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JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

GOVERNOR

DAVID P. LITTELL

COMMISSIONER

April 11, 2006

Senator Scott W. Cowger, Co-Chair
Representative Theodore Koffman, Co-Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources
122nd Maine State Legislature
State House Room 437
Augusta, Maine 04333

Reference: Technical and Environmental Assistance Program, Periodic status report by DEP (38 MRSA Sec. 343-C, sub-section 2 (B))

Dear Senator Cowger and Representative Koffman and members of the Natural Resource Committee:

I have attached the periodic status report prepared by DEP's Technical and Environmental Assistance Program (Office of Innovation and Assistance). This report covers the work completed during 2005 to support Maine Small Businesses and to encourage pollution prevention, including continual environmental improvements.

We are particularly pleased with our success at providing:
- 709 direct on site and permit assistance efforts,
- the launching of the Governors Carbon Challenge Program including working with facilities as well as individuals and homeowners to reduce carbon emissions associated with global warming, and
- baseline onsite compliance checks under the Environmental Results Program (ERP) with Maine's auto body/repair sector.

We have formatted this report to provide succinct, meaningful information regarding our programs by including graphics and charts. We intend to use this report as an education and outreach tool for a variety of audiences.

We encourage your thoughts and comments regarding this report and would welcome the opportunity to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

David P. Littell
Commissioner

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Annual Report 2006
Maine DEP Office of Innovation and Assistance

We helped over **15,510** entities in 2005 including small businesses, manufacturers, and service industries last year with environmental issues through multi-media on-site visits, hotline calls, informational requests and technical assistance.

Staff work one on one with individuals and facilities to help small businesses understand regulations including:

- Clean Air Act rules & requirements.

- Hazardous Waste rules & requirements.

- Water Quality rules & requirements.

Contact us toll free at:

1-800-789-9802 to receive:

- Free information
- Compliance assistance
- Regulatory guidance
- P2 assistance
- Referral

We are:

- Department of Environmental Protection employees
- Established and funded under the Toxic Program fees & Clean Air Act
- Supported by US EPA Small Business Ombudsman
- Assisted through grants from United States Environmental Protection Agency and Iowa Waste Reduction Center

We provide:

- Free on-site assessments
- Free technical and pollution prevention assistance
- Referrals to other assistance providers and resources
- Coordination of on-site assistance and other assistance programs
- Referrals for Business to Business mentoring assistance
- Research on Best of Class pollution prevention technologies
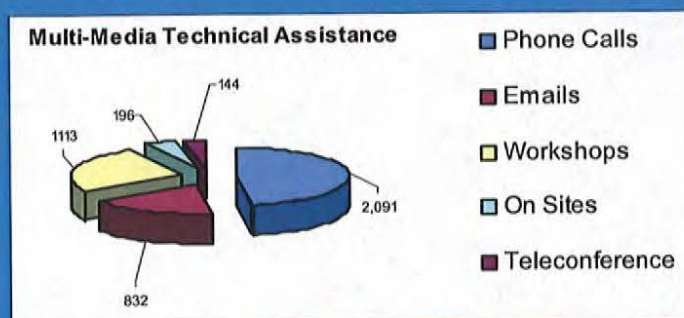- Risk free compliance assistance under the Small Business Compliance Assistance Policy (SBCIP)

Maine DEP uses a variety of approaches and methods to provide **15,510** total assists. The following charts provide a breakdown of the major assistance categories and sub totals. This does not include Web hits, radio and media events which total over 500,000 potential recipients of program and regulatory information.

Free Technical Assistance

Multi-media Assists 2006

Multi-Media Technical Assistance

- Phone Calls
- Emails
- Workshops
- On Sites
- Teleconference

144
196
1113
2,091
832

Air Assists 2006

Air Technical Assistance

- Emails
- Phone Calls
- On Sites
- Workshops
- Permits

214 330 183
4,600 5,600
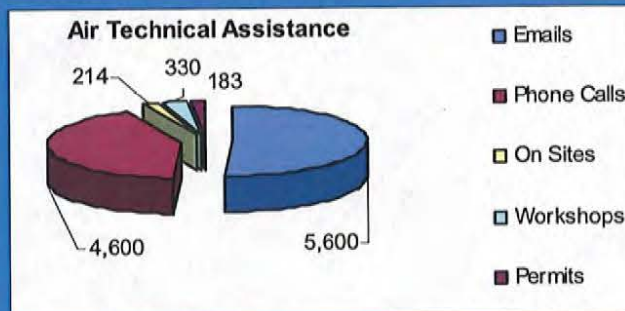
For more information please visit our Web site at: **http://www.maine.gov/dep/oia/**
Contact us electronically at: **julie.m.churchill@maine.gov**

Office of Innovation & Assistance Program Updates 2005

Maine VIP (Voluntary Incentive Programs)

- STEP-UP
- Environmental Results Program (ERP)
- Environmental Management Systems (EMS) facilitation
- Environmental Leader Program
- Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence
- Governor's Carbon Challenge (Green House Gas Reductions)

Pollution Prevention (P2) Program

- P2
- Green Lodging Certification
- Mercury and PBTs Reduction Outreach
- Industry Sector Assistance as needed
- Dental Pollution Prevention Initiative
- Hospital P2 Initiative
- Colleges and Universities P2 Initiative

Small Business Assistance Program

- Toxics Reduction Compliance Assistance
- Boat Building and Repair Assistance Initiative
- Auto Graveyard/Auto Recycler Compliance Assistance
- Environmental Leader Program for Gasoline Stations
- Small business Compliance Plain Language guides
- On-site work and technical assistance
- Utilization of the Compliance Assistance under the Small Business Compliance Incentive Policy (SBCIP)

Toxics & Hazardous Waste Reduction Program

- Toxics and Hazardous Waste Reduction report review and technical assistance
- Toxics Outreach and Information
- Partnering with Maine Emergency Management and EPA to provide technical assistance
- Web based outreach
- Toxics and Packaging Clearing house participation
- Maine Air Toxics Initiative participation
- Public Health and the Environment Initiative participation

1. Multi-media Outreach
   - Partnering Assistance Providers
   - Compliance Assistance & Pollution Prevention

2. Strengthening P2 and Small Business Partnering
   - Within DEP Programs

3. Policy Analysis of P2 Opportunities.

4. Toxics Data Analysis & Interpretation

5. Working one on one with:
   - Individuals
   - Facilities
   - Environmental groups

Partnering for Environmental Excellence!

RETHINK P2 REDUCE REUSE