

**Quicksilver Caucus Action Plan with Implementation Strategy
2007-2008**

Goal – State, Federal, and International Actions Result in Net Mercury Reductions to the Environment
DRAFT DECEMBER 31, 2006

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 eight resolutions provide policy guidance(list attached)
- Stewardship documents provide policy and technical guidance
- TMDL document provides policy and technical guidance
- US EPA Roadmap for Mercury (July 2006) provides policy for QSC—US EPA Partnership

Key Quicksilver Caucus Actions

Actions and Activities	Key Tasks (What and How)	Participants (Who)	Target Date (When)
A. Strengthen State Capacity to Reduce and Manage Mercury in the Environment			
1. Assess Status of State Mercury Activities	Update Key Compendium Tables and Contacts and Publish on QSC Web Page	QSC Members QSC Staff	May 2007 May 2008
2. Product Stewardship	a. Implement Product White Paper Recommendations b. Facilitate Implementation of Multi-state Approaches c. Develop national mercury reduction programs for these, based on stakeholder input (modeled on the national vehicle switches program)	QSC Members QSC Staff	a. Summer 2007 b. Spring 2008 c. December 2008
3. Peer to Peer Knowledge Transfer on Vehicle Switches and 2 new Topics (one per year)	a. Vehicle Switches – continue monthly conference call b. Determine Topics, Audiences, Materials	QSC Members QSC Staff	a. Ongoing b. Fall 2007 & Summer 2008

Actions and Activities	Key Tasks (What and How)	Participants (Who)	Target Date (When)
	Based on Update of Compendium Materials and Discussions with QSC Members and US EPA c. Develop Technical Information Materials (e.g., Best Practices, Success and Failure Stories, Fact Sheets, Brochures, etc.) d. Schedule and Hold Technical Seminars (Structured Conference Calls)		c. Fall 2007 & Summer 2008 d. January 2008 & October 2008
4. Mercury Switches in Vehicles	a. Implement State Responsibilities for NVMSRP b. Work with Implementation Steering Committee to Develop Measures of Program Progress in Meeting Goals c. Participate In Program Evaluation and Communication of Program Results	Peggy Harris John Gilkeson ECOS Staff - Mary Blakeslee	a. On-going b. February 2007 c. August 2007 & August 2008
B. Foster Safe Long-term Management of Elemental Mercury			
1. Coordinate Effective State Participation in Development of National Strategy for Safe Long-term Storage of Elemental Mercury ¹	Work Collaboratively with US EPA to Define and Implement Approach and Schedule	QSC Members QSC Staff	On-going
2. Develop State Principles and Policy on Sound Environmental Management of National and International Stockpiles of Elemental Mercury	a. Consult with Federal and International Partners to Understand their Perspectives b. Establish ECOS Resolution (new or modified) to support desired State approach	QSC Members QSC Staff	Fall 2007
C. Educate and Engage Key Public and Private Sector Leaders			
Brief State and Federal Environmental Policy leaders, State and Federal Legislators, NGOs and	a. Updates at Appropriate Venues b. Publish Factsheets, Journal Newsletters, etc.	ECOS Officers and Members, QSC Leaders and	On-going as Appropriate

¹ This activity continues to be a high priority for the QSC and States

Actions and Activities	Key Tasks (What and How)	Participants (Who)	Target Date (When)
Private Industry	c. Send Letters as Appropriate	Members	
D. Position QSC to Implement Action Plan			
1. Continue State Leadership Commitment	a. QSC Leaders Seek Endorsement by Respective Organizations of QSC Plans, Policies, & Programs b. QSC Identify Actions to Support and Enhance QSC Plans, Policies, & Programs	QSC Leaders and Staff	On-going as Appropriate
2. Continue QSC Outreach	Evaluate Outreach Approaches Focus Outreach on Key Actions and Activities	QSC Members QSC Staff	On-going as Appropriate
3. Organize QSC Members	a. Form Implementation Teams b. Provide Logistics for QSC Teams	QSC Leaders ECOS Staff	On-going
4. Develop and Obtain Funding for QSC 2009-10 Action Plan	Develop Action Plan Documents	QSC Leaders QSC Staff	November 2008
E. Educate State and Federal Policy Leaders in May 2007			
Host Third Policy Leaders Workshop	a. Finalize Agenda b. Hold Workshop c. Develop or Revise Policy and Program Recommendations for QSC-US EPA Consideration	Mark McMillan and Mark Smith, Leaders QSC Members and Staff	a. February 2007 b. May 2007 c. July 2007

II. Implementing US EPA's Roadmap for Mercury

Guiding Principles

- Interim Storage and Long-term Management of Elemental Mercury (e.g. in Public Stockpiles and from closures and collections) Is a Federal Responsibility
- US EPA's Roadmap for Mercury Provides the Framework for the State-Federal Partnership
- US EPA, in Consultation with the States, Develops Comprehensive National Implementation Plan for their Mercury Roadmap in order to facilitate effective actions
- Mercury in the Environment Is a Global Issue and Requires United States Leadership In Developing Reduction Strategies
- Federal Government Should Lead By Example
- State Policy and Technical Leaders Should Be Consulted in Developing National and International Policy and Programs
- State Experience and Expertise Are a Resources Should Be Integrated Into National and International Programs

Key Elements of a Federal Framework

- DOD's Interim Solution For Storing and Managing Its Mercury Stockpile
- US EPA Roadmap for Mercury, including:
 - Regulatory Actions, Policies and Programs for Managing Air, Water, and Land Releases
 - Product Stewardship Programs
 - Managing Commodity Grade Mercury, Including Development of Interim Solutions For Storing and Managing Federal (DOE and other Federal agency) and Private Mercury Stockpiles
 - Risk Communication
 - International Sources
 - Research and Development Programs

Key Quicksilver Caucus Actions

Actions and Activities	Key Tasks (What and How)	Participants (Who)	Target Date (When)
A. Continue to Support National Leadership Approaches to Reduce and Safely Manage Mercury in the Environment			
1. Continue to Support the Safe, Long-term Storage of the DOD Mercury Stock Pile	Monitor Department of Defense Actions	QSC Members QSC Staff	On-going as Appropriate
2. Monitor and Recommend Appropriate Action for Safe, Long-term Storage of the DOE Mercury Stock Pile	Monitor Department of Energy Actions	QSC Members QSC Staff	On-going as Appropriate
B. Implement Roadmap Through QSC- US EPA Partnership			
1. Support Development of	a. Form QSC Team to work with US EPA	QSC Members	Spring 2007

Actions and Activities	Key Tasks (What and How)	Participants (Who)	Target Date (When)
Detailed Implementation Plan	b. Present and discuss at May Senior Leaders Workshop	QSC Staff	
2. Enhance States Engagement in Development of US EPA Regulations, Policy, Guidance, and Programs to Reduce Mercury Releases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Air Releases b. Water Releases c. Land d. Toxic Release Inventory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Air Releases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Continue to Participate in NACAA and ECOS Issue Position Development and Dialogue with US EPA and the Development of NACAA and ECOS Policy ii. Collaborate with NACAA to Facilitate Information Sharing and Collaboration Across States b. Water Releases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Mercury Impaired Waters -- Continue to Participate in ASIWPCA and ECOS Issue Position Development and Dialogue with US EPA and the Development of ASIWPCA and ECOS Policy ii. Collaborate with ASIWPCA to Identify Additional Sources (e.g., sludge) and Control Approaches c. Land <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Continue to Participate in ASTWMO, P2 Roundtable and ECOS Issue Position Development and Dialogue with US EPA and the Development of ASIWPCA and ECOS Policy ii. Support US EPA in Developing Specific Approaches to Address Mining d. TRI - Support US EPA approaches as appropriate 	QSC Members QSC Staff	Ongoing with Specific Issues and Dates Determined In Concert with US EPA
3. Sustain State Momentum to Reduce Mercury in Products and Processes By Encouraging US EPA to Collaborate with States in Developing National Approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Implement Product White Paper Recommendations b. Facilitate Implementation of Multi-state Approaches Identify one to two key sectors c. Develop national mercury reduction programs for these, based on stakeholder 	QSC Members QSC Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Summer 2007 b. Spring 2008 c. December 2008

Actions and Activities	Key Tasks (What and How)	Participants (Who)	Target Date (When)
	input (modeled on the national vehicle switches program)		
4. Inform United States Positions and Enhance Federal Resources to Promote Reduction of Mercury in the International Arena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Support U.S. Positions by Providing Early and On-going Consultation and Advice in Trans-boundary Activities with Mexico and Canada b. Participate with US EPA in UNEP Partnership Identify Key Actions and Opportunities for Involvement c. Create Implement Network of State Consultants to Leverage US Agreements with International Organizations d. Implement Network of State Consultants to Leverage US Agreements with International Organizations 	QSC Members QSC Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ongoing b. Winter 2007 c. Summer 2007 d. Ongoing
5. Foster the Development of a National and International Framework that Ensures Current and Potentially Growing Supplies of Commodity Grade Mercury Are Used Only For "Essential" Uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Partner with US EPA to Have a National Forum that Engages Interested Parties in Dialog b. Partner with US EPA to Create US Markets that Reduce Use of Products Containing Mercury c. Encourage tracking of international trade, use, recovery and disposal of mercury. d. Encourage development of policies and techniques for long-term storage should be developed. e. Develop White Paper Documenting State Actions to Establish Market-based Approaches for Reducing Use of Mercury In Products and Processes 	QSC Members QSC Staff	Ongoing with Specific Issues and Dates Determined In Concert with US EPA
6. Support Effective Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Work with US EPA Provide Public Effective and Accurate Consumer Information on their Website focusing on mercury products b. Develop Measures that Document the Effectiveness Communication Tools 	QSC Members QSC Staff	Ongoing with Specific Issues and Dates Determined In Concert with US

Actions and Activities	Key Tasks (What and How)	Participants (Who)	Target Date (When)
7. Support Increased Resources for Existing US EPA Research and Monitoring to Better Data and Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Work with US EPA to Establish Regional Research and Development Conferences Program b. Encourage US EPA to evaluate new treatment technology and discuss findings with QSC and others c. Encourage expansion of the mercury deposition network d. Work with US EPA to support USGS monitoring and reporting of commodity mercury 	QSC Members QSC Staff	EPA Ongoing with Specific Issues and Dates Determined In Concert with US EPA
8. Encourage US EPA to Undertake Economic Research to Identify Market-based Incentives for Mercury-Free Products	Create Team to work with US EPA to explore approaches	QSC Members QSC Staff	Ongoing with Specific Issues and Dates Determined In Concert with US EPA

ATTACHMENT – List of ECOS Mercury Resolutions

Resolution #	Title	Date	Expiration
01-1	Need for Articulation of a National Vision for Mercury	April 7, 2004	April 7, 2007
03-3	Mercury Stewardship	March 21, 2006	March 21, 2009
03-7	The Need for a National Mercury Reduction Strategy as an Option for Atmospheric Mercury Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)	August 29, 2006	August 29, 2009
04-2	Regarding a Mercury Emissions Rule	April 20, 2004	April 20, 2007
04-7	Need for Nationwide Mercury Switch Removal Strategy that Provides Flexibility to the States	October 5, 2004	October 5, 2007
05-3	Need for State EPA Approach for Reducing Mercury on the Environment	April 11, 2005	April 11, 2008
06-1	Mercury Retirement and Stockpiling	March 21, 2006	March 21, 2009
06-7	Endorsement of National Mercury Switch Removal Program Memorandum of Agreement that Reduces Mercury in the Environment and Provides Flexibility to the States	August 17, 2006	August 11, 2009