REGION 6
OUTLOOK

UPCOMING ACTIONS

Action Date	Program	Detailed Description	Action	Comments
12/13/17	Water	APC&EC site-specific mineral criteria for Crooked Creek, AR	Division Director Signature	EPA action is pending. APC&EC adopted a Third Party Rule for the Cities of Harrison and Yellville WWTPs for site-specific mineral criteria for Crooked Creek, AR.
12/18/17	Superfund	W. R. Grace River Road Superfund Site, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana	Division Director Signature	Cost Recovery Demand/Bill for Collection By December 18, EPA intends to issue a Cost Recovery Demand/Bill Collection letter to W. R. Grace for costs incurred by the US Environmental Protection Agency in the ongoing implementation of its responsibilities related to the cleanup of the River Road site located in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana.
12/18/17	Superfund	Atchley Resources, Inc., Stone Top Facility, Cleveland County, Oklahoma	Division Director Signature	ESA Issued During the week of December 18, 2017, EPA expects to issue an Expedited Settlement Agreement to Atchley Resources, Inc., for violations of 40 CFR part 112, for failing to provide management approval for their Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plan, failure to maintain training records, excessive vegetation which affects the integrity of containment and failure to conduct adequate inspections of valves and piping. The violations were documented during an Inspection of their Stone Top No. 3-14 Facility in Cleveland County, Oklahoma, on November 14, 2017. The proposed penalty is $1,575.
12/18/17	Air	120 day letters to Governors in TX, NM, OK, LA – 2015 Ozone Designations	RA Signature	Based on Administrator's decision for areas not previously designated. Designations are in alignment with State's recommendations.
12/20/17	Water	EPA comments on LDEQ's draft LACC permit.	Division Director Signature	LDEQ has drafted a permit for LACC, a new ethylene & derivatives facility which will be discharging to impaired waters in Louisiana. It is currently unclear whether the discharge will be in compliance with existing TMDLs. EPA has requested more information from LDEQ. EPA has a deadline of 12/20/2017 to provide written comments.
12/20/17	Enforcement	Carbon Black: DOJ to file consent decrees (CDs) or amended CDs for all Carbon Black facilities	Division Director Signature	Date tentative
12/21/17	Enforcement	Bird Creek: Issuance of final UIC Well closure orders.	Division Director's Signature	EPA continues to work on the response to comments from the public comment period and the hearing held on October 11, 2017 related to Proposed Administrative Orders (SDWA) sent to Warren American Oil Company, Jireh Resources LLC, and Novy Oil and Gas, Inc., so that final Orders may completed.
12/22/17	Superfund	Star Lake Canal Superfund Site, Jefferson County, Texas - Extension letter	Division Director Signature	By December 22, EPA intends to issue an Extension Letter to TOTAL Petrochemical, approving a request for extension to answer questions listed in a 104(e) Information Request for Star Lake Canal Superfund site located in and around the cities of Port Neches and Groves, Jefferson County, Texas.
12/22/17	Superfund	Extreme Metals, Emory, Texas – Activities complete	Cleanup completion	By December 22, 2017, the removal activities will be complete at this former metal plating facility. The site waste, previously bulked in November 2017, will be transported off-site and securely disposed.

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12/22/17	Water	Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cooperative TAS	Division Director Signature	On December 22, 2009, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and the State of Oklahoma entered into an Environmental Cooperative Agreement (ECA) allowing the Nation to apply for Treatment in a Similar Manner as a State (TAS) for federally approved water quality standards (WQS). The agreement was approved by EPA Region 6 on January 13, 2011. The Nation submitted a WQS TAS application on September 12, 2014, and no final action to approve or disapprove the application has been undertaken. On Friday, December 22, 2017, the ECA will expire, and the Nation's WQS TAS application cannot be approved unless another ECA is entered into.
1/1/18	Water	LOOP permit (joint LDEQ/EPA permit)	Division Director Signature	LDEQ and EPA had reached agreement on the new steps towards finalizing the draft LOOP permit. EPA will provide additional language to be incorporated into the joint permit after receiving LOOP's proposal. LOOP's final proposal is due on December 15th, in which they plan on substantiating the discharge volumes as well as a justification for the need for a benthic study over biomonitoring for Outfall 004 . If all information is received by LOOP on schedule, LDEQ plans to public notice the joint permit in mid-January.
1/1/18	Water	ADEQ's response to EPA's interim objection on the GP Crossett draft permit	State Response	ADEQ has been in discussions with EPA regarding GP's submission of supplemental information that was needed for ADEQ to respond to EPA's May 19, 2017 Interim Objection. The modeling that GP Crossett submitted is technically incorrect for the type of flow conditions that exist. Additional discussions are scheduled within the next month.
1/10/18	Superfund	Mid-Valley Pipeline Company and Sunoco Pipeline L.P., Tyler County Texas, Caddo Parrish, Louisiana and Grant County, Oklahoma	Division Director Signature	The EPA and U.S. Department of Justice have set a deadline of January 10, 2018, to reach a Settlement in Principle or EPA/DOJ will pursue filing a Complaint. EPA Referred this case to DOJ in August 2016 and it stems from three discharges of oil from different oil pipelines owned by Sunoco or Mid-Valley and operated by Sunoco. The initial settlement offer $7,090,135. The latest Settlement negotiations have EPA/DOJ hopeful that agreement on Injunctive Relief is close, but the two parties are still far apart on penalty amount.
1/15/18	Superfund	San Mateo Creek Basin, Cibola and McKinley Counties, New Mexico.	Consultation	EPA is prepared to conduct a formal consultation with Laguna Pueblo concerning the San Mateo Creek Basin National Priorities List listing. A formal letter requesting the consultation was sent from EPA to Laguna Pueblo November 17, 2017.
1/15/18	Superfund	Many Diversified Interest Superfund Site, Houston, Texas	Division Director Signature	EPA will complete the site's 2017 Five Year Review and enter the information into SEMS for official record and access.
1/15/18	Enforcement	Shell Norco flaring CD with LDEQ joining.	Division Director Signature	Date tentative
1/18/18	Water	Petition against EPA's issuance of the City of Ruidoso Downs WWTP permit	RA Signature and ADM Signature	EPA must provide a response by January 18, 2018 to the Environmental Appeals Board regarding the Petition filed by the Rio Hondo Land & Cattle Company. The Petitioner believes that the permit violates anti-backsliding requirements as the permit allowed more flow and loads. EPA contends that the renewed permit allowed the loading increases as per the revised TMDL.

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1/18/18	Air	Final Approval of Phase 1 Arkansas Regional Haze State Implementation Plan (SIP), paired with Administrator action withdrawing the Federal Implementation Plan (FIP)	RA Signature and ADM Signature	Working with Arkansas to develop SIP revision to replace EPA's FIP for source specific emission limits for utilities.
1/20/18	Water	APC&EC Third Party Rule for the Southwestern Electric Company (SWEPCO) Turk Power Plant for site-specific mineral criteria from the discharge of blowdown water to the Little River and Red River	Division Director Signature	EPA initially disapproved the criteria, but subsequently approved chloride, sulfate and TDS criteria for the Little River and is preparing to approve the TDS criteria applicable to the Red River follow conclusion of consultation under the Endangered Species Act.
1/23/18	Water	Dr. Skaggs of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation has requested a conference call to discuss concerns regarding LDEQ's use of Wetlands for wastewater treatment.	Issue	There is continued public interest and at least some public opposition to LDEQ's Wetland Assimilation Treatment Systems. For example, Lake Pontchartrain Foundation & others have called for a moratorium on "new" systems. EPA discuss the subject during the LDEQ Permit Quality Review in October 2017. LDEQ is currently reviewing inspection data and DMR data on the 10 Wetlands Assimilation projects.
1/26/18	Water	Announce availability of Water Quality Models for the Illinois River Watershed and Lake Tenkiller for Public and Stakeholder Review.	Notice	Region 6 has been working with State Agencies in Oklahoma and Arkansas, in addition to the Cherokee Nation, to develop scientifically defensible water quality models as a step towards attaining water quality standards in the Illinois River Watershed and in Lake Tenkiller. Region 6 and our State and Tribal partners agree the developed models are ready for stakeholder review.Post newspaper notice in Watershed area; Provide list serve/email notifications; Update website. Although comments will be solicited, this will not lead to a "formal" agency action.
2/15/18	Superfund	San Mateo Creek Basin, Cibola and McKinley Counties, New Mexico.	Consultation	EPA will conduct a formal consultation with Acoma Pueblo concerning the San Mateo Creek Basin National Priorities List listing.
2/15/18	Water	Finalization of Territorial Seas General Permit & Coastal General Permit and Stripper Well General Permit.	Division Director Signature	Approximately 10 operators are covered under the Territorial GP and Stripper Well GP. All General Permits may be subject to OMB review.
2/22/18	Water	Final NPDES Permit New Mexico State-wide MS4 General Permit NM R040000	Division Director Signature	Final issuance of NPDES General Permit for storm water discharges form Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) in New Mexico, except those in the Albuquerque and Los Alamos areas. After signature of the final permit by the Division Director, a Federal Register notice will be prepared announcing the availability of the new permit.

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2/28/18	Water	Approve Oklahoma's 2016 list of "impaired" waters (yet to be formally submitted) pursuant to Section 303(d) of Clean Water Act	Division Director Signature	Assessment, Listing and TMDL staff have provided comments on previous drafts of Oklahoma's 2016 list of impaired waters. We anticipate formal submittal of the list by ODEQ before the end of January, 2018. EPA would approve the state's submittal within 30 days (per statute) provided ODEQ has addressed prior comments.
TBD	Legal	Petition against EPA's issuance of a permit for Los Alamos National Lab (LANL) Outfall # 051	RA Signature/Administrator Signature	On November 3, 2017, Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety (CCNS) responded to EPA's response to the their petition. CCNS requests an opportunity to present oral arguments in front of the Environmental Appeals Board. LANL requested NPDES permit coverage for their outfall 051. CCNS believes that LANL is requesting coverage for the outfall in order to have a permit shield against following the more stringent RCRA requirements. EPA maintains that if a facility believes that they may have a discharge, then they are required to have permit coverage prior to a discharge.

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TRAVEL GUIDE

EPA Principal Event and Travel Report			
EVENT/TRAVEL			
Date	CITY	STATE	EVENT DESCRIPTION
12/18/17	Midwest	OK	Meeting: Site Planning Meeting with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality to begin discussions on remedial investigation scoping for the Eagle Industries site located in Midwest City, Oklahoma.
12/19/17	Dallas	TX	Meeting: City of Albuquerque Title VI Complaint
12/20/17			Meeting; Workgroup meeting with the Brine Service Group regarding the Brine Service Company Site with TCEQ and Natural Resource Trustees representatives.
12/20/17	Pawnee County	OK	Meeting: EPA Inspector is scheduled to conduct a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure inspection at the Barta Enterprises Company, State No. 3-16 Lease Tank Battery production facility.
12/20/17	**Little Rock**	**AR**	**Meeting: Coordination on Oil & Gas Compliance and Enforcement**
1/9/18	**Baton Rouge**	**LA**	**Meeting: Coordination on Oil & Gas Compliance and Enforcement**
1/10/18	**Dallas**	**TX**	**Meeting: State Agriculture Directors**
1/15/17	Indian Country	OK	Tribal Consultations: Oklahoma NESHAP Delegation (Pawnee, Sac&Fox, Caddo)
1/15/17	San Mateo Creek Basin, Cibola and McKinley Counties	NM	Tribal Consultations: Laguna Pueblo concerning the San Mateo Creek Basin National Priorities List listing.
1/15/17	Jacksonville	AR	Meeting: Mayor of Jacksonville, and Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality to discuss future sampling of residential areas in response to the dioxin re-assessment.
1/15/17	Questa	NM	Meeting: EPA will meet with Village of Questa leaders and also hold a separate community Meeting with Village of Questa citizens regarding site cleanup status (Tentative)
1/15/17	Dallas	TX	Meeting: Region 6 State and EPA public water supply program managers and staff to discuss annual priorities and challenges.
1/17/18	**Austin**	**TX**	**Meeting: Coordination on Oil & Gas Compliance and Enforcement**
1/18/18	Juarez	Mexico	Meeting: El Paso/Juarez Clean Air Joint Advisory Committee
1/18/18	Tronox Site	NM	Meeting: Tronox Site Settlement funds management and goals for 2018.
1/18/18	Houston	TX	Meeting: EPA and Texas Center for Environmental Quality intend to hold an Optimization Study Meeting concerning the Geneva Industries site
1/17-18/18	**Washington DC**	**DC**	**Hearing: SEPW on EPA Hurricane Response (tentative)**

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Date	CITY	STATE	EVENT DESCRIPTION
1/23-24/18	**Denver**	**CO**	**Meeting: National Oil & Gas Roundtable**
1/24/18	Austin	TX	Conference: National Air Quality Conference
1/25/18	New Orleans	LA	Meeting: Public Meeting of the CWPPRA Task Force
1/26/18	Tronox Site	NM	Meeting: The Navajo Nation has requested a site tour and technical Meeting regarding Tronox Mines in the Ambrosia Lake area of New Mexico. The dates are not confirmed.
1/28-30/18	**Washington DC**	**DC**	**Meeting: Senior Executive Service National Meeting**
1/20/18	Grand Chenier	LA	Meeting: Public Meeting of the CWPPRA Task Force, Region IV Planning Team, to propose wetland restoration projects.
1/31/18	Morgan City	LA	Meeting: Public Meeting of the CWPPRA Task Force, Region III Planning Team
2/1/18	Dallas	TX	Meeting (conference call): TCEQ to discuss implementation plan for review of State drafted permits. The primary focus and target of the LEAN project is to evaluate the permit review process of both agencies, to reduce the backlog of NPDES permits and expedite resolutions of pending permits and permit issuance.
2/5/18	Alamo	TX	Meeting: Donna Canal Superfund Site, Alamo, TX
2/15/18	San Mateo Creek Basin, Cibola and McKinley Counties	NM	Tribal Consultation: EPA will conduct a formal consultation with Acoma Pueblo concerning the San Mateo Creek Basin National Priorities List listing.
2/15/18	Dallas	TX	Meeting: Quarterly Enforcement Coordination Meetings with States.
2/28/18	**New Orleans**	**LA**	**Meeting: Louisiana Mid-continent Oil and Gas Association Executive Board**
3/1/18	**New Orleans**	**LA**	**Conference: Louisiana Mid-continent Oil and Gas Association (Speaking)**
3/9/18	West Siloam Springs	OK	Meeting: Illinois River public Meetings (2): Practitioner-level Meeting in the morning; and, lesser-technical Meeting in the evening
4/11/18	**Dallas**	**TX**	**Meeting: Regional Tribal Operations Committee**