Influencing Federal E Procurement Systems to Advance Greener Procurement

“...the Federal Government can and should lead by example when it comes to creating innovative ways to...use environmentally-responsible products and technologies.”

President Obama, October 2009
WHY INTEGRATE GREEN PURCHASING INTO E PROCUREMENT SYSTEMS?

- Purchasers are overwhelmed
- Green purchasing won’t happen unless it is made easier
- E procurement systems can help simplify and integrate into standard practice
GOAL/SCOPE OF THIS PROJECT

1. Research Federal E Procurement Systems
2. Identify opportunities within these systems to simplify green purchasing
3. Actualize these opportunities
Two main opportunities available:
- RFP and Statement of Work development stage
- Tracking of procurements stage
**FINDINGS – RFP/SOW STAGE**

- Good news: Systems have capability to add green procurement requirements into RFPs
- Bad news: Selection of right clauses left to RFP writers
- Opportunity:
  - Create defaults
  - Indicate demand to system providers
  - Encourage RFP writers to use system start to finish
Good news:
- Systems require data on green purchases
- Feed into Federal Procurement Data System

Bad news:
- Vague questions
- Not in alignment with current green purchasing requirements

Opportunity:
- Update questions
**Next Steps**

- Sharing research results with key stakeholders
- Working with GSA to:
  1. Develop a crosswalk of PSC and NAICs codes against federal green procurement requirements
  2. Create an API with defaults for each product or service category being procured
- Revising tracking questions
Holly Elwood  
Senior Program Manager  
EPA’s Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program  
Elwood.holly@epa.gov

Kevin Funk  
GSA’s Office of Government Wide Policy  
SAMM Workgroup Co-Chair  
Kevin.funk@gsa.gov

Website where report will be posted:  www.epa.gov/epp