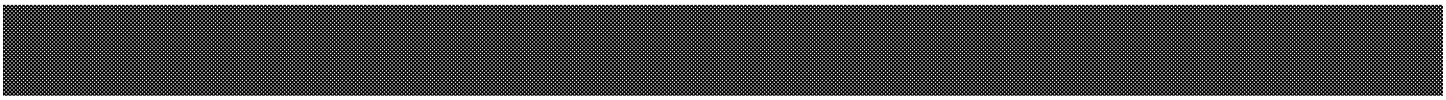
Message

From: Morning Consult [reply@e.morningconsult.com]
Sent: 7/8/2018 6:01:08 PM
To: Murray, Bill [Murray.Bill@epa.gov]
Subject: Morning Consult Energy: Week in Review & What's Ahead



ENERGY

By Jacqueline Toth

Week in Review

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt

- Scott Pruitt resigned as Environmental Protection Agency administrator following months of ethical and spending controversies and an increasing number of internal and congressional investigations kicking off into Pruitt's actions in office.

- This spring, Pruitt asked President Donald Trump to fire Attorney General Jeff Sessions and let Pruitt lead the Justice Department for 210 days under the Vacancies Reform Act, after which Pruitt said he would go back to Oklahoma and run for office, according to three people familiar with the proposal.

- Samantha Dravis, former associate administrator of the EPA's Office of Policy under Pruitt, told staffers on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee that Pruitt had asked her and fellow former top aide Sarah Greenwalt to examine whether a penalty charged under a rental agreement Pruitt had signed could be avoided, according to multiple people familiar with both the Dravis interview and a subsequent session with Pruitt's chief of staff Ryan Jackson.

International

- In a landslide victory, Andrés Manuel López Obrador won the presidential election in Mexico, which has $80 billion in investment commitments for oil exploration production. López

Obrador opposes privatization of the oil industry but has said he will recognize existing contracts.

- Planning has reportedly stalled for the long-anticipated initial public offering of Saudi Arabian Oil Co., which, if it moves forward, would create the largest public company in capital market history.

- Australian diplomat Howard Bamsey abruptly resigned as the second executive director of the United Nations' Green Climate Fund, citing a "difficult" four-day meeting that concluded Wednesday in Songdo, South Korea, at which participants did not agree to approve any new projects, according to a statement from Lennart Båge, who chaired the meeting.

Climate

- The EPA has drafted a proposed rule to replace President Barack Obama's Clean Power Plan with a less stringent regulation, which is expected to move to the White House for approval in the coming days, according to industry officials who have worked with the EPA on the proposal.

- Supporters of an escalating carbon fee in Washington state submitted 370,000 signatures for the initiative to be placed on the ballot in November - over a third more signatures than the minimum required for ballot additions, though the Secretary of State's office must still review the signatures to ensure enough of them are valid.

Business

- A few hours after its original goal, Tesla Inc. met its manufacturing target of 5,000 Model 3 electric sedans in one week, according to Chief Executive Elon Musk and two Tesla employees, though the company must still show investors it can sustain and increase the speed of its production.

- Natural resource giant Glencore PLC received a subpoena from the Justice Department dated July 2, according to the company, for records regarding the firm's compliance in three nations with U.S. corruption and money-laundering laws.

- Under a deal announced by the two companies, BP PLC will transfer its entire 45.1 percent stake and associated pipelines in the Alaskan North Slope's Greater Kuparuk Area to ConocoPhillips Co. In return, ConocoPhillips will move a 16.5 percent stake in the

Clair oil field west of the Shetland Islands of Scotland to BP and will keep a 7.5 percent stake.

What's Ahead

- The House and Senate are both in session this week.
- The Energy Department's Nuclear Energy Advisory Committee meets on Monday.
- The White House Council on Environmental Quality's comment period on its National Environmental Policy Act implementing regulations concludes July 20.
- The Interior Department's Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement extended to Aug. 6 the deadline to comment on its proposal to revise some of its regulations related to offshore drilling.

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

MONDAY

DesignLights Consortium stakeholder meeting	8 a.m.
National Association of County and City Health Officials annual meeting	8:30 a.m.
Smart Electric Power Alliance Grid Evolution Summit	8:30 a.m.
Stanford University course on reservoir simulation	8:30 a.m.

Electrical Energy Storage North America conference	2 p.m.
InterSolar North America conference	2 p.m.

TUESDAY

Smart Electric Power Alliance Grid Evolution Summit	6 a.m.
DesignLights Consortium stakeholder meeting	7 a.m.
National Association of County and City Health Officials annual meeting	7 a.m.
Route Fifty Clean Air Action Forum	8 a.m.
US Water Alliance 2018 One Water Summit	8 a.m.
Electrical Energy Storage North America conference	8:30 a.m.
InterSolar North America conference	8:30 a.m.
Stanford University course on reservoir simulation	8:30 a.m.
Environmental and Energy Study Institute Congressional Clean Energy Expo and Policy Forum	9:30 a.m.
World Resources Institute webinar on climate change data platform	10 a.m.
Northwest Climate Science Center webinar on climate change adaptation research between tribal and non-tribal partners	11 a.m.
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Science Seminar Series	12 p.m.
Northeast Clean Energy Council webinar on clean energy venture capital	12:30 p.m.
American Association for the Advancement of Science showing of Puerto Rico smart grid, other videos	4 p.m.

House Rules meeting on reclamation project transfer legislation and other bills	5 p.m.
Global Blockchain Business Council event on blockchain and the energy sector	6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

National Association of County and City Health Officials annual meeting	6 a.m.
US Water Alliance 2018 One Water Summit	6:30 a.m.
DesignLights Consortium stakeholder meeting	7 a.m.
Smart Electric Power Alliance Grid Evolution Summit	7:30 a.m.
InterSolar North America conference	8:30 a.m.
Northeast Clean Energy Council event on the future of energy efficiency	8:30 a.m.
Stanford University course on reservoir simulation	8:30 a.m.
Electrical Energy Storage North America conference	9 a.m.
Senate Environment and Public Works hearing on low-cost federal infrastructure loans	10 a.m.
House Homeland Security hearing on U.S. critical infrastructure	10:30 a.m.
Moms Clean Air Force press conference on climate change	10:30 a.m.
House Water, Power and Oceans Subcommittee hearing on federal power administration legislation water facilities	2 p.m.
Senate National Parks Subcommittee hearing on the Restore Our Parks Act	3 p.m.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Science Seminar Series	3 p.m.

THURSDAY

National Association of County and City Health Officials annual meeting	6 a.m.
US Water Alliance 2018 One Water Summit	6:30 a.m.
Smart Electric Power Alliance Grid Evolution Summit	7 a.m.
Stanford University course on reservoir simulation	8:30 a.m.
Atlantic Council discussion on President-Elect Andrés Manuel López Obrador	9 a.m.
Electrical Energy Storage North America conference	9 a.m.
InterSolar North America conference	9 a.m.
Bipartisan Policy Center panel on environmental progress in the oil and gas industry	10 a.m.
House Federal Lands Subcommittee hearing on livestock grazing	10 a.m.
Senate Energy and Natural Resources hearing on interstate delivery networks for natural gas and electricity	10 a.m.
Water Power Technologies Office webinar on the Marine Hydrokinetic Advanced Materials project	10 a.m.
Federal agencies webinar on low-cost building automation sensors and controls	12 p.m.
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Science Seminar Series	12 p.m.
Energy Department Better Buildings Residential Network peer exchange call	1 p.m.
Wilson Center event on China's environmental governance	2 p.m.

Coalition for a Resilient DC kickoff	6 p.m.

FRIDAY

Stanford University course on reservoir simulation	8:30 a.m.
InterSolar North America conference	9 a.m.
Electrical Energy Storage North America conference	9 a.m.

Report: The State of American Travel 2018

Consumer insights on vacationing, transportation, and accommodation. This report features brand tracking data on airlines, hotels, and more.

Morning Consult Energy Top Reads

1) The Solar Market Could Contract for the First Time Ever
Brianna Jackson, Bloomberg

2) Pruitt directly asked Trump to replace Sessions with him
Kaitlan Collins, CNN

3) Mexico Elections: 5 Takeaways from López Obrador's Victory
Azam Ahmed and Kirk Semple, The New York Times

4) Fight heats up over Washington state carbon 'fee' likely to make fall ballot
Hal Bernton, The Seattle Times

5) Petroleum, natural gas, and coal still dominate U.S. energy consumption
U.S. Energy Information Administration

6) The E.P.A.'s Ethics Officer Once Defended Pruitt. Then He Urged Investigations.
Eric Lipton, The New York Times

7) Tesla hits Model 3 manufacturing milestone, hours after deadline - factory sources
Alexandria Sage and Salvador Rodriguez, Reuters

8) Sources: EPA blocks warnings on cancer-causing chemical
Annie Snider, Politico

9) E.P.A. Drafts Rule on Coal Plants to Replace Clean Power Plan
Lisa Friedman and Brad Plumer, The New York Times

10) Pruitt aides reveal new details of his spending and management at EPA
Juliet Eilperin et al., The Washington Post

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