



SEP 26 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR: Secretarial Officers and Heads of Operating Units

FROM: Penny Pritzker 

SUBJECT: Department of Commerce Environmental Management  
Policy Statement

The purpose of this memorandum is to reaffirm the Department of Commerce's commitment to environmental stewardship through a Department-wide environmental management system to reduce our impact on the environment. The Department will continue to execute its primary mission to advance economic growth and job opportunities for the American people in a sustainable, environmentally responsible manner.

The Department's commitment to environmental stewardship is best seen in its use of a Department-wide Environmental Management System (EMS). The Department will use EMS as the primary management tool to address the environmental aspects of all major activities and operation, as well as to help us measure progress against our Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan (SSPP) goals. In concert with our SSPP, the Department of Commerce is committed to continually improving its environmental performance and compliance posture through the following actions:

- Continually assess our operations and activities to confirm compliance with all federal, state, and local environmental laws and applicable Presidential Executive Orders
- Reduce our carbon footprint and associated greenhouse gas emissions
- Consider environmental impacts when making any planning, purchasing, operating, and budget decisions, and give preference to products designated by federal green purchasing preference programs
- Conserve resources and prevent pollution by encouraging employees and contractors to reduce energy, water, and fuel consumption, and to reuse, recycle, and divert waste from landfills
- Provide a safe and healthy work environment for our employees
- Conduct regular audits and self-assessments of conformance with this policy
- Communicate and reinforce this policy throughout the Department

Department Administrative Order 217-16 and the Energy and Environmental Management Manual articulate the roles and responsibilities required of each operating unit and leadership at all levels throughout the Department. I am relying on each of you to incorporate this guidance into your individual efforts and organizational missions. We all need to give the Department's sustainability program the priority and attention needed to achieve our environmental stewardship goals.