Empowering Decision Support and Analysis through the Service Oriented Architecture

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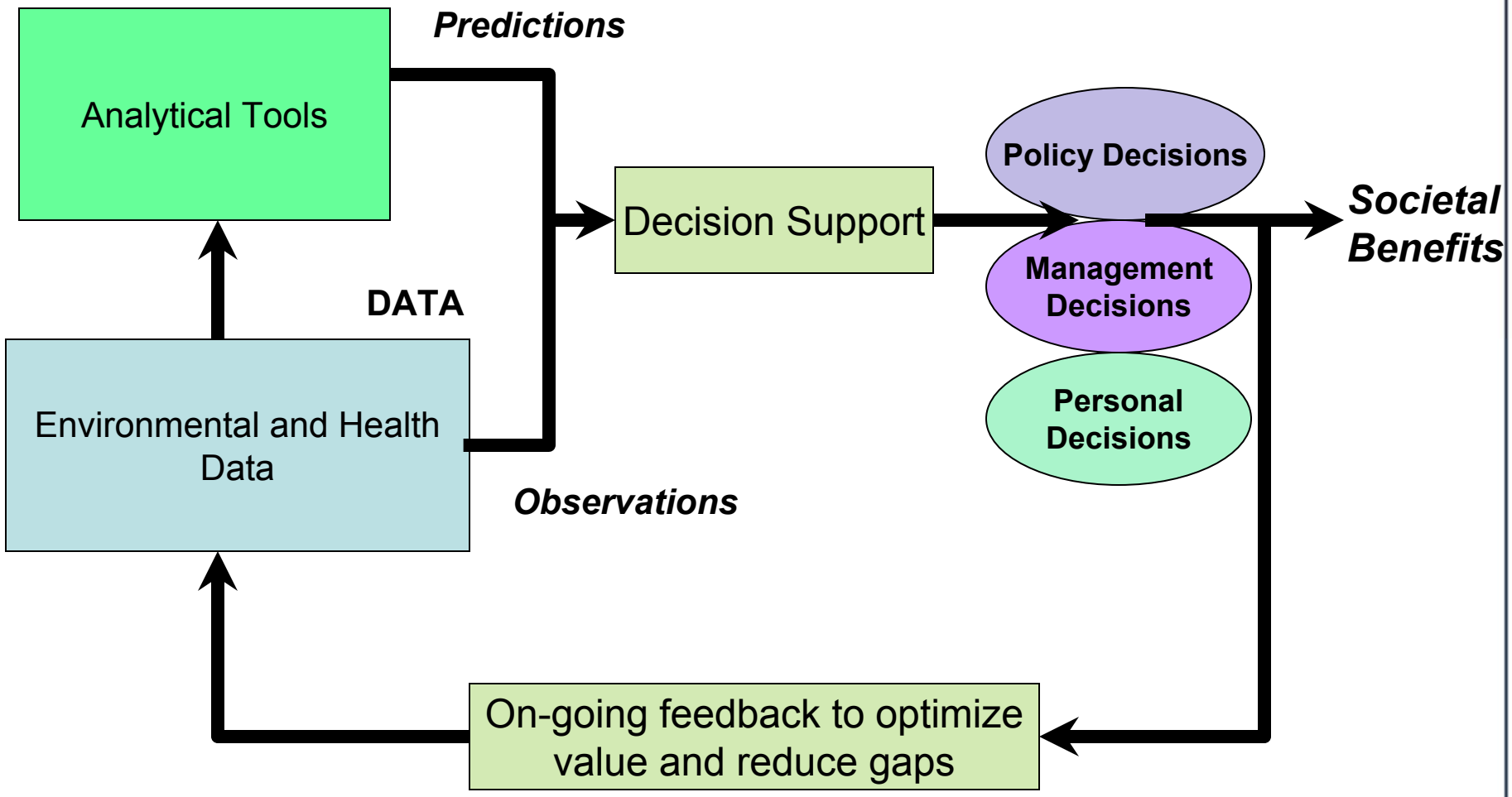
EPA IT Contractors Forum

Decision-Making at EPA

- Management and Strategic Planning Decisions
  - Budget, GPRA tracking
  - Report on the Environment/Indicators
- Regulatory and Policy Decisions
  - Big Decisions e.g., watershed protection, pesticides under ESA
- Public Decisions
  - What are the facilities and chemical releases in my areas? (Toxics Release Inventory)
  - What is the Air Quality Index in my area today? (AIRNow)
  - What is the health of a river in my area? (EnviroMapper for Water)

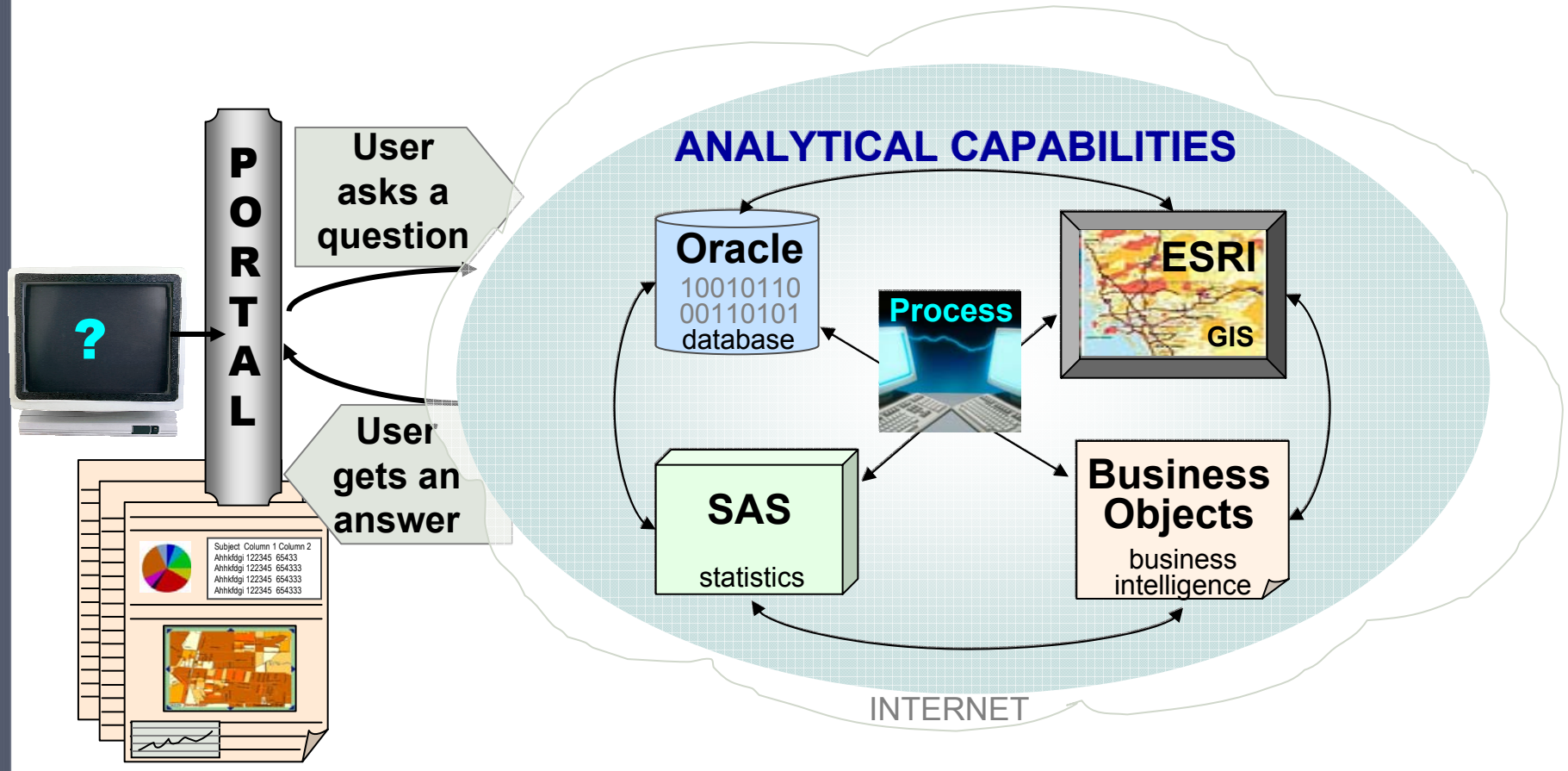
Decision Support Paradigm



Decision-Makers Needs

- Interactive models
- Visualizations
- Scenario development
- “What-if?” capabilities
- Indicators
- Dashboards and the “bigger picture” view
- Better GIS and remote sensing
- Better interpretive tools
- Intelligence; i.e. “here’s what’s really going on”

Building Blocks of Analytical Tools Are Enhanced By SOA



Examples of Using the SOA Concept to Enhance Decision Making

- Advanced Monitoring Initiative
- AirNow
- EnviroMapper Applications
- Toxics Release Inventory
- Recalls.gov

Initial Operating Capability:
EPA + NOAA IT Links

EPA Data Management Center

O_3 Movies/ Forecasts

NOAA National Center for Environmental Prediction

AQ Data from S/L Agencies

Weather Obs

EPA Emissions Inventory

Commercial Weather Providers

Data "pull" - - ->

Data "push" ——>

Predicted Pollutant Concentration Fields

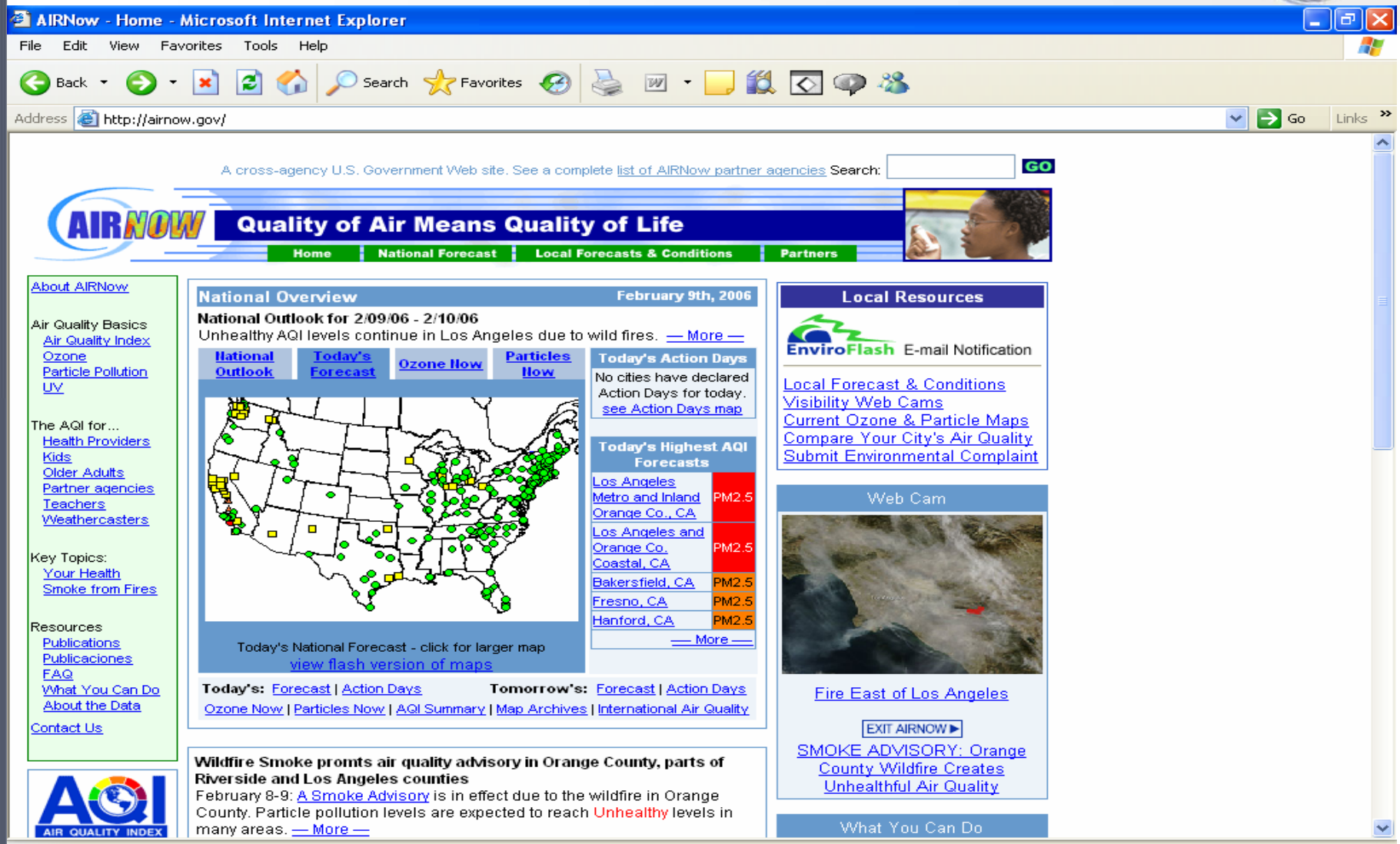
Media

Public

City-specific AQI forecasts

State/Local Air Agencies

AirNow



EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

OEI OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Window to My Environment

Contact Us | Online Help | Background

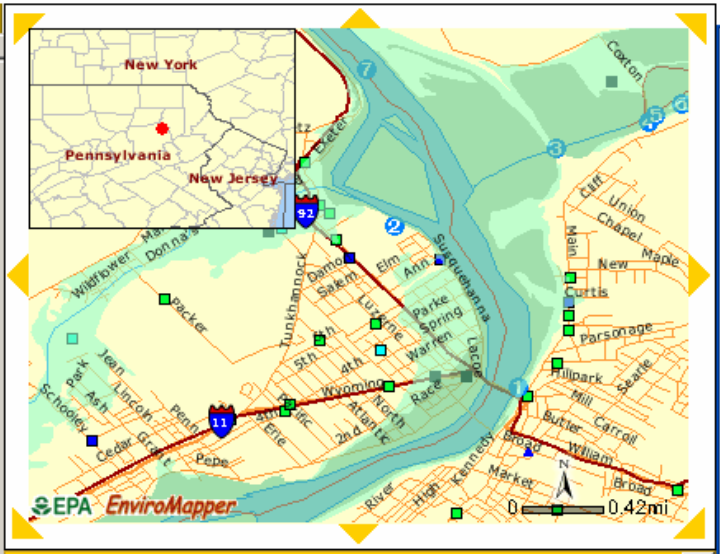
EPA Home > Where You Live > Window to My Environment

Redraw Map

Map Features

- **Regulated sites**
  - Multi-activities
  - Superfund
  - Toxic releases
  - Water discharg
  - Air emissions
  - BRS
  - Hazardous waste
- **Places**
  - Highways
  - Streets
- **Water features**
  - Impaired water bodies
  - Impaired streams
  - Water Bodies
  - Streams
- Demographics
- **Political boundaries**
- Air monitors
- Water monitors
- **Flood zones** EXIT EPA
  - Special Flood Hazard Area

Redraw Map



Zoom In | Zoom Out | Recenter | Locator Map

Identify: Multi-activities | Legend

Choose: a view

Your Window | Your Environment

All features intersecting the map window will appear as part of the information contained in the fact sheet below.

Community (Town,State)	Pittston PA
County(s)	Luzerne PA
Area of Window	6.23 sq mi
Width of Window	2.49 mi
Approx. population (2000)	15895 <=Statistics
Watershed(s)	Upper Susquehanna-Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania., Upper Susquehanna-Lackawanna, Pennsylvania.
Waterbody(s)	Susquehanna River
Congressional District(s)	11(PA)
Urban area	Scranton--Wilkes-Barre PA
No. of facilities reporting to EPA	37 <=Click to view View by industry

Your Window | **Your Environment**

Community is: Pittston, PA

- Home Pages for Federal/State Partners

AIR/CLIMATE
- What is the air quality?
- What facilities emit to the air?
- Where is air monitored?
- What is the Ultra Violet(UV) Index?

LAND
- What facilities handle hazardous waste?
- What facilities have releases to land?
- What are the Superfund Sites?
- Are there Brownfields Areas?

WATER
- What is the drinking water quality?
- What facilities discharge to water?
- What watersheds cross the area?
- Are there polluted waters?
- Where is water monitored?
- Are there any fish consumption advisories?
- Are there any beach advisories/closures?

CROSS MEDIA
- What chemicals are released?
- What industries have releases?

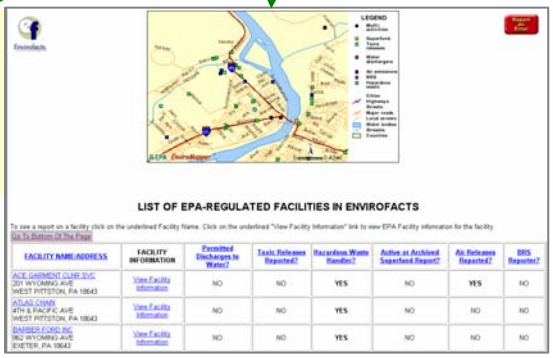
WHAT IS BEING DONE ABOUT MY ENVIRONMENT
- Reporting and Tracking
- Restoring and Protecting
- Working Locally

USGS Water Monitoring Sites: EXIT EPA
1. PITTSTON WATER TUNNEL
2. LU 311
3. Lackawanna River at Pittston, PA

PA

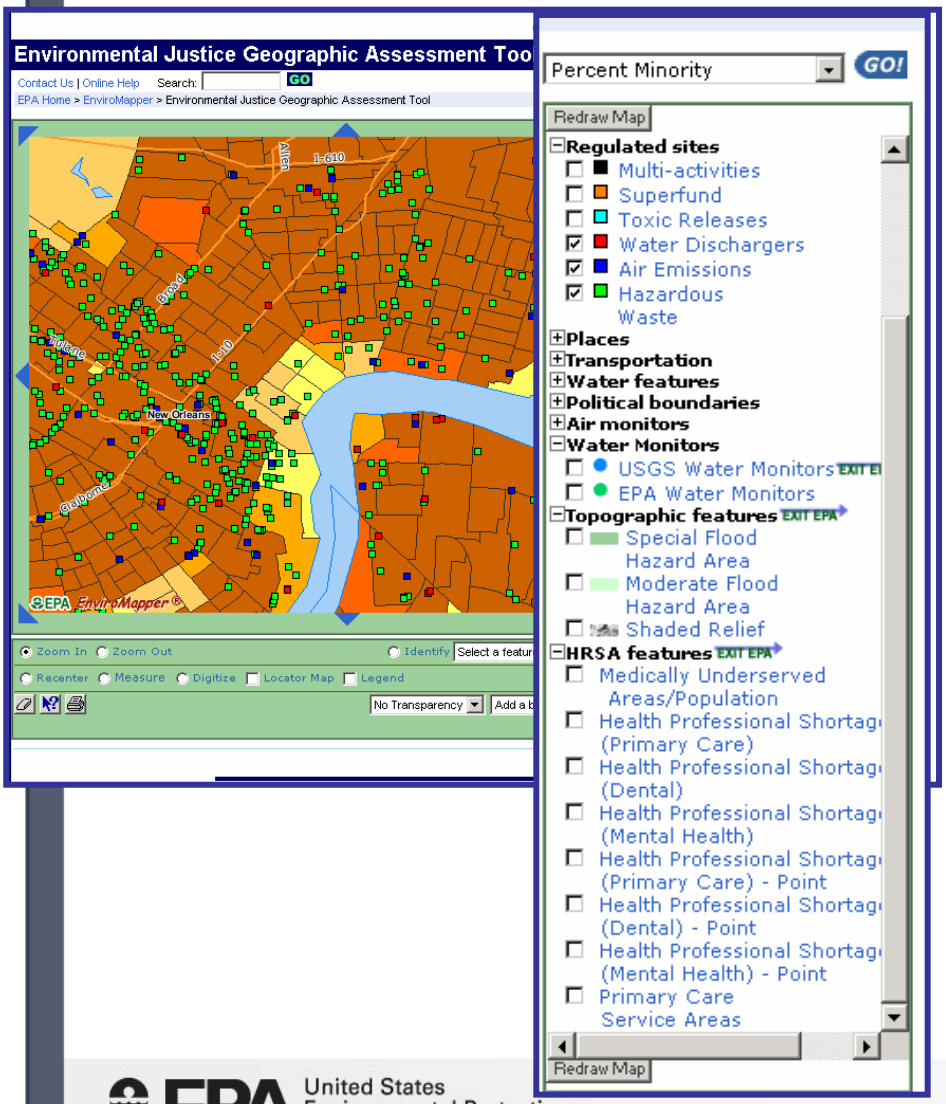
PA

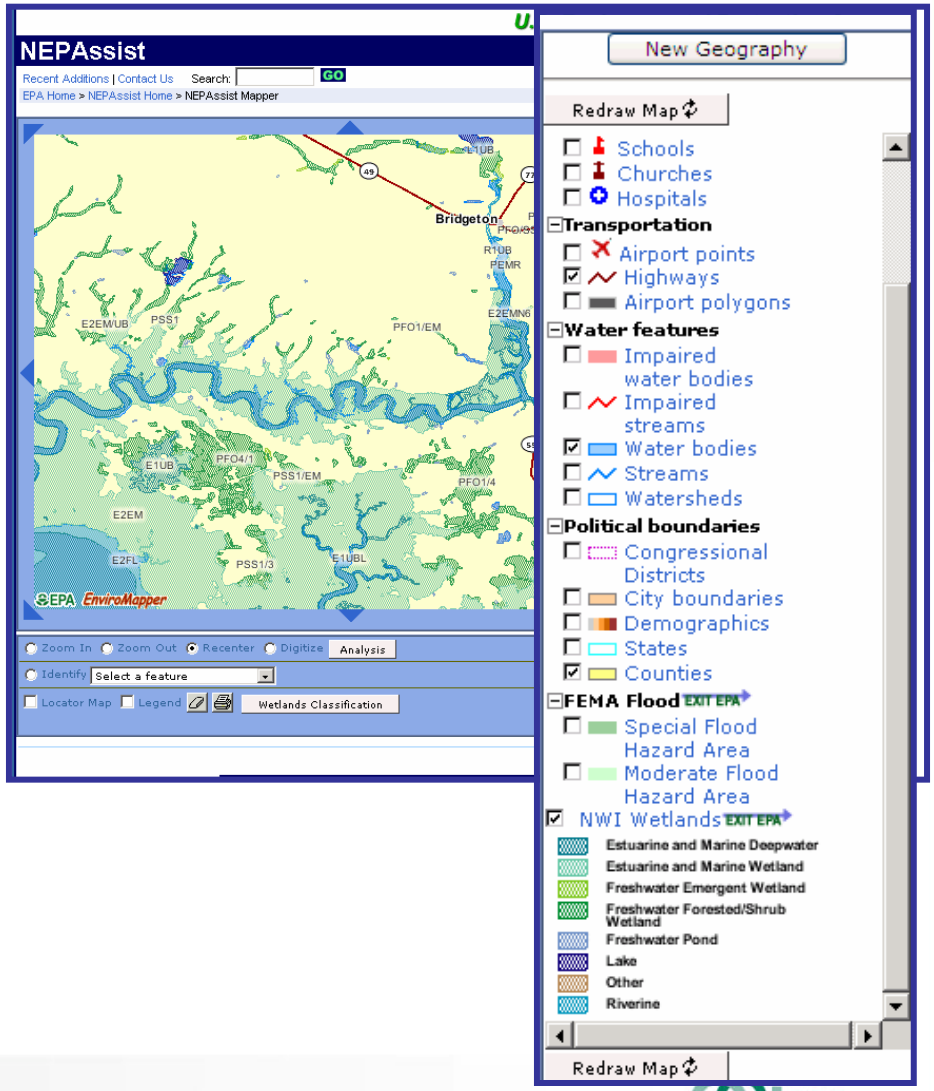
Aerial Photo



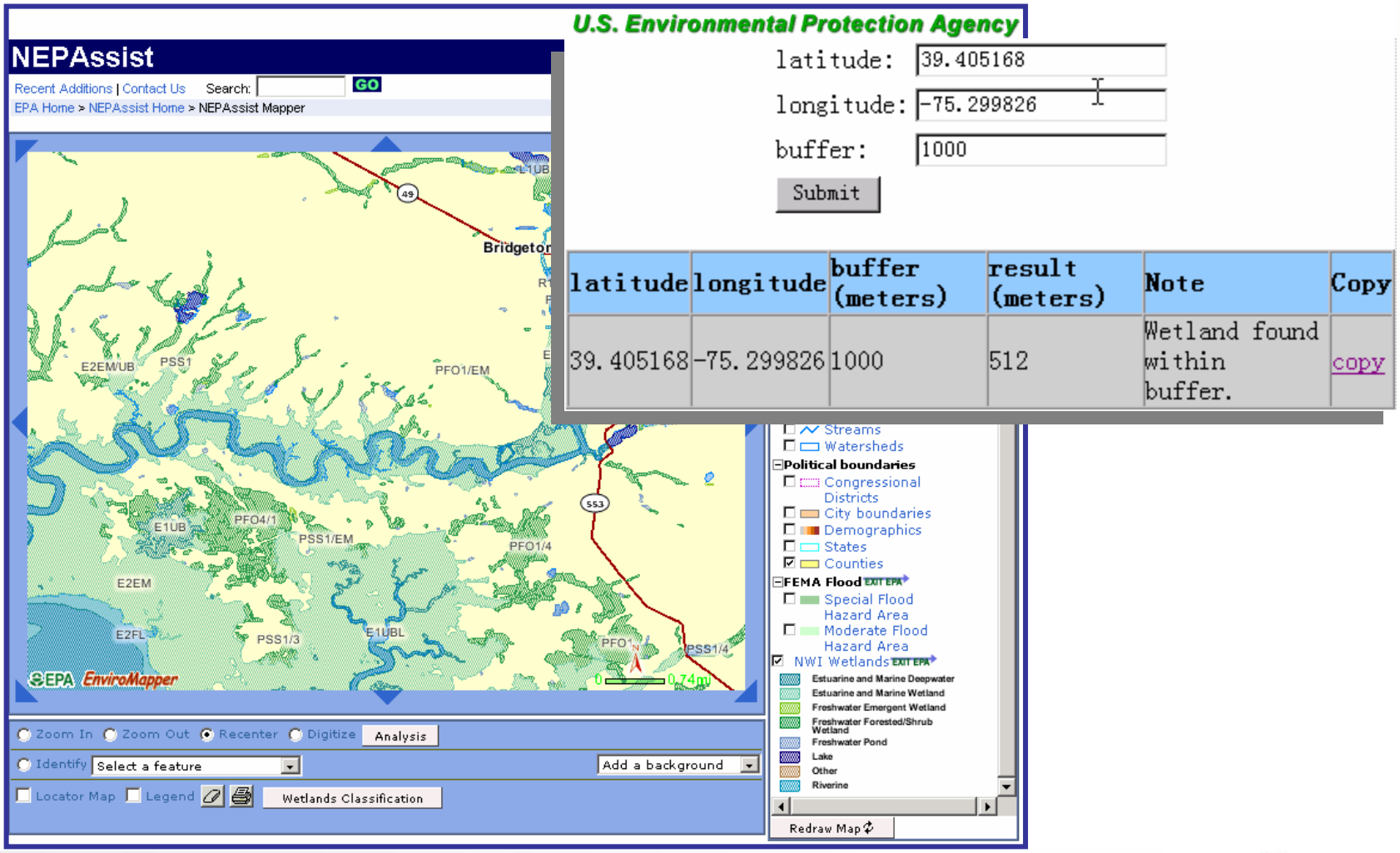
United States Environmental Protection Agency

Examples of EnviroMapper Data Access

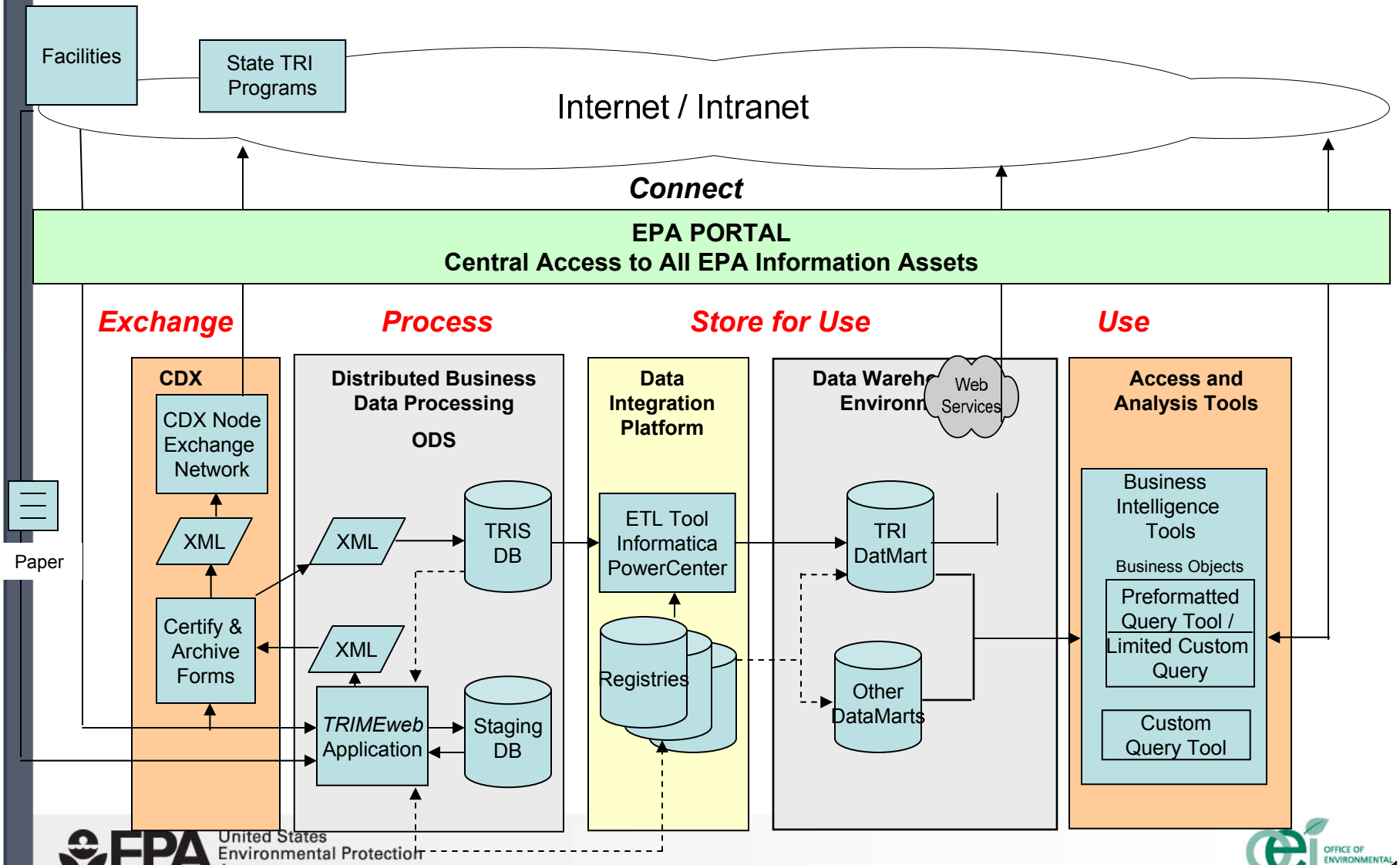




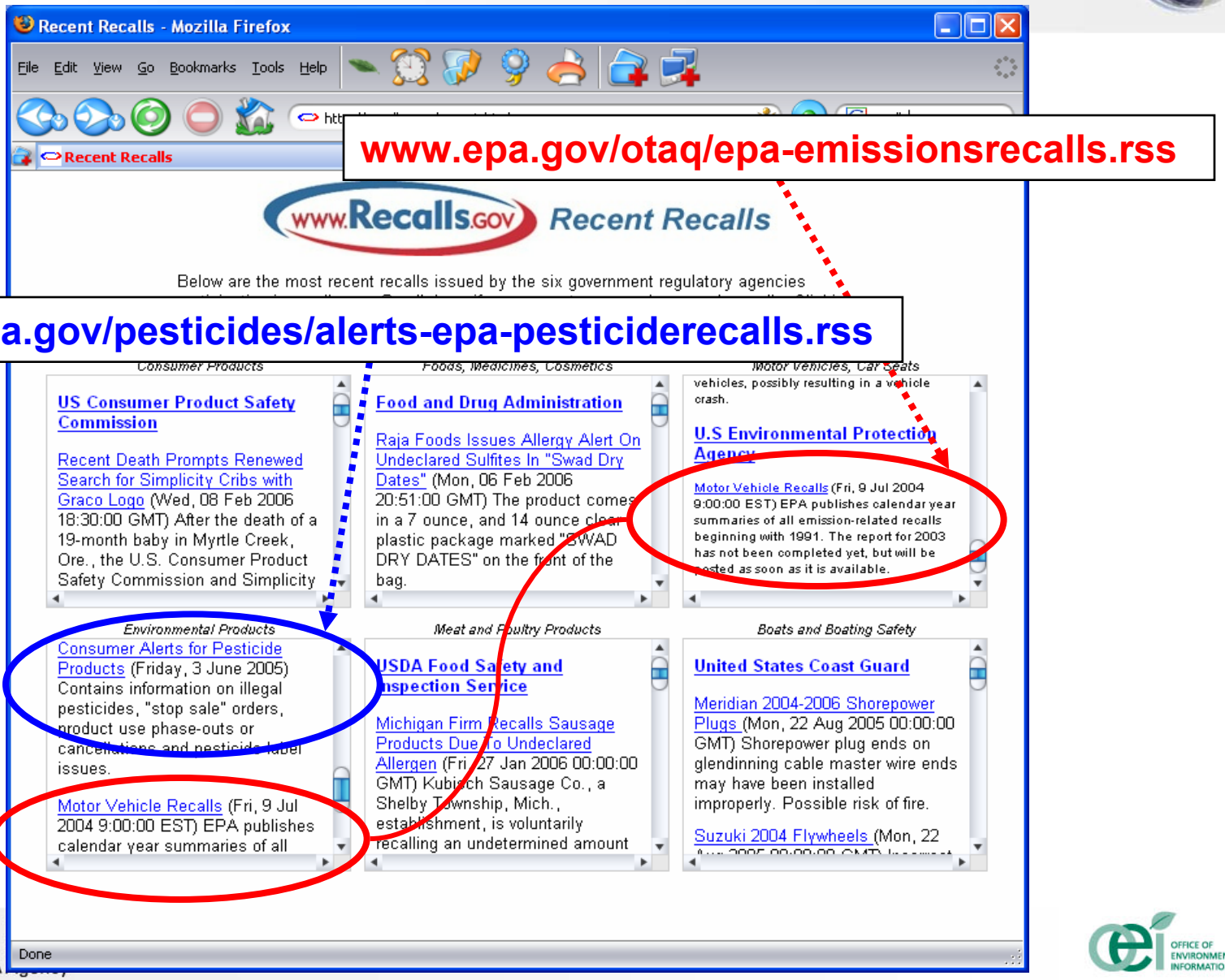
Wetland Proximity Analysis



Exchanging TRI Data using SOA



Recalls.gov: RSS "Feeds" Automate Info-Sharing



So If I was a Contractor, I would…

- Strive to understand decision-making at EPA;
- Determine the decision-support needs of your customers;
- Ensure conformance with EA;
- Build on existing capabilities; and,
- Communicate the availability of new and valuable information sources to the rest of the EPA community.