Message

From: Clifton, Tony [Clifton.Tony@epa.gov]
Sent: 8/24/2018 6:03:25 PM
To: Gray, David [gray.david@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: 8.24.18 MANAGEMENT UPDATE – INTERNAL USE ONLY; THIS EMAIL MAY CONTAIN ENFORCEMENT/LEGAL SENSITIVE INFORMATION

Thank you for sharing.

Tony D. Clifton
Labor & Employee Relations Specialist
US EPA, Region 6
1445 Ross Ave
Dallas, TX 75202
Phone: 214-665-8395
Mobile: 214-729-0106
Fax: 214-665-6538
email: Clifton.Tony@epa.gov

From: Gray, David
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2018 12:20 PM
To: Whaley,Dorothy <whaley.dorothy@epa.gov>; Buxton, Tonia <buxton.tonia@epa.gov>; Clifton, Tony <Clifton.Tony@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: 8.24.18 MANAGEMENT UPDATE – INTERNAL USE ONLY; THIS EMAIL MAY CONTAIN ENFORCEMENT/LEGAL SENSITIVE INFORMATION

From: Gray, David
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2018 12:19 PM
To: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>
Subject: 8.24.18 MANAGEMENT UPDATE – INTERNAL USE ONLY; THIS EMAIL MAY CONTAIN ENFORCEMENT/LEGAL SENSITIVE INFORMATION

Content is intended for managers, supervisors and team leaders please do not forward this email.

8.24.2018 MANAGEMENT UPDATE – INTERNAL USE ONLY; THIS EMAIL MAY CONTAIN ENFORCEMENT/LEGAL SENSITIVE INFORMATION

Good afternoon – I hope everyone saw Anne's note about Emily being appointed as Commissioner at TCEQ. I am sad to see her go and proud of her at the same time. Also, Commissioner Toby Baker has been named the new Executive Director at TCEQ. So – lots of changes in Texas and good news that we have good relationships with these two important appointments. Anne will be selecting another Chief of Staff so expect an announcement soon.

A gentle reminder to finish your mandatory training. I've got mine done. Each of these annual courses are extremely important in doing our jobs as managers and supervisors.

FY18 Information Security and Privacy Awareness Training is due by **August 31.**

No Fear Act Training, COOP Training, FOIA Training, and Records Management Training are now available, training must be done by **September 30.**

The No Fear Act training is particularly important. The course give us good information to keep us out of trouble personally as well as prevent problems for our employer, EPA. As DRA and the region's Deputy Regional Civil Rights Officer (DCRO), I am committed to ensuring that we all not only follow the rules but go further by setting the example and championing Region 6 as a great place to work. I am committed to our Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity programs being the best. So far this year, we have had only one formal EEO complaint filed, down from three last year. I know this reflects everyone's efforts. Both Tonia Buxton and Dorothy Whaley are valuable resources and available to assist you. Be smart, use them.

I met with Shonda Moore, our People With Disabilities Program Manager this week to talk about how we can continue to build our successful program. We are planning to sign a MOA with the Texas School for the Deaf in Austin soon and the agreement should bring new success next year. Also, I am reminded that October is Diversity Awareness Month so mark your calendars. Other exciting news on the SEPM front - Erin Tanimura is the newly-appointed Asian American Pacific Islander (AA/PI) Special Emphasis Program Manager (a memo will be out soon). Erin is an attorney in the Office of Regional Counsel, Air Enforcement Branch. She joined EPA Region 6 in September of 2015. Prior to working at EPA, Erin clerked a federal magistrate judge in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Erin graduated from UC Berkeley in 2010 with majors in Integrative Biology and History and from UC Davis School of Law in 2014.

For those tuning into our Monday senior staff meeting, our next 5-minute deep dive discussion (aired live via Adobe Connect) will be about Fuel Waivers with John Walser.

I am looking forward to our MIT meeting next Tuesday, Aug 28 at 2 pm. I want to get your ideas on what incentive(s) could improve our travel voucher close-out and thoughts on the next 360 feedback survey. We are making good progress with making selections and have about 25 job offers. We announced our Human Resources Officer position and hope to attract some good internal EPA candidates from across the country. We are also working on the paperwork to recruit for the Director of External Affairs. We should will have a few more offers completed soon which will wrap up our hiring for a while.

Below is a copy of the weekly report to the Administrator which highlights significant information for the region. This information is strictly internal and can contain enforcement/legal sensitive information that should never be shared further. The RA invitations report is also attached.

Region 6 Weekly Update

8-23-2018
Hot Topics

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Houston Redesignation/Maintenance Plan for the 1-hour and 1997 8-hour Ozone Air Quality Standards
By September 5, the TCEQ commissioners will consider proposing a Houston area redesignation/maintenance plan State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision for the 1-hour and 1997 8-hour ozone standards. EPA's previous approval was overturned in a February court decision. It is expected that TCEQ will request "parallel processing" of the SIP revision.

Texas Regional Haze FIP Reproposal
On September 26, EPA will be holding a public hearing at the Joe C. Thompson Conference Center (on the University of Texas Campus) in Austin to hear comments for the record on the proposal of the Texas Regional Haze FIP including an intrastate SO2 trading program for certain EGU sources in the state. The proposal of the Texas Regional Haze FIP was signed on August 17.

Major Decisions and Events

SO2 Designations Round 2 Sources (Luminant/Vistra), Texas
Luminant and Texas filed petitions for reconsideration of the SO2 non-attainment designations for areas surrounding the Big Brown, Monticello, and Martin Lake power plants. EPA responded that we will revisit those designations in a future rulemaking. Luminant has shut down two of the three sources. OAQPS anticipates proposing an action in September 2018.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

August 27-29 ECOS Fall Meeting
August 30 Annual Roundtable with US Army Corps of Engineers, Dallas, Texas
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