Message

From: InsideEPA.com [insideepa-alerts@iwpnews.com]
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To: Woods, Clint [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bc65010f5c2e48f4bc2aa050db50d198-Woods, Clin]
Subject: The Morning Headlines from InsideEPA.com -- June 20, 2018

REDEFINING EPA: Overhauling an agency and its mission -- Complete coverage

June 20, 2018

Latest News

EPA Raises Early Defenses Against Likely Suit Over Ash Program Approval

EPA is raising early legal defenses against environmentalists' promised legal challenge to the agency's approval of Oklahoma's first-of-its-kind coal ash disposal permit program, with EPA downplaying as irrelevant

environmentalists' claims that the Sooner State lacks the resources to adequately implement its new permitting regime.

Observers Brace For Trump Reorganization Plan With EPA Impact Unclear

The Trump administration is expected to release as soon as June 21 a broad plan for reorganizing the federal government, though some observers doubt the plan will spur broad proposed changes at EPA, such as closing of regional offices, despite calls from some to do so.

CEQ Issues Advance Notice For Sweeping Update Of NEPA Regulations

The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is publishing an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPR) on a long-anticipated and potentially sweeping update of its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) implementing rules, opening the door to just the second amendment to the rules in 40 years.

Court Rejects Coal Lease NEPA Review Suit But Outlines Paths Forward

A federal appeals court panel is rejecting a long-running lawsuit seeking to force the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to conduct a broad National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review to consider the climate impacts of its coal leasing program, but two of the three judges are outlining other options environmentalists can use to force such analysis.

'Secret Science' Policy's Impact On Pending NAAQS Review May Be Muted

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt's proposed rule barring the agency from using confidential data in rulemakings might not have as dramatic an impact on pending national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) as many fear because some of the most influential air pollution studies relevant to those reviews rely on publicly available data, sources say.

Inspector General Details Broad Review Of EPA Programs In Annual Plan

EPA's Office of Inspector General (OIG) is laying out a broad agenda for the remainder of fiscal year 2018 that ranges from reviews of the agency's regulatory oversight on key media and research programs to internal staffing and management as well as previously announced inquiries into Administrator Scott Pruitt's controversial security, spending and hiring.

Daily Feed

Top EPA union official announces retirement

John O'Grady is a long-time union representative of EPA employees who has been a public spokesman for many career staff concerned about the Trump administration.

Colorado to join backers of California vehicle GHG rules

Colorado will join a dozen states that have embraced California's vehicle GHG limits, just as the Trump administration is readying a plan roll back current standards and target states' ability to enforce their own rules.

Environmentalists detail issues in Superfund financial rule suit

Environmental groups suing over EPA's decision to drop a planned Superfund rule are questioning whether the agency's action is contrary to the administrative record and the law.

Ewire: EPA shifts grant reviews from public affairs office

In today's Ewire: As of last month, EPA requires regional administrators or assistant administrators of program offices to sign off on grants, replacing its old policy of reviews by a political aide in the public affairs office.

Auto industry-focused publication calls for Pruitt to resign

A "serious industry deserves a serious regulator, a public servant of proven integrity who lives by at least a baseline standard of propriety. Scott Pruitt is none of those things," *Automotive News* says in an editorial.

D.C. Circuit schedules argument in SO2 NAAQS designations suit

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit will hear oral argument Sept. 11 in consolidated litigation over EPA's 2010 sulfur dioxide air standard attainment designations.

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