Message

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Subject: First Move: Wheeler's New Approach • Keeping Calendars Public • 'Secret' Science Gets Public Airing

What you need to know to start your day.

Bloomberg Environment

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Wheeler's New Approach • Keeping Calendars Public • 'Secret' Science Gets Public Airing

By Marissa Horn

Scott Pruitt's agenda may never go out of style, at least under a GOP president.

But the way that agenda was delivered to the public during Pruitt's 503 days at the EPA is ending, the EPA's acting administrator told Bloomberg Environment in an exclusive interview yesterday in Canonsburg, Pa.

Later this week, we'll be digging into new acting chief Andrew Wheeler's comments on environmental permitting, enforcement, and a topic that marks an about-face for an agency that barred three reporters from entering a chemical summit in May—communication.

NOT-SO SECRET CALENDAR: Speaking of Wheeler, Abby Smith took a look at whom he spoke with during his first week at the EPA.

In another shift from Pruitt's tenure at the agency, Wheeler is updating his calendar daily. Wheeler's anticipated forthrightness—both about his day-to-day

schedule and the EPA's policymaking process—could give regulated industries more clarity, attorneys and consultants say.

For updates, follow Abby on Twitter and look for the story later today on our website.

SCIENCE TRANSPARENCY: The EPA proposal to ensure transparency in the science it considers when writing regulations will be the subject of a public hearing today.

Among those speaking in favor of the measure is the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which according to its written testimony will praise EPA "for finally addressing a longstanding problem inherent in much of its regulatory decision-making processes." Sylvia Carignan is tracking.

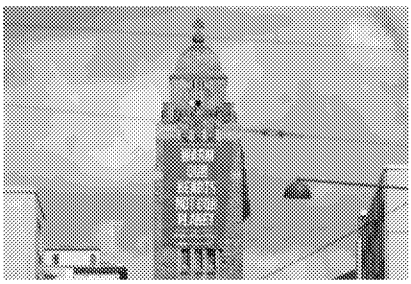
OTHER STORIES WE'RE COVERING

- The House is expected to take up its second "minibus" package, which would provide more than $35 billion for the EPA, Interior Department, and other environmental agencies for the coming fiscal year. David Schultz is covering.
- Wyoming's John Barrasso, who heads the Senate's environment panel, gives fellow senators a push toward thinking about changes to the Endangered Species Act in a hearing today. Follow Alan Kovski for the latest updates and look for his story later today.
- Lawmakers will lock horns over President Trump's list of 35 critical minerals. Democrats on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources committee are expected to argue the list is a giveaway to the mining industry, while Republicans are likely to counter that streamlined permitting is important for national security. Stephen Lee has you covered on the hearing.
- Authors from Wiley Rein LLP point out in an Insights article five "hot spot" areas that a historic upswing in private actions are targeting in the nation's toxic chemicals law, which was updated in 2016.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Anybody who buys on Amazon cannot give me the line that they're environmentally responsible consumers."

—Yossi Sheffi, engineering professor focusing on supply chain management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



A banner by environmental non-governmental organization Greenpeace is fixed at the Kallio Church tower in Helsinki, Finland, on July 16 ahead of a meeting between President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Photographer: Alessandro Rampazzo/AFP/Getty Images

AROUND THE WEB

- Almost the entire Gulf of Finland has been infested with a blue-green algae, the Finnish Environment Institute reports.
- Plutonium went missing in San Antonio more than a year ago, and the federal government still doesn't know where it is.
- As Trump's trade war heats up, a team of trade and climate policy analysts is proposing a new way to counter protectionism that could prod the U.S. back into action on the climate at the same time.
- See the before and after of Louisiana's ambitious effort to rebuild barrier islands by bulking their skeletal remains with tons of sand dredged from the Gulf of Mexico and the Mississippi River.

TODAY'S EVENTS

- **All Day • Pro Summit** • Politico Pro Summit features speakers including California Air Resources Board Chairman Mary Nichols and Murray Energy CEO Robert E. Murray.
- **10 a.m. • Energy** • House science committee's energy and environment panels hold hearing on fossil energy technologies.
- **10 a.m. • Tribal Energy** • House Oversight and Government Reform's interior panel talks about reducing barriers to opportunity for tribal energy resources.
- **10 a.m. • Federal Lands** • House Natural Resources' federal lands panel holds hearing on eight federal lands bills.

- **10 a.m. • FEMA** • Atlantic Council holds discussion with Daniel Kaniewski, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's deputy administrator, on engaging communities in preparing for and recovering from catastrophes.
- **12 p.m. • Hazardous Waste** • Environmental Law Institute holds seminar on hazardous waste laws.
- **1 p.m. • New Source Review** • The House Energy and Commerce environmental panel considers bill that changes the way industrial increases in emissions are calculated when the plants are either modified or constructed.
- **1 p.m. • Coal Combustion** • The Air & Waste Management Association kicks off the first part in a three-part webinar series looking at the history of coal combustion residual regulations.

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