

Quicksilver Caucus Action Plan and Implementation Strategy  
2004-2005  
Revised and Updated As of October 2004

**I. State Actions Make A Difference**

*Guiding Principles*

- Preventing environmental degradation and protecting public health are the basis for state action
- Eliminating mercury contamination in one media should not result in significant contamination in another media
- Reducing emissions within a state is the first step towards reducing trans-boundary transport
- Working collaboratively and in partnership promotes trust and investment that yield environmental results

*Framework For State Action Is in Place*

- ECOS seven resolutions provide policy guidance
- Stewardship documents provide technical guidance
- TMDL document provides policy and technical guidance

*Key Quicksilver Caucus Actions*

Actions and Activities	Key Tasks	Participants	Target Date
<b>A. Strengthen State Capacity to Reduce and Manage Mercury in the Environment</b>			
1. Assess Status of State Mercury Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Update Compendium of State Mercury Activities</li> <li>▪ Compile, Analyze, and Publish</li> </ul>	QSC Members QSC Partners	Summer 2004 to Winter 2005
2. Develop State Action Plan Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determine Scope and Audiences Based on State Compendium Update</li> <li>▪ Draft and Publish Guidance</li> </ul>	QSC Members QSC Partners	Winter 2004- Spring 2005
3. Develop Tool Box for States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determine Content and Audience based on State Compendium Update (potential tools include clearinghouse, website, peer match, workshop,</li> </ul>	QSC Members QSC Partners	Winter to Spring 2005
4. Develop State Strategy for Safe Long-term Storage of Mercury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop Draft Strategy</li> <li>▪ Obtain Comments Draft with Interested Parties</li> <li>▪ Publish Final Strategy</li> </ul>	QSC Members QSC Partners	2005

Actions and Activities	Key Tasks	Participants	Target Date
<b>B. Educate and Engage Key Public and Private Sector Leaders</b>			
1. Educate and Inform US EPA Administrator	→ Update at ECOS—US EPA Meetings → Send Letters as Appropriate	ECOS Officers	On-going as Appropriate
2. Educate and Inform Environmental Commissioners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Update through ECOS Weekly</li> <li>▪ Update at ECOS Annual and Spring Meeting</li> <li>▪ Send Other Communications as Appropriate</li> </ul>	QSC Steering Committee	On-going as Appropriate
3. Educate and Inform Legislators and Congress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Update though various means as appropriate</li> </ul>	ECOS Officers and Members	On-going as Appropriate
4. Educate and Inform NGOs and Private Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hold Conference calls</li> </ul>	QSC Steering Committee	On-going as Appropriate
<b>C. Plan and Hold Technical Workshops</b>			
1. Collection Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determine Need Based on State Compendium Update</li> </ul>		Winter 2004-05
2. Control Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determine Need Based on State Compendium Update</li> </ul>		Winter 2004-05
3. Product Stewardship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determine Need Based on State Compendium Update</li> </ul>		Winter 2004-05
4. Dental Amalgam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determine Need Based on State Compendium Update</li> </ul>		Winter 2004-05
5. Products and Waste Reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Work with NEWMOA to Plan</li> <li>▪ Hold Workshop</li> </ul>	QSC Members QSC Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fall 2004</li> <li>▪ Spring 2005</li> </ul>
<b>D. Position QSC to Implement Action Plan</b>			
1. Recommit state leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Seek Participants for QSC Implementation Teams</li> <li>▪ Develop List of State Contacts though State Survey</li> </ul>	QSC Steering Committee	July/August 2004

Actions and Activities	Key Tasks	Participants	Target Date
2. Enhance and expand QSC Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identify Potential New Partners</li> <li>▪ Communicate with Potential New Partners</li> </ul>	QSC Steering Committee	September 2004
3. Organize QSC Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Form Implementation Teams</li> <li>▪ Provide Logistics for QSC Teams</li> </ul>	QSC Steering Committee ECOS Staff	August 2004 Ongoing
4. Obtain funding for QSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Revise Grant Documents</li> <li>▪ Maintain Contact with US EPA</li> </ul>	ECOS Staff QSC members	July/Aug 2004
<b>E. Plan and Hold Third Educational Workshop for States</b>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Form Planning Teams</li> <li>▪ Hold Workshop</li> </ul>	QSC Steering Committee	Spring 2005 Fall 2005

## II. A National Framework Is Required

### *Guiding Principles*

- Interim Storage and Long-term Management of Public (e.g. Stockpiles) and Private (e.g., from closures and collections) Elemental Mercury Is a Federal Responsibility
- Mercury in the Environment Is a Global Issue and Requires United States Leadership In Developing Reduction Strategies

### *Key Elements of a Federal Framework*

- Create Interim Solutions For Storing and Managing Federal (DOD and DOE) and Private Mercury Stockpiles
- Develop a National Strategy for Mercury-impaired Waters (US EPA)
- Establish Air Emission Standards (US EPA)
- US EPA articulate a goal of substantially reducing mercury discharges to the environment at the national and international levels
- US EPA, working with States and Tribes as partners as well as industry, environmental and other groups to develop appropriate strategies and initiatives to achieve the stated goal

*Key Quicksilver Caucus Actions*

Actions and Activities	Key Tasks	Participants	Target Date
<b>A. Continue to Support National Leadership to Reduce and Safely Manage Mercury in the Environment</b>			
1. Continue to Support the Safe, Long-term Storage of the Federal Mercury Stock Pile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Monitor and Take Action As Appropriate</li> </ul>	QSC Leadership and Steering Committee	Summer 2004
2. Participate in Federally-lead International Actions to Reduce & Manage Mercury in the Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Track UNEP and other international actions</li> <li>▪ Identify States Roles</li> <li>▪ Seek Opportunities for Involvement</li> </ul>	QSC Members	On-going as Appropriate
<b>B. Foster and Support US EPA Actions</b>			
1. Participate in Federally lead Actions to Reduce Mercury in the Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determine US EPA Plans for mercury switches in automobiles</li> <li>▪ Define QSC Role</li> </ul>	QSC Leadership	Summer to Fall 2004
2. Continue to Support Development of a <i>National Mercury Reduction Strategy to Achieve Water Quality Standards</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determine US EPA’s Plans for developing this strategy</li> <li>▪ Work with US EPA if they move forward to Develop a National Strategy</li> <li>▪ Support MA, ME, and RI Proposal to Use Section 4b or 4d of the Clean Water Act to Reduce Mercury</li> </ul>	QSC Leadership and Steering Committee	Summer to Fall 2004