Message

From: Verhalen, Frances [verhalen.frances@epa.gov]
Sent: 3/22/2019 4:11:17 PM
To: Gray, David [gray.david@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: 3.22.2019 MANAGEMENT UPDATE - CONFIDENTIAL AND INTENDED FOR MANAGERS ONLY

Good morning, David.

A topic for the All Employees meeting on Tuesday next week: could you address how reservations for the conference space can be made in the new building? Staff are planning for conferences or meetings for late summer/fall. They are being told Addison may not be an option and there are no instructions yet for the new building.

Thank you.

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From: Gray, David
Sent: Friday, March 22, 2019 9:46 AM
To: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>
Subject: 3.22.2019 MANAGEMENT UPDATE - CONFIDENTIAL AND INTENDED FOR MANAGERS ONLY

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

3.22.2019 MANAGEMENT UPDATE – INTERNAL USE ONLY; THIS EMAIL MAY CONTAIN ENFORCEMENT/LEGAL SENSITIVE INFORMATION

MIT,

Greetings – I want to thank everyone for taking care of the place while I took a quick trip to Portugal with my niece to celebrate her graduation from Abilene Christian University. Fun trip and nice break for me.

My letter to Fountain Place building management – along with support from OMS and GSA – resulted in several positive changes. That said – I remind everyone **See Something, Say Something** by taking the appropriate action immediately and sharing information with Valmichael Leos (214.665.2283). I've attached the GSA letter to the building along with Fountain Place Management response to me. As promised, I will share the letter with our employees later today.

I appreciate your engagement and feedback on the realignment during our MIT meeting this week. It's extremely important to me that our MIT meetings are productive and a place for the leadership to exchange opinions. If you aren't participating – you need to rethink your calendar and join us. I have an expectation of our entire leadership team to be part of this process.

Planning for the implementation of our March 31 realignment is going well. I am planning to have an All Employees meeting next Tuesday at 10 am and will send out a notice shortly.

A copy of our organization chart is attached. Please continue having conversations with employees, managers and supervisors for areas that you are gaining or losing in the realignment. Don't forget to invite our AFGE union colleagues to your meetings as required by the contract. Questions? Call Tony. Your leadership is critical to a smooth transition and I am counting on you.

I know everyone has been keeping up with job postings for management and supervisors in the Region. I am really enjoying conversations with our candidates about leadership expectations. I've attached a PDF copy of the latest update. We will have several additional announcements next week.

Congratulations Jeff, Chris, Althea, Patricia and Russell on their new leadership positions in Region 6. We are making some great additions to our already great team! Our new HRO Susan Cowlishaw has cleared PSB and will start soon.

Olivia Balandran starts as acting External Affairs Director on March 24. We are seeking applicants for a permanent GS-15 director of public affairs. It's a great job and terrific team. We are advertising both internal and external to EPA and the federal government. The announcement closes April 10. https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/528084800

Here is a copy of our weekly report to the Administrator.

Region 6 Weekly Update
3-21-2019

Hot Topics

Intercontinental Terminals Company LLC, Deer Park, Texas
On March 17, 2019, Intercontinental Terminals Company LLC (ITC) discovered a tank on fire and reported the incident to the National Response Center. A total of fifteen (15) tanks could have been potentially involved in the fire. The tanks contain naptha, gasoline, oil, xylenes, Pygas, and Toluene. The fires were extinguished on March 20. Now that materials are not being consumed by the fires, higher concentrations of chemical vapors are expected to be measured by EPA, TCEQ and ITC monitoring in areas surrounding the incident. Three readings from handheld monitors on March 20 in a nearby community showed elevated readings of benzene. ASPECT continues to conduct overflights and TAGA is scheduled to conduct its first surveillance on March 21. TCEQ, EPA and Coast Guard are assessing possible impacts of firefighting foam on waterways adjacent to the facility. High Congressional and Media Interest

SB550, Arkansas
EPA provided comments to Arkansas DEQ regarding review and process requirements that would be required by the passage of SB550, a bill that would move a portion of the NPDES federally delegated program for Confined Animal Feeding Operations from ADEQ to the Arkansas Department of Natural Resources. ADEQ has opposed the bill. The bill is supported by the Arkansas Farm Bureau.

Denka, LaPlace, Louisiana

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Bird Creek Settlement, Osage County, Oklahoma
The most recent inspection showed continued low salinity measurements at the former monitoring station locations. The operators submitted a proposal to reduce the monitoring requirements to be included in the new and/or modified operating permits for their wells. EPA is working with DOJ on settlement negotiations with the three Respondents. After the settlement is reached, a public comment period will also be required for the UIC permitting process.

Texas' withdrawal of 4 SIP Revisions, Texas

By April 5, EPA will be acknowledging via correspondence that Texas has withdrawn from our consideration four amendments to their anti-tampering rules, submitted as SIP revisions to EPA prior to 2018. EPA supports the action to withdraw the SIP revisions, as the four amendments are no longer relevant to the Texas SIP.

Major Decisions and Events

Oklahoma's Regional Haze Five-Year Progress Report State Implementation Plan
By March 21, EPA intends to make the determination that Oklahoma's regional haze SIP is adequate to meet reasonable progress goals for the first implementation period.

Texas' Regional Haze Five-Year Progress Report State Implementation Plan
By March 21, EPA intends to make the determination that Texas's regional haze SIP is adequate to meet reasonable progress goals for the first implementation period.

2008 Ozone Standard Volatile Organic Compound SIP and Reasonably Achievable Control Technology, Houston/Galveston/Brazoria, Texas

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Texas codification for RCRA Clusters XXIII-XXIV, Texas
By March 29, EPA anticipates final action to codify Texas for RCRA Clusters XXIII-XXIV. A Federal Register notice for the proposed rule codifying Texas for RCRA Clusters XXIII-XXIV was published on October 24, 2018, and the comment period closed on November 23, 2018. EPA is preparing response to adverse comments received.

Oklahoma RCRA Cluster XXIV Authorization, Oklahoma
By March 29, EPA anticipates final authorization of Oklahoma for RCRA Cluster XXIV. The authorization was proposed in Federal Register on October 3, 2018. EPA is reviewing the adverse comments received.

Oklahoma Rule Update, Oklahoma
By April 2, EPA anticipates final approval of revisions to Oklahoma's SIP that address rule updates and changes to EPA regulations. Final action will remove this SIP from the EPA Region 6 SIP backlog.

New Mexico-Albuquerque 2015 Ozone, New Mexico
By April 4, EPA anticipated a proposed approval of the New Mexico and Albuquerque-Bernalillo County infrastructure SIPs for the 2015 ozone NAAQS to meet CAA section 110(a)(1) and (2) requirements, and New Mexico SIP revision for repeal of the New Mexico total suspended particulate standards.

Albuquerque Air Permit SIP, Albuquerque, New Mexico
By April 10, EPA anticipates a proposal approval of the first set of revisions to Albuquerque Air Permit SIP to remove conditional approval and convert conditionally approved air permit rules to full approval based on revision of rules.

March 25	**Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies' Spring Meeting, Baton Rouge, Louisiana**
March 27	**Illinois River Meeting with EPA HQ, OK, and AR, Austin, Texas**
March 27	**Texas Ag Council Meeting, Austin, Texas**