

ASTSWMO

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Winter 2012

To enhance and promote effective State and Territorial programs for waste and materials management, to encourage environmentally sustainable practices and to affect relevant national waste and materials management policies.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

[March 19-21, 2012: National Tanks Conference](#) in St. Louis, MO.

[April 25-26, 2012: Mid-Year Meeting](#) in Montgomery, AL. Registration is open. The theme is "Emergency Preparedness" featuring State and EPA speakers. Funding is still available in all of the program areas. For more information:

http://astswmo.org/Pages/Meeting/Upcoming_Meetings/2012-Mid-Year_Meeting.html

[June 19-21, 2012: State Superfund Managers Symposium](#) in Providence, RI. Registration is open.

October 18-19, 2012: Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.

ASTSWMO newsletters are archived at:
http://astswmo.org/Pages/Policies_and_Publications/Newsletter.html

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING ON AN ASTSWMO TASK FORCE OR FOCUS GROUP?
Visit the [Task Force and Focus Group Openings](#) page.

SOCIAL NETWORKING LINKS



Solid Waste and Sustainability Subcommittees

The Solid Waste and Sustainability Subcommittees have been consolidated to form the **Materials Management Subcommittee**. The Board of Directors' decision to make this organizational change is consistent with ASTSWMO's 2009 Strategic Plan, which incorporated materials management in the Association's mission statement, found in the newsletter's masthead.

The reorganization recognizes the importance of incorporating materials management and sustainability into the traditional waste management programs without losing focus on core programs. The Materials Management Subcommittee is comprised of the following Task Forces: Beneficial Use; MSW Recycling; Municipal D Waste; Training and Technology Transfer; and Product Stewardship. The Greener Cleanups Task Force is now part of the Program and Information Subcommittee, which addresses cross-programmatic issues such as the greener cleanups focus that is relevant to Superfund, Brownfields, RCRA, Federal Facilities, and Tanks.

PEER MATCH

ASTSWMO's Peer Match Program allows information exchange between States and Territories seeking to improve a program area with others that have demonstrated expertise in a particular program area. ASTSWMO has limited funding for peer matches in most of the program areas. If interested in conducting a peer match, please visit the [ASTSWMO Peer Match](#) page to obtain the necessary forms, or contact the ASTSWMO Staff.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The [2012 Letter from ASTSWMO President Ed Thamke \(MT\)](#) is available under [ASTSWMO Policies](#).

The revised [Bylaws](#), which were presented to the membership and approved by the voting members on October 26, 2011, are on the [ASTSWMO Policies](#) page.

The new [Members in Action Document: A Guidance Outlining ASTSWMO's Membership Roles and Responsibilities](#) is available on the [ASTSWMO Policies](#) page.

The Tanks State Fund Task Force updated the [State Funds Cost Schedules Guide](#).

ASTSWMO and [States commented on U.S. EPA's CCR NODA](#).

State Assistance in the President's FY 2013 Budget Request Mostly Bad News

The President's FY 2013 Budget Request was released on February 13, 2012. *Table A* presents budget information for assistance for State Underground Storage Tank, Brownfields, and RCRA Core programs. The most significant budget cuts began in FY 2011 and, therefore, that is the base year that is used to reflect the overall impact of the budget cuts in the FY 2013 Budget Request.

Underground Storage Tanks

Underground Storage Tank (UST) programs took the biggest hit. It is important to realize that UST programs are funded primarily from the LUST Trust Fund rather than State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG), which are the source of most State program assistance. The majority of UST prevention funding was moved from STAG to the Trust Fund with the enactment of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. A relatively small amount of UST funding is still budgeted as STAG. The combined STAG and LUST Trust Fund Prevention Funding was \$36,854,000 in FY 2011 and \$33,920,000 M in the FY 2013 Budget Request, which represents a **9% reduction in UST Prevention for FY 2013**. Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Programs will suffer a similar loss. The President's Budget Request for **LUST Cooperative Agreement funding is 10% less than FY 2011** (\$57,402,000 and \$63,066,000 respectively).

RCRA Core Funding

RCRA Core Funding has been flat for several years in a row. In FY 2011, the President requested a \$2 million increase that did not carry through to the budget enacted by Congress. This year, the **RCRA Core Funding request remains the same** as the FY 2011 enacted budget.

State Brownfields Funds

The CERLA 108(a) Brownfields request is a decrease compared to FY 2011. The **4% reduction in Brownfields funding** represents the first significant decrease in this program.

TABLE A				
(Thousands of dollars)				
Budget Category	FY 2011 Budget Enacted	FY 2012 Budget Enacted	FY 2013 President's Budget	% change from FY 2011 Budget
LUST Trust Fund				
LUST Cooperative Agreements	\$63,066	\$58,956	\$57,402	-10%
UST Prevention*	\$34,359	\$30,449	\$32,430	-6%
STAG				
UST Prevention*	\$2,495	\$1,548	\$1,490	-67%
CERCLA 128(a) Brownfields	\$49,396	\$49,317	\$47,572	-4%
RCRA Core	\$103,139	\$102,974	\$103,412	0%
* UST Prevention combined was \$36,854 in FY2011 and is \$33,920 in the FY 2013 Request.				

TRAVEL POLICY

Has it been awhile since you traveled with ASTSWMO? Then please re-familiarize yourself with our Travel Policy; a revision will be posted the first week of March. The [Travel and Reimbursement page](#) has examples of a correctly filled out reimbursement form as well as helpful hints.

RETIRING?

Please let us know how to reach you at home. We are working to build a network for retired members.



FEDERAL FACILITIES RESEARCH CENTER

The Federal Facilities Research Subcommittee has been researching a potential U.S. Air Force policy concerning the role of human health risk in the CERCLA response process. The policy was introduced to ASTSWMO at the 2011 Annual Meeting in Bethesda, MD, and discussions during the meeting focused on identifying and selecting toxicity values and criteria at Air Force funded CERCLA response actions. Since the Annual Meeting, the Subcommittee worked with several States and provided the Air Force with an ASTSWMO position on the on the subject. The upcoming April 2012 Mid-Year Meeting will include a Federal Facilities breakout session to provide an opportunity for States and federal agencies to discuss the role of human health risk in the CERCLA process and offer solutions for avoiding potential conflicts or disputes over this issue.

CERCLA AND BROWNFIELDS RESEARCH CENTER

The State Superfund Focus Group is currently planning the State Superfund Managers Symposium that will be held Tuesday, June 19 through Thursday, June 21, 2012 in Providence, Rhode Island.

The two and-a-half day Symposium has been designed as a forum for interaction among State and Territorial (State) Superfund Managers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters and Regional staff, and other invited guests. The primary objective of this Symposium is to encourage discussion and information-sharing among speakers and attendees regarding approaches and strategies used by State Superfund programs in the current economy.

The State Superfund Managers Symposium announcement can be found at: http://astswmo.org/Pages/Meetings/Upcoming_Meetings/2012-SSMS.html.

TANKS SUBCOMMITTEE

U.S. EPA published Proposed Underground Storage Tank (UST) Regulations revisions in the Federal Register on November 18, 2011. The ASTSWMO Tanks Federal Regulations Revisions Workgroup reconvened in November for the purpose of reviewing the proposed revisions, collecting State comments, and sending ASTSWMO and State-specific comments to U.S. EPA. If you have not yet provided comments to ASTSWMO and want to include them with our submittal, please send them to [Charles Reyes](#) by March 9, 2012. The Workgroup is currently compiling comments provided by States; the workgroup will send all comments to U.S. EPA by the comment deadline, **April 16, 2012**. Additional information on the proposed revisions is available: <http://www.epa.gov/oust/fedlaws/proposedregs.html>.

QUESTION OR COMMENT ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER?

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