

Mountain Home Air Force Base

Environmental Management System (EMS) General Awareness Training



**366 CES/CEAN
March 2011**

**This briefing is:
UNCLASSIFIED**



What is an EMS?

- **A management system for environmental programs that drives continuous improvement**
- **Facts & Characteristics**
 - **Everyone has a role in the Environmental Management Systems**
 - **EMS use a “Plan, Do, Check, Act” management approach**
 - **EMS focuses on continuous improvement**
 - **Management uses EMS for focusing resources**
 - **EMS is the tool for accomplishing the core goals of mission sustainability, pollution prevention and environmental compliance**



EMS Drivers

- **Air Force was required by Executive Order to align existing environmental management programs to a standardized management system**
 - “System” in this case is not a computer system; but a management structure or framework
- **Specific references:**
 - **EO 13423 – *Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management*, January 26, 2007**
 - “Agency heads...implement within the agency environmental management systems (EMS) at all appropriate organizational levels”
 - **DoDI 4715.17 – *Environmental Management Systems*, April 15, 2009**
 - Requires conformance with ISO standard or equivalent
 - **AFI 32-7001 – *Environmental Management*, pending approval**



Why is EMS important to the Air Force?

- **Enables AF to identify goals & ensure continual improvement**
- **Reduce environmental impacts in day-to-day operations**
- **Proactive management can result in cost savings**
- **Ensures funds and manpower are focused on highest risks**
- **Provides consistency during personnel turnover**
- **ISO 14001 conformance**



What do you need to know about EMS?

- **MHAFB environmental policy**
- **The environmental impacts of your job & the requirements you need to follow to stay in compliance with the law**
- **How your organization supports the environmental goals of the installation**
- **Who to contact if you have a question (EMS Program Manager)**



What forms the basis of MHAFB EMS?

- **Environmental Aspects**
 - **Activities, products or services that can interact with the environment.**
 - **Significant Environmental Aspects** - an environmental aspect that has or can have a significant environmental impact .
- **Environmental Impacts**
 - **Any change (complete or partial) to the environment (good or bad) resulting from the AF's functional mission or activities**



MHAFB Significant Aspects and Impacts

Aspect	Impact
1. Aboveground Storage Tank Deficiencies	-Storm Water Contamination -Soil Contamination -Ground Water Contamination
2. Drinking Water Supply – Nitrate Exceedances	-Health risks for elderly and infants -Potential enforcement action from regulatory agencies from drinking water contamination



EMS Targets & Objects

- **Developed by each installation to address top-ranked environmental issues**
- **Designed to reduce risk, pollution, compliance burden, cost**
- **MHAFB Current Targets:**
 - **Determine causes for nitrate exceedance and identify corrective actions.**
 - **Identify short and long term corrective actions to bring all aboveground storage tanks to compliance.**



All Personnel's Roles and Responsibilities

- **Know MHAFB's environmental policy**
- **Recognize the environmental impacts of your job**
- **Know if your organization/company is responsible for achieving any environmental targets and objectives**
- **Identify and correct problems**
- **Reduce environmental footprint**
- **Suggest ways to improve**



All Personnel's Roles and Responsibilities

- **Professional/Technical Personnel**
 - Use solvents that are less volatile
 - Recycle shop towels
 - Properly segregate wastes
 - Follow all required Federal, State, and local regulations to stay in compliance
- **Administrative Personnel**
 - Use duplex printing when printing documents
 - Focus on electronic copies instead of hard copies
 - Turn off monitors at night
- **Everyone**
 - Carpool
 - Recycle
 - Turn off lights



If you have any questions, please contact:

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