# Region 1

## Hot Topics

### Region 1 Provides Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Technical Assistance

On April 26, Region 1 and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection jointly distributed the seventh issue of the electronic publication *Massachusetts Stormwater News* to a mailing list of over 472 primarily municipal, state, and regional planning commissions. The April issue includes the feature article *Implementing an Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) Program*, a *Timeline of Permit Requirements*, and *Tips from the Field*, a new feature in Stormwater News, focusing on outfall sampling.

### Region 1 Participates in Two Earth Day Events in Plymouth and Kingston, MA

On Earth Day, April 22, Region 1 staff attended two Earth Day events in the towns of Plymouth and Kingston, MA. In Plymouth, Governor Baker joined in a herring release into Town Brook, where a dam was recently removed. In Kingston, MA Division of Marine Fisheries installed a temporary fish ladder allowing herring up the Jones River past a dam at Forge Pond to Silver Lake. This event marks the first-time fish have been able to pass this barrier in 120 years.

### EPCRA Settlement Reach with Nutra-Blend, LLC of Albans, VT

On April 29, EPA and Nutra-Blend, L.L.C., d.b.a. Old Mill Troy, settled an administrative penalty case for alleged violations of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) that occurred at Nutra-Blend's animal feed supplement manufacturing facility in St. Albans, Vermont. The case Complaint, filed on March 28, 2019, alleged that Nutra-Blend failed to provide EPCRA Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) reports for five toxic chemical compounds used at the Old Mill Troy facility during calendar year 2016. Nutra-Blend corrected the violations by submitting the missing forms shortly after EPA inspected the facility in September 2018. As part of the settlement, Nutra-Blend agreed to pay a $111,060 penalty.

## Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

### Federal Resource Forum and Roundtable to be Held in Lewiston, ME

On May 3, Region 1 will participate in the Federal Resource Forum being held in Lewiston, ME. EPA staff will join other federal agencies and local officials at a roundtable to discuss issues and challenges facing local communities and what federal resources may be available to assist. A larger forum will follow, focusing on Opportunity Zones. The forum will provide the opportunity to offer informational material and engage in direct ad-hoc discussion with members of the public.

### National Brownfields Grant Competition Winners to Be Announced in June

The Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup proposal reviews were completed April 24, and all paperwork was provided to Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization (OBLR), meeting the April 30 deadline. OBLR is reviewing the ranking scores and will brief selection officials on May 28. Announcements are planned for June 5.



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# Region 2

## Hot Topics

**Legislation to Add Solid Waste Management and Storm Water Management to Stafford Act**
On 4/10 Puerto Rico Resident Commissioner Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon introduced a bill to include solid waste management and storm water management, among other matters, to the definition of "critical services" funded by the Stafford Act. Resident Commissioner Gonzalez-Colon plans to have her legislation attached as an amendment to an upcoming supplemental appropriations bill. Puerto Rico's representative in Congress hopes EPA will discuss the problems encountered in obtaining funding for these vital response and recovery issues because they were excluded from the list of reimbursable "critical services."

**Progress in Restructuring PRASA's SRF Debt**
On 4/24 a meeting was held in Washington at the Department of Agriculture to negotiate a final agreement on the restructuring of the Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority (PRASA) debt. The federal parties came to an agreement in principle with PRASA on the terms and conditions for restructuring the SRF debt, as well as debt owed by PRASA to the Rural Utilities Service. The final agreement will reflect an approach consistent with the Master Agreement of Trust and additional conditions and covenants will be incorporated into the EPA grant agreements with Puerto Rico's Environmental Quality Board and Department of Health.

**Lead Service Line Replacement Project in Newark, NJ**
NJDEP approved a $12 million "Phase 1" lead service line replacement project in January. Construction started in March. The project is funded by $9 million in principle forgiveness (essentially a $9 million grant) from the NJ-DWSRF, a $1 million interest-free loan and a below-market loan from the NJ-DWSRF's base program for the remainder of the cost. The loan closings are expected to occur in late May or early June.

**DuPont/Chemours Parlin, NJ**
Region 2 and NJDEP continue to coordinate with DuPont and Chemours on how the companies will divide the PFAS and GenX work by the federal and state environmental agencies on 4/5. Chemours proposed submitting a completed receptor evaluation and sampling workplan within 60 days. After discussion by the regulating agencies, NJDEP sent a letter on 4/26 demanding Chemours expedite sampling the wells and finish the work within 30 days.

## Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

**RA Lopez to Address National Academy of Science on NYC Watershed Protection**
On 5/14 RA Lopez will address the National Academies of Science, other federal and state regulators, NGO's and other stakeholders about a path forward in the effort to protect the quality and purity of NYC's drinking water supply, the largest unfiltered aquifer in the country.

**Matteo Superfund Site, West Deptford, NJ**
A draft Proposed Plan for this site was forwarded to headquarters for review. A fact sheet in support of an upcoming briefing of Administrator Wheeler is with OLEM. Region 2 will be scheduling briefings with OLEM and the Administrator on this issue soon.

**Arsenic Mine, Kent, NY**
On 4/30 NYSDOH issued a Health Consultation and ATSDR issued a Public Health Advisory (PHA) on their evaluation of arsenic-contaminated shallow soils at the Arsenic Mine Site. The PHA recommends EPA take short- and long-term measures as soon as feasible to quickly dissociate residents from exposure to arsenic in



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the soil at the site. Region 2 is working with OLEM to expedite the briefing and review process (i.e.: OLEM management; Administrator Wheeler; OMB) to include this site in the 5/2019 NPL update.

**Rolling Knolls, Chatham, NJ:** The Department of Interior prepared a Feasibility Study Assessment Report and submitted it to headquarters and NJ for consideration. Headquarters asked Region 2 to review the report and provide observations. The next CAG meeting is 5/13.



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# Region 3

## Hot Topics

**Region 3 to Request Waiver for Pennsylvania Chesapeake Bay Unliquidated Obligations**
Region 3 has concerns about the ability of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) to spend existing Chesapeake Bay Implementation (CBIG) and Regulatory Accountability Program (CBRAP) grant funds in a timely manner. Therefore, we are implementing two steps to ensure that Pennsylvania does not put itself in a position to forfeit current or future grant dollars. In order to avoid forfeiture of the currently allocated grant money under CBRAP II, Region 3 is pursuing a waiver option. If the waiver is granted, PADEP will be expected to schedule regular meetings with EPA staff to discuss and document grant progress, including the reduction of the CBIG and CBRAP unliquidated funds. RA Servidio communicated this information to PADEP Secretary McDonnell on May 1.

**Court enters Atlantic Wood Industries, Inc. Superfund Site Consent Decree in excess of $55.3 million**
On April 30, 2019, the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia, Norfolk Division, entered a Consent Decree (CD) under CERCLA relating to the Atlantic Wood Industries Inc. Superfund Site (Site), Portsmouth, Virginia. Settling Parties are EPA, Virginia, and Federal and Virginia Natural Resource Trustees (collectively, Settling Plaintiffs); the U.S. Department of Defense and the U.S. Department of the Navy (Settling Federal Agencies); and Atlantic Wood Industries, Inc./Atlantic Metrocast, Inc. (Settling Defendant). Pursuant to the CD, Settling Federal Agencies will pay $55.3 million to EPA and $8.5 million to Virginia for Site response costs. Settling Defendant will pay to EPA and Virginia $250,000 plus interest. The Site, located at and adjacent to the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River and immediately north of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard's Southgate Annex, was the former location of a wood treating facility and includes approximately 50 acres of land and 35 acres of River sediments. Since 2010, EPA has been performing a Fund-lead cleanup at the Site to remediate hazardous substances and heavy metals, present in soils, ground water, and sediments at the Site.

**Region 3 Receives West Virginia's Modification of CWA Water Quality Certification for Army Corps' General Permits**
On April 24, 2019, Region 3 received from the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection its modification of its CWA Section 401 water quality certification for Nationwide General Permits numbers 1-51 and 53 issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the Corps). This modification affects all projects covered by those Nationwide permits, including the Mountain Valley Pipeline project, which has been subject to multiple court challenges. The terms of the modified water quality certification cannot take effect until agreed to by the EPA and the Corps pursuant to 40 C.F.R. 121.2(b). Region 3 is reviewing the modified water quality certification.

**Maryland Submits Lower Patuxent River Bacteria TMDL to EPA for Final Action**
On April 23, Maryland submitted to EPA for final action the bacteria total maximum daily loads (TMDL) for three restricted shellfish harvesting areas in the Lower Patuxent River Basin, which gives EPA until May 23 to meet the 30-day statutory deadline to approve or disapprove. Maryland develops bacteria TMDLs using a scientifically-defensible and robust methodology that has been used for over a decade. The implementation of the TMDLs will result in a 94, 40, and 22 percent reduction in total watershed bacteria loads from the three TMDL areas. Only nonpoint sources, including livestock, humans, pets, and when necessary, wildlife, are prescribed reductions as there are no point sources of bacteria in these watersheds. The TMDL is not expected to be controversial.

**EPA provides critical inspection training at PA Industrial Pretreatment Conference**
On April 25-26, Region 3 staff provided inspection training to Pre-Treatment Coordinators, Wastewater Treatment Plant staff and inspectors from different states at this year's Industrial Pretreatment Conference

that was held Lehigh County, PA. Co-sponsored by the EPA and the Eastern Pennsylvania Water Pollution Control Operators Association. this conference offers valuable federal/state networking opportunities; pretreatment refresher training, and the opportunity to engage with the regulated community.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

Regional Administrator Cosmo Servidio has the following events scheduled:

May 6 Meeting with Philadelphia Water Department and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Philadelphia, PA

May 6 Meeting with US Department of Agriculture and ESPOMA to discuss an ESPOMA facility which has the potential to divert excess nutrient-laden manure from farms in the Chesapeake Bay watershed into marketable products. Philadelphia, PA.

May 7 Meeting with the Delaware County Regional Water Quality Control Authority and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Philadelphia, PA.

May 9 Chesapeake Principals' Staff Committee Meeting, Richmond, VA



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# Region 4

## Hot Topics

**Roundtable on Harmful Algae Blooms**
On May 7, 2019 Acting Region 4 Administrator Mary Walker along with other federal partners, will join Congressman Francis Rooney in Ft. Myers, Florida to participate in a roundtable discussion regarding algae blooms, the impacts and potential path forward.

**Hill Visits**
On May 8, 2019, the Acting Regional Administrator will meet with Congressman Guest, Mast, and Congresswoman Sewell to discuss EPA activities in their districts in Mississippi, Florida, and Alabama. On May 9, 2019, the Acting Regional Administrator will conduct similar discussions with Senators Blackburn, Rubio, and Shelby for Tennessee, Florida, and Alabama.

## Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

**Nassau County, Florida Redesignation -**Effective May 24, 2019 the Nassau County, FL SO2 Nonattainment are will be redesignated to attainment. This was published in the Federal Register on April 24, 2019. This the second SO2 NAAQS in the Southeast.

**Paducah Formal Dispute Resolution** for the C-400 Removal Notification SEC level dispute – May 13, 2019

**Paducah Formal Dispute Resolution for the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis SEC level dispute** - May 20, 2019



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# Region 5

## Hot Topics

**EPA Responds to April 25 Ammonia Spill in Beach Park, Ill.**

Key Message: Clean-up of contaminated soils has been completed by a PRP and EPA has concluded air monitoring activities at the spill site.

PRP contractors excavated approximately 60 cubic yards of ammonia-contaminated soils at the area immediately adjacent to the spill. EPA observed only trace levels of ammonia in the air after clean soils were added to the excavated area and demobilized on April 27. Lake County Health Department continues to monitor and sample nearby wells for contamination.

**Emergency Removal Site Evaluation Initiated in Glendale, Wis.**

Key Message: After a site referral from Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), action was initiated to evaluate potential heavy-metal contamination (including lead and arsenic) at Parkway School and Glendale Little League fields.

EPA, along with WDNR, sampled public rights-of-way, the school and fields last week. XRF results from the top six inches identified one grid at the school and two locations in the right-of-way with lead above 400 ppm. All samples from the 0-6-inch interval have been sent to a lab for verification. EPA is currently screening all other samples below six inches with the XRF and a subset of those will be sent to a lab for verification and results are expected in the next week. EPA went door-to-door to 27 homes in the area to inform residents on activities and request access. To date, EPA has received 13 access agreements from residents to perform sampling at private properties in the neighborhood. EPA will begin scheduling the residential sampling in the next few weeks. After the site evaluation is completed in the neighborhood, potential next steps will be evaluated.

**Deputy RA Cheryl Newton Provided Opening Remarks at National Response Team – Regional Response Team Co-Chairs Meeting on May 1**

Key Message: DRA Newton welcomed attendees to Chicago and highlighted some of the region's recent response successes.

**RA Stepp Traveled to Cincinnati for Annual State Commissioners Meeting and Earth Week**

Key Message: RA Stepp and state commissioners tour the Cincinnati lab and discussed key priorities and challenges.

Region 5 held its state commissioners meeting at EPA's Cincinnati Laboratory and provided the opportunity to showcase some of the laboratory support services that ORD can provide to states. Discussions included ORD lab support capabilities for states, continuous improvement of state and federal collaboration to deal with environmental issues, the PFAS Action Plan, the regional realignment, and WOTUS. The meeting concluded with ORD providing attendees a tour of the PFOA/PFOS, lead in drinking water, and harmful algal bloom laboratories. This was the perfect time to hold this meeting since five of the six Region 5 state commissioners have been recently appointed to their positions.

While in Cincinnati, Cathy Stepp celebrated Earth Week by visiting a local Cincinnati project focused on improving water quality. Cathy was joined by Ohio EPA Director Laurie Stevenson and community stakeholders as they visited the Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) of Cincinnati and received a tour of its innovative Lick Run Greenway project. The tour highlighted what EPA, Ohio EPA and MSD are doing to address combined sewer overflows to improve water quality, create new jobs and provide opportunities for community revitalization.



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## Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

**OIG to Hold May 6 Public Meeting in Franklin, Ind., Regarding Amphenol/Franklin Power Products Site**
Key Message: As part of their investigation into the effectiveness of OLEM's risk communications, EPA's OIG will be holding as many as four listening sessions across the country to facilitate citizen feedback.

Region 5 is coordinating with HQ and will inform congressional and other elected officials of the OIG's meeting during an upcoming status call.

**RA Stepp to Provide Keynote at Great Lakes Economic Forum on May 8**
Key Message: RA Stepp will be traveling to Cleveland where she will share the ways in which EPA positively impacts the Great Lakes region by providing certainty to our co-regulators, the regulated community, and the public.

# Region 6

## Hot Topics

**Intercontinental Terminals Company (ITC) LLC, Deer Park, Texas**
EPA response activities are being transitioned to Texas and demobilization of federal assets is underway. ITC has completed the transfer of all materials possible from the damaged tanks until deconstruction of the tanks can begin. The Houston ship channel has been reopened with unrestricted access and most of all recoverable material has been removed. Approximately 84% of the shoreline has been cleaned-up. Air monitoring continues and will be revisited once tanks are emptied.

**Mosaic Fertilizer LLC, St. James, Louisiana**
Mosaic must remove at least 300 million gallons of process waste water by September to avoid overtopping impoundments. EPA and LDEQ are reviewing options to impose discharge monitoring, reporting and effluent limitations on Mosaic in the event an emergency discharge of process waste water becomes necessary. Mosaic's plan for water balancing does not include the contingency for an emergency discharge and currently relies heavily upon spray evaporation technology and the use of its Faustina, LA facility.

**Bird Creek Settlement, Oklahoma**
Settlement negotiations with the companies have been completed and includes the continuous monitoring and recording of injection pressure to assure low injection pressure is maintained. Once filing and the settlement is effective, EPA will issue permits to reflect these requirements.

**Chevron Questa Superfund Site, New Mexico**
An internal options issue paper is being developed to respond to a request by the Chevron Corporation for EPA to consolidate their Federal NPDES permit under CERCLA authorities. Region 6 is closely coordinating with OGC, OW, OECA and OLEM to ensure national consistency.

**Arkansas Title VI Compliant**
A draft agreement has been shared with Arkansas and initial discussions are underway. EPA and ADEQ will meet on May 7 in Little Rock to seek resolution to any outstanding issues and finalize the agreement.

**Texas Title VI Compliant**
EPA dismissed the Texas Title VI compliant and referred the complaint's claims of employment discrimination to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) on jurisdictional grounds.

**Georgia-Pacific Crossett Consent Decree**
By May 10, the Department of Justice expects to file the Motion to Enter with response to comments for the Georgia-Pacific Crossett Consent Decree. The Consent Decree was lodged on December 14, 2018 and Region 6 hosted a community meeting in Crossett with Georgia-Pacific and Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality to discuss the draft settlement on February 7, 2019.

**Tribal Consultation, New Mexico**
Region 6 will participant in a discussion with several Pueblos on May 9 to discuss the recent MOU with New Mexico on Produced Water and whether this action should have triggered consultation.



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## Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

**Houston/Galveston/Brazoria Re-designation/Maintenance Plan, Texas**
By May 9, Region 6 anticipates proposed approval of the Houston/Galveston/Brazoria Re-designation and Maintenance plan SIP revision for the revoked 1-hour and 1997 8-hour ozone standards. The proposed action will also address Texas' 185 fee plan submission.

**New Mexico Statutes - Partial Withdrawal of Direct Final Action**
By May 14, Region 6 intends to withdraw portions of a Direct Final rule approval of revisions to New Mexico's SIP due to adverse comments from the City of Albuquerque.

**St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana**
By May 15, Region 6 anticipates final action on the supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking for the SO2 attainment demonstration for St. Bernard Parish. RAIN, a carbon calciner, and LDEQ have agreed on new emissions and operating limits.

**Arkansas NAAQS Major Source Permitting SIP Revision, Arkansas**
By May 24, Region anticipates a proposed action for ADEQ's NAAQS major NSR/Regulation19 and 16 regulatory revisions. EPA received a request from ADEQ on April 3 withdrawing several pending SIP revisions related to GHGs.

**Houston Area Ozone Exceptional Events, Texas**
By May 24, Region 6 intends to act on TCEQ's initial notification of potential exceptional events for ozone on July 26 and 27 and August 23 and 24, 2018, in the Houston/Galveston/Brazoria Area.

**DFW 2008 Ozone Attainment Demonstration, Texas**
By May 29, Region 6 intends to finalize an action to bump up the DFW area from moderate to serious for the 2008 Ozone NAAQS.

**Houston/Galveston/Brazoria 2008 Ozone Attainment Demonstration, Texas**
By May 29, Region 6 intends to reclassify the HGB area from moderate to serious under the 2008 ozone NAAQS. The public comment period closed on February 22

**Albuquerque 2nd Set of Air Permit SIP Revisions, New Mexico**
By May 30, Region 6 intends to propose approval on second set of pending air permit related SIP revisions from Albuquerque/Bernalillo County on changes to the their NSR rules to exempt gasoline dispensing facilities and emergency RICE engines from permitting.

**May 6** **ADEQ/EPA Leadership Retreat, Little Rock, Arkansas**

**May 20** **NMED/EPA Leadership Retreat, Santa Fe, New Mexico**

**May 21-22** **EPA Small Drinking Water Systems Workshop, Addison, Texas**



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# Region 7

## Hot Topics

**Region 6 & Region 7 MOU for Spring River Watershed Joint Record of Decision**

Key Message: EPA Region 6 and Region 7 have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to address mine waste contamination in the Spring River Watershed.

The Spring River watershed is impacted by of four Superfund sites in the Tri-State Mining District in Oklahoma, Kansas, and Missouri. The Memorandum of Understanding signed by the R6 and R7 Superfund Divisions on April 24 includes a strategy to complete multiple Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study reports, resulting in a single Record of Decision for the watershed.

Impacted parties of the Spring River watershed include three states, nine tribal nations, and other federal agencies. Stakeholders had the opportunity to review and comment on the MOU prior to signature.

**Region 7 Flood Response in Iowa and Nebraska**

Key Message: EPA continues to conduct flood response activities under FEMA ESF-10 Mission Assignments in both Iowa and Nebraska.

Focus of Mission Assignments are to identify and collect orphan containers in priority locations such as levees and highway rights-of-way, as requested by the states - 717 containers have been recovered to date.
EPA has three OSCs assigned to each state.

Region 7 Emergency Operation Center is coordinating twice per week calls with Iowa, Nebraska, and Missouri to discuss ongoing and future flood response needs.

**Request for Assistance for Paulian Place Abandoned Containers Site**

Key Message: EPA Region 7 received a Request for Assistance from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) to secure and dispose of multiple containers of hazardous substances dumped in St. Louis, MO.

Last week, the EPA Region 7 emergency response program responded to a request for assistance by MDNR to secure and categorize approximately 400 containers of hazardous substances dumped in a residential area in St. Louis, MO.

On Saturday, April 27, EPA segregated and safely secured the waste. Disposal is currently being arranged.

**EPA Region 7 approved TMDLs in KS (18 stream segments)**

Key Message: The Water Division Standards and Water Quality Branch recently approved Total Maximum Daily Loads for 18 Kansas Stream Segments.

According to the Clean Water Act, each state must develop TMDLs for all waters identified on their Section 303(d) list of impaired waters, according to their priority ranking on that list.
After TMDLs are approved by EPA, TMDL wasteload allocations (those pollutant allocations assigned to point sources) are generally implemented through EPA's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits under CWA section 402.

Non-point source load reduction actions are implemented through a wide variety of programs at the state, local and federal level. The EPA section 319 program provides grant money to the states to fund specific projects aimed at reducing the nonpoint source pollution.

**Federal Register Notice for Iowa Primacy Revision Package for Drinking Water Rules**
Key Message: 30-day Public Comment Period begins April 30, 2019

EPA has reviewed the Iowa primacy revision package and deemed it complete.
The revision package contains five rules: Ground Water Rule, Disinfection By-Products Stage 2 Rule, Long-term Enhanced 2 Surface Water Treatment Rule, Revised Total Coliform Rule, and Lead and Copper Rule-Short-Term Revisions

The approval of the package will become final and effective May 30, 2019, unless (1) a timely and appropriate request for a public hearing is received or (2) the Regional Administrator elects to hold a public hearing. Any interested person, other than Federal Agencies, may request a public hearing.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

**St. Joseph Poster Contest - Reveal the Winners**
Key Message: On May 7, Regional Administrator Jim Gulliford will travel to the St. Francis Xavier School in St. Joseph, Missouri, to attend an assembly with students and reveal the winners of the lead poster contest, an event intended to raise awareness of the health effects of lead exposure and educate kids on ways to reduce lead exposure risk.

**29th Annual Administrator's Small Business Program Awards Ceremony**
Key Message: On May 9, Regional Administrator Jim Gulliford will travel to Washington D.C. to attend the Small Business Program Awards Ceremony.



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# Region 8

## Hot Topics

### Anaconda Smelter Consent Decree Negotiations

EPA, Montana Department of Environmental Quality, Atlantic Richfield (AR) and Anaconda/Deer Lodge County (ADLC) met in Butte, Montana on Tuesday, April 23 to discuss the Old Works Golf Course agreement, the domestic well plan, and issues having to do with the slag piles at Anaconda. Under the conceptual settlement agreement reached by the parties on October 11, 2018, these issues must be resolved before finalizing a site-wide consent decree for the Anaconda Smelter Superfund site. The parties made significant progress on all issues. AR and ADLC agreed to a clarification of AR's operation and maintenance responsibilities for the Old Works Golf Course, the establishment of a trust fund to address domestic well contamination not covered by the current plan and to conduct a study of the health risks from the slag piles that will inform the potential reuse and ultimate closure of the slag piles.

## Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

### Meeting with Congresswoman DeGette

EPA Region 8, the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment, Denver Water and Other Stakeholders will Meet with Congresswoman Diana DeGette on Friday, 5/3/2019 to provide an update and share perspectives on Denver Water's planned variance to Optimal Corrosion Control under the Safe Drinking Water Act.



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# Region 9

**Hot Topics:**

**SDWA UIC Aquifer Exemptions**
We'll approve two California requests for aquifer exemptions this week, two next week, and three more in May. These are part of the multi-year State effort to reevaluate and renew all aquifer exemptions under the SDWA UIC program.

**Mexican Border**
California: RA Mike Stoker will join the IBWC Commissioner , DOJ's Jon Brightbill and key California executives on May 7 in San Diego to discuss the state and local governments' litigation arising from transboundary flows of sewage from Tijuana to San Diego.

Arizona: Notable progress is being made in resolving the State of Arizona/IBWC legal challenge. We attended the meeting convened by Sen. McSally in Nogales, AZ with ADEQ, IBWC, the City of Nogales, and Santa Cruz County. After a year of negotiations, agreement was reached for IBWC to begin repair of two segments of the wastewater collector with $21 mil. in IBWC funds matched with $6 mil. from the state, which includes $4.7M from two AZ foundations.

No. American Development Bank: we'll conduct an onsite review May 7-8 of the Bank's implementation of EPA's Border Water Infrastructure program grants.

**Pacific Island Territories**
As we concluded our Typhoon Yutu mission assignments, the Commonwealth of the No. Mariana Islands has taken key steps to improve resiliency to tropical storms. Funded by an EPA pollution prevention grant, CNMI is now requiring developers to implement the **Sustainable CNMI: A Manual for Design, Construction, and Operational Practices for the Hotel Sector"** as a permit condition, representing a significant shift in CNMI's approach to siting and building hotels. CNMI is now using the **Guidance Manual for Smart, Safe Growth in the CNMI** as their Super Typhoon Yutu Recovery Plan. One FEMA analyst said "This is my 17th disaster. I'm excited about this plan. I have never seen any state or territory so well-prepared for recovery."

**AZ legislation**
ADEQ shared with us the proposed House Bill 2182 which would make significant changes to state and local permitting and administrative procedures. While we had less than a day to review and comment, we noted this could pose conflicts with the CAA, CWA and RCRA delegations and program requirements, and suggested further discussion with the State.

**CAA 112r enforcement**
We signed a consent order with Lupton Petroleum Products to address violations at its Arizona refinery. An earlier fire resulted in worker injury and damage to equipment. Navajo Nation EPA accompanied us on the inspection which led to this compliance action.

**TSCA compliance**
We'll begin compliance inspections in Anchorage and Fairbanks as part of incorporating Region 10's portfolio into our "core TSCA" responsibilities.



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## Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

### Food waste

RA Mike Stoker's recent presentation to the MGM Bellagio hotels for their EPA Food Recovery Challenge Award continues to receive national media coverage. Mike recognized Food Forward in Los Angeles with a Food Recovery Challenge award, and is scheduled to recognize Produce Good in San Diego with their award on May 7th.

### Drinking Water

We'll host a drinking water program directors meeting in Sacramento May 8-9, welcoming OECA, all our states, two territories (AS, GU) and the Navajo Nation to discuss PFAS, the national compliance initiative, and much more.



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# Region 10

## Hot Topics

Nothing to report this week.

## Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

**Final Approval of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Fairbanks Curtailment Program**
Next week Region 10 expects to sign a Federal Register Notice for final approval of ADEC's rules and associated SIP revisions related to administering a residential wood smoke curtailment program in Fairbanks, Alaska. The Fairbanks North Star Borough is currently a serious nonattainment area for the 2006 24-hour PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standard and the State of Alaska has the authority to regulate in this community. Finalization of these rules and associated SIP revisions strengthen the two stage curtailment program in the Fairbanks nonattainment area, and will make the curtailment program federally enforceable.

**Public Comment on UIC Class I- Hilcorp Tyonek Permit Reissuance (AK)**
Region 10 is accepting public comments from April 18 to May 20, and if no substantive comments are received, expects to soon reissue a UIC permit that allows Hilcorp Alaska, LLC to operate one Class I injection well on the Tyonek Platform in the North Cook Inlet Unit of Alaska. Under the permit, Hilcorp may use the well to inject only non-hazardous and exempt wastes associated with hydrocarbon exploration and production.

**Federal Rule Proposal for Aluminum Criteria to Protect Aquatic Life in Oregon**
On May 1, 2019, the proposed federal rule for the Oregon aquatic life criteria was published in the Federal Register for a 45-day public comment period. Webinar-based public hearings will take place on Tuesday, June 11, and Wednesday, June 12. Region 10 has offered tribal consultation and coordination to the potentially affected Oregon, Washington, and Idaho Tribes, and will host informational calls for tribal representatives on June 4 and June 13, 2019. Per a consent decree with Northwest Environmental Advocates, the aluminum rule must be finalized by March 27, 2020.

**Idaho Copper Criteria Approval**
This week the EPA approved the copper criteria submitted by the state of Idaho. Idaho has adopted the performance-based "Copper BLM," which the EPA also has approved for use in Oregon. Rather than establishing particular state-wide or even location-specific criteria values, the approved criteria provides for a process by which applicable numeric criteria for a water body or portion of a water body will be derived using available water chemistry data, for instance at the time a discharge permit is being developed. This performance-based approach does present interested stakeholders with the opportunity to review and comment on the actual derivation of the specific values when that occurs.

**Quarterly State Agriculture Directors Meeting**
On Thursday, May 9th, RA Hladick will host a Region 10 Quarterly State Ag Directors teleconference, as an opportunity for EPA and the State Directors to provide updates and discuss important agriculture and environmental related issues. The Associate Administrator of the Office of Public Engagement and Environmental Education, Tate Bennett, has confirmed that she will participate and will provide updates from EPA's Ag Counselor's Office. In addition, Region 10 staff will give a presentation and update on EPA's PFAS Action Plan followed by an opportunity for state ag agency directors to provide their own updates.

**Columbia River Basin Toxics Reduction Workgroup Meeting**
EPA, other federal agencies, states, tribes, and nonprofit partners established the Columbia River Toxics Reduction Working Group to share information, coordinate activities, and develop strategies to identify and



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reduce toxics in the Columbia River Basin. The second meeting of this group, since the passing of the CWA Section 123 (the Columbia River Basin Restoration Act), will be held May 7th in The Dalles, OR. Discussion will include: welcoming and introducing Montana and Region 8 representatives to the workgroup; monitoring updates and future needs; work efforts to reduce toxics in Idaho; water quality - the perspective from an orchard farmer; and various updates from R10 staff.



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# Office of Air and Radiation

## Hot Topics

**Tracking SIP Actions:**

- Total Number of SIPs submitted to Regions in FY 2019: 172
- Total Number of SIP Submittals with Final Action taken by the Regions in FY 2019: 140
- Total Number of Pending SIPs: 781

**Packages for Signature:**

- Surface Coating of Metal Cans and Surface Coating of Metal Coil RTR (Proposed Rule)
- Amendments to Federal Implementation Plan for Managing Air Emissions from True Minor Sources in Indian Country in the Oil and Natural Gas Production and Natural Gas Processing Segments of the Oil & Natural Gas Sector (Final Rule)
- Response to Clean Air Act Section 126(b) Petition from New York (Notice of Proposed Action on the Petition)
- Revision to Appendix P to 40 CFR Part 51, Concerning Minimum Emission Reporting Requirements in SIPs

**Packages at (or soon to be at) OMB for Review:**

- PM2.5 Precursor Demonstration Guidance
- Reclassification of Major Sources as Area Sources Under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act (Proposed Rule)
- Vehicle Test Procedure Adjustments for Tier 3 Test Fuel (Proposed Rule)
- Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) and Nonattainment New Source Review (NSR): Project Emissions Accounting (Proposed Rule)
- 2020 Ozone Depleting Substances Phaseout Rule (Proposed Rule)
- Amendments Related to Marine Diesel Engine Emission Standards (Proposed Rule)
- ACE (Final Rule)
- Exceptional Events Guidance: Prescribed Fire on Wildland that May Influence Ozone and Particulate Matter Concentrations
- RFS: Standards for 2020 and Biomass-Based Diesel Volume for 2021, Response to the Remand of the 2016 Standards, and Other Changes (Proposed Rule)

## Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

May 2-7: Anne is travelling to France for the G-7

May 7-9: Spring Air Division Directors Meeting here in DC



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# Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

## Hot Topics

### Asbestos Petition Denial

On April 30, EPA denied a petition under TSCA § 21 from 14 state Attorneys General (AG) that requested that EPA initiate rulemaking under § 8(a) for a new asbestos reporting rule to better inform EPA's risk management of asbestos. EPA determined that it already has enough information to undertake the asbestos risk evaluation and subsequent risk management action if necessary. EPA previously denied a petition from the Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization and others in late 2018 with a different but related request that is currently in litigation.

### Asbestos Hearing

AA Alex Dunn has been asked to testify at a House Energy and Commerce (HEC) hearing on May 8, to discuss a draft bill sponsored by the majority to ban asbestos and institute reporting requirements regarding asbestos in commerce. In addition to banning asbestos, the bill would broaden the TSCA definition of asbestos and require certain reports to be provided to Congress. OCSPP is providing technical assistance on the draft bill at the request of minority HEC counsel.

## Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

### Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC)

OPP will hold a public meeting of the PPDC May 8-9 at One Potomac Yard South. A Federal Register notice announcing the meeting published April 19. The PPDC is a forum for a diverse group of stakeholders to provide feedback to EPA on various pesticide regulatory, policy, and program implementation issues. PPDC typically meets twice a year. EPA will post an agenda for the meeting on the PPDC webpage on or before May 5. The meeting is open to the public and no advance registration is required.

### Revised Method and Public Meeting on Endangered Species and Pesticides

OCSPP will soon issue a Federal Register Notice (FRN) announcing the availability of a draft revised method for conducting national level threatened and endangered (listed) species biological evaluations for pesticides. OCSPP will also give notice that it will hold a June 6 public meeting to present the draft revised method and receive additional stakeholder feedback. This is part of an overall effort to improve the Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultation process for pesticide registration and registration review activities and is a significant first step in implementing the new FIFRA-ESA Interagency Working Group established by the 2018 Farm Bill.

### First TSCA SACC Meeting to be Re-Announced

As early as May 7, OCSPP will publish a FRN announcing the rescheduled, first meeting of the Toxic Substances Control Act Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals (TSCA SACC). The TSCA SACC provides EPA independent advice and recommendations on the scientific basis for risk assessments, methodologies, and pollution prevention measures and approaches for chemicals regulated under TSCA. The meeting will be held June 18-21. At the meeting, the Committee will review EPA's draft risk evaluation for Colour Index (C. I.) Pigment Violet 29 (PV29) and associated documents.

# Office of the Chief Financial Officer

## Hot Topics

The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee FY 2020 Budget Hearing transcript has been routed to the program offices for review and inserts. Responses are due to OCFO by May 8.

OCFO received the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee FY 2020 Budget Hearing Questions for the Record (QFRs) on April 23 and the House Appropriations Committee QFRs on April 25. OCFO is working with OCIR, OGC and agency programs to prepare responses.

## Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

The public comment period on the draft FY 2020-2021 National Program Guidances ends May 3. Final guidances are due to OCFO on May 31, along with the NPMs' response to comments documents.

OCFO is working with programs regarding Administrator decisions on FY 2020-2021 Agency Priority Goal areas, including measurement implications, and get input on impact statements, which are due to OMB on May 10. In addition, OCFO is reviewing Draft FY 2018-2019 Q1/Q2 APG Action Plan Updates, also due to OMB on May 10. The next face-to-face E-Enterprise Leadership Council meeting is on May 9-10 in Phoenix, AZ.

## Other

On May 7, the CFO is holding an OCFO Senior Leader retreat to discuss priorities, communications, and employee engagement.

The CFO is traveling to R8 in Denver, CO on May 13-15 to meet with the Interior Business Center (EPA's HR/payroll provider) as well as regional EPA representatives.



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## Office of the Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations

**Hot Topics**

May 7 - Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee's Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management will hold a hearing entitled, "From Beginning to End: An Examination of Agencies' Early Public Engagement and Retrospective Review

May 8 - House Energy and Commerce, Environment and Climate Change Subcommittee will hold a Legislative Hearing on H.R. 1603, Alan Reinstein Ban Asbestos Now Act of 2019
(EPA Witness: Alexandra Dunn, OCSPP AA)

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

May 8 - Senator Lisa Murkowski (AK), EPA's Office of Water, Region 10, and OIR will meet with Mayor Gary Paxton, City Administrator Keith Brady, and Legislative Affairs Director Larry Markley to discuss the city's water quality challenges and explore federal and state programs and partnerships designed to assist communities with water infrastructure financing.

May 8 – Call with Rep. Diana DeGette's (D-CO) staff to discuss the Environmental Justice program.

May 14 - WIFIA, Clean Water SRF, Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center, OST, and Region IX staff will join OIR for a meeting with Mayor Larry Bird and other city leaders to discuss Hesperia's priority water infrastructure needs, including the "Septic to Sewer" project.



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## Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

**Hot Topics:**

**Owner of Pennsylvania Company Convicted in Green Energy Fraud Scheme**
On May 1, 2019, a federal jury in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania convicted David M. Dunham, Jr. of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and defraud the United States, wire fraud, filing false tax documents, and obstruction of justice. The conviction stemmed from Dunham hatching and executing a scheme to defraud the EPA, the Internal Revenue Service, the United States Department of Agriculture, and his customers by obtaining renewable fuel credits in his "green energy" business. In Dunham's scam, he fraudulently applied for, received, and sold credits for selling renewable biofuels that he, in fact, did not sell and, in many instances, had never possessed in the first place. He obtained these credits from government agencies, which resulted in Dunham generating $50 million in fraudulent revenue.

**Local Government Advisory Committee Meeting**
On May 2, 2019, OECA Assistant Administrator Susan Bodine spoke to the Local Government Advisory Committee Meeting to overview current enforcement and compliance priorities.

**Training on Financial Models for Enforcement Actions**
On April 16 and 17, 2019, OECA hosted a training for state agencies, EPA, and the Department of Justice on EPA's financial models for enforcement actions. The training provided participants with an overview of ABEL, EPA's ability to pay financial model for business entities, and the benefits and limitations of ABEL. Most of the course focused on how to conduct further analysis and research outside of the ABEL model. This included learning about typical issues that arise, developing a cash flow analysis, conducting due diligence on Respondent's assertions, and assessing and analyzing a corporation's ability to pay when affiliated or related parties are involved. Participants also learned about the key changes in the December 2017 tax law affecting businesses and individuals and how the new tax law impacts a corporation's ability to pay in the ABEL model and entity's economic benefit derived from delayed and/or avoided costs in EPA's BEN computer model.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

OECA's "Draft Policy for Enhancing Regional-State Planning and Communication on Compliance Assistance Work in Authorized States" will be published in the Federal Register shortly for a 30-day public comment period.

On May 9, 2019, OECA will have an ice cream social as part of Public Service Recognition Week to recognize OECA employees for advancing the agency's enforcement and compliance mission.

## Office of General Counsel

**Hot Topics**

***Petroff Trucking Company, Inc. v. EPA*, No. 19-00463 (S.D. Ill. filed April 29, 2019).**
New Litigation: Petroff Trucking Company, Inc. filed a complaint in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Illinois in response to a proposed CWA Administrative Order from EPA Region 5, relating to alleged violations of CWA section 301(a) for filling a wetland without a permit.

***Board of Lucas County Commissioners v. EPA*, No. 19-00873 (N.D. Ohio filed April 18, 2019).**
New Litigation: The Board of Lucas County Commissioners (the "Board") alleges EPA inaction with respect to a supposed failure by EPA to complete its mandatory duty under CWA section 303(d)(2) to act on a "constructive submission" of no TMDL by Ohio for western Lake Erie. The Board also asserts that EPA's approval of the State's 2018 303(d) list was arbitrary and capricious in the absence of a plan to address nutrient pollution into Lake Erie.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

**Oral Argument May 7, *Producers of Renewables United v. EPA*, No. 12-1202 (D.C. Cir.)**
Challenge to EPA's decision to allow small refiners to generate certain new 2018 renewable identification numbers under the renewable fuel standards program.



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# Office of International and Tribal Affairs

## Hot Topics

### Our Ocean Conference

EPA attended the interagency meeting at the State Department on the upcoming Our Ocean Conference 2019, to be hosted by Norway in Oslo on October 23-24. Norway's Our Ocean Conference is expected to follow same format as previous Our Ocean Conferences, where countries and organizations offer big new financial commitments that are action-oriented towards protecting the marine environment. The four themes of the Our Ocean Conference are sustainable fisheries, marine pollution, climate related impacts on the ocean, and marine protected areas. State is looking to agencies who are able to make big new commitments that can be announced during the conference.

### EPA Completes 500th Tribal Consultation

EPA has completed its 500th tribal consultation since adopting the EPA Tribal Consultation Policy in 2011. EPA was one of the first federal agencies to adopt a tribal consultation policy. Under the policy EPA affirms our commitment to government-to-government consultation with federally recognized tribes to provide tribal governments with the opportunity for early and meaningful input on EPA actions and decisions. Tribal consultation should occur before EPA takes actions or makes decisions that may affect tribes.

## Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

**European Commission Meeting** – The Administrator will be meeting with senior officials of the European Commission in Brussels, Belgium on May 2/3.

**G7 Environmental Ministerial Meeting –** The Administrator will be attending the 2019 G7 Environment Ministerial Meeting in Metz, France on May 4-6.

# Office of the Land and Emergency Management

## Hot Topics

**Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR).** We anticipate the CCR Phase 2 proposed rule package to go from OP to OMB soon for an expedited EO 12866 review.

**Clean Air Act 112(r) Risk Management Program (RMP).** A briefing for the Administrator is scheduled.

**Ongoing major Superfund NPL sites**. We are working with Region 4 on Oak Ridge, Region 9 on Edwards Air Force Base, and Region 10 on Portland Harbor and Wycoff/Eagle Harbor.

**CERCLA 108(b) Financial Assurance** (next three sectors).

**PFAS.**
PFOA and PFOS contaminated groundwater guidance. The public comment period concludes on June 10, 2019. Working on inclusion as "hazardous substances" under CERCLA.

**e-Manifest.**

## Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

ASTSWMO, LGAC, NEJAC. OLEM Senior Leadership are participating in these meetings this week.

DoD Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) Forum. On May 8, Peter Wright will participate in the plenary session at the DERP forum in St. Louis, MO.

Spring NPL update.

Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training (EWDJT). The FY20 EWDJT grant guidelines have been published in grants.gov. The deadline for the submission of proposals is June 10.

Exemption for Air Releases from Animal Waste at Farms from EPCRA Final Rule. The rule package has been submitted to OMB for a 30-day interagency review.

FY19 Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, Cleanup Grant Announcement. We are targeting an announcement of the selection of the grants on June 5, totaling approximately $55 million.

# Office of Mission Support

## Hot Topic

### Call for FY2020 Mandatory Course Requests

On May 2, 2019, the Chief Human Capital Officer distributed an agencywide request to senior leadership regarding anticipated mandatory courses for FY 2020. Mandatory course requests must be submitted to the OHR Training Branch by May 31, 2019.

### EPA.gov Among Top 5% for Accessibility

EPA's homepage scored in the top 5% for accessibility of more than 1M web sites surveyed by WebAIM, a non-profit dedicated to providing an Internet that can serve people with disabilities. EPA's homepage scored extremely well'; the Web Content Services Division worked with the Office of Public Affairs to fix its only two errors. In March, more than 4M visitors accessed EPA's homepage, often referred to as EPA's "front door." You can view EPA's homepage results in the WebAIM report.

### FY 2019 Gears of Government 3rd Quarter Nominations

Employees can now nominate their peers for the EPA's Gears of Government Awards which recognize individuals or small teams who design and implement projects that deliver positive and measurable improvements to the performance of the agency. Award recipients receive a certificate signed by the Acting Deputy Administrator along with a trophy and are recognized in agencywide communications. Awardees are also considered for nomination to the governmentwide awards process administered by the Office of Management and Budget. Nominations can be submitted through May 8, 2019, using EPA's Gears of Government Nominations Form. Criteria for the awards are available on the National Honor Awards SharePoint site.

## Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

### 2019 Headquarters' Walk to Wellness

The 2019 Headquarters' Walk to Wellness will be held on May 8, 2019. The event will begin at 11:00 a.m. on the William Jefferson Clinton Building 12th Street Lawn with sports competitions, fitness center class demonstrations, wellness experts and health screenings. Keynote remarks at 11:55 a.m. will precede a 1.5-mile group walk around the White House Ellipse at approximately 12:10 p.m.

### Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey

The EVS will run from May 16 through June 27, 2019. Five government-wide furlough related questions were added to this year's survey by the Office of Personnel Management.

# Office of Policy

## Hot Topic

**Local Foods, Local Places Announcement** - On May 7, the Office of Community Revitalization plans to announce technical assistance to support 15 communities interested in using local foods to grow the economy, improve health, and protect the environment.

**Community Revitalization Webinar** - On May 7, OCR will host a webinar for community representatives interested in applying for assistance through the new Recreation Economy for Rural Communities initiative.

**Community Revitalization Assistance** - On May 6-7, staff from the Office of Environmental Justice will participate in meetings with local leaders focused on community revitalization strategies for Shamokin, PA and other communities in the region.

**Environmental Justice Presentation** - On May 11, OEJ staff will discuss consideration of environmental justice through NEPA during the 5th Annual University of Maryland Environmental Justice and Health Disparities Symposium.

**Environmental Economics Presentation** – On May 6, staff from the National Center for Environmental Economics will give a presentation on benefit-cost analysis for graduate students at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

**Active Interagency Reviews from OMB**

| Subject | EPA Internal Due Date | OMB Due Date |
|---|---|---|
| HUD NPRM: Implementation of the Fair Housing Act's Disparate Impact Standard | 05/02/2019 | 05/03/2019 |
| HHS/CDC Notice (Pass-back): Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention: Blood Lead Reference Value Update | N/A | N/A |
| 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 April 26 – May 2, 2019**

| FRL # | Title | Date Sent to FR |
|---|---|---|
| 9993-30-Region 3 | Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standard | 2019-05-02 |
| 9992-10-OCSPP | Petition to Modify the Tolerance and Product Labels for Glyphosate with Regard to Oats | 2019-05-01 |
| 9992-96-OCSPP | Glyphosate Proposed Interim Registration Review Decision; Notice of Availability | 2019-05-01 |
| 9993-18-OECA | Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; See Item Specific ICR Titles Provided in the Text | 2019-05-01 |
| 9993-28-OECA | Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; Pesticide Registration Application, Notification and Report for Pesticide-Producing Establishments | 2019-05-01 |
| 9984-52-OCSPP | Pesticides; Technical Amendment to Data Requirements for Antimicrobial Pesticides | 2019-04-30 |
| 9992-97-Region 8 | Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Colorado; Revisions to Regulation Number 3 | 2019-04-30 |



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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 9992-89-Region 6 | Air Plan Approval; Texas; Revisions to Public Notice for Air Quality Permit Applications | 2019-04-30 |
| 9993-25-Region 5 | Air Plan Approval; Wisconsin; Nonattainment New Source Review Requirements for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard | 2019-04-30 |
| 9993-20-OAR | National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Engine Test Cells/Stands Residual Risk and Technology Review | 2019-04-30 |
| 9993-26-Region 5 | Air Plan Approval; Indiana; Redesignation of the Terre Haute Sulfur Dioxide Nonattainment Area | 2019-04-30 |
| 9993-06-Region 5 | Clean Air Act Operating Permit Program; Petition for Objection to State Operating Permit for Cargill, Inc. | 2019-04-29 |
| 9993-10-Region 9 | Air Plan Approval; California; Imperial County Air Pollution Control District | 2019-04-29 |
| 9993-01-Region 3 | Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Commercial Fuel Oil Sulfur Limits for Combustion Units in Allegheny County | 2019-04-26 |
| 9993-02-Region 3 | Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Allegheny County Reasonably Available Control Technology for the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard | 2019-04-26 |

## Office of Research and Development

**Hot Topic**

Next week Henry Darwin will be visiting the EPA RTP campus to follow up with teams involved in the Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) and Office of Research and Development (ORD) pilot EPA Lean Management System (ELMS) rollout. On the morning of May 7th, Henry will meet each of the RTP-based ORD process owners and their respective visual boards.

**The E-Enterprise Leadership Council Meeting**

The E-Enterprise Leadership Council (EELC) Meeting will be held May 9-10 in Phoenix, Arizona. ORD will be participating via teleconference in the session on "Emerging Environmental Threats and Early Work on Risk Communication" led by Nancy Grantham (OPA). During this session, a status update will be provided on the ongoing EPA/state/tribal coordination on emerging environmental threats. Discussions will focus on proposed options and next steps to support collective risk communication efforts, including potential connections with the new EPA workgroup on risk communication.

**EPA Hosts Webinars on Release of Real-Time Geospatial Data Viewer (RETIGO)**

EPA recently hosted four webinars as part of the release of the new version of the RETIGO data visualization tool. Participants from EPA, other federal agencies, schools, and state and local governments learned about RETIGO's enhancements such as new options for merging meteorological and air quality data for comparison. RETIGO is a free, publicly available, web-based tool for exploring environmental data collected from stationary and in motion sensors (e.g., air quality sensors added to a bike).

**PFAS Grant Announcement**

This week EPA announced funding for two grants under the National Priorities: Per- and Polyflouroalkyl Substances Request for Applications. The grants, totaling approximately $3.9 million, support research that improves understanding of human and ecological exposure to Per – and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in the environment. This research is expected to inform better planning and decision-making to prevent future PFAS exposures and adverse health effects. The research will also promote a greater awareness of how to restore water quality in PFAS-impacted communities. The two recipients include:
Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colo., to research the fate, transport, bioaccumulation, and exposure of a diverse suite of PFAS in nationally representative PFAS impacted communities.
Oregon State University, Corvallis, Ore., to study the toxicity of a large collection of PFAS and PFAS mixtures with the zebrafish assay and mice studies to identify toxic PFASs that require prioritization for risk management.

**ORD Supporting EPA Region 2 and New York City with Planning for a Wide-Area Biological Incident**

This week, ORD researchers are participating in a EPA Region 2 and New York City Technical Working Group (TWG) supporting planning and preparedness work following a biological incident. The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) is sponsoring a 1 – day workshop with the TWG members. The TWG consists of subject matter experts from key local, state and federal agencies that will advise DOHMH on issues related to environmental remediation operations, including but not limited to, sampling, decontamination, waste management, clearance and re-occupancy. The purpose of this workshop is to bring together the core TWG members to determine how the group will function in planning and response.

**Wikipedia linking to CompTox Chemistry Dashboard**

Wikipedia ChemBoxes and DrugBoxes are now linking directly to ORD's CompTox Chemistry Dashboard. When you visit a Wikipedia drug or chemical page, and look at the summary box to the right, you will see the in-link if we have an associated chemical mapped in the Dashboard.

**Technical Support: Corrosion Control in Pittsburgh, PA**
ORD has been invited to participate on a weekly call with the City of Pittsburgh to discuss the City's corrosion control issues. ORD's role on these calls is to provide technical support and help review sampling data. ORD has been providing ongoing technical support, including reviewing the City's corrosion control plan and analyzing lead pipe sections.

**CyAN Team Award**
Last week, EPA's Cyanobacteria Assessment Network (CyAN) Team won the Mason Hewitt Award for Excellence in GIS for developing the CyAN mobile app. The app delivers satellite data that can be used as actionable information by water quality managers. It is currently being used by all 10 EPA Regions and EPA's Office of Water and is available to 31 States. The Mason Hewitt Award is an annual award given to the for the best EPA GIS project, as selected by the EPA GIS Workshop participants.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

Nothing to report this week.

# Office of Water

## Hot Topic

Nothing to report this week.

## Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

### Cross-Cutting Issues Group (CCIG) Meeting

Next week, Office of Water's Assistant Administrator, David Ross will meet with CCIG to discuss the Office of Water's regulatory and policy developments and priorities. Closed press.

### Plumbing Manufacturers International (PMI) Spring Meeting

Next week, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Lee Forsgren will meet with PMI to discuss the Agency's water priorities, including the status of the Lead and Copper Rule and the "Waters of the United States" rulemaking. Closed press.

### 30th Annual National Wetland Awards

Next week, Mr. Forsgren will present awards to honor individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary commitment to the conservation and restoration of the Nation's wetlands. Open press.

### National Mitigation and Ecosystem Banking Conference (NMEBC)

Next week, Mr. Forsgren and Senior Science Advisor, Owen McDonough will attend NMEBC in Minneapolis, MN. Mr. Forsgren will speak on a compensatory mitigation panel and Mr. McDonough will give remarks on water quality trading. Open press.

### Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Information Sessions

Next week, the EPA will hold the first of three information sessions related to the April 5, 2019 WIFIA notice of funding availability. On May 8, the WIFIA team will meet in Atlanta with at least 20 attendees from local governments and consulting firms to describe how WIFIA works, funding opportunities, and application details. On May 13, the team will meet with as many as 40 consultants, local government staff, and others at the second information session in Washington DC. On May 23, the team will hold the third and final information session in Phoenix, AZ. These in-person sessions proceed the team's April 30 webinar for all interested parties. Prospective borrowers seeking WIFIA credit assistance under the third round must submit a letter of interest (LOI) by July 5, 2019.



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