

STARS Advisory Committees Focus Call Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S)

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Instructions

10:00 – 11:00 Pacific Time (1:00 – 2:00 Eastern Time)

Dial-in: (712) 451-6000

Access code: 532393#

Goals of Call

- Move past what's "wrong" with particular indicators and toward best possible solutions
- Address issues around the compliance prerequisite in Operations
- Resolve questions regarding specific EH&S indicators
- Discuss potential new EH&S indicators

Conversational Rules

- Identify yourself before speaking, each time
- Keep contributions short and to the point, and offer constructive ideas
- Avoid dominating conversation (speaking too long or too often)
- If you must leave the call early, no need to excuse yourself (okay to just click off)

Agenda

1. OP Prerequisite 2
 - Is requiring compliance with EH&S regulations the best way to highlight the importance of compliance as a foundation for sustainability efforts, and to underline the concept that sustainability should be about going "beyond compliance"?
 - Is just having dedicated EH&S staff and programs sufficient in itself to ensure environmental compliance, or could this result in the situation of awarding a sustainability rating to a campus in serious violation of EH&S regulations?
 - Can we define "compliance" in such a way that it doesn't penalize those making a good faith effort to comply with EH&S regulations, yet occasionally having *minor* violations, but that does exclude a campus in *serious* violation from achieving a STARS rating?
 - With which regulations specifically should we require compliance?
2. OP Credit 9 – Green Seal Procurement
 - We'd like to expand this credit to include other components of a successful green cleaning program. What are the most important elements of a green cleaning program, and can they be measured in a way that would allow for reasonable comparisons across campuses and wouldn't be unduly burdensome to carry out?
3. OP Credit 26 – Stormwater Management
 - Can this be measured reasonably accurately? Is there another quantitative way of analyzing an institution's performance on stormwater management that would allow for reasonably fair comparisons across institutions? Would requiring the implementation of a series of best practices for stormwater management be better?
4. New Credits
 - We'd like to add a credit on Indoor Environmental Quality. What are the most important elements of an IEQ program? Can they be measured in a way that would allow for reasonable comparisons across campuses and wouldn't be unduly burdensome to carry out?
 - What other credits related to EH&S should be considered for inclusion in STARS?