**Region 1**

**Hot Topics**

**Office of Management and Budget Visits EPA Region 1**

Jody Barringer, OMB's program examiner for cleanup and emergency response programs, visited Region 1 the week of July 16. The agenda for the visit focused on regional priorities and challenges, such as Region 1's approach to Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) at sites like Pease Air Force Base and the Fort Devens Army Installation. Ms. Barringer was also briefed on the regional homeland security program, including how Region 1 protects water supplies in New England. While in the region, Ms. Barringer took time to tour numerous key superfund sites, including GE-Pittsfield, New Bedford Harbor, and Industri-Plex.

**Region 1 Obtains Court Order for Access at Blackburn and Union Privileges Superfund Site**

On July 12, 2018, the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts issued the second of two court orders granting EPA access to commercial property necessary for the cleanup of the Blackburn and Union Privileges Superfund Site in Walpole, MA. The United States filed suit in May 2018 to enforce Region 1's administrative access order to TMC 100 Elm, LLC. Cleanup work began on July 16, 2018.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

**Region 1 to Announce Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health (BEACH) Act Grants**

During the week of July 23, EPA will announce this year's BEACH Act funding for Rhode Island and New Hampshire. Under the BEACH Act, EPA awards grants to eligible state, territorial and tribal applicants to help them and their local government partners monitor water quality at coastal beaches. On Monday, RA Dunn will participate in a Bristol, Rhode Island event announcing a grant amount of $201,500 to the RI Department of Health, while Tuesday's event in Hampton, NH will announce an award of $192,000 to the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES).

**RA Dunn to Address National Association of Clean Water Agencies**

RA Dunn will speak at the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) Utility Leadership Conference in Boston, MA on Monday, July 23. She will speak about EPA priorities, infrastructure, and the agency's work with states to protect water resources in New England.

**New Bedford Community Outreach Event to Celebrate Superfund Task Force Anniversary**

On July 25, Headquarters representatives and RA Dunn will join New Bedford Mayor Mitchell to celebrate the Anniversary of the Superfund Task Force redevelopment focus list by acknowledging progress on the overall harbor cleanup and its impact on redevelopment. Region 1 is working with the city of New Bedford and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to maximize potential reuse of shoreline facilities, expediting cleanup and transfer of land used by EPA to the city, and phasing cleanup in a manner to best facilitate the City's plans for a "Riverwalk" adjacent to the Upper Harbor shoreline.

**New Hampshire Brownfields Recipients to Receive "Big Checks"**

On Monday, July 23, RA Dunn will be in Somersworth, NH to award the traditional "big checks" to recipients of EPA Brownfields assessment and cleanup grants. Monday's recipients include Somersworth, North Country Council, Inc. and Southwest Regional Planning Commission. NH DES Commissioner Scott and members of the NH congressional delegation have been invited to attend.



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**Region 2**

**Hot Issues:**

**Preliminary Injunction Hearing in civil case over CWA violation on Shinnecock Indian Nation.** On 7/18 the court heard arguments on the US' request for a PI against Gordon Smith, Sr., a member of the Shinnecock Nation, for CWA violations involving the unpermitted placement of fill material into federally protected tidal wetlands on Shinnecock territory. The US brought this action at the request of the Shinnecock Nation. The requested PI would prevent Mr. Smith from placing additional fill into the wetlands during the pendency of this action. After the US presented testimony supporting the PI, Mr. Smith requested an adjournment to obtain legal counsel. The court agreed to adjourn the hearing until 8/12 and Mr. Smith agreed to refrain from adding fill to the wetland until the hearing concludes.

**Cost Recovery Agreement for Barrio Vietnam Superfund Site.** On 7/2 we signed an administrative cost recovery agreement or this site in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico. The agreement, when finalized following public comment, will resolve against Ecolab Manufacturing Inc., Olay LLC, and The Procter & Gamble Co. relating to a CERCLA response action to remove hundreds of drums of waste. The agreement provides for the payment of nearly $1.1 million. The site has an abandoned facility where surplus/rejected chemicals were stored, including containers of waste cosmetics and/or commercial cleaning materials.

**SSO Order to Onondaga County, NY:** We issued an Administrative Order requiring the County to develop operations & maintenance plans for the portion of the collection systems that it owns for each of its 6 wastewater treatment plants, and for the 40 separate satellite municipalities which convey their sewage to these WWTPs. EPA inspections showed that the lack of proper O&M is leading to sanitary sewer overflows. NY State is supportive of the action. There is no penalty associated with this action.

**Storm Recovery:** Through the Recovery Senior Federal Leadership Group we are finalizing Courses of Action associated with the 180-day plan. We have raised concerns that identified needs do not necessarily align with available funding sources, particularly with respect to solid waste management, which is in a crisis condition in both Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

**Dewey Loeffel Superfund Site – Community Urges Standards for Emerging Contaminants:** On 7/17 RA Pete Lopez attended a public meeting about an upcoming removal action. Many attendees called on EPA to set standards (such as MCLs) for emerging contaminants, including 1,4 dioxane in particular.

**Upcoming:**

**Gowanus Canal Superfund Event:** On 7/23 RA Pete Lopez will participate in an event at this site in Brooklyn, NY marking the anniversary of the Superfund Task Force. A pilot study is nearing completion in a turning basin: debris was removed, bulkheads were replaced, the bottom has been dredged and will now be capped. The pilot study will inform work that will be carried out in the entire canal.

**Fulton Terminals Site Deletion.** On 7/25 we will announce that the Fulton Terminals Superfund site in Fulton, NY is deleted from the Superfund National Priorities List.

**Love Canal Anniversary.** On 7/31 RA Pete Lopez will be interviewed by PBS about the upcoming 40th anniversary of the Love Canal Superfund Site. On 8/7/78 President Carter announced a federal health emergency, and ordered the Federal Disaster Assistance Agency to assist the City of Niagara Falls to remedy the

Love Canal site. This was the first time in American history that emergency funds were used for a situation other than a natural disaster. We expect the PBS piece to air the weekend of 8/4.

**Region 3**
**Hot Topics**

**Farmer Agriculture Roundtable at the Delaware State Fair**
On July 23, in Harrington, Delaware, Regional Administrator Cosmo Servidio will participate in a farmer Agriculture Roundtable at the Delaware State Fair hosted by Delaware Agriculture Secretary Michael Scuse. The RA will meet with Delaware farmers to discuss EPA priorities for agriculture and have an open dialogue on topics that are of interest to Delaware farmers. This roundtable is one in a series of dialogues that the RA is having with the agricultural community to keep the lines of communication open and find ways to work effectively together.

**EPA Approves Two "Good Neighbor" SIPs for Fine Particulate Matter**
On July 12, 2018 and July 16, 2018, EPA published final rulemaking notices (FRN) in the Federal Register approving a state implementation plan (SIP) submitted by the State of Delaware and the Commonwealth of Virginia, respectively. The submittals each address the Clean Air Act's (CAA) "good neighbor" provisions for the 2012 fine particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$) national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS). For each submittal, EPA determined the state does not significantly contribute to other states' nonattainment problems or interfere with maintenance of the NAAQS. For the Delaware SIP, the final rule becomes effective August 13, 2018. For the Virginia SIP, the final rule becomes effective August 15, 2018.

**Comfort Letter to Facilitate Reuse at the Former Nansemond Ordnance Depot, Suffolk, VA**
On July 12, Region 3 issued a Comfort/Status letter for a 56-acre parcel located within the Former Nansemond Ordnance Depot property. The letter assures a developer, Bonaventure Realty, that the property is not part of the Nansemond NPL site. Bonaventure Realty Group requested the comfort letter to help secure an FHA mortgage through HUD's Multifamily Accelerated Processing program. Bonaventure proposes to reuse 13 acres of this parcel for a multi-family apartment complex called the Point at Harbour View.

**Superfund Site Deletion Update**
On Tuesday, July 17, 2018, Notices of Intent to Delete (NOIDs) will be published in the *Federal Register* for the Recticon/Allied Steel and Dorney Road Landfill Superfund Sites, initiating a public comment period from July 17 to August 16, 2018. The NOIDs document that no additional Superfund response actions are necessary at the Sites for the protection of human health and the environment. If no adverse comments are received during the public comment period, EPA will publish a Notice of Deletion (NOD) in the *Federal Register* to remove the Sites from the National Priorities List (NPL). If adverse comments are received during the public comment period, EPA will evaluate and respond appropriately to the comments before making a final decision to delete. If necessary, EPA will prepare a Responsiveness Summary to address any significant public comments received.

**Region 3 Staff Attend Bucks County Emergency Management Meeting**
EPA Region 3 staff attended a meeting at the Bucks County Emergency Management facility in Ivyland, PA on Thursday, July 12, 2018. The meeting was held at the request of Bucks County Emergency Management officials in an effort to resolve recent environmental compliance and public safety issues regarding Consolidated Chemicals and Solvents, LLC. EPA Region 3 staff provided technical support to assist the County in developing a potential path forward. Also in attendance were representatives from the PA DEP and Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.



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**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

Regional Administrator Cosmo Servidio has the following events scheduled:

- July 23, 2018 – Delaware State Fair, Harrington, DE
- July 24, 2018 – Tin Mill Canal Press Event, Sparrows Point, MD
- July 24, 2018 –PFAS Community Engagement Event, Horsham, PA

**Region 4**

**Hot Issues**

**Alabama Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR) Rule**

***Key Message:*** On July 13th, EPA received the formal Alabama CCR permit program application. Region 4 is beginning to conduct an internal review and coordinate with the Office of General Counsel and the Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery on their review. Once headquarters has determined that the application is complete, the Agency has 180 days to complete the approval process.

**Solvay/Lanxess (Charleston, SC)**

***Key Message:*** Region 4 participated on a call with OAR, Regions 3, 5, and 6 regarding the upcoming release of NATA data in which ethylene oxide risks play a significant role in several areas in the region. Due to the high concentrations of ethylene oxide from the facility and the close proximity of environmental justice communities, Region 4 Administrator Trey Glenn anticipates speaking with the Environmental Secretary for the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control regarding next steps.

**Rockwell International Wheel and Trim (Grenada, MS)**

***Key Message:*** On July 12th, Region 4 was notified of the detection of elevated levels of TCE at the ICE manufacturing facility. The cause of the elevation has been attributed to a damaged extraction line which was discovered on June 5th and repaired on the same day. As a follow-up, Meritor was directed to take 24-hour samples on July 16th and 17th. Preliminary results of these samples will be reviewed and appropriate action taken, if necessary.

**National Priorities List (NPL) Deletions**

***Key Message:*** On July 17th, the Notices of Intent to Delete (NOID) for the Whitehouse Oil Pits Site (Whitehouse, FL) and Davis Timber Company (Lamar County, MS) were published in the Federal Register.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

**Events**

**Superfund Task Force One-Year Recognition** – Region 4 identified the Kerr-McGee Chemical Corporation Site in Columbus, MS as an appropriate site to recognize the one-year anniversary of the Superfund Task Force. The event is scheduled for July 26th.

**Hill Visits** – July 23-24, Region 4 Administrator Trey Glenn will meet with several members of Congress to discuss issues of concern in their states and districts. Senator Jones (AL), Congressman Aderholt (AL), Congressman Rouzer (NC), Congressman Carter (GA), Senator Alexander (TN), Congressman Fleischmann (TN), Senator Wicker (MS) and Senator Hyde-Smith (MS).

**South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force Meeting** – On July 25th, Region 4 Administrator Trey Glenn will participate in the Task Force meeting representing EPA. Closed Press. Washington, D.C.



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**Region 5**

**HOT ISSUES:**

**Michigan Has Requested ORD Technical Assistance in Otsego**
Key Message: In response to resident concerns about a possible cancer cluster, Michigan DEQ, Michigan DHHS and other agencies are evaluating health and environmental data related to Otsego, Mich.

As part of this effort, MDEQ plans to investigate possible water contamination related to pulp and paper mill waste. To supplement chemical-specific analysis, the state agencies are requesting ORD technical support in performing bioassays to test water samples for endocrine disrupting activity.

**Region 5 to Issue Notice and Finding of Violation to General Iron**
Key Message: The NOV will cite the Chicago facility for excessive emissions of volatile organic compounds, fugitive particulate matter and failure to provide records responsive to EPA's November 2017 information request.

The region will be meeting with the facility to discuss the NOV on July 24. A public website is also being developed, which will house facility information including the emissions data.

**EPA and U.S. Steel Agree to Great Lakes Legacy Act Project in Duluth, Minn.**
Key Message: A $75 million sediment remediation and habitat restoration project will take place at the former Duluth Works site on the St. Louis River at Spirit Lake.

The cost-shared project is being completed under the Great Lakes Legacy Act with U. S. Steel providing 55 percent of the total project cost. The design is being completed in close coordination with Minnesota PCA and should be finalized in December with construction beginning in the summer or fall of 2019. EPA and U.S. Steel will make a joint announcement of the project in the coming weeks.

**Environmental Group Claims Evidence of Cancer Cluster in Franklin, Ind.**
Key Message: EPA is working with the company to conduct additional testing to determine if contaminants from the Amphenol corrective action site are affecting the nearby community.

Residents have voiced concern regarding the possible link between chemical exposures and childhood cancer cases in the Johnson County area. Residential indoor air sampling conducted by an environmental group has found some elevated levels of radon and volatile organic compounds. EPA is coordinating with Indiana DEM and ATSDR.

**EPA Announces Public Comment Period on Draft Clean Air Act Permit for Veolia in Sauget, Ill.**
Key Message: The draft operating permit revises EPA's January 2017 permit for the facility's hazardous waste incinerator.

Public comments are being accepted until September 5, 2018. EPA has posted a copy of the draft permit on its website and scheduled a public hearing to receive comments on August 21, 2018.



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**UPCOMING EVENTS/MAJOR DECISIONS:**

**Region 5's Superfund Task Force One-Year Anniversary Event to be Held July 24 at the Kalamazoo River/Allied Paper Site**
Key Message: The event will consist of remarks by RA Stepp, a site tour and a press availability.

The region will be inviting local elected officials and residents.

**RA Stepp to Meet with Michigan Farm Bureau on July 24**
Key Message: The visit will include a tour of farms in southwest Michigan.

**COS Thiede Will Participate in an On-Site Tour and Meeting with Representative From Peabody Coal at Their 7 Hills Mine Facility in Southern Indiana on July 24**
Key Message: The visit will include representatives from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ACOE as well as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

**Region 6**

**Haystack Mines Site, McKinley County, New Mexico**
In 2016, Region 6 joined Region 9 in a referral to DOJ of a proof of claim for past and future CERCLA costs for the Haystack Mines Site, located on private land in McKinley County, New Mexico, Navajo allotment land, and BLM land. A Settlement Agreement has been reached. The Agreement provides for an Allowed Unsecured Claim of $8 million against two of the Debtors. DOJ has requested EPA signatures by [ HYPERLINK "x-apple-data-detectors://2" ].

**Bird Creek, Osage County, Oklahoma**
Region 6 continues settlement discussions with the three Respondents and is awaiting a more detailed monitoring proposal which will be discussed during the next meeting during the week of [ HYPERLINK "x-apple-data-detectors://3" ]

**Coal Combustion Residuals, Texas**
[ HYPERLINK "x-apple-data-detectors://4" ], the Texas Coal Combustion Residuals rules will go before TCEQ Commissioners. If approved, the rules will be published in the Texas Register as Proposed Rules.

**E.I. Du Pont De Nemours and Company Stipulation of Settlement, LaPorte, Texas**
Region 6 and Department of Justice will file a Stipulation of Settlement with E.I. Du Pont De Nemours and Company (DuPont) to settle 22 alleged violations of Section 112(r)(7) of the Clean Air Act and Provisions of 40 CFR Part 68 Risk Management Program Regulations. On November 15, 2014, a release of nearly 24,000 pounds of methyl mercaptan occurred within the Lannate Unit at the facility in La Porte, Texas.

**MacMillan Ring Free Oil Site, Norphlet, Arkansas**
EPA mobilized to the MacMillan site on July 12, 2018. Asbestos-contaminated soils and debris are being excavated from a two-acre parcel of land in front of the old Boiler building. Abatement of asbestos containing material (ACM) inside the Boiler Building will begin on July 17, 2018. All cleanup work is expected to be completed by [ HYPERLINK "x-apple-data-detectors://9" ].

**HP Gas Cylinders, Baytown, Texas**
EPA transported 235 cylinders from the small storage shed/warehouse area offsite for disposal. The waste classified cylinders were transported to the Clean Harbors disposal facility in La Porte, TX. As of July 16, 2018, 1415 cylinders and containers inventoried, 19 of which were drums; 235 cylinders transported off site for disposal; 53 cylinders processed on-site by way of flaring.

**Texas 2015 Interstate Transport SIP**
[ HYPERLINK "x-apple-data-detectors://11" ], TCEQ is expected to adopt a SIP that concludes that Texas emissions do not significantly contribute to nonattainment or interfere with maintenance of the 2015 ozone standard in other States and will submit the SIP for our proposed approval soon after that.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

**Border Wall Project, Hildalgo and Starr County, Texas**

EPA intends respond to a scoping request from the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regarding the FY2018 Border Wall Project. With the funds allocated by the Consolidated Appropriations Act for FY 2018, CBP proposes to design and construct approximately 25 miles of levee fencing in Hidalgo County, Texas and 8 miles of bollard wall in Starr County, Texas. The CBP has requested EPA input regarding environmental impacts to biological, cultural, and natural resources resulting from border barrier construction.

**Louisiana Reid Vapor Pressure fuel blending, Baton Rouge, Louisiana**
OTAQ anticipates action by August on the final rulemaking removing the RVP requirement for the 5 counties in the Baton Rouge Nonattainment Area. OTAQ published the proposal in the federal register on June 14. On May 22, Region 6 signed the final approval of Louisiana's Maintenance Plan Revision and Relaxation Request for the Low Reid Vapor Pressure SIP revision.

**Texas Regional Haze BART FIP**
On July 2, EPA submitted a status report to the court, at Judge Berman's instruction, stating that we would repropose the FIP by [ HYPERLINK "x-apple-data-detectors://15" ] In May, EPA responded to a petition from the National Parks Conservation Association that it would accept a remand of its FIP and repropose an action.

**SO2 Redesignation Request, Independence County, Arkansas**
By [ HYPERLINK "x-apple-data-detectors://16" ], Region 6 intends to propose action on a May 11, 2018 request from Governor Hutchinson of Arkansas for redesignation of Independence County from unclassifiable to unclassifiable/attainment based on new modeling. This is expected to be the first such action in the country.

**Texas SO2 Designations Round 2 Sources (Luminant/Vistra)**
Luminant and Texas filed petitions for reconsideration of the SO2 non-attainment designations for areas surrounding the Big Brown, Monticello, and Martin Lake power plants. EPA responded that we will revisit those designations in a future rulemaking. Luminant has shutdown two of the three sources. OAQPS has drafted a proposed action and anticipates proposing in September 2018.

**Louisiana SO2 Attainment Demonstration, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana**
EPA proposed approval of an attainment demonstration SIP for the 2010 1-hour SO2 NAAQS nonattainment area in St. Bernard Parish LA. RAIN, a carbon black facility, and LDEQ are working on new limits and modeling demonstration based on a new stack test. The new limits and modeling will be submitted to EPA as a SIP revision in September. EPA will have to repropose action on this SIP revision.

| | |
|---|---|
| [ HYPERLINK "x-apple-data-detectors://19" ] | Agriculture Tour in Oklahoma |
| [ HYPERLINK "x-apple-data-detectors://20" ] | Tar Creek Tour, Picher, Oklahoma |
| [ HYPERLINK "x-apple-data-detectors://21" ] | Cherokee Nation Visit, Oklahoma |
| [ HYPERLINK "x-apple-data-detectors://22" ] | Texas Environmental Superconference, Austin, Texas |

**Region 7**

**Hot Issues**

**West Lake Landfill Site Update**
Key Message: Comments from the proposed plan comment period are publicly available and stakeholder meetings are planned.

- Comments from the proposed plan comment period were made publicly available on July 16 through the site's webpage. Responses to those comments will be available in the responsiveness summary at the time the record of decision amendment is issued.
- The region is in preparing for stakeholder meetings in Bridgeton, MO on August 1 to include Steven Cook, Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Office of Land and Emergency Management and Regional Administrator Jim Gulliford. The meetings will serve to introduce Steven Cook to local partners in the community. The itinerary for the day is currently being developed.

**Big River Operable Unit 1 – Terre du Lac Community Meeting**
Key Message: Community meeting held about Big River OU1 remedial action contract.

- EPA gave a presentation about the upcoming OU1 remedial action contract to the community of Terre du Lac, MO, which is in western St. Francois County. The presentation focused on the site background, the remedy, and the steps for remedy implementation.
- The presentation was well received by most members of the public. EPA fielded questions after the presentation. Most questions were focused on the logistics of the upcoming cleanup.

**Upcoming Events**

**Regional Tribal Operations Committee Meeting**
Key Message: On July 26, Regional Administrator Jim Gulliford will attend the Region 7 RTOC meeting in Niobrara, NE.

**Region 8**
***Hot Issues -***

**Outreach and sampling for PFAS in Drinking Water in South Adams County, Colorado** On July 12, 2018, EPA, CDPHE, Tri-County Health, and South Adams County Water and Sewer District notified the public that PFAS contamination had been found in drinking water at levels below the EPA health advisories. CDPHE will help the Water District with optimizing treatment systems for the impacted wells, and is creating a groundwater sampling plan with Region 8 assistance, to identify the source of the PFAS in groundwater. CDPHE will provide funding to conduct sampling at public and private wells. The Water District is preparing a mailing to provide updated information. A coordinating meeting is scheduled for July 24 to discuss next steps.

**Region 8 Issues an Emergency Administrative Order to Flying X Ranch Mobile Home Park in Albany County, Wyoming** On July 17, 2018, EPA issued a 1431 Order (EAO) in response to a potential imminent and substantial endangerment at Flying X Ranch Mobile Home Park public water system (serves 140 residents). EPA was notified on the evening of July 13, 2018, that the System had an E. coli maximum contaminant level exceedance. The EAO will require the system to provide an alternative water supply, post a boil water advisory, conduct a Level 2 Revised Total Coliform Rule Assessment, provide EPA with a plan and schedule that outlines actions to be taken to ensure there is no future E. coli contamination at the System, and perform the necessary corrective actions. R8 coordinated with OECA on this action.

**Region 8 Issues an Emergency Administrative Order to the Agnes Leggins Water System on the Fort Belknap Reservation in Montana** On July 19, 2018, EPA issued a 1431 Order (EAO) in response to a potential imminent and substantial endangerment at Agnes Leggins Water System (serves 100 residents). On July 18, 2018, EPA was notified of a pump failure, which occurred the previous night. The system was without water. The Tribe proactively provided bottled water on July 18, 2018. EPA consulted with the Tribe on July 19 to discuss the requirements of the EAO. These requirements include providing an alternative source of water and posting/delivering boil water advisory immediately; identifying and repairing the cause of the pump failure; and disinfecting and flushing the system after making repairs. R8 coordinated with OECA on this action.

***Upcoming Decisions/Events* – None**



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**Region 9**

***Hot Topics:***

**Navajo Wells**

**On July 23, Region 9 and the Navajo Nation EPA will deploy teams to monitor water discharges and air emissions from 48 orphaned oil and gas wells located within the states of New Mexico and Utah on Navajo Nation lands. This is to determine whether discharges pose a risk to nearby residents or are adversely affecting adjacent lands and waterways and, if so, what remedial actions may be needed. Among the wells to be monitored is the Foshay Well #1, which was referred to EPA by the state of New Mexico.**

**Four Corners Power Plant NPDES Permit Renewal Appealed to EAB**

On Monday, July 16, the Dine Citizens Against Ruining the Environment, et al., petitioned the EPA Environmental Appeals Board to review the NPDES permit renewal that Region 9 recently issued to the Four Corners Power Plant on the Navajo Nation in New Mexico. They are alleging a series of procedural deficiencies and claiming both adverse impacts to tribal waters and environmental justice concerns.

**Approval of Nevada Drinking Water Rules Primacy**

Region 9 determined that the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection has met Safe Drinking Water Act requirements for revisions to its drinking water primacy program for groundwater, enhanced surface water treatment, total coliform, and Stage 2 disinfection/disinfectant byproducts. This grants the state full authority for the implementation and enforcement of these four rules.

**Kilauea Hawaii Volcano Response**

Region 9 continues to support state and county agencies in the Kilauea Volcanic Eruption. We are working with Hawaii Department of Health (HDOH) and Hawaii County Civil Defense to install state owned and operated air monitoring stations and a telemetry network to replace the EPA network. The goal is to have HDOH operating and maintaining the air monitoring network by July 31 when the EPA mission assignment expires. We will continue to staff the Emergency Support Function 10 remotely from the Regional Office. In addition, we will be assisting USGS in transporting chemicals and other hazardous materials previously located at the Hawaii Volcano Observatory off-island.

***Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:***

**Regional Administrator Site Visits and Outreach**

The Regional Administrator will be traveling to Northern California on Monday and Tuesday, July 23 and 24, for meetings with the Hoopa Valley Tribe and a tour of the Copper Bluff Mine site, which is being considered for listing on the NPL. We'll be highlighting this visit as part of the first-anniversary commemoration of the Superfund Task Force report. The RA will tour another site, the NPL-listed Iron Mountain Mine, on Tuesday. On Tuesday afternoon, he will attend a meeting of the California Business Roundtable in Sacramento.



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**Region 10**
**Hot Issues**

**Region 10 Issues Small Suction Dredge Permits on South Fork Clearwater River (ID):** On July 13, EPA, in coordination with the U.S. Forest Service/Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest, permitted 12 small suction dredge mining operations on the South Fork Clearwater River. Many more dredgers were provided permits under a "letter permit" issued by the Idaho Department of Water Resources. The American Mining Rights Association is advocating that miners operate without any federal permits (both USFS and EPA require a permit on this River). The USFS is conducting compliance field inspections next week, with support from the local county law enforcement. EPA is monitoring the situation closely.

**Department of Energy Seeks Authorization to Stabilize Hanford Plutonium Uranium Extraction "Purex" 2 Tunnel (WA):** The U.S. Department of Energy has requested temporary authorization from the Washington State Department of Ecology to begin stabilizing with grout the Purex Tunnel 2 at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation. There are two Purex Tunnels at Hanford. The first tunnel, built of creosoted timber in 1956, holds eight rail cars loaded with equipment contaminated with waste from the chemical separation of plutonium from uranium fuel irradiated at Hanford reactors. There was a partial collapse of this tunnel in May 2017. It has been filled with grout. The second tunnel, built of steel in 1964, holds 28 rail cars loaded with highly contaminated equipment. DOE proposes to begin grouting the second tunnel in August due to concerns over a risk of collapse, but Washington Ecology has planned to public notice a draft permit for public review prior to granting authorization, which would put the start of work in November. Ecology, through its authorized RCRA program, is requesting additional justification from DOE for the expedited schedule, and will evaluate granting earlier authorization based on the additional information provided by DOE. Washington Ecology is consulting with Region 10 on this issue.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and Events**

**Region 10 Commemorates Superfund Task Force First Anniversary:** Region 10 Administrator Hladick will participate in a Superfund Roundtable discussion hosted by the Northwest Environmental Business Council on July 24; the Region will announce the removal of the Frontier Hard Chrome Superfund Site from the National Priorities List; and the Regional Administrator will participate in a site visit and pilot treatment technology demonstration at the Quendall Terminals Superfund Site (on the emphasis list).

**Region 10 Announces $8 Million in Grants to Help States Protect Drinking Water:** On July 24, Region 10 will issue four press releases, one for each state, announcing $8.1 million in grants to help states protect public water supply systems. In total the grants support work to protect over 9,000 water supply systems serving 13.7 million people.

**Region 10 to Issue Record of Decision for Hanford 100 Areas (WA):** Following a briefing for EPA headquarters, Region 10 is preparing to release the Record of Decision for the Hanford 100 D/H areas. The approximately $200 million remedy consists of removal, treatment, and disposal of contaminated soil and debris, expansion and optimization of the existing groundwater pump and treat system to address hexavalent chromium; monitored natural attenuation for strontium and nitrate in groundwater; and institutional controls to prohibit excavation and groundwater use until cleanup levels are met. Because most of the remediation work has already occurred under interim RODs, all remaining waste sites should be remediated in the next two years. The

final briefing for OLEM and OECA occurred on July 17, and the ROD is expected to be signed by Acting Administrator Wheeler sometime next week. R10 Public Affairs is coordinating with HQ on messaging.

**Region 10 Starts Cleanup Action at MG Smith Mine and Mill (Blaine County, ID):** Region 10's removal program has received approval to conduct a time-critical removal action at this mixed-ownership site. This joint action by the U.S. Forest Service and EPA will consolidate mine tailings from both private and FS lands into one repository located on FS property. The FS requested EPA undertake the action and is providing 75% of the funding. Repository operation and maintenance will be handled by the FS. The Forest Service and EPA entered into an MOU to outline responsibilities for any future action at the site.

**North Ridge Estates Site Asbestos Excavation Complete (OR):** On July 13, excavation of 283,000 cubic yards contaminated material was completed at the North Ridge Estates Superfund Site in Klamath Falls, OR. This three-year project is scheduled for final completion at the end of October 2018. Work remaining at the site includes installation of a Memorial Park to recognize the veterans the original facility served, final backfill of the 125-acre residential housing development with clean material, landscaping and roads replacement. This marks a milestone for the project that started with several EPA removal actions between 2005 and 2013, and site listing on the NPL and a final ROD in 2011. Commemoration/celebration events will be held at the site this fall.

**Region 10 Participation in the annual Oregon Clean Water Agencies Conference:** Region 10 senior staff will present at the annual Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies Conference on July 25. The conference provides an opportunity for EPA to engage with wastewater management agencies, consultants, and Oregon DEQ staff. Staff will present objectives and approaches to addressing Oregon's water quality challenges, focusing on NPDES permitting challenges and strategies, and participate in a panel discussion.

**Office of Administration and Resources Management**

***Hot Issues***

**Proposed Debarment (Administrator for the Native Village of Paimiut, Alaska)**

On July 16, 2018, the EPA Suspension and Debarment Official (SDO) issued a Notice of Proposed Debarment to Harold Napoleon, the Administrator for the Native Village of Paimiut in Alaska. The Native Village of Paimiut has received past assistance funding from the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Interior and the Department of Energy but, according to USASpending.gov, currently has no active awards. The proposed debarment is based on evidence of Mr. Napoleon's improper management of EPA grant funds. The proposed debarment affords Mr. Napoleon an opportunity to respond before the EPA SDO decides whether he should be excluded from participating in federal procurement and non-procurement programs.

**Employee Viewpoint Survey**

The U.S. Office of Personnel Management anticipates that the EPA will receive its final, adjusted response rates during the week of July 30, 2018. Response rates are expected to increase which will affect our EVS scores and ranking. OARM will be sharing these scores with program and regional offices upon receipt.

***Upcoming Major Decisions & Events***

**None**

**Office of Air and Radiation**

*Hot Topics*

- **Tracking SIP Actions:**
  - Total Number of SIPs submitted to Regions in FY 2018: 238
  - Total Number of SIP Submittals with Final Action taken by the Regions in FY 2018: 216
  - Total Number of Pending SIPs: 743

- **Packages that will move soon to Signature:**
  - Distillers Sorghum Oil (Final Rule that approves two pathways under the RFS program for advanced biofuel and biomass-based diesel fuels derived from sorghum) – Goal for signature is Monday 7/23
  - Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Revision to References for Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Sector to Incorporate Latest Edition of Certain Industry, Consensus-based Standards (Final Rule)
  - Health and Environmental Protection Standards for Uranium and Thorium Mill Tailings (Withdrawal of Proposed Rule) – Note OAR is updating the package and will be submitting a new version to the 3rd floor soon.
  - Air Quality Designations for the 2012 Primary Annual Fine Particle (PM2.5) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for Areas in Florida (Final Rule)

- **Packages at (or about to be 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)
  - Rulemaking to Establish Light-Duty Vehicle Greenhouse Gas Emission Standards and Corporate Average Fuel Economy (Proposed Rule)
  - Light - Duty Vehicle GHG Program Tech Amendments (Proposed Rule)
  - Implementation of the 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone: Nonattainment Area State Implementation Plan Requirements (Final Rule)
  - Standards of Performances for New Residential Wood Heaters, New Residential Hydronic Heaters and Forced Air Furnaces (ANPRM)
  - Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) and Nonattainment New Source Review (NNSR): Project Aggregation Reconsideration (Final Rule)
  - State Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Emissions From Existing Electric Utility Generating Units (Proposed Rule)

- **Packages that will move soon to OMB for Review:**
  - Standards of Performances for New Residential Wood Heaters, New Residential Hydronic Heaters and Forced Air Furnaces (Proposed Rule)

*Upcoming Major Decisions and Events*

- **ENERGY STAR Most Efficient:** Next week, the ENERGY STAR program will release proposals for ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2019 recognition criteria across 14 product categories. ENERGY STAR Most Efficient is designed to recognize and advance the most efficient products among those that qualify for ENERGY STAR. The goal of this effort is to encourage new, more energy-efficient products into the market more quickly by targeting early adopters.



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- **Air Trends Annual Report**: During the week of July 30 EPA plans to release its annual report on air quality, *Our Nation's Air: Status and Trends through 2017*, tracking our nation's progress in improving air quality since the passage of the Clean Air Act.

**Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention**

*IMPORTANT DEADLINES*

| Row | Determination Type | Pending on 7/17/2018 | Determinations Completed[1] as 7/17/2018 | Determinations Posted on the Website as of 7/17/2018[6] |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | # of "not likely" determinations | **1** | **124[4]** | **124[4]** |
| 2 | # of §5(e) Orders signed by both EPA and the submitter | - | **416** | **412** |
| 3 | # of §5(e) Orders signed by EPA and awaiting submitter signature | **50** | - | - |
| 4 | # of non-Order SNURs/"not likely" determinations | **0** | **0** | **0** |
| 5 | # of cases in post-FOCUS final determination development[5] | **331[3, 5]** | - | - |
| 6 | # of cases flagged for in-depth review | **54** | - | - |
| 7 | # of PMNs, SNUNs and MCANs awaiting FOCUS (within 90-day review) | **22** | - | - |
| 8 | # of LVE/LOREX exemption grants | - | **634** | **626** |
| 9 | # of LVE/LOREX exemption denials | - | **121** | **121** |
| **10** | **Total number of cases** | **458** | **1295** | - |
| 11 | Normal active workload for the New Chemicals Program | 300 | - | - |
| 12 | Number of cases undergoing testing or data development by submitter | 72[3] | - | - |
| **13** | **Backlog[2]** | **86** | - | - |

[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 58 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 ISSUES*

**Publication of Triazines Draft Human Health Risk Assessments for Public Comment -** The Office of Pesticide Programs plans to publish the atrazine, propazine, and simazine (the triazines) draft human health risk assessments as well as the draft cumulative human health assessment for the triazines for 60-day public comment. The draft assessments identify potential risk to children who crawl and play on lawns sprayed with atrazine or simazine, potential risk to residential bystanders from spray drift following simazine application to grapefruit and oranges, and applicators. After public comment on the risk assessments, EPA will work towards a proposed interim registration review decision (PID), which will likely be published in 2019.

*UPCOMING ACTIVITIES*

**Southern Legislative Conference of the Council of State Governments** – On July 20, Michael Goodis, Director of the Office of Pesticide Programs' Registration Division will present at the Southern Legislative Conference of the Council of State Governments on the herbicide Dicamba.

**Quarterly Call on Endangered Species** – On July 30, staff from the Office of Pesticide Programs will participate in a quarterly call with EPA Regional Endangered Species Coordinators to provide status updates on related activities.

**Washington Crop Tour and Region 10 Visit-** This week Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator Charlotte Bertrand and Deputy Assistant Administrator Dr. Nancy Beck will be attending a crop tour hosted by the Washington State Commission on Pesticide Registration in Pasco, Washington. While in WA, they will also visit with the Region 10 Office of Compliance and Enforcement and the Office of Air and Waste.



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**Office of the Chief Financial Officer**

Hot Topics

- On July 19, the House of Representatives passed its version of EPA's FY 2019 appropriations bill by a vote of 217 Y/199 N. OCFO is preparing a memorandum summarizing the bill to distribute to the agency's senior leadership.
- OCFO continues to work with the agency to review the Senate Appropriations Committee budget hearing transcript and develop responses to the SAC Questions for the Record. Senate floor action could begin as early as next week.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- Input from this week's Senior Leadership Council meetings will help inform the approach to EPA's FY 2020 budget submission due to OMB in early September and onwards. OCFO is scheduling additional meetings later this month with the Acting Administrator, Acting Deputy Administrator, and Chief of Staff to finalize budget decisions for the FY 2020 OMB budget submission due to OMB on September 10. In the meantime, OCFO issued separate guidance to the agency's budget staff regarding the milestones and products to develop the submission to meet OMB requirements.
- Initial drafts of third quarter Agency Priority Goal Action Plan updates approved by NPM political leadership are due to OCFO by July 27. OCFO will work with the agency to provide the revised action plans to OMB in early August.
- The next E-Enterprise (EE) Bulletin, spotlighting EE projects and events and highlighting EE members, is expected to be published and available externally on July 30. The draft Bulletin is undergoing internal EPA OPA and external E-Enterprise (ECOS and article authors) editorial review before release.
- All regions submitted early engagement points of contact and preliminary early engagement schedules for Regional Administrator meetings with state, tribal, and territorial environmental leaders to inform development of the FY 2020-2021 National Program Guidances. In coordination with AIEO, OCFO has drafted tribal consultation letter regarding the guidances for CFO signature. Once signed, OCFO will distribute the consultation letter to the tribes.



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**Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations**

***Upcoming Hot Issues and Important Deadlines***

*NONE*

***Upcoming Events***

- **July 19** – Local Government Advisory Committee will meet in an administrative session for an informational briefing on Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)
- **July 19- 21** – National Governor's Association Annual Meeting in Santa Fe, NM
- **July 25** – PFAS community engagement meeting in southeastern PA w/ OW, R3
- **July 30-Aug. 2** – National Conference of State Legislators Annual Summit
- **TBD** – Sen. Tester (MT) staff briefing on Elk River Watershed w/OW, R8
- **TBD** – Approps staff briefing on PRIA fees w/OCSPP, OCFO
- **TBD** - SEPW/HEC staff briefing on TSCA first 10 chemical problem formulations w/ OSCPP
- **TBD**- Cong. Joyce (OH) request to brief Mentor, OH officials on GLRI (incl. potential funding)

**Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance**

***Hot Topics:***

**EPA Resolves Clean Air Act Action with E.I. DuPont De Nemours and Company (La Porte, Texas)**
On July 13, 2018, EPA Region 6 and DOJ entered into a stipulation of settlement with DuPont to resolve alleged chemical accident prevention and preparedness violations under the Risk Management Program of the Clean Air Act. The alleged violations relate to a release of methyl mercaptan which resulted in the deaths of four persons. The facility closed in 2016. Under the settlement agreement, DuPont will pay a civil monetary penalty of $3,100,000. The stipulation of settlement is expected to be filed with the court within the next week.

**Indictment of CG Roxane, LLC, United Pumping Service, Inc., and United Storm Water, Inc. for Hazardous Waste Violations**
On July 18, 2018, CG Roxane, LLC, (dba "Crystal Geyser"), United Pumping Service, Inc., and United Storm Water, Inc., were indicted in the Central District of California and charged with 16 counts of hazardous waste violations. The Crystal Geyser bottling plant, located in Inyo County, California, transported at least 27,000 gallons of a liquid RCRA hazardous waste to a non-hazardous waste treatment facility located in Fontana, California, for disposal. This liquid contained toxic levels of arsenic. Crystal Geyser had been informed by State of California officials during an inspection and subsequent meeting that the liquid was a federally regulated RCRA hazardous waste.

**Superfund Task Force Policy Towards Landowners and Transferees of Federal Facilities**
On July 17, 2018, in accordance with Superfund Task Force Recommendation 30, OECA's Federal Facility Enforcement Office sent out proposed revisions to the 1997 "Policy Towards Landowners and Transferees of Federal Facilities" to EPA regions for review and comment. To promote reuse and redevelopment at federal facilities on the NPL, the proposed modifications encourage providing more assurance and encouragement to potential developers/purchasers. The 1997 policy stated that these agreements or comfort were unnecessary at federal facilities due to CERCLA Section 120(h) and an indemnification law covering certain DoD transfers. Once regional comments are received and reconciled, states and other federal agencies will have an opportunity to provide comments. Prior to developing the draft revision, EPA consulted other federal agencies and states through ECOS and ASTSWMO to seek their views on the future direction of the revised policy.

***Upcoming Major Decisions and Events:***

On July 25-26, 2018, OECA AA Susan Bodine, PDAA Larry Starfield, and DAA Patrick Traylor will travel to EPA Region 8 and OECA's National Enforcement Investigations Center (NEIC) to meet with the Region 8 RA/DRA and senior enforcement managers in Region 8, NEIC, and OECA's Fuels Enforcement Branch to discuss enforcement and compliance priorities and issues.

On July 27, 2018, OECA Deputy Assistant Administrator Patrick Traylor will join other EPA enforcement and compliance leaders and state agencies to discuss developments as part of the ECOS-EPA Compliance Assurance Workgroup.

**Office of Environmental Information**

***Hot Topics***

New EPA Intranet Search Engine – Lucidworks Fusion

- Brief description: **EPA's intranet search has a new search engine. OEI has replaced the Google Search Appliance, which is no longer available commercially, with Lucidworks Fusion, which we anticipate will provide improved search results.**
- Who benefits or cares: **All EPA employees**
- Why this is important: **One of the features of Fusion is that it learns as it goes. For example, it recognizes when many people pick the same link in the search results for a query and then it moves that link up in the results. This approach allows the search engine to constantly improve the quality of search results. In addition, the new tool will be able to only show people SharePoint pages to which they have permission to read.**
- **Additional information:**
    - We will be using the same new search technology for EPA Public Access web search starting this fall.
    - OEI will be continuing to improve the features provided to employees, including spell check and auto-suggested terms.

**Office of General Counsel**

No report submitted

**Office of International and Tribal Affairs**

**Hot Issues:**

**European Parliament Climate Resolution** - The European Parliament passed a non-binding resolution indicating that ratification and implementation of Paris should be a condition for EU's trading partners in future trade and investment agreements. The resolution also called for carbon border adjustments, or import fees levied by carbon-taxing countries on goods manufactured in non-carbon-taxing countries to encourage climate action. The European Parliament stated that the European Union should keep efforts up to re-engage the U.S. in multilateral cooperation on climate action.

**Fourth UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-4)** – EPA (OITA) attended an interagency meeting on preparations for the Fourth United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-4), the Ministerial level governing body that guides the UN Environment Programme (UNEP). The theme for UNEA-4, which will be held in Nairobi in March 2019, will be *Innovative Solutions for Environmental Challenges and Sustainable Consumption and Production*.

**Upcoming Major Events/Decisions**

**Environmental Technology Trade Advisory Committee** - Commerce and EPA (OITA) will co-chair a joint meeting of the Environmental Technology Trade Advisory Committee and Environmental Trade Working Group on July 24 to discuss programs and initiatives that promote environmental technology and trade.

**Tribal Consultation on GAP Guidance** - OITA will host a national tribal consultation call and webinar on July 26 to discuss how to improve the 2013 Indian General Assistance Program (GAP) Guidance and its implementation.

**Canadian Ministerial Call** - The Acting Administrator and the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada will have a call on July 27 to discuss bilateral cooperation and the upcoming G7 Environment Ministerial Meeting in Canada.

**Nez Perce Tribal Meeting** - EPA is scheduled to meet with tribal leaders from the Nez Perce tribe on July 27 to discuss Idaho's proposed water quality standards and tribal treaty rights.



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**Office of Land and Emergency Management**

Hot Topics

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

2. **Clean Air Act 112(r) Risk Management Program (RMP) Reconsideration NPRM.** The public comment period ends July 30, 2018.

3. **Ongoing major Superfund NPL sites (such as East Chicago, West Lake, Bonita Peak, Hudson River, Portland Harbor, Oak Ridge, Edwards AFB).**

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

5. **PFAS.**
   a. The PFOA and PFOS contaminated groundwater guidance is ready for OMB's interagency review.
   b. OLEM is working with the AO, OGC, OECA, OW, OAR, and OCSPP to look at available statutory mechanisms for PFOA and PFOS to be "hazardous substances" under CERCLA.

6. **e-Manifest.**

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

1. **Superfund Task Force (SFTF).** OLEM is working closely with OPA and the AO on activities and site events highlighting the year one accomplishments of the SFTF. We anticipate a press release going out on July 23 and issuance of a report next week.

2. **Brownfields Meeting.** Regional Brownfields Coordinators will meet in Potomac Yards on July 31 – August 1.

3. **CERCLA Vacatur and FARM Act Final Rule relating to Air Releases of Hazardous Substances from Animal Waste at Farms.** We forwarded this rule package for the Acting Administrator's signature.

4. **Coal Combustion Residuals.**
   a. The proposed rule was signed this week, and we anticipate FR publication by the end of July.
   b. Now Georgia and Kansas have both submitted their CCR permit program application to EPA.

5. **Hazardous Waste Pharmaceuticals Final Rule.** This rule package is with OMB for review.

6. **Hazardous Substances Spill Prevention Proposed Rule.** This rule package was published in the FR and comments are due by August 24, 2018.

**Office of Policy**

**NEJAC Public Meeting**: On July 20, the Federal Register published an announcement of the August 14-16 National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) public meeting in Boston, MA. The meeting will include discussion of environmental justice concerns in Boston and surrounding areas; the proactive efforts of Region 1 to advance environmental justice; and the final report from the NEJAC Environmental Justice and Water Infrastructure Finance and Capacity Work Group.

**National Environmental Economics Meeting**: From July 23-24, staff from the National Center for Environmental Economics (NCEE) will join environmental economists from around the U.S. at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Summer Institute meeting in Cambridge, MA.

OP

Number of Actions to OFR this Year:

- Signed by Regions:
  - Notices: 50
  - Proposed Rules: 175
  - Direct Final Rules: 12
  - Withdrawal of Proposed Rule: 1
  - Withdrawal of Direct Final: 4
  - Final Rules: 141
- Signed by HQ:
  - Notices: 271
  - Proposed Rules: 45
  - NPRM Extension: 3
  - Supplemental NPRM: 1
  - Direct Final Rules: 1
  - Withdrawal of Direct Final: 1
  - Interim Final: 2
  - Final Rules: 78
  - Corrections: 1

Number of Actions to OFR this Week (July 12 – July 19):

- Signed by Regions:
  - Notices: 2
  - Proposed Rules: 16
  - Direct Final Rules: 1
  - Withdrawal of Proposed Rule: 0
  - Withdrawal of Direct Final: 0
  - Final Rules: 4
- Signed by HQ:
  - Notices: 10
  - Proposed Rules: 2
  - NPRM Extension: 1
  - Supplemental NPRM: 0
  - Direct Final Rules: 0
  - Withdrawal of Direct Final: 0
  - Interim Final: 0
  - Final Rules: 2
  - Corrections: 0

| Active Interagency Reviews from OMB | |
|---|---|
| **Subject** | **OMB Due Date** |
| OPM draft NPRM: "Revise Direct-Hire Authority Regulations" | 07/19/2018 |
| FAR Case 2015-017: "Federal Acquisition Regulation: Combating Trafficking in Persons—Definition of "Recruitment Fees" | 07/19/2018 |
| SBA draft NPRM: "Small Business HUBZone Program; Government Contracting Programs" | 07/19/2018 |
| FAR Case 2017-005 NPRM: "Federal Acquisition Regulation: Whistleblower Protection for Contractor Employees" | 07/23/2018 |
| DOC/BIS FRM: "Wassenaar Arrangement 2017 Plenary Agreements Implementation; India" | 07/23/2018 |
| DOD/USACE Draft Regulatory Guidance Letter (RGL): "Determination of Compensatory Mitigation Credits for the Removal of Obsolete Dams and Other Structures from Rivers and Streams" | 07/24/2018 |
| DOC/NOAA NPRM: "Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act; Traceability Information Program for Seafood" | 07/25/2018 |
| HUD NPRM: "Conforming the Acceptable Separation Distance (ASD) Standards for Residential Propane Tanks to Industry Standards" | 08/02/2018 |
| SBA Final Action: "Small Business Innovation Research Program and Small Business Technology Transfer Program Policy Directive" | 08/03/2018 |
| DOD/USACE draft RGL: "Enhancing Mitigation Bank Credit Availability and Ensuring Equivalency in Service Area" | 08/10/2018 |

| Documents Submitted to OFR from July 12 -16, 2018 | | |
|---|---|---|
| **FRL** | **Title** | **Date Submitted to OFR** |
| 9980-83-Region 8 | Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Wyoming; Incorporation by Reference Updates | 7/16/2018 |
| 9980-67-Region 8 | Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plan Revisions; Infrastructure Monitoring Requirements for the 2008 Pb, 2010 SO2, 2010 NO2 and 2012 PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Utah | 7/16/2018 |
| 9980-26-OCSPP | Pesticide Product Registration; Receipt of Applications for New Active Ingredients | 7/16/2018 |
| 9980-25-OCSPP | Pesticide Product Registration; Receipt of Applications for New Uses | 7/16/2018 |
| 9977-82-OCSPP | Flonicamid; Pesticide Tolerances | 7/16/2018 |
| 9981-01-Region 10 | Air Plan Approval; Oregon; Interstate Transport Requirements for the 2012 PM2.5 NAAQS | 7/13/2018 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 9980-94-Region 5 | Air Plan Approval; Michigan; Revisions to Part 9 Miscellaneous Rules | 7/13/2018 |
| 9980-88-Region 8 | Determination of Attainment by the Attainment Date and Clean Data Determination for the Logan, UT-ID 2006 24-Hour PM2.5 Nonattainment Area | 7/13/2018 |
| 9980-74-OLEM | Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request: Community Right-to-Know Reporting Requirements under Sections 311 and 312 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), EPA ICR Number 1352.14, | 7/13/2018 |
| 9980-75-OLEM | Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; Emergency Planning and Release Notification Requirements (EPCRA Sections 302, 303, and 304); (EPA ICR No. 1395.10, OMB Control No. 2050-0092). | 7/13/2018 |
| 9980-77-OEI | Production, Import, Export, Destruction, Transhipment, and Exempted Uses of Ozone-Depleting Substances (Renewal)/ICR No.1432.34 | 7/13/2018 |
| 9980-96-Region 5 | Air Plan Approval; Minnesota; Flint Hills Sulfur Dioxide (SO2) Revision | 7/12/2018 |
| 9980-93-Region 5 | Air Plan Approval; Illinois; Permit-by-Rule Provisions | 7/12/2018 |
| 9980-92-Region 5 | Air Plan Approval; Ohio; Ohio NSR PM2.5 Precursors | 7/12/2018 |
| 9980-91-OAR | Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; Application Requirements for the Approval and Delegation of Federal Air Toxics Programs to State, Territorial, Local, and Tribal Agencies | 7/12/2018 |
| 9980-89-Region 10 | Air Plan Approval; Idaho; Interstate Transport Requirements for the 2012 PM2.5 NAAQS | 7/12/2018 |
| 9980-60-Region 3 | National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan; National Priorities List: Deletion of the Dorney Road Landfill Superfund Site | 7/12/2018 |
| 9980-69-Region 5 | National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan; National Priorities List: Partial Deletion of the Naval Industrial Reserve Ordnance Plant Superfund Site | 7/12/2018 |
| 9980-71-Region 5 | National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan; National Priorities List: Partial Deletion of the Naval Industrial Reserve Ordnance Plant Superfund Site | 7/12/2018 |
| 9980-10-Region 6 | Clean Air Act Operating Permit Program; Petitions for Objection to State Operating Permit for Motiva Enterprises LLC, Port Arthur Refinery, Jefferson County, Texas | 7/12/2018 |
| 9980-58-Region 3 | National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan; National Priorities List: Deletion of the Recticon/Allied Steel Superfund Site | 7/12/2018 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 9980-72-Region 4 | National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan; National Priorities List: Deletion of the Davis Timber Company Superfund Site | 7/12/2018 |
| 9980-73-Region 4 | National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan; National Priorities List: Deletion of the Whitehouse Oil Pits Superfund Site | 7/12/2018 |

**Office of Research and Development**
Next week, ORD will attend the PFAS Community Engagement in Pennsylvania to provide support for the effort and remarks about our PFAS research.

We were pleased with the turnout at the *Public Hearing on Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science*. On July 17, 90 people provided comments including three members of congress, Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici, Congressman Paul David Tonko, and Congressman Dan Lipinkski.

**Hot issues**

**Meeting with Denka**
Today, ORD will meet with consultants and representatives of the Denka Performance Elastomers facility to discuss their plans to develop a physiologically-based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) model for chloroprene. EPA comments on the workplan, model QA, potential peer review and next steps will be discussed. The chloroprene emissions from the DPE facility were estimated to produce high cancer risks due to chloroprene emissions and the company installed pollution control devices this year to reduce their emissions.

**Long Island Sound Tropospheric Ozone Study**
[ HYPERLINK "http://www.nescaum.org/" ] (NESCAUM) is investigating how ozone is formed and transported in the area surrounding and downwind of New York City through the [ HYPERLINK "http://www.nescaum.org/documents/listos" ] (LISTOS). The study is a collaborative effort among researchers from states, academia and federal agencies, including Region 1 and ORD. The data collected from LISTOS will help better understand the complex air mixture in the New York City metropolitan area with its numerous sources of air pollution and varying weather patterns that influence the evolution and movement of this diminished air quality across the region. EPA began setting up instruments and collecting data from around Long Island Sound in June 2018 and will continue collecting data through this September. In early 2019, EPA will participate in a workshop to discuss initial findings.

**Contaminants of Emerging Concern Kaizen Workshop**
This week, ORD is participating in an Agency Kaizen Workshop to develop a process for the initial assessment of identified emerging contaminants of concern. The results of this workshop will identify best practices from different EPA Offices and build towards a standardized process to be used by all Offices for a screening level risk assessment. OAR, OW, OLEM, OCSPP, and the AO are also involved in this workshop.

**ORD CRADA wins award and external coverage**
The EPA's WaterStep Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) was recently selected by the Federal Laboratory Consortium (FLC) as the winner of their CRADA success stories contest. The FLC published a [ HYPERLINK "https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Db9M1Si0Jkk&utm_campaign=CRADA%20Success%20Video%20&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=64389181&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-_hicPqyRq9Hipqt9xMVbu6r5wRswdOoKlARHdjI7dyakVjW1nR6SOBG-mURPEQy3-MYT8xnHZ99Qkzcyu0SkFNricICsaLxduXNGX-MbeL_Em0nqs&_hsmi=64389181" ] highlighting the successful EPA and business partnership. The video should be launched in Google Chrome, since Internet Explorer causes display issues. Through the use of the CRADA, ORD and WaterStep honed the WaterStep portable water treatment technology. In the response to Hurricane Maria, WaterStep's Mini Water Treatment Units were

deployed in all 78 of Puerto Rico's municipalities providing urgently needed clean water to hurricane-devastated communities. The WaterStep CRADA provides an outstanding example of how research and development collaborations between private entities and federal laboratories can have a powerful impact in communities.

**Upcoming Major Decisions and events**

**ORD to Host the *Interagency Conference on Research in the Watersheds***

The Sixth Interagency Conference on Research in the Watersheds (ICRW) will be hosted for the first time by ORD on July 23-26 in Shepherdstown, WV. Participants in the session will also include the U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science. The ICRW will address the complexities of managing watersheds, and will include participation by federal and state scientists, academics, NGOs, and others to discuss creative scientific and adaptive management approaches.

**Lead research update**

Next week ORD will present an "Overview of ORD Approaches for Advancing the Science to Identify High Lead (Pb) Risk Areas and Key Drivers" at an internal EPA Informational Meeting on Pb Mapping Tools/Approaches. This meeting will be co-led by EPA's National Lead Coordinator, Hayley Hughes (OA), and EPA Senior Policy Advisor for Environmental Justice (Charles Lee, OEJ/OA). The workshop will include Regional and Program Office representatives.



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**Office of Water**

**Hot Issues**

Orange County Water District WIFIA Loan: Next week, the EPA anticipates closing the Orange County Water District WIFIA loan. The EPA will be issuing a $135 million loan to help finance the final expansion of the Orange County Water District's Groundwater Replenishment System which will produce 30 million gallons per day of additional drought-proof drinking water supplies. The project is anticipated to recharge the local groundwater and reduce the need for imported water.

San Francisco WIFIA Loan: Next week, the EPA also anticipates closing the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission WIFIA loan. The EPA will be issuing a $699 million loan to help finance the San Francisco Southeast Treatment Plan Biosolids Digester Facilities Project, the largest loan to be issued under the WIFIA program to date. The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission will replace its existing, outdated solids treatment facilities with new biosolids digester facilities. The new facilities are designed to produce higher-quality Class A biosolids, capture and treat odors more effectively, and maximize biogas utilization and energy recovery.

Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grants: Next week, OW anticipates the 2018 grantee selections under the Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program will be announced. OW provides wetland and urban waters funding for the public-private partnership grant program through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The EPA funds leverage other federal agency, private for-profit and private foundation resources to advance water quality and restoration projects across the country. This year, 59 grants totaling $2.2 million will be awarded. Grantees have committed an additional $5.2 million in local project support, generating a total conservation investment of more than $7.4 million.

**Upcoming Public Events**

Small Drinking Water Systems Tour: Monday, Dave Ross will visit Port Royal, VA, to meet with state and local officials and tour the town's new storage tank and pump house facility. This is a unique opportunity to learn from a small system (approximately 85 connections) that is on track to rebuild its water system through the combined efforts of a number of state and local organizations, leveraging a variety of funding mechanisms, including the SRF.

Per- and poly-fluoralkyl (PFAS) Community Engagement: Next week, the EPA will hold PFAS community engagement events in Horsham, Pennsylvania. Approximately 150 participants from states, federal partners, nonprofit organizations, and the general public plan to attend. Following the National PFAS Leadership Summit, this event will allow EPA to hear directly from PA communities and other participants on how to best help states and communities facing this issue. The next engagement is scheduled in Fountain, Colorado at the beginning of August. Other meetings in North Carolina, Kansas and Washington are being coordinated for August and September.

NACWA Utility Leadership Conference & 28th Annual Meeting: Next week, OW leadership will participate in the National Association of Clean Water Administrators (NACWA) Utility Leadership Conference & 28th Annual Meeting. During a panel presentation, Andrew Sawyers, Director for the Office of Wastewater Management, will address utility governance approaches and solutions from a national perspective. This event is open to the press.



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