

Physics Department EMS Information Handout – *for reference only, not an official document.*

What is an Environmental Management System (EMS)?

An EMS is the ISO standard 14001 that BNL has committed to implementing site wide. In this system, environmental aspects are identified and ranked by significance criteria. Plans and controls are implemented to manage these significant aspects. At BNL, EMS also includes pollution prevention measures.

BSA's Environmental Policy Commitments:

- **Comply with Requirements.**
- **Minimize or Prevent Pollution.**
- **Protect the Environment, and Conserve Resources.**
- **Inform and Involve the Community.**
- **Improve our ISO 14001 (EMS) Systems.**

What every Employee needs to know about their work:

- **How it could impact the environment.**
- **What you can do to prevent these impacts.**
- **What to do in case of emergency.**
- **Consequences of noncompliance with requirements.**
- **How you can improve BNL's environmental performance.**

What makes up the Physics Department EMS?

- Environmental responsibilities are included in your R2A2s.
- Identification of significant environmental aspects via Experiment Safety Reviews, EPA Phase II review, Facility Use Agreement (FUA), Work Planning.
- Significant environmental aspects in Physics are:
 - **Regulated Industrial Waste** (any oils, etc.).
 - **Hazardous Waste** (any hazardous waste generation).
 - **Radioactive Waste** (any radioactive waste generation).
 - Storage/Use/Transport of Chemicals/Radioactive Materials.
 - Greenhouse Gas Generation.
- None of these aspects have a significant **impact** during **normal** work.
- Plans for the management and control of aspects are already in place.
- Pollution prevention review of experimental processes.

What are your EMS-related responsibilities when you work in the Physics Department?

- **All workers:**
 - Understand and follow procedures that control your work.
 - Be familiar with SBMS Subject Areas relevant to your work.
 - Obtain and maintain training relevant to your work.
 - Be alert for pollution prevention / waste minimization opportunities.
 - Call x2222 or 911 if you witness something that may be detrimental to the environment. Take mitigating actions only if you are competent to do so.
 - After calling an emergency number, call the BNL categorizer [x1234, (631) 433-0443] to provide a description of the event.
 - Be familiar with EMS-related information that supplements BNL training courses.
 - Failing to perform your responsibilities can have consequences, such as:
 - Damage to the environment;
 - Damage to BNL's environmental reputation with the community and its stakeholders;
 - Monetary fines imposed by regulatory agencies.
- **Principal Investigators (in addition to the above):**
 - Obtain approvals (Work Planning and Control for Experiments and Operations Subject Area) before beginning any experimental work, including setup.
 - Generate procedures with input and feedback from workers.
 - Identify all environmental aspects in your Experiment Safety Review.
 - Subscribe to relevant SBMS Subject Areas (change notification subscription service).