

# WORKER SAFETY, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Strategy	Progress to Date	Status
Goal: Run the safest operations and capital program in the country with the best environmental compliance record of any large water and wastewater utility.		
21 Measure EHS performance and demand success.	<p>In 2012, DEP fully implemented programmatic audits throughout the agency, as well as bureau-level environmental health and safety (EHS) regulatory compliance audits to better gauge EHS performance. DEP also revised the EHS Metrics Guidance to ensure accurate and consistent reporting and analysis of the performance indicators used to monitor progress and verify the effectiveness of the EHS Compliance Program.</p> <p>In 2013, DEP will participate in a national water utility EHS metrics benchmarking campaign in conjunction with the American Water Works Association Safety Committee. DEP's Bureau of Engineering, Design and Construction is also developing an electronic submission system to gather EHS metrics from capital construction sites.</p>	<p>Achieved and Ongoing</p> 
22 Integrate EHS compliance into every aspect of DEP operations and construction.	<p>Results from DEP's annual EHS survey indicate that DEP has effectively integrated EHS compliance into all aspects of operations and construction. More than 90% of respondents of the annual survey agree that DEP is doing a good job communicating EHS information and 85% of respondents indicate that they feel safe on the job and receive the necessary EHS training to do their job safely. DEP's new EHS programmatic audits better identify program strengths and weaknesses and involve employees directly in the development of corrective actions.</p> <p>EHS audit results show continuous improvements in workplace safety. For example, EHS audit findings and observations have dropped 92% since 2007, from 11,836 to 950 in 2012. Similarly Priority II findings, which indicate a higher degree of risk or a program gap, have decreased 75% since 2007, from 600 to 150 in 2012.</p>	<p>Achieved and Ongoing</p> 
23 Ensure effective EHS training and education for all employees.	<p>In 2012, DEP completed construction of a hands-on water and sewer training facility, which was designed to integrate safety into equipment training. This investment in training has helped reduce recordable injuries for water and sewer operations field staff 40% compared to 2011. DEP continues to develop its Training Tracking and Recording System to better manage the courses offered and deliver electronic training to all employees. In 2012, DEP offered classroom courses in Effective Communication in the Workplace and Supervisory Training four times each month. DEP will continue to offer new computer-based training courses in 2013 including Hazard Communication/Right-to-Know for office employees, Office Ergonomics, a Workplace Violence Refresher, and an Emergency Action Plan Refresher.</p>	<p>Partially Achieved</p> 
24 Encourage open, frequent, and candid communication about EHS issues.	<p>In 2012, DEP shared EHS information through "Spotlight on Safety," a weekly segment in DEP's electronic newsletter, <i>Weekly Pipeline</i>, and published four issues of <i>EHS Matters</i>, which showcases studies of EHS incidents and scenarios. In 2012, DEP began testing digital signage that can provide facilities real time information on EHS metrics, policies, training, and other news, and will install this digital signage at wastewater treatment plants in 2013. In addition to the EHS Concerns Hotline, DEP created an email address where employees can send questions and suggestions about EHS.</p>	<p>Achieved and Ongoing</p> 