Region 1

Hot Topics:

Federal Facilities Honored for Achievements in Waste Reduction and Sustainability
On April 12, RA Dunn and Stephen Stepanek, RA for GSA, hosted a Federal Green Challenge Awards and Workshop event at EPA's Boston Office, honoring three Region 1 federal agencies for superior achievements in waste reduction and sustainability.

Regional Staff participate in Massachusetts Earth Month Event Cleaning up South Boston
On April 18, in recognition of *Earth Month*, RA Dunn and Region 1 colleagues partnered with a City of Boston program called Love Your Block to cleanup an area of the city that was in need of some attention. This is one of a number of Region 1 Earth Month activities happening across New England that offer a great chance to underscore our connection with EPA's mission and strategic vision for clean air, land and water. It's also an opportunity to make a positive impact in EJ communities and continue strong partnerships with our states.

Connecting with the Next Generation
On April 19, the Region 1 Science Council hosted a region-wide "bring your child to work" day. This half-day Earth Month event at the regional headquarters helped educate and inspire the youth closest to home about careers in science and the environment. Activities include arts and crafts, science experiments, and other fun ways to learn more about our work at EPA.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Region 1 and MA DEP to Conduct NPDES Public Hearing along Connecticut River
On April 24, Region 1 and MA DEP will conduct a public meeting and public hearing in Springfield, MA regarding the draft NPDES permit for the Springfield Regional Waste Water Treatment Facility that serves a number of the municipalities around Springfield, MA. The Connecticut River is one of the largest watersheds draining into the Long Island Sound.

Regional Administrator to Meet in Vermont with Local and State Agencies
On April 23, RA Dunn will be participating in an Earth Month event with the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. During the event, RA Dunn will help recognize staff at the Canute Dalmasse Award Ceremony and discuss topics including Lake Champlain, water resource issues, and Hardwick projects.

RA Dunn to Participate in Transboundary Interagency Meeting
On April 24-26, RA Dunn will be attending a U.S./Canada/Tribal Nations Transboundary Interagency meeting to discuss the common interests among the U.S. federally recognized Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, the six Canadian Maliseet First Nations, and US/Canadian agencies in decision-making impacting the Tribe/First Nations' ancestral homeland: the Wolastoq/St. John Watershed. The meeting will provide an opportunity for U.S. agencies and Canadian ministries to continue negotiations regarding the disposition of the Mactaquac Dam, a large Canadian hydropowered dam, and the importance of salmon restoration to the federally recognized U.S. tribes and the Canadian First Nations. Meeting topics will be focused on EPA's CWA authority to effectuate Maine water quality standards.

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Region 2

Hot Topics:

Consent Decree with the distressed, rural community of Ticonderoga, NY Lodged in SDWA Action. On 4/12 a consent decree with the Town of Ticonderoga was lodged, resolving violations of the Safe Drinking Water Act. The Town failed to install treatment for cryptosporidium, and to cover/treat its finished water reservoir, as required by SDWA rules. NY State is a co-plaintiff, to address longstanding violations of the Town's filtration avoidance determination, including inadequate treatment for a portion of the water distribution system, and chronic non-compliance at a filtration plant. The decree establishes requirements and a schedule to bring the Town into compliance, including monitoring and public notification. The decree also requires the Town to pay a $50,000 penalty (to be shared equally by the U.S. and NY) and perform $100,000 in Supplemental Environmental Projects, consisting of a notification project and a pharmaceutical disposal project. RA Lopez has used this example to advocate for the comprehensive agency application of technical and financial support for rural and distressed communities. The per capita income in the Town is $16,000. 21% of children live in poverty. The Town is receiving significant SRF and other grant funds that will be used to meet SDWA requirements.

Region 2 Issues Administrative Consent Order for CWA Violations at Largest Wastewater Treatment Plant in R2. On 4/17 Region 2 issued an administrative consent order to the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners (PVSC), the owner/operator of the largest wastewater treatment plant in R2, for failing to operate the plant to maximize the treatment of wet weather flows and to minimize the discharge of untreated sewage from combined sewer outfalls into the Passaic River and Newark Bay. The plant is designed to treat 330 million gallons per day (MGD) and serves approximately 1.4 million residents in 48 municipalities within Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Union and Passaic Counties, NJ. EPA determined that PVSC was shutting its main gate during wet weather when the flow was still below the maximum treatment capacity, causing untreated sewage to be backed up and discharged from CSO outfalls into the Passaic River and Newark Bay. Under the consent order, PVSC will modify its plant and its operating procedures to provide primary treatment for up to 300 MGD of additional combined sewage during wet weather events, preventing many discharges from the CSO outfalls in Newark. For a wet weather event, which lasts 24 hours, primary treatment at the plant will prevent 64 tons (a 40% reduction) of Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and 14 tons (a 25% reduction) of Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) from being discharged. Modification of the plant is estimated to cost $25 million.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

PR/USVI Recovery: RA Pete Lopez will be traveling to PR and the USVI the week of 4/23 to actively engage with our territorial, commonwealth and local partners on the transition from response to recovery. On April 23rd, the RA will be in the U.S. Virgin Islands, and April 24th – 26th the RA will be in Puerto Rico.

Lake Champlain Basin Program Watershed Improvement Grants: The LCBP is awarding $1,599,842 in grants to communities and organizations in Vermont and New York that are implementing projects to improve water quality, reduce impacts from invasive species and expand interpretation of the culture and heritage of the Lake Champlain watershed. Funding for these grants originated mostly from EPA, with some funds from the Great Lakes Fishery Commission and the National Park Service. The projects funded include invasive species control and prevention, innovative agriculture activities, enhanced Best Management Practices development for nutrient control and education and outreach activities.

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Region 3

Hot Topics:

Release of Phase III WIP Expectations
EPA plans to issue the expectations document for the jurisdictions' Phase III WIPs the week of April 16 (or possibly the following week depending upon EPA Headquarters' review). The document is designed to help maintain accountability in the work under the 2010 Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (Bay TMDL), encourage continued adaptive management to the new information generated during and after the Bay TMDL 2017 midpoint assessment, and lay the groundwork for implementation of the next generation of innovative practices. A press release and other supporting materials being developed.

Lead (Pb) Education Workshop at Philadelphia Community College, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
On April 14, 2018, an On-Scene Coordinator and a SEE Lead Inspector conducted a presentation at the seminar entitled, "Leadership Training Workshop: Protecting Ourselves from the Dangers of Lead." The workshop was sponsored by Clean Water Action (CWA) based on grants received from the Philadelphia Water Department (PWD) and the William Penn Foundation. CWA is planning to engage community leaders, block captains and other interested individuals throughout the city to serve as ambassadors to help educate other city residents on the dangers of lead exposure. State Representative Donna Bullock (195th District) and *Get the Lead Out's* Jana Curtis opened the event with a personal account of how their children were found to have elevated blood lead levels. Coordinator of the Region's geographic Lead initiative, also attended.

Update on 13Th Street Lab and Rad Site, Huntington, West Virginia
During the week of April 9, 2018, removal operations continued at the 13th Street Site to mitigate threats posed by various hazardous lab chemicals, radiological waste, and explosive materials discovered in a home by local Huntington Fire Department personnel while responding to a second-floor electrical fire. Removal work was needed to place lab pack in containers, transport, and dispose all hazardous wastes. The chemicals included: inorganic and organic acids; bases; flammables; combustibles; explosives; oxidizers; unknown materials marked with highly toxic and poison classifications; and, cyanides and radioactive materials, including ore materials of uranium and thorium compounds. The On-Scene Coordinator has continued close coordination on all site issues with the West Virginia Department of the Environment Emergency Response, West Virginia Health Department personnel, and the City of Huntington Fire Marshall officials.

Update on Blades Groundwater Contamination Site, Blades, Delaware
Region 3 continues to coordinate and conduct sampling of residential wells near the per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)-contaminated groundwater that has affected the water supply within the Town of Blades. Thus far, 55 residents have requested sampling. Region 3 also re-sampled homes for which the State of Delaware had provided carbon filter units. Results should be back within the next two weeks. Additionally, the Region is initiating a Site Inspection assessment surrounding two facilities and the residential areas impacted by PFAS, as well as electroplating fluids.

Region III Executes Combined Complaint & Consent Agreement with Hunt & Walsh, Inc. Resolving Alleged Lead-Based Paint Renovation, Repair, and Painting (RRP) Rule Violations at Condominium Complex in Silver Springs, Maryland. [Docket No.: TSCA-03-2018-0083]
On April 16, 2018, EPA Region III filed a Consent Agreement and Final Order simultaneously commencing and concluding an administrative enforcement action against Hunt & Walsh, Inc. (Respondent) for alleged violations of TSCA and EPA's RRP Rule in connection with a renovation at the University Towers, two 15-story brick high-rise condominium buildings located in suburban Silver Springs, Maryland. Respondent, a Virginia corporation that generally performs commercial and institutional remodeling, repair, painting and wall covering services, was hired to work under the supervision of a general contractor, HBW Properties, Inc., as a subcontractor performing paint preparation renovation and painting activities to building components located in common areas of the two University Towers condominium buildings. Alleged violations included failing to

obtain a lead-safe firm certification and use lead-certified renovators to perform the renovation activities, failing to comply with various interior lead dust containment work practice standards and employing restricted work practices. Under the terms of the CAFO, Respondent will pay a civil penalty of $15,000.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Regional Administrator Cosmo Servidio has the following activities scheduled:

- April 19, 2018 – Philadelphia Regional Port Authority Meeting, Philadelphia, PA
- April 20, 2018 - Maryland Department of Agriculture Earth Day Meeting, Annapolis, MD
- April 23, 2018 – Meeting with EPA and Maryland Environmental Secretaries, Annapolis, MD
- April 24, 2018- Keystone 10 Million Trees Partnership hosted by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.
- April 24, 2018 – Philadelphia School Laptop Donation Event, Philadelphia, PA
- April 25, 2018 – Brownfields Grant Announcement Press Event, Norristown, PA

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Region 4

Hot Topics:

FL Basin Group 1, Cycle 3 303(d) List
Key Message: Region 4 has determined that Florida's 2017 Basin Group 1 Update substantially meets the intent of Section 303(d) of the CWA and the EPA's implementing regulations. The Region is approving all impairments identified by the state of Florida and is deferring action pending further review on a number of waters. Of the 1,377 assessments completed, 1,306 will be approved (95%); and action on 71 assessments will be deferred (5%) to allow for additional review of all existing and readily available water quality related data and further discussion with FDEP. Region 4 does not anticipate objections from stakeholders or the public nor anticipates media interest.

Greater Orlando Aviation Authority Project
Key Message: On April 19, 2018, Region 4 sent a CWA §404(d) letter to the Army Corps of Engineers notifying them that EPA's concerns with this project have been addressed. The project proposed to fill wetlands associated with the East Airfield expansion of the Orlando International Airport. The 404(q) "c" letter along with a draft CWA §404 permit and a draft Environmental Assessment/Statement of Findings sufficiently address EPA's comments from our "a" and "b" letters issued in 2013.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Decisions
B.F. Goodrich – Selection of final remedy to present to Administrator for Record of Decision signature.
Daicel permit termination – The Region's position if Kentucky terminates the hazardous waste permit.

Events
Sanford Gasification Sitewide Ready for Anticipated Use Press Event. On April 23, 2018, Region 4 Administrator Trey Glenn will hold a press event for the Sanford Gasification Site. The site is being returned for anticipated use. Sanford, FL. Open Press.
Meeting with Daicel Safety Systems. On April 24, 2018, Region 4 Administrator Trey Glenn will participate in a meeting with representatives from Daicel Safety Systems (Kentucky) and OECA. Washington, DC. Closed Press.

Georgia Compliance Assurance Meeting. On April 26, 2018, Region 4 Administrator Trey Glenn and regional senior leadership will meet with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division to discuss general communication with the state as well as state specific compliance concerns. Atlanta, GA. Closed Press.

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Region 5

Hot Topics:

City of Chicago, Surfrider Foundation Criticize Settlement with US Steel
Key Message: On April 13, EPA and DOJ received a letter from the City of Chicago and the nonprofit Surfrider Foundation demanding changes to the proposed consent decree with U.S. Steel.

The Chicago Law Department and Surfrider Foundation called the proposed settlement inadequate and threatened to oppose it in federal court if changes aren't made. DOJ is working on an official response. The letter was covered by national and local media.

Manganese Contamination on Chicago's Southeast Side
Key Message: Region 5 is coordinating with the City of Chicago and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to investigate into elevated manganese levels in the soil around S.H. Bell facility on city's southeast side.

Region 5 will participate in public meetings on April 24 and April 30 (dates tentative) with the City of Chicago, Illinois EPA and ATSDR. The city will announce sampling results and that it has referred the area to the Region 5 emergency response program. EPA has overseen court-ordered air monitoring near the facility, which stores and transfers material containing manganese.

Lake Guardian to Dock at Navy Pier April 26-28
Key Message: While in Chicago, the region will host new employee tours, school tours and an open house for public tours.

The region is coordinating with HQ public affairs to explore opportunities for press availability.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

RA Stepp to Speak at Ohio Chemistry Council Conference on April 24 and West Michigan Air and Waste Management Association Conference on April 25
Key Message: RA Stepp will provide the keynote addresses at both events, focusing on EPA's priorities and goals under this administration.

RA Stepp to Present Michigan City, Indiana, with Brownfields Grant on April 26
Key Message: Michigan City, along with the Sanitary District and the Economic Development Corporation, are receiving $600,000 to support the redevelopment of industrial and commercial properties in the city.

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Region 6

Hot Topics:

San Juan Watershed Monitoring Program Website
Region 6 along with Regions 8, 9, and Headquarters Office of Affairs developed a website highlighting the newly developed San Juan Watershed Monitoring Program which will go live next week. The website was developed to communicate information about the joint effort of EPA and seven State and Tribal partners to develop and implement the long-term water quality monitoring program for the Animas and San Juan Rivers, including Lake Powell. The website will be announced in a national press release to be issued concurrently with a Region 6 announcement of an award of $382,776 to New Mexico to conduct several priority projects supporting the monitoring program.

Bird Creek, Osage County, Oklahoma
Region 6 continues to work with the three Respondents to address possible causes of contamination in Bird Creek. EPA has proposed the companies excavate two areas to locate abandoned well(s) and plug any wells that are found. EPA will download water quality monitoring data during the week of April 30, 2018 to verify that conditions in the creek are continuing to improve. All three respondents have filed complaints against EPA's order. EPA continues to review information related to the complaints including expert reports and geophysical survey results provided by the Respondents. Opposing counsel(s) have stressed that they would like settlement discussions to still continue.

Prescribed Burning SIP, Texas
Region 6 approved through direct final rule the Texas State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision that allows Texas Certified and Insured Prescribed Burn Managers to conduct prescribed burning for forest, range and wildland/wildlife management and wildfire hazard mitigation purposes.

Houston-Galveston SIP, Texas
Region 6 proposed approval of a revision to the Texas State Implementation Plan (SIP) to meet the Reasonable Further Progress (RFP) requirements for the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria (HGB) moderate 2008 8-hour ozone nonattainment area. EPA is proposing to approve the RFP demonstration, contingency measures, motor vehicle budgets and the updated 2011 base year emissions inventory.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Decisions
DFW 2008 Ozone NAAQS Attainment Demonstration
Region 6 intends to propose approval of the Dallas/Fort Worth 2008 NAAQS Attainment Demonstration by April 25. The publication will start a 30-day public comment period.

St. James Parish, Louisiana Yuhuang Chemical Plant Title V Permit Petition
Region 6 intends to deny two petitions requesting that the EPA object to a title V permit issued to the Yuhuang Chemical Plant, St. James Parrish, Louisiana. All of the claims were denied because the Petitioners failed to demonstrate that the permit does not contain adequate monitoring to assure compliance with applicable requirements.

2012 Louisiana PM2.5 Transport SIP, Louisiana
Region 6 intends to approve the Louisiana 2012 PM2.5 Transport SIP by May 1. This represents a final action.

SIP for Public Notice and Compliance History, Texas
Region 6 intends to issue a decision on four revisions to the Texas SIP pertaining to air permitting and public participation for air quality permit applications by May 1.

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Events

April 23	TX County Judge Trey Duhon Meeting on Dallas-Houston High Speed Rail, Dallas, Texas
April 24	Texas Alliance of Energy Producers, Wichita Falls, Texas
April 25	Meeting with TX Railroad Commissioner Wayne Christian, Dallas, Texas
April 26	Brownfields & War on Lead Event, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

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Region 7

Hot Topics:

City of Kennett v EPA (Kennett, MO)
Key Message: 8th Circuit issues decision reversing district court grant of summary judgment to EPA in city of Kennett vs EPA. This litigation challenging EPA approval of a Missouri TMDL will now go back to the trial court for a decision on the merits.

- The litigation is over a 2010 EPA approval of a Missouri TMDL for low dissolved oxygen in Buffalo Ditch in SE MO.
- City of Kennett discharges into the Buffalo Ditch and will be required to make expensive upgrades to meet its wasteload allocation.
- The district court granted summary judgment to EPA, finding that ripeness and standing are lacking because the city won't suffer harm until the TMDL is implemented. The 8th Circuit reversed, finding that the case is ripe and the city has standing.
- EPA intends to explore seeking a stay of the litigation to allow the city and state to have time to modify the TMDL or the DO WQS for Buffalo Ditch, similar to the recent approach we successfully used in the Bolivar litigation.

West Lake Landfill (Bridgeton, MO)
Key Message: Region 7 continues coordination and preparation work during the ongoing public comment period on the Proposed Plan for the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site.

- The region continues to work on drafting portions of the draft Record of Decision Amendment during the ongoing public comment period on the Proposed Plan which closes on April 23.
- Late last week the region held a call with the Office of Research and Development personnel who supported Region 7 in review of the remedial investigation addendum and final feasibility study. The purpose of the call was to discuss actions needed to calculate other volumes and concentrations of RIM at different depths in Areas 1 and 2; information which may be needed to respond to comments on the proposed plan. Potential methods to perform the calculations and the time it would take to complete them were discussed. Additional discussions on this topic are planned.
- DOJ has completed its review of the draft Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for the Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study for Operable Unit 3. The Special Notice Letter to the PRPS, along with the draft ASAOC, is being finalized this week.
- On April 12, Region 7 met with the mayor and other officials of Maryland Heights, a suburb located south of Bridgeton. The region provided information regarding the Superfund process, site conditions, off-site testing results, response actions completed to date, and planned next steps. The information was well received and greatly appreciated.

Optimization Study Kickoff at Des Moines TCE Site (Des Moines, IA)
Key Message: EPA Region 7 is starting an optimization study to examine potential changes to an existing groundwater contamination treatment system at the Des Moines TCE Superfund Site in anticipation of future redevelopment.

- EPA held a kickoff call to discuss an optimization study for Operable Unit 1 (Groundwater TCE Plume) at the Des Moines TCE Site. The call included representatives from EPA Region 7, EPA HQs, the PRPs, IDNR, the city of Des Moines, and the Des Moines Water Works Department. The purpose of the call was to explain the optimization study process, receive input from stakeholders on what outcomes they would like to see from the optimization study, and schedule a site visit.
- The optimization study will examine potential changes to the 30-year-old groundwater pump and treat system; identify other remedial options available to address groundwater contamination; serve as an informative tool to weigh long-term costs against proactive upfront remediation costs; and provide options to replace the existing treatment tower if it proves to be an impediment to future redevelopment.

- The next step is to conduct the optimization study site visit scheduled for May 1, 2018.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Region 7 Recognizes City of Dubuque and John Deere (Dubuque, IA)
Key Message: EPA Region 7 gives two awards for contributions to environmentalism and sustainability at Superfund sites in Iowa.

- On April 19, EPA R7 recognized the city of Dubuque, IA and John Deere Dubuque Works in separate events for their outstanding contributions to environmentalism and sustainability at Superfund sites. EPA Region 7 Administrator Jim Gulliford presented the Leading Environmentalism and Forwarding Sustainability award to each organization.
- EPA Region 7 established the LEAFS award to recognize those who have supported the Superfund Redevelopment Initiative through innovative thinking, sustainable practices, and environmental stewardship.
- The city of Dubuque, in partnership with the Iowa Department of Transportation and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, as well as the MidAmerican Energy Company, earned the LEAFS award for its revitalization of the Peoples Natural Gas Superfund Site, transforming it into the Jule Operations and Training Center. John Deere Dubuque Works earned the LEAFS award for their ecological and recreational redevelopment at the Superfund site and active manufacturing facility that will help address potential long-term risks to certain wildlife receptors.

RA Meetings with IDNR and Agribusiness Association of Iowa (Des Moines, IA)
Key Message: RA Jim Gulliford is meeting with representatives of IDNR and also meeting with the Agribusiness Association of Iowa staff on Friday, April 20 during his travel in Iowa.

Region 8

Hot Topics:

Discovery of Domestic Well Using Impacted Groundwater from Libby Groundwater Superfund Site (not associated with the Libby Asbestos Superfund Site) Three residences, on well water drawing from an aquifer impacted by the Libby Groundwater Superfund Site, have complained about their water having a 'creosote-like' odor. The City of Libby currently has an ordinance in place that prevents well installation and use of groundwater in the impacted aquifer, however, outside of City limits, no restrictions are currently in place. The impacted residences are outside the City limits. International Paper (IP), Potentially Responsible Party, has been very responsive. IP is providing bottled water and has offered to connect the impacted property to the City of Libby Public Water Supply. If the property owner agrees to be connected, the work could begin next week. IP, MDEQ and EPA are currently in the process of trying to establish a Controlled Groundwater Area (CGA) for the area to prevent situations like this from occurring in the future. County Commissioner Mark Peck, who is participating in the CGA process, has been notified via voicemail and the City Mayor is also aware of the situation.

CERCLA Enforcement Issues information request letters for the Bonita Peak Mining District (BPMD) site in San Juan County, Colorado Region 8 is conducting Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) searches for information regarding the activities of PRPs at the BPMD site. Region 8 has adopted an adaptive enforcement strategy for the Site, mirroring the adaptive management remedial strategy used by the Region 8 Superfund Program. Accordingly, the Region, through its enforcement support contractor, has initiated an effort to complete abbreviated PRP search reports for each of the 48 mining-related source areas within the Site, prioritizing source areas based on the activities of the Superfund Program within the mining district.

Residential Use of Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) Slag from Evraz Rocky Mountain Steel Mills in Pueblo, Colorado Region 8 is working with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to ensure that the use of EAF slag from Evraz Rocky Mountain Steel Mills is consistent with the state's solid waste program and does not pose a risk to human health when used in a residential scenario. During residential soil cleanup associated with the Colorado Smelter Superfund site, EAF slag from Rocky Mountain Steel Mills was discovered in a Pueblo resident's yard. A single sample of the slag had concentrations of iron, manganese and hexavalent chromium above the EPA's Risk-Based Screening Levels (RSLs) indicating the potential to pose a risk to human health.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

None.

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Region 9

Hot Topics:

FIFRA: we recommended denial of entry to Customs and Border Protection of two unregistered pesticide shipments by Bayer CropScience. Bayer sought to import 800 drums of Metsulfruon Methyl Technical and 800 drums of Sulfometruron-methyl Technical from China.

POTABLE REUSE: we issued a final report with recommendations to expand potable reuse of wastewater, an outgrowth of a national meeting we cosponsored with the engineering research consortium ReNUWIt (Reinventing The Nation's Urban Water Infrastructure) and the Johnson Foundation. The report will be posted on EPA and ReNUWIt website and discussed at several conferences in the months ahead.

CAA ACTIONS:
AZ New Source Review: I signed a Federal Register notice finalizing approval to revisions updating Arizona's Prevention of Significant Deterioration and nonattainment NSR permitting programs. We also issued a related NSR conditional approval for ammonia as a precursor to PM 2.5. These actions approve updates Arizona has made to its CAA permitting program and aligns EPA and Arizona's requirements.

CA Bay Area New Source Review: I signed a Federal Register notice finalizing approval of revisions to the (San Francisco) Bay Area's NSR permitting program. This action will align their program with Federal requirements, remove the sanctions clock ticking since our 2016 disapproval, and likely allow a legal challenge to be withdrawn.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

SDWA AQUIFER EXEMPTION: we'll approve an aquifer exemption request for the Poso Creek field in Kern County, CA. The aquifer is not a current or future source of drinking water given commercial oil production. This is one of several California requests we expect to receive.

SAN JUAN WATERSHED: Regions 6, 8, 9 and OW will launch the website for the new San Juan River watershed monitoring program, a partnership of AZ, CCO, NM, UT, Navajo Nation and the two Ute Tribes in R8. Funded by the WIIN Act (2016), these long-term monitoring program will better characterize this watershed and through grants, strengthen the state and tribal monitoring and standards programs.

PSD PERMIT: we'll issue a permit to the Palmdale Energy Project in So. California, a 645 MW natural-gas-fired combined cycle power plant which will provide power when renewable energy is unavailable. We engaged in extensive public outreach.

BROWNFIELDS: we're preparing for our Sacramento, CA Brownfields event next Wednesday, to highlight EPA and HUD investment in the cities of Sacramento and West Sacramento, as well as a lead (Pb) clean-up at a new housing development.

CWA PENALTY ACTION: we're announcing modest penalties in an existing CWA consent decree to send the message to the participating Bay Area cities (Oakland et al) of the need to diligently attend to their commitments re infrastructure renewal. Many spills this past winter led to much media coverage about whether the signatories to our EPA/State consent decree were in compliance.

TRIBES: AIEO and Region 9 will meet with the InterTribal Council of Arizona, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, and the White Mountain Apache Tribe, and tour the Gila River Indian Reservation.

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Region 10

Hot Topics:

None to report this week.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Region 10 Reissues Idaho NPDES Permit for Small Suction Dredging: During the week of April 23, EPA Region 10 will issue a Federal Register Notice announcing reissuance of the final NPDES General Permit for small suction dredges operating in the State of Idaho. The comment period for this action closed on January 29, 2018. EPA has drafted responses to the comments received and has also received the final CWA Section 410 Certification from the State of Idaho. The permit will be effective starting June 1, 2018.

Region 10 Supports Idaho's Clean Water Act Rulemaking for Arsenic: The state of Idaho has initiated a rulemaking process to update its human health criteria for arsenic in response to a disapproval action in 2016. Region 10 staff are providing ongoing support to the state as it proceeds through the rule making process. In addition, EPA is seeking an extension to the deadline established by the Consent Decree with the Northwest Environmental Advocates for the federal rulemaking process. If we obtain this extension, Idaho DEQ will have more time to complete its rulemaking.

Region 10 Conducts Outreach in Alaska to Help Protect Children from Lead Exposure: During the week of April 26, Region 10's Lead Team will provide technical assistance to local school districts, child care facilities and the local building permitting office in and around Juneau, Alaska. Outreach also includes presentations at Juneau's Head Start Agency and at the Alaska Home Show.

Region 10 Proposes to Delist the Frontier Hard Chrome Superfund Site in Vancouver, WA: Region 10 has sent OLEM a Notice of Intent to Delete the Frontier Hard Chrome Superfund Site from the National Priorities List (NPL). The Region expects concurrence from OLEM by the end of April and will then initiate a Federal Register notice and a 30-day public comment period for the delisting. From the late 1950s to the early 1980s the site was used by two chrome plating businesses. The half-acre site was added to the NPL in September 1983. Cleanup actions to address soil and groundwater contamination are complete and all remedial action objectives and cleanup levels have been achieved. Following deletion, no further CERCLA action will be required at the site.

Region 10 RA to Congratulate Beaverton, OR at Brownfields Event: Region 10 RA Chris Hladick will meet with Beaverton, Oregon officials on April 26 to congratulate them on being selected for Brownfields funding this year. In addition, while in the Portland area, the RA will meet with other leaders and stakeholders, including the Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission.

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Office of Administration and Resources Management

Hot Topics:

None.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Mock Hearing and Mediation for Take Your Daughters and Sons to Work 2018
On April 26, OARM's Environmental Appeals Board will host an annual Take Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day mock hearing and mediation event for children ages 10-16. The Program will take place from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM in the Administrative Courtroom (WJC East 1152) and there will be space for an audience to observe the event.

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Office of Air and Radiation

Hot Topics:

Tracking SIP Actions:

- Total Number of SIPs submitted to Regions in FY 2018: 150
- Total Number of SIP Submittals with Final Action taken by the Regions in FY 2018: 109
- Total Number of Pending SIPs: 753

Upcoming Packages for the Administrator's Signature:

- National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP): Friction Materials Manufacturing Facilities Risk and Technology Review (RTR)
- NESHAP: Surface Coating of Wood Building Products RTR
- Revision to the Regulatory Definition of Volatile Organic Compounds – Exclusion of cis-1,1,1,4,4,4-hexafluorobut-2-ene (HFO-1336mzz-Z)
- NESHAP: Surface Coating of Large Appliances; Printing, Coating, and Dyeing of Fabrics and Other Textiles; and Surface Coating of Metal Furniture RTR
- Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources and Emission Guidelines for Existing Sources: Commercial and Industrial Solid Waste Incineration Units; Technical Amendments
- 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 and Natural Gas Sector
- Air Plan Approval for Ohio: Regional Haze Plan and Visibility numerous National Ambient Air Quality Standards (note this action includes converting EPA's limited approval/limited disapproval of Ohio's March 11, 2011 regional haze SIP to a full approval and withdrawing the related Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) provisions that address the limited disapproval)

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

ENERGY STAR: Later today, EPA and DOE will host the annual ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year Awards for 2018, honoring 163 ENERGY STAR partners for their outstanding contributions to public health and the environment. The awards will be presented in Washington, D.C. at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Request for Proposals (RFP): EPA is planning to announce the RFP later this week or next. The solicitation will remain open until June 5, 2018.

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Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Row	Determination Type	Pending on 4/17/2018	Determinations Completed[1] as 4/17/2018	Determinations Posted on the Website as of 4/17/2018[6]
1	# of "not likely" determinations	**1**	**122[4]**	**122[4]**
2	# of §5(e) Orders signed by both EPA and the submitter	**-**	**348**	**343**
3	# of §5(e) Orders signed by EPA and awaiting submitter signature	**40**	**-**	**-**
4	# of non-Order SNURs/"not likely" determinations	**0**	**0**	**0**
5	# of cases in post-FOCUS final determination development[5]	**347[3, 5]**	**-**	**-**
6	# of cases flagged for in-depth review	**45**	**-**	**-**
7	# of PMNs, SNUNs and MCANs awaiting FOCUS (within 90-day review)	**16**	**-**	**-**
8	# of LVE/LOREX exemption grants	**-**	**574**	**568**
9	# of LVE/LOREX exemption denials	**-**	**120**	**120**
10	**Total number of cases**	**449**	**1164**	**-**
11	Normal active workload for the New Chemicals Program	300	**-**	**-**
12	Number of cases undergoing testing or data development by submitter	74[3]	**-**	**-**
13	**Backlog[2]**	75	**-**	**-**

[1] "Determinations Completed" means that EPA has completed its reviews on these cases and that final determinations have been made by EPA under TSCA section 5(a)(3).

[2] (Total number of cases) – (Normal active workload for the New Chemicals Program) - (Number of cases undergoing testing or data development) = Backlog

[3] Of these cases, approximately 72 are "active" lung toxicity cases that are suspended while submitters either conduct or are deciding whether to conduct testing to develop data on pchem properties, exposures and toxicity.

[4] "Not Likely" determinations are not posted until the final signed determination document is prepared and has been shared with submitter.

[5] These cases are those for which Post-FOCUS work is underway to develop: not likely determinations; non-Order SNURS coupled with not likely determinations; or section 5(e) or 5(f) Orders. When the OPPT Office Director decides which of these regulatory paths to follow, the case is moved to: Row 3 when the section 5(e) or 5(f) Order is sent to the submitter for signature; Row 4 when the SNUR is published and the not likely determination document is signed; and Row 1 when the determination document is sent to the OPPT OD for signature.

[6] These are all only final determinations posted on the web: grants and denials

Hot Topics:

Conclusion of Review of the Lead Renovation, Repair, and Painting Rule Under Section 610 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act. OCSPP has completed a review of the April 2008 Lead Renovation, Repair, and Painting (RRP) rule to determine whether the provisions that could affect small entities should be continued without change, or should be rescinded or amended to minimize adverse economic impacts on small entities. The Agency has concluded that the RRP rule will remain unchanged without any actions to amend or rescind it and has addressed the review factors in a report. On April 20, the report will be made available in docket EPA-HQ-OPPT-2016-0126.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Human Subjects Review Board Meeting - On April 24–26, Michelle Arling, Human Research Ethics Review Officer in the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), will participate in the Human Studies Review Board meeting to consider the science and ethics review of four topics including: an OLE tick repellent study protocol, a 1,2-Benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one (BIT) paint removal hand wash study, a BIT brush/roller painting study, and an article on published research of human exposure to *Wolbachia* through exposure from *Wolbachia*-infected *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes The HSRB is a federal advisory committee operating under the Federal Advisory Committee Act that provides advice, information and recommendations on issues related to scientific and ethical aspects of human subjects research.

CropLife America & RISE Regulatory Conference - On April 25-27, several OPP and OSCP staff will present at the CropLife America & RISE Regulatory Conference at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel. Presentations will focus on ongoing regulatory science and policy issues, including pollinator protection, Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) and Codex MRLs, population modeling in ecological risk assessments, utilization of higher tier studies in risks assessments, and label workflow in OPP.

Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Hot Topics:

The Administrator's testimony on EPA's FY 2019 President's Budget Request to Congress has been cleared by OMB. The HAC and HEC hearings are scheduled for April 26 and the SAC hearing is scheduled for May 16.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

- The FY 2018 Operating Plan is due to Congress on April 23. OCFO submitted the Plan to OMB for review on April 13 and are currently working with the budget community to implement Plan decisions and respond to OMB questions.
- OMB has reported that they are preparing a proposal to rescind some FY 2018 funds that were included in the Omnibus bill. At this time, OMB has not finalized details as to how EPA will be impacted.

Other:

- OCFO is preparing a communication from the Acting DA/COO to send to SES, supervisors, and other management officials requesting completion of an annual survey led by OMB and GSA to measure the performance of administrative services functions at EPA and ultimately across government.

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Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations

Hot Topics:

April 20 – House Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Water Resources & Env't - Hearing entitled, Roundtable: America's Water Resources Infrastructure: Concepts for the Next Water Resources Development Act, Part II (No EPA Witness)

April 26- House Energy and Commerce Committee, Hearing on: Oversight of EPA and FY19 Budget (Witness: Administrator)

April 26 - House Appropriations Committee, Hearing on: EPA's FY'19 Appropriations (Witness: Administrator/H. Greaves)

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

- **April 20**- Cong. Lipinski (IL) staff TA re: great Lakes sewage dumping legislation w/ OW
- **April 20** – Sen. Cardin (MD) briefing and TA on Clean Water Needs Survey w/OW
- **April 20 & 23** -Notification of first WIFIA loan closing for King County, WA w/ OW
- **Week of April 23** – Sen. McCain (AZ) staff briefing on RIO Salado and Urban Waters w/ OW
- **April 24** – EPA (OW/R9) to meet with Hesperia, CA officials to discuss the city's priority sewage issues
- **April 27** - EPA to meet with Kalispell, MT local officials to discuss concerns including the Lead and Copper Rule, UIC Class V Wells, and Emerging Contaminants
- **May 1-2** – Mayors Water Council Convenes to discuss Water and Sewer issues and Infrastructure, OW will participate
- **May 2-3** – Chesapeake Bay Commission will meet at HQ to discuss State of the Bay, Watershed Implementation Plans along with other items
- **TBD** - Briefing for Senate and Environment and Public Works Committee staff on the Office of Land and Emergency Management

Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

Hot Topics:

Sewage Hauler Found Guilty of Dumping Truckloads of Sewage into West Virginia Stream
On April 17, 2018, Mike Blankenship was convicted by a federal jury in the Southern District of West Virginia of two felony Clean Water Act violations. Blankenship owns a porta-john and sewage business under the name Hanover Contracting Company. Investigators went to Little Huff Creek, a tributary of the Guyandotte River, on September 29, 2015, after they received a report that one of Blankenship's sewage trucks was dumping untreated sewage into the water. Upon arrival, they saw the sewage truck with a hose placed in the creek and observed sewage in the water and on the ground. Lab tests confirmed the presence of fecal coliform, an indicator of raw or untreated sewage. Neighbors provided photos that showed Blankenship's trucks dumping sewage and porta-john waste into the creek on various other dates in 2015 and 2016.

EPA/State Partnership Results in Increased ECHO Compliance Data Transparency
A joint state and EPA Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO) Case Study team, facilitated by ECOS, concluded its one-year mission to respond to state concerns about data presented on ECHO. Accomplishments include an approved proposal to provide clearer context and presentation of facilities' compliance-related data, enhanced training opportunities, and creation of an ECHO Governance Team. The ECHO Governance Team will provide a formal space for continued collaboration between ECHO and co-regulator staff. The new ECHO governance charter is being co-signed this week, the new governance team will kick off this summer, and the ECHO compliance display changes will be completed by the end of the year.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

EarthX Law and Policy Symposium
On April 20, 2018, OECA AA Susan Bodine will be the keynote speaker for a panel on "The Future for Sustainable and Ethical Corporate Decision-Making" during the EarthX law and policy symposium in Dallas, Texas.

GPA Midstream Convention
On April 17, 2018, OECA DAA Patrick Traylor will address the GPA Midstream convention in Austin, Texas on EPA's enforcement priorities, the rule of law, and cooperative federalism. The convention brings together natural gas professionals.

EPA to Host a Webinar on Pesticide Imports and Import Filings
EPA will host a free webinar session for the National Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders Association of America this spring or early summer or June to educate brokers on the pesticide imports program. FIFRA and the corresponding U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regulations requires any arrival of the shipment. In December 2016, EPA began its required transition to the CBP Automated Commercial Environment system for electronic receipt and processing of Notices of Arrival. The Automated Commercial Environment system electronically processes the majority of Notices of Arrival, significantly reducing the need for manual review and approval by the EPA. The training will overview the options for filing entries in the CBP Automated Commercial Environment to help those who are having difficulty filing.

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Office of Environmental Information

Hot Topics:

None.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

None.

Office of General Counsel

Hot Topics:

PANNA v. EPA, No. 3:17cv02706 (N.D. Cal). New development: On April 18, 2017, the EPA and Pesticide Action Network of North America entered into a stipulation of dismissal in an ongoing FOIA litigation. The FOIAs at issue sought records regarding the pesticide chlorpyrifos from OCSPP and the Administrator's office. The stipulation of dismissal ends the case without further litigation and without payment of fees or costs to Plaintiff.

Clean Water Action v. Pruitt, No. 17-0817 (D.D.C.). New development: On April 18, 2018, the court denied plaintiffs' motion to amend their complaint and granted EPA's motion to dismiss in a case arising out of EPA's action postponing certain compliance dates in the 2015 steam electric ELG rule pending judicial review, pursuant to Section 705 of the Administrative Procedure Act. Plaintiffs sought to amend their complaint challenging the 705 action to add claims related to EPA's September 2017 final rule postponing by two years certain compliance dates in the 2015 steam electric rule, but the court found that amendment of Plaintiffs' complaint to add such claims would be futile because, under 33 U.S.C. § 1369(b)(1)(E), jurisdiction over challenges to that final rule lies in the courts of appeals and amendment would cause undue delay.

Am. Oversight v. EPA, No. 1:18cv893 (D.D.C.). New development: On April 17, 2018, Plaintiff filed a lawsuit alleging that EPA failed to respond to four different FOIA requests within the statutory time period. The FOIAs sought records regarding: (1) waiver requests submitted by Administrator Pruitt for first class travel; (2) all non-coach travel by Pasquale "Nino" Perrotta and any waiver requests for first class travel and waiver decisions; (3) communications between Perrotta and a list of 15 individuals and companies including Edwin Steinmetz and Edwin Steinmetz Associates; and (4) relating to the procurement of any vehicle to transport the Administrator.

Ctr. for Pub. Integrity v. EPA, No. 1:18cv877 (D.D.C.). New development: On April 13, 2018, Plaintiff filed a lawsuit alleging that EPA has not responded to twenty-five different FOIAs submitted between July 2017 and January 2018 requesting records related to a wide variety of topics, including EPA's Regulatory Reform Task Force, the Administrator's protective service, communications with Congress, Michael Dourson, Scientific Advisory Board, and others.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

4/30 Oral Argument in *Finger Lakes Zero Waste Coalition, Inc. v. EPA*, petition for review of EPA's final action regarding the Order denying petition requesting that the Administrator reopen Title V operating permit issued to Seneca Energy for Ontario County Landfill Gas-to-Energy Facility.

Office of International and Tribal Affairs

Hot Topics:

Border Wall - Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) and Department of Interior met with EPA/OITA to discuss collaboration on the proposed border security infrastructure (e.g. border wall). Under the recent appropriations bill, the Secretary of Homeland Security is required to consult with the Secretary of Interior and EPA Administrator as they plan to replace existing and build the new wall/fence along the border. While the Department of Homeland Security issued waivers on border wall projects in 2017, they would like to address environmental health concerns upfront in the design/planning phase where possible. CBP is seeking initial point of contact(s) within EPA with whom they can coordinate in the design/planning phase to address environmental concerns. OITA has connected them to EPA Border Program staff leads in Region 6 and 9 and is also coordinating with AO.

Summit of the America – VPOTUS represented the U.S. at the 8th Summit of the Americas which was held in Lima, Peru, on April 13-14. He announced that the U.S. will be submitting a bid to host the 9th Summit of the Americas which will take place in 2021. Peru's "Lima Commitment" Outcome Document which focused on Democratic Governance Against Corruption was adopted by all parties. EPA's interest in reducing mercury in gold mining was included in the section on combatting acts of corruption (such as illegal gold mining).

Upcoming Events and Decisions:

National Tribal Caucus – The National Tribal Caucus (NTC) will be holding a meeting with EPA/OITA in Phoenix on April 24-27 to discuss Indian General Assistance Program (GAP), tribal consultation, and tribal program authorizations (TAS).

Commission on Environmental Cooperation (CEC) – Representatives from the U.S., Canada, and Mexico will meet in DC on April 25 to discuss the upcoming Council Session agenda in June and budget programming for 2018/2019. EPA will also meet with the U.S. National and Government Advisory Committees.

U.S.-Canada Bilateral Meeting – The State Department and Global Affairs Canada will co-chair the semi-annual bilateral meeting in DC on April 26 to discuss environmental issues, including Great Lakes, Plan 2014, and transboundary mining. Stakeholders from Alaska and Montana will also meet with EPA and State on April 23 to discuss transboundary mining issues.

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Office of Land and Emergency Management

Hot Topics:

1. **Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR)**. (see below)

2. **Clean Air Act 112(r) Risk Management Program (RMP) Reconsideration NPRM.** The draft proposed RMP reconsideration rule along with supporting documents are at OMB. OMB review is expected to conclude on April 30.

3. **Ongoing major Superfund NPL sites (including East Chicago, West Lake, Bonita Peak, Hudson River, Portland Harbor, Mississippi Phosphates, Oak Ridge, Edwards AFB, Berry's Creek, American Cyanimid).**
    a. We are working with OECA and Region 9 regarding a dispute at Edwards Air Force Base.
    b. The Mississippi phosphates non-time critical removal action memo was signed by the Administrator on April 18.

4. **CERCLA 108(b) Financial Assurance – Next Three Sectors**. We are working with OGC, OP, and the AO to plan our approach to the next three sectors.

5. **Ag Reporting.** When the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals issues its mandate vacating the 2008 final rule (expected as soon as May 1, 2018), farms will remain exempt from the CERCLA reporting requirements as a result of the Fair Agricultural Reporting Method (FARM) Act. We are working with OGC, AO, and OP on materials explaining how this affects EPCRA's reporting requirements of releases for animal wastes from farms.

6. **PFOA and PFAS.** We are working with ORD and OW to develop groundwater cleanup recommendations for PFOA and PFOS.

7. **Superfund Task Force (SFTF)**. The SFTF quarterly update is targeted for April 30.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

1. **Coal Combustion Residuals**.
    a. The Remand Rule's public hearing is scheduled for April 24, with the public comment period ending April 30.
    b. We are reviewing comments on the proposal to approve Oklahoma's program.

2. **Inter-Agency National Level Exercise 2018.** Many Agency senior leaders will deploy on May 7 to our Continuity of Operations (COOP) site. Special teams' mobile assets are scheduled to be on-site for familiarization, if not needed at that time for operational deployment.

3. **Possible Updates to the Superfund National Priorities List.** We are evaluating the next possible updates, for publication in May.

4. **FY18 Brownfields Grants.** We are working toward a public announcement of the assessment, RLF, and cleanup grants on April 25 and the Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grants in early May.

5. **ASTSWMO National Meeting.** We will join at ASTSWMO's national meeting April 25-26 in Anaheim.

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Office of Policy

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Ideas Festival: On April 21, Matt Dalbey, Director of the Office of Sustainable Communities, will participate in the Booz Allen 11th Annual Ideas Festival in Washington, DC to discuss community resiliency.

National Environmental Justice Conference: From April 25-27, EPA will join other federal agencies and other partners to sponsor the National Environmental Justice Conference in Washington, DC. Before the conference, EPA will release an environmental justice progress report as well as a mobile version of EJSCREEN, EPA's mapping and screening tool for environmental justice.

Number of Actions to OFR this Year:

- Signed by Regions:
  - Notices: 25
  - Proposed Rules: 69
  - Direct Final Rules: 6
  - Withdrawal of Proposed Rule: 1
  - Withdrawal of Direct Final: 3
  - Final Rules: 73
- Signed by HQ:
  - Notices: 133
  - Proposed Rules: 18
  - Withdrawal of Direct Final: 1
  - Final Rules: 48

Number of Actions to OFR this Week (Apr 13 – Apr 19):

- Signed by Regions:
  - Notices: 0
  - Proposed Rules: 4
  - Direct Final Rules: 1
  - Withdrawal of Proposed Rule: 0
  - Withdrawal of Direct Final: 0
  - Final Rules: 1
- Signed by HQ:
  - Notices: 10
  - Proposed Rules: 1
  - Withdrawal of Direct Final: 0
  - Final Rules: 3

Documents Submitted to OFR from April 11 - April 18, 2018

FRL	Title	Date Submitted to OFR
9976-92-OW	State of North Dakota Underground Injection Control Program; Class VI Primacy Approval	4/18/2018
9976-74-OCSPP	User Fees for the Administration of the Toxic Substances Control Act	4/18/2018
9977-06-Region 10	Air Plan Approval; AK; Interstate Transport Requirements for the 2010 Nitrogen Dioxide and Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standards	4/18/2018

9974-05-Region 2	New York: Incorporation by Reference of State Hazardous Waste Management Program	4/18/2018
9974-06-Region 2	New York: Incorporation by Reference of State Hazardous Waste Management Program	4/18/2018
9977-05-OAR	Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Notice of Guidance and a Stakeholder Meeting Concerning the Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) Program	4/17/2018
9976-59-OCSPP	FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel; Notice of Public Webcast Meeting; Request for Comments on Prospective Ad hoc Candidates; Extension of Comment Period for the May 8-10, 2018 FIFRA SAP Meeting on Efficacy Testing of Pesticides used for Premise Treatments for Invertebrate Pests and Treatments for Fire Ants	4/17/2018
9971-55-OCSPP	Bacillus subtilis strain FMCH002; Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance	4/17/2018
9971-54-OCSPP	Bacillus licheniformis strain FMCH001; Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance	4/17/2018
9974-73-OEI	NESHAP for Marine Tank Vessel Loading Operations (Renewal)ICR No. 1679.10	4/17/2018
9975-05-OEI	NESHAP for Shipbuilding and Ship Repair Facilities - Surface Coating (Renewal)/ICR No.1712.10	4/17/2018
9974-54-OEI	NSPS for Calciners and Dryers in Mineral Industries (Renewal)/ICR No.0746.10	4/17/2018
9976-29-OAR	Notice of Requests for Approval of Alternative Means of Emission Limitation	4/17/2018
9975-48-OAR	National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Asbestos: Request for Approval of an Alternative Work Practice for Asbestos Cement Pipe Replacement	4/17/2018
9976-96-Region 4	Air Plan Approval; Kentucky; 2008 Ozone NAAQS Interstate Transport SIP Requirements	4/13/2018
9976-93-OW	Notice of Re-establishment for the EPA Environmental Financial Advisory Board (EFAB)	4/13/2018
9976-97-OA	Notification of a Public Meeting of the Chartered Science Advisory Board (SAB)	4/13/2018
9976-94-Region 5	Proposed Prospective Purchaser Agreement for the Manual Transmission of Muncie Site in Muncie, Indiana	4/12/2018
9976-83-OAR	Request for Nominations for Mobile Sources Technical Review Subcommittee (MSTRS)	4/12/2018
9976-51-Region 6	Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Louisiana; Attainment Demonstration for the St. Bernard Parish 2010 SO2 Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard Nonattainment Area	4/12/2018

9976-54-OAR	Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; National Volatile Organic Compound Emission Standards for Aerosol Coatings	4/12/2018
9976-92-OW	State of North Dakota Underground Injection Control Program; Class VI Primacy Approval	4/11/2018
9976-90-Region 4	Air Plan Approval; GA; Permitting Revision	4/11/2018
9975-70-Region 4	Air Plan Approval; Florida; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference	4/11/2018
9975-07-OCSPP	Tetraconazole; Pesticide Tolerances	4/11/2018
9976-91-OAR	Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; Cross-State Air Pollution Rule and Texas SO2 Trading Programs (Renewal)	4/11/2018

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Office of Research and Development

Hot Topics:

Wildfire Support
Last weekend, smoke from wildfires in the southern plains spread through areas in KS, OK, TX, AR, and MO. On April 16 ORD distributed information about the Smoke Ready Toolbox for Wildland Fires to ORD's public health partners to share with local/state public health practitioners in areas impacted by the wildfires. ORD's wildland fire resources can assist public health professionals with developing health risk communications strategies to improve public health outcomes, especially among those at highest risk.

SBIR Phase II Solicitation Now Open
The 2018 SBIR Phase II solicitation was released April 17, and is only open to eligible 2017 Phase I awardees. The EPA SBIR team anticipates making approximately five Phase II awards, each in the amount of $300,000 with a 2-year project period. An additional $100,000 Commercialization Option is available should the companies secure third-party investment of $100,000 or more for the commercialization of their technology as they work to bring it to the marketplace. Research topics include air, manufacturing, toxic chemicals, water, homeland security, and green buildings.

Helping Cape Cod Build Resiliency
ORD is representing EPA on a review committee for the Resilient Cape Cod project, organized by the Cape Cod Commission as part of a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Coastal Resiliency grant. The committee will assist in developing a resiliency planning tool to help local officials and municipal staff and committees better assess adaptation strategies for dealing with coastal threats. Members include potential users of the tool, technical experts knowledgeable about coastal processes and resilience planning, and individuals who have experience developing community tools. The committee will provide recommendations for the resiliency planning tool being developed and will help shape and test the tool before it is finalized.

EPA Researcher Honored with Arthur S. Flemming Federal Service Award
ORD's Dr. Jeffery Szabo was selected as the recipient of the 2017 Arthur S. Flemming award, a prestigious award that honors outstanding federal employees. Under Dr. Szabo's direction, the Water Security Test Bed (WSTB) was designed and built at the Idaho National Laboratory, a first-of-its-kind, multimillion dollar field scale water distribution system. Dr. Szabo was nominated for his innovative vision and leadership in advancing the Nation's understanding of the fate, persistence and transport of contaminants in drinking water distribution systems, and in wastewater treatment. Research conducted at the WSTB has proven invaluable by greatly enhancing the Nation's knowledge of how to decontaminate drinking water distribution systems, and the water sector's ability to respond to a chemical, biological and radiological incident. This is highlighted by the fact that Dr. Szabo's research helped water systems respond to actual contamination incidents such as the chemical spills in West Virginia in 2015, Corpus Christi in 2016 and a number of oil spill incidents across the Nation. The honorees will get recognized in a ceremony in Washington, D.C. in May.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Thank you for your visit to our lab in Cincinnati on Monday. I am looking forward to meeting with Deputy Administrator Wheeler next week. Bill Wehrum is also visiting RTP next Wednesday, and we are looking forward to hosting him during part of his visit for a tour of ORD's cookstoves lab.

Office of Water

Hot Topics:

WIFIA Loan, King County, Washington: Today, the EPA announced the first WIFIA loan to King County, Washington to help finance the Georgetown Wet Weather Treatment Station. The Station is expected to contribute to water quality improvements in the Duwamish River. The loan will provide up to $134.5 million, financing nearly half of the overall $275 million investment, and is expected to save sewer ratepayers up to $32 million.

WOTUS: This week, the EPA and the Department of Army met with the EOP and Department of Justice staff to hear their comments on the draft Supplemental Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on "Step 1" of the WOTUS rulemaking process. In addition, OW, Region 10, and the Army held a leader-to-leader consultation on the step 2 rulemaking with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde of Oregon.

San Juan Watershed Monitoring Program: Next week, OW, together with Regions 6, 8 and 9, anticipate releasing a new website highlighting the newly developed San Juan Watershed Monitoring Program, along with regional press releases to be issued concurrently by Regions 6, Region 8, and Region 9 announcing the respective grant awards to their state and tribal partners. OW, Regions 6, 8 and 9 collaborated over the past year with the 7 jurisdictions associated with the San Juan Watershed (Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, the Navajo Nation, and Ute Mountain Ute Tribe and the Southern Ute Tribe) to develop and begin implementation of the Long-Term Monitoring Program established by the 2016 Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act. In addition to collective annual monitoring in the watershed, the Act requires publication of information on EPA's website.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Portland Cement Association (PCA) and North American Concrete Alliance (NACA): Next week, I will speak at Portland Cement Association and North American Concrete Alliance's Second Annual Cement and Concrete Fly-In to discuss OW priorities and WOTUS. This event is closed to the press.

Migratory Bird Conservation Commission: Next week, our new Senior Science Advisor, Owen McDonough, will participate in the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission Meeting at the Department of Interior. The meeting will include voting on acquisitions and boundary additions to the National Wildlife Refuge System and funding for grant projects under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA). This event is closed to the press.

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