

Office of Environmental Quality
Five Year Strategic Plan
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2025

Agency Number: 13-856
Program: Office of Environmental Compliance
Program Authorization: La. R.S. 30:2011(C)(1)c

Vision

The Office of Environmental Compliance is committed to the protection of health, safety and welfare of the people and environmental resources of Louisiana, through the processes of inspections, licensing and registration of sources of radiation, enforcement, and assessing the quality of air and water to sustain and enhance the quality of life for its citizens.

Mission

The mission of the Office of Environmental Compliance (OEC), consisting of the Surveillance, Emergency and Radiological Services, and Enforcement Divisions is to protect the health, safety and welfare of the people and environmental resources of Louisiana. The Office of Environmental Compliance protects the citizens of the state by conducting inspections of permitted and non-permitted facilities, assessing environmental conditions, responding to environmental incidents such as unauthorized releases, spills and citizen complaints, and by providing compliance assistance to the regulated community when appropriate.

OEC establishes a multimedia compliance approach; creates a uniform approach for compliance activities; assigns accountability and responsibility to appropriate parties; and provides standardized response training for all potential responders. The Office of Environmental Compliance provides for vigorous and timely resolution of enforcement actions.

Philosophy

The Office of Environmental Compliance will endeavor to operate in a fair and consistent manner, to achieve compliance with environmental regulations, and to ensure protection of our valuable environmental resources and human health. The Office of Environmental Compliance will adopt the following principles to accomplish a successful environmental compliance program:

- Maintain good working relationships with the public and the regulated community through better education regarding environmental problems.
- Operate within the constraints of the law in a fair, objective, and consistent manner that maintains high professional and ethical standards.
- Incorporate non-confrontational methods and approaches to problem solving.

Goal

The goals of the Office of Environmental Compliance are to operate in an open, fair, and consistent manner; to strive for and assist in attaining environmental compliance in the regulated community; and to protect environmental resources and the health and safety of the citizens of the State of Louisiana.

Objective 1:

The Office of Environmental Compliance, through the surveillance activity, will inspect regulated facilities related to air emissions, solid and hazardous waste, waste tires, water discharges, and asbestos statewide following procedures outlined in the Compliance Monitoring Strategy (CMS) July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025.

Facilities are selected for inspections, utilizing the procedures outlined in the CMS, to determine compliance with federal and state regulations and to ensure protection of public health and the environment.

Strategies:

- 1.1 Perform compliance inspections of facilities for air, water, hazardous waste, solid waste, and waste tire generators as outlined in the CMS.
- 1.2 Provide requisite compliance data for appropriate databases.

Performance Indicator:

Outcome: Percent of air Title V facilities inspected
 Percent of hazardous waste treatment, storage and disposal facilities inspected
 Percent of permitted solid waste facilities inspected
 Percent of major water facilities inspected
 Percent of significant minor water facilities inspected
 Percent of waste tire generators inspected

Output (GPI): Number of top-rated asbestos projects inspected.

Objective 2:

The Office of Environmental Compliance, through the surveillance activity, will monitor and sample approximately 25% of targeted surface water subsegments from 492 named waterbody subsegments statewide annually July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025.

Strategies:

- 2.1 Collect data on the quality of state waters that can be compared to State Water Quality Standards by sampling all ambient water subsegments in the state on a four year rotation by selecting specific watersheds each year in each region.

Performance Indicator:

Outcome: Percent of waterbody subsegments monitored and sampled.

Objective 3:

The Office of Environmental Compliance, through the surveillance activity, will address 85% of reported environmental incidents and citizen complaints within ten business days of receipt of notification from Single Point of Contact (SPOC) July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025.

Strategies:

- 3.1 Respond to unauthorized releases in an expedient manner and ensure an acceptable level of clean up.
- 3.2 Provide timely response to citizen complaints of environmental problems. Maintain “on-call” response procedures that provide for response capability seven days per week.

Performance Indicators:

Efficiency: Percent of environmental incidents and citizen complaints addressed within ten business days of receiving notification.

Input (GPI): Number of spill notifications.
Number of citizen complaints.

Objective 4:

The Office of Environmental Compliance through the emergency and radiological services activity will assess and protect the general public’s safety regarding the operation of nuclear power plants, the use of radiation sources, and radiological and chemical emergencies statewide July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025.

Strategies:

- 4.1 Periodically review and update of the Louisiana Peacetime Radiological Response Plan and operating procedures.
- 4.2 Maintain 24-hour readiness to respond to nuclear power plant incidents by providing radiological emergency response training to Emergency and Radiological staff, as well as personnel identified Department-wide.
- 4.3 Maintain radiation survey equipment, air radiation sampling equipment, personnel exposure recording devices and supplies of thyroid blocking drugs.
- 4.4 Maintain currency of the Annual Letter of Certification (ALC) to provide records to FEMA on meeting a subset of planning standards set forth in federal guidance “NUREG-0654, FEMA-REP-1, Rev. 1” regarding training, drills, equipment, public information and media relations.
- 4.5 Provide effective radiation protection by registering radiation-producing machines, by licensing radioactive materials, including Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material, and by the certification of industrial radiographers.
- 4.6 Process and issue completed license and registration action requests.
- 4.7 Perform compliance inspections of facilities with Radiation Licenses as outlined in the CMS.
- 4.8 Perform compliance inspections of facilities with X Ray Licenses as outlined in the CMS.
- 4.9 Perform compliance inspections of facilities with Mammography Licenses as outlined in the CMS.
- 4.10 Maintain 24-hour readiness to respond to chemical releases, transportation accidents and spills requiring air monitoring, sampling, and analysis to determine actual or potential harmful impact to public health or the environment.

Performance Indicators:

Outcome: Percent of emergency planning objectives demonstrated.
 Percent of radioactive material applications for registration, licensing, and certification processed within 30 business days of receipt.
 Percent of radiation licenses inspected
 Percent of x-ray registrations inspected
 Percent of mammography facilities inspected

Objective 5:

The Office of Environmental Compliance through the enforcement activity will increase compliance with environmental laws and regulations statewide by implementing a comprehensive enforcement process including regulatory awareness July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025.

Strategies:

- 5.1 Issue Cease and Desist Orders within 48 hours of finalization of investigation.
- 5.2 Issue Penalty Assessments within the prescribed time period for completion of the investigation.
- 5.3 Issue Compliance Orders within the prescribed time period for documentation confirming continued non-compliance.
- 5.4 Provide requisite enforcement data for appropriate EPA databases.

Performance Indicators:

Efficiency: Percent of enforcement actions issued within the prescribed timelines.

Output (GPI): Number of air quality enforcement actions issued.

Number of solid waste enforcement actions issued.

Number of hazardous waste enforcement actions issued.

Number of water quality enforcement actions issued.

Number of radiation enforcement actions issued.

Number of underground storage tanks actions issued