

Environmental, Green & Sustainability Policy

Valley National Gases recognizes its role as a responsible environmental steward and chooses to conduct its business in a manner that delivers leading Environmental, Health and Safety performance. Our goal is to provide products and services that are safe and environmentally sound. We are committed to the safe, responsible manufacture and distribution of gases and industrial supplies. It is our commitment to protect the environment as well as the health and safety of all stakeholders in our business: employees, customers, vendors, neighbors and communities.

Our Guiding Principles:

- Valley National Gases will conduct its business responsibly, and in a manner designed to protect the health and safety of employees, customers and the public. We will protect the environment in which we operate.
- Valley National Gases will comply with or exceed the requirements of all applicable laws and regulations governing our operations.
- Accountability is a fundamental requirement of an effective environmental program. We continuously strive to reduce our environmental impact through audits and reviews which encompass operational compliance as well as commitment and adherence to environmental policies and regulations.
- Valley National Gases will offer information and services on the safe use and disposal of the products we manufacture and distribute through written materials, training and education.
- Valley National Gases will continuously strive to prevent the discharge of hazardous materials and minimize the generation of waste. Key activities include the active promotion of recycling and resource recovery, conservation of energy, water and natural resources, and minimization of air emissions in our operations.
- Valley National Gases will meet its environmental commitment by integrating these objectives into our business planning, decision-making, and review processes to ensure we achieve our goals and continually improve upon them.

Environmental management is a shared responsibility at Valley National Gases. We welcome our stakeholders to share relevant information and to contribute to the development of sound public policy and business initiatives.

Michael J. Ziegler
Chief Executive Officer
November 1, 2008

VALLEY NATIONAL GASES, LLC

GREEN AND SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS

1. Transportation

VALLEY NATIONAL GASES, LLC, is largely a distribution business. We constantly review routing to look for the most efficient ways to distribute our product, while maintaining a high-level of customer service. More efficient routing allows for reduced fuel consumption/natural resource depletion, as well as reduced vehicle emissions and reduced carbon footprint. The effort also reduces the cost burden for our products, and the saving are passed onto our customers.

2. Waste Stream Improvements

VALLEY NATIONAL GASES, LLC reviews its manufacturing processes to ensure that we are handling our waste streams in ways that best protect the environment. For example, the lime slurry bi-product from some of our processes is utilized as a treatment product in other manufacturing processes. With flammable gases, we capture residual product when it can be done safely. This reduces the amount of gas that must be produced to meet customer needs, and subsequently reduces our carbon footprint.

3. Recycling

VALLEY NATIONAL GASES, LLC constantly looks for recycling opportunities. We recycle our process water whenever possible, which reduces both water consumption and water treatment impacts. When our cylinders and valves are taken out of service, the metal is recycled. Many locations recycle and/or reuse pallets, reducing cost and disposal, as well as reducing timber burden.

4. Our Products

VALLEY NATIONAL GASES, LLC markets gases for environmental improvement projects. We sell EPA protocols and gases for emissions testing, oxygen to support better combustion in furnaces, CO² as an environmentally-friendly alternative to other products in foam manufacturing processes, ethylene-oxide blends as green-friendly alternatives to other sterilization gases, as well as many other green-friendly products.

Our product specialists offer technical expertise to help customers with applications that can help reduce environmental impact, as well as make their operations more efficient.

5. Use Green-Friendly Materials

VALLEY NATIONAL GASES, LLC uses green-friendly materials. For example, we paint our cylinders with water-soluble paints, minimizing air emissions/impact, minimizes paint disposal burden, and significantly shrinks the degradation phase of our product life-cycle duration.

6. Redesign the Workspace

Where possible, **VALLEY NATIONAL GASES, LLC** redesigns its manufacturing, supply, and sourcing options to better lean its operations. This improves efficiency, reduces manufacturing, distribution, energy, and other burdens, while helping us to offer competitive products and services to our customers.