March 29 Issues

Today's Regional Grant Announcement

None today

EPA Expects To Miss Deadline For Lead Hazard Rule (from Inside EPA, largely quoting EPA's letter to the Court) - Update- on 3/26 court granted EPA a 90 day extension

Draft Statement: Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Background: Addressing childhood lead exposure is a priority for EPA. The on-going evaluation of the standards for lead in dust and review of the definition of lead-based paint is one component of addressing the important issue of childhood lead exposure. Title IV of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) requires EPA to establish hazard standards for lead-contaminated dust. In 2001, EPA set standards for lead in dust in housing for floors and window sills. When homes are tested for lead dust by a certified risk assessor or inspector and have a level above this standard, it means there is a lead-based paint hazard in the home.

Since 2001, the best available science has evolved to indicate adverse human health effects at lower blood lead levels than previously analyzed. During the same period, the number of children with elevated blood lead levels has continued to decline; the median blood lead level in children ages 1-5 years is now below 1ug/dL.

The use of lead paint in homes was banned in 1978. However, lead remains a potential risk today with an estimated 37.1 million homes containing lead-based paint. Lead contaminated household dust is a source of lead exposure for children if not properly managed when disturbed.

EPA Announces $5.5 billion in loans available for Water Infrastructure *Bill Signed by President Trump More Than Doubles EPA's WIFIA Water Loan Program Funding* - **press release on April 4 - followed by RA letters to states and municipalities**

DRAFT Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

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Energy Star Award Announcement - April 2 (Partners of the Year)

Energy Star Partners of the Year: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) are honoring 163 ENERGY STAR partners—including Fortune 500 companies, schools, hospitals, retailers, manufacturers, home builders, and commercial building owners and operators – for their outstanding contributions to public health and the environment. These enterprises will be named ENERGY STAR Partners of the Year for demonstrating national leadership in cost-saving energy efficient solutions. Recipients of the 2018 ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year Award come from 35 states and include: Best Buy, Eastman Chemical, Energy Inspectors, Inc., Entergy Mississippi, Food Lion, and GE Lighting.

The awards will be presented in Washington, DC, at the Washington Hilton Hotel on April 20. EPA Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation, Bill Wehrum, together with Patti Poppe, CEO of CMS Energy, will deliver keynote presentations.

"The 2018 ENERGY STAR Partners of the Year have demonstrated real leadership, showing how American families and businesses can save energy, save money, and reduce air emissions," said Wehrum.

Administrator Pruitt Letter to Governors on national campaign to end childhood lead exposure - week of 4/2 -- press release

DRAFT Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

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Mid-term Evaluation of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards for MY 2022-2025 Light-Duty Vehicles - at OMB for interagency review - final determination to be signed by 4/1 -- roll out 4/3

Background:

- The Midterm Evaluation was a key part of an agreement between EPA, NHTSA, CARB and the auto-manufacturers when the GHG standards for light-duty vehicles were first set in 2012. Because the rule projected requirements so far into the future, the rule put in place a Midterm Evaluation (MTE) for EPA to assess whether the standards remained appropriate. The original timeline required the MTE to be complete by April 1, 2018.

- After the outcome of the 2016 election, the Obama Administration rushed the Midterm Evaluation (MTE) by simply maintaining the standards and issuing final determination on January 12, 2017—nearly a year and a half before it was due.
    - Concerns were raised about the premature timing and adequacy of analysis (which excluded critical data on recent MY vehicles and consumer behavior) of the determination.
- EPA reopened the docket in order collect the most up-to-date information so that we can get back on track with what the regulation actually requires of the Agency.
    - Some stakeholders previously commented that they were preparing studies to inform the Mid-term Evaluation that were not ready for submission during the previous Administration's Mid-term Evaluation comment periods.
    - This additional comment period provided an opportunity for commenters to submit to EPA additional studies and other materials as well as to complete the preparation of their comments, or submit additional comments in light of newly available information.
- Our goal was to increase public participation, listen to those impacted directly by our regulations and use the most current and accurate information available to inform our regulatory actions.
- **Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process**

PFAS Agency-wide Action Agenda - Invitation to National Leadership Summit in May - letter to 50 Governors on 3/19 with press release/social media/regional amplification -- National Leadership Meeting is - 5/22 - 23 at EPA in DC

Key points

- Highlight EPA's **commitment** to protecting public health and ensuring all Americans have safe and clean drinking water
- Demonstrate EPA and Administrator Pruitt's **leadership** on PFAS
- Provide an opportunity to **engage** with our partners at the state and local levels
- Chart a **path forward** for **taking action** through a National PFAS Management Plan that reflects input from the federal, state and local levels