Message

From: Civic, Melanne [Civic.Melanne@epa.gov]
Sent: 4/13/2022 4:05:02 PM
To: Kasman, Mark [Kasman.Mark@epa.gov]
CC: Buckley, Katherine [Buckley.Katherine@epa.gov]; Almodovar, Lisa [Almodovar.Lisa@epa.gov]; Finman, Hodayah [Finman.Hodayah@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Ukraine Environment Task Force Update

Thanks so much!

Melanne A. Civic
Assistant General Counsel, International Environmental Law Practice Group
Environmental Protection Agency
Office of General Counsel, Cross-Cutting Issues Law Office
202-570-1924
Civic.Melanne@epa.gov

From: Kasman, Mark <Kasman.Mark@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 11:08 AM
To: Civic, Melanne <Civic.Melanne@epa.gov>
Cc: Buckley, Katherine <Buckley.Katherine@epa.gov>; Almodovar, Lisa <Almodovar.Lisa@epa.gov>; Finman, Hodayah <Finman.Hodayah@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Ukraine Environment Task Force Update

As requested....

From: Civic, Melanne <Civic.Melanne@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 9:28 AM
To: Kasman, Mark <Kasman.Mark@epa.gov>
Cc: Buckley, Katherine <Buckley.Katherine@epa.gov>; Almodovar, Lisa <Almodovar.Lisa@epa.gov>; Finman, Hodayah <Finman.Hodayah@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Ukraine Environment Task Force Update

Mark,

Please, could you share the compiled info from last week's NIC-T meeting that was/ will be sent to the DOS Interagency Ukraine Environmental Task Force?

Thanks very much!

Melanne A. Civic
Assistant General Counsel, International Environmental Law Practice Group
Environmental Protection Agency
Office of General Counsel, Cross-Cutting Issues Law Office
202-570-1924
Civic.Melanne@epa.gov

From: Kasman, Mark <Kasman.Mark@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 7, 2022 11:33 AM
To: OITA-International Coordinators-ALL <OITAInternational_CoordinatorsALL@epa.gov>

Cc: Buckley, Katherine <Buckley.Katherine@epa.gov>
Subject: Ukraine Environment Task Force Update

In response to a letter form the Ukrainian Environment Minister to Administrator Regan and Secretary of State Blinken, the State Department has set up a Ukraine Environment Task Force to assist Ukraine evaluate and address the environmental damage caused by Russia's unprovoked invasion. I have been asked to serve as the EPA point-of-contact on this interagency Task Force which will meet every other Monday. The first meeting took place this past Monday. EPA's National Incident Coordination Team (NIC-T) was convened yesterday to identify EPA's capabilities that could be applicable to Ukraine's needs.

The Ukrainian Environment Minister currently has three top priorities: 1) assistance to evaluate ecosystem services and harm to these ecosystems; 2) immediate and long term waste management including military ordinance, fuel spills, massive debris removal/disposal/reuse, hazardous waste, and mass disposal of human remains; 3) legal redress against Russia from environmental damage they have inflicted on Ukraine. We asked the Minister why water and wastewater were not listed. It turns out they are covered by another Ministry, but that we should expect a request for assistance in those areas to come forward as well in the near future.

I wanted to alert you to this effort especially if any requests from Ukraine come directly to EPA regions or program offices. Please forward any requests to Katherine Buckley and myself so we can assure a coordinated response. Katherine Buckley is EPA's Europe Program Manager and currently serves as Acting Senior Advisor for Asia Pacific and Europe Programs.

OIA will be regularly reporting requests for assistance and potential responses to the Administrator's office through Chief-of-Staff Dan Utech. The Administrator is interested in EPA supporting Ukraine any way we practically can. I want to make clear that we will not be deploying any EPA staff to Ukraine while hostilities are still under way, but there are EPA resources that might be helpful and some remote assistance that would be valuable in the meantime, while the Ministry continues to try to do its work despite the war.

I continue to be impressed by everyone's interest to lean-in to help Ukraine recover from Russia's attacks. This will be with us for a long time, probably in ways we do not totally comprehend yet. Thank you in advance for your help in a whole-of-Agency response to Ukraine.

Best regards, Mark

Mark S. Kasman
Director
Office of International Affairs
Office of International and Tribal Affairs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460
Tel: (202)564-2024