecast of Schuylkill River water quality in Philadelphia) has posted a warning for all recreational activity on the river. Currently, the water in the river is not considered suitable for jet skiing, wakeboarding, water skiing,

kayaking, swimming events or wading.

The plant responsible for the spill is located at the confluence of the Perkiomen Creek and Schuylkill River, and is operated by the Lower Perkiomen Valley Regional Sewer Authority. (Posted to PADEP Web site on August 20, 2007)

Boathouse Row on the Schuylkill River, Philadelphia, PA
(Photo from About.com)

