Region 1

Hot Topics

EPA and Massachusetts Work to Reduce Nitrogen Pollution on Cape Cod
On November 13, R1 met with MassDEP to discuss upgrading and expanding the wastewater treatment plant at Joint Base Cape Cod to provide a regional wastewater treatment solution for multiple Upper Cape communities. New or expanded treatment capacity is part of the nitrogen pollution reduction goals in the Cape Cod 208 Plan since towns mostly rely on septic systems and impacted watersheds require nitrogen reductions between 30% and 80%. Currently, the National Guard is responsible for the WWTP but is seeking a new owner and operator.

Neponset River Site Proposed for Inclusion on National Priorities List
On November 21, R1 and MassDEP met with representatives from the City of Boston and Town of Milton to discuss MassDEP's request that EPA propose listing a portion of the Neponset River on the National Priorities List (NPL). R1 completed a Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection on the area of interest. Based on that review, the site is a candidate for inclusion on NPL. At the meeting, EPA provided an overview of the listing processes, gauged support from the communities, and discussed an outreach strategy.

Region 1 Works with Stakeholders on South Weymouth Naval Air Station Site in Massachusetts
R1, Navy, and MassDEP have met several times with the Town of Weymouth, Southfield Redevelopment Authority (SRA), and a developer to discuss a potential ice rink complex at the "Building 81" parcel. The parcel poses multiple challenges, including planned inclusion of dormitories that are inconsistent with the required cleanup to industrial/commercial use and numerous complications stemming from the Navy's ownership of the parcel. Although R1, MassDEP and Navy agree that this is not the right time to transfer this property, engagement with local elected officials continues.

Issues with Proposed Solar Project at Naval Station in Newport
On November 21, R1 held a call with Senator Reed's office to answer questions regarding the status of proposed solar development at the Naval Station in Newport, RI. Shortly before the solar field installation was to commence on these Navy-owned parcels, Navy notified EPA and Rhode Island of very large soil piles in the area deposited "temporarily" during projects dating to the mid-2000s that were never transported offsite for disposal. The soil likely contains CERCLA waste and asbestos. R1 is waiting for Navy to provide feedback on how it intends to address the piles. Sampling of the soil piles is to be conducted by the contractor for the solar developer soon.

Region 1 Provides Sustainable Materials Management Webinar
On November 20, R1 organized "Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) Web Academy Webinar: Recycling and Resource Recovery as a Tool for Regional Economic Development." Over 900 stakeholders registered to participate to discuss the economic benefits of the United States scrap recycling sector which contributes $110 billion to overall economic activity.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events
Nothing to report.

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Region 2

Hot Topics

TRANSCO Pipeline Dredging, NY Harbor

The original 30-day public comment period for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers proposed permit issuance to Williams Inc. for HARS placement of material to be dredged from its TRANSCO-ESNE pipeline project concluded on November 18. The Corps extended the public comment period an additional 60 days in response to various requests, including from Senators Booker and Menendez, Congressman Pallone, and several NGOs.

America Recycles Day Events in Puerto Rico

More than 300 students from public and private schools participated in two open houses, one at the Carolina Recycling Plant and the other at the Guaynabo Recycling Plant, as part of America Recycles Day. The open houses focused on educating students and the public in the best recycling strategies. Carolina Major Aponte Dalmau (who is a member of EPA's Local Government Committee) and Guaynabo Mayor Angel Pérez Otero signed the America Recycles Pledge. The events had the collaboration of several entities in the educational efforts, including DNER, Puerto Rico Recycling Partnership, Basura Cero, and GREEN-PR, among others.

Shinnecock Shellfish, Long Island, NY

At the November 19 annual Shinnecock Nation General Assistance Program meeting, Shavonne Smith of the Shinnecock Nation confirmed the Nation is interested in pursuing the seed oyster production side of the business at this time. R2 will set up a January meeting in Southampton with RA Lopez, Rob Piechota from the Small Business Administration, Ronni Rosen from the Small Business Development Center at SUNY Stony Brook, Shavonne Smith, and possibly others to begin the business plan development process.

New York State Sues Chemours, DuPont, 3M and Others Regarding PFAS and PFOA

On November 4, New York State Attorney General Tish James filed a complaint against Chemours, DuPont, 3M, and other companies regarding their manufacture and/or sale of aqueous film-forming foam and related products (AFFF) that were allegedly discharged into the environment at or from sites throughout New York. The complaint seeks: 1) compensatory damages for costs incurred and to be incurred by NYS in responding to PFOA and PFAS contamination caused by AFFF products; 2) natural resource damages; 3) the establishment of a monetary fund to pay for the State's reasonably expected future response costs and natural resource damages, and/or an order requiring defendants to perform the investigatory/remedial work; and, 4) punitive damages. The complaint alleges the manufacturers and DuPont and Chemours knew or should have known that in their intended and/or common use, AFFF products and PFOA/PFOS would likely injure or threaten public health and the environment. The complaint identifies 18 sites at which NYS has undertaken sampling and/or response actions related to PFOA/PFOS contamination and claims NYS may discover other sites that require remediation due to PFOA/PFAS contamination from AFFF products.

RA Lopez Travels Across Upstate New York

On November 18-19, RA Lopez participated in a panel discussion and an address to all conference attendees at the successful RISE Conference at SUNY Albany about university involvement in severe weather events such as the 2017 hurricanes in the Caribbean. On November 20, RA Lopez spoke at NYS Business Council's annual conference in Saratoga Springs, NY. On November 21, RA Lopez met with the Federal Highway Administration in Albany and students and faculty members at Houghton College in western New York.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Region 2 at New Jersey Water Works Annual Conference

On December 13, DRA Mugdan will give plenary remarks about water infrastructure and finance at the annual conference of the New Jersey Water Works Association in New Brunswick, NJ. Also attending the conference will be representatives from NJDEP and the City of Newark's Water Department.

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Region 3

Hot Topics

Region 3 Staff Present EJSCREEN Workshop to Faculty at Lincoln University
On November 14, EPA staff presented a workshop on EPA's EJSCREEN environmental justice screening and mapping tool to faculty at Lincoln University. The faculty in attendance represented diverse departments including biology, health sciences, political science, and sociology and criminal justice. The presentation provided an overview of the tool's key features, explained EJSCREEN data, and taught faculty how to generate reports and create maps. This workshop was the second in a series of educational sustainability tools workshops for faculty in support of the Memorandum of Understanding between R3 and Lincoln University.

DRA Recognizes Veterans Center in Concert with Veterans Day and America Recycles Day
The Coatesville Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) has been an exemplary performer in the EPA Federal Green Challenge (FGC). This facility serves thousands of veterans each year and operates its facility with environmental stewardship in mind. On November 12, DRA Esher presented the Coatesville VAMC with the 2019 FGC Mid-Atlantic Award for Waste Diversion. This facility diverted waste and put it back into productive reuse by recycling 1,450 tons of materials, sending 17.5 tons of wood waste to shred into an absorbent material that is processed at an environmental recovery center, and composting all grass clippings, leaves, and wood from downed limbs and trees.

Norwood Landfill Site Assessment Results Public Information Session
On November 21, EPA will hold a public information session to share the results of the Norwood Landfill Site Assessment. The current findings do not warrant further action at the site, but additional sampling will be conducted to address community concerns and ensure the investigation has examined all possible pathways. The meeting is expected to be heavily attended and will be facilitated by an EPA Conflict Prevention and Resolution Center contractor. The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), Drexel University, and the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH) will attend to answer cancer and health related questions.

Wolf Administration Under FBI Scrutiny Over Pipeline Permits
The FBI is investigating how Governor Tom Wolf's administration issued construction permits for the $5.1 billion Mariner East project, the latest official inquiry into the contentious cross-state pipeline project that carries highly volatile gas liquids to a Delaware River export terminal. The federal probe has been running for at least six months and started in response to inquiries launched in the last year by the district attorneys of Delaware and Chester Counties as well as state Attorney General Josh Shapiro. The investigation has focused on whether Wolf administration officials forced staff of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to ignore shortcomings and approve the pipeline's construction permits.

Shell Chemical Signs Consent Order and Agreement with PADEP
On November 11, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and Shell Chemical Appalachia LLC signed a consent order and agreement (COA) regarding the gas insulated switchgear at its petrochemical facility, currently under construction in Beaver County, PA. The facility includes electrical equipment (gas insulated switchgear and arresters) that allows electricity to flow to and from the electrical grid, as well as within the facility. This installed equipment uses sulfur hexafluoride (SF_6), a regulated greenhouse gas under the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permitting program, as an insulating medium. The SF_6 emissions were not properly identified in their initial preconstruction permit. The COA requires Shell, among other actions, to submit a permit application for the installation and temporary operation of all currently installed and planned switchgear at the facility, which would properly account for the SF_6 emissions.

DNREC Approves Resumption of Croda's Ethylene Oxide (EtO) Production
On November 13, Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) granted approval for Croda, Inc. to resume EtO production in its Atlas Point facility starting the week of November 18. DNREC's approval came after Croda fulfilled its obligations to improve safety at the facility required by

DNREC's accidental release program. In addition, Croda will install an emergency siren system to alert the public in the event of an accidental release. The notification system will be installed by January 31, 2020.

Region 3's Inaugural Environmental Tribal Summit a Success
On November 12 and 13, the inaugural R3 Environmental Tribal Summit convened at the Chickahominy Indians Eastern Division Center in Providence Forge, VA. The Summit was attended by RA Servidio and R3 staff, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), and representatives from six federally recognized tribes. The tribes gave presentations identifying their environmental concerns, priorities, and goals. EPA and DEQ showcased the work their organizations do and resources and assistance that can be provided to tribes.

Dover Air Force Base Outreach to Conduct PFAS Sampling
On November 13, R3, in coordination with the Air Force, followed up on letters and access agreements sent to local residents to obtain permission to sample their private drinking water wells to ensure the neighboring residential properties are not drinking water above PFAS Health Advisory Levels (HALs). Twelve homes and businesses were visited, and contact was made at all but two locations. The priority is to sample private wells in designated areas that are in the closest proximity of the wells that exceeded the HALs from the last round of sampling. Sampling will begin within two weeks. The next step in the investigation is sampling the new areas and continuing to expand the area if needed to determine the extent of the off-post PFAS contamination.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events
RA Servidio has the following event scheduled:

December 3-6 Executive Management Committee Meeting, Washington, DC

Region 4

Hot Topics

35th Avenue (Birmingham, AL)

EPA continues excavation of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) and lead-contaminated soil and restoration of residential properties in the Collegeville, Fairmont, and Harriman Park neighborhoods of North Birmingham. Contaminated soil was transported to Santek Environmental's Mt. Olive landfill this week. On November 6, ABC News 33/40 shot video for a follow-up story on the Site. Additionally, staff coordinated with R4's Outreach and External Engagement Office to respond to Senator Jones' November 13 letter to Administrator Wheeler.

Fairfax St. Wood Treaters (Jacksonville, FL)

EPA has completed the Remedial Action (RA) activities at Fairfax St. Wood Treaters Superfund Site. A Final Fact Sheet announcing the completion of the RA was mailed October 31. The Final Site Inspection and Public Availability session were held November 7. The targets, Remedial Action Completion, Site Construction Completion, and Final Close Out Report are all on target to be met this fiscal year. A Ready for Reuse Determination is expected to be completed by April 2020. A Stakeholder Situation Assessment is underway, and a Story Map is being completed for the site.

R4 **Hosts Chilean and Columbian Delegation (Georgia)**

The delegation visited R4 with the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA). SWANA facilitated the exchange of information and experiences on solid waste management practices between all three countries. Two RPCB RCRA Subtitle D staff were on hand to present information to the delegation and accompany the group on a tour of a landfill in Conyers, GA.

Pre-release Training for Mobile Smart Tools for Field Inspectors (Smart Tools)

OECA staff and R4 staff are in R4 to train RCRA inspectors on the use of Smart Tools. Besides R4 staff, 16 staff representing five state governments (GA, KY, MS, NC, and LA) are in attendance. Smart Tools modernizes and standardizes the digital collection of field observations and evidence.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Nothing to report.

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Region 5

Hot Topics

EPA assisting state agencies with pollution investigation at chrome plating facility in Howell, MI
EPA is providing technical assistance to Michigan EGLE, including assisting with ambient air sampling in the vicinity of the Diamond Chrome facility and conducting interior air sampling in nearby buildings as needed. The incident was triggered when Michigan EGLE air sampling earlier this month showed ambient TCE above the risk-screening level. Elevated levels of PCE were also detected at several locations. On November 18, the Livingston County Health Department ordered the facility to immediately stop the TCE emissions, and the company complied. On November 19, an R5 on-scene coordinator began conducting air sampling in the residential neighborhood near Diamond Chrome. The first round of sampling after the facility had stopped operating found no levels of concern. Michigan and local authorities are hosted a public meeting on November 21 considering the substantial media and resident interest. An EPA representative will attend.

RA Stepp Presents $3.6 Million Check for Great Lakes Ohio Grants
On November 19, following Ohio Industry Day at R5's Chicago offices, RA Stepp presented to Ohio EPA officials a $3.6 million check representing five Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grants awarded to four agencies. The grants awarded to Ohio EPA, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio Lake Erie Commission, and the Northeast Ohio Four County Regional Planning and Development Organization will be used to restore wetland habitats, control and prevent invasive species, and clean up and restore Ohio's Areas of Concern.

Permits for Controversial Michigan Deep Injection Wells to Change Hands
In September, the owner of a controversial deep injection well near Detroit, Environmental GeoTechnologies, asked EPA to transfer its fluid injection permits to a potential new owner, Republic Industrial and Energy Solutions. R5 is processing the change as a minor modification to the affected permits, a process that does not include public participation. The injection and associated surface facilities have been controversial in Romulus and other Detroit suburban communities for many years. The permits will expire in 2021. If the Region tentatively approves a request to renew the permits, then Romulus and other communities will have a fresh opportunity to comment and request a hearing. In the meantime, EPA will attend a public availability session on the facility the state of Michigan intends to host this fall.

EPA working with IEPA, Springfield, IL, Mayor's Office over Asbestos-contaminated Mill
EPA is working with Illinois EPA and the Springfield, IL, mayor's office to address contamination issues at the 18-acre former Pillsbury Mills plant. EPA emergency response completed a $3.2 million asbestos removal action at the mill in 2017. Site security and unknown subsurface contamination issues remain as the mill sits idle under private ownership. Above-ground remediation and demolition costs are estimated at $3.5 million. The site is not eligible for brownfields assistance while there are ongoing enforcement issues. EPA will work with IEPA to determine next steps via the pre-remedial Superfund program.

U.S. Steel Consent Decree
On November 20, DOJ filed a motion to enter a consent decree resolving claims related to an April 2017 spill into Lake Michigan at the U.S. Steel Portage, Ind., plant. Intervenor plaintiffs Surfrider Foundation and city of Chicago have been objecting to the proposed CD and noted the USS facility on October 30 reported a hexavalent chromium spill. The CD has not yet gone into effect because the settlement was conditioned on completion of the public comment process, including extensive comments from Chicago and Surfrider. As a result of public comment, the parties revised the CD to strengthen and broaden the public notification procedures in the event of a future spill and to include an Environmentally Beneficial Project, overseen by Indiana, requiring water quality testing and reporting by USS of pollutants at several shore locations along Lake Michigan in the vicinity of the Indiana Dunes National Park.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events
Nothing to report this week.

Region 6

Hot Topics

Arkansas Regional Haze FIP, Arkansas

The Eighth Circuit granted Arkansas' Motion to dismiss its petition for review regarding Arkansas' challenge of EPA's Regional Haze Federal Implementation Plan for Arkansas. All other cases challenging EPA's RH FIP for Arkansas are still pending, including phase II and phase III (Domtar) claims. The next status report is due to the court on January 6, 2020.

Mosaic Fertilizer Uncle Sam, Convent, Louisiana

On November 21, EPA, LDEQ, and Mosaic will discuss details of the recent Water Strategy Implementation Plan. EPA and LDEQ recently provided technical comments to Mosaic on its approach to calculating freeboard in the context of the freeboard requirements of the Consent Decree. Their approach is not allowed under the CD and is not meeting the requirements. Therefore, the plan did not meet EPA's expectations in these areas.

Enterprise Products Deepwater Port Brazoria County, Texas

On November 20, EPA approved a proposed crude oil export DWP permit located 35 miles off the coast of Brazoria County, TX. Design includes a platform with 95% vapor emission control from the submerged fill marine loading operation. Applications are complete and have drafted and routed the CAA PSD pre-construction and Title V operating permits for concurrence. Public notice for the proposed permits is targeted for November 20, with public comment lasting 30 days through December 20.

Smart Sectors Agriculture Event, Texas

R6 is hosting a Smart Sectors Program event on November 21 with external agriculture partners. RA McQueen will welcome 45 guests representing various agriculture commodity organizations, state departments of agriculture, state departments of conservation, state farm bureaus, and USDA. The program will facilitate better communication and gain input from this sector as to how EPA can better serve and partner with the sector.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Exceptional Events Demonstrations, 2017 for PM10, Dona Ana and Luna Counties, New Mexico

By November 25, EPA anticipates concurrence on the NMED requests that certain ambient air monitoring data (particulate matter (PM)) be excluded from regulatory actions. The final Exceptional Event Demonstration package for PM less than 10 microns in diameter was submitted on November 4.

Exceptional Events Demonstrations, 2018 for PM10, Bernalillo County, New Mexico

By December 7, EPA anticipates concurrence on the City of Albuquerque request that certain ambient air monitoring data (particulate matter (PM)) be excluded from regulatory actions. The final Exceptional Event Demonstration package for PM less than 10 microns in diameter was submitted on October 11.

December 3 Biennial Oil and Gas Environmental Conference, Dallas, TX
December 5 RA/DRA/CoS Meeting, Washington, D.C.
December 9 National Brownfields Conference, Los Angeles, CA
December 12 Texas Oil & Gas Association Meeting, Austin, TX

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Region 7

Hot Topics

West Lake Superfund Site Deliverables and Status Update

R7 continues to make progress on the West Lake Superfund Site cleanup plan. The West Lake team is reviewing and commenting on work plans and deliverables for Operable Units 1, 2, and 3. On November 15, EPA approved the OU-1 revised Remedial Design Workplan (RDWP) with modifications, as allowed under the RD Statement of Work. The final OU-1 RDWP will be submitted to EPA by November 25 with the specified modifications requested by the technical team. The approved RDWP and approval letter specifying modifications will then be made available to the public. On November 18, a meeting was held between representatives of the Potentially Responsible Parties, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, EPA, and EPA's geostatistical/modelling contractor. The meeting consisted primarily of technical discussions related to the geostatistical methodology and modeling activities that will be used to develop the next deliverable, the OU-1 Preliminary Excavation Plan, which is due to EPA in early January 2020. EPA also received the revised OU-3 RI/FS Workplan, Quality Assurance Project Plan, Field Sampling Plan, and Health and Safety Plan on November 12 in response to EPA's September 12 comment letter. These documents are under review by EPA and other stakeholders. In addition, a meeting was held between representatives of PRPs, MDNR, and EPA on November 5 to discuss the updated draft Remedial Design Work Plan for OU-2 (Inactive Sanitary Landfill) that was submitted to R7 on October 15. The updated OU-2 Remedial Design Work Plan is under review by EPA and other stakeholders.

Public Availability Session Held for Syntex Facility Superfund Site

R7 conducted a public availability session on November 18 to update the public on progress at the Superfund Site and to inform the public of the 2014 National Air Toxics Assessment results. R7 provided the public with an update on recent and upcoming groundwater characterization efforts by Syntex and EPA-lead well sampling. EPA is currently preparing to identify and sample private wells within two miles of Site and in a nearby disposal area associated with the Site. Similar to previous public availability sessions, the public expressed concern about water quality impacts to their private wells, primarily by 1,4-dioxane. EPA's goal is to complete the domestic well sampling by the end of the calendar year. Community members expressed their belief that there is a concentration of health impacts in the area due to contamination from the site. While ATSDR was unable to attend the meeting, they will coordinate with MDHSS to determine the most appropriate next steps in addressing the community's concerns. The Syntex Facility Superfund Site is located on the same property as a chemical manufacturer, BCP Ingredients, which repackages ethylene oxide. R7's Superfund program is currently investigating 1-4 dioxane groundwater contamination at the site, and the Air & Radiation Division is working with BCP Ingredients to control ethylene oxide emissions. BCP Ingredients is not currently a PRP for the Syntex Facility Superfund Site. R7 continues to engage the Verona mayor and city council on both issues.

Public Notice of Treatment as a State for WQS and Certification Program for Winnebago Tribe

Regarding EPA's review of the Winnebago Tribe's eligibility application for Clean Water Act Water Quality Standards and Certification Programs, RA Gulliford will send letters to the governors of Nebraska and Iowa, while a branch chief in the Water Division will transmit letters to local government entities. R7's Office of Public Affairs is coordination publication of notices in three newspapers and on R7's web site.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

National EPA 303(d) Program Conference

R7 is hosting a fly-in with Office of Water including branch chief Jim Havard and his team along with all regional 303(d) staff across the country from December 4-6 in Kansas City. The primary objective is instructing EPA Impaired Waters Listing and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) program staff on technical and policy tools they can use to meet Clean Water Act requirements. Approximately 20 regional staff (not including R7) will be at the meeting. There will also be an awards ceremony the evening of December 5. Jenny Kissel of the SAW Branch has been nominated for the Rising Star Award.

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Region 8

Hot Topics

Colorado Smelter Superfund Site, Pueblo, Colorado

Highlights of media interest/outreach during Community Advisory Group (CAG) week:

- On November 12, EPA Headquarters' contracted video crew interviewed the Site Toxicologist and Lead Remedial Project Manager (RPM) to highlight the Site's use of the Integrated Exposure Uptake Biokinetic (IEUBK) model.
- On November 13, the Colorado Smelter Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC), Site Toxicologist, and Lead RPM met with David Marston, Pueblo property owner (27 properties, seven of which are in the Site study area) and a regular contributor to the *High Country News.* He indicated an interest in general Site information and has had positive interactions with our sampling and cleanup contractors.
- On November 14, the Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment (PDPHE) alerted the EPA to inaccurate and inflammatory information in the *Bitterroot Magazine* after an EPA RPM interview in Pueblo. EPA and PDHE contacted the *Bitterroot Magazine* Editor and expressed appreciation for the reporter's interest in the Site, but voiced concerns regarding the inaccuracies. The photojournalist's link to her Colorado Smelter story and pictures were removed from her blog on November 15. The editor placed a one-week hold on the article.

Kootenai Watershed Public Meetings and Lake Koocanusa Working Group Meetings

On November 12-14, EPA participated in Kootenai Watershed public meetings and Lake Koocanusa Monitoring and Research Working Group Meetings in Whitefish, Eureka, and Libby, MT. EPA spoke about the mining-related pollution in the Kootenai River documented by our recent study, the need for better coordination on Kootenai watershed monitoring, and the potential role the IJC might play in helping address issues in the watershed. The public and specific stakeholders questioned the adequacy of BC's regulation of existing, approved and proposed mining activities in the Elk River and expressed concern about selenium and nitrate impacts in the US. Concentrations of selenium and nitrates entering Lake Koocanusa continue to trend upward. Teck indicated it was shifting its emphasis toward a largely unproven in-situ treatment technology, saturated rock fill, rather than active water treatment. U.S. tribes emphasized their repeated requests for increased federal involvement, IJC involvement, and a direct role in watershed coordination processes. Montana and BC shared publicly that their proposed MOU would not be signed and mentioned their exchange of letters of commitment. Montana shared an updated timeline showing a decision on criteria by summer 2020 and rulemaking proceeding to adoption by December 2020.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Nothing to report.

Region 9

Hot Topics

Clean Water Act Orders

R9 signed two administrative orders on consent to address stormwater violations in California: one with a facility discharging industrial stormwater into the City of Stockton's storm sewer system, which flows into the San Joaquin River, and the other with a facility discharging into Newport Bay, which is listed as "impaired" for copper. The AOCs require clean-up of the discharges and compliance with applicable permits.

Economic Opportunity Zones

Senior Advisor Chris Hage participated in roundtable meetings hosted by White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council Executive Director Scott Turner. Along with representatives from HHS, HUD, and USDA, and the Eastern District U.S. Attorney, Chris met with the Mayor of Sacramento, congressional staff members, local officials, community revitalization leaders, and local developers to discuss the purpose of Economic Opportunity Zones and current OZ projects. Director Turner emphasized the need to encourage more private enterprise use of the OZ tax mechanisms to encourage revitalization in the city and region. R9 federal officials discussed their respective roles relating to brownfields, children's health, environmental justice, and the reuse of former federal facilities and contaminated sites.

Partnership With HIS

R9 hosted leadership from the Indian Health Service's Arizona office to discuss collaboration between our agencies, including drinking water and wastewater infrastructure projects, technical assistance, and sanitary surveys. We focused on how we will work together to help tribes with significantly deficient water systems.

CalEPA U.S.-Mexico Border Council

Our border team participated in CalEPA's Border Relations Council meeting, where we discussed opportunities for improving air quality in the Imperial Valley and water quality in the New River, provided updates on Border 2020, and met with key U.S. and Mexico state and federal partners.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Clean Air Act SIP Actions

R9 intends to take the following actions on State Implementation Plans within the next two weeks: proposed approval and conditional approval of Ventura County, CA's attainment plan for the 2008 ozone standard; proposed approval of several Maricopa County (AZ) rules and proposed disapproval of another, all associated with its reasonable available control technology (RACT) SIP submittal; and final approval and conditional approval of Imperial County's RACT SIP for the 2008 ozone standard.

California PFAS Seminar

On December 4-5, R9 will participate in the California Water Board's technical meeting on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), to purpose of which is to share information about the state of knowledge about the chemicals and technical advances in remediating or treating them. Region 9's science liaison and an ORD scientist will present information about data analysis and current research in source and treated drinking water, respectively.

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Region 10

Hot Topics
None to report this week.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events
NPDES General Permit for Offshore Seafood Processors in Alaska
R10 has received a total of 71 Notices of Intent (NOIs) from fishing vessel operators seeking coverage under the reissued NPDES General Permit for Offshore Seafood Processors in Alaska, which became effective July 17. All NOIs have been reviewed and approved, and authorization letters have been mailed to permittees. Coverage under the permit is effective from the date permittees receive written authorization from the EPA. The permit authorizes discharges of seafood processing wastes from vessels that discharge at least three nautical miles or more from the Alaskan shoreline. Fishing activities primarily occur in the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands, where over two million metric tons of groundfish (e.g., Pacific cod, pollock) may be harvested annually in accordance with Fishery Management Plans.

Hells Canyon/Snake River Site Specific Criteria for Temperature (ID)
R10 anticipates approving Idaho's revised site-specific criteria (SSC) for temperature to protect fall-run Chinook salmon spawning in the Hells Canyon reach of the Snake River. The SSC was submitted to EPA in 2012. In 2018, a mandatory duty lawsuit was filed by the Idaho Power Company, later joined by a notice of intent to sue by the state of Idaho, asserting that EPA had not met is statutory timeframe to take action on the SSC. On September 25, the National Marine Fisheries Service concluded formal ESA consultation with EPA by issuing a biological opinion with a finding that while the SSC is likely to adversely affect fall-run Chinook, it will not jeopardize the species. EPA is currently scheduled to file a notice with the court on November 25. Following that, Idaho Power Company will file a motion to dismiss its complaint.

US Navy Arctic Ice Camp NPDES Permit Modification (AK)
R10 published a draft NPDES permit modification for the U.S. Navy Arctic Ice Camp for public review from October 10 to November 13. The modification would expand the area where the potential wastewater discharges may occur and will allow the Navy flexibility to locate the camp on more stable multiyear ice and account for increased ice movement during the six-week operational period in the Beaufort Sea, Alaska. R10 did not receive comments on the proposed modification. We are completing the final permit package, with a goal of issuing the permit modification during the week of November 25.

Region 10 News Release: Roundup of Recent Enforcement Cases
Consistent with our practice to publicize all concluded enforcement cases, during the week of November 25 R10 will issue a news release summarizing 16 concluded enforcement actions under a range of statutes and EPA programs. These cases have not otherwise been publicized with stand-alone news releases. For each case, we will provide a link to the settlement document. The round up news release is being done in coordination with OECA and OPA.

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Office of Air and Radiation

Hot Topics

Packages for Signature

- Federal Implementation Plan for Oil and Natural Gas Sources; Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation in Utah (Region 8 Proposed Rule)
- Revision to Method 23 (Proposed Rule)
- Revisions to the Petition Provisions of the Title V Permitting Program (Final Rule)
- Revisions to Test Methods and Performance Specifications for Air Emission Sources (Proposed Rule)
- Iowa Revisions to the Regional Haze Plan (Final Rule)

Packages at OMB for Review

- Vehicle Test Procedure Adjustments for Tier 3 Test Fuel (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE February 25, 2019)
- Renewable Fuel Standard Program: Modification of Statutory Volume Targets / RFS Reset (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE May 20, 2019)
- Light Duty Greenhouse Gas Program Technical Amendments (Final Rule: RECEIVED DATE August 19, 2019)
- MATS RTR & Cost Review (Final Rule: RECEIVED DATE October 4, 2019)
- Strat Ozone - Section 608 Refrigerant Management – Revisions (Final Rule: RECEIVED DATE October 4, 2019)
- NSR and Title V Adjacency Determinations (Guidance: RECEIVED DATE October 9, 2019)
- Ethylene Oxide Sterilizers (ANPRM: RECEIVED DATE October 28, 2019)

Packages Heading to OMB Soon

- Residential Woodheaters NSPS Amendments (Final Rule)
- Boiler MACT (Proposed Rule)
- MATS Coal Refuse-Fired Units Review (Final Rule)

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Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

Hot Topics

Signed, Publication Pending

- Proposed Rule: Community Right-to-Know; Corrections to Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Reporting Requirements; housekeeping rule updates provisions and adds clarity for submitters

Coming Soon for Signature

- Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM): Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), Addition to TRI List of Chemicals

At OMB for Review

- Supplemental NPRM: Long-Chain Perfluoroalkyl Carboxylate (LCPFAC) SNUR

Going Soon to OMB for Review

- Final Rule: Chemical Data Reporting (CDR) Rule Revisions; updates to align with new TSCA, improve data collected, and reduce burden
- Proposed Rule: Plant-Incorporated Protectants (PIP); to streamline review of certain plants modified in limited ways to carry additional pesticidal properties.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Revised Sodium Cyanide (M-44) Interim Decision

In early December, OPP will release its revised interim decision on M-44, which is registered by USDA and five state departments of agriculture. It is manufactured as an encapsulated single-dose product inserted into a spring-loaded ejector device to control predatory animals. OPP found no human health risks when used according to the label. All currently registered products require specific applicator training and certification requirements, subject to use restrictions.

New Products to Fight Dangerous Fungal Infections

In early December, EPA will announce the availability of the first five products registered for use against the emerging fungal pathogen Candida auris (C. auris), which the CDC in November described as an urgent threat. C. auris often causes serious and sometimes fatal fungal infections, especially in hospitalized patients. Because it can be resistant to antifungal drugs, healthcare providers eagerly anticipate availability of the products.

Full State FIFRA Issues Research and Evaluation Group (SFIREG) Meeting December 9

OPP will host the SFIREG at Potomac Yard to discuss Dicamba, Certification of Pesticide Applicators Rule, Pesticide Use on Hemp, and Pesticide Use on Cannabis; open to press, industry, and the general public.

Manufacturer Requested Risk Evaluations (MRREs)

Earlier this year, EPA received the first two manufacturer requests to conduct risk evaluations, of diisodecyl phthalate (DIDP) and diisononyl phthalate (DINP), from the American Chemistry Council. They are phthalates, which are commonly used as plasticizers in plastics and plastic coating to increase flexibility. On December 2, OCSPP will grant the two MRREs, and if the requests are not withdrawn within 30 days, will start the risk evaluation process in the same manner as for other risk evaluations conducted under TSCA § 6(b)(4)(A).

ANPRM Requesting Information on PFAS for Potential Inclusion into TRI

OCSPP will soon announce the opening of a 60-day public comment period to help EPA decide whether to add certain PFAS to the TRI toxic chemical list. EPA will use public comment and information it receives in response to the ANPRM to help determine whether data and information are available to fulfill the TRI chemical listing criteria, and to help evaluate the extent and usefulness of the data that would be gathered under TRI. This action supports the Agency's February PFAS Action Plan.

Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Hot Topics

FY 2019 Agency Financial Report

The FY 2019 Agency Financial Report was issued on November 19. EPA received its 20th consecutive clean audit opinion, an accomplishment that few other agencies have achieved, reflecting the Agency's continued commitment to high financial management standards and resource stewardship.

Continuing Resolution

The House of Representatives and Senate passed a second Continuing Resolution through December 20. The President is expected to sign the bill before the current CR expires at midnight on November 21. Currently, we do not anticipate a lapse of appropriations.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Workload Analysis White Paper

OCFO has submitted a meeting request to brief the Assistant Deputy Administrator on the proposed approach for the Workload Analysis White Paper. The Assistant DA's input is needed soon, as this is a topic for the Executive Management Council scheduled the first week of December.

FY 2021 OMB Passback

OMB indicated that the FY 2021 OMB Passback will likely arrive the week of December 3. EPA will have 72 hours to appeal via a letter signed by the Administrator. To discuss OMB's proposed resource policy changes and appeal options, OCFO scheduled a meeting with the Associate Deputy Administrator on December 4 and is confirming a meeting with the Administrator for December 5.

E-Enterprise Bulletin

OCFO is coordinating with OPA on the next E-Enterprise Bulletin release slated for December 6. The topics will relate to projects and activities focused on during the EELC November meeting held in Washington, DC.

GAO and OIG Audits and Activities

No new significant GAO or OIG agency audits or activities to report since last week.

Other

Learning Agenda

On November 15, OCFO submitted nominations for proposed priority learning areas from the Chief Data Officer, OCI, OLEM, and OCFO to the Assistant DA as requested on November 6 (note: Statistical Officer provided nominations separately). On November 22, OCFO also will provide to the Assistant DA a draft agency FY 2020 Evidence Act implementation schedule for key deliverables: Interim Learning Agenda, Draft FY 2022 Evaluation Plan, and Interim Capacity Assessment. OCFO will support the Assistant DA in preparing for the December 3-4 Executive Management Council session to introduce Evidence Act implementation and get career senior leader input on priority learning areas to define the scope for developing EPA's Interim Learning Agenda.

FY 2018-2019 Agency Priority Goals

OCFO is working with NPMs to address OMB comments on FY 2019 Q4 Action Plan Updates for the FY 2018-2019 Agency Priority Goals. We will provide final Action Plans to OMB by November 29 deadline. OMB expects to post federal agency APG FY 2019 Q4 results on Performance.gov by December 19. EPA met targets for three of the six FY 2018-2019 APGs (water infrastructure, permitting, NPDES enforcement).

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Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations

Hot Topics
Nothing to report this week.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events
December 3-4 Executive Management Council Meeting, WJC-E 1117, 8:00-4:15 both days.

December 6 LGAC Charter renewal to be filed with Congress

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Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

Hot Topics

EPA, DOE, and ECOS Dialogue on Federal Facilities

On November 15, OECA and OLEM's federal facilities offices met with representatives from the Department of Energy and the Environmental Council of States for their quarterly Steering Committee meeting and EPA, DOE, and ECOS Dialogue. The goal of the Dialogue is to strengthen relationships and make headway on difficult policy issues at DOE Superfund cleanup sites.

Kansas Company Agrees to Pay $1 Million For Violating Clean Air Act

On November 18, Midwest Grain Products, Inc. pleaded guilty in the District of Kansas to negligently violating the Clean Air Act and is expected to pay a $1 million fine. The company admitted that on October 21, 2016, a greenish-yellow chlorine gas cloud formed when 4,000 gallons of sulfuric acid were mistakenly combined with 5,800 gallons of sodium hypochlorite. The Atchison County Department of Emergency Management ordered community members to shelter in place and to evacuate in some areas. Approximately 140 individuals including members of the public, first responders, employees of Midwest Grain Products, Inc., and Harcros Chemicals sought medical attention.

House Painting Company Pleads Guilty to Federal Charges Related to Illegal Removal of Lead Paint

On Tuesday, November 19, Collegiate Entrepreneurs, Inc. pleaded guilty in the District of Connecticut to violating the Toxic Substances Control Act and subsequently falsifying records. The company provides house-painting services in Connecticut and other New England states. Some of the houses painted by Collegiate Entrepreneurs in 2015 contained lead-based paint. For those jobs, the company was subject to the lead-based paint requirements of the Toxic Substances Control Act and the Environmental Protection Agency's Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) Rule. Collegiate Entrepreneurs knowingly failed to ensure compliance with the RRP Rule work practice standards by its renovators during the 2015 painting season. In addition, Collegiate Entrepreneurs forged the signatures of certified renovators and produced records falsely representing that jobs were performed in compliance with the RRP Rule.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Corporate Environmental Enforcement Council Membership Meeting

On December 4, OECA AA Susan Bodine will speak on EPA's enforcement and compliance priorities at the Corporate Environmental Enforcement Council Membership Meeting in Washington, DC.

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Office of General Counsel

Hot Topics

***Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization v. Wheeler*, No. 19-cv-00871-EMC (N.D. Cal. Nov. 11, 2019)**
New Decision: The court denied EPA's partial motion to dismiss Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization's (ADAO) claim under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA). ADAO's petition included claims for relief under two statutes: (1) TSCA Section 21, which provides a right to judicial review following EPA's denial of a petition to initiate rulemaking; and (2) Section 706 of the APA. In this suit, ADAO filed a Section 21 petition with EPA requesting that it initiate rulemaking under TSCA to expand the Chemical Data Reporting requirements to asbestos. (Section 21 contains a citizen-petition process under which the public can seek to compel EPA to engage its rulemaking authority.) ADAO initiated this action after EPA denied ADAO's petition. The court denied EPA's motion to dismiss ADAO's APA claim and also ruled that ADAO's de novo Section 21 claim was not properly before the court and dismissed it with prejudice.

***Safer Chemicals Healthy Families et al. v. EPA*, Nos. 17-72260 et al. (9th Cir. Nov. 14, 2019)**
New Decision: The court reviewed two TSCA rules establishing the procedures by which EPA would prioritize chemicals for future risk evaluation and conduct risk evaluations to determine whether a chemical substance presents an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment. Petitioners argued that TSCA requires EPA to evaluate risks associated with a chemical's uses collectively before determining that the chemical is safe; that EPA must consider all of a chemical's conditions of use in that evaluation; and that, when considering conditions of use, EPA must evaluate past disposals of all chemicals and the use and disposal of chemicals not currently manufactured or distributed for that use. The panel dismissed the first claim and part of the second claim; denied the remainder of the second claim; and granted Petitioners' third claim. The panel also granted in full EPA's motion for voluntary remand of several information-gathering provisions of the Rules and ruled in EPA's favor on the merits of the remaining challenges to information-gathering provisions.

***South Coast Air Quality Managment District et al v. EPA*, No. 19-1241 (D.C. Cir. filed Nov. 15, 2019)**
New Litigation: The South Coast, Bay Area and Sacramento Air Quality Management Districts filed petitions for review in the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals challenging decisions by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and EPA issued on September 27, 2019, titled "The Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles Rule Part One: One National Program." (84 Fed. Reg. 51, 310). The EPA portion of the decision withdrew the January 9, 2012 grant of a waiver of preemption for California's Advanced Clean Car Waiver (78 Fed. Reg. 2112). The petitions also include protective filings to actions in the District Court for the District of Columbia challenging NHTSA's portion of the SAFE decision that was grounded on preemption under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975. Additional petitions are anticipated given that the deadline to file judicial petitions challenging the SAFE decision is November 26, 2019.

***NRDC v. EPA et. al.*, No. 1:19-cv-10555 (S.D.N.Y. filed Nov. 18, 2019)**
New FOIA Litigation: Natural Resources Defense Council filed a FOIA lawsuit against EPA and the Department of Justice involving two identical FOIA requests submitted to each agency seeking documents, dating from May 1, 2019 to present, reflecting communications between EPA and any third party regarding three particular lawsuits.

Our Children's Earth Foundation
New NOI: By letter dated November 6, 2019, the Our Children's Earth Foundation submitted a notice of intent to sue (NOI) under the Clean Air Act. The NOI alleges that EPA failed to fulfill its mandatory duty to take final action in a timely manner on numerous SIP revisions submitted by the State of California. It lists 17 specific submissions, most of which are SIPs for the ozone or particulate matter standards.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events
Nothing to report this week.

Office of International and Tribal Affairs

Hot Topics

Canada's New Cabinet

Prime Minister Trudeau announced his new Cabinet on November 21, which includes major changes in the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Jonathan Wilkinson was appointed the new Minister of ECCC. Wilkinson is a member of the Canadian Parliament representing North Vancouver and previously served as the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard. Catherine McKenna will become Minister of Infrastructure and Communities. Chrystia Freeland becomes Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, while Francois-Philippe Champagne will become Minister of Foreign Affairs. Climate change and USMCA remain top priorities for the new government.

Senior Arctic Officials Meeting

As Chair of the Arctic Contaminants Action Program, OITA gave a presentation on at the Senior Arctic Officials (SAO) meeting in Iceland. Under the theme of "Peoples and Communities of the Arctic," OITA shared updates and status on four projects operating under the Indigenous Peoples' Contaminants Action Program. Two of the projects are led by EPA (OITA and R10) and highlight our work with tribal partners - the *Circumpolar Local Environmental Observer (CLEO) Network* and *Solid Waste Management in Remote Arctic Communities*. This was the first SAO Plenary of the Icelandic Chairmanship, which will run through May 2021.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

November 24-29	EPA (OITA, OAR, OCSPP, OGC) will attend the 3rd Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury in Geneva, Switzerland.
November 26-28	EPA (OITA) will attend the Asian Development Bank (ADB)-Organization of Economic Cooperative and Development (OECD) Water Finance Roundtable for the Asia Region in Manila, Philippines.

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Office of the Land and Emergency Management

Hot Topics

Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR)

- CCR Phase 2 proposed rule (package 1): On October 15, the public comment period ended. OLEM is reviewing the comments.
- CCR permitting NPRM (package 3): We are following up on comments received from OMB and interagency review. The 90-day OMB review ends on December 5.
- CCR litigation packages (package 2, parts A and B): On November 4, the Administrator signed the Part A package; we anticipate FR publication soon, with a 60-day public comment period. Part B is with OP for OMB review.
- OLEM's Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery is working on the final decision package for the Georgia CCR permitting program. We anticipate it coming to the OLEM IO very soon for concurrence.

Clean Air Act 112(r) Risk Management Program (RMP)

The Administrator signed the final rule on November 20.

Ongoing Major Superfund NPL Sites

We are working with R1 on the Housatonic River; R2 on Woodbrook Road and Rolling Knolls; R4 on Oak Ridge and Birmingham 35th Ave.; R8 on Anaconda Smelter; and R10 on Portland Harbor and Quendall Terminal.

CERCLA 108(b) Financial Assurance, Next Three Sectors

On November 4, the packages for both Industry 2 (Petroleum and Coal) and Industry 3 (Chemical Manufacturing) began OMB review. OLEM's integrated response to interagency comments was passed back to OMB on November 20. There is a court-ordered deadline of December 4 for the Industry 2 proposed rule package to be signed.

Aerosol Cans Universal Waste Final Rule

We anticipate publication of this in the FR soon.

PFAS

- PFOA and PFOS contaminated groundwater guidance. OLEM is completing an options selection memorandum for the Administrator that should allow for the selected option approach to be incorporated into the guidance that we plan to send to OMB in December.
- Designation of PFOA/PFOS as CERCLA Hazardous Substances NPRM. The rule package was submitted to the Office of Policy on September 20 for OMB review.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Superfund and RCRA Division Director Meetings

OLEM Senior Leadership are participating in these separate meetings taking place in Potomac Yards on November 19-21.

OLEM Monthly Business Review

This is taking place on November 21.

COOP

On December 6, OLEM Senior Leadership will be at Mount Weather for orientation of the new building and an ERG briefing.

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Office of Mission Support

Hot Topics

FOIAonline Grows Partnership

EPA continues to expand the partnerships for the FOIAonline shared service offering through close coordination with the Department of Interior. A November 20 meeting with EPA CIO Vaughn Noga and DOI Associate CIO Tim Wight laid out a plan to have DOI join the FOIAonline partnership within the next six to eight months. EPA built the FOIAonline system, launched on October 1, 2012, to streamline the process to receive, process and respond to Freedom of Information Act requests from the public. By offering this as a shared service, the cost-effective solution has grown from an initial partnership of five agencies to its current level of 19. EPA continues to improve the system and expand the number of partners, creating many benefits across the federal government in cost sharing, promoting consistency, and demonstrating transparency in FOIA request responses.

2020 Sustainability Report and Implementation Plan

The Office of Federal Sustainability, Council on Environmental Quality, released all federal agencies 2019 Sustainability Report and Implementation Plan on November 1. The SRIP provides detailed information on EPA's strategies and planned actions to meet its 2019/2020 sustainability goals. The agency continues to make progress in the core SRIP areas of Performance Contracting, Waste Management and Diversion, and Transportation/Fleet Management. In FY19, EPA awarded an Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) at Research Triangle Park, North Carolina and published a Notice Opportunity for a new ESPC at Ann Arbor, MI. Additionally, EPA plans to address agency energy efficiency by 1) continuous consolidation of operations/facilities to reduce the agency footprint and utility use; 2) conduct facility master planning to identify cost-effective infrastructure and systems improvements; and 3) consider additional ESPC opportunities to invest in energy projects.

New SES Orientation

On November 20, the Office of Mission Support held its new career SES onboarding orientation in conjunction with OPM's SES Orientation. The full day session featured an array of agency panelists and presenters on critical topics such as communications, ethics, the executive resources pay for performance program and labor and employee relations. Associate Deputy Administrator Benevento provided opening remarks.

Human Resources Summit

On November 20, the Office of Mission Support held its Human Resources Summit. Participants included OMS senior leadership, and management from the Office of Human Resources and the Cincinnati and Research Triangle Park Human Resources Shared Service Centers. The full day meeting included topics such as the Green Intern Program, HR data systems, hiring plans, customer service, and much more.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Performance Review Board Pending

The agency's annual Performance Review Board meeting is tentatively scheduled to meet on December 5. The PRB is comprised of members representing national programs, regions and SL/ST. Members serve three-year terms. The PRB reviews all agency SES and SL/ST appraisals to ensure proposed ratings meet all system requirements and certification standards. The PRB's recommendations and findings are forwarded to the Administrator for final determination and approval of pay for performance cycle results.

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Office of Policy

Hot Topics

Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting: On November 23, National Center for Environmental Economics staff will present at the Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting in Fort Lauderdale, FL, on estimating economic benefits.

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Meeting: On November 26 and 27, National Center for Environmental Economics Director Al McGartland will be in Paris to attend the OECD meeting on the intersection of environmental policies and economic growth.

Active Interagency Reviews from OMB	
Subject	**OMB Due Date**
CEQ NPRM (Pass-back): Regulations Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act	11/22/2019
DOC/NOAA FRM: Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Geophysical Surveys Related to Oil and Gas Activities in the Gulf of Mexico	11/25/2019
DoD/ACE NPRM (Pass-back): Natural Disaster Procedures: Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Activities of the Corps of Engineers	N/A

Documents Sent to the OFR from November 14 - 21, 2019		
FRL #	**Title**	**Date Sent to FR**
10002-58-OAR	Proposed Baseline Approval of the Remote-Handled Transuranic Waste Characterization Program Implemented at the Department of Energy's Sandia National Laboratories	11-21-2019
9996-61-OCSPP	Cyflumetofen; Pesticide Tolerance	11-20-2019
10000-64-OCSPP	Clothianidin; Pesticide Tolerances	11-20-2019
10002-41-OMS	NESHAP for Petroleum Refineries: Catalytic Cracking Units, Catalytic Reforming Units, and Sulfur Recovery Units (Renewal)/ICR 1844.11	11-20-2019
10002-50-OMS	NSPS for Magnetic Tape Coating Facilities (Renewal)/ICR 1135.13	11-20-2019
10002-54-Region 4	Air Plan Approval; AL and SC: Infrastructure Requirements for the 2015 8-hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard	11-20-2019
10002-53-Region 4	Air Plan Approval; Alabama: Revisions to Cross-State Air Pollution Rule	11-20-2019
10002-59-Region 2	Approval of Air Quality Implementation Plans; New Jersey; Gasoline Vapor Recovery Requirements	11-20-2019
9995-92-OCSPP	Community Right-to-Know; Corrections to Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Reporting Requirements	11-19-2019
10000-51-Region 8	North Dakota: Codification and Incorporation by Reference of Approved State Underground Storage Tank Program	11-19-2019
10002-47-OMS	NSPS for Secondary Brass and Bronze Production, Primary Copper Smelters, Primary Zinc Smelters, Primary Lead Smelters, Primary Aluminum Reduction Plants, and Ferroalloy Production Facilities (Renewal)/ICR 1604.12	11-19-2019
10002-51-OAR	Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Determination 35 for Significant New Alternatives Policy Program	11-19-2019
10000-11-OMS	Federal Implementation Plan for Oil and Natural Gas Well Production Facilities, Fort Berthold Indian Reservation (Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation), North Dakota (Renewal)/ICR 2478.03	11-18-2019
10002-46-Region 4	Air Plan Approval; GA; Miscellaneous Revisions	11-18-2019
10002-48-Region 4	Air Plan Approval and Air Quality Designation; FL; Re-designation of the Duval County Ozone Unclassifiable Area	11-18-2019

10002-35-Region 7	Air Plan Approval; Iowa; Linn County; State Implementation Plan	11-18-2019
10002-45-Region 4	Air Plan Approval; Tennessee; Open Burning Revision for Chattanooga	11-18-2019
9999-80-Region 3	Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; West Virginia; Control of Emissions from Existing Municipal Solid Waste Landfills	11-15-2019
10001-76-OCSPP	Pesticide Registration Review; Pesticide Dockets Opened for Review and Comment; Notice of Availability	11-15-2019
10002-09-OCSPP	New Chemicals Program Implementation Under the Amended Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA); Notice of Public Meeting	11-15-2019
10002-23-Region 6	Underground Injection Control Program; Hazardous Waste Injection Restrictions; Petition for Exemption Reissuance - Class I Hazardous Waste Injection; ExxonMobil Corporation Pasadena, Texas Facility	11-15-2019
10002-15-Region 8	Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Utah; Salt Lake County, Utah County, and Ogden City PM10 Re-designation to Attainment, Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes and State Implementation Plan Revisions	11-15-2019
10002-38-Region 3	Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; District of Columbia; Negative Declaration for the Oil and Gas Control Techniques Guideline	11-15-2019
10002-39-Region 3	Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; West Virginia; 2019 Amendments to West Virginia's Ambient Air Quality Standards	11-15-2019
10002-13-Region 9	Air Plan Approval; Arizona; Maricopa Air Quality Department	11-14-2019
10002-33-OW	Notice of public teleconferences	11-14-2019
10002-34-OW	Notice of request for nominations of candidates to the Environmental Financial Advisory Board	11-14-2019
10002-36-OW	Water Quality Trading under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program; Extension of comment period	11-14-2019

Office of Research and Development

Hot Topics

Leadership Workshop and Training

ORD management just returned from a very successful leadership workshop and training this week. We dedicated time to building an empowered and engaged leadership team through the development of networked leadership teams and communities of practice. We appreciated Doug Benevento, Mara Kamen and Becky Weber from EPA participating and engaging our leaders.

PFAS RFA

On November 22, EPA will announce a new funding opportunity titled: *National Priorities: Research on PFAS Impacts on Rural Communities and Agricultural Operations.* RA Ken McQueen will announce the opportunity at the 2019 Annual Meeting of the New Mexico Farm & Livestock Bureau in New Mexico.

EPA Researchers Provide New Data on PFAS in Florida Landfills During OLEM Internal Webinar

PFAS in landfills is a concern to communities across the country. On November 21, ORD presented preliminary findings from a recent study to evaluate PFAS concentrations in municipal solid waste landfills, ash monofills, and construction and demolition debris landfills in Florida to the OLEM PFAS team. This presentation includes some of the first-of-its-kind data on the fate and transport of selected PFAS compounds in landfills. ORD and OLEM will also discuss the implications of the results on the management of these compounds.

Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science

This week, ORD will participate in three E.O. 12866 meetings. Under E.O. 12866, OMB's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs meets with any interested party to discuss issues on a rule under review. EPA attends the meetings to hear stakeholders' comments.

Monitoring Surface Water for *E. coli* O157 in a New Mexico Tribal Region

ORD provided technical support and guidance to R6 to help the New Mexico tribe Pueblo of Tesuque monitor surface water for *E. coli* O157. ORD provided information on analytical methods and worked with colleagues from the CDC and Association of Public Health Laboratory (APHL) for laboratory assistance with surface water sample analysis.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

IRIS Public Science Meeting, December 5

Registration is currently open for this meeting, which provides an opportunity for the scientific community and public to participate in discussions on the IRIS Assessment Plan for Inorganic Mercury Salts. The IRIS assessment plan was released on October 8 for public comment.

Federal Lead Action Plan: Interagency Lead Research Workshop, December 4-5

The Interagency Lead Research Workshop will bring together federal policy makers, regulators, and scientific staff from agencies participating in the President's Task Force on Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Children. The goals of the workshop are to share progress to date, identify research gaps and opportunities, and prioritize next steps to leverage, coordinate, and further implement the Goal 4 actions in the *Federal Lead Action Plan*.

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Office of Water

Hot Topics

Draft FR Notice: Preliminary Regulatory Determinations for Fourth Drinking Water CCL

As early as this week, the Office of Water anticipates sending to the Office of Policy for approval and transmission to the Office of Management and Budget for review, a draft *Federal Register* notice announcing and requesting comment on the EPA's preliminary determinations to regulate two contaminants (i.e., perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)) with a national primary drinking water regulation (NPDWR) and to not regulate six other contaminants (i.e., 1,1-dichloroethane, acetochlor, methyl bromide (bromomethane), metolachlor, nitrobenzene, and RDX) with an NPDWR.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Nothing to report.

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