Region 1

Hot Topics:

Region 1 Takes Action on New Hampshire $PM_{2.5}$ Infrastructure SIP
On April 2, RA Dunn signed a Federal Register notice proposing to approve New Hampshire's infrastructure SIPs for the 2012 $PM_{2.5}$ NAAQS.

Oral Arguments Held on Taunton, MA NPDES Permit in the First Circuit Court of Appeals
On April 3, the First Circuit Court heard an oral argument for the City of Taunton appeal of its NPDES permit. The permit includes nitrogen limits to restore water quality in the Taunton River Estuary. Both Massachusetts and Rhode Island have endorsed the permit. Massachusetts also issued an identical permit under state law.

RA Dunn Meets with Mayors, Industries, and Citizens on Housatonic River Remediation
On April 3, RA Dunn met separately with the Mayor of the City of Pittsfield, MA, the Towns of Lenox, Lee, Stockbridge, Great Barrington, and Sheffield, and with the local Housatonic River Citizens Coordinating Council to discuss various community concerns. First on the agenda was the status of the Housatonic River cleanup, including the Region's response to the Environmental Appeals Board's "appropriate disposal location" remand. The RA expressed interest in exploring ways to expedite cleanup that would satisfy all stakeholders. In addition, treatment plant modifications (necessary to meet effluent limitations for phosphorous and aluminum in the City's NPDES permit) were discussed. The stakeholders expressed gratitude for the RA's visit. Finally, the RA met with the editorial Board of the Berkshire Eagle, a local paper, leading to a very positive front-page story about the EPA's goals for the region.

Collaboration for Clean Water Infrastructure Investments in Gloucester, MA
On April 4, RA Dunn met with the Mayor of Gloucester, MA to discuss water infrastructure investments and a framework for the City to move forward with integrated planning. Gloucester currently operates under a waiver allowing it to discharge wastewater into the coastal zone without secondary treatment from aging sewer and stormwater systems.

Region 1 Joins Senator and Assistant Secretary of the Air Force on New Hampshire Site Visit
On April 5, the U.S. Air Force's new Assistant Secretary, along with U.S. Senator Shaheen and leadership from Region 1 conducted a site visit at the Pease Air Force Base in New Hampshire that included a meeting with Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) members.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Region 1 Receives Draft Request from Maine, asking to Opt Out of the Ozone Transport Region
On March 27, Region 1 received a draft request from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection to opt out of the Ozone Transport Region. This draft incorporated comments that the Region gave Maine in January. Region 1 has provided OAQPS with a copy for concurrent review.

Region 1 to Approve Rhode Island 303(d) List
Region 1 has determined that Rhode Island's 2016 §303(d) impaired waters list meets the requirements of the Clean Water Act and expects to approve the list in the next few days. RIDEM received no public comments during the review period.

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Region 2

Hot Topics:

Chemours/Deepwater, NJ: As previously reported, GenX was used at this facility after the phase-out of PFOA. Chemours (successor to DuPont) recently reported that it found GenX in industrial wastewater at the facility, and in the facility's wastewater treatment plant discharge (which enters the Delaware River). On 4/4 we received data from EPA's ORD laboratory regarding samples taken from five nearby residential wells. (ORD's work was in furtherance of a study by NJDEP on PFAS sources.) These five residential samples were reported as non-detect for GenX. Nevertheless, we believe further sampling of residential wells in the surrounding community must be performed. We are working closely with the NJDEP to develop an action plan that will include proposed further sampling both on and off the facility, and a public outreach strategy. We expect to request that Chemours perform the additional sampling. We note that neither EPA nor the NJDEP currently have regulatory or advisory health-based standards for GenX in drinking water.

Quanta Superfund Site, Edgewater NJ: Our team has directed the PRP to take steps to address the odor and emissions issues at the site by utilizing a smaller excavation footprint, more foam, covers, and misters. Two public availability sessions were held on 3/28/18. Attendees expressed frustration about the odors and expressed concerns about potential health effects from exposure to naphthalene in air. We are performing additional off-site air monitoring in nearby commercial and residential locations; the data are posted on our website. We are planning another public availability session in the near future.

RCRA Case against City University of New York Resolved. On 3/28 we finalized an administrative settlement with CUNY for RCRA violations found during a 2016 inspection at its Brooklyn College campus. These included storage of abandoned, unknown chemicals that created a fire hazard and a danger to responders; incompatible storage of chemicals, which if accidently combined could form a poisonous gas or cause an explosion; and failure to conduct monthly inspections on many fire extinguishers to ensure they were in good working order. New York State was informed in advance of EPA's inspection, and later of the planned enforcement action. In the settlement CUNY certified that, to the best of its knowledge, it is now in compliance with applicable hazardous waste regulations; agreed specifically to comply with the rules cited in the complaint; and agreed to pay a civil penalty of $44,000.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Hoosick Falls & Dewey Loeffel SF Site Meetings: RA Pete Lopez is working to schedule several meetings concerning the St. Gobain Superfund site in Hoosick Falls, and also a meeting about the Dewey Loeffel SF site, both in Rensselaer County, NY. Two separate meetings with NGOs concerned with the two sites are being planned for 4/12 and/or 4/13. A meeting of federal, state and local governmental authorities regarding the Hoosick Falls site is being planned for 4/13. Kell Kelly will join the RA for these meetings.

Long Island Sound (LIS): On April 6, Connecticut Senator Chris Murphy will hold a public meeting in Westport, CT to provide an update on what the FY-18 budget provides for LIS environmental programs.

PR/USVI Recovery: Regional Administrator Pete Lopez will be traveling to PR and the USVI the week of 4/23 to discuss the transition from hurricane response to recovery with our Territorial, Commonwealth and local partners. Representatives from OMB, as well as HQ, have expressed their intention to participate in this visit. Region 2 is sharing details of the trip with OMB and HQ as they are developed.

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Region 3

Hot Topics:

Children's Health Participates in the *Be Beautiful Expo* on March 12, 2018
The Children's Health Coordinator provided outreach at the *Be Beautiful Expo* held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. The Expo is the largest event for women of color in the area, focusing on health, beauty, spirituality and finances. Staff spoke to approximately 500 parents/caregivers and approximately 20 children on issues such as asthma, bed bugs, lead, healthy homes, pesticides, mercury in fish, sun exposure etc.

Judicial Action Against American Zinc Recycling of Palmerton, PA for RCRA Violations
On March 29, 2018, Region III forwarded a supplemental civil litigation report to the Department of Justice (DOJ) for violations by American Zinc Recycling Corporation (AZR) of RCRA regulations and the federal authorized Pennsylvania Hazardous Waste Management Program. AZR was formerly known as Horsehead Corporation. The DOJ referral alleges violations of AZR's RCRA Part B Storage Permit, violations of a 1995 judicial Consent Decree between AZR's predecessor, the U.S. and PA. The management of hazardous waste generated by AZR that contains lead and cadmium. This report supplements a September 2017 Clean Air Act report to the DOJ and requests that appropriate action be taken to obtain civil and stipulated penalties as well as injunctive relief. A citizen complaint forwarded to the Pennsylvania Department of the Environment (PADEP) prompted PADEP to request that the EPA conduct a joint inspection with them in FY17, which occurred on August 29-30, 2017. PADEP is expected to join as a party plaintiff in this referred action.

EPA Meets with Delaware Ag Secretary on Nutrient Management Compliance
EPA representatives met with Delaware Department of Agriculture Secretary Scuse on April 3 in Dover to discuss EPA comments on the draft nutrient management compliance strategy. The Delaware strategy needs to comport with the Chesapeake Bay Program's verification standards and be on par with other Chesapeake Bay Program-approved state compliance approaches.

Site Visit to Prepare for Remedial Action at Sharon Steel Corp. Farrell Works Disposal Area Superfund Site, Mercer County, Pennsylvania
On April 5, 2018, the Pittsburgh District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will hold a pre-proposal Site visit for contractors submitting proposals on the remedial action at the Sharon Steel Corp. Farrell Works Disposal Area Superfund Site. The USACE, under an Interagency Agreement (IA) with EPA, will solicit, award, and oversee contractor work to construct a biosolids-enhanced cover over approximately 40 acres of steel slag and sludges that were wastes from the former Sharon Steel facility. The remedial action also includes erosion control measures, stream bank restoration, and construction of wetlands. USACE anticipates award of a contract in May 2018.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

3rd Annual Central Appalachian Regional Brownfields Summit, Pulaski, Virginia
On April 10 and 11, 2018, the Central Appalachian Brownfields Innovation Network in partnership with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality will host the 3rd annual Central Appalachian Regional Brownfields Summit in Pulaski, VA. The Summit educates stakeholders from across Appalachia on complex Brownfields redevelopment issues; provides the opportunity for communities to network with peers, agency representatives, development professionals, and environmental experts in person; and highlights success stories from across the region. There will be Brownfields experts from Virginia, Tennessee, West Virginia, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, and Washington, DC in attendance. Regional Administrator Cosmo Servidio will provide opening remarks at the Summit on April 10. The Town of Pulaski was selected as the location of the year's summit to highlight how federal and state brownfields funding revitalizes rural communities.

Regional Administrator Cosmo Servidio has the following activities scheduled:

- April 5 – Region 3 RA Cosmo Servidio will be the Keynote Speaker at the Pennsylvania Chamber of Commerce Conference, Lancaster, PA
- April 9, 2018 – Attending the Virginia Waste and Water Authorities Association (VWWAA) Conference, Staunton Virginia

Region 4

Hot Topics:

Mississippi Phosphates Corporation (MPC)
Key Message: On April 4, Region 4 communicated to the liquidation trustee (LT) EPA's approval/concurrence for the LT to enter into a 30-day exclusive negotiation period with Hilco Redevelopment Partners to draft an asset purchase agreement for the acquisition of the LT Property at a price of $7.75 Million. The terms of the asset purchase agreement are subject to concurrence from the government parties. Simultaneously, EPA and the State will enter bona fide prospective purchaser (BFPP) work agreement negotiations to secure remediation work from Hilco.

DeKalb County, GA Consent Decree
Key Message: Regional Administrator was briefed on findings that DeKalb County has not been in compliance with the terms of their consent decree (CD). Region 4 is preparing a letter to DeKalb County regarding status of compliance with CD terms. The Region is also evaluating available remedies, in addition to stipulated penalties, for failure to comply with terms and conditions of CD. Discussions will be had with appropriate parties prior to taking action.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Decisions
None

Events
Tour of Charlotte Pipe and Foundry Tour
On Tuesday, April 10, 2018, Region 4 Administrator Trey Glenn and other regional staff will tour the Charlotte Pipe and Foundry facility. Charlotte, NC. Closed Press.

Tour of CTS Asheville Superfund Site
On Thursday, April 11, 2018, Region 4 Administrator Trey Glenn will tour the CTS Asheville Superfund Site. Asheville, NC. Closed Press

Meeting with North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NC DENR)
On Thursday, April 12, 2018, Region 4 Administrator Trey Glenn will meet with the Secretary for NC DENR. Asheville, NC. Closed Press.

Carolinas Air Pollution Control Association (CAPCA) Spring Meeting
On Thursday, April 12, 2018, Region 4 Administrator Trey Glenn will provide remarks at the CAPCA Spring Meeting. The theme of his remarks is "**EPA: One Year Later**."

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Region 5

Hot Topics:

Region 5 Providing Support to Spill Response in Straits of Mackinac
Key Message: On April 2, EPA was notified by the National Response Center of a potential leak of dielectric fluid containing mineral oil from a power transmission running beneath the Straits of Mackinac in northern Michigan.

EPA is currently on site to provide support to the U.S. Coast Guard, the lead agency for the spill, and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

Health Officials Investigating Several Incidents of Rodenticide-Laced Marijuana Around Chicago and Indianapolis
Key Message: EPA is not currently involved in the investigations, but stands by ready to assist local and federal health agencies.

The Indianapolis Fire Department has responded to dozens of overdose calls from people ingesting drugs laced with bug spray. In Illinois, two deaths and 54 cases of bleeding linked to synthetic cannabinoids ("fake weed") have been reported and nine of the cases tested positive for a rodenticide poison.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

RA Stepp and Chief of Staff Kurt Thiede to Host Meet and Greet with Illinois Delegation on April 9
Key Message: Reps. Jan Schakowsky, Brad Schneider, Mike Quigley, and Bill Foster will meet with RA Stepp to discuss funding and staffing, cooperative federalism, the Great Lakes, and the Foxconn plant in Wisconsin.

Region 6

Hot Topics:

Texas 2015 Ozone Transport SIP
The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality public comment period on the Texas Transport SIP for the 2015 Ozone Standard closes on April 10.

San Jacinto Waste Pits Superfund Site, Harris County, Texas
Our legal and technical teams concluded negotiations of an Administrative Order on Consent and Statement of Work for PRP's to conduct the design of the remedy selected for the San Jacinto site. A signed Administrative Order is expected on April 6, 2018. The Statement of Work specifies a number of deliverables to be completed within 29 months.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Decisions:
Louisiana Regional Haze Petition
Region 6 intends to deny Sierra Club's petition for partial reconsideration of our December 2017 final approval of Louisiana's Regional Haze SIP revisions. The Federal Register notice establishes a 60-day period within which parties can provide notice of intent to sue over the decision to deny.

Sulfur Dioxide SIP, St Bernard Parish, Louisiana
Region 6 intends to propose approval of the attainment demonstration State Implementation Plan for sulfur dioxide by April 11 with a 30-day comment period. It will complete final action by July.

Ozone Exceptional Event, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Region 6 intends to approve Louisiana's exceptional event demonstration for Baton Rouge by April 12.

Texas Regional Haze FIP Petition
Region 6 intends to transmit a letter to the Administrator for signature in response to a petition for reconsideration regarding Regional Haze BART in Texas, announcing our intention to propose a new Texas Regional Haze FIP for BART by April 13.

Yuhuang Chemical Plant Title V Permit Petition, St. James Parish, Louisiana
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.

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.

Events:
April 11 Regional Tribal Operations Committee & Annual Tribal Summit, Dallas, Texas

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Region 7

Hot Topics:

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 Superfund Site.

- Public comments continue to be received and processed; the comment period runs through April 23. Notes from a recent meeting with the Potentially Responsible Parties have been posted to the site's webpage. The Region has begun drafting the Record of Decision Amendment and a coordination call on the ROD amendment has been arranged with headquarters on April 6.
- Last week, Region 7 received comments from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources on the draft Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for the Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study for Operable Unit 3 (Groundwater). EPA hosted a call with MDNR on April 3, 2018, to facilitate the resolution of outstanding concerns. Once MDNR's concerns are addressed, the ASAOC will be transmitted to the Department of Justice for review and subsequently to the Potentially Responsible Parties along with a Special Notice Letter and draft Statement of Work to initiate formal negotiations.
- Next week, the region will be participating in an Incident Management Planning meeting with representatives from the landfill and local responders, and will also be providing an update on project status to local officials of Maryland Heights, a suburb of St. Louis located south of Bridgeton.

Carter Carburetor Superfund Site Removal Action (St. Louis, MO)
Key Message: Final cleanup action at the Carter Carburetor Superfund Site scheduled to begin April 9.

- The In Situ Thermal Desorption/Soil-Vapor Extraction system at the Carter Carburetor Superfund Site in St. Louis, MO is scheduled to begin operation the week of April 9. The ISTD/SVE system will be used to address TCE contaminated soils that resulted from historic releases from on-site storage of TCE.
- Previous actions at Carter Carburetor included removal of asbestos, PCB contaminated soils, and building debris. The ISTD/SVE system is planned to be the final remediation action on-site and the entire non-time-critical removal is scheduled to be completed in 2019.

Big River Residential Yard Consent Decree Lodged (Desloge, MO)
Key Message: Recent settlement at Big River Superfund Site will result in a $111M cleanup of residential properties and mine waste.
Description:

- On April 4, the United States and the State of Missouri announced a consent decree that requires the Doe Run Resources Corporation (Doe Run) to clean up approximately 4,100 lead-contaminated residential properties at the Big River Mine Tailings Superfund Site in St. Francois County, MO.
- Historical mining activities in St. Francois County released hazardous heavy metals, including lead, cadmium, and zinc, onto residential properties. This settlement is a mixed funding arrangement where EPA will contribute up to $31.54 million toward the cleanup, which is estimated to cost a total of $111 million.
- The consent decree also includes the cleanup of the Hayden Creek mine waste area and is subject to a 30-day public comment period.

Favorable decision in HPI litigation (St. Joseph, MO)
Key Message: District Court for Western District of Missouri grants EPA motion seeking to hold HPI in contempt and having a receiver appointed to manage company's affairs and ensure future compliance.

- EPA filed this motion due to long-running RCRA noncompliance with a consent decree and worsening conditions at the facility that pose a threat to the community.

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Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Midwest Environmental Compliance Conference Panel Members
Key Message: On April 11, Region 7's regional administrator and regional counsel are participating on panels during the Midwest Environmental Compliance Conference.

- Regional Administrator Jim Gulliford is scheduled to be a panel member during a session titled Understanding New Directions for Cooperative Federalism. Senior Advisor to the Administrator for Regional and State Affairs, Ken Wagner, is also scheduled to be a member of this panel.
- Regional Counsel David Cozad is scheduled to participate in a panel on enforcement priorities.

Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City Monthly Meeting
Key Message: On April 12, Regional Administrator Jim Gulliford will provide remarks to the Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City during their monthly meeting.

Region 8

Hot Topics:

Administrative Orders issued to address drinking water violations in Wyoming On April 3, R8 issued orders to the Town of Alpine in Lincoln County, and to the USDA Forest Service, Black Hills National Forest, Cook Lake Campground Public Water System in Crook County to address Safe Drinking Water Act violations. The Town of Alpine failed to correct significant deficiencies including failure to clean and inspect the system's two water storage tanks every ten years. USDA Forest Service violations include a maximum contaminant level violation for *E. coli* and failure to monitor total coliform bacteria. R8 is taking these actions because the state does not have delegation.

R8 Meeting with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to discuss options to regulate N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) for Meridian Metropolitan Water District (MMD) and other Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) Projects under the Underground Injection Control program. NDMA, a probable human carcinogen, is currently unregulated as a drinking water contaminant and has no associated drinking water standard. CDPHE has committed to work with R8, the water district and drinking water utilities to identify potential solutions.

R8's NEPA Program Attended the BLM's Public Scoping Meetings for the Bears Ears National Monument and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Evironmental Impact Statements The EPA will provide recommendations for the scope of the analysis for these EIS, as requested by BLM. There were approximately 125 attendees from the public at each meeting. The BLM encouraged the EPA to submit recommendations for the scope of analyses, as well as continued involvement as the NEPA process moves forward.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Regional Administrator, Doug Benevento, and Special Advisor to the Administrator, Kell Kelly, will visit Anaconda and Butte, MT, April 8-11, 2018, for meetings with stakeholders, community, and local government officials regarding the Anaconda and Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area Superfund sites.

Region 9

Hot Topics:

Tribal Treatment As A State
I approved the TAS for the Morongo and Rincon Tribes (in So. California) water-quality standards programs. In Region 9, 16 tribes now have this authority. We appreciate the HQ support in completing these actions in advance of next week's RTOC.

Lead (Pb)
Drinking water: We have reviewed the Arizona and California systems with multiple Pb exceedances in recent years, and are working with our State partners to bring about 35 systems into sustained compliance. This week, we'll send California's State Water Resources Control Board our final report on Lead rule implementation, and send Arizona's Dept. of Environmental Quality our draft report. We and our States recognize the difficulty small systems experience in implementation.

Removal: We're initiating a Superfund removal of lead-contaminated soil in Oakland, CA from 11 residential properties in the vicinity of a former smelter. We may highlight this EPA action as part of the nationwide EPA focus on lead (Pb). Concurrently, we'll be sampling public rights-of-way in Oakland, and finalizing our communications strategy for outreach to elected officials and the community.

Lahaina NPDES permit appeal
The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals denied Maui County's request to rehear the recent decision finding the County's wastewater discharge is subject to NPDES permitting. We're working with Hawaii DOH to support their permit development.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Ocean Disposal: We inspected a decommissioned 135-foot barge in San Francisco Bay for our approval to dispose of the vessel 55 miles offshore, beyond the National Marine Sanctuary boundaries. We provided guidance on cleaning requirements and the needed USCG inspection, as well as alternatives to ocean disposal.

OGC: We look forward to welcoming Matt Leonard to Region 9 next Wednesday, April 11. We'll also be hosting a quarterly Tribal Operations Committee meeting next Tuesday and Wednesday.

California's CWA 303d list: Later this week, we'll approve CA's 303d list of impaired waters submitted by the State Water Resources Control Board.

San Diego: Ken Wagner and I plan to meet with San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer on Tuesday April 10 regarding the City's water-management program, including their longstanding secondary treatment variance (301h) at the Pt. Loma wastewater treatment plant.

Region 10

Hot Topics:

None.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Region 10 Participates in Tribal Environmental Leaders Summit (ID): During the week of April 9, Region 10 Administrator, and other top Region 10 managers, will participate in the Regional Tribal Environmental Leaders Summit and Regional Tribal Operations Committee meeting in Worley, Idaho. RA Hladick will be a keynote speaker at the event.

Region 10 Works with State Department on Transboundary Mine Engagement: The Department of State is leading conference calls the week of April 9th to take input from states and tribal governments on the preliminary "gap analysis" for engagement between the U.S. and Canada on transboundary mining. The current scope of the analysis includes transboundary watersheds between British Columbia and Alaska and the Elk Valley/Kootenai watershed between British Columbia and Montana. The analysis was developed by the Federal Interagency Working Group on transboundary mining, which includes Department of State, Department of Interior and EPA. Other federal agencies also contributed to the analysis. EPA Region 10 will be participating in the calls with the State of Alaska, State of Idaho, Southeast Alaska tribes, and the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho. The preliminary gaps analysis is to be discussed with Global Affairs Canada at the bi-lateral meeting in late April.

Cooperating Agency Review of Army Corps preliminary final SEIS for Alaska Stand Alone Pipeline Project: The Corps of Engineers Alaska District has released the ASAP preliminary final SEIS to cooperating agencies (including EPA) for review through May 2nd. In August 2017 Region 10 commented on the draft SEIS and rated it as, " EO-2," and submitted a CWA Section 404 3(a) comment letter on the Public Notice. The Corps anticipates issuing a final SEIS in June 2018 and plans to issue a second CWA Section 404 Public Notice concurrently with a 30-day comment period. Since August 2017, the Corps has finalized its jurisdictional determination and found that the proposed project will impact approximately 10 percent more aquatic resources than identified in the draft SEIS and in the initial Public Notice.

Pebble Mine Project NEPA Scoping Period Begins (AK): On March 29th, the Army Corps of Engineers Alaska District published a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register initiating the formal scoping process for the Pebble Mine Environmental Impact Statement. The 30-day scoping period began on April 1st and will include nine public meetings. Numerous requests have already been submitted to the Corps requesting an extension to the scoping period. EPA's Pebble NEPA team will be developing scoping comments.

Region 10 Hosts Source Water Protection Workshop (WA): On April 10th, EPA, in conjunction with the EPA Region 10 Environmental Finance Center and the Drinking Water Providers Partnership, will host a workshop in Wenatchee, WA focused on source water protection. The workshop will bring together water providers, land managers, restoration practitioners and funders in order to strengthen relationships, foster understanding of water quality and water supply needs, and identify opportunities for collaboration and restoration. This will be the first in a series of workshops to be held in WA, OR and ID.

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Office of Administration and Resources Management

Hot Topics:

OARM Updates Employee Counseling and Assistance Program
As of April 1, OARM consolidated all EPA employee counseling and assistance program services under one contract for an annual cost savings of $167,000. The consolidated contract provides a consistent level of services, including access to licensed mental health professionals, stress management, and financial management, to EPA employees.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Library of Congress Recognizes EPA Research Triangle Park Library
On April 24, The Library of Congress Federal Library and Information Network will honor EPA's Research Triangle Park Library as the Small Library of the Year. This award recognizes the many innovative ways that federal libraries fulfill the information demands of government, businesses and scholarly communities and the American public.

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Office of Air and Radiation

Hot Topics:

- **Tracking SIP Actions:**
  - Total Number of SIPs submitted to Regions in FY 2018: 143
  - Total Number of SIP Submittals with Final Action taken by the Regions in FY 2018: 105
  - Total Number of Pending SIPs: 749

- **Upcoming Packages for the Administrator's Signature:**
  - Review of the Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Oxides of Nitrogen (Final rule reaffirming current standards) – Court ordered deadline Friday 4/6
  - Wheelabrator Title V Order – Goal for signature is Friday 4/6 to avoid a potential lawsuit on Monday 4/9
  - Final response to a June 2016 Clean Air Act Section 126 Petition from Connecticut – Court ordered deadline of Friday 4/6
  - Notice of Guidance and a Stakeholder Meeting Concerning the Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) Program – Goal for signature is Monday 4/9
  - 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
  - NESHAP: Surface Coating of Large Appliances; Printing, Coating, and Dyeing of Fabrics and Other Textiles; and Surface Coating of Metal Furniture 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)

- **OAR Actions Under Review at OMB:**
  - Final Guidance on Significant Impact Levels for Ozone and Fine Particles in the Prevention of Significant Deterioration Permitting Program

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Energy Star: As early as April 11, EPA's Energy Star program will publish its annual Top Cities list, recognizing U.S. metropolitan areas with the most Energy Star certified buildings in 2017.

GHG Inventory: By April 15, EPA will publish the Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2016, a policy-neutral report published annually by EPA since 1993. EPA issued a public review draft of the Inventory in February. The final report indicates that total 2016 GHG emissions (before taking into account the uptake of carbon and storage in forests, vegetation and soils), were approximately 6,511 million metric tons of CO2 equivalent, 1.9% below 2015 levels and 11% below 2005 levels.

Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Row	Determination Type	Pending on 4/3/2018	Determinations Completed[1] as 4/3/2018	Determinations Posted on the Website as of 4/3/2018[6]
1	# of "not likely" determinations	**1**	**122[4]**	**122[4]**
2	# of §5(e) Orders signed by both EPA and the submitter	**-**	**343**	**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]	**348[3, 5]**	**-**	**-**
6	# of cases flagged for in-depth review	**45**	**-**	**-**
7	# of PMNs, SNUNs and MCANs awaiting FOCUS (within 90-day review)	**19**	**-**	**-**
8	# of LVE/LOREX exemption grants	**-**	**556**	**553**
9	# of LVE/LOREX exemption denials	**-**	**120**	**120**
10	**Total number of cases**	**453**	**1141**	**-**
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]**	79	**-**	**-**

[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:

Formaldehyde Compliance Date Changes as a Result of Court Order. In the case of Sierra Club et al. vs. Scott Pruitt (EPA), on March 13, 2018, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California issued an order addressing the litigation over the December 12, 2018, compliance date for the formaldehyde standards for composite wood products. By June 1, 2018, regulated composite wood panels and finished products containing such composite wood panels that are manufactured (in the United States) or imported (into the United States) must be certified/labeled as compliant with either TSCA Title VI OR the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Airborne Toxic Control Measures (ATCM) Phase II emission standards. Previously, these products were required to be TSCA Title VI compliant by December 12, 2018. OCSPP published an announcement in the Federal Register on April 5th to clarify the outcome for stakeholders.

Alternative Test Methods and Strategies to Reduce Vertebrate Testing Public Meeting. OCSPP is holding a public meeting on April 10, 2018, in Washington, DC to obtain input from interested parties and the public on the Agency's draft Strategic Plan to reduce the use of vertebrate animals in chemical testing. Section 4(h)(2)(A) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) requires EPA to develop a Strategic Plan by June 22, 2018, to promote the development and implementation of alternative test methods and strategies to reduce, refine or replace vertebrate animal testing. The draft Strategic Plan is available for public comment until April 26.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

NAS Board Meeting- Next Friday, April 13th, Deputy Assistant Administrator Nancy Beck will meet with the National Academies (NAS) Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology to discuss TSCA implementation.

SFIREG Meeting – Several staff from the Office of Pesticide Program will present at the State FIFRA Issues Research and Evaluation Group (SFIREG) Joint Working Committees meeting April 9-10. SFIREG and its working committees provide a platform for the states and EPA to resolve challenges to successful implementation of pesticide programs and policies in the USA and territories.

Bergeson & Campbell/Bloomberg BNA Webinar – On April 10, the Office of Pesticide Programs Director, Rick Keigwin, will participate in the Bergeson & Campbell/Bloomberg BNA "FIFRA Hot Topics" webinar and will provide an update on EPA's Pesticide Program activities. This webinar is the second in their 2018 Chemical Policy Summit Series. Topics to be covered include OPP priorities and current FIFRA implementation issues, including ESA opportunities and challenges, the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA), and the registration review actions on glyphosate and neonicotinoid insecticides.

Meeting with Region 7 Leadership and Stakeholders – On April 13, the Office of Pesticide Programs Director, Rick Keigwin, will meet with the Region 7 Regional Administrator, Jim Gulliford, Pesticide Program management and staff, state Pesticide Program leadership, Iowa Farm Bureau, and Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska Corn Growers Association Representatives to discuss various pesticide issues.

Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Hot Topics:

OCFO and OCIR are working with headquarters and regional offices on new or updated AA or RA approved fact sheets due earlier this week to support the Administrator's hearings on EPA's FY 2019 President's Budget Request to Congress. The HAC and HEC hearings are scheduled for April 26. OCIR continues to work with SAC to schedule that hearing, also anticipated to now occur in May.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

After coordinating with the Acting Deputy Administrator and COO, the CFO will issue a memorandum outlining Congressional direction, Administrator priorities and operational resource levels for development of the FY 2018 Operating Plan. The plan is due to Congress on April 23 after OMB review beginning April 16. OCFO will issue additional details in technical guidance to the agency.

EPA's FY 2018-2019 Agency Priority Goal Action Plans will be available to the public on www.performance.gov on April 9.

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Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations

Hot Topics:

April 10 – Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety will hold hearing entitled, Cooperative Federalism Under the Clean Air Act: State Perspectives (No EPA witness)

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

- **April 6** - the Administrator is expected to sign the final decision on the regular review of the primary, or health-based, National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)
- **Week of April 9** - Announcement on ND SDWA Class VI primacy approval w/ OW and R8
- **Week of April 9** - House Transportation and Infrastructure minority staff briefing on revisions to CWA jurisdiction determinations w/ OW
- **April 9** – EPA (OW, R9, OIR) to meet with Agoura Hills, CA local officials to discuss funding to address stormwater run-off and projects under the National Estuary Program
- **April 10** – OCIR/OAR/OECA will have a call w/Sen. Collins and Rep. Poliquin's staff and constituent business, Maine Energy System, on wood heaters new source performance standards and certification under the rule
- **April 10** – EPA (OW, R9, OIR) to meet with California Water Districts to discuss water recycling projects the districts are working on
- **April 10** - Cong. Davis (IL) briefing on PRIA w/OCSPP
- **April 11** - EPA to meet with Medford, OR local officials to discuss the city's work through partnership with Rogue Valley Council of Governments on a Brownfield Assessment Grant
- **April 12** - Congressional Estuaries Caucus briefing on Harmful Algal Bloom's w/ OW and R2
- **Week of April 16**- Cong. Peters (CA) staff TA re: Point Loma WWTP legislation w/ OW
- **April 18**- House Transportation and Infrastructure staff briefing on water budget issues w/OW
- **April 19**- EPA to meet with Abilene, TX Mayor Williams to hear updates of the city's Cedar Ridge Reservoir project
- **TBD** - Notification of first WIFIA loan closing for King County, WA w/ OW
- **TBD**- Cong. Sinema (AZ) staff briefing on Urban Waters Federal Partnership
- **TBD**- House Energy and Commerce majority briefing on rural drinking water system tech assistance w/OW
- **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:

The United States and Missouri Reach Agreement with Doe Run Resources Corporation on Cleanup of More Than 4,000 Lead-Contaminated Residential Yards in Missouri
On April 4, 2018, DOJ, EPA and the state of Missouri, filed a consent decree that requires the Doe Run Resources Corporation to clean up more than 4,000 lead-contaminated residential properties near the Big River Mine Tailings Superfund Site in St. Francois County, Missouri. The consent decree is subject to a 30-day public comment period. According to the settlement terms, Doe Run is required to excavate lead-contaminated soil on approximately 4,100 affected residential properties, and to perform additional cleanup at the Hayden Creek mine waste area.

U.S. Steel Corporation Agrees to Improve Environmental Compliance
On April 2, 2018, DOJ, EPA, and the state of Indiana announced a settlement with U.S. Steel to address Clean Water Act and EPCRA violations at U.S. Steel's facility in Portage, Indiana. Under the settlement, U.S. Steel agreed to undertake substantial measures to improve its wastewater processing monitoring system, fix older pipes, and implement an upgraded operation and maintenance program. U.S. Steel will also implement a detailed protocol to notify relevant state and local authorities about any future spills. The settlement requires U.S. Steel to pay over $600,000 in penalties to the United States and Indiana. In addition, U.S. Steel will reimburse EPA and the National Park Service for response costs associated with the spill of hexavalent chromium into Burns Waterway. U.S. Steel will also pay costs to the NOAA for assessing natural resource damages due to the spill.

Manager Pleads Guilty to Violating the Clean Water Act in Connection to Offshore Explosion
On March 29, 2018, former Black Elk Energy Offshore Operations LLC (BEE) contract manager, Don Moss, pleaded guilty in the Eastern District of Louisiana to violating one count of the Clean Water Act for negligently causing the discharge of oil into the Gulf of Mexico. On August 31, 2017, BEE was sentenced on eight felony violations of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act and one misdemeanor count of violating the CWA. The charges stemmed from an explosion in November 2012 on an offshore oil production platform that resulted in the deaths of three workers and injuries to several others. Approximately 500 barrels of oil were discharged into the water. The Court ordered BEE to pay a $4.2 million penalty.

Clean Air Act Settlement with Martin Marietta
On March 20, 2018, EPA reached a settlement with Martin Marietta addressing alleged Clean Air Act violations at its Woodville, Ohio facility. This facility manufactures lime and combusts coal, petroleum coke, and natural gas. The lime kilns had opacity violations and alleged New Source Review violations for NOx and SO_2. Under the settlement, Martin Marietta will install a new baghouse and will accept new emission limits for NOx and SO_2. Martin Marietta will also pay a civil penalty of $800,000 and spend at least $375,000 to replace a heavy duty diesel truck on-site.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

On April 10, 2018, OECA AA Susan Bodine will give opening remarks to stakeholders at DOJ's Crime Victims Week Listening Session.

On April 10, 2018, OECA AA Susan Bodine will speak in D.C. to the Environmental Technology Council.

Office of Environmental Information

Hot Topics:

Upcoming eRulemaking Demonstration for U.S. Senate Committee Staff

- Brief description: On April 6 at EPA Headquarters, in response to a request from the U.S. Senate's Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee (HSGAC), the eRulemaking Program will demonstrate the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) and Regulations.gov to committee staff. EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations (OCIR) is coordinating with HSGAC staff to arrange this meeting.
- Who benefits or cares: HSGAC staff and EPA.
- Why this is important: This meeting will provide the HSGAC staff a better understanding of the functions of FDMS and Regulations.gov, which are both shared services managed by the eRulemaking Program (which is currently housed at EPA), a cross-agency, E-Government initiative established under Section 206 of the 2002 E-Government Act. The eRulemaking Program benefits both federal agency partners and the public by increasing public access to federal regulatory materials, increasing public participation in federal rulemaking processes, and improving the efficiency and effectiveness of federal regulatory development processes.
- Additional information: HSGAC is the U.S. Senate's primary oversight committee with jurisdiction over government operations in general and the Department of Homeland Security in particular. It is responsible for studying the efficiency, effectiveness, and economy of all federal government agencies and departments. It includes a subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management, which has broad oversight authority over the federal regulatory regime. Among other issues, HSGAC has been interested in the comment submission process and its integrity.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

None.

Office of General Counsel

Hot Topics:

- *NRDC v. EPA,* No. 16-1861 (D.D.C.). New development: On March 30, 2018, the court vacated EPA's 2010 approval of a total maximum daily load (TMDL) for trash in the Anacostia River, developed jointly by Maryland and the District of Columbia. The court held that the Anacostia TMDL for trash was unlawful because it was not expressed as the "maximum . . . load" of trash that may enter the river consistent with its water quality standards and stayed the order of vacatur "until such time as the EPA approves a replacement TMDL."
- *Cmty.-in-power & Dev. Ass'n v. EPA*, No, 16-cv-1074 (D.D.C.). New development: On March 31, 2018, the court ordered EPA to complete risk and technology reviews (RTRs) for nine air toxics rules by October 1, 2021. Plaintiffs had asked that EPA be required to complete five RTRs within one year and the remaining four within two years. EPA asked for a staggered schedule that would have given EPA approximately seven years to complete all nine RTRs. The court granted in part and denied in part plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment and denied EPA's cross-motion for summary judgment.
- *E. L. Dugan v. State Farm Mutual.* No. CIV-17-1221-R (W.D. Ok.). New development: On April 3, 2018, the court issued an order dismissing a *pro se* complaint making numerous allegations against EPA and named EPA defendants related to alleged injury based on alleged exposure to drinking water above regulatory levels and alleged exposure to fugitive natural gas emissions. The court dismissed all claims against EPA and official capacity claims against named EPA defendants on sovereign immunity grounds.
- *CARE v. EPA*, No. C 15-3292 SBA (N.D. Cal.). New development: On March 30, 2018, the court granted Plaintiffs' Motion for Summary Judgment in this APA suit as to five claims of unreasonable delay/agency action unlawfully withheld in the processing of Title VI administrative complaints. The court identified declaratory and prospective injunctive relief as appropriate remedies for Claims 1-5. The parties must submit a proposed judgment by April 13 or, alternatively, notify the court if they wish to have a settlement conference in an attempt to reach a global resolution.
- *Lindamood v. Pruitt,* No. 7:18-cv-129 (W.D. Va.). New development: On March 26, 2018, Volkswagen owner Douglas Lindamood filed a complaint against the EPA, Volkswagen Group of America, and Porsche Cars North America about 590,000 vehicles equipped with defeat devices, prohibited by the Clean Air Act (CAA) and, allegedly, 17 state implementation plans (SIPs). Lindamood alleges EPA failed to enforce the CAA and SIPs by not requiring their removal from the road and failed to notify vehicle owners and states that the vehicles are illegal to operate or sell.
- *Charleston Sanitary Bd. v. Pruitt*, No. 2:16-cv-03060 (D. W. Va.). New development: On March 29, 2018, the court granted EPA's motion for summary judgment in a challenge by a public sewer utility to EPA's July 19, 2016, disapproval of a site-specific copper criteria submission. The Court found that plaintiff's challenge had been rendered moot when, following the disapproval, the state issued a NPDES permit for the plaintiff's water treatment facility based on the approved statewide criteria that did not include any copper effluent limit.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

None.

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Office of International and Tribal Affairs

Hot Topics:

Transboundary Mining in British Columbia - The FY2018 Appropriations bill contains two sections related to mining operations taking place in British Columbia near the U.S.-Canada border. One of these sections encourages EPA, in coordination with other USG agencies, to work with partners to reduce contaminants in the Kootenai Watershed and to brief the Committees on these efforts within 180 days. The other, under the DOI section, includes $120,000 for monitoring on transboundary rivers in Southeast Alaska (Taku, Stikine and Unuk Rivers) and directs USGS to partner with local tribes and federal agencies to develop a strategy on transboundary rivers impacted by mining activities. For the past several months, EPA and the State Department have co-chaired an Interagency Workgroup for the purpose of doing a gap analysis and finding solutions to the water quality issues associated with mining activities in British Columbia. The preliminary findings will be presented at the U.S.-Canada bilateral meeting on April 26.

Lead Meeting with Paint Industry and American Bar Association - EPA (OITA, OCSPP) met with the American Coatings Association, which is the Secretariat for the International Paint and Printing Ink Council (IPPIC), and the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative (ABA/ROLI). The paint industry and American Bar Association have both supported the goals of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (Alliance). This meeting was the first in-person meeting between the two organizations, which the aim of working closely with EPA and the Alliance to promote lead paint laws in developing countries. ABA has a resolution calling all members to support the goals of the Alliance and IPPIC will also be highlighting its support for the recently launched UN Environment *Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint*. In addition, IPPIC pledged to identify global regional industry champions and to assist with establishment and implementation of lead paint laws around the world.

Upcoming Events and Decisions:

Region 1 Tribal Leaders Summit – OITA PDAA will join Regional Administrator Alex Dunn at the Region 1 Tribal Leaders Summit on April 11 in the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation.

UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues – OITA PDAA will represent EPA at the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on April 17 in New York City.

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 were sent to OMB for Interagency review on March 9. 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).** We are working with OECA and Region 9 regarding a dispute at Edwards Air Force Base. Last week we joined in meeting with the Air Force and California officials.

4. **CERCLA 108(b) Financial Assurance – Next Three Sectors**. We are working with OGC and the AO on the analysis plan.

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. The FARM Act does not alter the EPCRA reporting requirements; EPA is revising guidance interpreting EPCRA's reporting requirements of releases for animal wastes from farms.

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

7. **Definition of Solid Waste (DSW) Vacaturs.** The D.C. Circuit had vacated two regulatory provisions of the 2015 DSW Rule, and recently modified its opinion. A good cause final rule is being developed to implement the court decision. A significance briefing with OMB was held on March 28.

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. **Emergency Response: Headquarters Senior Leader On-Boarding**. There will be a session on April 10, 5:00 – 6:00 pm. It is not too late to RSVP, for anyone who missed the first session. We are also scheduling special sessions as needed by specific offices.

3. **Inter-Agency National Level Exercise 2018.** We are preparing for EPA participation in this year's exercise, including its component for Continuity of Operations (COOP). This will involve many Agency senior leaders, especially on May 7 for deployment to our CCOP site.

4. **Possible Updates to the Superfund National Priorities List.** We are evaluating the next possible updates, potentially in the next few months.

5. **FY18 Brownfields Assessment, RLF, and Cleanup (ARC) Grant Competition.** We are working toward a public announcement in mid to late April, and will work with OPA and OCIR accordingly.

6. **FY18 Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant Competition.** We are working toward grant selections in early May.

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

Office of Policy

Number of Actions to OFR this Year:

- Signed by Regions:
  - Notices: 23
  - Proposed Rules: 60
  - Direct Final Rules: 4
  - Withdrawal of Proposed Rule: 1
  - Withdrawal of Direct Final: 3
  - Final Rules: 69
- Signed by HQ:
  - Notices: 105
  - Proposed Rules: 16
  - Withdrawal of Direct Final: 1
  - Final Rules: 39

Number of Actions to OFR this Week (Mar 30 – Apr 5):

- Signed by Regions:
  - Notices: 2
  - Proposed Rules: 6
  - Direct Final Rules: 0
  - Withdrawal of Proposed Rule: 0
  - Withdrawal of Direct Final: 0
  - Final Rules: 5
- Signed by HQ:
  - Notices: 6
  - Proposed Rules: 0
  - Withdrawal of Direct Final: 0
  - Final Rules: 2

Documents Submitted to OFR from March 29 - April 2, 2018

FRL	Title	Date Submitted to OFR
9976-38-ORD	Human Studies Review Board; Notification of Public Meetings	4/2/2018
9976-33-OA	Notification of a Public Teleconference of the Chartered Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) and the CASAC Sulfur Oxides Panel	4/2/2018
9976-35-OAR	Findings of Failure to Submit State Implementation Plan Submissions for the 2012 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)	4/2/2018
9976-43-Region 9	Approval of California Plan Revisions, Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District; Stationary Source Permits	3/30/2018
9976-42-Region 3	Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; Nonattainment New Source Review Requirements for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard	3/30/2018

9976-40-OAR	Air Quality Designations for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide (SO2) Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard – Round 3 – Supplemental Amendment	3/30/2018
9976-22-OCSPP	Announcement of Court Order; Compliance Date; Formaldehyde Emission Standards for Composite Wood Products	3/30/2018
9976-02-Region 8	Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; State of Colorado; Revisions to the Transportation Conformity Consultation Process	3/30/2018
9975-84-Region 8	Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; State of Wyoming; Sheridan PM10 Nonattainment Area Limited Maintenance Plan and Redesignation Request	3/30/2018
9975-09-Region 8	Promulgation of State Implementation Plan Revisions; Colorado; Attainment Demonstration for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard for the Denver Metro/North Front Range Nonattainment Area, and Approval of Related Revisions	3/30/2018
9974-17-Region 4	Air Plan Approval; South Carolina; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference	3/29/2018
9976-11-Region 5	Clean Air Act Operating Permit Program; Petitions for Objection to State Operating Permit for Superior Silica Sands and Wisconsin Proppants LLC	3/29/2018
9976-12-Region 5	Adequacy Status of the Sheboygan County, Wisconsin Area for the Submitted 2008 Ozone Standard Attainment Demonstration for Transportation Conformity Purposes	3/29/2018
9976-13-Region 5	Air Plan Approval; Ohio; Hospital/Medical/Infectious Waste Incinerator Withdrawal for Designated Facilities and Pollutants	3/29/2018
9976-15-Region 1	PROPOSED CERCLA ADMINISTRATIVE COST RECOVERY SETTLEMENT; GOULD ELECTRONICS INC., NEW HAMPSHIRE DIOXANE SITE, ATKINSON/HAMPSTEAD, NEW HAMPSHIRE	3/29/2018
9976-19-Region 8	Public Water System Supervision Program Revision for the State of Montana	3/29/2018
9970-81-OEI	Cross-Media Electronic Reporting: Authorized Program Revision Approval, State of California	3/29/2018
9976-06-Region 9	Approval of California Air Plan Revisions, Yolo Solano Air Quality Management District	3/29/2018

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Office of Research and Development

Hot Topics:

ORD Delivered PFAS results to New Hampshire
In June 2017, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NH DES) requested laboratory assistance in analyzing for PFAS in environmental samples. This information was needed to aid in an investigation of the presence of PFAS near certain manufacturing facilities. ORD agreed to conduct the analysis and received samples at its lab in Athens, Georgia. These samples, collected by NH DES, were char and soil. ORD analyzed these samples and this week we delivered a report of the results to NH DES. The report provides the concentrations of perfluorocarboxylate (PFCA), a type of PFAS, detected in the samples. This work is related to ORD's research of targeted and non-targeted analysis methods for detecting PFAS in environmental samples.

ORD Scientist to Serve on Michigan PFAS Scientific Advisory Panel
ORD's Chris Lau was selected by the Michigan PFAS Action Response Team to serve on a Scientific Advisory Panel on Emerging PFAS Contaminants. The Panel will assess data on potential PFAS contamination and toxicity to estimate risk and protect public health and the environment. Dr. Lau was chosen for his long-standing involvement and expertise in the toxicology of PFAS. The Panel will be chaired by Dr. David Savitz of Brown University, and will objectively assess the scientific information surrounding the issue of health advisory levels, health outcomes, remediation and mitigation, and environmental pathways for the PFAS family of chemicals. They are charged to issue a report by October 30, 2018.

Technical support for clean-up of Des Moines TCE Superfund Site, March 27
Last week ORD participated in a teleconference with Region 7 on the Des Moines TCE Superfund site, located in south-central Des Moines, IA, on the east side of the Raccoon River. This site is one of the 21 sites prioritized for clean-up by the Administrator. The region asked if all possible remediation alternatives had been evaluated. ORD provided information on another potential remedy, which would introduce a sludge amendment, possibly contained in a reactive mat, to decrease contaminant interaction with the Raccoon River. Steel manufacturing and pesticide formulation at the site released trichloroethene (TCE), dichloroethene, vinyl chloride, pesticides, and metals into the groundwater and soils.

Food Opportunities Map and Technical Report.
Working with Region 9 and OLEM, ORD has completed a report that presents the methodology for the development of the US EPA Excess Food Opportunities Map which supports diversion of excess food from landfills. The information can be used to inform waste management at the local level, and identify potential sources of organic feedstocks, infrastructure gaps, and disposal alternatives to landfills. OLEM will be developing an interactive website based on this report so that users can better understand the importance of managing excess food. The report describes the identification of select industrial, commercial and institutional sources in the United States that potentially generate excess food at the establishment level, and identification of potential recipients of these materials. The map identifies more than 4,000 potential excess food recipients, described as composters, anaerobic digestion facilities, and food banks.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

On Saturday, Richard Yamada will deliver remarks to the student teams for our People, Prosperity and the Planet program in DC at the USA Science and Engineering Festival. This week, I am at the National Academies of Sciences Environmental Health Matters Initiative. Next week, I am attending the EMC meeting and a NAS Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology meeting, where I will provide an update on ORD activities.

Office of Water

Hot Topics:

North Dakota Underground Injection Control (UIC) Class VI Primacy: Next week, OP will send forward for Administrator's signature the approval for the State of North Dakota's request to implement and enforce its own Class VI UIC program. This action marks the first time that any state has received primacy responsibility for Class VI UIC wells. Class VI UIC wells are used for the long-term storage of carbon dioxide captured from industrial and energy related sources.

Effluent Guidelines Program Plan: As early as next week, the OW anticipates approving for publication in the Federal Register a Notice of Availability for the Final 2016 Effluent Guidelines Program Plan. Section 304(m) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) requires the EPA to biennially publish a plan for new and revised effluent limitations guidelines, after public review and comment. The Final 2016 Plan identifies one new rulemaking (and the associated schedule) for the Steam Electric Power Generating Point Source Category. The Final 2016 Plan also announces that the EPA is initiating a new study to look holistically at the management of oil and gas extraction wastewater from onshore facilities.

EPA Awards $25.4 Million to Assist Small Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems: Next week, the EPA will announce the award of close to $25.4 million in grants to help the country's small drinking and waste water systems and private well owners better protect public health and the environment. Funding will be used to provide small public drinking water and wastewater systems with training and technical assistance to achieve and maintain compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, improve operational performance, and help inform private drinking water well owners about protecting their drinking water supply and improving water quality. The training and assistance will also help system operators identify when critical infrastructure upgrades are needed and how EPA can help support those efforts.

Perchlorate Peer Review: This week, the EPA released the final peer review report of the EPA's perchlorate health effects evaluation to inform the regulatory decision making. This report summarizes the input of the eight experts who met at a public meeting in January. The report states "Overall, the panel agreed that the EPA and its collaborators have prepared a highly innovative state-of-the-science set of quantitative tools to evaluate neurodevelopmental effects that could arise from drinking water exposure to perchlorate." The EPA will utilize these quantitative tools to assess regulatory options for perchlorate in drinking water. The EPA is under a consent decree to issue a proposed perchlorate regulation by October 31, 2018.

Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA): This week, the EPA announced the availability of $55 million in credit subsidy which is expected to provide approximately $5.5 billion in loans. The NOFA opens the letter of interest submittal period for prospective borrowers. The deadline is July 6, 2018. The NOFA, as well as updated material such as the WIFIA handbook, are now available at www.epa.gov/wifia.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

The Fertilizer Institute (TFI): Next week, Lee will present at TFI's Environment, Health, Safety, and Security Committee Meeting, addressing the Agency's water priorities with a focus on nutrient management. This event is closed to the press.