



---

# Ministry of the Environment Ontario's Cooperative Agreements

Presentation to the  
Canadian Environmental Auditing Association  
October 2003

---

# Overview of Presentation

---

- **Background**
  - **Objectives**
  - **Guiding Principles**
  - **Incentives**
  - **Benefits of Participation**
  - **Entry Criteria & Commitments**
  - **The Future**
-

# Background

---

- **Recognition that a broader range of tools are needed to meet environmental challenges**
  - **Some companies consistently meet regulatory requirements and should be encouraged to go further**
  - **Recognise and reward businesses with strong environmental track records**
-

# Background (*cont'd*)

---

- **In recognition of these factors, Ontario's Cooperative Agreements were developed**
    - innovative approach that utilizes a suite of incentives to encourage and reward companies that go beyond compliance in their environmental performance
  - **Developed in significant consultation with:**
    - Industry Associations
    - ENGOs (Pollution Probe, Friends of the Earth, Environmental Defence Canada)
    - Academics
-

# Objectives

---

## **Environmental**

- to achieve continuous improvement in environmental performance by regulated entities

## **Economic**

- to provide a competitive edge to environmental leaders through incentives

## **Efficiency**

- to support efficiency gains in the ministry

## **Innovation**

- to promote innovation across Ministry programs
-

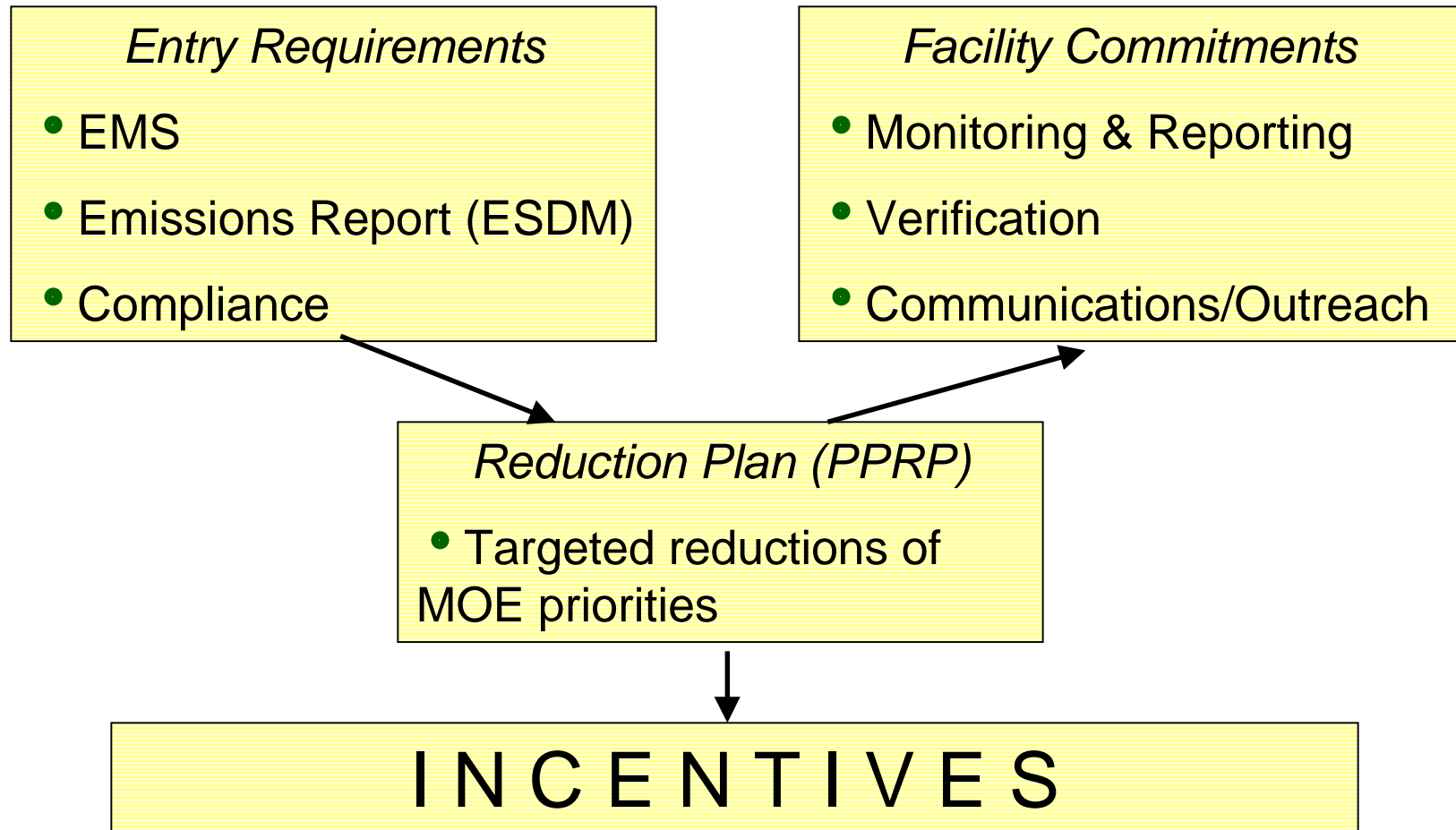
# Guiding Principles

---

- **Transparency through public involvement and public reporting**
  - **Clear accountability, with specific performance-based targets**
  - **Clear monitoring and reporting requirements**
  - **Third party verification of performance**
  - **Continuous improvement**
-

# Background (*cont'd*)

---



# Incentives

---

- **Exclusive enhanced comprehensive CofA**
    - Only available to Cooperative Agreement participants
    - Addresses air, water and waste
    - Provides operational flexibility including process changes and production increases
    - Includes tailored administrative provisions
-



## **Incentives (*cont'd.*)**

---

- **Guaranteed 45 day turn-around time on CofA amendments**
  - **Increased access to specialized technical assistance and guidance**
  - **Single window access to Ministry**
    - Dedicated customer service representative responsible to coordinate all aspects of the Cooperative Agreement
-

# Incentives (*cont'd.*)

---

- **New technology approvals**
    - Faster decisions on applications for new technologies shown to be successful in other jurisdictions
  - **Greater regulatory certainty**
    - Early consultation on the development of new regulations and legislation
-

# Incentives

---

- **Public acknowledgement**
  - Ministry will promote participants in appropriate communications e.g. speeches, news releases
- **Internet recognition**
  - Ministry will promote participants on MOE web site

# Incentives

---

- **Industry-Government Roundtables**
    - Annual forums with the Minister of the Environment and senior Ministry officials
  - **Phase Two Development**
    - Participation in the development of additional incentives
-

# Benefits of Participation

---

- **Increased and quality communication resulting in better understanding of mutual objectives and how to meet them**
  - **Increased efficiencies resulting from:**
    - faster approval times
    - reduction in number of approvals required
    - coordinated, efficient, tailored customer service
    - streamlining / facilitation of issues
    - increased access to technical resources and guidance
    - Greater regulatory certainty = better business planning
-

# Benefits of Participation (*cont'd.*)

---

- **Value in being recognized as a leader**
  - **Requirements build on existing systems:**
    - EMS
    - ESDM
    - Communication / outreach systems
    - Continuous improvement objectives
  - **Opportunity to shape future directions**
-

# Entry Criteria

---

- **Environmental management system (EMS)**
    - generic EMS is acceptable; registration not required
  - **Current Emissions Summary and Dispersion Modeling Report (ESDM)**
  - **Signed record of sustained compliance**
-

# Facility Commitments

---

- **Communications and Outreach**
    - Open consultation mechanism to support two-way communication for public, community, interested parties (e.g. meeting, open house, workshop)
    - Public response system
  - **Provincial Priority Reduction Plan (PPRP)**
    - Commit to reduce 3 to 5 targeted substances and develop implementation plan
    - Commitments of priority to the ministry
    - Up to five year period to implement PPRP
-



# Monitoring, Reporting and Verification

---

- **Annual public reporting on progress toward meeting commitments**
  - **3<sup>rd</sup> party verification of performance in years 2 and 5**
    - mechanisms must be in place
    - Includes site visit
    - Emissions for target substances and overall progress
    - External party, independent from data collection process and from the generation of annual report
    - May add verification audit to EMS audit
-

# Monitoring, Reporting and Verification

---

- **Continue to work with CEAA and other stakeholders to operationalize the verification component**
  - **Refine verification protocol through feedback from CEAA members and stakeholders**
-

# Additional Information

---

- **Daniel Cayen, Director, Environmental Innovations Branch (EIB), 416-327-1457, [daniel.cayen@ene.gov.on.ca](mailto:daniel.cayen@ene.gov.on.ca)**
  - **Bev Tuazon, Team Leader, EIB, 416-314-6126, [bev.tuazon@ene.gov.on.ca](mailto:bev.tuazon@ene.gov.on.ca)**
  - **<http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/envision/coopagreements>**
-