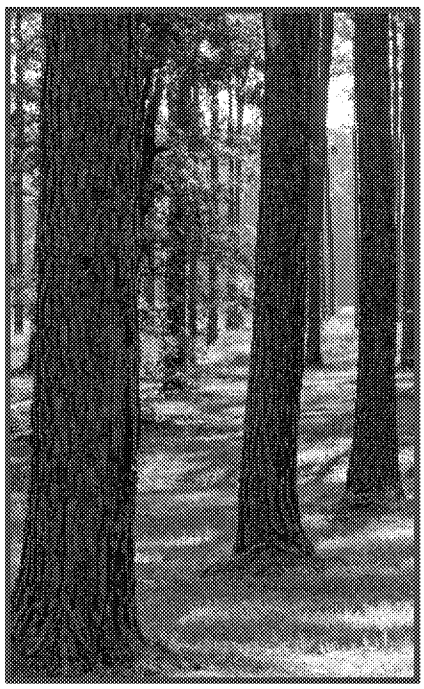
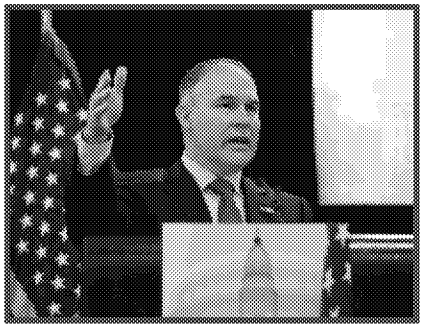
EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt: Year in Review

2017-2018





[PAGE * MERGEFORMAT]

Table of Contents

[TOC \o "1-3" \h \z \u]

ED_002674A_00017653-00002

Accomplishments

- ✓ Repealed Job-Killing, Burdensome, Duplicative Regulations
- ✓ Eliminated Agency Backlogs, Improved Efficiency and Effectiveness
- ✓ Increased Transparency, Accountability
- ✓ Returned to Cooperative Federalism
- ✓ Restored the Rule of Law, Process
- ✓ Improved Compliance and Assistance

In one year, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt spearheaded **22 de-regulatory actions** that saved the American people more than **$1 billion** in regulatory

By the Numbers:

- ✓ AIR: 206 State Implementation Plans (SIPs) approved, clearing a backlog of 700+ unapproved SIPs; EPA has turned one Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) into a SIP each month, since March 1, 2017
- ✓ WATER: 3,000 Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) approved, focused on the priority water bodies selected by the states. EPA also cut the amount of time it took the Agency to approve state water quality standards in half (from 120 days to 60), and awarded $25 million in water infrastructure loans, disbursed $1.4 billion in State Revolving Funds to improve our nation's water quality, and awarded $100 million to Flint, Mich. for water infrastructure upgrades.
- ✓ LAND: Seven contaminated sites were eliminated, substantially or entirely, from the National Priority List of contaminated sites; only one site was removed the previous year. EPA also awarded $60 million in brownfield clean-up grants to local communities.
- ✓ CHEMICALS: 600 new-chemical submissions were stuck in the Agency's backlog as of January 2017; EPA cleared the backlog and ensured that all new chemicals coming to market received an affirmative safety determination within about 90 days.
- ✓ ENFORCEMENT: $1.6 billion in administrative and civil judicial penalties in FY17, higher than any of the previous 10 years, other than FY16, which included one $5.7 billion action taken. EPA also celebrated an increase in the value of commitments by private parties to clean up land to more than $1.2 billion, an increase in the total of criminal fines, restitution and mitigation to $2.98 billion and an increase in the value of actions to improve compliance to nearly $20 billion.
- ✓ OUTREACH: Administrator Pruitt consulted with 95 bipartisan Members of Congress, 30 bipartisan governors, visited 30 states and U.S. territories, and met with over 350 stakeholder groups.
- ✓ IMPLEMENTING EXECUTIVE ORDERS: EPA quickly acted on President Donald Trump's E.O. to review and rescind the 2015 definition of "Waters of the U.S."; President Trump's Energy Independence E.O. by proposing to repeal the so-called "Clean Power Plan"; and, President Trump's "Regulatory Reform" E.O. 13777 by finalizing two de-reg actions for each regulatory action – with ZERO net costs to the U.S. economy.
- ✓ REGULATORY REFORM: 22 deregulatory actions were finalized, saving more than $1 billion in regulatory costs; EPA also initiated work on an additional 44 deregulatory actions and announced the reconsideration of over a dozen overreaching and burdensome regulations.

ED_002674A_00017653-00003

Introduction

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plays a vital role in American society. It is a role that is clearly defined by Congress, its statutes and, from time to time, the courts. EPA most-effectively protects the environment and human health when it operates within the bounds of its authority. However, when EPA strays outside that role, like it has in recent years, it encumbers both environmental protections and economic growth.

At the outset of Administrator Pruitt's tenure, he set forth a "back-to-basics agenda" centered on returning EPA to its proper Constitutional role via three objectives: 1) refocusing the Agency back to its core mission; (2) restoring power to the states through cooperative federalism; and (3) adhering to the rule of law and improving Agency processes. In one year we have made tremendous environmental progress in line with these goals. And, that progress shows that we can be both pro-environment, and pro-growth.

The combination of a refocused Agency, cooperative federalism and rule of law, like tributaries converging into a mighty river, has unleashed a new optimism throughout the nation. Americans can trust that environmental hazards will be addressed quickly and thoroughly; states and industry will be treated as partners, not opponents; and regulations will provide clarity, not confusion. The results are a cleaner, safer and stronger America for all.

Core Mission

The first of the three pillars of Administrator Pruitt's "back-to-basics agenda" is to refocus the Agency on its core mission: clean air, land and water. The EPA was founded in 1970 in order to consolidate the federal government's environmental efforts under one roof and better enforce the environmental laws passed by Congress. However, in recent years, EPA expanded its authority and jurisdiction into areas outside its core mission. In the process, central responsibilities of the Agency took a backseat to ideological crusades, allowing some environmental threats – like cleaning up toxic land – to go unaddressed. Administrator Pruitt returned the Agency to its core mission and prioritized issues at the heart of EPA's purpose: ensuring access to clean air and water, cleaning up contaminated lands and returning them to communities for reuse, improving water infrastructure, and ensuring chemicals entering the marketplace are reviewed for safety. In just one year, EPA made immense progress on these fronts, and the American people have seen real, tangible results.

AIR: Improve Air Quality

Clean Power Plan

The so-called Clean Power Plan not only exceeded the Agency's statutory authority – and the U.S. Supreme Court agreed – but it also imposed unnecessary regulatory burdens on affordable energy for hardworking American families. Implementing President Trump's Energy Independence Executive Order, Administrator Pruitt took steps to propose a repeal of the so-called Clean Power Plan (CPP) on October 10, 2017. EPA's action on CPP is estimated to save the U.S. economy up to $33 billion in avoided compliance costs.

As part of the on-going repeal process, the Agency heard directly from stakeholders and citizens most impacted by the rule, including a listening session in Charleston, West Virginia – the heart of coal country. Three additional listening sessions took place in Kansas City, Missouri; San Francisco, California; and Gillette, Wyoming.

ED_002674A_00017653-00004

In a separate, but related action, EPA issued an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) to solicit information from the public about a potential replacement to CPP that would be consistent with the Clean Air Act for regulating emissions from power plants.

Ozone

EPA is committed to prioritizing air quality improvements and partnering with states in the effort to ensure more Americans are living and working in areas that meet our nation's stringent air quality standards. Under current measurements, roughly 40 percent of the nation fails to meet attainment standards set under the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Under Administrator Pruitt's leadership, EPA gave states more flexibility by extending the deadline to designate 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone. EPA also worked with states to develop air quality plans, address underlying technical issues and ensure that more Americans are living and working in areas that meet NAAQS. Administrator Pruitt also established an Ozone Cooperative Compliance Task Force to develop additional flexibilities for states to comply with the ozone standard.

Consistent with Administrator Pruitt's pledge to be more responsive to local needs, on November 6, 2017, EPA announced it was moving forward with designations for 90 percent of the country.

State Implementation Plans

Rather than work cooperatively with states to implement clean air programs, President Obama's EPA imposed more than 50 Federal Implementation Plans (FIPs) – the equivalent of a top-down mandate – on states. Under Pruitt's leadership, EPA has turned at least one FIP into a State Implementation Plan (SIP) approximately every month. Administrator Pruitt also inherited a backlog of over 700 unapproved SIPs upon taking office. Since March 2017, EPA has worked with states to approve 206 SIPs. EPA recognizes that states have an enormous role to play in environmental protection and we can improve outcomes through collaboration, not federal dictates.

- During the Obama Administration, more than 50 FIPs were imposed on states, including nearly 20 under the Regional Haze program
- Under the Trump Administration, with EPA Administrator Pruitt's leadership, EPA has turned at least one FIP into a SIP approximately every month
- Over 200 SIPs have been approved since March 1, 2017

Coal Ash

EPA's core mission reflects the belief that states play an integral role in environmental protection. In keeping with this notion, Administrator Pruitt informed states that the Agency is working on guidance for implementing state permitting programs to manage the safe disposal of coal combustion residuals (CCR), also known as "coal ash." The new guidance – included in the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN Act) – allows flexibility in individual CCR permits by enabling states to decide what works best for their environment and the continued beneficial use of coal ash.

EPA released interim guidance to help states develop and submit permit programs putting more states on track to obtain CCR authority.

ED_002674A_00017653-00005

The interim guidance establishes a framework to outline EPA's approval process and also provides checklists to aid states as they develop their programs.

Renewable Fuels Standard

As directed by the Clean Air Act, EPA finalized volume requirements for the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) maintaining renewable fuel volumes at levels comparable to the 2017 standards, recognizing limits to the growth of cellulosic and advanced biofuels and understanding both market realities and consumer demand. The proposed standards will help stabilize the renewable fuels program and provide certainty for stakeholders.

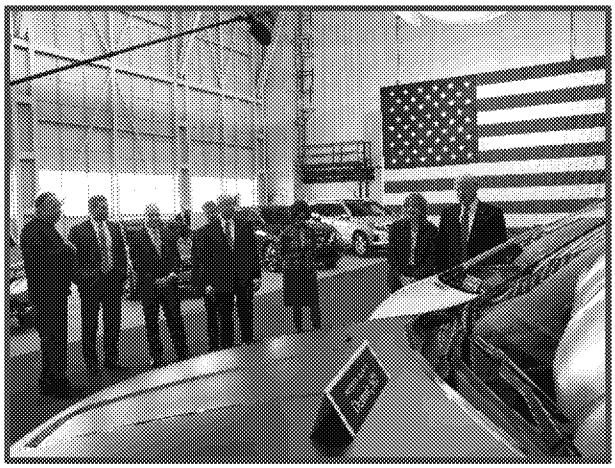
"Once In, Always In"

In a 1995 memo, EPA established a "once in always in" policy that determined that any facility subject to major source standards would always remain subject to those standards, even if production processes changed or controls were implemented that eliminated or permanently reduced that facility's potential to emit hazardous air pollutants. This policy is a disincentive to efforts to improve air quality and is also inconsistent with the Clean Air Act.

EPA issued a guidance memorandum in January 2018 withdrawing the "once in always in" policy. The memo from EPA's Office of Air and Radiation Assistant Administrator Bill Wehrum finds that EPA had no statutory authority under the Act to place a time limit on when a facility may be determined to be an area source and that a plain language reading of the Act must allow facilities to be reclassified as area sources once their potential to emit hazardous air pollutants falls below the levels that define major sources. This action represents another step by EPA to reduce burdens that deterred one of its core efforts: improving air quality.

Fuel Economy Standards

EPA has taken multiple steps over the past year to review the regulatory overreach of the previous administration on the transportation sector.



Administrator Pruitt traveled to Ypsilanti, MI with Transportation Secretary Chao and President Trump to discuss CAFE standards.

Alongside Department of Transportation (DOT) Secretary Elaine Chao, Administrator Pruitt announced the agencies intentions to reopen the public comment period for the previous administration's finalized standards on fuel economy for cars and light-duty trucks for Model Year 2025 to ensure that the program is beneficial for both consumers and the environment.

EPA also reviewed and then issued a proposal to undo the regulatory overreach of the Phase II Fuel Efficiency Standards for medium and heavy duty trucks.

Agriculture Emissions Reporting

EPA twice requested and the D.C. Circuit Court approved extensions for reporting air releases from animal waste. EPA sought and attained additional time in order to provide compliance assistance to farmers, update its guidance and develop a more-streamlined reporting form.

ED_002674A_00017653-00006

Landfill Methane

EPA instituted a 90-day administrative stay for the August 2016 New Source Performance Standards and Emissions Guidelines for municipal solid waste landfills to reconsider portions of the standards and guidelines. EPA estimates that implementing these rules would cost businesses more than $100 million annually.

WATER: Provide for Clean and Safe Water

Waters of the United States (WOTUS)

One of the more egregious examples of EPA overstepping its authority occurred with the 2015 Clean Water Rule definition of a "Water of the United States." On February 28, 2017, President Donald Trump issued an Executive Order directing EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to review and rescind (or revise) it. Within a few months, the agencies proposed a rule to rescind the 2015 WOTUS to provide regulatory certainty to American farmers, landowners and businesses and put an end to one-size-fits-all regulations from Washington.

> **"We are taking significant action to return power to the states and provide regulatory certainty to our nation's farmers and businesses. This is the first step in the two-step process to redefine 'waters of the U.S.' and we are committed to moving through this re-evaluation to quickly provide regulatory certainty, in a way that is thoughtful, transparent and collaborative with other agencies and the public."**
>
> **- EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt**

In the interim, EPA and Army Corps issued a second rulemaking to re-evaluate the definition. This will ensure any future proposed rule is implemented consistent with Supreme Court decisions, agency guidance, and longstanding practice.

Administrator Pruitt addresses members of the Tennessee Farm Bureau in Franklin.

Administrator Pruitt talks with members of Nevada, IA Future Farmers of America.

Water Infrastructure

Our nation's water infrastructure is in dire need of repair. Roughly 700 water main breaks occur across the United States every day – over 200,000 per year. Not surprisingly, the American Society of Civil Engineers gave our nation's drinking water, wastewater and hazardous waste infrastructure a "D" grade. Then there's the problem of lead in our drinking water. The contamination in Flint, Michigan awakened much of the nation to the harms of lead poisoning. EPA has taken

ED_002674A_00017653-00007

important steps to aid Flint's recovery and improve water infrastructure across the nation.

Flint, Michigan

In March 2017, EPA awarded a $100 million grant to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to accelerate and expand its work to replace lead service lines and make other critical infrastructure improvements. Later in the year, EPA completed a period review of Michigan's drinking water program and released a report identifying key steps the state should take to ensure they are providing safe and clean drinking water.

In addition, EPA concurred with Michigan's plans to forgive Flint's past drinking water debt. Over the past year, EPA has worked in partnership with the State of Michigan and the City of Flint to ensure that water quality continues to improve. This partnership has produced one of the most robust drinking water data sets in the country and EPA remains committed to working closely with the state of Michigan, Flint and local partners to protect public health and ensure that Flint's water quality continues to remain safe to drink.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

"The people of Flint and all Americans deserve a more responsive federal government," **said EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt.**

"We are excited and very grateful to receive these much needed funds," **said Flint Mayor Karen Weaver.** *"The City of Flint being awarded a grant of this magnitude in such a critical time of need will be a huge benefit. As we prepare to start the next phase of the FAST Start pipe replacement program, these funds will give us what we need to reach our goal of replacing 6,000 pipes this year and make other needed infrastructure improvements. We look forward to the continued support of the EPA and federal government."*

BY THE NUMBERS:

$100 Million grant to Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

$1 Billion leveraged from WIFIA loans for water infrastructure upgrades

$5.1 Billion in total water infrastructure investment spurred from EPA grants and loans

ED_002674A_00017653-00008

WIFIA

Critical to improving the nation's water infrastructure is the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA). This year's projects receiving WIFIA loans will leverage more than $1 billion in private capital and other funding sources, including EPA's State Revolving Fund (SRF) loans, to help finance a total of $5.1 billion in water infrastructure investments.

Effluent Limitations Guidelines

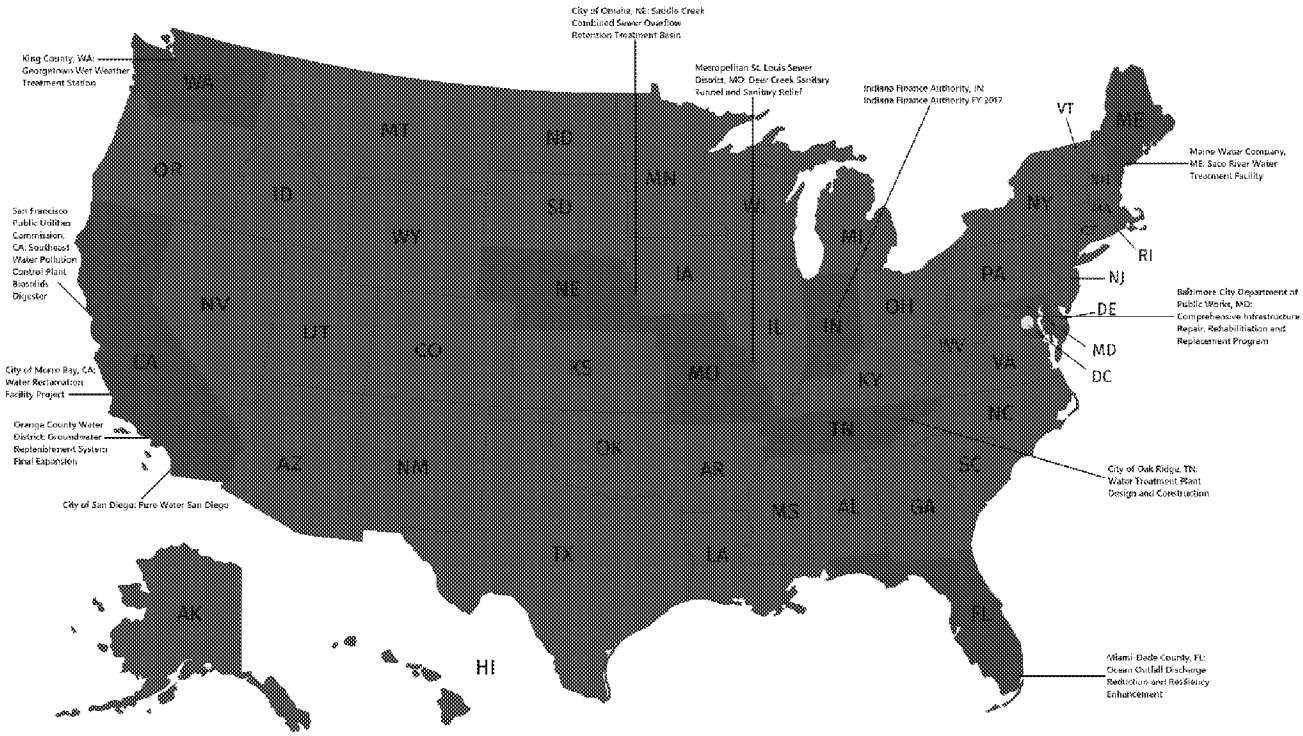
After careful reconsideration, EPA finalized a rule postponing certain compliance dates by two years for the effluent limitations guidelines and standards for steam electric power plants under the Clean Water Act (ELG Rule). It has been estimated to cost $480 million annually including $1.2 billion annually during the first five years of compliance.

LAND: Revitalize Land for Reuse

Superfund

The number of toxic sites being added to EPA's National Priorities List has increased under every administration since the first list was released under President Ronald Reagan. Administrator Pruitt is putting an end to this trend. By the end of 2018, EPA will be on track to close, in whole or part, 27 Superfund sites.

> **"I am making it a priority to ensure contaminated sites get cleaned up. We will be more hands-on to ensure proper oversight and attention to the Superfund program at the highest levels of the Agency, and to create consistency across states."**
>
> **- EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt**



From wastewater and drinking water to storm water and water recycling projects, WIFIA loans financed water infrastructure improvements across the country

Ensuring the Superfund program and EPA's land and water cleanup efforts operate effectively and efficiently is a cornerstone of the Agency's core mission. In elevating EPA's focus on Superfund cleanup, Administrator Pruitt created a Superfund Task Force – comprised of Agency experts from the Office of Land and Emergency Management, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, Office of General Counsel, and Regional Offices – to streamline and improve the program.

Within a few months, the Superfund Task Force released their report providing 42 specific and detailed recommendations under the following overarching goals:

1. Expediting Cleanup and Remediation
2. Re-Invigorating Responsible Party Cleanup and Reuse
3. Encouraging Private Investment
4. Promoting Redevelopment and Community Revitalization
5. Engaging Partners and Stakeholders

Following the recommendations of the Superfund Task Force, Administrator Pruitt released two dynamic lists of Superfund sites on the National Priorities List (NPL) including those 21 sites targeted for immediate and intense attention and 31 sites with the greatest expected redevelopment and commercial potential.

The first list includes sites that will benefit from Administrator Pruitt's direct engagement and have identifiable actions to protect human health and the environment. These are sites requiring timely resolution of specific issues to expedite cleanup and redevelopment efforts. Ultimately, it is designed to spur

SUPERFUND SUCCESS

East Chicago

As one of his first acts in office, Administrator Pruitt visited the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago, Indiana – something no other EPA Administrator had done. This specific site was listed on both the NPL in 2009 and Administrator Pruitt's list of sites targeted for immediate and intense action. After visiting the site, EPA began taking public comment and Administrator Pruitt ordered potentially responsible parties to clean-up the site. In meeting with East Chicago residents, federal, state and local offices, he pledged improved coordination and communications as cleanup continues.

Years of Inaction Are Over: West Lake

On February 1, 2018, after decades of inaction, EPA put forth its plan to clean up the West Lake Landfill, a dumping ground for radioactive waste from the Manhattan Project. The plan will remove a majority of the dangerous radioactive material posing unacceptable risks to the public.

- ✓ "I can tell you that we are happy with this decision, and what this does for us is it gives us direction. We've gone without a decision at the site for 10 years, and it's time that we have direction," said Karen Nickel of the Just Moms STL advocacy group. ([HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.cmail20.com/t/d-l-owiilt-alydlulju-t/"], 02/01/18)

San Jacinto:

The cleanup plan to address highly toxic dioxin contamination at the San Jacinto Waste Pits Superfund site in Harris County, Texas was approved by Administrator Pruitt in the fall of 2017. The plan provides certainty to both people living near the site – by permanently addressing risk posed by the contamination – and economic interests including the businesses that rely on the San Jacinto River for navigation and the Interstate-10 transportation corridor.

- ✓ "Not long after Hurricane Harvey battered Houston last summer, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt stood on the banks of the San Jacinto River and surveyed a decades-old toxic waste site as divers checked whether the storm had unearthed dangerous chemicals. Days later, he ordered two corporations to spend $115 million to excavate the contamination rather than leaving it

action at sites where opportunities exist to act quickly and comprehensively.

Superfund redevelopment has helped countless communities reclaim and reuse thousands of acres of formerly contaminated land. The redevelopment list easily directs interested developers and potential owners to Superfund sites with redevelopment potential, but does not necessarily include all possible sites with similar potential.

In addition, EPA completed deletion activities at seven sites on the Superfund NPL in Administrator Pruitt's first year, up from two in 2016. These sites from Minnesota and Massachusetts to Wyoming and Nebraska reflect Administrator Pruitt's commitment to accelerating progress, reducing risks at Superfund site sans returning sites to productive use.

> **"I urged then President-elect Trump to stop the EPA's overreach into state regulation harming Montana businesses. Instead of threatening the very industries that are a backbone of our Western economies, we need to support American families and American businesses to secure our mineral and energy independence. I am pleased the EPA has taken action."**
>
> **- U.S. Senate Western Caucus Chairman Steve Daines (R-MT)**

CERCLA Hardrock Mining

In January 2017, the previous administration proposed regulations under section 108(b) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) that would imposed financial responsibility requirements on certain hardrock mining facilities. After careful analysis of nearly 11,000 public comments and the Agency's statutory authority, EPA announced in December 2017 that it would not issue the final rule. The risks associated with these facilities' operations are already addressed by existing federal and state programs and industry practice. This decision saved American businesses and the mining industry up to $171 million a year.

CHEMICALS: Ensure Safety of Chemicals

Implemented the Updated Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)

EPA is working diligently to implement TSCA, the first major update to an environmental statute in 20 years, and ensure that the most modern and safe chemicals get to market quickly in order to provide regulatory certainty for manufacturers and confidence for American consumers.

Under the 2016 Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, which amended the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), EPA is responsible for reviewing and approving the safety of new chemicals intent on entering the U.S. marketplace. When Administrator Pruitt was confirmed, over 600 new chemicals were stuck in review. Within four months of being confirmed, EPA halved the backlog of new chemical submissions being reviewed under TSCA, and by July, Administrator Pruitt effectively eliminated the backlog.

In addition, EPA exceeded expectations and met its statutory responsibilities under TSCA on the one-year anniversary of the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act. This included issuing three new rules, providing a guidance document for external parties and releasing the scoping documents for the first 10 risk evaluations.

ED_002674A_00017653-00011

Chlorpyrifos

In 2007, EPA received a petition asking the Agency to revoke the tolerances for the pesticide chlorpyrifos. Given that the Ninth Circuit would not provide additional time for a new administration to review the issue, EPA denied the petition, based on the lack of time, divergent views from the cabinet departments and the fact that the scheduled FIFRA review for all pesticides, including chlorpyrifos, allows for a public process that included more time to further evaluate the science and come to a clearer scientific resolution of the issues.

On July 18, 2017, the Ninth Circuit ruled in EPA's favor, refusing to short-circuit the process established by Congress to challenge a denial of a petition to revoke a tolerance, affording EPA additional time to conduct a proper evaluation under the law of the science and the studies on chlorpyrifos and provide clarity about the pesticides' safety to the American people.

Dicamba

On October 13, 2017, EPA reached an agreement with manufacturers on measures to further minimize the potential for dicamba drift to damage neighboring crops. New requirements for the use of dicamba "over the top" (application to growing plants) will allow farmers to make informed choices for seed purchases for the 2018 growing season. EPA worked cooperatively with states, land-grant universities and pesticide manufacturers to examine the underlying causes of recent crop damage in certain regions and reach an agreement.

Pesticide Applicators Rule

Informed by feedback from states and American people that more time and resources are needed to prepare for compliance with the rule, EPA issued a 12-month extension for the implementation of the revised final Certification and Training of Pesticide Applicators rule. The extended timeline enabled EPA to work with states and provide adequate compliance and training resources.

Cooperative Federalism

Under Administrator Pruitt, states are once again being treated as partners, in efforts to protect the environment. In his first year, Administrator Pruitt worked to empower state

and local partners to develop regulations that achieves positive environmental outcomes. Putting his words into action, Administrator Pruitt got out of Washington and heard directly from stakeholders in the states.

Enhanced Shared Accountability

[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-scott-pruitt-hosts-western-governors-sunday-morning-breakfast-meeting"]: "The change in the federal administration offers us as governors the opportunity to develop new relationships and to build stronger state and federal relationships."

[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-pruitt-and-governor-scott-discuss-floridas-environment-and-economy-0"]: "It is great to have a partner in Administrator Pruitt and the Trump Administration and I am

glad to see their focus on protecting Florida's environment for future generations."

[HYPERLINK "https://blogs.mprnews.org/capitol-view/2017/07/epa-chief-meets-with-dayton-on-regulations/"]: "Gov. Mark Dayton described a meeting Wednesday with EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt as 'productive and cordial' and said he's hopeful the Trump administration will eliminate some of the federal government red tape dealt to state agencies. 'We don't believe we need to be micromanaged by Region 5 in Chicago,' Dayton said during a news conference following a meeting at the Capitol that lasted more than an hour."

[HYPERLINK "https://www.radioiowa.com/2017/08/08/reynolds-says-epa-chief-pledges-to-partner-not-dictate-to-farmers/"]: "The governor said

Pruitt indicated the new regulations would define what areas are not under federal jurisdiction. A court suspended the "Waters of the U.S." rules written by the Obama Administration before they took effect, but Reynolds said farmers delayed conservation measures and other land improvements because of the uncertainty about what might come next. 'Dramatically had an impact on our ability to move forward with conservation practices for not only water quality, for soil health,' she said."

[HYPERLINK "https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2017/11/26/scott-pruitt-mission-change-culture-epa/889633001/"]: "It's great to have an administrator of the EPA," McConnell said as he introduced Pruitt, "who's not afraid to come to Kentucky."

Stakeholder Engagement

Smart Sectors

In 2017, EPA launched Smart Sectors, a partnership program between the Agency and regulated sectors that takes a collaborative approach to consider more forward-thinking ways to protect the environment and provide regulatory certainty.

From the program's official launch, the Smart Sectors team met with over 80 trade associations, companies, or stakeholder groups. The team conducted seven informational site visits with a variety of sectors including ports, iron and steel, oil and gas, chemical manufacturing, and agriculture and has many site visits planned for 2018. The Smart Sectors program maintains open dialogue with these partners and their environmental committees and developed reports that profile the impact of each sector on the environment and the economy.

Grants

EPA awards over $4 billion grants annually to states, tribes and local communities. For example, in FY2017:

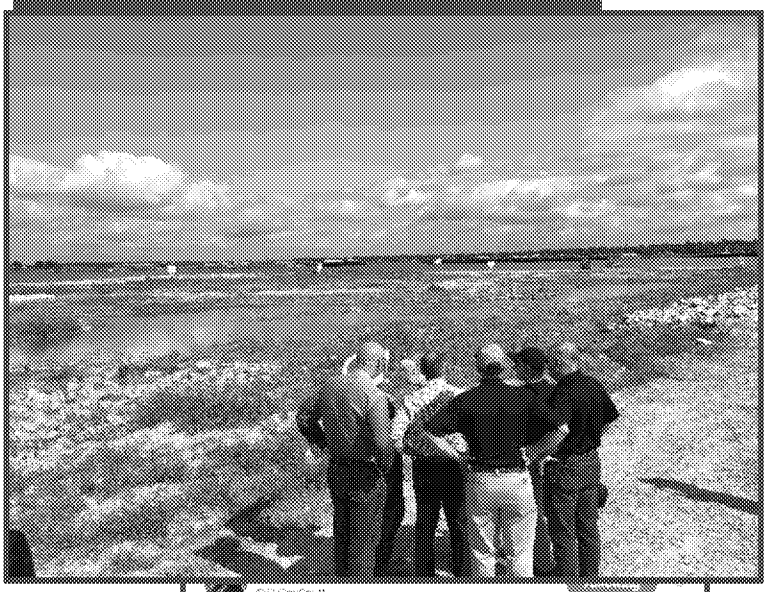
- Over $20.2 million was provided through National Estuary Program grants to 32 communities
- $56.8 million in Brownfields grants to 172 communities for revitalizing land

- Nearly $33.3 million Clean Diesel Program grants to 72 communities

Natural Disaster Preparedness, Response and Recovery

Throughout 2017 EPA worked closely with states and territories to prepare for and respond to a number of natural disasters including Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, and catastrophic wildfires in the West.

As a result of the continuing impacts on Gulf Coast-area refineries and disruption to the fuel distribution system caused by the 2017 hu



Administrator Pruitt visited Corpus Christi, TX, on August 30, 2017, to meet with responders and assess EPA relief efforts, and Houston, TX twice – on September 15, 2017 to review the Agency's response efforts and October 20, 2017 with stakeholders monitoring cleanup efforts at the San Jacinto Waste Pits Superfund site.

STATS AT A GLANCE

Harvey:

- ✓ Conducted on-site assessments at approximately 625 drinking water and 440 waste water treatment facilities
- ✓ Collected more than 1000 orphan containers, which included drums and tanks found floated in or washed up near waterways
- ✓ Safely disposed of over 20 million cubic yards of debris

Maria:

- ✓ Completed over 1,000 drinking water assessments in USVI
- ✓ Collected more than 225,000 items of household hazardous waste, goods and electronic waste in Puerto Rico and USVI
- ✓ Assessed close to 400 vessels in Puerto Rico and close to 500 in USVI with the U.S. Coast Guard

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

ED_002674A_00017653-00015

Rule of Law

Agency Reform

Sue and Settle

Over the years, outside the regulatory process, special interest groups have used lawsuits that seek to force federal agencies – especially EPA – to issue regulations that advance their interests and priorities, on their specified timeframe. EPA gets sued by an outside party that is asking the court to compel the Agency to take certain steps, either through change in a statutory duty or enforcing timelines set by the law, and then EPA will acquiesce through a consent decree or settlement agreement, affecting the Agency's obligations under the statute.

"Sue and settle" cases establish Agency obligations without participation by states and/or the regulated community; foreclose meaningful public participation in rulemaking; effectively force the Agency to reach certain regulatory outcomes; and, cost the American taxpayer millions of dollars.

In fulfilling his promise to end the practice of regulation through litigation that has harmed the American public, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt issued an Agency-wide directive in October 2017 designed to end "sue and settle" practices within the Agency, providing an unprecedented level of public participation and transparency in EPA consent decrees and settlement agreements.

> **"The days of regulation through litigation are over."**
>
> **- EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt**

Advisory Boards

According to EPA calculations, in just three years, members of three of EPA's 22 Federal Advisory Committees – the Science Advisory Board, Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee, and the Board of Scientific Counselors – received upwards of $77 million in direct EPA grant funding while concurrently serving on these committees.

Administrator Pruitt issued a new directive in the fall of 2017 to ensure that any advisors serving on an EPA Federal Advisory Committee are independent and free from any real, apparent or potential interference with their ability to objectively serve as a committee member. In addition, Administrator Pruitt increased the representation of EPA's science boards to include more geographic diversity, increasing past representation from 32 states to over 40.

ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement of environmental protection laws is sustained by collaborative efforts of states, businesses, private citizens, and federal agencies like EPA. Within the last year, Administrator Pruitt implemented a two-pronged approach to enforcement: 1) ensuring the regulated community understands and complies with the law, and 2) vigorously holding bad actors accountable. This was achieved through a wide range of enforcement tools, including: compliance assistance, civil actions, administrative actions, informal actions, work-sharing with states, and criminal fines and incarceration where appropriate.

Since January 20, 2017, through the end of Fiscal Year 2017, EPA imposed:

- More than $1.72 billion in civil penalties, cost recovery, natural resource damages, and other monetary recoveries;

ED_002674A_00017653-00016

- More than $2.91 billion in criminal fines, restitution, and other assessments; and
- More than $3.13 billion in injunctive relief and environmental mitigation projects.

Example Enforcement Actions Announced Since Close of FY17:

- ✓ ExxonMobil: $300M air pollution settlement with Exxon, 10/31/17
- ✓ PDC Energy: EPA, Colorado reach $21 million-plus settlement with PDC 10/31/17
- ✓ Macy's: EPA Settled with Macy's over Hazardous Waste Violations 10/25/17
- ✓ RIN Fraud: This individual defendant purchased renewable fuel with attached RINs, sold the fuel, and instead of retiring the RINs as required, sold the RINs separately and illegally for $31.8 million. He also committed tax fraud to the tune of $1.2 million by claiming renewable fuel tax credits to which he was not entitled, 10,23/17
- ✓ Superfunds: For one example, EPA held 40 parties responsible to finance and perform a $51.5 million EPA-approved cleanup 10/13/17

Media

NATIONAL TELEVISION & RADIO

[HYPERLINK "http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2017/10/09/epas-pruitt-announces-trump-administration-scrapping-obama-era-coal-regs.html"] EPA moves to repeal Obama's Clean Power Plan coal regulations. "EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt announced Monday that the Trump administration is moving to scrap the Clean Power Plan, the Obama administration's signature regulatory program to curb emissions from coal-fired power plants… 'That rule really was about picking winners and losers,' Pruitt said. 'The past administration was unapologetic, they were using every bit of power, authority to use the EPA to pick winners and losers on how we pick electricity in this country. That is wrong.'"

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-ktujilt-l-i/"]: Pruitt said the Paris agreement put our economy at a disadvantage. "When you look at what was agreed to in Paris, it put this country, our country at a disadvantage economically."

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-ktujilt-l-r/"]: Pruitt discussed how small businesses across the country are celebrating President Trump's decision to pull out of the Paris agreement. "Well, when you look at, even The New York Times had an article, I think, within the last couple of days that talked about small business celebrating, euphoria with respect to the president's decision."

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-ktujilt-l-j/"]: Pruitt explained how the U.S. is the energy technology leader of the world. "If China and India want to reduce their CO2 footprint, they should learn from us," Pruitt told Fox News' Chris Wallace."

[HYPERLINK "https://www.cbsnews.com/video/scott-pruitt-talks-with-major-garrett-full-interview/"]: Pruitt discussed the role of the EPA. "We should be about administering the statutes we're required to administer, but we shouldn't come in and say that the way forward in environmental protection is prohibition vs. stewardship. We can feed the world and we can power the world, and we should do that."

ED_002674A_00017653-00017

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-owiilt-l-u/"]: Pruitt discussed how he's focused on protecting the environment and human health.

[HYPERLINK "http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/video/epa-chief-scott-pruitt-talks-irma-climate-change-49706729"]: Pruitt talked about Hurricane Irma recovery efforts.

EDITORIALS

[HYPERLINK "https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2018/02/14/clean-air-land-and-water-time-epa-start-keeping-its-promises-column/333815002/"] Clean air, land and water: Time for the EPA to start keeping its promises. "A few months ago, I promised the people of Missouri that I would make a decision and propose a cleanup plan for the West Lake Landfill. Recently, I made good on that commitment. On Feb. 1, the Environmental Protection Agency put forth its plan to clean up the West Lake Landfill... In less than a year, this administration will solve a problem that previous administrations could not fix in the years since 1990, when the site was added to the Superfund priorities list."

[HYPERLINK "https://www.wsj.com/articles/scott-pruitts-back-to-basics-agenda-for-the-epa-1487375872"] Scott Pruitt's Back-to-Basics Agenda for the EPA. "You might call him an EPA originalist... When Mr. Pruitt sat down Thursday for his first interview since his November nomination, he spent most of the time waxing enthusiastic about all the good his agency can accomplish once he refocuses it on its statutorily defined mission: working cooperatively with the states to improve water and air quality."

[HYPERLINK "https://talkingpointsmemo.com/dc/epa-chief-scott-pruitt-looks-to-kneecap-environmental-groups-with-new-sue-and-settle-policy"]: Pruitt Looks to Kneecap Environmental Groups With New Policy. "Pruitt pledged that the agency would no longer reimburse attorneys' fees in cases where it decides to avoid a lawsuit, arguing that both environmental and business groups had abused it to enrich themselves in the past. 'This is not particular to one type of plaintiff,' he said. 'There should be no attorneys' fees paid, period, no matter who the plaintiff is.'"

[HYPERLINK "https://www.wsj.com/articles/stopping-sue-and-settle-1508369052"]: Pruitt's ends sue and settle practices also known as "extortion by environmental lawsuit." "Scott Pruitt continues to press reform at the Environmental Protection Agency, this week issuing a directive to curb the collusive Washington game of "sue and settle" lawsuits. This is a victory for democratic consent over legal extortion."

[HYPERLINK "http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/epa-needs-to-stick-to-its-knitting/article/2634483"]: Praise for Pruitt's commitment to the Agency's core mission. "We applaud Pruitt's mission of restoring the EPA to its proper shape and size. And we hope he has the humility, the diligence, and the skill to pull it off, for the sake of the Constitution, the economy, and the environment."

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-kiihldd-l-i/"]: Pruitt committed to cleaning up Superfunds sites. "One cost of making climate change a religion is that more immediate environmental problems have been ignored—not least by the Environmental Protection Agency. New EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt plans to address that in an underreported effort to clean up toxic waste sites under the so-called Superfund program."

[HYPERLINK "http://www.startribune.com/epa-s-pruitt-signals-welcome-support-for-great-lakes-restoration-project/435922323/"]: Pruitt Signals Welcome Support for Great Lakes Restoration Project. "Environmental Protection Agency Secretary Scott Pruitt's visit to Minnesota last week yielded an unexpected boon for those who care about clean water. In an interview with a Star Tribune reporter, Pruitt affirmed his support for federal funding of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, which provides landmark protections for Lakes Huron, Erie, Michigan, Ontario and, most treasured by Minnesotans, Superior."

[HYPERLINK "http://www.denverpost.com/2017/08/18/epa-chief-scott-pruitt-right-to-pursue-funds-for-gold-king-mine-victims/"]: Pruitt Right to Pursue Funds for Gold King Mine Victims.

"Scott Pruitt, head of the Environmental Protection Agency, is doing the right thing in his efforts to make whole the victims of the Gold King Mine spill that spewed 3 million of gallons of toxic water into the Animas River and downstream to New Mexico."

[HYPERLINK "https://www.gq.com/story/50-most-powerful-in-trump-dc"] The 50 Most Powerful People in Trump's Washington. "#5 EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt: In a Cabinet that doesn't get much done, Pruitt has been dangerously effective."

[HYPERLINK "https://www.bloomberg.com/features/2017-bloomberg-50/"]: Administrator Pruitt lands on the list of 50 people defining global business in 2017. "Pruitt, a former Oklahoma attorney general who built his career challenging what he termed the 'EPA's activist agenda,' says he's 'righting the wrongs of the Obama administration.' He's giving states a bigger role in environmental oversight, reopening a review

of fuel-efficiency standards, and delaying a rule to boost the safety of chemical facilities—work guided by almost-daily consultations with industry representatives."

[HYPERLINK "http://www.newsweek.com/2018/02/16/scott-pruitt-most-dangerous-member-trump-cabinet-801035.html"] How the EPA's Scott Pruitt became the most dangerous member of Trump's cabinet.

[HYPERLINK "https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2017/11/26/scott-pruitt-mission-change-culture-epa/889633001/"] said Pruitt believes in clean water and clean air. "The previous administration weaponized this agency," Cuccinelli said. "They were assaulting America through the EPA. Scott believes in clean water and clean air. There's never been any doubt about that. But all of the other creative stuff is the kind of stuff that political elites want to spend their time on and if it affects Americans all it does is reduce their opportunities."

NATIONAL PRINT

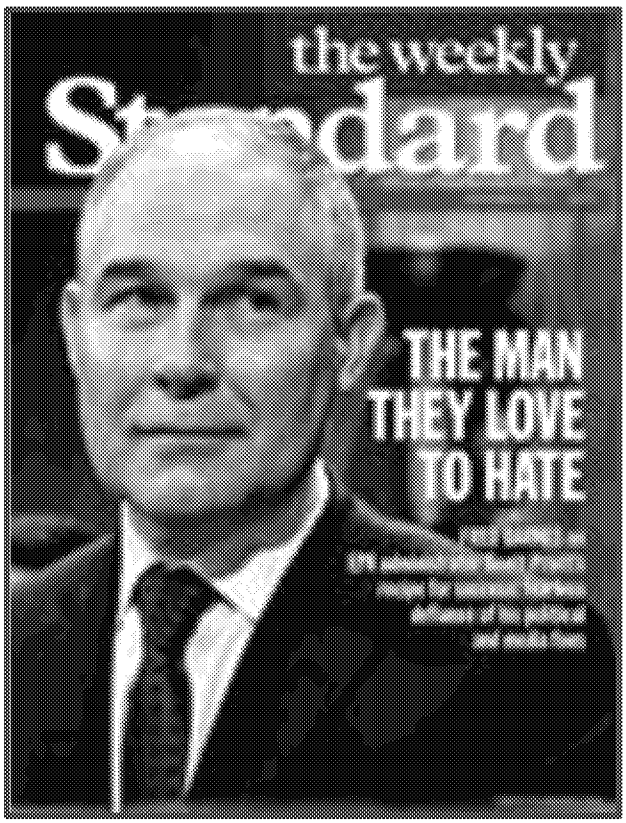
[HYPERLINK "https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/scott-pruitt-outspoken-and-forceful-moves-to-the-center-of-power-within-the-trump-administration/2017/06/02/a1b4d298-46fa-11e7-a196-a1bb629f64cb_story.html?utm_term=.95fd9290d626"] Scott Pruitt, outspoken and forceful, moves to the center of power within the Trump administration. "Less than four months ago, Scott Pruitt arrived in Washington with few connections to President Trump's inner circle and took the helm of an agency where many employees were openly hostile to him. But the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency has emerged as one of the most influential policy architects in the president's Cabinet, a skilled and sometimes brash lawyer who is methodically taking apart a slew of regulations and agreements affecting a range of issues, from manufacturing operations to landfills."

ED_002674A_00017653-00020

[HYPERLINK "https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2017/11/26/scott-pruitt-mission-change-culture-epa/889633001/"]: Scott Pruitt on a mission to change the climate of the EPA. "He's on a mission to re-engineer the agency's culture by returning power to states and away from the Washington bureaucrats and coastal elites he said have led it astray."

[HYPERLINK "http://time.com/4990060/scott-pruitt-interview-epa-schedule-meetings/"]: Pruitt: I don't spend any time with polluters. I prosecute polluters.
[HYPERLINK "http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/scott-pruitt-criticizes-obama-as-environmental-savior-moves-epa-away-from-climate-change/article/2634253"]: Pruitt advances Back-to-Basics agenda. "Few Trump administration agency chiefs have moved as decisively to implement an agenda as Scott Pruitt, the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and he's quite clear about what he wants to do. He calls it a 'back to the basics' agenda, removing the government from what he considers extraneous activity."

[HYPERLINK "https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/under-scott-pruitt-a-year-of-tumult-and-transformation-at-epa/2017/12/26/f93d1262-e017-11e7-8679-a9728984779c_story.html?utm_term=.1d7786ab74c9"] How Scott Pruitt turned the EPA into one of Trump's most powerful tools. "...aggressiveness on issues from coal waste to vehicle emissions has made Pruitt one of Trump's most high-profile and consequential Cabinet members. It also has made him one of the most controversial... Yet, allies praise Pruitt for returning more power to individual states while scaling back what they see as the previous administration's regulatory excesses."



[HYPERLINK "https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-10-25/epa-s-pruitt-denies-he-s-an-ally-of-polluters-vows-to-get-tough"]: EPA's Pruitt Denies He's an Ally of Polluters, Vows to Get Tough. "Scott Pruitt, the head of the Environmental Protection Agency, vowed that he will get tough on corporate polluters, dismissing critics who cast him as too cozy with industry. "They don't know me," Pruitt said, during an interview with Bloomberg News in his Washington office. "I've led a grand jury. We are going to do enforcement, to go after bad actors and go after polluters."

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-owiilt-l-k/"]: Pruitt said West Lake sends a results driven message. "'This sends a message that we're actually going to get results,' Mr. Pruitt said in an interview with The Wall Street Journal. 'Frankly it's just what we ought to be doing.'"

[HYPERLINK "https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2017/06/04/epa-head-scott-pruitt-defends-paris-exit/?utm_term=.5c9da56f0587"] EPA head Scott Pruitt defends Paris exit. "When we joined Paris, the rest of the world applauded … because it put this country at disadvantage… It's a bad deal for this country. We're going to make sure as we make deals we're going to put the interests of America first."

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-oxhuo-l-j/"]: Pruitt aims to accelerate his efforts to remake the EPA. "Environmental Protection Agency chief Scott Pruitt plans to use his second year on the job to accelerate efforts to remake the agency, saying he wants to speed its permitting processes and transform a culture he says is bureaucratic."

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-khulhrk-l-y/"]: Pruitt gave a wide-ranging interview about protecting the environment and American jobs. "The past administration was all about words. This administration is all about action. Look at the actions this country has taken. We have reduced our greenhouse gas levels to pre-1994 levels primarily through technology and innovation, not through government mandate. We have nothing to be apologetic about with the rest of the world."

[HYPERLINK "http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/epas-scott-pruitt-declares-war-on-lead-three-years-after-flint-water-crisis-began/article/2646369"]: EPA's Scott Pruitt declares 'war on lead.' "EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt has begun an effort to 'eradicate' lead poisoning from drinking water, more than three years after the crisis in Flint, Michigan, started. Pruitt hosted a meeting Jan. 8 for state and local officials at agency headquarters in Washington to obtain feedback on ways to update the 1991 Lead and Copper Rule… It has not been revised in more than a decade."

[HYPERLINK "http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/368090-epa-staffing-hits-reagan-levels"]: EPA staffing falls to Reagan-era levels. "EPA's staffing is now lower than it was in former President Reagan's final year in office. An EPA spokeswoman said Tuesday that, as of Jan. 3, the agency had 14,162 employees, down from about 15,000 at the beginning of last year. That's even lower than the 14,400 employees the agency had in fiscal year 1988, Reagan's final year."

[HYPERLINK "https://www.wsj.com/articles/epa-to-unveil-new-chemical-testing-rules-1498141553"]: EPA to Unveil New Chemical Testing Rules. "The

Environmental Protection Agency on Thursday will release new rules to clarify the agency's process of testing the chemicals used in everyday products and other commerce, a matter of deep importance to manufacturers, consumers and environmental advocates."

REGIONAL PRINT

[HYPERLINK "http://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/post-tribune/news/ct-ptb-east-chicago-epa-orders-st-1219-20171218-story.html"]: Pruitt orders companies blamed for East Chicago contamination to pay for cleanup. "'We continue to make cleaning up East Chicago a priority, to protect the health and well-being of the residents who live in the impacted areas,' said EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt in a statement. The EPA estimated the companies will have to pay $24 million for the remediation, according to the announcement, and $2.25 million for the indoor dust cleaning."

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-kkjidjk-l-j/"]: Pruitt visited Utah and talked about WOTUS."EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt visited Utah as part of multistate tour to get input on how the agency can be more responsive to states' needs in general and in specific how the controversial Waters of the United States rule should be retooled."

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-owiilt-l-j/"]: Pruitt outlined his course of action to cleanup West Lake. "In a long-awaited decision that appears to be a compromise, the Environmental Protection Agency on Thursday recommended partial excavation of the West Lake Landfill in Bridgeton to remove radioactive waste linked to the Manhattan Project."

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-kkjidjk-l-n/"]: Pruitt discusses WOTUS in Arkansas. "EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt visited with Arkansas Cabinet officials and agriculture representatives Thursday about changes they would like to see made to the nation's definition of protected water bodies."

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-oxhuo-l-n/"]: Pruitt takes on entrenched air pollution system.

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-kkjidjk-l-k/"]: Pruitt is working hard to protect the Great Lakes. "Scott Pruitt, the nation's top environmental officer, said Wednesday he endorses continued federal funding for a landmark cleanup of the Great Lakes... 'It's a continuing need, and we have to see that it's adequately funded.'"

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-uktdjry-l-j/"]: Pruitt wants to work hand in hand with states. "'What's important for us in Washington, D.C., to do is to learn and partner and work with folks at the state level to achieve good outcomes together. That just simply has not happened for a number of years,' said EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, during a stop in Nevada."

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-uktdjry-l-i/"]: Pruitt called farmers the first "conservationists, environmentalists." "Pruitt said the country needed to discuss what 'true environmentalism' means: 'We have been blessed with a bounty of natural resources. And some view that as 'We should simply not use them' — that we should put up fences and not use our natural resources. 'I don't buy that.

We, as a country, have an obligation to feed the world and power the world,' he said, getting applause. 'When you have the natural resources like we do, we should use them to benefit our neighbors, our country and world.'"

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-kudrsk-l-d/"]: Pruitt held a roundtable with Governor Reynolds, Senators Grassley and Ernst about WOTUS.

[HYPERLINK "https://www.clarionledger.com/story/news/local/2017/10/13/epa-water-energy-mississippi/757533001/"]: Pruitt addressed energy issues in Mississippi. "U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt visited Mississippi Thursday to discuss proposed changes to the Waters of the United States rule, just days after announcing the repeal of the Clean Power Plan."

[HYPERLINK "https://www.chron.com/news/politics/article/After-Harvey-EPA-administrator-vows-bold-12218929.php"]: After Harvey, Pruitt vows bold response to polluted sites around Houston. "Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt, who has visited Texas twice since Hurricane Harvey, vowed Thursday to have 'an answer' by next month for a permanent solution to clean up the San Jacinto River Waste Pits."

REGIONAL TELEVISION & RADIO

[HYPERLINK "http://whotv.com/2017/08/08/e-p-a-head-agrees-that-des-moines-superfund-site-needs-to-develop-but-when/"]: E.P.A. Head Agrees That Des Moines Superfund Site Needs to Develop, But When? "Political Director Dave Price talked to Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt about efforts to redevelop superfund sites, like Des Moines, all over the country."

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-kkjidjk-l-r/"]: Pruitt discusses his Back-To-Basics agenda. "EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt made his first stop on the State Action Tour here in Utah. This morning he sat down with Glen Mills on Good Morning Utah exclusively to talk about the tour."

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-uktdjry-l-h/"]: Pruitt will have changes to Obama's WOTUS. "The head of the United States Environmental Protection Agency was in Louisville Thursday with a promise of change to one of the most controversial environmental regulations for Kentucky farmers. Administrator Scott Pruitt told the Kentucky Farm Bureau's 98th Annual Meeting that the "Waters of the United States" regulation will be changed forever by mid-2018."

[HYPERLINK "http://kdvr.com/2017/08/04/epa-administrator-pruitt-part-of-delegation-to-tour-gold-king-mine-area-on-2-year-anniversary-of-spill/"]: Pruitt Gold King Mine on 2-Year Anniversary of Spill Caused by Agency. "Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt and Colorado leaders will tour the site of the Gold King mine spill on Friday to mark the second anniversary of the spill that dumped 3 million gallons of tainted wastewater into the Animas River."

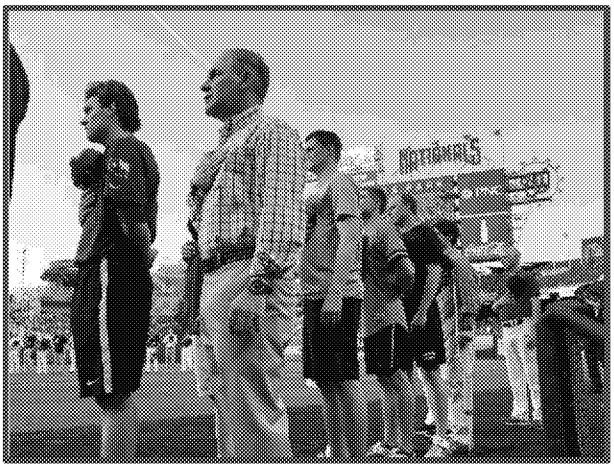
[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-owiilt-l-t/"]: Just Moms STL was happy with Pruitt's decision regarding West Lake. "Dawn Chapman and Karen Nickel of the Just Moms STL advocacy group say at first, the group was worried a partial removal would mean only 5percent removed. With a 70percent or more removal — they are

pleased. 'I can tell you that we are happy with this decision, and what this does for us is it gives us direction,' Nickel says. 'We've gone without a decision at the site for 10 years, and it's time that we have direction.'"

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-kkjidjk-l-t/"]: Pruitt gave an in-depth interview about the EPA's Back-To-Basics Agenda. "EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt was in studio for an exclusive interview while he was in the state to meet with Gov. Mark Dayton. He's is in Minnesota as part of his Back-To-Basics tour and talked about rolling back regulations."

[HYPERLINK "http://mynews4.com/news/local/exclusive-head-of-epa-scott-pruitt-sits-down-for-in-studio-interview"]: Pruitt discusses his visit to Nevada. "Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency Scott Pruitt sat down with News 4's Bill Frankmore on Monday morning to discuss his event with Governor Brian Sandoval at Anaconda Mine in Lyon County regarding future clean-up and his visit with miners at Coeur Rochester Mine in Lovelock."

[HYPERLINK "http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/epa-chief-a-former-baseball-exec-wants-world-world-series/article/2631464"]: EPA chief, a former baseball exec, wants 'world, world series.' "I think baseball is one of those sports we can actually truly have a world series, we can have a world competition. We've seen it in other instances and I think that's an opportunity that we need to be pursuing."



Administrator Pruitt stands for the National Anthem at the Congressional Baseball game.

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-kkjidjk-l-u/"]: Pruitt talked baseball, the environment and American jobs.

[HYPERLINK "http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.createsend1.com/t/d-l-kudrsk-l-h/"]: Pruitt visits Iowa to discuss WOTUS

ED_002674A_00017653-00025