



U.S. Department  
Of Transportation  
**Federal Transit  
Administration**

Headquarters

1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.  
Washington DC 20590

NOV 16 2012

Dear Colleague:

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is pleased to offer its fourth round of Environmental Management Systems (EMS) training and technical assistance for public transportation agencies. FTA is offering this opportunity to eight to ten (8-10) providers of public transportation to receive assistance in implementing EMS. Public and private entities that have integrated EMS into their operations report improved compliance with environmental regulations and enhanced support of environmental stewardship objectives. EMS affects every aspect of an organization's current and planned operations and produces environmental benefits such as:

- energy conservation,
- efficient water use,
- vehicle emission reduction,
- materials recycling, and
- management of hazardous materials.

Organizations with EMS often report cost savings over time, improved bond ratings, reduced insurance premiums, and better community relations.

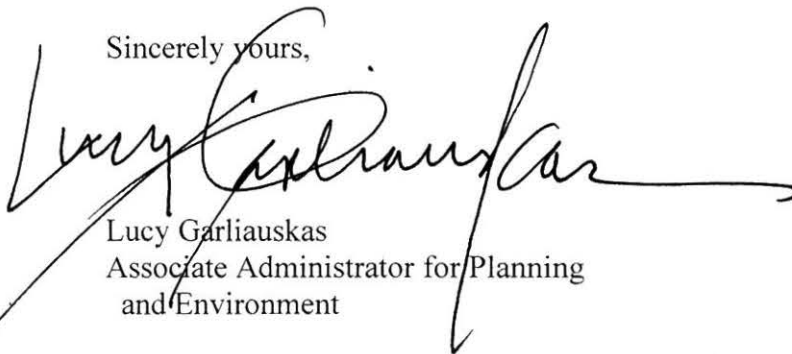
FTA's training is designed to help agencies develop and implement EMS, using the 14001 Standard of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) (<http://www.iso.org/iso/home/standards/management-standards/iso14000.htm>). The 14001 Standard is a toolbox of management techniques to minimize harm to the environment. The 14001 Standard will serve as the basis of the EMS training, although it will be at the discretion of the agency whether to pursue ISO certification. FTA will assemble a final report that includes the participating transit agencies' case studies and will also assess training results.

The program will extend over a period of two years. FTA will provide assistance in the form of training workshops, on-site technical support visits, electronic materials and resources, and consultation. Participant agencies will be responsible for their staffs' travel and accommodation costs for the workshops. FTA will again employ the services of the Center for Organizational and Technological Advancement at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech), located in Roanoke, Virginia. The Environmental Protection Agency recognizes Virginia Tech as a Public Entity Environmental Management System Resource Center (PEER Center), [www.peercenter.net](http://www.peercenter.net), specifically designed to aid local, county, and State entities that are considering implementing EMS. Virginia Tech's history working with FTA makes its program uniquely designed to meet the needs of transit agencies.

Application instructions and a brochure ([www.cota.vt.edu/ems/fta](http://www.cota.vt.edu/ems/fta)) describing the training in detail are attached. You may learn more about FTA's EMS training at [www.fta.dot.gov/EMS](http://www.fta.dot.gov/EMS).

We are excited about continuing to partner with transit agencies in this environmental stewardship opportunity. I hope that you will consider having your agency participate in this EMS program. If you have any questions, please contact Antoinette Quagliata at (202) 366-4265 or [Antoinette.Quagliata@dot.gov](mailto:Antoinette.Quagliata@dot.gov).

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lucy Garliauskas', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Lucy Garliauskas  
Associate Administrator for Planning  
and Environment

Enclosures