Message

From: Environmental Law360 [news-q2@law360.com]
Sent: 9/7/2018 7:22:45 AM
To: Duffy, Rick [Duffy.Rick@epa.gov]
Subject: [SPAM-Sender] House Judiciary Panel Approves Expedited Permitting Bill ENVIRONMENTAL

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TOP NEWS

House Judiciary Panel Approves Expedited Permitting Bill

The House Judiciary Committee voted on Thursday in favor of a Republican-sponsored bill aimed at speeding up the permitting process for projects that require review by federal agencies, a move that proponents said would create jobs and that Democrats slammed for allegedly undermining important oversight. Read full article »

FERC Chair Denies WH Collaboration On Coal, Nuke Bailout

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Chairman Kevin McIntyre has denied the agency is working with the White House on a controversial plan to bail out coal and nuclear power plants, as recently suggested by his chief of staff, and defended FERC's independence, according to a letter released Thursday by congressional Democratic leaders. Read full article »

State AGs Join Fight Over DOI Flip On Migratory Bird Kills

Democratic attorneys general from eight states sued the U.S. Department of the Interior in New York federal court seeking to undo its decision not to criminally prosecute individuals and companies for accidentally killing or injuring migratory birds, joining environmental groups that have already challenged the policy about-face. Read full article »

Arkema Wants Harvey Chemical Suit Paused For Criminal Trial

Arkema Inc. and its CEO asked a Texas federal court to temporarily halt a civil case brought by first responders and residents who claimed they were harmed by the release of chemicals during Hurricane Harvey, saying that it should not proceed at the same time as a similar criminal case. Read full article »

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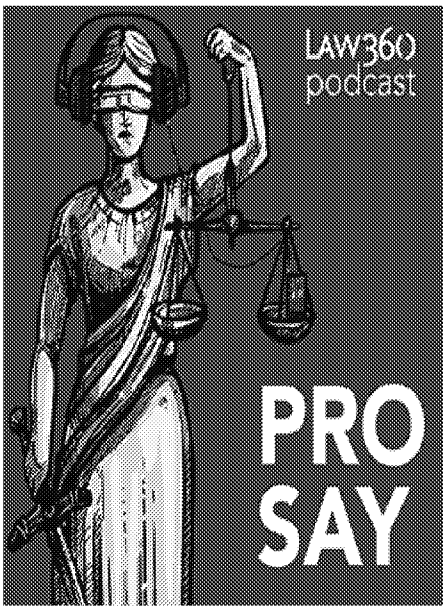

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PennDOT Settles Stormwater Case With Reduction Programs

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation will pay a $100,000 fine, roll out stricter controls over construction site runoff and build stormwater reduction projects as part of a settlement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced on Wednesday. Read full article »

LITIGATION

3rd Circ. Partially Grants NJ Permits In Pipeline Fight

A Third Circuit panel on Wednesday upheld federal permits for Transco's $116 million pipeline upgrade in New Jersey, but said the state was wrong to think federal law preempted its power to hold adjudicatory hearings on the state's own permits, which must now be held. Read full article »

Monsanto Can't Round Up Chemical Docs From Advocacy Org

A New York judge handed a defeat to agrichemical giant Monsanto Co. on Thursday in its fight for documents from an advocacy group that has called for a halt on the use of glyphosate, the key ingredient in Monsanto's Roundup weed killer, with the judge saying the subpoena risked "chilling" free speech and political activity. Read full article »

Ex-DNC Chair Ducks Visa Scheme Suit By Chinese Investors

A Virginia federal judge on Wednesday tossed claims of fraud made against Terry McAuliffe, former head of the Democratic National Committee, by a group of Chinese investors, finding that the investors had not provided enough detail in their allegations saying they were swindled out of green cards. Read full article »

DEALS

Canadian Energy Co. Invests $80M In Japanese Solar Plant

Canada-based Grasshopper Solar Corp., a global developer and manager of solar assets, said on Thursday that it has invested $80 million in Japanese civil engineering and construction firm Setouchi Koken's Iizuka Solar Plant located in Fukuoka, Japan. Read full article »

EXPERT ANALYSIS

What The Arkema Indictment Means For Chemical Cos.

Last month, a Texas grand jury indicted Arkema Inc., its CEO and a plant manager for allowing a release of air contaminants during Hurricane Harvey. The indictment is legally significant because it represents a criminal prosecution for a safety incident that involved no fatalities or catastrophic environmental harm, say Benjamin Patton and Mary Balaster of Reed Smith LLP. Read full article »

LEGAL INDUSTRY

New Emails Reveal Kavanaugh As Opinionated Bush Lawyer

In previously confidential records released Thursday, D.C. Circuit Judge Brett Kavanaugh called an affirmative action program a "naked racial set-aside," discussed whether Roe v. Wade is "settled law" and corresponded

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with a Republican Hill staffer later accused of misappropriating Democratic material while he was a White House lawyer in the early 2000s. Read full article »

Kavanaugh Defends Bush Record, Words On Executive Power

D.C. Circuit Judge Brett Kavanaugh found himself defending his statements on executive power and involvement in controversial Bush administration judicial nominees and policies Thursday, as he closed out his testimony for his U.S. Supreme Court nomination hearing. Read full article »

White Men Have Leg Up In Legal Industry, Attys Say

A survey of almost 3,000 in-house and law firm attorneys has found that the legal industry suffers from an "endemic" gender and racial bias that favors white men in a number of different ways, including when it comes to hiring, promotions, assignments and compensation. Read full article »

Series

NYC Brick & Mortar: Trend Breakers

While various law firms in New York have over the past two years taken less space per lawyer and set up shop with smaller partner and associate offices, some firms have bucked those trends. This is the final article in a four-part series that looks at how law firms in New York are addressing the question of brick-and-mortar space. Read full article »

Senate Confirms 8 Trump District Court Nominees

The Senate voted to confirm eight nominees to federal district courts Thursday afternoon, pushing the number of district judges confirmed under President Donald Trump to 41. Read full article »

Law360's Weekly Verdict: Legal Lions & Lambs

Litigation boutique Campbell Campbell Edwards & Conroy PC stepped up to take the top legal lions spot this week, winning a favorable ruling for Johnson & Johnson in personal injury litigation over its antipsychotic drug Risperdal, while a trio of law firms representing Apple landed on the lambs list after a judge denied the technology giant's request for a new trial, leaving in place a $502 million patent verdict against it. Read full article »

Ex-Raiders, Buccaneers Atty Named XFL General Counsel

The relaunching XFL football league announced Thursday it has signed a former counsel for a pair of NFL teams as its general counsel. Read full article »

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