

Setting global standard for measuring, reporting greenhouse gas emissions

CH2M HILL and Suncor Energy are working together to set the highest and most rigorous global standard for greenhouse gas measuring and reporting.

The firm recently evaluated the quality of Suncor's current GHG measurement and reporting processes in one of the most comprehensive GHG management system audits ever developed. CH2M HILL now has been retained to develop a leading-edge GHG management manual and a comprehensive GHG information management solution.

"CH2M HILL created a world-class GHG auditing system to determine the extent to which Suncor's existing program efficiently identifies and tracks emissions, encourages emissions reductions, optimizes potential value of Suncor's emission reduction portfolio, and provides verifiable reporting," said Lisa Nelowet, CH2M HILL director of Greenhouse Gas Management. "This cuttingedge endeavor reinforces Suncor's position as a global leader in corporate GHG emissions management."

"Suncor is committed to voluntary action on climate change and we believe this commitment is enhanced by a solid foundation of world-class measurement and reporting practices," said Gordon Lambert, Suncor's vice president for sustainable development.

Developing global standard

Currently, a unified global standard for measuring and reporting GHG emissions does not exist. However, a variety of guidelines have been developed by several notable agencies and coalitions including the World Resources Institute/World **Business Council for Sustainable** Development. Suncor and CH2M HILL are members of the WRI/WBCSD-led team of organizations that worked toward an international standard for measuring and reporting GHG. Guidelines from the American Petroleum Institute, the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers and other sources also were incorporated into the Suncor program.

"We combined our experience designing and implementing large emissions management systems with our expertise in auditing to internationally recognized standards to help Suncor create a best-in-class verifiable GHG management system," Nelowet said. "Ann Duffy's expertise in creating state-of-the-art Environmental Management Systems was key in ensuring the program's success." (Duffy works from CH2M HILL's Vancouver, British Columbia, office and is the market segment leader for Management and Information Solutions.)

Reducing emissions

Suncor is not stopping simply at the development of a reporting system. CH2M HILL energy and emissions experts also have been retained to identify and evaluate emission reduction opportunities among Suncor's key production and distribution operations. Typically, energy efficiency and low-carbon alternative energy offer the best opportunities for emission reductions.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently selected CH2M HILL to develop industrial sector measurement and reporting protocols for Climate Leaders, the new voluntary U.S. federal GHG tracking and reporting program. Other corporations for which CH2M HILL is helping to manage their GHG inventories include Entergy, one of the largest power companies in the southeastern United States, and Vivendi Universal, one of the largest multimedia entertainment firms in the world.

