Message

From: Durant, Jennah [Durant.Jennah@epa.gov]
Sent: 12/2/2019 6:01:08 PM
To: R6Press [R6Press@epa.gov]
Subject: Daily News Digest, Monday, Dec. 2
Attachments: Daily News Digest 120219.pdf

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To receive the Daily News Digest in your inbox, email R6Press@epa.gov.
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National

1- A fierce Atlantic hurricane season is just about over, New Orleans Times-Picayune, 11/29/19
https://www.nola.com/news/hurricane/article_7b28402a-12cb-11ea-9299-6f600ea14aeb.html
The ferocious 2019 hurricane season will end Saturday, having brought historic destruction to the Bahamas and sent storms roaring as far north as Ireland and Nova Scotia.

2 – Warming toll: 1 degree hotter, trillions of tons of ice gone, E&E News, 12/2/19
https://www.eenews.net/climatewire/2019/12/02/stories/1061700287
Since leaders first started talking about tackling the problem of climate change, the world has spewed more heat-trapping gases, gotten hotter and suffered hundreds of extreme weather disasters. Fires have burned, ice has melted and seas have grown.

3 - What's at stake for COP25, E&E News, 12/2/19
https://www.eenews.net/climatewire/stories/1061700233
The United Nations' climate talks kick off today in Madrid under something of a cloud. Two global organizations released dire warnings last week that greenhouse gases are rising with no end in sight. In spite of that, the world's largest historic emitter, the United States, is leaving the Paris Agreement.

4 – The Clean Power Plan: Its impact (or not), E&E News, 12/2/19
https://www.eenews.net/energywire/2019/12/02/stories/1061700491
On a hot day in June 2013, President Obama outlined a strategy at Georgetown University to curb carbon emissions. Central to Obama's strategy would be the Clean Power Plan (CPP), introduced 12 months later. As articulated by EPA, the plan would reduce carbon dioxide emissions from power plants 32% below 2005 levels by 2030.

5 – Technology to keep lights on could help prevent wildfires, Albuquerque Journal, 12/2/19
https://www.abqjournal.com/1397018/technology-to-keep-lights-on-could-help-prevent-wildfires.html
B. Don Russell wasn't thinking about preventing a wildfire when he developed a tool to detect power line problems before blackouts and bigger disasters.

6 – EPA Rule Due in March on Power Plant Air Permit Flexibility, Bloomberg, 11/21/19
https://news.bloombergenvironment.com/environment-and-energy/epa-targeting-march-to-grant-power-plant-air-permit-flexibility
The electric utility sector would be able to avoid the need for Clean Air Act permits for upgrades of coal-fired power plants that result in reduced carbon dioxide emissions under a rule the EPA plans to issue in March.

Texas

7 - Comprehensive team coverage of TPC developments Friday, KFDM, 11/29/19

https://kfdm.com/news/local/comprehensive-team-coverage-of-tpc
Comprehensive team coverage of TPC developments Friday. Right now, you can probably notice a dramatic decrease in the plume of smoke coming from the plant compared to Wednesday.

8 – OPINION: With Port Neches burning, do we really think gutting the EPA is wise?, Houston Chronicle, 11/29/19
https://www.houstonchronicle.com/opinion/outlook/article/With-Port-Neches-burning-do-we-really-think-14870909.php
Two Texas tragedies provide fitting bookends for the fate of a regulation that the Environmental Protection Agency issued to protect first-responders and the neighbors of companies that manufacture and store highly hazardous chemicals.

9 - Climate change threatens nearly 80% of Superfund sites in Houston area, GAO says, Houston Chronicle, 12/1/19
https://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/Climate-change-threatens-nearly-80-of-Superfund-14871811.php
Rising seas and more intense flooding caused by climate change could put nearly 80 percent of the Superfund sites in the Houston area at greater risk of releasing toxic pollutants into waterways and nearby communities, data from a congressional watchdog agency show.

10 - Greenhouse gas emissions increase in Crossroads for first time in 4 years, Victoria Advocate, 11/30/19
https://www.victoriaadvocate.com/news/environment/greenhouse-gas-emissions-increase-in-crossroads-for-first-time-in/article_b84f3d14-0b37-11ea-8ff3-fb9bddda3d40.html
Greenhouse gases emitted by Crossroads facilities increased in 2018 after four years of consecutive decreases. Industry data suggests emissions went up as U.S. oil and gas production surged, which has boosted plastics production, oil refining and natural gas liquefaction.

11 – Solar expected to disrupt Texas fossil-fuel apple cart, Houston Chronicle, 12/2/19
https://www.houstonchronicle.com/business/energy/article/Solar-expected-to-disrupt-Texas-fossil-fuel-apple-14874064.php
Texas dominates wind energy, producing far more wind-generated electricity than any other state. But when it comes to solar energy, Texas lags far behind California, North Carolina and other states. But that's about to change.

New Mexico

12 – OPINION: EPA Must Finish Superfund Site Cleanup, Rio Grande Sun, 11/29/19
http://www.riograndesun.com/opinion/editorials/epa-must-finish-superfund-site-cleanup/article_2a81f7c6-12dd-11ea-bcf0-a3ad07790d35.html
The federal Environmental Protection Agency gave Españolans a new definition of, "We're from the government and we're here to help." We also have to question the "protection" part of the agency's title.

13 – EPA Pulls Out Of Superfund Cleanup In Española, KUNM, 12/2/19
https://www.kunm.org/post/epa-pulls-out-superfund-cleanup-espa-ola
The EPA announced that it's done funding the cleanup of a superfund site of toxic chemicals in Española, saying that after 10 years, it's no longer legally obligated to keep trying. The plume is as big as 75 American football fields, spreads under downtown Española, and reaches the neighboring Santa Clara Pueblo and the Rio Grande.

14 – New Mexico joins international natural gas export initiative, Albuquerque Journal, 11/30/19
https://www.abqjournal.com/1396599/new-mexico-joins-international-natural-gas-export-initiative.html
New Mexico is the newest member of an international initiative focused on expanding the export potential of American natural gas while balancing environmental goals.