U.S. Department of Justice

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MEMORANDUM FOR HEADS OF DEPARTMENT COMPONENTS

FROM: Lee J. Lofthus
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for Administration

SUBJECT: Environmental Management Policy

The purpose of this memorandum is to establish the environmental policy goals of the Department of Justice (DOJ) by setting forth the Department's commitment to environmental stewardship principles, and to inform you of our plan to develop environmental management systems (EMSs) at all appropriate levels, including Departmentwide, to reduce the Department's environmental impact. DOJ is entrusted with enforcing the law, providing Federal leadership in preventing crime, and ensuring public safety against threats. In line with this mission, DOJ is committed to serving as an example in the area of environmental stewardship and compliance with all environmental laws and regulations. Please share this memorandum with your staff to remind all DOJ managers, employees, and contractors to incorporate environmental stewardship into decision-making and day-to-day activities to help protect public land, water, air, natural resources, and energy sources.

Section 3(b) of Executive Order 13423, Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management (January 26, 2007), requires agencies to develop and implement EMSs at all appropriate levels to ensure the use of EMSs as the primary management approach for addressing environmental aspects of internal agency operations and activities. I recently informed the Federal Environmental Executive of DOJ's commitment to implement high-level EMSs at DOJ headquarters by the end of FY 2010 and at the five major bureaus by the end of FY 2011. Implementing instructions issued by the Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality under the Executive Order, state that the EMSs shall reflect the elements found in the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 140001:2004(E) International Standard or equivalent. It is the Department's policy to follow the ISO 14001 standard for our environmental management systems. Once developed, the EMSs will provide more specific guidance and delineate authorities and responsibilities to achieve the policy goals detailed below.

As a matter of policy, the Department is committed to:

- Complying with all Federal, state and local environmental laws and applicable Presidential Executive Orders.
- Considering environmental impacts when making planning, purchasing, operating, and budget decisions.
- Promoting resource conservation and pollution prevention by encouraging employees and contractors to reduce energy consumption, water usage, the amount of waste produced, and promoting re-use and recycling whenever possible.
- Providing a safe and healthy work environment for our employees.
- Continual improvement of environmental performance by setting environmental goals, measuring progress, taking corrective action when necessary, and communicating the results to DOJ management and staff.
- Using a higher tier EMS as a framework for setting and reviewing environmental objectives and targets at the Department level and bureau level.
- Communicating and reinforcing this policy throughout the agency.

The Environmental Program staff of the Justice Management Division (JMD) is developing an EMS for the Department and updating the Justice Property Management Order to include environmental policies and responsibilities. JMD will request bureau involvement and review as part of the process of developing these two initiatives. JMD looks forward to working with you on future programs to help DOJ meet these goals.

For more information on DOJ's current programs or for contact information, please visit www.usdoj.gov/jmd/ep.