Region 1

Hot Topics

Region 1 Hosts OITA/Taiwan Delegation

On June 13-14, Region 1 staff hosted the Office of International and Tribal Affairs (OITA) and four Taiwanese engineers as part of a study tour focused on air and water enforcement. The group toured the Deer Island Wastewater Treatment Facility with an emphasis on the facility's continuous emissions monitoring system. The group also met with Regional staff to discuss the Clean Air Markets Division enforcement of air emissions standards, continuous emissions monitoring systems operations and data usage, and VOC/HAP leak detection and monitoring.

Merrimack River Watershed Story Map Webinars Begin

On June 17, 34 people attended the first of two webinars, hosted by Region 1, to introduce the Merrimack River Watershed Story Map. The Story Map highlights important environmental, public health, flood risk, and land development information. These webinars will support community engagement around the issuance of draft NPDES permits in the Massachusetts City of Lowell, Town of Haverhill, and the Great Lawrence Sanitary District.

Region 1 Attends Joint US/Canadian meeting on Lake Champlain

On June 13, Regional staff attended a joint US/Canadian advisory group meeting in Grand Isle, VT. The meeting was convened to review draft recommendations on phosphorus reduction efforts in Lake Champlain, and merge US and Canadian recommendations for a publication by the International Joint Commission in early 2020.

OIG De-Briefs Region 1 on Coakley Landfill Risk Communication Listening Session

On June 18, Region 1 received a de-brief from the Office of Inspector General (OIG) on their Coakley Landfill community listening session. OIG detailed concerns raised by the New Hampshire community and provided follow-up questions to further clarify those concerns. OIG and the Region 1 case team have scheduled a follow-up conference call on June 27 to address these clarifying questions.

Consent Decree Entry Resolves Cost Recovery Litigation at Grant Street Fire Site in Bridgeport, CT

On June 10, the federal district court in Connecticut entered a consent decree in which defendants have agreed to pay $1.75 million to resolve claims for cost recovery under CERCLA, violations of the Federal Debt Collection Procedures Act, and the Federal Priority Statute related to the Grant Street Fire Site. Region 1 conducted a fund-lead removal action at the Site in 2015 after a large fire resulted in releases of hazardous substances at the Site. In 2018, the U.S. filed suit against the defendant owner, 25 Grant Street, LLC, and its four controlling individual members. In addition to cost recovery claims under CERCLA, the complaint alleged that the defendants fraudulently transferred and/or received proceeds recovered from fire insurance policies following the fire at the Site.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Federal, State and DOJ coordination

On June 27, Region 1 will host its 23rd annual EPA-State Enforcement and Compliance meeting in Boston. Enforcement staff from all six New England states and the Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association (NEWMOA) are expected to attend. The meeting will consist of plenary and breakout sessions and provides a forum for state and EPA enforcement.

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Region 2
Hot Topics:

RA Lopez visits Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands
RA Lopez concluded a successful visit to the Caribbean. The RA met with senior environmental ministers in Puerto Rico and the USVI and Governor Bryan of the USVI, in addition to many others. Region 2's mission in the Caribbean continues to move along two fronts: aggressively addressing pre-existing environmental challenges and creatively implementing a forward-looking resiliency plan to prepare the islands for the next major weather event.

Lake Ontario Cooperative Science and Monitoring Initiative (CSMI) Data Synthesis Workshop
On 6/19-20, SUNY Buffalo State will host the Lake Ontario (CSMI) Data Synthesis Workshop at the Great Lakes Center in Buffalo, NY. The workshop is a bi-national, multi-agency meeting to review data and findings from the 2018 Lake Ontario CSMI. Region 2 staff will deliver a presentation on *"Integrating Science and Monitoring to Improve Lakewide Management."*

Hudson River Superfund Site, NY
Region 2 is following-up on a FOIA request from the Attorney General of New York State regarding communication between Region 2 and GE related to the Certification of Completion of the Remedial Action.

Dewey Loeffel Superfund Site, Town of Nassau, NY
Tributary T11A – GE submitted a proposal to address PCB contamination encountered at unanticipated depths during the Tributary T11A removal action. The project team continues to discuss this proposal with GE, NYSDEP and Region 2 management to develop a path forward. A resolution is needed to continue the removal action work and avoid a stoppage.

Quanta Superfund Site, Edgewater, NJ
OU1 – Tent closest to Citi Place has been constructed, ISS has been initiated. Assembly of bulkhead tent continues. Region 2 provided residents information about potential additional air sampling from their balconies. Weekly e-mail sent out to area residents informing of site progress: No solidification this week due to broken generator/air handler. OU2 – On 6/6, Region 2 provided direction to Honeywell to submit a draft FS report for river sediments in 30 days – as per the Order. Honeywell objects to the present delineation of NAPL zones that provide the basis for the FS and has not agreed to submit the FS. Honeywell provided a response on 6/14/19. Honeywell to meet with Region 2 to present the screening of remedial alternatives, as per the Order.

PREPA Notifies EPA of Plan to Install New Turbines
On 6/18, an attorney for the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (PREPA) wrote to Region 2 to notify EPA of PREPA's plan to install three new 23-megawatt (MW) turbines with dual gas/diesel fuel capability at PREPA's Palo Seco power plant, and to request EPA's assistance in determining the appropriate legal vehicle for addressing the associated Clean Air Act regulatory issues. PREPA would like to begin installing the turbines by 6/26 so that the units are available as emergency power by early September.

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NYSDEC/EPA Quarterly Air Meeting
On 6/25 Region 2 will travel to New Paltz, NY to meet with NYSDEC. Ozone attainment, peakers, outer continental shelf air permitting, and AirNow are among the topics to be discussed.

New Jersey Draft 2019 Energy Master Plan
The State of New Jersey released the Draft 2019 Energy Master Plan (EMP), providing a blueprint for the 100% clean energy conversion by 2050.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Facility, Puerto Rico
On 6/22, RA Lopez will visit Vieques, along with Puerto Rico's Resident Commissioner Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon. The Navy will facilitate the tour and provide escort since it will be within the Live Impact Area where cleanup of UXO is currently ongoing.

Passaic River, NJ
On 7/25, Region 2 will host a hybrid public availability/public meeting session in Clifton, NJ in Assemblywoman Timberlake's district on the cleanup status of the Passaic River. Assemblywoman Timberlake is expected to join RA Lopez at this event.

Region 3
Hot Topics

Chesapeake Bay Draft Phase III WIP Reviews
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will release, on Friday, June 21, its evaluations of draft Watershed Implementation Plans by six states and the District of Columbia to have pollutant control practices and programs in place by 2025 for restoration of the Chesapeake Bay, finding that the jurisdictions have largely committed to meeting the restoration goals. EPA found that the plans reflect extensive work done at the local level to engage governments, non-governmental organizations, wastewater utilities, the agricultural community and the public. Region 3 worked with OW in developing comments on areas that could be enhanced prior to finalization of the plans.

EPA Delaware River PCB TMDL Litigation Dismissed June 17, 2019: Delaware Estuary TMDL Coalition et al. v. EPA, Civil No 09-5927 (E.D. PA) (J. Goldberg)
On June 17, 2019, the parties filed the "Stipulation of Voluntary Dismissal without Prejudice," effectively ending the above-captioned litigation. The "Delaware Estuary TMDL Coalition" filed the case challenging the 2003 and 2006 total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for the pollutant PCB established by EPA Regions 2 and 3 for the Delaware River (Zones 2-6) to address human health risks from PCBs (water ingestion and fish consumption). The Coalition is a group of entities that discharge PCBs to the Delaware River from NPDES regulated outfalls. The case has been stayed since 2010. As the six-year statute of limitations on challenging the 2003 and 2006 TMDLs has expired, those TMDLs can no longer be challenged. Significant reductions in PCB discharges have been realized over the past fifteen years, but the PCB levels are still far above the water quality criteria. EPA continues to work collaboratively with DRBC and the three states to develop a replacement PCB TMDL to address more recent information and the recently adopted PCB water quality criteria.

EPA Waives Use of Summer Blend Gasoline in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania Through July 1
On June 12, 2019, Administrator Wheeler extended an emergency waiver (first issued on May 29, 2019) of Allegheny County's requirement for the sale of low-volatility, summer blend gasoline in the county through July 1, 2019. In response to a potential leak that caused the temporary shutdown of Buckeye Partners Laurel Extension of the Buckeye Pipeline that feeds finished motor fuels to the Pittsburgh region, EPA determined that an extreme and unusual supply circumstance exists that could affect the ability to supply compliant gasoline to Allegheny County.

Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) has moved to rescind this local summer gasoline formulation requirement from County rules, requesting that EPA act quickly on a request on their behalf from Pennsylvania to remove the requirement from the Federal State Implementation Plan (SIP). EPA proposed a rule to do just that on April 26, 2019 -- but received several adverse public comments during the public comment period that ended May 29. EPA is expediting final action on the Commonwealth's request to remove the program from federal law prior to the end of the summer regulatory control season that currently extends through September 15, 2019.

Tribal Meetings June 10 and 11, 2019
On June 10 and 11, 2019, the Region 3 Tribal Coordinator and Director of OCTEA travelled to Virginia for meetings with four tribes. EPA met and consulted with the Pamunkey Indian Tribe and the Chickahominy Indian Tribe on the proposed Clean Water Act Virginia 303(d) list. Staff of the Water Protection Division also attended to provide technical expertise on the 303(d) list consultation. Additionally, Region 3 met with the Chickahominy Indians Eastern Division and the Upper Mattaponi

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Indian Tribe as an introduction and discussed Region 3 and the Tribes' environmental goals and priorities.

EPA Responds to Berks County Chemical Spill

On May 10, a three-alarm electrical fire at the Bulk Chemical plant prompted the evacuation of residences near the facility in Perry Township, Berks County, Pa. It was the second time residents were evacuated in 12 hours. Fire officials then ordered homes on the block to be evacuated only three and a half hours after giving the go-ahead for evacuees to return after many of them spent the night in the Shoemakersville Fire Co. because of a nitric acid spill at the facility. An estimated, 4,500 gallons of nitric acid leaked from a tank. It did not appear that any of the chemical made its way into storm drains and the nearby Schuylkill River. EPA cleanup crews have been on the site since the incident. OSC Kelley Chase did an interview with WFMZ-TV news (Allentown) and stories also appeared on Channel 6 (Philadelphia), the Reading Eagle and Allentown Morning Call.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Regional Administrator Cosmo Servidio has the following events and meetings scheduled:

- June 21, 2019 Lead Dust Announcement Event. Philadelphia, PA.
- June 26, 2019 Monthly Conference Call with Secretary Shaw M. Garvin, Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control

Region 4
Hot Topics

Rockwell Grenada NPL Listing Challenge (Grenada, MS)
Key Message: On June 11th, DOJ filed the EPA's brief in response to Meritor's April 1, 2019 brief challenging the listing of the Site on the NPL. Meritor's reply is due July 16th. A date has not yet been set for the oral argument.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineer (USACE) Mobile Harbor
Key Message: The Region received notice from USACE Mobile District to extend the comment period to July 18th for the Integrated General Reevaluation Report with Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Final GRR/FSEIS) for Mobile Harbor. USACE plans to host a webinar on June 25th to go over their response to EPA's DSEIS technical comments and recommendations that were not addressed in the FSEIS.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Dust-Lead Hazard Standards Press Event
On June 21st, Region 4 Administrator Walker will hold a press amplification event regarding the announcement of revisions to the Dust-Lead Hazard Standards Rule. The event will be held in Memphis, TN, and the region anticipates participation from the Regional Administrator for HUD and the local elected officials. Memphis, TN. Open Press.

Notice of Intent to Delete for Partial Deletions for Escambia Wood Treating Site (FL) and Townsend Saw and Chain (SC).

Administrator announcement and approval of the Proposed Partial Approval of Georgia CCR Permit Program - June 20, 2019.

Paducah Formal Dispute Resolution for the C-400 Removal Notification SEC level dispute – June 21, 2019.

Paducah Formal Dispute Resolution for the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis SEC level dispute – June 21, 2019.

Region 5
Hot Topics

EPA's OIG to Audit Region 5's PolyMet NPDES Permit Review
Key Message: The Office of the Inspector General is beginning an audit to determine whether Region 5's review of a Minnesota National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for the PolyMet Mining Company followed the Clean Water Act and regulations.

PolyMet Mining Co. applied to the state of Minnesota for a NPDES permit to discharge to surface water from a new copper/nickel mine. Region 5 reviewed Minnesota's NPDES draft permit for the mine and provided oral comments on this draft permit to the state in April 2018; the Region did not provide comments in writing. Minnesota issued the permit in December 2018. Region 5 has since received several Freedom of Information Act requests, one of which specifically sought Region 5's written comments. The response to this FOIA request is being litigated, but the responsive record has been produced and the parties are resolving final issues in the case. The responses to the other FOIA requests are in progress.

Lake County, Ill., to Release Ethylene Oxide Ambient (EtO) Air Sampling and Governor Pritzker Expected to Sign EtO Legislation June 21
Key Message: The Lake County Health Department expects to share ambient EtO air data with the public either on June 21 or early next week.

The Lake County Health Department has shared preliminary data with EPA from the first three days of ambient EtO air monitoring, which began on June 6, near the Vantage and Medline facilities. While the data is too limited to draw strong conclusions, the monitor nearest Medline is showing elevated EtO concentrations which will be of concern to the community. EtO concentrations at other monitors were not clearly different from background levels.

EPA Splits Sheboygan Nonattainment Area for 1997 and 2008 Ozone Standards into Two Areas and Makes Clean Data Determination for Inland Area
Key Message: EPA and Wisconsin DNR agree, based on new monitoring data, that the Sheboygan nonattainment area for the 1997 and 2008 ozone standards should be split.

On Feb. 15, 2019, EPA published a proposed rule that would split the Sheboygan nonattainment area for the 1997 and 2008 ozone NAAQS. EPA proposed this action based on data from a monitor installed at an inland location, which has consistently monitored attainment of the standards since the beginning of the monitor's operation in 2014. Following only favorable comments, Region 5 will finalize the proposed rule. The Region is also finalizing a clean data determination for the inland area, which relieves WDNR from certain planning requirements.

Terra Haute, Ind., in Attainment for 2010 SO2 NAAQS
Key Message: EPA and Indiana agree that the Terre Haute area now meets federal air quality standard for sulfur dioxide. Region expects to publish the proposed redesignation in the Federal Register in early July.

In 2013, the Terre Haute area was designated as nonattainment for the 2010 primary 1-hour SO2 national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS). Since then, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management worked collaboratively with EPA to reduce air pollution in the area. Major SO2

reductions came from facility unit retirements, operational limits, and fuel switches from coal to natural gas. With this, SO2 emissions within Terre Haute declined by 99.7% between the nonattainment year (2011) and the attainment year (2017). EPA has now determined that the Terre Haute area has attained the 2010 SO2 NAAQS, based on the most recent three years of certified air quality data.

University Park, Ill., Issues Do Not Drink Order Due to Lead in Drinking Water
Key Message: The private owner-operator of University Park's water system, Aqua Illinois, issued a "Do Not Drink" order on June 14 and is providing bottled water to consumers due to elevated lead levels in the drinking water.

Fifteen homes in the University Park community had elevated lead levels. Six of 30 samples had lead concentrations greater than 100 ppb; the lead action level is 15 ppb. Illinois EPA is working with Aqua Illinois to take investigative samples in the community. Aqua Illinois has switched to a blended phosphate with a higher amount of orthophosphate and flushed the distribution system. Aqua Illinois started taking some parts of the community off the Do Not Drink order in cases where the homes were constructed after 1990 and have investigative sample results below the action level. Region 5 remains in close contact with Illinois EPA and is receiving regular updates as the state works with the water utility to monitor lead levels, adjust treatment and ensure that affected customers have access to safe drinking water.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Chief of Staff Thiede to Discuss Lead-Dust Rule at Oneida Nation Roundtable on June 20 in Green Bay, Wis.
Key Message: COS Thiede will meet with the tribal council, partners, and stakeholders for a roundtable discussion to preview the new national lead-dust rule.

Following the roundtable, the tribe will host a tour of the reservation.

RA Stepp to Welcome Attendees to the 50th Anniversary Event of the Cuyahoga River Fire in Cleveland
Key Message: The June 22 event, hosted by the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, will be one of many throughout the weekend celebrating 50 years of progress within the Cuyahoga River.

In addition to the anniversary events, there will also be a groundbreaking event for the final leg of Towpath Trail. Once completed, Towpath Trail will be a 100-mile long towpath that spans from Lake Erie to New Philadelphia, Ohio.

Chief of Staff Thiede to Join AA Ross During Visit to Green Bay on June 24
Key Message: AA Ross and COS Thiede will attend joint event with the Green Bay Water Utility and New Water, including a press conference about workforce, infrastructure, nutrients and other topics.

OIG to Hold June 24 Listening Session in East Chicago, Ind., Regarding USS Lead Site
Key Message: As part of their investigation into the effectiveness of risk communications at OLEM sites, EPA's OIG will be holding as many as four listening sessions across the country to facilitate citizen feedback.

Region 5 is providing OIG stakeholder information and helping find a location for the meeting. The region will also be providing OIG a tour of the site prior to the meeting.

Region 6

Hot Topics

Georgia Pacific Crossett, Arkansas

On June 19, EPA Region 6, DOJ, and ADEQ held a teleconference with Georgia-Pacific (GP) to discuss the latest draft to the amended Consent Decree regarding modifications necessary to move the judicial case to conclusion. GP raised possible alternative supplemental environmental projects to be included in the amended Consent Decree.

US Cooling Towers Removal Action, Plainview, Texas

On June 17, EPA mobilized to US Cooling Towers to complete the second phase of the removal action. This phase includes removal of arsenic and chromium contaminated solids and associated waste from around the three former treatment vessels. The work should be completed in approximately two weeks. EPA has notified the property owner and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Bird Creek Settlement, Osage County, Oklahoma

A settlement-in-principle has been reached with the Bird Creek Respondents, and Jireh has expressed that a settlement agreement needs to be signed by June 28, before their loan expires. EPA is routing the concurrence package which includes the settlement agreement, briefing memo, monitoring plan, statement of basis, public notice of the permit and the seven permits.

Mosaic Fertilizer LLC, St. James, Louisiana

On June 17, Mosaic reported that barging up to 100,000 gallons/day of process waste water from Uncle Sam to Faustina was among the options for reducing waste water inventories at Uncle Sam. Mosaic's position is that the consent decree provides for the practice, however, the government expressed concern and recommended that Mosaic not begin barging pending confirmation of CD compliance. Mosaic has a goal of eliminating 300 million gallons of waste water by September 2019.

Use of Unregistered Pesticides in Drinking Water Treatment for Mollusk Control, Texas

On June 25, EPA will meet with representatives in Austin from the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) to scope out an outreach strategy to address the wide spread use of unregistered pesticides by water treatment plants to control mollusks. The TDA has joined the Region during three FIFRA inspections at water treatment plants confirming a tip received from an outside party alleging that several drinking water systems in Texas were using unregistered pesticides to control zebra mussels.

Texas Title V Petition Resolution Letter, Texas

By June 28, EPA anticipates a response to TCEQ's June 2018 letter and subsequent discussions on how to resolve long-term EPA objections to Texas Title V air permits. The current draft outlines where EPA agrees or proposes a different resolution of an issue.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Pueblo of Laguna TAS Application, Laguna, New Mexico

By June 20, decision by Region 6 on completeness determination of the Pueblo of Laguna's TAS application for CAA authority under Sections 107(d)(3) and 126, which would allow the Pueblo to be notified of CAA permit and permit modification applications. The Pueblo previously received approval for CAA Sections 105 & 505(a)(2).

Oklahoma Regional Haze 5-yr Progress Report, Oklahoma
By June 25, Region 6 anticipates taking final action on the Oklahoma Regional Haze 5-yr Progress Report SIP. ODEQ submitted the SIP revision in September 2016 to address the requirement for a periodic report describing progress towards reasonable progress goals and a determination of the adequacy of the state's Regional Haze SIP. Final action will remove this SIP from the EPA Region 6 SIP backlog.

Houston/Galveston/Brazoria 2008 Ozone Attainment, Texas
By June 28, decision by HQ to finalize action to reclassify the HGB area from moderate to serious under the 2008 ozone NAAQS. TCEQ provided comments and asked for additional time to submit the serious area SIP revision and asked that EPA delay finalization of the bump up to allow consideration of potential exceptional events during 2018, which if approved, the area would be meeting the 2008 ozone NAAQS.

DFW 2008 Ozone Attainment Demonstration Plan, Texas
By June 28, decision by HQ to finalize action to bump up the DFW area from moderate to serious for the 2008 Ozone NAAQS. TCEQ provided both oral and written comments requesting that EPA delay the required serious SIP revision submission date from 12 months to 18 months.

Albuquerque 1st Set of Air Permit SIP Revisions, New Mexico
By July 10 Region 6 anticipates final approval of the first set of revisions to Albuquerque Air Permit SIP to remove conditional approval and convert conditionally approved air permit rules to full approval based on revision of rules.

- June 21 Lead Dust Rule Event, Houston, Texas
- June 25 ODEQ/EPA Executive Retreat, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- June 27 Tar Creek Superfund Visit, Miami, Oklahoma
- June 27-28 Regions 6 & 7 Tri-State Mining District Tour and Discussion, Oklahoma

Region 7
Hot Topics

EPA Region 7, City of St. Joseph, HUD Region 7 to Announce New EPA Lead Safety Standards
Key Message: Lead exposure can cause irreversible and life-long health effects. Lead dust can be generated when lead-based paint deteriorates or is disturbed. The new, significantly tighter standards for lead dust in homes built before 1978 along with schools and child-care facilities will help protect children from the harmful effects of lead exposure.

On Friday, June 21, 2019, EPA Region 7 Regional Administrator Jim Gulliford, St. Joseph City Mayor Bill McMurray, City Health Department Director Debra Bradley, and HUD Region 7 Deputy Administrator Bruce Ladd will host a press conference in St. Joseph, Missouri to announce EPA's final rule on lead dust hazard standards.

The press conference will be held Friday, June 21, 2019 at 10:00 am at the St. Joseph Health Department (Patee Market Building) 904 S 10th St. E, St. Joseph, Missouri 64503.

EPA Region 7 will issue a regionalized news release announcing the EPA's new, tighter standards for lead-contaminated dust on floors and window sills to protect children from the harmful effects of lead exposure.

Brownfields Supplemental Funds Press Release
Key Message: EPA is announcing $9.3 million in supplemental funding for 24 current successful Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund grantees. The city of Kansas City, Missouri, and the Land Clearance and Redevelopment Authority of St Louis County, Missouri, have been selected to receive a combined total of $800,000 in Revolving Loan Fund Supplemental funding for conducting brownfields cleanups. KCMO will receive $400,000 in hazardous funds and LCRA of St. Louis County will receive $100,000 in hazardous funds plus $300,000 in petroleum funds. Both recipients have utilized their RLFs and will continue to use these funds to assist some of the neediest and most disadvantaged communities within their jurisdiction by mitigating contamination to protect human health and the environment, making acres ready for reuse, attracting public and private investment for redevelopment, and creating jobs.

A press release will be issued by EPA Region 7 on Thursday, June 20, 2019, to highlight the funding received by EPA Region 7 grantees, city of Kansas City, Missouri and the Land Clearance and Redevelopment Authority of St Louis County.

Carter Carburetor Fund-Lead Removal Action
Key Message: EPA Region 7 plans to begin a fund-lead action on June 24, 2019, to remove a contaminated concrete slab at the former Carter Carburetor Superfund Site in St. Louis, Missouri. Since 2015, EPA Region 7 has been overseeing responsible party actions to address clean-up of PCB contamination at the site.

On June 24, 2019, EPA Region 7 will begin a separate fund-lead action to remove a contaminated concrete slab, which is beyond the scope of the current responsible party action.

This action is the final proposed action to remove PCB contamination from the site; future actions to develop post-removal site controls will be conducted over the next few months.

Members of EPA Region 7's redevelopment team are actively engaged with the responsible party, local stakeholders, and an interested developer to facilitate future development of the property.

2019 Iowa Flood Response

Key Message: Orphan container recovery operations in Iowa have been substantially completed. EPA Region 7 completed all currently tasked ESF-10 Mission Assignment activities in the state of Iowa on June 14, 2019. Over 2,000 recovered containers and associated waste were characterized, segregated, consolidated, and transported off site for reuse, recycling, or disposal.

EPA Region 7 response equipment was removed from the EPA's Waste Collection Pad (I-29 North Rest Area #36) on June 14, 2019, so the rest area could be re-opened for use by Iowa Department of Transportation.

EPA Region 7 and Iowa Department of Natural Resources are finalizing an ESF-10 Transition Plan to document response activities completed and to transition the response to hazardous material releases and oil spills back to the state of Iowa. The transition plan will also ensure the transfer of response data to the state of Iowa.

The FEMA mission assignment remains active through July 31, 2019, and EPA Region 7 continues to coordinate any addition requests for ESF-10 activities with IDNR contacts.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- No update to report this week

Region 8
Hot Topics

Nelson Tunnel Superfund Site in Creede, Colorado: Mineral County Experiencing High Flows from Rapidly Melting Snow
The National Weather Service has issued flood warnings for Rio Grande County and Mineral County. Willow Creek, a tributary of the Rio Grande River, flows through the Nelson Tunnel Site and the town of Creede. EPA personnel and contractors are keeping a close eye on the site. The EPA remedial program visited the site on June 13 and 14, 2019, and reported seeing very high flows but no signs of erosion on the Commodore Waste Rock Pile and very minimal intrusion of West Willow Creek into the discharge of the collapsed Nelson Tunnel portal. The EPA will visit the site again in early July 2019. USFS, congressional staffers in area, and local stakeholders have been notified.

Region 8 plans to send a letter to the Blackfeet Tribe's Chairman offering to enter into Administrative Orders on Consent to address noncompliance at three tribally-owned and operated NPDES facilities
Violations include failure to submit Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs), failure to properly maintain lagoon berms, failure to conduct required self-inspections, failure to perform self-monitoring at the required frequency and using required sample types, and discharge without a permit. Extensive compliance assistance has been provided to the Tribe but has not resulted in compliance. If the Tribe does not wish to enter into AOCs or is not responsive, administrative orders will be issued. Gerald Wagner, the Blackfeet Environmental Director, serves as the Chair of the National Tribal Caucus.

Butte, Montana Selected for Land Revitalization Technical Assistance
Technical design assistance will guide Brownfield redevelopment in Butte, Montana. The project is unique in that it is focused on brownfield properties within the Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area Superfund Site and an Opportunity Zone. The design project will envision a walkable entertainment district with businesses redeveloped from several contiguous former auto repair shops for tourists, residents and medical professionals. Technical assistance will be coordinated through the City of Butte, the Butte Local Development Authority, EPA, and Headwaters RC&D (a current Brownfields assessment grant recipient operating in Butte). Once completed, the designs will be promoted to developers in an economic package which leverages Uptown Butte infrastructure tax credits, Brownfields assessment grant funds, Montana Department of Environmental Quality Petrofund cleanup reimbursement funds, and the Uptown Butte Opportunity Fund.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- On Friday, June 21 the RA will join the HUD Regional Administrator to announce significantly tighter standards for lead in dust in homes built before 1978 and in schools and child-care facilities. The new EPA rule, the National Lead Action Plan and Denver-area lead abatement projects will be highlighted.

Region 9

Hot Topics

Pesticide exposure

Two high-risk pesticide exposures of agricultural workers occurred in California. On June 13 in Merced County, a soil amendment (calcium polysulfide) was applied as a pesticide, resulting in eight persons hospitalized and one death. We are assisting with the investigation. On June 18, a Tulare County farmer's application of insecticides (Hexythiazox and Abamectin) to his peach orchard drifted to an adjacent vineyard, exposing 63 workers. With symptoms of vomiting and nausea, eight were hospitalized. Per our MOA with the CA Dept. of Pesticide Regulation, we are closely tracking this investigation and stand ready to provide support.

Fireworks

The Las Vegas Metro Police searched 21 cargo containers of fireworks stored on a vacant lot an hour south of Las Vegas. Owners of the containers admitted the contents were about 90% full of illegal fireworks, which originated in China and were imported through the Port of Long Beach for sale to buyers in California. Two EPA OSCs deployed to the site to assess the situation, inventory the containers, and work with state and local authorities. The State Fire Marshal has requested our assistance with disposal of the fireworks.

Tribal Drinking Water

We issued a SDWA Sec. 1431 order to the Grindstone Tribe in rural No. California to require provision of alternate water supplies, disinfection, enhanced monitoring and notice to its 150+ customers. Our action follows years of EPA compliance assistance and an earlier EPA consent order to address pathogen and lead (Pb) contamination. We met with BIA's California director and will together focus on bringing this system into compliance.

Mexican Border

With Customs & Border Protection, we issued a joint press release to announce results of our study at the Nogales – Mariposa Port of Entry in Arizona, where Unified Cargo Processing and the Free and Secure Trade program (FAST) have dramatically reduced wait times for cargo trucks, producing an 85% reduction in carbon dioxide and particulate matter emissions. This study was funded by our Border 2020 program.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Pacific Island Environmental Conference

RA Mike Stoker will join our territorial partners in Guam next week for the 30th biennial environmental conference, hosted by Guam EPA, which will draw 300+ Federal and territorial government partners, including representatives from the Freely Associated States. The RA will be the keynote speaker, and will later host a discussion panel on disaster recovery and resilience with FEMA RA Bob Fenton. During the conference, our communications outreach will include grant awards to Guam and CNMI, and a summary of our comprehensive emergency response to SuperTyphoon Yutu (a $30 mil. FEMA mission assignment to EPA).

Mexican Border

On June 27, the Arizona-Mexico Commission will convene this semi-annual state-to-state meeting in Phoenix. Our Mexican Border manager, Hector Aguirre, was invited to participate in the environment

and water "table", one of 15 such topic-specific tables at the meeting. Participants include senior management from NADB, IBWC, ADEQ, and CEDES, who will discuss the upcoming leadership meeting in Mexico City (Sept. 2019) of EPA, SEMARNAT, and the ten border states.

Region 10
Hot Topics

No update to report this week.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Region 10 to Approve Kalispel Reservation Clean Air Act Re-designation (Washington)
Region 10 will soon sign a Federal Register Notice approving the Clean Air Act re-designation of the Kalispel Indian Reservation to Prevention of Significant Deterioration Class 1. The Office of General Counsel has reviewed the response to comments and the final Federal Register Notice. OGC concurs with the Region that approval is appropriate and has confirmed that the responses to adverse comments in the Federal Register Notice are legally sound. We hope to have the Federal Register Notice signed within two weeks.

Region 10 Partners on Worst Case Oil Spill Drill in Oregon
On June 25th and 26th, several members of Region 10's Incident Management Team, including several members of the Response Support Corps will participate in a large "worst case discharge" oil spill drill being conducted by Kinder Morgan in Wilsonville, Oregon. The drill will test their ability to respond to a large oil spill from their facility to the Willamette River. The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality is also participating in the drill. Region 10 public information officers will also conduct a Joint Information Center training for Oregon DEQ and EPA staff before the drill.

Region 10 Administrator Tours Wilcox Farm (WA)
On June 25th, Region 10 Administrator Chris Hladick will tour Wilcox Farms on the Nisqually River, about an hour south of Seattle. Jim Wilcox is a member of the Puget Sound Partnership Leadership Council and active in the Washington agriculture community and Puget Sound/Nisqually watershed restoration and protection. The purpose of the tour will be to share information on agriculture approaches to watershed protection and restoration, and opportunities for continued collaboration in support of Puget Sound recovery.

Region 10 Participates in Agricultural Smoke Management Meeting (WA)
On June 26th in Spokane, Washington, EPA Region 10 staff will participate in the annual Agricultural Smoke Management Planning Meeting. This meeting is among EPA, the Washington Department of Ecology, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, British Columbia, and the Kootenai, Spokane, Coeur d'Alene, and Nez Perce Tribes. The purpose of the meeting is to coordinate activities for the upcoming agricultural burn season. Coordination is critical to the overall effectiveness of smoke management in Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho as each of these entities operate their own agricultural smoke management programs that can adversely affect neighboring airsheds. This routine coordination and planning has significantly reduced impacts from agricultural smoke impacts resulting in improved air quality, public health protection and a reduction in citizen complaints.

Bellevue School District Recovers Over 23,000 lbs of Food Through School Food Share Program
For the 2018-2019 school year, the Bellevue School District successfully rescued 23,632 lbs of whole, uneaten food from school cafeterias and donated it to Hopelink, the local food bank. Eight schools in the Bellevue school district participate in EPA's School Food Share Program, which supports schools in capturing eligible, uneaten food for use within the school system, or for donation to community food banks and other organizations addressing food insecurity.

Office of Air and Radiation
Hot Topics

- **Packages for Signature**
  - Revision to Appendix P to 40 CFR Part 51, Concerning Minimum Emission Reporting Requirements in SIPs
  - Stationary CI Engine NSPS Amendments (Direct Final and Proposal)
  - Municipal Solid Waste Landfills RTR (Proposed Rule)
  - Revision of Part 1 Registration Form Process for New and Modified True Minor Oil and Gas Sources in Indian Country

- **Packages at OMB for Review**
  - Reclassification of Major Sources as Area Sources Under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 02/25/2019)
  - Vehicle Test Procedure Adjustments for Tier 3 Test Fuel (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 02/25/2019)
  - Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) and Nonattainment New Source Review (NSR): Project Emissions Accounting (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 03/21/2019)
  - 2020 Ozone Depleting Substances Phaseout Rule (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 03/29/2019)
  - Amendments Related to Marine Diesel Engine Emission Standards (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 04/10/2019)
  - RFS: Standards for 2020 and Biomass-Based Diesel Volume for 2021, Response to the Remand of the 2016 Standards, and Other Changes (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 05/06/2019)
  - Renewable Fuel Standard Program: Modification of Statutory Volume Targets / RFS Reset (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 05/20/2019)
  - Integrated Iron and Steel RTR (Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 05/30/2019)
  - Exceptional Events Guidance: Prescribed Fire on Wildland that May Influence Ozone and Particulate Matter Concentrations (Final Guidance; RECEIVED DATE: 05/20/2019)
  - Federal Implementation Plan for Oil and Natural Gas Sources; Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation in Utah (Region 8 Proposed Rule; RECEIVED DATE: 05/23/2019)
  - Guidance on Regional Haze State Implementation Plans for the Second Implementation Period (Final Guidance; RECEIVED DATE: 6/10/2019)
  - Oil & Natural Gas Sector Emission Standards for new Reconstructed & Modified Sources Review (Proposed Rule: RECEIVED DATE: 6/10/2019)

- **Packages Heading to OMB Soon**
  - Strat Ozone - Section 608 Refrigerant Management – Revisions (Final Rule)
  - MSW Landfills Emission Guidelines Subpart Ba Requirements (Final Rule)
  - Ethylene Production RTR (subparts XX & YY) (Proposed Rule)
  - MATS Coal Refuse-Fired Units Review (Final Rule)
  - Organic Liquids Distribution (OLD) RTR (Proposed Rule)
  - MON RTR (Proposed Rule)

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- June 25: Bill will be travelling to Quebec City to be a keynote speaker at the Air and Waste Management Annual Conference
- June 26: Anne will be travelling to Birmingham to speak at the Institute of Clean Air Companies Annual Membership Meeting

Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

Hot Topics

Final DLHS Rule

On June 21, OCSPP expects to sign a Dust-Lead Hazard Standards final rule, which will update hazard standards for lead-contaminated dust in pre-1978 housing and child-occupied facilities. It will be used to identify dust-lead hazards when risk assessments are performed. This action follows through on commitments in the Federal Lead Action Plan to take steps to reduce childhood lead exposure.

Proposed Rule on Certain PBT Chemicals

The 2016 TSCA amendments direct EPA to take expedited regulatory action without a risk evaluation for certain PBT chemicals in the 2014 TSCA Work Plan. On June 21, OCSPP expects to sign the proposed rule addressing exposures to four of those chemicals. For a fifth chemical, OCSPP has evaluated the conditions of use and is proposing no action because human or environmental exposure to the substance is not likely.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Horticultural Webinar

On June 24, OPP's Christine Olinger will provide an overview of the human health risk assessment supporting the registration review of glyphosate on a webinar for the Horticultural Research Institute and AmericanHort, which represents diverse horticulture stakeholders.

Biopesticides Meeting

On June 24, OPP's Shannon Borges will present on the U.S. perspective with respect to the use of bioinformatics in microbial pesticide regulations at the Paris meeting of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Expert Group on Biopesticides.

TSCA

Three Years Later Conference – On June 24, AA Alexandra Dunn and OPPT's Jeff Morris and Tala Henry will present at a conference marking the third anniversary of amended TSCA. Panelists will discuss the accomplishments and challenges since the implementation of the 2016 Lautenberg Amendments and where TSCA stands today. The conference, sponsored by the Environmental Law Institute, Bergeson & Campbell, and George Washington University, will take place in Washington, DC.

Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Hot Topics

OCFO is working with OW and OLEM to prepare an operating plan for the $414 million Congress appropriated for EPA in the 2019 disaster supplemental. The operating plan is due to OMB on July 12 and Congress on July 22. The supplemental requires the agency to report obligations by appropriation, program project and state or territory every two months after the agency submits its operating plan.

OCFO continues to work with OCIR, OGC and the programs to prepare responses to the SAC, HAC, and HEC QFRs.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- On June 17, the CFO issued guidance and a draft agenda to agency Senior Leaders for the upcoming Senior Leadership Council Meeting the afternoon of July 17.
    - As follow up, OCFO sent technical guidance to senior staff on June 18 to assist with SLC preparation. Included in the guidance are detailed instructions and templates for updated or new multi-year resource planning proposals. Proposals are due by July 2 with AA concurrence.
    - AA and RA designations of SLC meeting participants (a total of 2 per AAship) are due no later than June 28 via a separate survey link the AAs/RAs received.

- On June 21, OCFO is briefing the Acting Deputy Administrator for a decision on the approach for review of Annual Performance Goals as part of development of FY 2021 Annual Performance Plan/OMB Submission.

- Also, on June 21, OCFO is meeting with the ADA to discuss agency workload goals. This meeting is expected to support an ongoing discussion with the Executive Management Council, which will meet the morning of July 10. OCFO also is preparing workload analysis materials for the ADA to use for the July 17 SLC.

- On June 25, the CFO and agency leaders from AO and OGC will participate in the OMB/EPA Strategic Review meeting to discuss senior leader strategic review/risk assessments of progress towards the objectives in the FY 2018-2022 EPA Strategic Plan.

Office of the Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations

Hot Topics

- **June 25**- House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment will hold a hearing on "Protecting and Restoring America's Iconic Waters."

- **June 25** - House Committee on Oversight and Reform's Subcommittee on Environment is scheduled to hold a third hearing on climate change entitled, "Recovery, Resiliency and Readiness – Contending with Natural Disasters in the Wake of Climate Change

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **June 28-July 1**-The US Conference of Mayors-87th Annual Meeting will convene in Honolulu, HI.

- **July 2**- Bipartisan staff briefing for House Energy and Commerce Committee/ Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee on oil spill response planning

Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

Hot Topics:

OECA's Air Enforcement Division Delivers Training on Vehicle and Engine Enforcement to Region 1 and New England States

On June 11-14, 2019, OECA's Air Enforcement Division trained Region 1 and New England state personnel on how to conduct inspections for vehicle and engine cases. This training is part of the EPA curriculum for inspectors who are assigned to do vehicle and engine inspections and is the fifth such training provided by OECA to the Regions in the past two years. Thirty-three students participated in the live classroom training, including fifteen from Region 1, as well as participants from OTAQ and the states of Maine, Vermont, New York, Massachusetts, and the District of Columbia. An additional thirteen participants from Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Ontario joined via webinar.

OECA Provides Compliance Assistance to Department of the Interior Bureaus on Safe Drinking Water Act Violations

On June 18, 2019, OECA's Federal Facilities Enforcement Office conducted an interactive webinar-like demonstration with Department of the Interior (DOI) headquarters and representatives from DOI bureaus to discuss its drinking water violations and EPA's Drinking Water Enforcement Targeting Tool. OECA's Federal Facilities Enforcement Office identified DOI drinking water systems with violations, presented this information to DOI, and demonstrated how DOI can use EPA data to identify and manage their drinking water system issues more effectively.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- No update to report this week.

Office of General Counsel
Hot Topics

***Sierra Club v. EPA*, No. 18-1038 (D.C. Cir filed June 14, 2019)**
New Decision: The DC Circuit dismissed for lack of venue Sierra Club's challenge to EPA's Title V order related to Pacific Corp's Hunter power plant. EPA had denied Sierra Club's request to object to a Utah Title V permit. This was the first order in which EPA explained it would not "lookback" at previously issued NSR/PSD permits in the Title V context. The DC Cir applied the CAA's venue provision (section 307(b)) and the court's precedent in *Dalton Trucking v. EPA*, 808 F.3d 875 (D.C. Cir. 2015). The court first noted that on its face, the order was not "nationally applicable," as it only addressed "a single permit for a single plant located in a single state." The court next found that EPA had not published a finding that the order was based on a determination of nationwide scope and effect. The court noted that the DC Circuit has not decided whether EPA's failure to make a determination of nationwide scope and effect is reviewable. However, the court went on to conclude that even if review was available, the failure to do so was not arbitrary.

***CBD v. EPA*, No. 19-1705 (D.D.C. filed June 17, 2019)**
New FOIA Litigation: The Center for Biological Diversity filed a complaint concerning a December 7, 2018 FOIA request assigned to the Office of the Administrator seeking "records generated in connection to EPA's October 22, 2018 memorandum 'Changes to EPA Environmental Review Rating Process,' which discontinues the assignment of alphanumeric ratings in EPA's 309 comment letters" under NEPA. The complaint alleges that EPA failed to timely respond to its FOIA request.

New NOI
Earthjustice, on behalf of several groups, sent a letter dated June 14, 2019 notifying EPA of its intent to sue over EPA's alleged failure to act on a State Implementation Plan for the South Coast nonattainment area addressing the 2008 ozone NAAQS and providing an update for the 1997 ozone NAAQS.

New NOI
The Western Environmental Law Center, on behalf of NWEA, sent a letter dated June 14 notifying EPA of its intent to sue EPA over its alleged inaction on Washington's 2014, 2016, and 2018 Section 303(d) Lists. The NOI notes that Washington last submitted a section 303(d) list to EPA on September 28, 2015, and EPA approved that list (which only compiled data through May 1, 2011) on July 22, 2016. NWEA asserts that Washington's failure to submit a more recent list to EPA is a constructive submission of an inadequate list. The NOI thus alleges a failure to perform a non-discretionary duty to approve or disapprove the state's list within 30 days of submission as required by section 303(d)(2) of the CWA.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- On June 19, OGC requested comments from AAs and RAs on a proposal to streamline permit appeals to the EAB. The deadline for comments is COB Wednesday June 26.

Office of International and Tribal Affairs

Hot Topics

G20 Environmental Ministerial Meeting

The first ever G20 Environmental Ministerial Meeting (EMM) was held in Karuizawa, Japan on June 15-16 and successfully concluded with adoption of a Communique and several compendium documents, including G20 implementation framework on marine litter. Administrator Wheeler, as head of the US delegation, delivered interventions on US international environmental priorities including access to clean water and clean water infrastructure, and addressing marine litter through programs such as EPA's Trash Free Waters and capacity building in waste management. He also emphasized the US track record in reducing emissions, including GHGs, while simultaneously growing the economy. Administrator Wheeler held multiple bilateral meetings, including with Japan, Saudi Arabia (the incoming G20 President), Brazil, China, South Korea, Vietnam, and Thailand. The Environmental Ministerial Meeting was held with the G20 Energy Ministerial Meeting, and a joint Communique on innovation was also adopted after intense negotiations on a reference to the Paris Agreement.

New EU Rules for Vehicles

The European Union approved new rules for the first carbon dioxide standards for trucks and other heavy-duty vehicles and for the promotion of the market for zero and low emissions vehicles through public procurement. Under these new rules, manufacturers will be required to cut CO2 emissions from new trucks by an average of 15% from 2025 and by 30% from 2030, compared with 2019 levels. Noncompliance will result in manufacturers paying a financial penalty. The new public procurement rules set clean vehicle targets for public cars, buses and municipal fleets such as garbage trucks. According to news reports, more than 75% of bus procurement across the EU is done through public procurement.

GAO Review of State, Local and Tribal Engagement

Pursuant to *Executive Branch Intergovernmental Capacity (code 103479)*, the GAO will assess issues related to offices functions and operations, including: (1) written policies for consulting, collaborating, and conducting outreach with state, local, and tribal governments (including implementation of *Executive Order 13132*); and (2) the range of operations of these offices (e.g. funding and staffing levels; staff recruitment and retention; and use of state, local, or tribal government advisory councils). The GAO request is coming from US House Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on Government Operations, and the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **June 24-25:** Administrator Wheeler will represent the U.S. at the annual Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) Council Session in Mexico City.

- **June 25-29:** EPA (Region 9 and OITA) will participate in the 2019 Pacific Islands Environment Conference in Guam.

- **June 26-27:** EPA (OITA and OW) will participate in the IDB-OECD Roundtable on Financing Water in Washington, DC.

Office of the Land and Emergency Management
Hot Topics

Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR)
Interagency comments have been received on the CCR Phase 2 proposed rule package.
Georgia's CCR permit program is undergoing review in the AO.

Clean Air Act 112(r) Risk Management Program (RMP)
OLEM is following up on input from the briefing with the Administrator.

Ongoing major Superfund NPL sites
We are working with Region 1 on Centredale, Region 4 on Oak Ridge, and Region 10 on Portland Harbor and Hanford. A briefing for the Administrator on Matteo is scheduled for June 20.

CERCLA 108(b) Financial Assurance (next three sectors)
We anticipate receiving OMB's comments soon on the electric power industries NPRM. This rule has a court-deadline for signature of July 2, 2019.

PFAS.
PFOA and PFOS contaminated groundwater guidance. The public comment period concluded on June 10, 2019, and we are reviewing the comments received.

Working on inclusion as "hazardous substances" under CERCLA.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **OLEM Gemba Walks.** On June 20, several Gemba walks will take place with Acting Deputy Administrator Darwin.
- **Monthly Business Review.** OLEM's monthly business review meeting is scheduled for June 20.
- **Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Supplemental Funding.** Existing RLF grantees that have been selected to receive supplemental funding are on track to be announced in a press release today.
- **Superfund Task Force.** On June 21, OLEM will brief the Administrator on the Superfund Task Force.
- **Navajo Nation.** The Executive Director and leadership from the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency are scheduled to meet early next week with OLEM's Office of Underground Storage Tanks to discuss low threat Leaking Underground Storage Tank sites.
- **Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training (EWDJT).** The deadline for the submission of proposals for FY20 was June 10, 2019, and over 50 proposals were received.
- **Exemption for Air Releases from Animal Waste at Farms from EPCRA Final Rule.** The rule was published in the FR on June 13 and is effective July 15, 2019.

Office of Mission Support
Hot Topics

Human Resources Policy Issuance
OMS issued EPA Order 3110.24, *Recruitment, Relocation, and Retention Incentives* on May 31, 2019 which establishes the agency's policy applicable to the use and payment of recruitment, relocation and retention incentives.

Office of Personnel Management Human Capital Management Evaluation
OPM will conduct an onsite evaluation of EPA's human capital programs (e.g., staffing, training, awards, performance and policies) from August 5-9, 2019. OPM staff will review documents and conduct interviews with EPA headquarters personnel to assess the effectiveness of EPA's programs and agency compliance with applicable requirements.

Employee Viewpoint Survey
As of June 18, 2019, the governmentwide EVS response rate is 29.0%. EPA has attained an overall 42.3% response with Region 6 leading the pack at 70.0%. The EVS will be available for employees to complete through June 27, 2019.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

EPA's National Honor Awards Ceremony
The EPA's National Honor Awards Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, July 10, 2019, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Atrium Hall of the Ronald Reagan and International Trade Building in Washington, DC. The Administrator will be presenting the awards, which recognize a distinguished or exceptional employee or group of employee achievements each year. A reception for award recipients will be held in the Atrium of the Ronald Reagan and International Trade Building immediately following the ceremony.

Office of Policy

Hot Topics

No update to report this week.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

GAO Draft Report on Environmental Justice

GAO is requesting that EPA and other agencies comprising the Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG) review and respond to the *Draft Report to Congressional Requesters on Environmental Justice*. OP is reviewing the report and will coordinate next steps with OCFO and other relevant offices.

Local Foods, Local Places Workshop

From June 24-25, Office of Community Revitalization staff will be Little Falls, MN to help community leaders explore downtown revitalization and economic development opportunities that support the local food economy.

EJSCREEN Training

On June 27, the Office of Environmental Justice will host a training webinar for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the features and uses of EJSCREEN, EPA's web-based tool for accessing and mapping environmental and demographic data.

Active Interagency Reviews from OMB

Subject	EPA Internal Due Date	OMB Due Date
DOC/BIS FRM: Expansion of Export, Reexport, and Transfer (in-Country) Controls for Military End Use or Military End Users in the People's Republic of China, Russia, or Venezuela	06/19/2019	06/20/2019
USDA/FS NPRM (Pass-back): Special Areas; Roadless Area Conservation; National Forest System Lands in Alaska	06/20/2019	06/20/2019
ODNI SEAD: Security Executive Agency Directive 8 -- Temporary Eligibility	06/20/2019	06/24/2019
DOC/BIS NPRM: Modification of License Exception Additional Permissive Reexports (APR)	06/21/2019	06/24/2019
FAR FRM: Federal Acquisition Regulation: Reporting of Nonconforming Items to the Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (FAR Case 2013-002)	06/21/2019	06/24/2019
DOC&DOI FRM (Pass-back) Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Revision of Regulations for Interagency Cooperation" (a.k.a. 'Section 7' rule)	06/21/2019	06/24/2019
DOT/FHWA NPRM: Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition for Federal and Federally Assisted Programs	06/24/2019	06/25/2019
DOI/BOEM FRM: Air Quality Control, Reporting, and Compliance	06/20/2019	06/26/2019

FAR FRM: Federal Acquisition Regulation: Set-Asides under Multiple-Award Contracts (FAR Case 2014-002)	06/25/2019	06/26/2019
DOD/ACE RGL: Timeframes for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certifications and Clarification of Waiver Responsibility	06/27/2019	06/28/2019
DoD/ACE NPRM (Pass-back): Natural Disaster Procedures: Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Activities of the Corps of Engineers	N/A	N/A

Documents Sent to the OFR from June 14-20, 2019

FRL #	Title	Date Sent to FR
9994-19-Region 9	Air Plan Approvals, California, Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District	06-20-2019
9994-20-Region 9	Air Plan Approvals; California; Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District	06-20-2019
9995-28-OW	Technical corrections to Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA) regulations and disposal sites designated under the MPRSA	06-20-2019
9995-70-OAR	Repeal of the Clean Power Plan; Emission Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Existing Electric Utility Generating Units; Revisions to Emission Guideline Implementing Regulations	06-20-2019
9995-05-OMS	NESHAP for the Printing and Publishing Industry (Renewal)/ICR 1739.09	06-20-2019
9995-53-OGC	Proposed Settlement Agreement, Challenge to Clean Air Act SIP Action	06-19-2019
9995-22-OW	Clean Water Act Methods Update Rule for the Analysis of Effluent	06-19-2019
9995-33-Region 7	Air Plan Approval; Missouri; Infrastructure State Implementation Plan Requirements for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard	06-19-2019
9995-34-Region 7	Air Plan Approval; Missouri; Removal of Control of VOC Emissions from Traffic Coatings	06-19-2019
9995-32-Region 7	Air Plan Approval; Missouri; Rescission of Information on Sales of Fuels to be Provided and Maintained and Certain Coals to be Washed	06-19-2019
9995-31-Region 7	Approval of Iowa and Nebraska Air Quality Implementation Plans; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2012 Annual Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5) National Ambient Air Quality Standard Interstate Transport	06-19-2019
9995-35-Region 7	Approval of Air Quality Improvement Plan, Operating Permits Program, and 112(l) Plan; Missouri; Operating Permits	06-19-2019

9995-38-Region 4	Ocean Dumping: Modification of an Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Site Offshore of Mobile, Alabama	06-19-2019
9995-41-Region 1	Air Plan Approval; Massachusetts; Infrastructure State Implementation Plan Requirements for the 2012 PM2.5 NAAQS	06-18-2019
9995-48-OGC	Freedom of Information Act Regulations Update	06-18-2019
9995-43-Regions 3 and 5	Approval of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Ohio and West Virginia; Attainment Plans for the Steubenville, Ohio-West Virginia 2010 Sulfur Dioxide Nonattainment Area	06-18-2019
9995-37-Region 8	Clean Data Determination; Salt Lake City, Utah 2006 Fine Particulate Matter Standards Nonattainment Area	06-18-2019
9992-77-OCSPP	Certain New Chemicals; Receipt and Status Information for March 2019	06-17-2019
9994-67-OCSPP	Trifloxystrobin; Pesticide Tolerances	06-17-2019
9995-42-Region 5	Air Plan Approval; Ohio; Open Burning Rules	06-17-2019
9995-46-OAR	Alternative Methods for Calculating Off-cycle Credits under the Light-duty Vehicle Greenhouse Gas Emissions Program: Application from Toyota Motor North America, Inc.	06-17-2019
9995-18-Region 6	Air Plan Approval; Texas; Dallas-Fort Worth Area Redesignation and Maintenance Plan for Revoked Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards	06-17-2019
9995-23-OAR	National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Solvent Extraction for Vegetable Oil Production Residual Risk and Technology Review	06-17-2019
9995-26-Region 6	Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; New Mexico and Albuquerque-Bernalillo County; Municipal Solid Waste Landfills	06-17-2019
9993-91-OCSPP	Pesticide Product Registration; Receipt of Applications for New Active Ingredients (April 2019)	06-14-2019
9994-34-OCSPP	Melamine Formaldehyde Polycondensate Resin; Tolerance Exemption	06-14-2019
9995-30-Region 5	Air Plan Approval; Illinois; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2012 PM2.5 NAAQS; Interstate Transport	06-14-2019
9995-10-Region 8	Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality State Implementation Plans; Utah; Interstate Transport Requirements for Nitrogen Dioxide, Sulfur Dioxide, and Fine Particulate Matter	06-14-2019

Office of Research and Development

Hot Topics

Next week, the Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC) Executive Committee will meet in Research Triangle Park, NC to discuss the BOSC subcommittees' reviews of ORD's draft FY19-22 Strategic Research Action Plans (StRAPs).

Collaborative Low-Cost Air Sensor Project Deploying in Phoenix, AZ

The Phoenix as a Testbed for Low-Cost Air Quality Sensors (P-TAQS) research project is deploying this week with collaborators from Maricopa County Air Quality Department, Arizona DEQ, EPA Office of Air and Radiation, and Region 9. Low-cost air sensors are a rapidly evolving field of technology being developed, sold, and used worldwide. This research will include assessment of sensor performance over time and in response to differing environmental conditions, such as temperature, humidity, and pollution levels. The project also includes a pilot deployment of a distributed sensor network in Phoenix.

Helping Ohio with Lead Service Lines

ORD participated in a conference call on lead service line replacement efforts in the State of Ohio, as part of the Lead Service Line Collaborative. Specifically, participants discussed communication of the risks from lead service lines in Ohio and lead service line replacement and identification of funding mechanisms in Ohio. Other attendees on this call were from the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, Environmental Defense Fund, Greater Cincinnati Water Works, Ohio EPA, local Health Departments, Case Western, and RESOLVED (NGO).

Bi-National Oil Spill Research Using Freshwater Mesocosms

ORD will participate in a Canadian oil spill research study taking place this summer. On June 10, 2019, lake shoreline mesocosms were experimentally dosed with oil and oil-spill response agents and, over the next three months, researchers will use controlled experimental regimes to assess ecological impacts and recovery. This research project will benefit EPA by providing critical information on spills of unconventional oils in freshwater systems.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Final Rule – Protection of Human Research Subjects

ORD has transmitted the Final Rule - Protection of Human Research Subjects (RIN 2080-AA13) to the Administrator for signature. Release and printing in the Federal Register is anticipated next week. This rule harmonizes EPA-specific regulations with the revised Common Rule.

ECOS-EPA PFAS Call

ORD will host the bimonthly ECOS-EPA PFAS call on Monday, June 24 from 4-5 PM ET. Ian Smith, the Emerging Contaminants and Issues Coordinator at Michigan Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, will provide an overview of Michigan's drinking water initiatives to survey PFAS contamination within their drinking water resources serving 75% of the state's residents. Representatives from OECA and ORD will discuss how PFAS Analytic Tools could be used to assist states and communities in addressing their PFAS challenges, and ORD will provide an update on EPA PFAS research efforts related to incineration and biosolids, two topics of high interest to the states.

Office of Water

Hot Topics

Mitigation Rule Revisions for Stakeholder Engagement Meetings

On June 20, the Office of Water and Army Corps conducted stakeholder engagement meetings with the Big 10 and the Small Business Community, and with the tribes on June 26. The purpose of these meetings is to understand what issues our stakeholders would like us to address in the Mitigation Rule. Comments will be accepted through August 10th. This information will be used to help shape and guide potential revisions to 40 CFR Part 230, Subpart J and 33 CFR Part 332. Meeting participants include Brittany Carter from OCIR, Deputy Assistant Administrator Lee Forsgren, Army Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) Ryan Fisher, and several OW and Corps program support staff.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

Webinar Series with USDA - Private Sector Financing Solutions for Nutrient Reductions

Next week, the EPA and USDA will co-host the second of a four-part webinar series on financing nutrient reductions. The first webinar had more than 660 participants. The second webinar will discuss financing options for the private sector for nutrient reduction. Upcoming webinars will be held throughout the summer to feature financing solutions and stormwater nutrient reduction. All webinars are open to the public and archived for future viewing.

Kohler and Green Bay Water Utility Tour

Next week, Assistant Administrator David Ross will do a two-day tour in Wisconsin to visit water industry stakeholders. On Monday, Mr. Ross will meet with Green Bay Water Utility along with state representatives and EPA officials from Region 5. Press have been invited to hear Mr. Ross speak on the President's budget-request for workforce development, lead service line removal, lead testing funding, and assistance for small and disadvantaged communities (open press). On Tuesday, he will visit the Kohler manufacturing plant and meet with executive staff to discuss WaterSense (closed press)

ECOS' Shale Gas Caucus

Next week, Mr. Forsgren will participate in a webinar with the Environmental Council of the States to discuss the EPA's draft produced water study. Additional speakers include Scott Anderson (EDF), Matthias Sayler (NGL Energy Partners), and Mike Paque (Groundwater Protection Council). Closed to press.

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