

The Regulatory Case for Pollution Prevention

Jack Luskin, Ph.D.
Toxics Use Reduction Institute
Program for the Practice of Sustainability
University of Massachusetts Lowell
www.turi.org

Historically:

- P2 has been the “new kid on the block”
- Experienced agency people have been told that P2 is the “right” or “best” way to go.
 - How does this translate for inspectors?
“You’ve been doing your job wrong all these years!”
- “No one understands, or wants to understand when I talk to them about P2”

Countless numbers of P2 Practitioners in Agencies

It's all about **communicating and culture.**

- We need to explain P2 in context of an inspector's world view or responsibilities
 - i.e. The Regulatory Case for P2.
- The explanation must be:
 - Relevant
 - Appropriate

Three Initiatives

- **A Methodology for Promoting Pollution Prevention in Public Environmental Agencies**
- **Pollution Prevention Integration: A Training Curriculum for Environmental Agency Staff**
- **The Regulatory Case for P2**

The Regulatory Case for P2

Creating a Learning Environment for Inspectors

In the fall of 2004 EPA the Region 10 P2 coordinator asked the Toxics Use Reduction Institute if it would provide in-depth, intensive training on P2/TUR/CP.

Participants

- EPA inspectors
- Two with over 20 years experience

Development criteria

Identify:

- participants' needs
- appropriate content
- appropriate speakers
- appropriate site visits
- appropriate resources

**Region 10 Inspector Training
July 16-August 2, 2005
Agenda**

Tuesday, July 26

Welcome, introductions, logistics
Overview of Pollution Prevention, and Toxics Use Reduction
New drivers for P2
Visit to EPA Laboratory

Wednesday, July 27

Finding possible solutions
TURI Library
Lawrence auto body shops

Thursday, July 28

Visit to DEP Central Region
Department of Environmental Protection
Environmental Management Systems (EMS)
Environmental Results Program (ERP)

Region 10 Inspector Training Agenda (continued)

Friday, July 29

- EMS Public Agency Service Program
- EMS – TURI initiatives
- TURI - Surface Solutions Laboratory

Monday, Aug 1

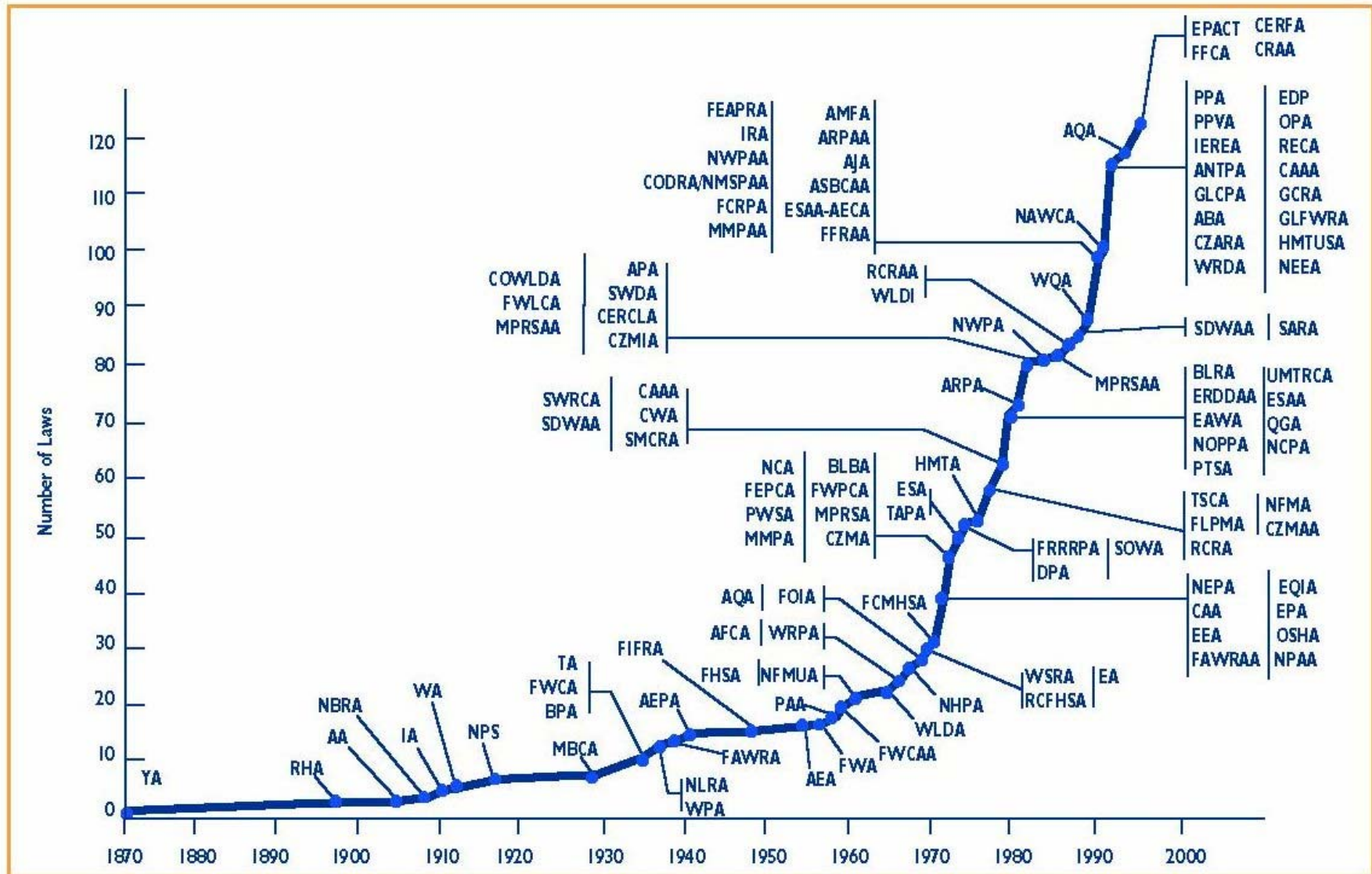
- Visit to EPA New England
- NorthEast Waste Management Officials Association (NEWMOA)
- Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance

Tuesday, Aug 2

- Review of:
 - site visits
 - visits to program offices
 - overall program

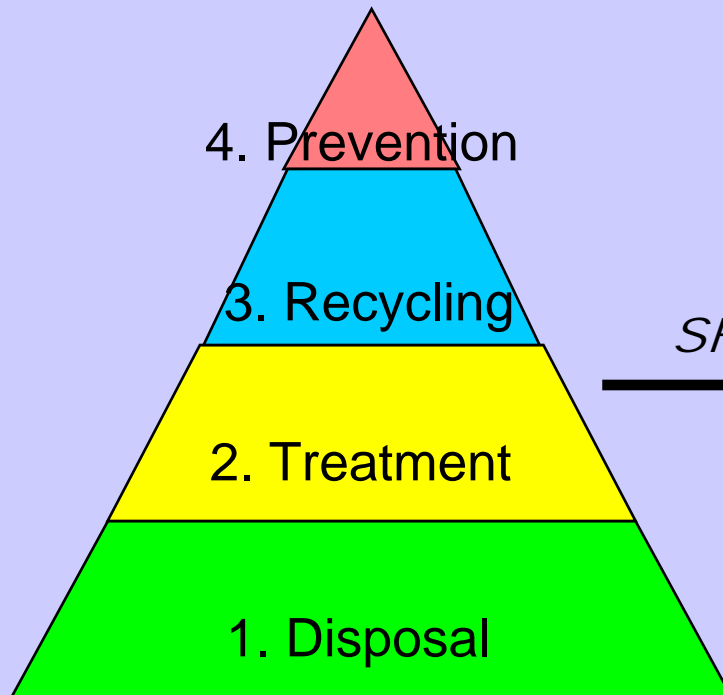
Wrap-up

A History of U.S. Federal Regulations



Pollution Prevention Hierarchy

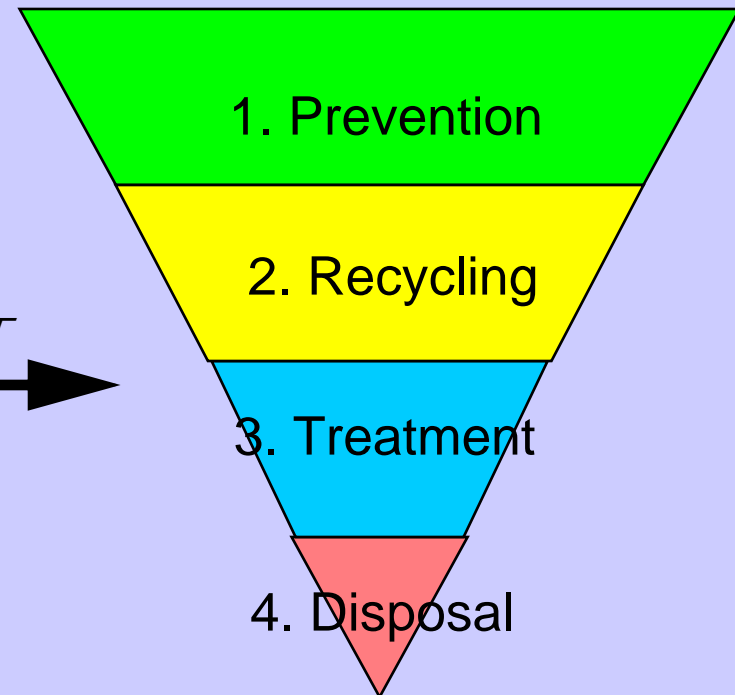
Reactionary



SHIFT

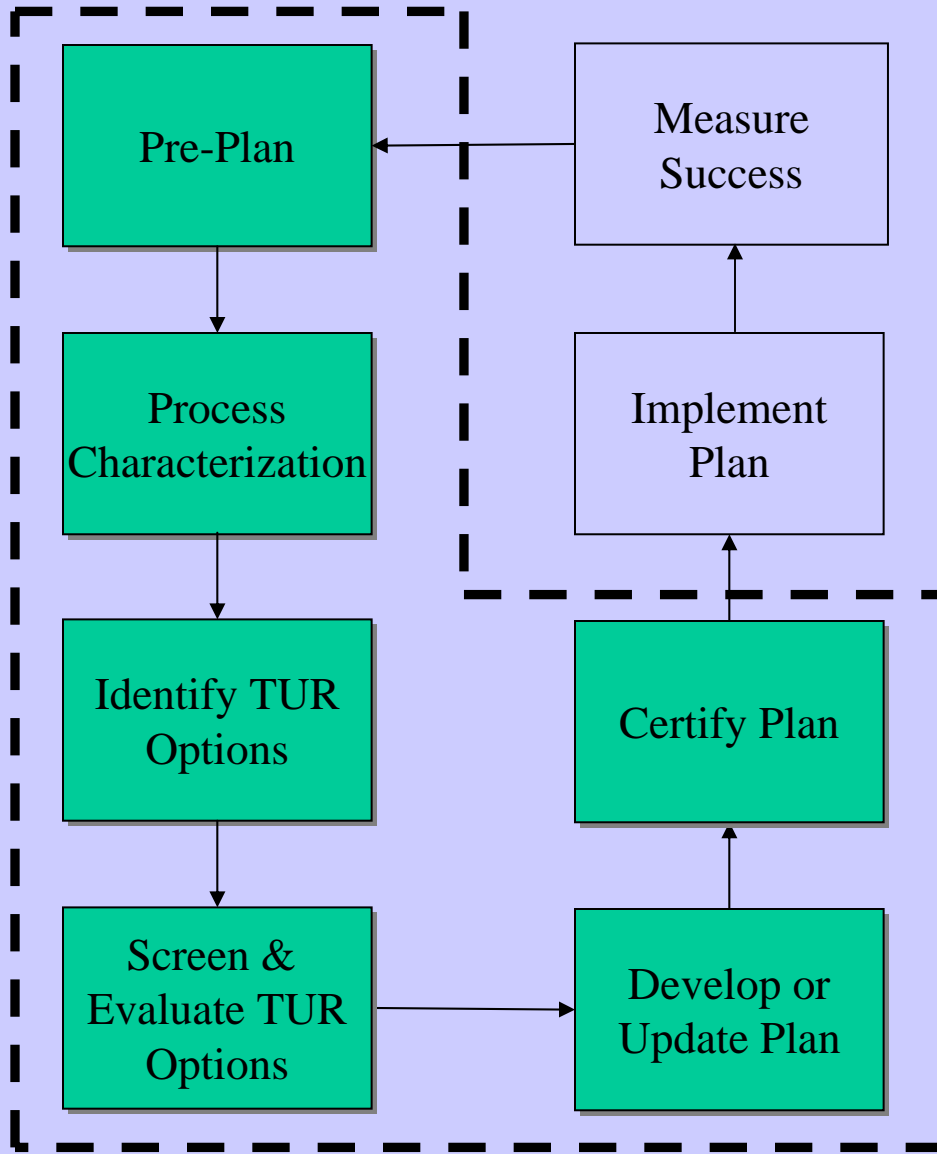
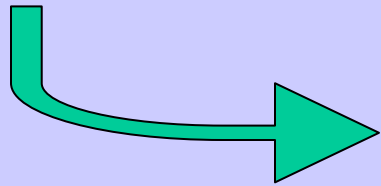


Anticipatory




The TUR Planning Cycle

Responsibilities of a TUR Planner



Beyond TUR – Sustainable Business

PATHWAY	UNSUSTAINABLE  SUSTAINABLE				METRIC
Toxics	Use toxics	Reduce volume	Substitute less toxic materials	Eliminate toxic use	<u>Toxics</u> Reduce toxics used BRI, ERI
Air & Water Emissions	Emission controls	Beyond compliance		Zero discharge Harmless emissions	<u>Emissions</u> ERI
Energy	Fossil fuels (oil, gas)	Biomass Hydro Natural gas	Energy efficiency Minimize energy use	Wind solar	<u>Energy</u> Total energy used % of renewable Carbon/unit product
Environmental Management	Compliance & Remediation	P2	Employ tools EMS, Life-Cycle Analysis, etc.	Environment part of Core Business values/ Strategic planning	<u>Management</u> Quantitative assessment of performance
Product to Service	Sell Product	Product Stewardship	Extended Producer Responsibility	Lease Service	<u>Product</u> % products returned Reused, repaired
Workers & Community	Kept unaware	Access to information	Environmental Education & Training	Life-long learning Forum for meaningful involvement	<u>People</u> Employee, consumer comm. awareness benchmarks

SOURCE: Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection

New Drivers for Change

- Global Economy
- OEM's moving toward greening product life cycles, closing materials loop, restricting hazardous substances
- Regulatory Drivers:
 - EU WEEE and RoHS restrict the use of commonly used substances in electronics and electrical equipment

Site Visit to EPA Laboratory

The New England Regional Laboratory has received a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold Award in recognition of its state-of-the-art green design:



Sources of P2 Information

- **People** – librarians, agency staff, researchers, advocates, municipal officials, industrial managers
- **Pages** – books, journals, newsletters, reports, guides
- **Portals** – Web sites, databases, weblogs, forums, listservs, RSS feeds



Site visit to Lawrence auto bodyshops

Reducing Air Toxics Through Compliance Assistance for Spanish Speaking AutoBody Shop Workers in Lawrence, Massachusetts



Site visit to DEP regional office

- ERP (environmental results program)
- Site visit to facilities being inspected with state inspectors
- Informal opportunity to share information with state inspectors

EMS for Public Agencies

- Role of multi-media inspections.
- Explored the impact on staff (inspectors, permit writers, enforcement leads) as more companies pursue sustainability thru EMSs or Sustainability Initiatives

Surface Solutions Laboratory

- The Toxics Use Reduction Institute's Laboratory provides free technical assistance for Massachusetts companies looking to reduce the amount of hazardous chemicals used for surface cleaning.
- **CleanerSolutions Database**
(<http://www.cleanersolutions.org/>)
 - This Solvent Substitution database allows users to search for an alternative-cleaning product based on safety and effectiveness.

Visit to EPA New England

- EPA New England (region 1)
 - structure and function
 - New England Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs)
- Northeast Waste Management Officials Association (NEWMOA)
 - projects
- Mass Office of Technical Assistance
 - projects

Feedback

Please explain how, and to what degree the training met your expectations.

I was looking to understand how P2 fits in. What I found was how it is a logical extension of our work. The concept of a company using Environmental Management and the requisite need to fully understand their process, especially in regard to the bottom line, is interesting and provocative.

Feedback

What “new” information did you learn that you feel will be useful when you return to work?

The web site, the new network of people. The organization of information readily available and where to find it. Alternative products to use. New techniques to help with compliance. SEP's, ERP, RCRA, program requirements. Some Tribal revelations.

Feedback

What did you like about the training?

The informal exchange of information. The chance to meet so many people involved at different levels of Government in this P2 business. The OTA discussion, the State DEP, the [EPA] Region I visit and meeting the auto body shop owners.

Feedback

To who would you recommend this training?

- Other EPA Inspectors
- Other EPA Staff (compliance assistance folks, P2 coordinators, solid waste coordinators; EPA Supervisors)
- State Inspectors; Other State Staff (Compliance assistance folks, policy makers)
- Other: Local (city, county, etc.) environmental agency staff

Final (recent) Quotes

One thing came through quite clearly: There is middle ground between enforcement on one extreme and an EMS on the other. Before the training I had never heard of the term "business case".

Now it is second nature to me. It is difficult for me to go on an inspection now without shifting into a PP mode.

Since there is a delicate balance between our roles as inspectors and providing PP, I have found it useful to ask leading questions so the facility representative realizes there are options.

Inspector, EPA Region 10

