

ATTACHMENT B

RBLC WORKSHOP

RBLC Subgroup
NSR Advisory Subcommittee
Clean Air Act Advisory Committee
Draft Final Report
January 11, 1994

SUMMARY OF RBLC SUBGROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

FUNCTION AND PURPOSE OF THE RBLC

Recommendation 1: The mission of RBLC should remain the same - a screening tool to identify candidate RACT, BACT, and LAER technologies and emission limits.

Recommendation 2: RBLC should be redesigned to ensure that it comprehensively catalogs all RACT/BACT/LAER determinations which are issued by the various States and EPA Regions. Focus on ensuring future entries are made for all newly-issued major new source review permits and that accurate and complete information is provided.

Recommendations 3: A complete, high quality RBLC should provide a sufficient data base for a sources application to be deemed complete, as long as it addresses the contents of the RBLC in its technology analysis.

Recommendation 4: A technology profile should be created for a single industry, on an experimental basis only, which would allow EPA to evaluate whether such an approach works and whether, after the trial project is completed, EPA would have the resources to perform profiles on multiple industries.

Recommendation 5: If information becomes available indicating the existence of a relevant technology that is not in the RBLC, it should be the responsibility of the permitting authority, not the public or the permit applicant, to determine whether the technology should be considered in determining the permitted emission limit for the source.

Recommendation 6: Permitting authority should establish reasonable requirements for submission of information regarding the existence of technologies that commenters seek to have considered.

Recommendation 7: EPA should provide that questions arising regarding the relevance of technologies not included in the RBLC for a source, or questions pertaining to the feasibility (or practicality) of transferring a technology in the Clearinghouse from one source category to another one claimed to be similar, ought to be resolved by the permitting authority within 30 days of receiving or raising the question.

Recommendation 8: Pilot plant application of control technology should only serve as required precedent of RACT/BACT/LAER for the source utilizing it. Such technology should not be transferred to similar source until the experimental technology is proven on a full production scale.

CONTENT OF THE RBLC

Recommendation 9: The RBLC should limit the number of data fields, require only needed information and simplify data entry.

Recommendation 10: The RBLC should standardize emission units (to allow for comparison of the effectiveness of technologies).

FUNDING THE RBLC

Recommendation 11: The RBLC should have 5 persons at OAQPS and 1 at each EPA Region (total of 15) plus \$1,000,000 per year in contract funds to maintain the Clearinghouse.

Recommendation 12: EPA should ask congress for additional funds to implement these recommendations (additional funds preferred over diverting existing funds).

Recommendation 13: Under general penalty policy, EPA should consider using funds derived from penalties to fund the RBLC (environmentally beneficial projects).

Recommendation 14: Establish a fund in the U.S. Treasury to consist of funds from licensing and other penalties resulting from citizen suits (Section 304(g)) to fund RBLC.

Recommendation 15: Explore willingness of industry trade groups to share funds through a joint venture to reform and improve the RBLC.

OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT

Recommendation 16: RBLC staff should annually identify the most stringent permits for each source

type and verify/correct the data as appropriate. This function should be automated to facilitate this activity.

Recommendation 17: The permitting authority should be responsible for submitting RBLC data within 30 days of permit issuance.

Recommendation 18a: Include information on foreign technology.

Recommendation 18b: Where foreign technology may be applicable, the RBLC should supply technical support to the reviewing office.

Recommendation 19: EPA must establish procedures to make participation mandatory upon all States and local air permit agencies.

Recommendation 20: EPA must not second guess the permitting authority if it participates in the RBLC and its decisions are consistent with RBLC data.

Recommendation 21: RBLC must conduct education and outreach.

Recommendation 22: EPA should update and consolidate its cost-effectiveness guidance, to facilitate cost-effectiveness data entry into the RBLC.

Recommendation 23: EPA should issue guidance describing what factors are critical in determining if control costs are unreasonable.