case study

Patriot Coal Complies With Consent Decree Using Enviance

Enviance Enables Coal Company to Reduce Environmental Impact While Avoiding Violations and Penalties

Patriot Coal Corporation is a leading producer and marketer of coal in the eastern United States, with 14 current mining complexes in Appalachia and the Illinois Basin. The company ships to domestic and international electric utilities, industrial users and metallurgical coal customers, and controls approximately 1.8 billion tons of proven and probable coal reserves.

Patriot began investigating environmental management software in 2009 to fulfill a federal court-issued consent decree, which required, among other things, that Patriot implement a system for electronic notification and violation tracking for discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) required by its various NPDES permits, a violations database and EMS audit database.

After assessing several market solutions, Patriot selected the Enviance Environmental Enterprise Resource Planning (EERP) System for the product's focus on compliance rather than data tracking, user flexibility and the lack of need for internal IT support. In addition, Enviance came highly recommended by CH2M Hill, the consultant retained to develop and implement Patriot's environmental management system as required by the consent decree.

> "Enviance has a direct impact on our ability to maintain compliance with our consent decree and NPDES permit requirements, which, in turn, allows us to maintain the highest standards of environmental compliance, avoid violations and penalties, respond to and correct violations, and reduce environmental impact from our operations."
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> John McHale, *V.P. Environmental Engineering*
> **Patriot Coal**

The Enviance EERP was rolled out at Patriot Coal using a phased approach in order to meet the timeframe of the consent decree and to reduce the need to implement interim programs. Implemented within weeks, outfall inspections were among the first features implemented with subsequent features rolled out as specific requirements of the consent decree became effective.

Patriot primarily uses Enviance for compliance with the requirements of the company's consent decree, which includes notification and tracking for NPDES permits, effluent limit violation response, DMR violations and the status of audit follow-up requirements. More recently, Patriot expanded the use of the Enviance EERP to fulfill the EPA Mandatory Reporting Rule (EPA MRR) for Greenhouse Gases (GHG).

In addition to helping Patriot address compliance with its consent decree and various permit requirements, the Enviance EERP helps keep users apprised of the various regulatory changes that affect compliance at their facilities through a subscription with BNA that has been integrated with Enviance.

Patriot currently has 22 Enviance users managing 12 departments and 24 facilities with approximately 1,100 outfalls and associated discharges. The company recently implemented GHG reporting through Enviance for all of its underground mines and plans to include other regulatory permit, including air and mine permits.

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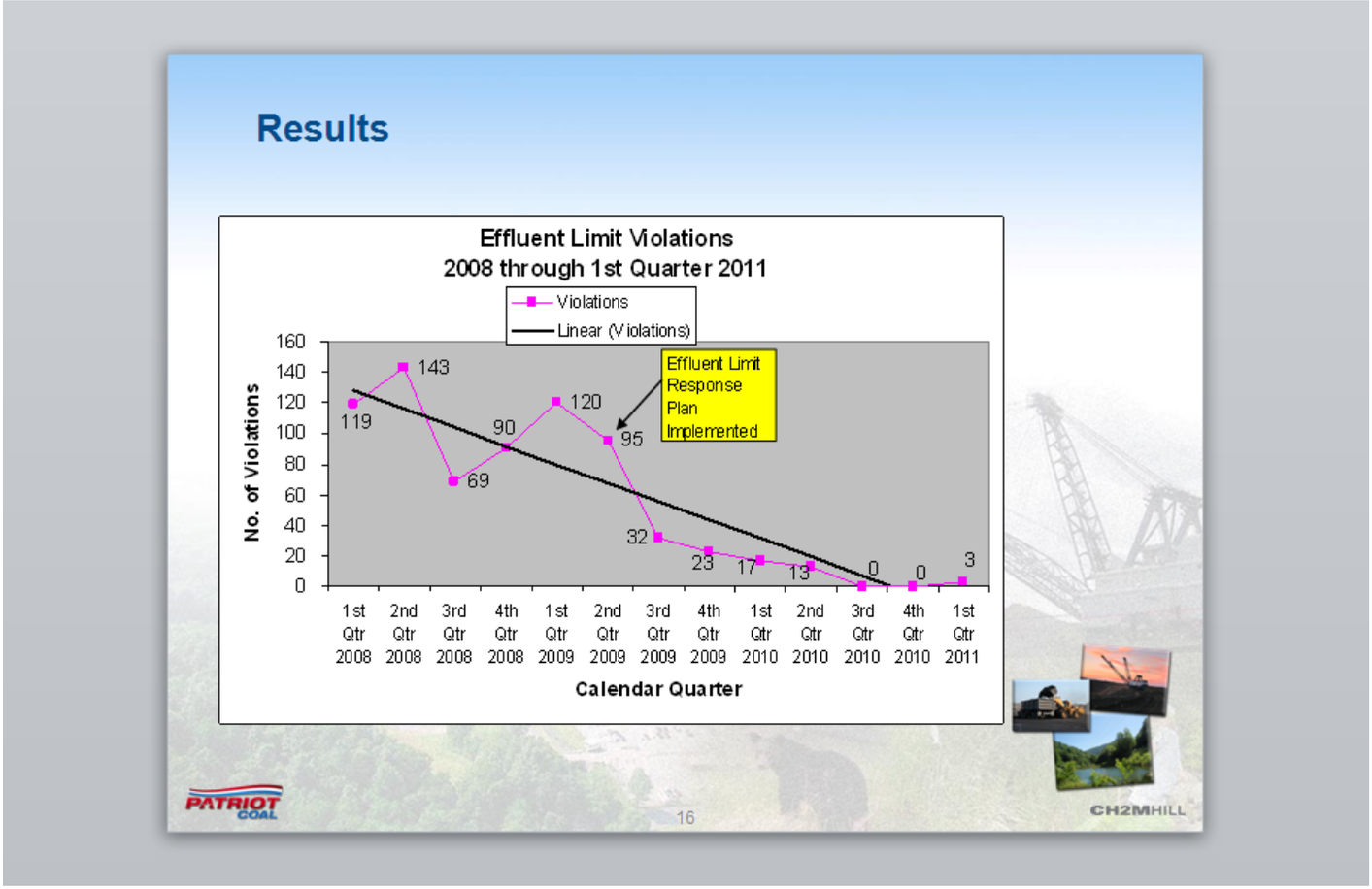
"At Patriot, the key selling point for Enviance is its ability to assist environmental personnel in being proactive in avoiding noncompliance issues and violations. Enviance has already helped Patriot significantly reduce NPDES violations. By clearly assigning and tracking compliance responsibilities and duties in Enviance, we have achieved significantly higher levels of compliance and subsequent reduction in violations and associated fines and penalties. We've also been impressed by the Enviance EERP's flexibility to include other regulatory programs beyond NPDES and related water quality regulatory issues."

John McHale, *V.P. Environmental Engineering*
Patriot Coal



ABOUT ENVIANCE: Enviance is the leading provider of Environmental ERP software. With more than a decade of experience providing environmental data management and expertise, Enviance's proven system is used by the world's largest corporations and government agencies including American Electric Power, Arch Coal, Chevron, CH2M Hill, Dimension Data, DuPont, Freescale Semiconductor, Fujifilm, Georgia-Pacific, Los Angeles World Airports, Syngenta, and the U.S. Army.

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