

**State of Wisconsin**  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
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Scott Walker, Governor  
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July 31, 2013

Larry McKibbin  
US Silica Sparta Plant  
2500 Iband Ave  
Sparta, WI 54656

Subject: Welcome to Green Tier

Dear Mr. McKibbin:

Congratulations! We are glad to welcome you into Green Tier. You join a group of companies who are not only committed to superior environmental performance but also to superior economic performance.

In recognizing your past accomplishments and future commitments we promise to work towards promoting and rewarding your facility for taking the lead in environmental performance while assuring strong economic performance. We are committed to publicizing US Silica as a Green Tier participant on the DNR website. Undoubtedly, there will be other opportunities to bring attention to your accomplishments, and we hope to assist you in doing so as a Green Tier partner.

Roberta Walls has been assigned as your single point of contact. She can be reached at, [Roberta.Walls@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Roberta.Walls@Wisconsin.gov) or 608-785-9472. Please contact her with any questions concerning communications, required approvals, or technical assistance you may need. For your convenience the attached guidance outlines your benefits and important dates that affect your participation.

On behalf of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, I am proud to extend this welcome to you. We are committed to working with you to build a customized relationship under the Green Tier Program. I am excited to embark on our new relationship and my staff is ready to assist as your business grows.

Sincerely,

/s/ Cathy Stepp

Cathy Stepp  
Secretary

Attachments: Green Tier Commitment Outline  
Green Tier Logo Files and Guidance CD

Cc: Deborah Dix, DNR WCR  
Dave Clausen, US Silica  
Roberta Walls, WDNR LaCrosse

## **Green Tier Commitment Outline**

### **U.S. Silica Sparta Plant**

#### **I. Approval Date – July 31, 2013**

#### **II. Green Tier 1 Program**

- **Deferred Civil Action:** You are entitled to Deferred Civil Enforcement as described in statutes (299.83(6m)(d)). In brief, if you discover a violation of an existing environmental requirement, provide us notice of your discovery, a corrective action plan and documentation of your EMS changes that ensure the violation will not happen again, you are entitled to protection from any civil penalties that the DNR might otherwise impose.
- **Green Tier Logo:** Use of the Green Tier logo on materials related to your facility. The CD provided in your packet provides additional guidelines and information.
- **Single Point of Contact (SPOC):** Roberta Walls, 608-785-9272  
Roberta.Walls@wisconsin.gov
- **Minimum Inspection Frequency** – Given that you have implemented an EMS you are entitled to inspections at the lowest frequency permitted by the programs under law. We will work with you to determine how this will work for you.
- **Recognition** – Along with the numbered certificate of recognition, the department will host a participant web page for easy reference. The department will also schedule in coordination with you a public ceremony recognizing your efforts.

#### **III. Environmental Management Systems (EMS)**

- You have a certified EMS in place which means you have already satisfied the Green Tier requirement to have an EMS in place within one year of initiating participation.
- At least one time prior to **July, 2016**, and every year after that, perform an environmental management system audit. Every third year, you must utilize an outside environmental auditor approved by the Department to audit your EMS. Each year of providing your ISO certification satisfies that requirement
- Please see guidance from the links below:  
<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/GreenTier/documents/provingEMS.pdf>  
<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/GreenTier/Auditors.html>

#### **IV. Annual Reporting**

- **First Annual Report Date** – **April, 2014** and annually thereafter. (An alternative report date can be selected by simply providing the date to Roberta Walls)
- Annually you will need to report progress on commitments and/or objectives and targets that you have set. In addition to the progress report on commitments and/or objectives and targets, we ask that you report information which will give us context for those commitments. If you have a goal to reduce energy consumption then the context would be total energy consumed. We will work with you to find the context reporting that will work best for you. Examples of context information can be found:  
<http://dnr.wi.gov/files/PDF/pubs/co/CO521.pdf>  
<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/GreenTier/documents/SustainabilityMetricsSpreadsheet.xlsx>
- Please provide annual Green Tier Reports to Roberta.Walls@wisconsin.gov and GreenTier@wisconsin.gov. Electronic submission is preferable.

You should also feel free to call Roberta Walls, 608-785-9272 any additional information that you might need.