DPPEA’s Waste Assessment Process
Waste Assessment:
3-phases of the process

- Before the assessment
- The day of the assessment
- After the assessment
Before: Schedule a Meeting with Key Personnel

- Set the agenda to meet your objectives.
- Build a partnership.
- Establish two-party commitment.
- Ask for background information.
Before: Analyze Background Information

- Waste types, volumes, and disposal costs
- Written procedures for waste handling
- Current waste reduction activities
- Purchasing records and specifications
- Process flow diagrams
Before: Know your resources...

- Local and County Contacts
- Energy Management
- Recycling Opportunities
- State Regional Offices (DENR)
- Industrial Extension Services
- Tax credits for resource recovery & reuse
- Waste Exchange Programs
- P2 Websites
Day of: Meet with Key Facility Personnel

- Fill in gaps in the background information.
- Discuss current waste reduction efforts.
- Provide information on existing programs and opportunities for waste reduction.
- Get a sound understanding of the process prior to the facility walk-through.
**Day of:** Facility Walk-Through

- Follow the process flow diagram.
- Look for sources of waste and opportunities to eliminate, reduce, reuse, or recycle.
- Observe both normal operations and sporadic events such as cleanup and product changes.
- Get the facts!!!
What’s your method?
- process specific
- media specific

It usually involves both approaches
**Day of:** Process Specific Data Collection

- Receiving - Raw Materials Delivery
- Initial Inspection for Quality – Visual or Lab
- **Soft Drink:** Mixing, Bottling, Labeling, Packaging
- **Yarn:** Knitting, Scouring, Bleaching, Dyeing, Drying, Packaging
- **Wooden Chair:** Cutting, Sanding, Assembly, Coating, Packaging
Day of: Media Specific Data Collection

- Solid Waste
- Hazardous Waste
- Air Emissions
- Water Usage
Solid Waste Data

- Waste types;
- Generation volumes and frequency;
- Dumpster sizes, rent vs own, and hauling arrangements;
- Disposal sites and tipping fees;
- Recycling bins, equipment, and existing markets; and
- LOOK IN THE DUMPSTER!!
Day of: Hazardous Waste Data

- Generator status… (LQG, SQG, or CESQG);
- Types of waste;
- Source of generation;
- Hazardous waste storage practices;
- Labeling practices; and
- Disposal site and cost
Day of: Air Emission Data

- Permit status;
- Sources of emissions;
- Annual permit fees;
- Monitoring equipment and data; and
- Detectable odors/Visible emissions
Day of: Water Usage Data

- Daily usage;
- Daily discharge;
- Wastewater discharge limits;
- Spilled material on floors;
- Location of floor drains;
Conduct a Follow-Up Meeting with Facility Personnel

- Discuss initial findings of the waste assessment.
- Review the next steps.
After: Prepare a Waste Assessment Report

- Summarize background information.
- Review waste generation and existing methods of waste management.
- List waste reduction opportunities.
- Include an economic assessment of current and proposed activities.
Evaluate Waste Reduction Options

- Occupational Impacts
- Initial Cost
- Operating Cost
- Savings
- Environmental Impacts
- Production Shutdown Requirements

- Productivity
- Impact on Quality
- Energy Requirements
- Facility Modifications
- Maintenance Requirements
Report Prep: Don’t forget about…

- **Employee Awareness**: People need to be trained. Communication is vital.

- **Employee Appreciation**: Incentives and Awards do help increase participation
Contact Information

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