



Commitment Tracking

AASHTO COD/CES Survey Results

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Survey Questions

1. Do you have a system or formal policy in place used to track environmental commitments?
2. How do you track the completion of environmental commitments?
3. How long has the commitment tracking system been in place?
4. How do you ensure that the commitment tracking document is monitored to ensure compliance from environmental through construction completion?
5. Has the commitment tracking system been effective?
6. What are some of the pitfalls, challenges, and lessons learned with regards to your tracking system?
7. Do you have plans to develop a new system or enhance an existing one in the near future?

Survey Participants

Arkansas	New Jersey
California	New Mexico
Colorado	North Dakota
Connecticut	Ohio
District of Columbia	Oregon
Florida	Pennsylvania
Illinois	South Carolina
Indiana	Tennessee
Maryland	Virginia
Minnesota	Washington
Mississippi	Wisconsin
Nebraska(2)	Wyoming

Survey Question:

Do you have a system or formal policy in place used to track environmental commitments?

Yes: 20

No: 1

It's a long story: 3

Survey Question:

How do you track the completion of environmental commitments?

- Commitments are recorded in a spreadsheet or project management database.
- Commitments are placed into the construction contract as part of the Plans and Specs.
- Commitment compliance responsibilities are assigned to personnel.
- Dedicated compliance staff monitor commitment/mitigation implementation .
- Commitment compliance monitoring is scheduled in advance.

Survey Question:

How long has the commitment tracking system been in place?

Less than 1 year:	4
1 – 3 years:	1
3 – 5 years:	2
More than 5 years:	15
NA:	2

Survey Question:

How do you ensure that the commitment tracking document is monitored to ensure compliance from environmental through construction completion?

- Commitment compliance audits scheduled/checked randomly.
- Completed commitments are documented on spreadsheet/database.
- Dedicated environmental staff serve as environmental inspectors and work with project engineer during construction.
- Personnel with project oversight must sign off on Certificate of Environmental Compliance or similar form.
- The construction contract must allocate resources to maintaining the database as commitments are fulfilled.
- At the end of construction, a final check is made to ensure all commitments are met.

Survey Question:

Has the commitment tracking system been effective?

Yes: 12

Mostly: 6

Somewhat: 3

No: 1

Too early to tell: 3

Survey Question:

What are some of the pitfalls, challenges, and lessons learned with regards to your tracking system?

- Tracking responsibilities are not always clearly defined.
- We have a limited number of staff to ensure that compliance is handled in the desired manner.
- There is no process to ensure the construction project engineer is enforcing commitment implementation.
- Success of tracking system is dependent on those implementing and monitoring the commitment implementation.

Survey Question:

What are some of the pitfalls, challenges, and lessons learned with regards to your tracking system?

- The tracking system is limited and it does not always move beyond construction and into maintenance operations.
- The use of email to share spreadsheet commitments is prone to sender/recipient error, forgetfulness, and loss.
- Making sure the contractors, field staff, and project engineers are making use of the commitment database.
- It adds another layer of responsibility to staff working to ensure the commitments are implemented.

Survey Question:

What are some of the pitfalls, challenges, and lessons learned with regards to your tracking system?

- The commitment and related specs and plans should be clear and provide detailed instruction.
- Creating and managing a comprehensive database and associated interface can be complex and difficult.
- The database interface should be as intuitive as possible and accessible from the field as well as the office.
- The tracking system is not integrated into the more automated and comprehensive project management system.
- Reduce duplication of effort.

Survey Question:

Do you have plans to develop a new system or enhance an existing one in the near future?

Yes: 11

Maybe: 3

No: 9

Questions?

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