# Plan for Early Engagement with State, Tribal & Local Partners on FY 2018-2019 Priority-Setting

## Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM)

*Participants in the Early Engagement Process:*

OLEM (immediate office and program offices), EPA lead regions for RCRA & Superfund, states (Environmental Council of the States, Association of State and Territorial Waste Management Officials and state program implementers), tribes (National Tribal Caucus, Tribal Waste and Response Assistance Program Steering Committee and tribal co-regulators) and locals (Local Government Advisory Committee, National Association of Local Government Environmental Professionals and local governmental leaders).

*Process:*

OLEM's Assistant Administrator will initiate early engagement with our partners by notifying states, tribes, local government partners of OLEM's approach to discussing priorities for FYs 2018-2019. Within these email communications, OLEM will briefly describe the process by which it will seek input from its partners and include a list of meetings when priorities will be discussed. The communication also will highlight OLEM's National Areas of Focus for FY 2016 and FY 2017 as the basis for priority work in FY 2018 and beyond.

During the early engagement period, OLEM program offices will hold in person meetings and conference calls with state and tribal partners to discuss priorities and other important issues. OLEM also will hold a national conference call with federally-recognized tribes related to OLEM program and partner priorities. Additionally, we have set up the email address, [ HYPERLINK "mailto:NPMOLEM@epa.gov" ] for partners to share their thoughts for priorities and/ or issues of concern. At the end of the early engagement period, OLEM will post a summary of the process used for engaging its partners and priorities identified to the agency's National Program Manager Guidance internet site.

*Timeline:*

*Late July through Early August*

- OLEM initiates early engagement process by notifying states, tribes and locals about opportunities to discuss FY 2018-2019 priorities with OLEM program offices and lead regions.
- EPA lead regions for Superfund and RCRA share information about early engagement opportunities with regional management for their use and dissemination.

*July through Early November*

- OLEM program offices and lead regions hold program-specific discussions with state and tribal partners to identify priorities.

- OLEM coordinates with other NPMs to consider cross-program areas.

*September* - OLEM holds conference call with tribes to discuss Superfund, RCRA and other OLEM program priorities.

*November - December* - OLEM considers FY 2018 – 2019 priorities.

*December* - OLEM reports process used for early engagement and priorities identified.