Region 1

Hot Topics:

Parties Reach Significant Agreement in Principle on Priority Superfund Site
EPA, the State of Rhode Island, and Black & Decker have reached a mediated agreement in principle on the Consent Decree (CD) and Statement of Work (SOW) at the Centredale Manor Site in North Providence, RI. EPA will likely sign in early June. The CD will be lodged with the Court in mid-June. Under the terms of the CD, the PRPs will begin performance on the RD upon lodging. This Site is on Administrator Pruitt's list of sites targeted for immediate, intense action.

NH MS4 Permit Mediation Kicks-off
This week, mediation began among the appellants of the NH MS4 general permit for small municipalities. While the state of New Hampshire is not a party to the litigation, Region 1 secured the agreement of all parties to the state's participation in the mediation. Mediation for the Massachusetts MS4 general permit, which started last week, continues.

Lead Paint Removal Contractors Receive Notice of Upcoming Lead Inspections
Region 1 began outreach to contractors located in our two focus communities of Portsmouth, NH and Portland, ME. An initial mass mailing of 171 letters, including 23 to those whose lead removal firm certification has expired were sent to Portsmouth contractors. The letters provided information on EPA's initiative, lead-based paint rules, lead in drinking water, and on how to identify EPA accredited trainers in their area. A similar mass mailing to Portland contractors is expected to go out next week. Region 1 is coordinating these efforts with local and state officials as well as community groups.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Charles River (Massachusetts) Receives an A- in Annual Water Quality Report Card Announcement
On June 1, Region 1 will announce its 23rd annual grade for water quality in the Charles River. The grade of A- reflects 2017 data showing that the river met boating standards 95% of the time and swimming standards 72% of the time. This is only the second time that the Charles has achieved a grade this high.

RA Dunn, Erin Chancellor and Steven Cook to meet with concerned citizens at Coakley Superfund Site
On June 4, RA Dunn, Adviser Erin Chancellor and Deputy AA Steven Cook will visit the site and meet with Community Activist Jillian Lane and concerned neighborhood citizens. This visit is a follow-up to Albert Kelly's commitment to Jillian Lane that he would visit the site.

RA Dunn and Erin Chancellor to participate in two New Bedford Harbor events with Mayor Mitchell
On June 5, RA Dunn and Adviser Erin Chancellor will participate in an onsite celebration of the completion of the Pierce Mill Cove cleanup and the reopening of Riverside Park. Following the celebration, they will participate in a roundtable with Mayor Mitchell on his plans for economic growth and development of the New Bedford Harbor. MassDEP and USACE will also be in attendance.

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Region 2

Hot Topics:

Consent Order with National Grid at Gowanus Canal Superfund Site
On 5/24 Region 2 finalized this consent order, which provides for extensive cleanup work with an estimated value of about $100 million. Under the order National Grid will construct a sealed barrier wall to contain coal tar migration from its former Fulton Manufactured Gas Plant site; remove coal tar at two properties following their acquisition by New York City for construction by the City of an 8-million gallon CSO retention tank (required under the 2013 Record of Decision for the site); remove coal tar from beneath an adjacent City-owned public park and swimming pool; and develop plans for and provide a temporary and permanent replacement swimming pool facility. The order provides for close coordination of work by National Grid with work required by EPA's 2016 consent order with New York City addressing the property acquisition, design of the CSO retention tank, and related matters. Finally, the Order provides for the reimbursement of EPA's oversight costs.

"General Duty Clause" Compliance Order Issued to Shamrock Enterprises
On 5/29 Region 2 issued an order regarding Shamrock's failure to comply with §112(r) of the Clean Air Act, known as the "general duty clause," at its Franklinville, NJ facility. At the facility, which is near residences, Shamrock sells, stores, and handles compressed gases including acetylene and propane, which are extremely hazardous substances. Shamrock failed to identify potential hazards from accidental releases, and to design and maintain a safe facility so as to prevent releases. EPA inspected the facility at the request of New Jersey; state and local agencies participated in the inspection. The Order calls for proper handling and storage of extremely hazardous substances, and compliance with applicable industry standards and safety regulations, including fire code requirements.

Chemours Chambers Works/Deepwater, NJ
Chemours responded to EPA's questions regarding GenX, and we have begun our review of the document. Within the next one to two weeks we expect to start receiving results of Chemours' sampling for GenX in nearby monitoring and residential wells starting as early as next week. NJDEP has received an Order to Show Cause initiated by the Township of Carney's Point, which is near the Deepwater facility. The Town seeks NJDEP approval of a public participation plan for the Township. Chemours has agreed to develop a public website similar to the one that was set-up for Chemours' Fayetteville, NC site; development of the website should take about a month.

Wolff-Alport Superfund Site, Brooklyn, NY
RA Pete Lopez and staff met on 5/30 with Congresswoman Nydia Velasquez to brief her on progress at this site. At her request, Region 2 will organize a public availability session to update the community about the work at the site, probably on June 18.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Confidential: Settlement with NYC Housing Authority (NYCHA)
As of this writing, the announcement of the settlement with NYCHA is expected to occur on June 5th at noon at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Manhattan. We expect that Susan Bodine will attend.

June 6: RA Pete Lopez will give keynote remarks at Columbia Law School's "Key Environmental Issues in EPA Region 2," a biennial conference co-sponsored by the American Bar Association. The conference will also feature a panel discussion among the RA and the environmental commissioners of NY, NJ, PR and the USVI.

June 7: Deputy Administrator Wheeler will be visiting Region 2, with a planned tour of Gowanus Canal.

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June 18: Region 2 leadership will be participating in a Lake Guardian event in Rochester, NY to highlight the survey of Lake Ontario (dive and sampling missions by EPA staff).

Region 3

Hot Topics:

Lead-Based Paint Program Continues Outreach Efforts in Philadelphia
LCD managers and staff met with the City of Philadelphia Department of Public Health's Director of Environmental Health Services and the Program Administrator of the Lead and Healthy Homes Program to continue discussing potential partnership opportunities. The City expressed interest in working together on outreach campaigns, especially to child care centers in Philadelphia. LCD learned more about the City's laws and programs related to lead-based paint in child care centers, as well as communication channels, outreach initiatives, training sessions, and inter-agency meetings, which may provide opportunities for collaboration. LCD will speak with the City again in June to follow up on this conversation.

Administrative Settlement Executed on Delaware Sand & Gravel Landfill Superfund Site, New Castle, Delaware
An Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (AOC) for remedial design (RD) was executed on May 22, 2018, which is 31 work days after EPA waived special notice procedures and invited the Delaware Sand & Gravel Landfill (DS&G) Remedial Trust to negotiate the agreement. Respondents to the AOC will complete pre-design investigations and the RD and install two groundwater interceptor wells to begin implementation of EPA's December 2017 Amendment No. 2 to the 1988 Record of Decision. EPA also issued letters to the potentially responsible parties at the adjacent Army Creek Landfill Superfund site to encourage their continued negotiation of an allocation agreement with the DS&G Remedial Trust for performance of the remedial action under a future consent decree.

EPA Region III Reissues DC MS4 Permit
On Wednesday, May 23, 2018, EPA reissued the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System NPDES permit for the District of Columbia (DC MS4).
The DC MS4 permit had been administratively extended since it expired in October 2016. EPA worked closely with the District of Columbia in drafting this permit and considered numerous public comments from a variety of stakeholders. The DC MS4 permit will take effect June 22, 2018.

EPA Certified Lead Renovator Company Pleads Guilty for Failing to Follow Safe Work Practices to Reduce a Lead Hazard Exposure Under Toxic Substances Control Act (Criminal Case No. 1:18-Cr-00157 Middle District of Pennsylvania)
On May 22, 2018, Bitner Brothers Construction Company, Inc. (Bitner Brothers) of Carlisle, Pennsylvania entered a two-count plea for violating safe work practices promulgated under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), and aiding and abetting. In February 2017, Bitner Brothers conducted the work inside two apartments In Harrisburg, Pennsylvania while families with small children were present. The company failed to comply with the regulation requiring that power grinding must have a shroud or containment system equipped with a HEPA vacuum during the renovation pursuant to Title 15, United States Code, Sections 2689 and 2615(b).

As part of the plea agreement, the defendant, and its President and owner, Charles H. Bitner, Jr., were directed not to undertake new work contracts that require a special skill, training or certification related to the handling and/or management of lead, including lead-based paints, for the period of probation. Magistrate Judge Martin Carlson accepted the plea and set a sentencing date for September 18, 2018. The maximum penalty for that offense is a fine of $200,000, a maximum period of probation of five years, as well as the costs of prosecution or probation, and a special court assessment.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

None.

Region 4

Hot Topics:

Daicel Safety Systems (Beaver Dam, KY)
Key Message: During the week of May 29, 2018, Region 4 Administrator Trey Glenn informed the Commissioner for the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection that EPA will defer to the state regarding the permit for Daicel Safety Systems.

Subtropical Storm Alberto
Key Message: Region 4, in coordination with Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi, conducted an assessment to identify any impacts from the storm to wastewater treatment facilities, Risk Management Plan facilities, or Superfund sites. No issues were identified.

Kentucky 2016 303(d) List Approval
Key Message: Region 4 has determined that Kentucky's 2016 303(d) List update substantially meets the intent of section 303(d) of the CWA and the EPA's implementing regulations. The Region is approving all the changes identified by the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Specifically, Region 4 approves Kentucky's decision to include approximately 350 additional pollutant-waterbody combinations on the section 303(d) list, and concurs with the delisting of 68 pollutant-waterbody combinations, Region 4 does not anticipate objections from stakeholders or the public nor anticipates media interest.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Decisions
Grenada – The Region's position based on the information and proposed remedy submitted by the PRP.

Events
Regions 4, 6 and Gulf of Mexico Program Office Meeting
On June 4, 2018, Region 4 Administrator Trey Glenn, Region 6 Administrator Anne Idsal, and other regional senior leadership will meet to discuss future engagement and support from the Gulf of Mexico Program Office and tour ongoing projects with partner agencies. New Orleans, LA. Closed Press.

Hurricane Preparedness Meeting
On June 5, 2018, Region 4 Administrator Trey Glenn will participate in a hurricane preparedness meeting with other senior leaders from Region 4, Region 6, and various headquarters offices. New Orleans, LA. Closed Press.

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Region 5

Hot Topics:

EPA Reaches Agreement in Principle with Crown Enterprises Inc. Regarding the McLouth Steel Property
Key Message: Crown Enterprises and its affiliate, MSC Land Company LLC, are expected to acquire the property, which is currently held by the Wayne County Land Bank.

The agreement will provide the companies with legal protections in exchange for cleanup work at the property. EPA, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, U.S. Department of Justice, Crown and MSC devoted considerable time to this agreement, and EPA believes it will benefit the public by allowing for the reuse of contaminated land. EPA expects that the agreement can be finalized within the next 120 days.

EPA Responds to Office of Inspector General's Flint Report
Key Message: On May 30, 2018, Region 5, in coordination with OECA and OW, issued a formal response to the OIG's Flint report, including concurrence with all nine of the OIG's recommendations. The response also included corrections to a series of identified factual inaccuracies that were contained in the OIG's report.

The agency is working expeditiously to implement the recommendations made by the OIG.

EPA and MDEQ Coordinating on Draft Back Forty Mine Permit
Key Message: Once MDEQ shares a revised draft, the Region will send a letter to MDEQ indicating that the current draft satisfies EPA's objections if issued by June 6.

The Region agrees that the proposed conditions would satisfy EPA objections to the State's draft CWA 404 permit, and has provided suggestions to clarify the permit language. MDEQ will revise the draft to include clarifying language and will share with EPA this week.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Region 5 to Brief Administrator Pruitt on USS Lead on June 6, 2018
Key Message: The Region will be briefing Administrator Pruitt on the draft USS Lead Zone 1 Proposed Plan Record of Decision Amendment.

The USS Lead site is on the Administrator's Emphasis List and the completion of the Zone 1 Record of Decision Amendment is the completion milestone referenced for this site. Given the sensitivity of the issues within the community and the potential for the Amendment to be greater than $50 million, a briefing for the Administrator is required and is being coordinated with HQ.

EPA to Hold a Series of Public Engagement Meetings for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan III
Key Message: Meetings will be held in Toledo, Ohio; Rochester, N.Y.; Duluth, Minn.; Milwaukee, Wis.; Saginaw, Mich.; and Chicago, Ill., between June 13 and August 7, 2018.

EPA and its federal partners are in the process of developing GLRI Action Plan III, which outlines Great Lakes restoration focus areas and goals for the years 2020-2024. The proposed plan will be available for formal public comment this fall.

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Region 6

Hot Topics:

HP Cylinders Emergency Response, Baytown, Texas
The company was called Stillwater Consultants, LLC, and it abandoned over 500 cylinders of compressed gas. EPA expects the contractor bids to begin to come in this week. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) continues to provide 24-hour site security and conduct daily fence line air monitoring. All fence line readings have been non-detect to date. The site remains secured and conditions are stable, but being monitored closely. EPA's Emergency Response contractors are on standby in Houston and ready to respond in the event the situation changes.

US/Mexico Border Wall, McAllen, Texas
Under the recent appropriations bill the Secretary of Homeland Security is required to consult with the Secretary of Interior and the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as they plan to replace existing and build the new wall and fence along the border. While the Secretary of Homeland Security issued waivers on many border wall/fence projects in 2017, DHS would like to address environmental health concerns upfront in the design and planning phase where possible. EPA joined federal officials to tour the Border Wall along the Lower Rio Grande near McAllen, Texas this week.

Carbon Black CAA Judicial Settlements, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Texas
On May 25, 2018, DOJ and EPA filed a motion to enter judicial settlements for the following consent decrees (CDs), all part of EPA's National Carbon Black Initiative: Cabot Corporation (2nd amendment to existing CD), Orion (CD), Columbian Chemicals (CD), and Sid Richardson (CD). In addition, Continental Carbon (amendment to existing CD), a motion to enter was filed and granted.

Sandow Power Plant, Rockdale, Texas
EPA anticipates that as early as June 4, 2018, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) may notify Sandow Power Company LLC (SPC), an affiliate of Luminant Generation Company LLC, that the United States will join in a motion to the Court to terminate the Consent Decree (CD) relating to SPC's coal-fired power plant in Rockdale, Milam County, Texas. On January 11, 2018, SPC permanently retired Sandow Units 4 and 5, the subjects of the CD. On February 7, 2018, SPC sent a letter to DOJ and EPA requesting that the United States join in a motion to the Court to terminate the CD.

Anchor Glass Container Corporation, Henryetta, Oklahoma
The Department of Justice (DOJ) and EPA are expected to sign a Consent Decree (CD) with Anchor Glass Container Corporation (Anchor). The settlement includes glass facilities in Regions 2, 4, 5, and 6; two states, Indiana and Oklahoma, also participated in the negotiations and plan to sign the CD. The Anchor facility in Region 6 is located in Henryetta, Oklahoma, and the settlement resolves Clean Air Act violations for commencing construction without obtaining permits to comply with the Act's Prevention of Significant Deterioration requirements. Anchor will install air pollution control equipment and pay a $1.1-million-dollar penalty, with $650,000 going to the United States, and $325,000 going to each of Indiana and Oklahoma.

New Mexico NESHAP/NSPS Delegation
EPA withdrew its direct final approval of the updated of NESHAP and NSPS provisions to New Mexico Environment Department. EPA received adverse comments regarding NMED's ability and available resources to implement and enforce the NESHAP and NSPS standards.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

St. James Parish South Louisiana Methanol LP, Louisiana

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Region 6 intends to issue a federal register notice announcing the Administrator's decision on the South Louisiana Methanol Title V Petition. The date, while intended for June 15, is subject to change based on internal deliberations on the merits of the petition.

Arkansas State Implementation Plan
Region 6 intends to take final SIP action by June 20 to raise ADEQ's minor NSR permitting and de minimis thresholds. EPA received significant public comments on the proposed SIP changes from Sierra Club and more specifically on our 110(l) analysis (anti-backsliding into nonattainment) for the action. EPA has developed a response to those comments in the final action. This will address two backlog SIP actions.

June 4	RESTORE Project Tour, New Orleans, Louisiana
June 5	Hurricane Preparedness Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana

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Region 7

Hot Topics:

Sporlan Valve Site Meeting Hosted by Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)
Key Message: Region 7 attended a state organized stakeholder meeting on the potential NPL listing of the Sporlan Valve site in advance of a public availability session next week.

- On May 30, MDNR and EPA Region 7 met with Washington, MO City officials, Franklin County Commissioners, the Franklin County Health Department, and State Representatives to discuss local support for adding the Sporlan Valve site to the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL). TCE has been detected in groundwater, soil gas, and indoor air of residential homes adjacent to the site and a series of actions have been taken by EPA to mitigate the threat of vapor intrusion including sampling for TCE vapors in homes and installing vapor mitigation systems. To date, EPA has installed and/or overseen the installation of 19 vapor mitigation systems at homes adjacent to the site.
- On June 5, EPA will host a Public Availability session in Washington, MO to discuss the proposal of the site to the NPL. MDNR and the Governor of Missouri want local support for proposed listing prior to EPA moving forward.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Hurricane Preparedness Meeting
Key Message: On June 5, Regional Administrator Jim Gulliford will travel to New Orleans, LA to attend the Hurricane Preparedness Meeting.

- The purpose of the meeting is to consider and address lessons learned during prior natural disasters, most notably from the 2018 hurricane and wildfire seasons, to improve EPA's natural disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts.
- Several EPA regions and offices have been invited to participate.

OECA Assistant Administrator Visit
Key Message: On June 6, OECA Assistant Administrator Susan Bodine will visit Region 7. Agenda sessions include opportunities for AA Bodine to meet with Superfund and Criminal Investigation Division staff, participate in an All Hands meeting for Region 7 staff, and discuss enforcement direction.

Assistant Deputy Administrator and Chief of Operations Visit
Key Message: On June 7, Assistant Deputy Administrator and Chief of Operations Henry Darwin will be at Region 7 to assess progress and provide coaching on visual management tools created during Region 7's ELMS training in late April.

Region 8

Hot Topics:

Notice of Intent to Delete the Davenport and Flagstaff Superfund Site published in FR
On June 4, EPA and the Utah Department of Environmental Quality will invite the public to comment on the proposal to delete the remaining portions (OU2, OU3 and the remaining portions of OU1) of the Davenport and Flagstaff Smelters Superfund Site from the National Priorities List.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Site Visit to Basin Electric Laramie River Station
On June 6th, R8 staff will join the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality at the Basin Electric Laramie River Station to learn more about NO_x emission controls being installed in accordance with a settlement agreement entered into by the EPA, the state of Wyoming and Basin Electric. In accordance with the settlement agreement, the EPA must propose by October 5, 2018, a revised Federal Implementation Plan for the Laramie River Station reflecting, among other things, the agreed upon NO_x controls.

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Region 9

Hot Topics:

Hawaii Volcano Response
RA Mike Stoker met with Hawaii Governor Ige and key State leaders. We shall brief Dep. Administrator Wheeler Friday regarding our air monitoring and public communication. We plan to launch a publicly accessible website with real-time air-monitoring data (SO2, H2S, and particulates) from our 12 stations. With FEMA and HHS, we'll increase risk communication and community engagement where the County has been reticent. The State is requesting of FEMA increased federal support under ESF 8 and ESF 10 (e.g. 10 additional air monitoring stations). We're in close contact with the National Guard and Civil Support Team to address electrical power, cell phone coverage, and access to our air monitoring network.

National Oil Enforcement
We're hosting an EPA-only national oil enforcement meeting in the Regional Office, with participation from the Regions, OLEM and OECA.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Nevada
On June 5-6, RA Mike Stoker will host the Nevada Dept. of Environmental Quality executive team for two days of program meetings in San Francisco.

Arizona
June 6-7, RA Mike Stoker with participate in the Sen. McCain-hosted Rio Salado tour and meetings with Federal and State agencies, to focus on improving the environmental and economic vitality of the Salt River riparian corridor. On June 7, he'll meet with Arizona DEQ Director Misael Cabrera and present the newly awarded Performance Partnership Grant.

So. California
June 8-9, RA Mike Stoker will meet with the EPA San Diego Border Office staff and be briefed on our Mexican Border program. He will address the California Independent Petroleum Association annual conference.

American College of Environmental Lawyers
Alexis Strauss will speak June 1 at the San Francisco regional meeting of this group, which convenes in each Region and has in recent months hosted speaking engagements with Ken Wagner and Cathy Stepp.

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Region 10

Hot Topics:

Region 10 Assists Salem, OR With Harmful Algal Bloom Event and Do-Not-Drink Advisory
A harmful algal bloom has produced high concentrations of microcystins in Detroit Lake, which serves as the primary drinking water source for the City of Salem, Oregon. A recreational water advisory was issued for the lake on May 23rd, when concentrations of microcystins were measured at more than 10 times the Oregon Health Authority advisory level. Out of an abundance of caution on May 29, the City issued a do-not-drink advisory for individuals with compromised immune systems and small children. An advisory update will be issued after additional sample results come in on May 31st. EPA's role is to provide technical assistance to the state and City of Salem and answer questions related to HABs effects and treatment options. Over the past several years, Region 10 has worked to build capacity among states, tribes and local governments to identify HABs problems, the role of nutrients, and response actions, including hosting workshops and webinar-based meetings. Region 10 is following the draft HABs Response Plan template to manage our coordinated response to this incident with HQ, state, and local officials.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Region 10 Approves Idaho's NPDES Program
On June 5th, Region 10 and EPA headquarters will participate in a signing ceremony in Boise, Idaho announcing EPA's approval of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's wastewater discharge permit program (IPDES). Starting July 1, 2018, IDEQ will begin issuing and enforcing water pollution permits for industry and municipalities across the state. IDEQ has been working for several years to build a program that will ensure dischargers meet the state's water quality standards and protect water quality. The program will be phased in over four years and Region 10 will continue to provide technical assistance.

Region 10 Participates in Regional Tribal Operations Committee Quarterly Meeting in Juneau, AK
The Region 10 Tribal Operations Committee will meet from June 5th-7th in Juneau, Alaska. Agenda topics include updates from EPA headquarters and Region 10 leadership on water quality standards and fish consumption rates, drinking water and the Backhaul Alaska Pilot Project. In addition, Tribal Operations Committee members will provide direct report outs to EPA leadership on environmental issues and concerns. Region 10's Deputy Regional Administrator and Tribal Policy Advisor will attend as well as several staff members.

EPA Leads Food Recovery Summit at CenturyLink Field in Seattle
On June 7th, Region 10 staff will facilitate a half-day food recovery summit at CenturyLink Stadium. The summits hosts hotel and restaurant chefs from King County and representatives from food recovery organizations across the state who will share best practices and opportunities for food recovery within the hospitality sector. The event is being hosted by the Seattle Seahawks, who are active participants in both EPA's Food Recovery Challenge and EPA's WasteWise partnership program. An audience of over 100 hotel and restaurant chefs, food and beverage directors, and sustainability managers are expected.

Region 10 Hosts Meeting of the Puget Sound Federal Task Force (WA)
On June 7th, Region 10 Administrator Chris Hladick will host two Puget Sound Federal Task Force meetings: one with regional federal leaders and a second with federal leaders and western Washington tribal leaders. The purpose of the regional federal leaders meeting is to report out on Puget Sound Action Plan accomplishments since Jan. 2017, and plan for an upcoming Federal Task Force leadership meeting later this summer in Washington, D.C. The joint federal/tribal leaders meeting is being convened to discuss updates on the Western Washington Treaty Rights at Risk issues, report out on Puget Sound Federal Task Force Action Plan accomplishments as they relate to tribal priorities, and provide an opportunity for new tribal and federal leaders to coordinate and strategize on how best to work together.

Office of Administration and Resources Management

Hot Topics:

Workgroups Established to Implement New Executive Orders
On May 25, 2018, President Trump issued three new executive orders impacting: 1) collective bargaining; 2) union official time and space; and 3) employee accountability. OARM has established three agency-wide workgroups to evaluate the executive orders and their impact on EPA, and develop recommended action plans for EPA compliance with the executive orders.

Employee Viewpoint Survey Results
As of May 29, 2018, EPA's agency-wide Employee Viewpoint Survey response rate was 36%. The government-wide response rate is 26%. Employees are encouraged to complete the survey by June 12, 2018.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

None.

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Office of Air and Radiation

Hot Topics:

- **Tracking SIP Actions:**
  - Total Number of SIPs submitted to Regions in FY 2018: 199
  - Total Number of SIP Submittals with Final Action taken by the Regions in FY 2018: 157
  - Total Number of Pending SIPs: 765

- **Packages at OMB for Review:**
  - Oil and Natural Gas Sector: Emission Standards for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources Reconsideration (Proposed Rule)
  - NESHAP: Surface Coating of Large Appliances; Printing, Coating, and Dyeing of Fabrics and Other Textiles; and Surface Coating of Metal Furniture RTR (Proposed Rule)
  - Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Revisions to the Refrigerant Management Program's Extension to Substitutes (Proposed Rule)
  - Renewable Fuel Standard Program: Standards for 2019 and Biomass-Based Diesel Volume for 2020 (Proposed Rule)

- **Packages that will move soon to OMB for Review:**
  - Repeal of Emission Requirements for Glider Vehicles, Glider Engines, and Glider Kits (Final Rule)

- **Packages that will move soon to Signature:**
  - Health and Environmental Protection Standards for Uranium and Thorium Mill Tailings (Withdrawal of Proposed Rule)

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Ozone Transport Commission (OTC)
Next Wednesday, Bill and Clint will be attending the OTC Executive Session in Baltimore. (The OTC is a multi-state organization created under the Clean Air Act that is responsible for advising EPA on transport issues and for developing and implementing regional solutions to ground-level ozone issues in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions).

Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Row	Determination Type	Pending on 5/29/2018	Determinations Completed[1] as 5/29/2018	Determinations Posted on the Website as of 5/29/2018[6]
1	# of "not likely" determinations	**1**	**122[4]**	**122[4]**
2	# of §5(e) Orders signed by both EPA and the submitter	-	**400**	**399**
3	# of §5(e) Orders signed by EPA and awaiting submitter signature	**41**	-	-
4	# of non-Order SNURs/"not likely" determinations	**0**	**0**	**0**
5	# of cases in post-FOCUS final determination development[5]	**318[3, 5]**	-	-
6	# of cases flagged for in-depth review	**43**	-	-
7	# of PMNs, SNUNs and MCANs awaiting FOCUS (within 90-day review)	**30**	-	-
8	# of LVE/LOREX exemption grants	-	**602**	**597**
9	# of LVE/LOREX exemption denials	-	**121**	**120**
10	**Total number of cases**	**433**	**1245**	-
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]**	59	-	-

[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:

Problem Formulations for First 10 Chemicals Selected for Risk Evaluation under Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)

On June 1, OCSPP released the problem formulation documents for public comment on the first 10 chemicals selected for risk evaluation under the amended TSCA. Asbestos, methylene chloride, 1,4-dioxane, tricholoroethylene, and cyclic aliphatic bromide cluster (HBCD) are among the first of the chemical problem formulations that were released. EPA intends to finalize these ten risk evaluations by December 2019. OCSPP

is also releasing a systematic review approach to share with the public the methodology that the TSCA program will use to ensure that the best available science is relied upon in these and other risk evaluations.

EPA Announces a Significant New Use rule (SNUR) for Certain Uses of Asbestos
EPA is proposing a SNUR for certain uses of asbestos (including asbestos-containing goods) that, when final, will require manufacturers and importers to notify EPA before starting or resuming manufacturing, importing or processing of asbestos.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

The Full State FIFRA Issues Research and Evaluation Group (SFIREG) Meeting
On June 4-5, Ed Messina, Acting Deputy Director of the Office of Programs and several staff will present at the Full State FIFRA Issues Research and Evaluation Group (SFIREG) meeting on various topics, including Cooperative Federalism – Implications for State Pesticide Regulatory Programs, Pollinator Protection Activities, Dicamba, and ESA BiOp Update.

12th Antimicrobial Workshop
On June 7-8, the Office of Pesticide Program's will host the 12th Annual Antimicrobial Workshop at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel in Arlington, VA. Topics planned for discussion include, the Antimicrobial Testing Program, Updates to Electronic Submission Portal, Emerging Viral Pathogens, Update on 810 Guidelines, SmartLabel and e-CSF, and Registration Review Updates.

Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Hot Topics:

- EPA has received a total of $3.2 million from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to support FEMA's response to the Lava Flows/Volcano Eruption in Hawaii.
- OCFO continues to coordinate with the agency to review responses to House Appropriations Committee's FY 2019 budget hearings Questions for the Record (QFRs) and is reviewing the Senate Appropriations Committee's hearing transcript. OCFO expected SAC QFRs to arrive this week but those QFRs have not yet arrived.
- The HAC Full Committee mark-up of EPA's FY 2019 appropriations bill is scheduled for June 6. SAC Subcommittee and Full Committee markups are scheduled for the week of June 11.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

- NPM feedback on draft materials for the FY 2018 second quarter Administrator's Performance Review were due to OCFO May 31. OCFO will consolidate and vet through the COO. The Quarterly Performance Review is scheduled for June 19 from 3-5 pm and includes all AAs and RAs.
- OPA is reviewing EPA's final draft FY 2018 second quarter Agency Priority Goal (APG) Action Plans, which address minor OMB comments. Once OPA approval is received, OCFO will provide final draft plans to OMB to meet its June 8 deadline. OMB target date for posting second quarter updates on publicly available website is June 14.

Other

- The OMB/EPA Strategic Review meeting is set for June 19 from 1-2:30 pm to discuss results of EPA senior leader assessments of progress toward the Strategic Plan, including risks to achieving strategic objectives, and management priorities focused on EPA Lean Management System deployment. OCFO is working with OMB and the Deputy Administrator's office to finalize meeting logistics. In addition to the Deputy Administrator, expected EPA participants include the COO, CFO, and AAs/DAAs (or equivalent) for OCIR, OP, OGC, OARM, and OITA.

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Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations

Hot Topics:

June 7 - House Energy and Commerce Committee, Subcommittee on Energy will hold a hearing on: Hydropower Licensing and Water Quality Certification under CWA 401
(Witness: John Goodin, OW) and other agencies, 11 am, 2123 Rayburn

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

- **June 4** – Small Communities Advisory Subcommittee will have an introductory teleconference Monday at 2pm. Ken Wagner, Senior Advisor to the Administrator for Regional and State Affairs is scheduled to speak with the newly appointed and current members.
- **June 5** – Notification of Idaho NPDES transfer of authority
- **June 6**- Quarterly Outreach meeting with Intergovernmental Associations will feature an introduction of EPA Deputy Administrator Andrew Wheeler, and an opportunity for brief engagement with the representatives of attending Intergovernmental Associations. Part II of the meeting will focus on "The Federal Strategy to Reduce Childhood Lead Exposure." Dr. Hayley Hughes, EPA National Lead Coordinator, Office of the Administrator, will provide updates, and engage in dialogue with the group.
- **June 6** – House Energy and Commerce member briefing on PFAS four-step action plan w/OW, OLEM, OCSPP, ORD
- **June 6&7** – Senator McCain, Rio Salado Federal Partners Tour, Tempe AZ
- **June 8** - US Conference of Mayors 86th Annual Meeting in Boston, MA
- **June TBD** – Senator Baldwin staff call on PFAS actions w/OW
- **June TBD** – Congressman Latta staff and HEC staff briefing on HABs in drinking water
- **June TBD**- Congressman Doyle staff briefing re: PFAS actions
- **TBD** – Cong. Peters (CA) TA re Point Loma WWTP legislation w/OW, OGC, R9
- **TBD** – Sen. Tester (MT) staff briefing on Elk River Watershed w/OW, R8
- **TBD** – Sen. Isakson (GA) staff briefing on new chemicals process w/OCSPP
- **TBD** – Approps staff briefing on PRIA fees w/OCSPP, OCFO
- **TBD** - SEPW/HEC staff briefing on TSCA first 10 chemical problem formulations w/ OSCPP

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Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

Hot Topics:

Construction Company Pleads Guilty for Not Following Lead Rules
On May 22, 2018, Bitner Brothers Construction, Inc. pleaded guilty in the Middle District of Pennsylvania on one count of violating TSCA and one count of Aiding and Abetting. Both Bitner Brothers Construction and owner Charles H. Bitner, Jr. will forfeit their lead certification licenses. Bitner Brothers Construction, Inc. is in the business of conducting residential and commercial renovations, repairs, and painting. Bitner Brothers did not follow required work practice standards during the replacement of windows in an apartment complex located in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in early 2017.

Five Pennsylvania Men Charged with Conspiring to Defraud the U.S. and Violate the Clean Air Act
On May 25, 2018, Gavin Rexer, Dennis Paulhamus, Timothy Sweitzer, Joseph Powell, and John Joseph were charged with conspiring to impede the lawful functions of the EPA and DOT and to violate the Clean Air Act. Rexer, Powell, and Joseph were employees of Rockwater Northeast, a company that serviced the fracking industry. In the course of their employment, they conspired to modify the emissions systems on approximately 30 Rockwater heavy-duty diesel trucks by using "defeat devices." The defeat devices were obtained from Paulhamus and Sweitzer and their purchases were concealed in Rockwater's books and records by mislabeling them as exhaust systems. The conspirators also are accused of taking the modified commercial motor vehicles to state approved inspection stations, including Sweitzer's Garage, to pass federally regulated commercial motor vehicle inspections falsely.

Army Pays Stipulated Penalty to Resolve Violations at the Umatilla Army Depot
On May 14, 2018, the United States Army paid a stipulated penalty of $125,000 to EPA to resolve violations of the CERCLA Federal Facilities Agreement (FFA) for the Umatilla Army Depot after receiving a Congressional appropriation for the penalty. On July 14, 2016, EPA Region 10, the Army, and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality signed a settlement agreement to resolve violations set forth in a November 2, 2015, Notice of Violation. The Army's failed to comply with several remedial action requirements contained in the Workplan for Munitions and Explosives of Concern. The settlement agreement included a new schedule and technical approach for the work remaining to be done at Umatilla along with an agreement that the Army would pay a stipulated penalty of $125,000 after it obtained Congressional authorization to pay the penalty.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

On June 6, 2018, OECA AA Susan Bodine, PDAA Larry Starfield, and DAA Patrick Traylor will travel to EPA Region 7 to meet with the RA/DRA and senior enforcement managers in Region 7 to discuss enforcement and compliance priorities and issues.

On June 5, 2018, OECA DAA Patrick Traylor will join other EPA leaders in New Orleans, Louisiana to discuss hurricane preparedness for 2018, including lessons learned from recent natural disasters.

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Office of Environmental Information

Hot Topics:

E-Enterprise for the Environment Launches Be Well Informed – a State-developed Shared Service
Brief description: On June 6, private well owners in New Hampshire and Wyoming will have a new web-based tool to help them understand their well water test results. Originally built by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, in collaboration with their Department of Information Technology, OEI adapted the tool to enable states, tribes, and territories to use this capability to develop their own tools for private well owners with minimal development costs.
Who benefits or cares: Private well owners in participating states, Commissioners with well water programs, and state environmental agencies who are responding to citizen inquiries regarding their well water.
Why this is important: The tool demonstrates how collaborative innovation and E-Enterprise can:

- Reduce costs to E-Enterprise partners (states, tribes and EPA).
- Provide consistent, timely, and actionable information to citizens.

Additional information:

- Massachusetts, Minnesota, Vermont and Michigan are working towards adopting the tool; other states and tribes have expressed interest.
- This work was partially supported by E-Enterprise funding provided by OCFO.
- As E-Enterprise resources allow, OEI will work with other states/tribes/territories to support this shared service.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

None.

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Office of General Counsel

Hot Topics:

- *Charles A. Folsom v. USACE*, No. 4:17-cv-3143 (D. Neb.). New development: On May 30, Charles Folsom, a Nebraska landowner, filed a notice of appeal to the US Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit challenging a decision from the US District Court for the District of Nebraska granting EPA's motion to dismiss his challenge to pre-enforcement activities by EPA and the Corps regarding the placement of fill into the Elkhorn River. EPA sent Mr. Folsom a proposed compliance order and invited him to negotiate and Mr. Folsom declined and sued EPA and the Corps to enjoin them from bringing any enforcement action. The District Court dismissed the complaint.
- *Ctr. for Envtl. Health v. Pruitt,* No. 3:18-cv-03197 (N.D. Cal). New development: On May 30, three NGOs filed a complaint against EPA and FWS for failing to comply with section 7 of the ESA with respect to the registration or reregistration of 21 pesticide products containing the active ingredient malathion. Plaintiffs assert that EPA and FWS have failed to meet their substantive duty to ensure that the malathion products do not jeopardize endangered and threatened species, and that EPA and FWS's agreement to indefinitely extend the current ESA consultation on malathion is unlawful.
- *Ctr. For Biological Diversity v. EPA,* No. 1:18-cv-1219 (D.D.C.). New development: On May 25, Plaintiff filed a FOIA lawsuit alleging that EPA has not responded to five FOIA requests and one FOIA fee waiver administrative appeal. The FOIA requests sought all communications to or from Administrator Pruitt including emails, text messages, and phone logs generally, and on a variety of topics including ethics, "sue and settle," encrypted messaging and email records management.
- *Husch Blackwell v. EPA*, No. 1:18-cv-1213 (D.D.C.). New development: On May 25, the law firm, Husch Blackwell, filed a FOIA lawsuit alleging that EPA failed to respond to a FOIA request within the statutory time frame for a request seeking certain communications involving Jess Rowland and glyphosate or Proposition 65.
- *Sanitary Bd. of the City of Charleston, W. Virginia v. Pruitt,* No. 2:16-cv-03060 (S.D.W. Va.). New development: On May 24, Plaintiff filed a notice of appeal to the US Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit challenging two decisions from the US District Court, prompted by EPA's disapproval of a site-specific copper criterion that was submitted by WVDEP at Plaintiff's request. Plaintiff is challenging the District Court's rulings that (1) EPA did not have a mandatory duty to approve the site-specific criterion and (2) Plaintiff lost standing to challenge the disapproval when WVDEP issued the facility a new permit, which did not impose any copper limits on its discharge.
- *Dine' Citizens Against Ruining the Env't v. EPA*, No. 18-71481 (9th Cir.). New development: On May 23, five NGOs filed a petition for writ of mandamus asking the Ninth Circuit to compel EPA Region 9 to take final action on a Clean Water Act NPDES permit renewal application for the Four Corners Power Plant located on the Navajo Nation, near Farmington, New Mexico. According to the Petition, the coal-fired power plant has been operating under an expired administratively continued permit since 2006.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

6/12 Hearing on EPA's motion to stay in *Ass'n of Irritated Residents v. EPA*, a deadline suit regarding EPA's failure to take action on the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District's 2016 SIP addressing nonattainment requirements for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard.

Office of International and Tribal Affairs

Hot Topics:

Tijuana Spill
OITA met with the new U.S. Consulate General to Tijuana to discuss the Tijuana spill, International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC), North American Development Bank and U.S.-Mexico Border Program. At our urging, the Consulate General has agreed to raise the Tijuana spill and funding for Tijuana infrastructure improvements with the local and national governments in Mexico. She also agreed to look into IBWC funding mechanisms and operations at the State Department.

Columbia River Treaty
The formal negotiations between the U.S. and Canada for the modernization of the Columbia River Treaty commenced this week. The U.S. negotiation team consists of the State Department, Interior/NOAA, and Bonneville Power. OITA and Region 10 met with the State Department to discuss the role of EPA and tribes in the negotiations, and State has agreed to involve EPA in the USG strategy sessions and ensure meaningful engagement with the tribes.

Upcoming Events and Decisions:

G7 Deputies Meeting
A Deputies Meeting will be held on June 1 to discuss the upcoming G7 Leaders' Summit in Charlevoix, Quebec on June 8-9, which includes Climate Change, Energy and Oceans session.

Premier of Saskatchewan
The Administrator will be meeting with the Premier of Saskatchewan, Canada, on June 6 to discuss Canada-U.S. environmental regulation.

North American Development Bank
OITA will be meeting with the North American Development Bank on June 4 to discuss current activities and upcoming Board of Directors meeting in Mexico.

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency will be meeting with OP and OITA on June 6/7 to discuss the EIA process, including transboundary impacts and tribal engagement.

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Office of Land and Emergency Management

Hot Topics:

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

- **Clean Air Act 112(r) Risk Management Program (RMP) Reconsideration NPRM.** The proposed rule was published in the FR on May 30. A public hearing is scheduled for June 14. The public comment period ends July 30, 2018.

- **Ongoing major Superfund NPL sites** (including Colorado Smelter, East Chicago, West Lake, Bonita Peak, Hudson River, Portland Harbor, Mississippi Phosphates, Oak Ridge, Edwards AFB, Berry's Creek, American Cyanamid).

- **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.

- **PFOA and PFAS.**
    - Working with OCIR, OW, and others, we are preparing for a briefing on PFAS with House Energy and Commerce members.
    - We are working with ORD and OW to develop groundwater cleanup recommendations for PFOA and PFOS.
    - OLEM is working with the AO, OGC, OECA and other AAships to look at available statutory mechanisms for PFOA and PFOS to be "hazardous substances" under CERCLA.

- **Emergency Response.** Region 9 emergency response and the national Environmental Response Team are part of the inter-governmental effort addressing volcano activity in Hawaii. OAR and ORD are assisting OLEM and Region 9 with public messaging related to acute and chronic risk from exposure to volcanic gases. Current staffing is 24.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

- **Definition of Solid Waste Vacatur.** This was published in the FR on May 30, 2018.

- **Coal Combustion Residuals**.
    - We plan to get the proposed rule to OMB next week and anticipate signature on June 14 to align with the approval of Oklahoma's CCR permitting program.
    - Georgia submitted its CCR permit program application to EPA. It is undergoing review.

- **E-Manifest**. We anticipate issuing a press release on June 29, 2018.

- **Hazardous Waste Pharmaceuticals Final Rule**. We will be briefing the AO and OP in early June.

- **Hazardous Substances Spill Prevention Proposed Rule**. We anticipate OMB clearance by June 8 to allow for signature by June 15.

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Office of Policy

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

Meeting with Canada
On June 6-7, the Office of Federal Activities will join OITA, the State Dept., and CEQ in a meeting with representatives from the Canadian government to discuss best practices for Environmental Impact Assessment and transboundary issues.

Community Assistance Announcement
In early June, the Office of Community Revitalization plans to announce six communities selected for assistance through the Healthy Places for Healthy People program, a federal initiative that works with healthcare facilities to protect the environment, improve public health, and support reinvestment in neighborhoods.

Number of Actions to OFR this Year:

- Signed by Regions:
  - Notices: 40
  - Proposed Rules: 123
  - Direct Final Rules: 8
  - Withdrawal of Proposed Rule: 1
  - Withdrawal of Direct Final: 4
  - Final Rules: 101
- Signed by HQ:
  - Notices: 204
  - Proposed Rules: 32
  - NPRM Extension: 1
  - Withdrawal of Direct Final: 1
  - Interim Final: 1
  - Final Rules: 64

Number of Actions to OFR this Week (May 25 – May 31):

- Signed by Regions:
  - Notices: 4
  - Proposed Rules: 13
  - Direct Final Rules: 0
  - Withdrawal of Proposed Rule: 0
  - Withdrawal of Direct Final: 1
  - Final Rules: 5
- Signed by HQ:
  - Notices: 11
  - Proposed Rules: 1
  - NPRM Extension: 0
  - Withdrawal of Direct Final: 0
  - Interim Final: 0
  - Final Rules: 5

Active Interagency Reviews from OMB	
Title	**OMB Due Date**
DOL/MSHA RFI: "Retrospective Study of Respirable Coal Mine Dust Rule"	05/30/2018
FAR Case 2017-014 ANPRM: "Federal Acquisition Regulations: Use of Acquisition 360 to Encourage Vendor Feedback"	06/01/2018

USDA ANPRM: "Oil and Gas Resources"	06/01/2018
USDA ANPRM: "Locatable Minerals"	06/01/2018
DOI & DOC NPRM (Pass-back): "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Revision of Regulations for Interagency Cooperation"	06/01/2018

Documents Submitted to OFR from May 23 - 29, 2018		
FRL	**Title**	**Date Submitted to OFR**
9978-93-Region 4	Air Plan Approval and Air Quality Designation; SC; Redesignation of the Greenville-Spartanburg Unclassifiable Area	5/29/2018
9978-92-Region 4	Air Plan Approval; South Carolina; Regional Haze Plan and Prong 4 (Visibility) for the 2012 PM2.5, 2010 NO2, 2010 SO2, and 2008 Ozone NAAQS	5/29/2018
9978-90-Region 4	Air Plan Approval and Air Quality Designation; AL; Redesignation of the Etowah County Unclassifiable Area	5/29/2018
9978-72-Region 8	Interstate Transport Prongs 1 and 2 for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide (SO2) Standard for Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming	5/29/2018
9974-26-Region 8	North Dakota Final Authorization and Incorporation by Reference of Approved State Hazardous Waste Management Program	5/29/2018
9978-73-OEI	Information Collection Request Submitted to OMB for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Plant-Incorporated Protectants; CBI Substantiation and Adverse Effects Reporting	5/29/2018
9978-77-ORD	Ambient Air Monitoring Reference and Equivalent Methods; Designation of One New Reference Method	5/29/2018
9977-72-OAR	Additional Air Quality Designations for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards	5/29/2018
9978-94-Region 4	Approval of TN Plan for Control of Emissions from Commercial and Industrial Solid Waste Incineration Units	5/25/2018
9978-87-Region 5	Air Plan Approval; Ohio; Cleveland, PM2.5 Attainment Plan	5/25/2018
9978-86-OAR	Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request on Two Proposed Information Collection Requests	5/25/2018
9978-80-Region 7	Delegation of Authority to the States of Iowa; Kansas; Missouri; Nebraska; Lincoln-Lancaster County, NE; and City of Omaha, NE, for New Source Performance Standards (NSPS), National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) Including Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) Standards	5/25/2018
9978-56-Region 3	Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Continuous Opacity Monitoring Requirements for Municipal Waste Combustors	5/25/2018
9977-76-OCSPP	Pesticide Emergency Exemptions; Agency Decisions and State and Federal Agency Crisis Declarations	5/25/2018
9977-62-OCSPP	Defensin Proteins Derived from Spinach in Citrus Plants; Temporary Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance	5/25/2018
9976-99-OCSPP	Product Cancellation Order for Certain Pesticide Registrations and Amendments to Terminate Uses	5/25/2018
9978-74-Region 4	Public Water System Supervision Program Revision for the Commonwealth of Kentucky	5/25/2018

9978-82-Region 9	Air Quality State Implementation Plans: Arizona; Approval and Conditional Approval of State Implementation Plan Revisions; Maricopa County Air Quality Department; Stationary Source Permits	5/25/2018
9977-80-Region 8	National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan; National Priorities List: Deletion of the Davenport and Flagstaff Smelters Superfund Site	5/25/2018
9978-81-Region 9	Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Nevada; Rescission of Regional Haze Federal Implementation Plan for the Reid Gardner Generating Station	5/25/2018
9978-79-Region 7	Approval of Nebraska Air Quality Implementation Plans; Title 129, Chapter 20, Particulate Emissions; Limitations and Standards	5/24/2018
9978-78-Region 7	Approval of Missouri Air Quality Implementation Plans; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2012 Annual Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5) National Ambient Air Quality Standard Interstate Transport	5/24/2018
9978-27-Region 1	Air Plan Approval; New Hampshire; Nonattainment Plan for the Central New Hampshire Sulfur Dioxide Nonattainment Area	5/24/2018
9978-26-Region 1	Air Plan Approval; Connecticut; Volatile Organic Compound Emissions from Consumer Products and Architectural and Industrial Maintenance Coatings	5/24/2018
9977-56-OLEM	Response to Vacatur of Certain Provisions of the Definition of Solid Waste Rule	5/24/2018
9978-49-OECA	Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; See Item Specific ICR Titles Provided in the Text	5/24/2018
9974-81-OEI	NESHAP for Beryllium Rocket Motor Fuel Firing (Renewal)/ICR No.1125.0	5/24/2018
9975-90-OEI	NSPS for Glass Manufacturing Plants (Renewal)/ICR No.1131.12	5/24/2018
9978-66-Region 5	Adequacy Status of the Indiana Portion of the Chicago-Naperville, IL-IN-WI Area for the Submitted 2008 Ozone Standard Fifteen Percent Rate of Progress Plan for Transportation Conformity Purposes	5/24/2018
9978-61-Region 5	Air Plan Approval; Michigan; Regional Haze Progress Report	5/23/2018
9978-59-Region 4	Air Plan Approval and Air Quality Designation; KY; Redesignation of the Kentucky Portion of the Louisville Unclassifiable Area	5/23/2018
9978-57-Region 3	Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; Emissions Statement Rule Certification for the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard	5/23/2018
9978-18-Region 9	Approval of California Air Plan Revisions; Butte County Air Quality Management District; Stationary Source Permits	5/23/2018
9976-24-OCSPP	Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Renewal of Several Currently Approved Collections (EPA ICR Nos. 2491.04 and 2475.03); Comment Request	5/23/2018
9978-69-OEI	EPA's In-Use Vehicle and Engine Testing Programs, ICR No. 0222.11	5/23/2018
9978-68-OEI	NESHAP for Group I Polymers and Resins (Renewal)" ICR No. 2410.04	5/23/2018
9978-60-OEI	NESHAP for Pharmaceuticals Production (Renewal)/ICR No. 1781.08	5/23/2018

9976-72-Region 6	Clean Air Act Operating Permit Program; Petitions for Objection to State Operating Permit for ExxonMobil Corporation, ExxonMobil Baytown Refinery, Harris County, Texas	5/23/2018
9978-58-ORD	EPA Board of Scientific Counselors Notice of Charter Renewal	5/23/2018
9978-53-OLEM	Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Continuous Release Reporting Regulations (CRRR) under CERCLA 1980 (Renewal); EPA ICR No. 1445.13, OMB Control No. 2050-0086	5/23/2018
9978-54-OW	Extension of the Application Deadline Date for Credit Assistance under the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Program	5/23/2018
9978-75-Region 10	Air Plan Approval; Washington; Regional Haze Progress Report	5/23/2018

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Office of Research and Development

Hot Topics:

***Fentanyl Fact Sheet* for On-Scene Coordinators**
Nearly half (over 19,000) of the opioid-related deaths in the U.S. in 2016 involved fentanyl. EPA and state-level responders have emphasized the lack of comprehensive information on the detection, sampling, analysis and decontamination for the fentanyl class of synthetic opioid chemical compounds. ORD partnered with Office of Emergency Management's CBRN Consequence Advisory Division and Environmental Response Team, Region 5, and others to develop *the Fentanyl Fact Sheet*. It is living document that compiles current, publicly-available information for use by EPA OSCs, and may also be useful to local/state first responders such as EMT, hazmat, and law enforcement. ORD's research underway on fentanyl sampling methods and decontamination will strengthen the fact sheet over time.

Technical support on Tularemia to the Kentucky Department of Public Health
ORD is supporting the Kentucky Department of Public Health in their response to a tularemia outbreak in Butler County, Kentucky. The causative agent of tularemia, *Francisella tularensis*, is classified as a Tier 1 Select Agent by the U.S. government due to its low infectious dose, ease of spread by aerosol, and high virulence. This outbreak has affected cottontail rabbits, Beagle handlers, and Beagle dogs residing in a 240-acre beagle field trial ground. Humans can be infected with the organism by contact with infected animals or vectors. To better understand the cause of the outbreak, ORD is guiding Kentucky Department of Public Health on sampling and analysis of *Francisella tularensis* in environmental samples, and providing advice on collection and stabilization of water samples and possible causes of the outbreak.

IRIS Assessment Released for Review
On May 30th, the draft assessment for hexahydro-1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazine (RDX) was released for post-peer review Interagency and Agency review.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

We look forward to hosting OCSPP leadership in RTP on June 8 where we will discuss ORD data, methods, and tools being developed to support TSCA prioritization. On June 5th ORD staff will kick off summer with an evening of baseball at National's Park.

Science Advisory Board Meeting
On June 1st, ORD will provide an update on IRIS at the Science Advisory Board meeting. ORD will also present an overview of lead science that highlights seven success stories. Other participants and presenters include the Office of the Administrator on the Federal Lead Strategy, Office of Water, Office of Land and Emergency Management, and Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention.

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Office of Water

Hot Topics:

Georgia Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program
Today, Dave Ross co-signed a joint EPA/NOAA Federal Register Notice announcing the agencies' intent to fully approve the Georgia Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program. The notice invites public comment on the agencies' proposed finding that Georgia has satisfied all conditions on the 2002 approval of the State's coastal nonpoint pollution control program. The Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments directs states and territories with coastal zone management programs previously approved under Section 306 of the Coastal Zone Management Act to develop and implement coastal nonpoint programs, which must be submitted to the federal agencies for approval. The notice will be sent to NOAA next for signature. Once published, the notice will open a 30-day public comment period.

WIFIA
As part of OW's enhanced outreach strategy to promote the 2018 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) opportunity, this week, the WIFIA program hosted the WIFIA Letter of Interest Submission and Selection Process Question and Answer Session. More than 70 people participated in the event. The next webinar, scheduled for June 4, will provide an overview of the WIFIA program and the 2018 selection round. In addition, OW, working with OPA, provided the regional public affairs directors with a "pitch" packet to use with local media outlets as well as key messages to fold into senior leadership speeches. Tomorrow, the WIFIA staff will present at the New England Environmental Business Council Infrastructure Workshop: Update and Overview of WIFIA Water Infrastructure Loan Program.

Environmental Financial Advisory Board (EFAB) Membership Package
This week, the EFAB's 2018 Official Membership Package was approved and is moving forward for the Administrator's signature. The package includes a new recommended chair, 4 new EFAB member appointments, and 3 departures. The term for appointees will run for a period of two years beginning June 15.

Waterkeeper II Steam Electric FOIA
This week, OW provided the May interim release for this FOIA to the requestor. The EPA was under court order to complete this FOIA by May 31st, however, the court granted an extension of that deadline to June 21, 2018.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:

HEC Hearing
Next week, John Goodin, Acting Director for the Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, will testify before the House Committee on Energy and Commerce (HEC), Energy Subcommittee. He will testify to the EPA's role on the CWA section 401 state delegated authority and water quality certification process in relation to the non-federal hydropower licensing process. The panel is comprised of officials from FERC, NOAA, FWS, and USACE. The hearing is open to press.

EPA-National Tribal Water Council Meeting
Next week, Benita Best Wong will provide the opening remarks for the Council meeting and discuss with members' water issues in Indian country. This meeting is closed to press.

Public Meeting on Unregulated Contaminants in Drinking Water
Next week, the EPA will host an all-day public meeting and webinar at EPA-Cincinnati. Approximately 300 participants have registered for the meeting which will include presentations from the Technical Support Center in Cincinnati and ORD on the EPA drinking water method development and include discussion with stakeholders on innovative analytical testing procedures for unregulated contaminants.

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