

MDEQ Issues Annual P2 Report

In January 2002, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) released their annual pollution prevention report, entitled ***Pollution Prevention Steering into the Future***. The report, which is required to be submitted by the MDEQ under Parts 143 and 145 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA), summarizes the major pollution prevention activities in fiscal year 2001, which ran from October 1, 2000 through September 30, 2001.

The annual report, which is submitted to the state legislature and the Governor, also includes a capsule summary of 20 individual programs and accomplishments, along with an appendix with a shortened version of Pollution Prevention Projects and Assistance Programs Fact Sheets. A new feature in this latest report is a section with case studies to illustrate the types of pollution prevention improvements undertaken by various Michigan facilities.

In MDEQ Director Russell Harding's introductory message to the report, he declared that, "There are three major barriers to pollution prevention: 1) lack of information; 2) resistance to change; and 3) financial resources. To overcome these barriers, the DEQ has focused on programs that provide information and resources to businesses, institutions, and local government to empower them to reduce pollution."

An appendix to the report includes a complete list of pollution prevention partners and stakeholders as of September 2001. The MDEQ Environmental Assistance Division (EAD) is encouraging persons to provide comments and feedback on the report and on the performance of its programs. To do so, a customer survey is available on the EAD website at <http://www.deq.state.mi.us/ead/asp/forms/p2rptsurvey.html>. See the complete report at <http://www.deq.state.mi.us/ead/pub/p2/2001p2rept.pdf>. More detailed information is available

on many of the specific pollution prevention programs through published reports and on the EAD website at <http://www.deq.state.mi.us/ead>.

DET_B\332301.1