Region 6
Briefing for Regional Administrator

December 2017

7068821

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US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION A

Roles & Responsibilities

- Advise RA and DRA on area of expertise
- Liaison with communities and industries in area of expertise
- Innovation and collaboration

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Roles & Responsibilities

- Public Information Center toll-free public access
- Congress or elected officials
- Media
- Web

Roles & Responsibilities

- Budget
- Contracts & procurement
- Personnel
- Facilities
- Training
- Health & safety
- Grants management
- Information technology
- Planning
- Houston laboratory

Roles & Responsibilities

- Superfund clean-up
- Oil spills
- Brownfields
- National Priority Lists (NPL)
- Emergency response
- Community right-to-know
- Risk management for air
- Geographic Information System
- Grants/Cooperative Agreements
- Contracts/Budget
- Community Involvement
- Information Management/Logistics
- Superfund Enforcement Program

Roles & Respon

- Oversight, funding, of State and Tribal pr
  - o Clean water
  - o Safe drinking
  - o Coastal wetlan
- Coastal Restoration
- Water infrastructure US/Mexico border a

AGENCY REGION 6 ORGANIZATION

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Roles & Responsibilities

- RA legal adviser
- Policy & program formulation
- Agency program legal services
- Agency administration legal services

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nsibilities
& implementation
ograms for:
water
ds
e for the
area

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Roles & Responsibilities

- Enforcement & Compliance for:
  - o Air
  - o Water
  - o Hazardous waste
  - o Toxic substances
- Federal facilities enforcement
- NEPA
- Innovation
- Performance track
- Comparative risk
- EPCRA 313

Wren Stenger
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Roles & Responsibilities

- Oversight, funding, & support of State and Tribal programs for:
  - o Air
  - o Hazardous waste
  - o Solid waste
  - o Pesticides
  - o Toxic substances
  - o Radiation
  - o Land re-usage
  - o Underground storage tanks

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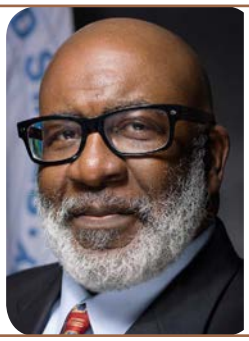
Roles & Responsibilities

- State EJ community liaison
- Small EJ Grant Program
- EJ training
- Tribal Gov't to Gov't Communications
- General Assistance Program (GAP)
- Tribal training
- Bi-national cooperation along US/Mexico Border

Office of the Regional Administrator

The Office of the Regional Administrator (RA) represents national environmental concerns, policies and programs within the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6. It advises the Administrator/Deputy Administrator on program issues within the region, provides a regional perspective on national policy issues, and makes decisions in delegated areas of responsibility.



Office of the Regional Administrator (ORA)

Sam Coleman
Deputy Regional Administrator

Sam brings over 29 years of work experience and leadership to fulfilling the deputy regional administrator job. He is recognized both inside and outside the EPA for his problem-solving and pragmatic solutions. Sam has held several leadership positions at EPA including Superfund Division Director, Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division Director, and Deputy Director of the Office of Site Remediation Enforcement at EPA Headquarters in Washington, D.C. He is a skilled collaborator with state and local regulatory departments as well as non-profits, community, industry and business stakeholders. Sam provided extraordinary leadership in resolving barriers that prevented the clean up contaminated sites including the Tar Creek Superfund Site in Oklahoma, which holds millions of cubic yards of hazardous mining waste, and slowed redevelopment of brownfields sites across the five states that make up Region 6. He also guided EPA's response to Hurricane Katrina as the agency's senior federal official in New Orleans, leading EPA's emergency response and recovery missions. For these efforts, Sam was awarded a Meritorious Presidential Rank Award in 2009.

Office of External Affairs

The Office of External Affairs is responsible for maintaining effective relationships with federal, state, and local elected and appointed officials, community groups and media.

Office of External Affairs (6XA)

David Gray
Director

David has directed the external affairs office's activities since 1995 and is known for his work in strengthening relationships with stakeholders by both facilitating access to the federal government and providing for public awareness of EPA's activities. David has been with EPA since May 1987 and began his career in the emergency response program as a federal first-responder to environmental disasters. He has managed EPA's crisis communications activities at several high-profile disasters including Hurricane Katrina, BP Oil Spill, Flint Water Crisis, and the Gold King Mine Blowout. He is a member of EPA's National Incident Management Team and helped author EPA's national order on crisis communication management for disasters. He provides strategic direction and tactical guidance in communicating complex and often controversial activities. He oversees the interaction of EPA employees with the media, elected officials, and other external parties. He is recognized for his comprehensive knowledge of the agency's work and oversees the development of the region's annual strategic work plan and reporting to Headquarters.

Office of External Affairs (6XA)

Diane Taheri
Deputy Director

Diane began her career at EPA in the financial areas of the region involving budget, auditing, accounting and strategic planning. She is known for her planning and analytical skills. She also has experience in working in both EPA's air quality and enforcement programs. Diane worked at Headquarters during execution of the 2009 stimulus bill to help set policy and procedures to facilitate the $6B in state revolving funds distributed nationally. She recently served as Public Information Officer for EPA's response to Hurricane Harvey and oversaw a cadre of communication professional working in communities in Texas. Diane is highly knowledgeable about environmental policy with over 27 years of experience in working at EPA Region 6, and 7 years directing strategic communication planning in the office of external affairs.

Office of Environmental Justice, Tribal & International Affairs

The Office of Environmental Justice, Tribal, and International Affairs works closely with communities to facilitate culturally sensitive communication, find solutions, and reduce environmental challenges.

Office of Environmental Justice, Tribal & International Affairs (OEJTIA)

Arturo Blanco
Director

Arturo Blanco is a recent addition to EPA's senior leadership team and joined EPA in February 2015. He is a skilled collaborator and strategic thinker. Arturo brings to his position over 20 years of combined successful experience in environmental leadership and administrative oversight from his work with the Houston Department of Health and Human Services and the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission (now known as Texas Commission on Environmental Quality). Arturo has tackled difficult environmental health impacts to economically disadvantaged communities, particularly air and water pollution in Houston and other complex community areas; building consensus and helping address important environmental health risk concerns in those areas. Arturo's proven record in troubleshooting and improving programs in his implementation of air, waste, water and public engagement programs is preceded by a reputation of getting things done. Arturo is an honorably discharged and retired veteran of the U.S. Air Force and has a Master of Public Administration from Troy State University, and Bachelor of Science in Professional Aeronautics by Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Florida.

Rhonda has 33 years of government service. She has been the Deputy Director for the Office of Environmental Justice, Tribal, and International Affairs since 2013. She was previously in the Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division as Chief in the Office of Planning and Coordination, and as RCRA Compliance Section Chief where she managed several programs including the National Environmental Policy Act, Pollution Prevention, Source Reduction, Health Hospitals, Federal Facilities, Compliance Assistance, and Hazardous Waste Compliance. She spent the first 17 years of her career at EPA in the Management Division where she was a budget analyst and accountant. She is skilled in financial management, strategic planning, working across division and program lines, and working with community, tribal and state partners. She has a bachelor's degree in Business, Masters in Business Administration with a concentration in Strategic Management, and a Master of Arts with a focus in Adult Learning.

Office of Environmental Justice, Tribal & Internatil Affairs (OEJTIA)

Rhonda Smith
Deputy Director

Management Division

The Management Division is responsible for laboratory analysis, strategic planning, budget and financial resources, human resources, information planning and management, computer services, telecommunications and administrative support.

Management Division (6MD)

James McDonald
Director

James McDonald is the Assistant Regional Administrator for Management and Director of the Management Division at EPA Region 6. James brings to this position a decade of agency leadership and service across multiple program offices. He began his career at EPA as an Environmental Protection Specialist in 1992 in the EPA's Office of Pollution, Prevention, and Toxics Substances, and went on to serve as the Director of in the Office of Environmental Information's Planning, Resources and Outreach (OPRO) where he was responsible for leading the day-to-day operations of the office. This included budget formulation and execution, human resources, program and policy/regulatory development, administrative program and project management, and information technology systems oversight. Additionally, he served as the Chief of Staff to the Assistant Administrator and Chief Information Officer. James is a native of Mississippi where he attended Alcorn State University earning a Bachelor degree in Political Science. He also has a Master of Public Administration from the University of Missouri-Columbia and a Masters in Human Resources Management from Webster University. Additionally, he holds a law degree from the University of Florida.

Troy Hill is the Deputy Director of the Management Division and has held this position since 2014. Troy started with EPA Region 6 in 1991 as a water quality modeler and has held management roles as an Associate Director in the hazardous waste permitting program, waste water permitting program and water grants program. Troy has a degree in civil engineering from Northern Arizona University and is a registered professional engineer in the state of Texas. Outside of work Troy enjoys spending time in the outdoors with his family.

Management Division (6MD)

Troy Hill
Deputy Director

Office of Regional Counsel

The Office of Regional Counsel is responsible for advising on the legal sufficiency of permits, program delegation to the states, grants, Freedom of Information Act, general law, personnel and ethics issues, as well as providing officia legal interpretation of agency regulations.

Office of Regional Counsel (6RC)

Jim Payne
Regional Counsel

James (Jim) Payne has served as Regional Counsel since February 2016, and his background as a senior executive includes extensive litigation, counseling, and enforcement experience. Before joining the EPA, Jim served as the Deputy General Counsel for General Law at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, managing the law office and advising and representing the agency on fiscal, procurement, labor, employment, Freedom of Information Act, rulemaking, and legislation matters. He spent several years at the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) in the Environment and Natural Resources Division as Counsel for State and Local Affairs and Senior Counsel for Alternative Dispute Resolution. He played a key leadership role in several high-profile projects, including the response to the Gulf Deepwater Horizon oil spill, the response to the Japan Fukushima nuclear crisis, and development of the 2011 multi-agency Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Justice. As Counsel for State and Local Affairs at the DOJ, he led an initiative that developed joint environmental cases or projects with all 50 states. Previously, he served in the Ohio Attorney General's Office as Assistant Attorney General and Senior Projects Attorney in the Environmental Enforcement Section.
He has a Bachelor Degree in Engineering Sciences from Dartmouth College, and a Juris Doctor Degree from The Ohio State University. He also completed the Senior Managers in Government program at Harvard University Kennedy School of Government. Jim received numerous accolades and special recognitions, including nine Department of Justice outstanding attorney awards and the Marvin Award from the National Association of Attorneys General.

Ben Harrison has been with Region 6 for more than 26 years and has served as the Deputy Regional Counsel and General Law Branch Chief for the past nine. In that capacity, he manages the office budget and resources, and supervises attorneys on a broad array of legal issues including National Environmental Policy Act, Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, Ocean Dumping Act, Endangered Species Act, Freedom of Information Act, personnel, labor relations, grants and appropriations. Ben began his career at EPA working on Superfund issues and also has experience with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and Air enforcement, and the National Pollutant Discharge and Elimination System (NPDES) permitting. Ben spent several years working on Clean Air Act (CAA) state implementation and served on national workgroups developing regulations to implement the 1990 CAA amendments. Prior to becoming the Deputy Regional Counsel, he was the Regional Judicial Officer and completed course work in conducting hearings at the University of Nevada, Reno. Ben has served as the Region's Senior Indian Law Advisor and was co-lead for EPA's National Indian Law Workgroup. He is also a certified agency ethics official and serves as the senior Assistant Deputy Ethics Official for Region 6.

Office of Regional Counsel (6RC)

Ben Harrison
Deputy Regional Counsel
General Law Branch (6RC-D)

Compliance Assurance & Enforcement Division

The Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division promotes environmental compliance with federal environmental regulations in partnership with our states and tribes.

Compliance Assurance & Enforcement Division (6EN)

Cheryl Seager
Director

Cheryl T. Seager is the Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division Director for EPA Region 6 in. From 2010-2017, she was the Deputy Regional Counsel for Enforcement. Prior to her work as Deputy, she worked in EPA's criminal program for more than 20 years. In her role as Regional Criminal Enforcement Counsel, she served as a Special Assistant United States Attorney for four of the judicial districts in Region 6, assisting with the investigation and prosecution of numerous environmental criminal cases. Cheryl received her Bachelor of Science degree from Southeastern Massachusetts University, a Master of Education degree from Northeastern University, and her J.D. from Case Western Reserve University School of Law. She is admitted to practice in Massachusetts and Texas.

Steve Gilrein is the Deputy Director of the Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division. Steve has held this position since 2005. Previously, Steve was the manager for the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act permitting program, and before that he was a manager in the Superfund program. In total, Steve has 37 years of federal service: two with the Army Corps of Engineers in Chicago, and 35 with the EPA in Dallas. Steve received his Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering in 1980 from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Massachusetts, and his Master's degree in Civil Engineering in 1984 from the University of Texas at Arlington. Steve is a licensed Professional Engineer in Texas.

Compliance Assurance & Enforcement Division

Steve Gilrein
Deputy Director

Multimedia Division

The Multimedia Division is responsible for the federal Clean Air Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Toxic Substances Control Act, the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, the Diesel Emission Reduction Act, and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.

Multimedia Division (6MM)
Wren Stenger
Director

Wren brings over 34 years of work experience and leadership at EPA in her position as the Multimedia Division Director. Wren started her career with private industry and city government where she worked for over 4 years. Wren is a natural problem-solver and streamlining expert. She has built a career on improving processes, eliminating inefficiencies, and improving productivity. Wren has held management positions in the Region 6 Water and Superfund Divisions and served details as the deputy director in both divisions four times. Wren served a detail with the Department of Energy, gaining first-hand experience with the congressional budget process and program resource allocations. Known for getting things done, she has directed numerous priority projects to include Aquatic Toxicity permitting; industrial pretreatment; storm water permitting; cleanups at Vertac, Tar Creek, Agricultural Street Municipal Landfill, and Uranium Mining in New Mexico; Regional Haze Plans in Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana; Ozone and Sulfur Dioxide designations; Greenhouse Gas Permitting; preventing illegal/unregistered chemicals from entering the U.S. labeled as pesticides; overseeing the New Mexico, Waste Isolation Pilot Plant restart. She is sought out as a mentor and coach by staff. Wren manages a diverse organization hosting frequent discussions with staff and the union to identify concerns before they become problems. She is a friend and trusted advisor to our state partners and community leaders.

Lisa is the Deputy Director of the Multimedia Planning and Permitting Division. After graduating from the College of William and Mary with a bachelor's degree in Geology, Lisa worked for a geotechnical engineering firm directing subsurface investigations for large-scale construction projects. Lisa joined the EPA working in the Philadelphia office in the emergency response program and then transferred to the Dallas office due to her spouse's employment relocation. As a staffer, Lisa has worked primarily in waste programs overseeing cleanups and revitalization efforts but enjoys learning about the multitude of programs within her division's purview.

Multimedia Division (6MM)
Lisa Price
Deputy Director

Superfund Division

The Superfund Division implements and enforces the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, the Super- fund Amendments and Reauthorization Act, the Oil Pollution Act, and the Brownfields program.

Superfund Division (6SF)

Carl Edlund
Director

Carl Edlund is the Director of the Superfund Division in EPA Region 6. Carl helped found the EPA in 1970. Over this long career in Washington and Dallas, he has received national recognition for innovation and leadership. In the 1970's he directed a national task force that dramatically reduced pollution from steel mills. In the 1980's he led the Region 6 Air Enforcement Branch to succeed in nationally precedent setting cases. He then headed the Region 6 Resources Management Branch and successfully resolved over $2 billion in questioned audit costs. He moved to the Region's Superfund Branch and directed the successful cleanup of over 100 hazardous waste sites. In 1999 he was selected for EPA's Senior Executive Service and became the Director of the Region's Air, Waste and Toxics Division. In this position, he collaborated with States to develop innovative air pollution reduction programs that greatly improved air quality for all 35 million people living in Region 6. He also created reuse programs at hazardous waste that has enlivened communities, created jobs and stimulated economic development in hundreds of locations. In 2013, he returned to direct the Superfund Division where he directed the development of remedies for controversial hazardous waste site that includes the first Record of Decision over $50 million to be signed by the Administrator at the San Jacinto Waste Pits site. In this position, he also guided EPA's response to Hurricane Harvey. He has received national recognition for these achievements including the Ira Leighton National Leadership award. Carl is married, has four children and many grandchildren.

Pam Phillips has been with the agency since 1979 and has been the Deputy Director of the Superfund Division since 1995. Pam started as an enforcement attorney and was the lead agency attorney on many of the original Superfund and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act cases filed in Region 6. She has worked in all of the agency enforcement programs, but has spent most of her time in the Superfund program. In 1994 and 1995, Pam worked in the Office of the Regional Administrator as the Enforcement Coordinator. Through the years Pam has had several long -term details to EPA headquarters to work on everything from contract issues to Superfund programmatic issues. Pam is one of the few people in Region 6 who has worked in both the legal offices and the programmatic offices. Pam is a 1976 graduate of the Southern Methodist University Law School and a 1973 graduate of the University of Texas at Austin.

Superfund Division (6SF)

Pam Phillips
Deputy Director

Water Division

The Water Division provides oversight and implements Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Act programs in Region 6.

Water Division (6WQ)

Bill Honker
Director

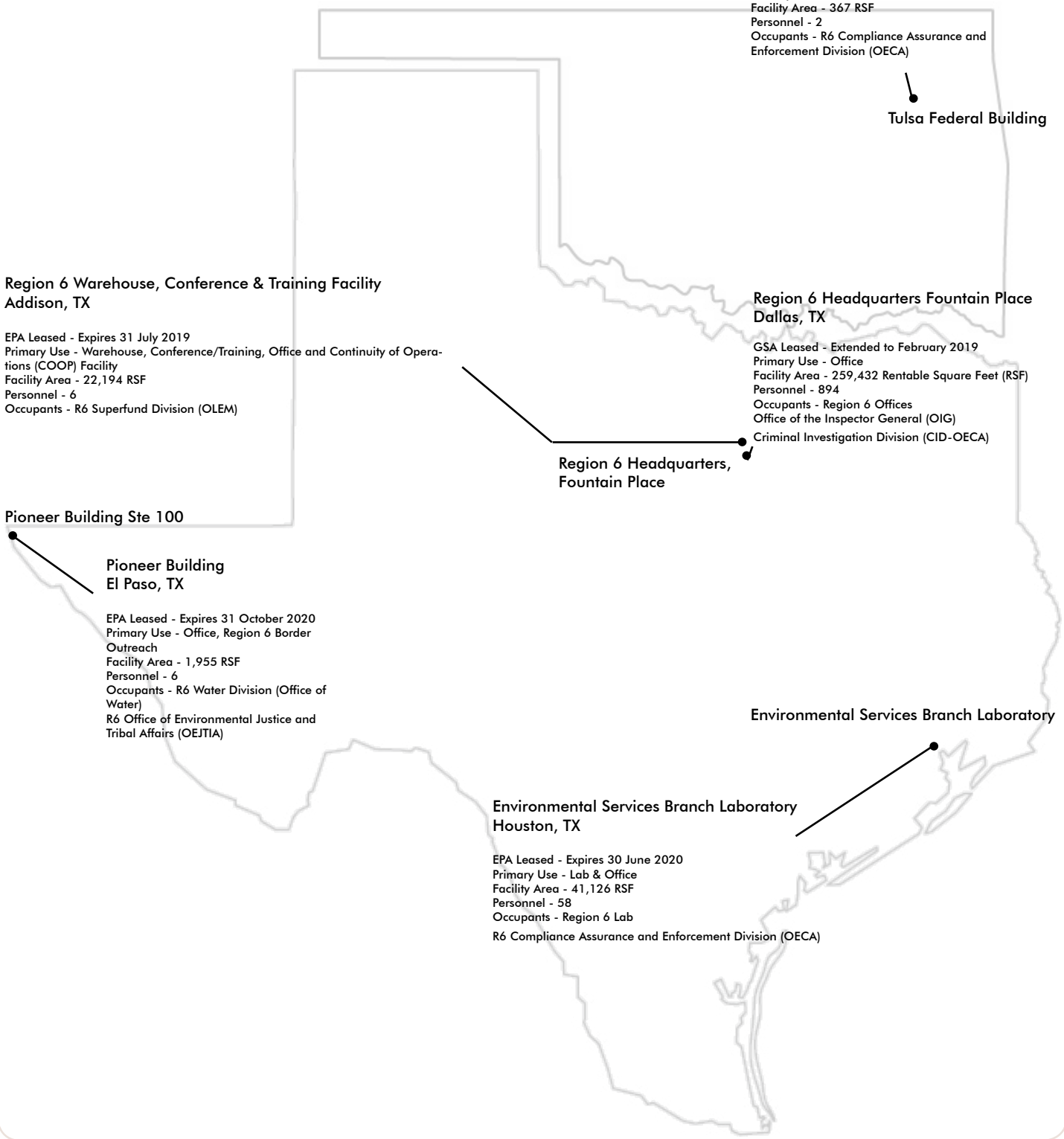
Bill Honker has served as Director of the Water Division for EPA Region 6 since October 2011. Prior to stepping into the Director's role, Bill served as the Deputy Director of the Water Quality Protection Division since March 2005. Bill has been with Region 6 since 1975 and has served in management positions in the water quality, underground injection control, pesticides, hazardous waste permitting, Superfund, and air enforcement programs, as well as in the Regional Administrator's office. He also served as the Assistant Regional Administrator for Management for a portion of 2009. Bill earned a Bachelor of Science degree in environmental science from the University of Oklahoma in 1975 and an Master of Science degree in environmental science from the University of Texas at Dallas in 1985. He is a registered Professional Engineer in Texas. Bill has indicated he will retire in December 2017.

David Garcia has served as the Deputy Director of the Water Division for EPA Region 6 since April 2013. Prior to stepping into the Deputy Director's role, David served as Acting Director for the Region's Multimedia, Planning and Permitting Division and served as the Deputy Assistant Regional Administrator for Management for a portion of 2012 and 2013. David has been with Region 6 since 1991 and has served the majority of that time in Air Permitting and Air Enforcement management positions. David earned a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from the University of Texas in Arlington. He received a certification as a registered Professional Engineer in Texas in 1992.

Water Division (6WQ)

David Garcia
Deputy Director

Region 6 Facilities

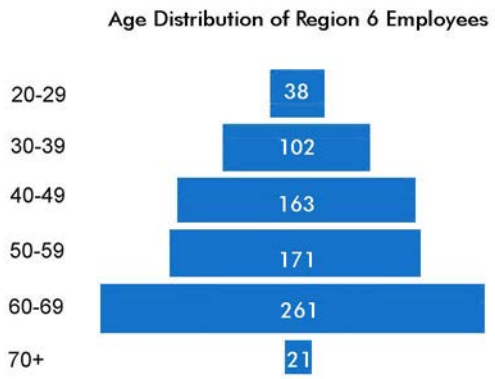


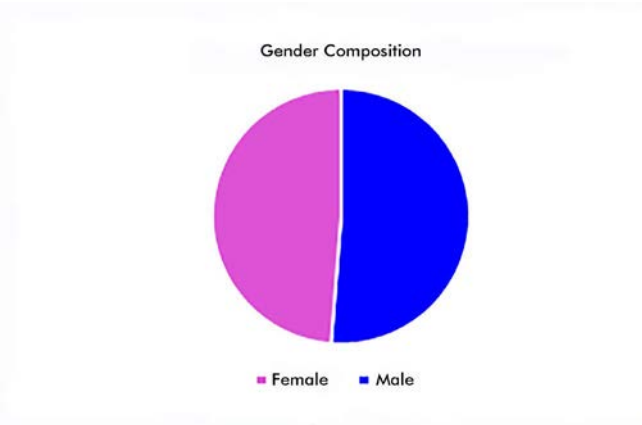
Region 6 People and Professions

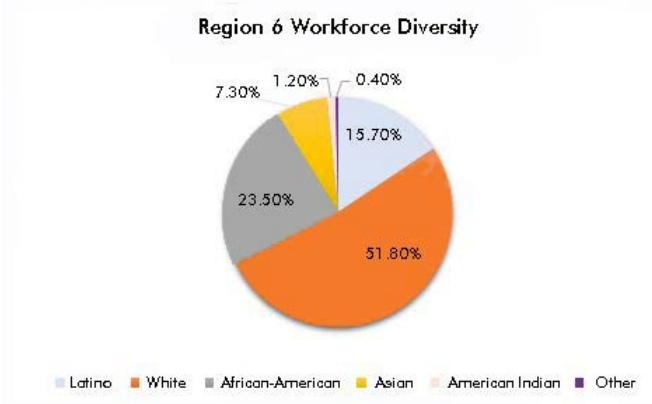
The charts to the right reflect demographic data as of February 2017. The largest proportion of employees in the region are between 60 and 69 years old (35%), and a significantly smaller proportion is between 20 and 29 years old. There are similar numbers of individuals in their 40s and 50s.

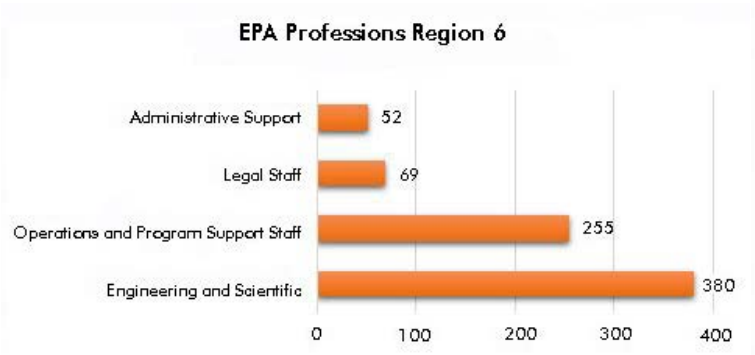
The gender distribution of the region's workforce is 51% male and 49% female.

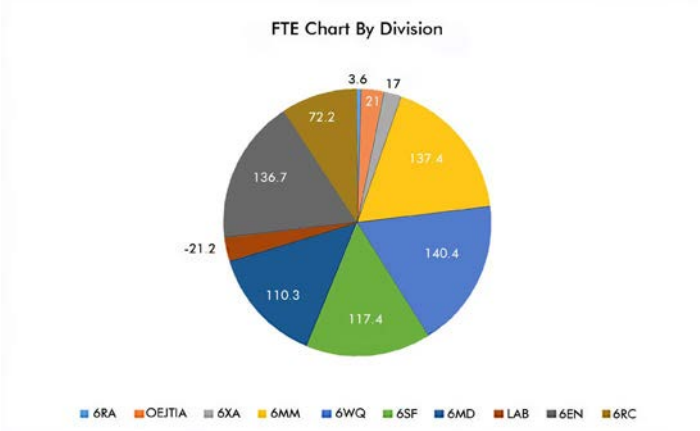
Region 6 has a diverse workforce, with employees from all racial categories. The diagram below shows the number of FTEs in four major professional categories in the region. Fifty percent of employees are in the Engineering and Scientific profession, which includes Environmental Engineers, Physical Scientists, Life Scientists, Chemists, Toxicologists, Ecologists, and Geologists. Administrative Support staff includes accountants, grants and contracts specialists, administrative specialists, and financial analysts. Legal staff includes attorneys and law clerks. Operation and Program Support staff includes environmental protection specialists, program managers, public affairs specialists, program analysts, and human resource specialists. In FY 2017 EPA Region 6 was allocated 755.5 FTE to conduct the work in the Region. At the beginning of FY 2018 the Region had 701.6 FTE on board. [redacted].

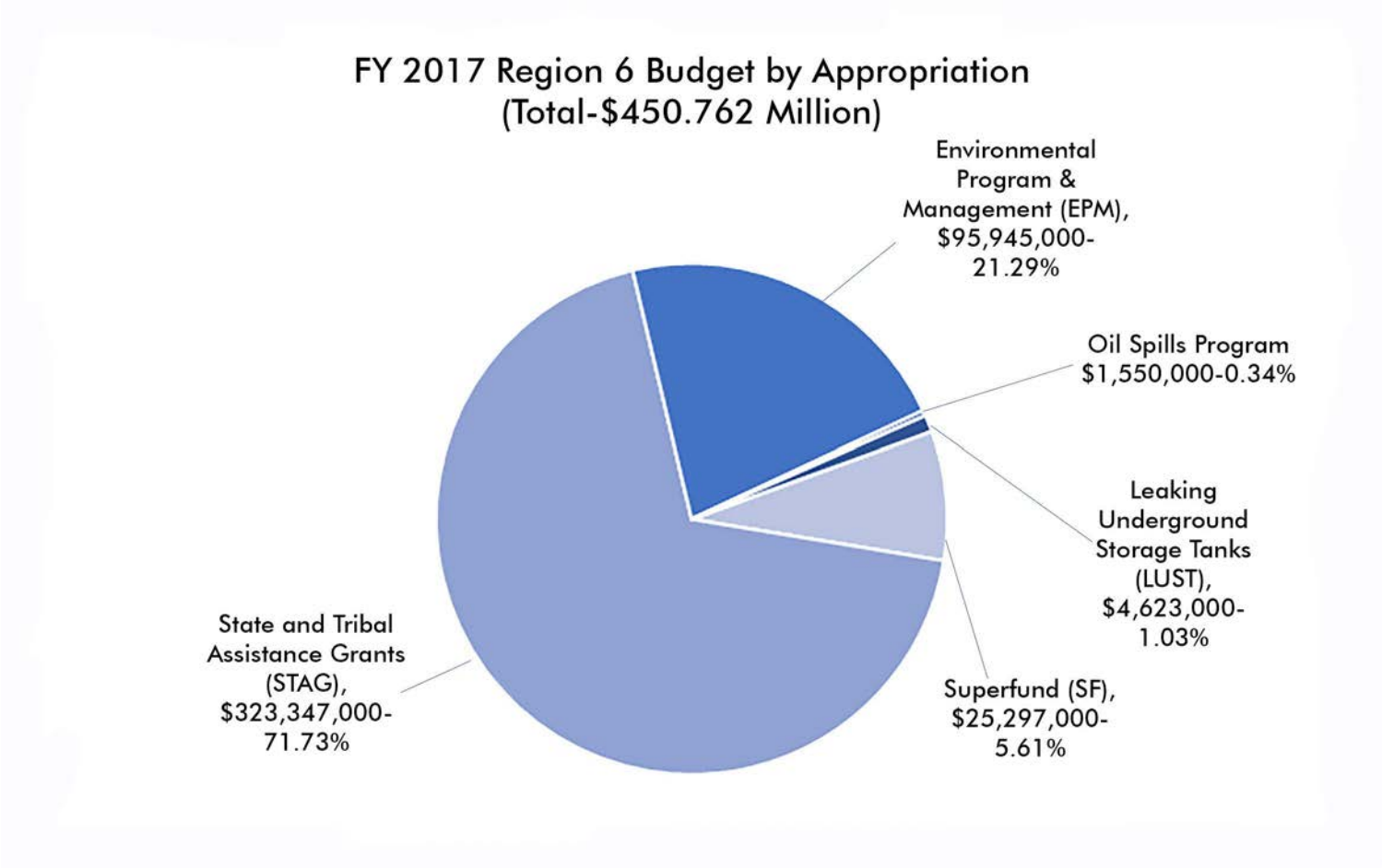


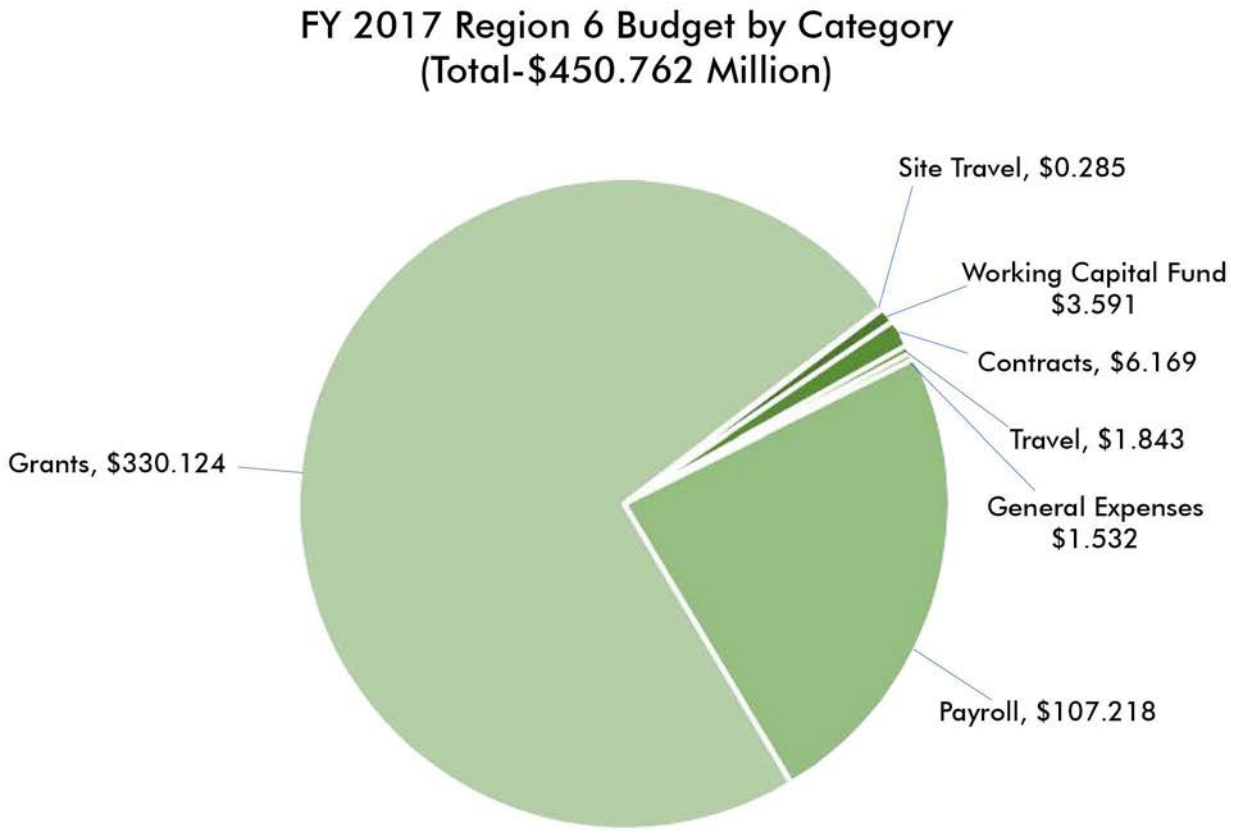









FY 2017 Region 6 Budget by Appropriation
(Total-$450.762 Million)
Environmental Program & Management (EPM), $95,945,000-21.29%
Oil Spills Program $1,550,000-0.34%
Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST), $4,623,000-1.03%
Superfund (SF), $25,297,000-5.61%
State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG), $323,347,000-71.73%

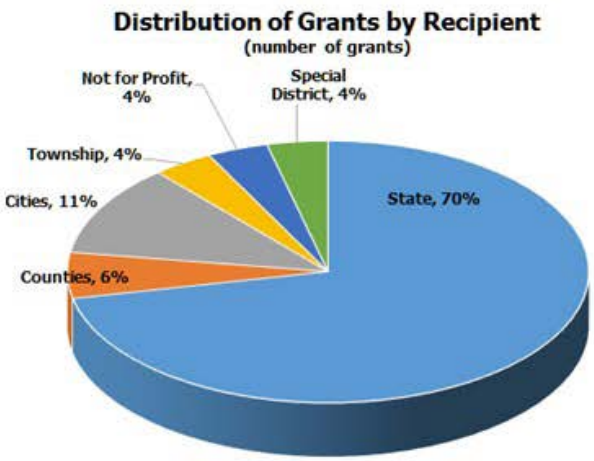

FY 2017 Region 6 Budget by Category
(Total-$450.762 Million)
Site Travel, $0.285
Working Capital Fund $3.591
Contracts, $6.169
Travel, $1.843
General Expenses $1.532
Payroll, $107.218
Grants, $330.124

Grants by States

Region 6 annually manages approximately 815 assistance agreements. The following charts are a summary of all active FY 2017 assistance agreements and the full award amounts. The award amount may reflect several years of funding which is used by our State and Tribal Partners to implement projects and continuing environmental programs.

Arkansas FY17 Grant Summary

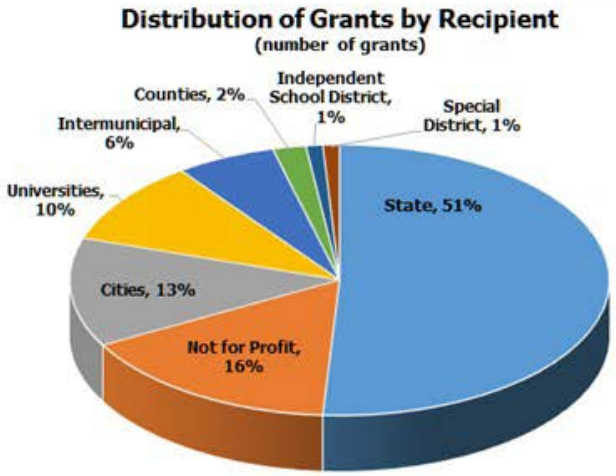
Environmental Programs and Notable Projects in Arkansas			
R6 Media	Managing Agency	Programs and Notable Projects	Funds Awarded
Water	AR Natural Resources Commission	DW-SRF	$52,308,000
Water	AR Natural Resources Commission	CW-SRF	$35,672,000
Water	AR Natural Resources Commission	319 Non Point Source	$15,085,500
Superfund	Arkansas DEQ & Cities	Brownfields	$6,270,000
Water	Arkansas DEQ	Water Pollution Sec. 106	$3,278,415
Water	AR Department of Health	Public Water System Supervision	$1,884,000
Superfund	Arkansas DEQ	CERCLA 128(a) Response Program	$1,605,000
Water	Cities	Wetlands Program	$1,266,676
Superfund	Arkansas DEQ	Superfund Emergency Response	$1,179,973



Distribution of Grants in Arkansas by Recipient Type		
Recipient Type	# of Grants	Funds Awarded
State	38	$115,816,111
Counties	3	$5,070,000
Cities	6	$1,834,918
Township	2	$442,322
Not for Profit	2	$430,000
Special District	2	$400,000
Universities	1	$99,100
Total Arkansas	**54**	**$124,092,451**

Louisiana FY17 Grant Summary

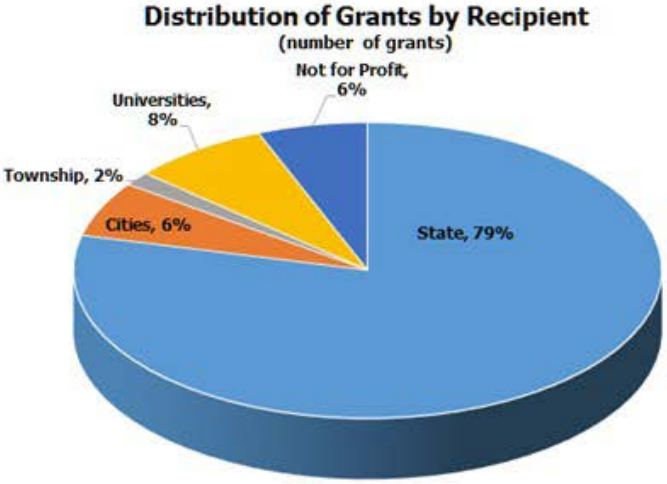
Environmental Programs and Notable Projects in Louisiana			
R6 Media	Managing Agency	Programs and Notable Projects	Funds Awarded
Water	LA Dept of Health	DW-SRF	$46,869,000
Water	Louisiana DEQ	CW-SRF	$28,988,000
Water	LDEQ/LDAF	319 Non Point Source	$23,498,532
Water	Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana	Coastal Wetlands Protection and Restoration	$19,749,803
Multi-Media	Louisiana DEQ	PPG	$14,021,735
Water	UNO Research & Technology Foundation	Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program	$7,653,300
Solid Waste	Louisiana DEQ	Leaking Underground Storage Tanks	$7,264,596
Superfund	LDEQ/Cities + Intermunicipal	Brownfields	$4,100,000



Distribution of Grants in Louisiana by Recipient Type		
Recipient Type	# of Grants	Funds Awarded
State	51	$148,290,754
Not for Profit	16	$9,797,800
Cities	13	$4,209,000
Universities	10	$4,005,600
Intermunicipal	6	$3,899,998
Counties	2	$1,352,300
Independent School District	1	$772,558
Special District	1	$291,000
Total Louisiana	**100**	**$172,619,010**

New Mexico FY17 Grant Summary

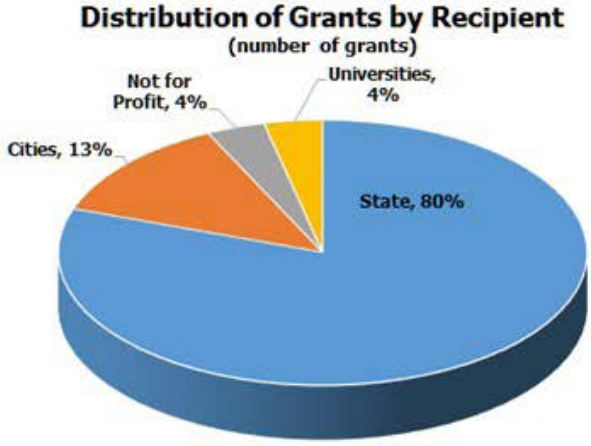
Environmental Programs and Notable Projects in New Mexico			
R6 Media	Managing Agency	Programs and Notable Projects	Funds Awarded
Water	NM Finance Authority	DW-SRF	$33,285,000
Water	NM Environment Department	CW-SRF	$19,816,000
Superfund	NM Environment Department	Superfund Emergency Response	$9,870,431
Water	NM Environment Department	319 Non-Point Source	$7,562,900
Water	NM Environment Department	Wetlands Program	$4,344,750
Air	NMED & Cities	Clean Air Act Sec. 105	$2,214,451
Superfund	NM Environment Department	CERCLA 128(a) Response Program	$2,160,409
Water	NM Environment Department	Public Water System Supervision	$1,618,300
Water	NM Environment Department	Water Pollution Sec. 106	$1,281,923



Distribution of Grants in New Mexico by Recipient Type		
Recipient Type	# of Grants	Funds Awarded
State	52	$87,898,089
Cities	4	$1,793,470
Universities	5	$849,765
Township	1	$768,249
Not for Profit	4	$319,840
Total New Mexico	**66**	**$91,629,413**

Oklahoma FY17 Grant Summary

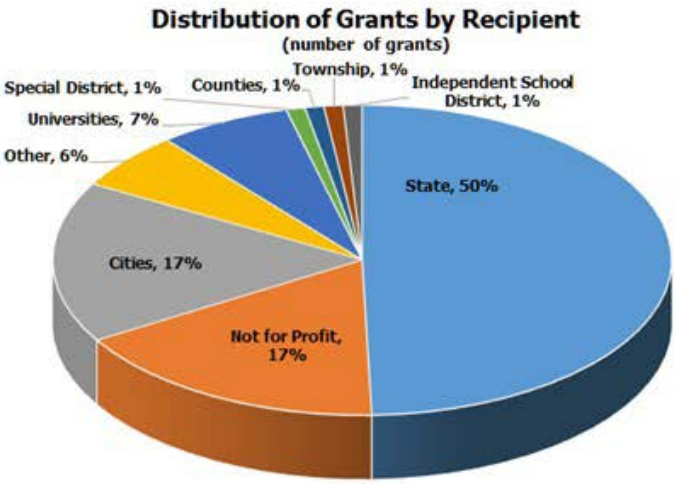
Environmental Programs and Notable Projects in Oklahoma			
R6 Media	Managing Agency	Programs and Notable Projects	Funds Awarded
Water	ODEQ	DW-SRF	$65,518,000
Superfund	ODEQ	Superfund Sites	$23,009,896
Water	OK Water Resources Board	CW-SRF	$21,507,000
Water	OK Secretary of Energy & Environment	319 Non-Point Source	$12,438,300
Superfund	Various	Brownfields	$10,388,086
Multi-Media	ODEQ	PPG	$2,367,215
Air	ODEQ	Clean Air Act Sec. 103 Projects	$2,358,433
Water	OK Secretary of Energy & Environment	Water Pollution Sec. 106	$1,300,465
Solid Waste	OK Corporation Commission	Leaking Underground Storage Tanks	$1,267,000



Distribution of Grants in Oklahoma by Recipient Type		
Recipient Type	# of Grants	Funds Awarded
State	45	$133,980,017
Cities	7	$6,532,833
Not for Profit	2	$1,617,025
Universities	2	$283,300
Total Oklahoma	**56**	**$142,413,175**

Texas FY17 Grant Summary

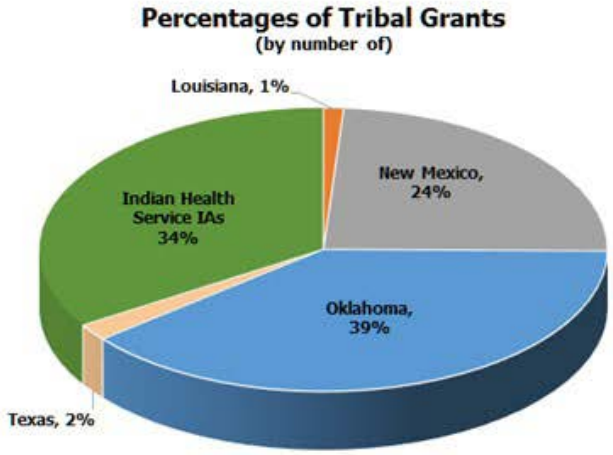
Environmental Programs and Notable Projects in Texas			
R6 Media	Managing Agency	Programs and Notable Projects	Funds Awarded
Water	TX Water Development Board	CW-SRF	$249,506,000
Water	TX Water Development Board	DW-SRF	$247,179,000
Water	NADBank, BECC, Cities & TXWDB	Special Appropriations Projects	$143,652,996
Multiple	TX Comm. on Environmental Quality	PPG	$69,007,159
Water	TCEQ & TX Soil & Water	319 Non-Point Source	$31,279,271
Water	TX Comm. on Environmental Quality	Water Pollution Sec.106	$9,509,952
Water	Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries/TCEQ	Estuary Program	$5,887,333
Superfund	Cities	Brownfields	$3,398,200
Superfund	TCEQ & Railroad Commission	CERCLA 128(a) Response Program	$3,175,739



Distribution of Grants in Texas by Recipient Type		
Recipient Type	# of Grants	Funds Awarded
State	50	$627,303,540
Not for Profit	17	$134,647,605
Cities	17	$15,389,632
Other	6	$2,501,762
Special District	1	$894,059
Universities	7	$954,703
Counties	1	$478,000
Township	1	$161,840
Independent School District	1	$91,000
Total Texas	**101**	**$782,422,141**

Tribal FY17 Grant Summary + Interagency Agreements

Environmental Programs and Notable Projects in Indian Country		
R6 Media	Programs and Notable Projects	Funds Awarded
Superfund	Superfund Emergency Response	$31,736,159
Tribal Affairs	GAP	$20,489,883
Air	Clean Air Act Sec. 103	$4,686,897
Water	Water Pollution Sec. 106	$4,003,547
Multi-Media	PPG	$3,634,674
Brownfields	Superfund Sites	$2,808,600
Water	319 Non-Point Source	$470,000
Toxic Substances	Radon Program and Lead-Based Paint	$263,810
Toxic Waste	Underground Storage Tanks	$205,000



Distribution of Tribes Receiving Grant Dollars by State		
State	# of Grants	Funds Awarded
Arkansas	0	$0
Louisiana	3	$360,618
New Mexico	63	$12,832,639
Oklahoma	102	$56,233,452
Texas	5	$1,670,087
Indian Health Service IAs	89	$42,782,397
Total Tribes	**262**	**$113,879,193**

FY18-22 Transformation Strategy

Strategic Goals

Core Mission

- Improve Air Quality
- Provide for Clean & Safe Water
- Revitalize Land & Prevent Contamination
- Ensure Safety of Chemicals in Marketplace

Cooperative Federalism

- Enhance Shared Accountability
- Increase Transparency & Public Participation

Rule of Law & Process

- Compliance with the Law
- Create Consistency & Certainty
- Prioritize Robust Science
- Streamline & Modernize
- Improve Efficiency & Effectiveness

Strategic Objectives

Strategic Measures (FY18-22)

- **Reduce the number of non-attainment areas ***
- Reduce the number of community water systems out of compliance with health-based standards
- **Increase the percentage of water infrastructure projects funded through EPA grants, loans, or public-private partnerships that achieve or maintain compliance ***
- Reduce the number of square miles of watershed with surface water not meeting standards
- **Make additional Superfund sites Ready for Anticipated Use (RAU) site-wide ***
- **Make additional Brownfields sites RAU ***
- Make additional Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) corrective action facilities RAU
- Complete additional Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) cleanups that meet risk-based standards for human exposure and ground water migration
- **Complete EPA-initiated Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) risk evaluations for existing chemicals in accordance with the timelines set forth in the statute ***
- **Complete TSCA risk management actions for existing chemicals in accordance with the timelines set forth in the statute ***
- **Complete TSCA Pre-Manufacture Notice final determinations in accordance with the timelines set forth in the statute ***
- Complete all cases of Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)-mandated decisions for pesticides registration review program
- Improve the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA) registration decision time frames for new pesticides

- Increase the number of grant commitments achieved by states, tribes, and local communities
- Increase the use of alternate joint governance approaches to address state, tribal, and local community reviews
- **Increase the amount of non-EPA resources leveraged by projects receiving EPA infrastructure investments ***
- Reduce the backlog and meet statutory deadlines for responding to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests and appeals
- Eliminate unnecessary or duplicative reporting burdens to the regulated community

- Reduce the time between the identification of an environmental law violation and its correction
- Increase environmental law compliance rate
- Meet legal deadlines imposed on EPA
- Increase the percentage of decisions using EPA research and scientific analysis
- **Accelerate permitting-related decisions ***
- Reduce unnecessary/unused office, warehouse, and lab space
- Reduce procurement processing time
- Improve operational processes
- Increase enterprise adoption of shared services

*** signifies Agency Priority Goals for FY18-19**

current as of September 27, 2017

Consistent with government-wide requirements, the Strategic Plan establishes the goals, objectives, and measures for achieving positive environmental outcomes over the next four years. This draft Plan is designed to refocus the agency back to its core mission, restore power to the states through cooperative federalism, and lead the agency through process and the rule of law. It captures the key areas the Administrator will emphasize to transform the way the agency does business. This draft Plan provides the foundation for a more efficient and effective agency, enabling us to accelerate progress and deliver real, tangible results for the American people. The measures that accompany the Plan highlight the areas of emphasis we will focus on to achieve environmental results that will make a difference for the country.

GOAL 1- CORE MISSION:

Deliver real results to provide Americans with clean air, land, and water.

OBJECTIVE 1.1-IMPROVE AIR QUALITY:

Work with states to accurately measure air quality and ensure that more Americans are living and working in areas that meet high air quality standards.

2015 Ozone Standard Designations

On November 6, 2017, EPA designated much of the country as 'attainment/unclassifiable.' In Region 6, Arkansas and Quapaw Tribe of Indians (Oklahoma) were designated without any exceptions as attainment/unclassifiable for the 2015 ozone standard. A five areas associated with violating monitors were not addressed in the November 6 action: Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, and San Antonio, Texas; and the Sunland Park, New Mexico-El Paso, Texas areas. These areas will be addressed in a separate future action.

For these areas, the States made the following recommendations: Louisiana recommended the five-parish Baton Rouge area as nonattainment; New Mexico recommended a portion of Southern Doña Ana County as nonattainment; and Texas recommended eight counties in the Houston area, 11 counties in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, and Bexar County in the San Antonio area as nonattainment. Texas recently changed its recommendation from nonattainment to attainment for El Paso County.

In the November 6, 2017 action, EPA designated about 90 percent of the country as meeting the 2015 ground-level ozone standards consistent with the states' and tribes' recommendations. EPA found that most areas of the country -- 2,646 of the more than 3,100 counties in the United States -- meet the standards for ground-level ozone. These areas do not have any increased compliance burdens.

In the spirit of cooperative federalism, EPA will continue to work with states and the public to help areas with underlying technical issues, disputed designations, and/or insufficient information. Additionally, EPA modeling, information provided by state agencies, and peer-reviewed science indicate international emissions and background ozone can contribute significantly to an areas ability to meet attainment thresholds, like Dona Ana County, NM and El Paso County, TX. The agency intends to address these areas in a separate future action. For the remaining areas, EPA is not extending the time provided under section 107 of the Clean Air Act.

1-hour Sulfur Dioxide Designations

EPA is under a court order to issue final area designations by December 31, 2017, for Round 3 sources under the 2010 Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard for sulfur dioxide (SO2). Round 3 sources are those where states chose to use modeling to characterize air quality in the vicinity of sources with emissions greater than 2000 tons/year. On August 22, 2017, EPA Regional Administrators sent letters to Governors and Tribal leaders informing them of our intended area designations for the 2010 sulfur dioxide standard. Ten areas were identified nationally as potentially violating the standard. The letters start a 120-day period during which states, territories, and the tribes were invited to provide additional information by October 23, 2017, before final designations occur.

In Region 6, areas surrounding 14 emission sources in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Texas must be designated by December 31, 2017. Only three of these areas may be designated as nonattainment or unclassifiable. Evangeline Parish is potentially violating the standard and will be designated as nonattainment. St. Mary Parish will be designated unclassifiable due to emissions from Cabot Canal, Columbia Chemicals and Orion facilities. NRG's Big Cajun in Pointe Coupee, LA may also be unclassifiable.

PM_{10} Exceptional Event Demonstration from City of Albuquerque

The City of Albuquerque is scheduled to submit documentation by December 18, 2017, to support an exceptional event demonstration for five exceedances at two air particulate monitors for EPA approval. The city believes the occurrences were caused by high wind events in the area.

Under federal law, EPA may be requested to exclude data which is the result of an exceptional event from use in regulatory determinations concerning area attainment. In order to attain the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for particulate matter with diameters that are generally 10 micrometers or smaller (PM10), an air quality monitor cannot measure levels of PM10 greater than 150 micrograms per cubic meter (ug/m3) more than once per year on average over a consecutive three-year period.

The New Mexico Environment Department has authority over air quality in all areas of New Mexico except for Bernalillo County and Tribal Lands. The City of Albuquerque/Bernalillo Air Quality Control Board regulates businesses located in Bernalillo County, and EPA regulates air quality issues on Tribal Lands. The city of Albuquerque operates four PM10 monitors at three sites

8-hour Ozone Exceptional Event Request for El Paso, Texas

Texas has requested EPA make a final decision on the documentation to support an exceptional event demonstration for an exceedance at an air quality monitor in El Paso before the remaining 2015 ozone designations are made.

On September 27, 2016, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality submitted documentation to support an exceptional event exceedance demonstration. The states' exceptional events demonstration package cites wildfires in Arizona as cause of the exceptional event. The state requested EPA's concurrence that an exceedance of the air quality 8-hour ozone concentration value on June 21, 2015, at the University of Texas at El Paso monitor was due to wildfires in Arizona.

Under federal law, EPA allows for high concentrations associated with exceptional events, such as wildfires, to be set aside and not used in design value calculations or for attainment determinations. In order to attain the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ozone, the average of fourth high value measured at an air quality monitor each year for three years cannot be greater than 70 parts per billion (ppb).

EPA relies on three years of certified air monitoring data to support its designation decision. Currently, attainment designations are based on 2014 – 2016 air monitoring data. El Paso would measure attainment with the ozone standard if the exceptional event is approved. Nearby monitors in Sunland Park, New Mexico, however, would still be in violation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standard.

The exceptional event decision for El Paso may impact the final 2015 ozone designations for this area.

Texas BART Federal Implementation Plan

EPA and the State of Texas formalized a memorandum of agreement to reduce red tape so the state can submit a state implementation plan early next year, which, if approved by EPA, would replace, the Federal Implementation Plan. However, the State is awaiting a decision by the Governor on whether it will proceed with its Trading Program plan.

On September 9, 2017, EPA partially approved the Texas Clean-air Plan for Regional Haze and Interstate Visibility Transport and finalized a Federal Implementation Plan for a best available retrofit technology alternative that includes an intrastate trading program for sulfur dioxide. The Federal Implementation Plan implements a cap on emissions from eight owner-operated power plants.

The EPA was under two court orders on Texas Regional Haze and Interstate Visibility Transport to take final actions by no later than September 30, 2017. From January to August 2017, the EPA worked extensively with Texas and the electric generating facilities to develop a SIP revision that would address the issues. We convened a meeting with Texas and the industries to discuss the State's idea for a trading program. We hosted calls with the individual facilities and Texas to progress understandings of a trading program approach and if the facility would participate in trading. Due to the Consent Decree deadlines, we requested additional time from the court to allow a SIP to be developed, but we were denied more time; therefore, EPA had to adopt a Federal Plan.

Arkansas Regional Haze Federal Implementation Plan

EPA anticipates the State of Arkansas' formal submission of a Regional Haze State Implementation Plan by year end. EPA is working with the State of Arkansas to establish an agreeable process and milestones to replace EPA's Federal Implementation Plan with an approvable State Implementation Plan by mid-July 2018. EPA and DOJ are continuing settlement discussions with the State and other petitioners while parallel processing the State Implementation Plan.

On October 31, 2017, the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality proposed revisions to the State's Regional Haze SIP for public notice in Arkansas. The proposed revisions included Best Available Retrofit Technology eligible sources and subject-to-BART sources, particulate matter and sulfur dioxide requirements for Arkansas power plants, compliance dates, reasonable progress goals, and long-term strategy. The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, January 2, 2018 and will accept written and electronic comments.

On August 31, 2016, EPA promulgated a final Federal Implementation Plan that established sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, and particulate matter emission limits for 11 units at seven facilities in Arkansas under the Regional Haze Rule. The Federal Implementation Plan was promulgated to correct certain portions of the Arkansas Regional Haze State Implementation Plan, which EPA partially disapproved in an action finalized on March 12, 2012.

In November 2016, EPA received petitions for reconsideration from the State of Arkansas as well as four industry parties. Five parties also filed petitions for judicial review of certain parts of the Federal Implementation Plan. The case has been held in abeyance since March 2017. The State of Arkansas and other parties to the litigation have expressed interest in settlement discussions/negotiations. To facilitate settlement discussions, EPA sent letters to the petitioners communicating our intent to grant a 90-day administrative stay and partial reconsideration of (1) the SO2 controls for the White Bluff Power Plant, (2) the form and compliance date of NOx controls for White Bluff Power Plant, Independence Power Plant, and Flint Creek Power Plant, and (3) reconsideration of the compliance date for SO2 controls for the Independence Power Plant. Settlement discussions with the State and other petitioners have not been fully successful.

Louisiana Regional Haze

On June 7, 2012, EPA finalized a limited disapproval of the Louisiana regional haze State Implementation Plan because of deficiencies in its best available retrofit technology (BART) requirements for Electrical Generating Units and other issues arising from the remand of the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR). In a separate rulemaking, we issued a partial limited approval/partial disapproval noting no consideration of BART for non-Electrical Generating Unit facilities. Louisiana was required to revise their State Implementation Plan to address these deficiencies. Under a Consent Decree (CD), EPA is required to take final approval action on the revised SIP or issue a Federal Implementation Plan by December 15, 2017.

On August 11, 2016, Louisiana submitted a State Implementation Plan revision to address the non- Electrical Generating Unit facilities. We proposed to approve that State Implementation Plan on October 27, 2016 and received no adverse comments. On February 10, 2017, Louisiana submitted a final SIP revision to address regional haze requirements for BART-eligible Electrical Generating Unit facilities. We proposed to approve that submittal on May 19, 2017.

On June 20, 2017, Louisiana submitted a supplement to their February 10, 2017 State Implementation Plan, to address BART for one Electrical Generating Unit: Entergy Nelson. We proposed to approve that State Implementation Plan on July 13, 2017.

On September 26, 2017, at the request of the State, we further amended that proposal to approve a compliance date three years from the effective date of the final EPA approval of the State Implementation Plan revision for Nelson to meet an emission limit for sulfur dioxide (SO2) emissions.

We received adverse comments on all three of the Electrical Generating Unit related notices of proposed rulemaking particularly on the level of control (low sulfur coal) chosen by Louisiana for the Nelson unit. We are moving forward to respond to comments and finalize our proposed approvals in advance of our consent decree deadline of December 15, 2017.

Region 6 State Implementation Plan Backlog

Region 6, like other Regions, has a backlog of State Implementation Plans overdue (when final action is not taken within 18 months of receipt) for approval/disapproval action.

In order to eliminate the State Implementation Plan backlog and act on new State Implementation Plans within Clean Air Act timeframes, Region 6 has an aggressive management strategy which includes: working with states to develop State Implementation Plan Management Plans and hosting monthly reviews; streamlining Standard Operating Procedures and Federal Register templates; using SharePoint, e-routing, and e-signature to more efficiently process State Implementation Plans; and implementing weekly management meetings to discuss State Implementation Plan actions.

From October 1, 2013 to October 1, 2017, Region 6 reduced the State Implementation Plan backlog from 135 to 30 and is on track to eliminate the current backlogs in 2018 and prevent new backlogged State Implementation Plans.

Denka Facility

As part of Denka's Administrative Order of Consent with Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, the company agreed to install control technologies to reduce emissions of chloroprene at the facility. EPA and DOJ worked closely with LDEQ in developing the agreement that includes a thermal oxidizer as well as other measures. Once these control devices are in place in December 2017, EPA will be closely evaluating the emissions and collecting data that would inform a potential technology review of this source category.

In addition, EPA's National Enforcement Investigation Center (NEIC) identified noncompliance with air toxics regulations at a June 2016 inspection. The violations were subsequently referred to DOJ for enforcement. EPA and DOJ with LDEQ will negotiate settlement of these violations and evaluate the potential for further reductions in addition to those achieved by the state order. Our primary objective is to reduce emissions in the near term. Installing control technologies will meet this objective faster than the regulatory timeframe. The Clean Air Act section 112 lays out a schedule that requires both a risk and a technology review within eight years of issuance of a Maximum Achievable Control Technology standard. The law requires a technology review every eight years thereafter.

There is no federal air standard for chloroprene emissions. EPA relies on the Integrated Risk Information System for Chloroprene which was revised in 2010 to 0.2 ug/m3 using information that chloroprene is likely to be carcinogenic to humans. The Agency has received a formal Information Quality Correction Request regarding the assessment of chloroprene. This matter is currently under review. As such, EPA is not commenting on the Integrated Risk Information System value at this time.

The Denka Performance Elastomer (Denka) facility, located in LaPlace, Louisiana, is the only place in the United States currently manufacturing neoprene. EPA became aware of the potential risk associated with the facility's emissions of chloroprene, a primary chemical used in the manufacture of neoprene, in December 2015 as a result of EPA's National Air Toxics Assessment (NATA).

EPA continues to monitor ambient air in the neighborhoods surrounding the facility and release data on its website. Chloroprene concentrations remain elevated. The state has requested EPA to continue to conduct air monitoring for one year following the thermal oxidizer installation.

EPCRA/CERCLA Reporting Requirement for Hazardous Animal Waste Air Releases

In 2008, EPA exempted most farm, particularly Consolidated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) from the emergency release reporting requirements under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). Several citizen groups challenged the EPA rule, and a Circuit Court of Appeals vacated the EPA rule in April, 2017. The Court ruled agricultural facilities/farms would be required to report air releases of ammonia and/or hydrogen sulfide ≥ 100 pounds in a 24-hour period from animal wastes under EPCRA and CERCLA to federal, state, and local government officials. The court granted an EPA request to extend the reporting start date to November 15, 2017. On November 22, 2017, the DC Circuit Court of Appeals granted EPA's motion to further stay the mandate for the agricultural facilities to begin reporting until January 22, 2018. There are many thousands of feedlots in Region 6 that may be affected.

EPA issued guidance on October 25, 2017, to provide compliance assistance to farmers on the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act requirements, and to set forth EPA's preliminary interpretation of the "routine agricultural operations" exemption in Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act as it applies to farms: that farms using substances in "routine agricultural operations" are not subject to Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act's reporting requirements.

EPA is continuing to communicate with animal agriculture stakeholders, States, and other entities. EPA has a website all stakeholders can find the most up-to-date information, including resources and questions and answers. EPA has developed a streamlined 30-day report form for farms, which is being reviewed by OMB following expedited information collection procedures to make it available to farmers quickly. Questions may be submitted to EPA. EPA continues to work on processes to assist the regulated community in streamlining the reporting requirements. Additionally, EPA will be working on how to efficiently and effectively process the written reports once they are submitted early next year.

National Carbon Black Initiative

EPA and the Department of Justice expect to finalize settlement agreements with Orion Engineered Carbons, Sid Richardson Carbon and Energy Company, and Columbian Chemicals Company within the next few months for Clean Air Act violations.

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) are participating in settlement discussions, along with other states where these companies have facilities. However, TCEQ has been unable to review the draft Orion consent decree because the state and Orion have not yet resolved Orion's concerns regarding confidentiality related to the state's open records laws. EPA has already reached settlement agreements with the other two carbon black manufacturers with facilities in the U.S., Cabot Corporation (2014) and Continental Carbon Company (2015).

In early 2017, EPA received Congressional letters (Inhofe, Mullin, Kennedy, Johnson, Higgins, Abraham, and others) urging the agency to complete its enforcement cases against the three remaining companies, in part, to level the playing field in an industry that claims it has very narrow profit margins. In addition, Cabot and Continental met with senior EPA and Department of Justice officials in 2017 regarding this issue. EPA is currently in the process of amending the Cabot and Continental consent decrees to adjust certain deadlines for emission limits to bring them into line with the deadlines in the proposed Sid Richardson, Orion, and Columbian consent decrees. The agency plans to finalize the amendments on the same timeframe as the lodging of the new consent decrees.

EPA began investigating carbon black manufacturing plants as part of the agency's national enforcement initiatives aimed at reducing air pollution from the largest sources and cutting hazardous air pollutants. Carbon black is a fine carbonaceous powder used as a structural support medium in tires and as a pigment in a variety of products. The manufacturing process creates large amounts of sulfur dioxide (SO2) and significant amounts of nitrogen oxides (NOx) and particulate matter (PM). During the investigations, EPA found that each of the 15 carbon black facilities in the U.S. was uncontrolled for sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides, lacked continuous emissions monitors (CEMs), and emitted large quantities of PM. The agency identified violations at all five companies. The companies failed to obtain pre-construction permits and operate appropriate sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides control technology for major modifications at each of their carbon black plants.

Eagle Ford Shale Compliance Activities

Region 6 and the Office of Enforcement Compliance Assistance are developing a compliance strategy with TCEQ for the appropriate follow up to observed excess volatile organic compound emissions noted during OECA field surveys in the Eagle Ford shale in September 2016. Office of Enforcement Compliance Assistance will be presenting a summary of recent national oil and gas settlements and their experiences in investigating and resolving cases with companies that have system-wide design issues related to facility volatile organic compound collection and destruction systems. In addition, Office of Enforcement Compliance Assistance will share their perspective on the areas of concern identified during the field surveys in the Eagle Ford Shale and why they believe that two companies, Chesapeake and Encana, may have poorly-designed volatile organic compound collection systems that are causing the excess emissions. Office of Enforcement Compliance Assistance will also discuss the benefits of issuing an information request to the two companies to evaluate the design of their volatile organic compound collection systems, assess the effectiveness of their maintenance practices, and confirm the accuracy of their permit representations.

The meeting will also include a discussion of Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's proposed approach to addressing the excess emissions noted from EPA field surveys. In previous conversations with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's, they requested the lead in following up on the observations. Given that the inspections were over 14 months ago, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's has proposed conducting additional inspections and helicopter-mounted Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) camera surveys to detect excess volatile organic compound emissions.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the goal is to have an agreement with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on the best approach for addressing these cases.

RESTORE Act Council

EPA Administrator Pruitt succeeds the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, who began serving as the Council's Chair in March 2016. Administrator Pruitt has designated Kenneth Wagner, senior advisor to the administrator for regional and state affairs, to serve as his designee on the Council.US Department of Agriculture had been serving as Chair since March 2016, but stepped down in late September 2017.

Spurred by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act (RESTORE Act) was signed into law on July 6, 2012. The RESTORE Act calls for a regional approach to restoring the long-term health of the valuable natural ecosystem and economy of the Gulf Coast region. The RESTORE Act dedicates 80 percent ($5.5B) of civil and administrative penalties paid under the Clean Water Act, after the date of enactment, by responsible parties in connection with the Deepwater Horizon oil spill to the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund for ecosystem restoration, economic recovery, and tourism promotion in the Gulf Coast region. This effort is in addition to the restoration of natural resources injured by the spill that is being accomplished through a separate Natural Resource Damage Assessment under the Oil Pollution Act. A third and related Gulf restoration effort is being administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation using funds from the settlement of criminal charges against BP and Transocean Deepwater, Inc.

In addition to creating the Trust Fund, the RESTORE Act established the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council. The Council includes the Governors of the States of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas; the Secretaries of the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, the Army, Commerce, Homeland Security, and the Interior; and the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The Council is leading projects valued at $8.8M to work with local stakeholder groups to achieve near-term, on-the-ground ecosystem and economic benefits, while also conducting planning activities designed to build a foundation for future success.

The April 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico was the largest oil spill in U.S. history. In 2016 the United States (including EPA), the five Gulf States, and BP entered into a $20 billion Consent Decree resolving claims for federal civil penalties and natural resource damages related to the spill.

In April 2016 EPA and the other Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustees published a Programmatic Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan and work has begun on several tiered restoration plans to restore wildlife and habitat and increase recreational opportunities.

Under the Consent Decree, BP must pay up to $8.8 billion in natural resource damages. The Natural Resource Damage Assessment federal trustees – NOAA, DOI, EPA, and USDA – and the five Gulf state trustees are jointly responsible for these funds and will use them to restore natural resources injured in the spill. EPA provides necessary and valuable expertise in water quality, nonpoint source nutrient and stormwater pollution, and wetlands. The Natural Resource Damage Assessment restoration work is expected to last 15-20 years.

The EPA Office of Water has been leading Natural Resource Damage Assessment work and coordinates with the Gulf of Mexico Program and Regions 4 and 6. The current allocation for EPA Natural Resource Damage Assessment efforts over the next year is approximately $1 million. Work is carefully tracked, charged, and subject to independent audits

Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program

Unresolved costs for federal grants prevented the University of New Orleans Research and Technology Foundation from receiving Fiscal Year 2017 funding to administer the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program. The Pontchartrain program has helped to restore the ecological health of the basin by developing and funding restoration projects and related scientific and public education projects. The University of New Orleans Research and Technology Foundation has received federal grants to administer the program, and award sub-grants to the 16 parishes surrounding the basin for restoration projects and studies.

A 2016 internal audit found that EPA failed to apply a higher cost share formula of 25-75 match as mandated by the 2011 amendment to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. This error resulted in a match deficit of over $410,000 and created a hardship for the University of New Orleans Research and Technology Foundation and the Parishes. The audit also determined the grants were not in compliance with EPA budget policy and grant regulations. At the request of the Foundation, Senator Cassidy has submitted inquiries to EPA on these issues. Full resolution of these issues is expected by the second quarter of fiscal year 2018 (October 2017 to March 2018), at which time EPA will award the fiscal year 2017 funds.

Congress has recognized the national significance of the Lake Pontchartrain, but it has not been officially designated as a member of the National Estuary Program. The 2016 Reauthorization of the National Estuaries Program also reauthorizes the Lake Pontchartrain Program because of the way the statute is written. Therefore, starting in 2018, the cost share for Pontchartrain will increase to a 50-50 share. The Parishes may experience hardship coming up with the increase match requirement, and will likely further engage Senator Cassidy and other legislative members of the affected Parishes. Only legislative action can remedy any hardship that results from this higher match requirement mandated by statute.

Corpus Christi Sanitary Sewer Overflows

The Region referred enforcement matter to the U.S. Department of Justice in August 2011 to address unauthorized sanitary sewer overflows and effluent discharges in violation of the Clean Water Act. The case is pending resolution.

The EPA, Department of Justice, and the State of Texas have been near a settlement with the City of Corpus Christi on several occasions but local elections and changes in city management have delayed progress and resolution. On August 21, 2017, the Department of Justice notified the City of its intention to file the case in court at the end of September. As a result of Hurricane Harvey making landfall on August 26 near Corpus Christi as a category 4 hurricane, the Department of Justice, EPA and the City of Corpus Christi agreed to suspend the deadline for the conclusion of negotiations previously set for the end of September 2017.

The current settlement document under consideration has the City paying a civil penalty of $1 million that will be split between state of Texas and the United States, along with a Supplemental Environmental Project valued at $600,000. The corrective measures will cost more than $632 million over the next 10 years and $885 million over the next 30 years. In December 2017, a series of technical calls are being held to work out several issues concerning assessment and remediation of conditions ad capacity of the system.

Corpus Christi owns and operates six wastewater treatment plants. Performance and operating assessments of the wastewater treatment plants indicate 120 effluent violations since 2007 from its plants. The City repeatedly violated effluent limits set forth in its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for flow, enterococci, fecal coliform, total suspended solids, biological oxygen demand, ammonia, nitrogen, residual chlorine and pH. The causes of violations include: (1) untreated discharges of sewage from the waste water collection system, (2) failure to comply with operation and maintenance conditions contained in its permits due to discharges, (3) exceedances of effluent limits contained in permits due to discharges, (4) discharges of untreated wastewater into waters of the United States and State waters without a permit, and (5) creating an imminent risk of harm to human health and the environment by causing dangerously high levels of bacteria in recreational waters located in and around the City.

Houston Sanitary Sewer Overflows

On August 7, 2017, the City of Houston submitted a settlement proposal in which it substantially changed the terms of the previously agreed draft consent decree with the Department of Justice, EPA and the State of Texas. The parties are currently working towards resolving differences.

As a result of Hurricane Harvey making landfall on August 26 as a category 4 hurricane and dropping over 50 inches of rain over Houston, the Department of Justice and EPA agreed to be flexible in working with the City of Houston and the state in resuming and completing the on-going settlement discussions.

Performance evaluation in 2009 of Houston's Sanitary Sewer Overflows indicated that Houston has the most extensive Sanitary Sewer Overflow problem in Region 6. In a five-year period, EPA identified more than 18,000 Sanitary Sewer Overflows. The City of Houston owns and operates 40 wastewater treatment plants and is the second largest municipality in the United States with a separate sewer system.

Houston has a significantly greater number of Sanitary Sewer Overflows than other large municipalities across the country. In addition to the Sanitary Sewer Overflows, the performance evaluation of the wastewater treatment plants also indicated a large number of effluent violations from many of the Houston plants. As a result, the Region referred the case to the U.S. Department of Justice in January of 2009 to address the Sanitary Sewer Overflow and effluent violations of the Clean Water Act.

The State of Texas is represented by the Texas Attorney General's Office and the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality. Texas has been actively involved in the negotiations; however, there are some consent decree issues that have not been resolved related to State issued permits for wet-weather facilities. These issues are being negotiated and are near resolution.

Chevron Questa Superfund Site, Questa, NM

When the mine was placed on the National Priorities List it was operational and had a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit from EPA that was included in the Superfund Record of Decision. In 2014, the mine permanently closed. The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit is set to expire on October 31, 2018. In 2017, Chevron Mining asked EPA to amend the Record of Decision to eliminate the need for a separate wastewater discharge permit and address all discharges to waters of the United States under the Superfund program. EPA has not made a decision whether to implement Chevron's request. While consolidation of all requirements under Superfund would appear to be reasonable, local community groups would likely be strongly opposed to consolidation since they believe that the Clean Water Act provides them stronger oversight authorities than they have under Superfund. The Surface Water Quality Bureau at the New Mexico Environment Department may also have reservations over the loss of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit. In addition, the change would likely require two or more years to execute. Amending the Record of Decision would require would require EPA to issue a proposed change for public comment, at least one public meeting, development of response to comments and a revised final remedy decision. Furthermore, to make the remedy change enforceable, EPA would then need to work with the Department of Justice and Chevron to amend the current partial consent decree to incorporate the changes in the remedy. The current consent decree required several years to finalize. Chevron may submit a request for a permit extension for the short term.

The Chevron Questa Superfund Site is located near the Village of Questa, in Taos County, New Mexico. The site includes a closed molybdenum mine, a milling area and a large tailing facility that is connected to the mill through a nine-mile-long pipeline that was taken out of service. EPA selected a final remedy for the site in the 2010 Record of Decision and secured agreements with Chevron to implement portions of the work in under administrative orders and a $143 million partial consent decree. In addition, Chevron spent about $21 million in costs associated with the development and construction of water treatment systems, both temporary and permanent.

Tribal Eligibility under Oklahoma State Revolving Fund Program

EPA is seeking an interpretation of the State's statute defining State Revolving Loan Fund eligible entities from the state including the Oklahoma Attorney General's office.

Recently, it has been brought to EPA's attention that Indian Tribes in Oklahoma may not be able to obtain loans under the State's Drinking Water or Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Programs. It appears that the state statutes that apply to both State Revolving Fund programs do not identify Tribes as eligible entities. Federal statutes require that States receiving State Revolving Fund capitalization grants include Indian Tribes as eligible recipients. Oklahoma statutes define "Eligible entity" means any city, town, county or the State of Oklahoma, and any rural sewer district, public trust, master conservancy district, any other political subdivision or any combination thereof;

This potential exclusion of Indian Tribes conflicts with provisions of the Clean Water and Drinking Water Act. For example, the Clean Water Act, Section 603(c) provides that State Revolving Fund funds shall be used to provide financial assistance to any municipality, intermunicipal, interstate, or State agency for construction of Publicly Owned Treatment Works. Section 502(4) includes "an Indian Tribe or an authorized Indian Tribal organization" within the definition of "municipality". These sections of the Clean Water Act indicate that Indian Tribes are eligible to receive State Revolving Fund assistance.

State and Tribal Water Infrastructure Needs

Every four years, the EPA conducts assessments of infrastructure needs by state to support the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act Revolving Loan Funds. The most recent needs reported by EPA to Congress in the "Clean Watersheds Needs Survey - 2012" and the "Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment - 2011" are listed in the table below along with the FY 2017 SRF capitalization grant amounts for each state. (Amounts are shown in millions of US dollars.)

State	CWA Needs	FY17 CWSRF Cap Grant	SDWA Needs	FY17 DWSRF Cap Grant
Arkansas	$715	$9	$6,098	$13
Louisiana	$320	$14	$1,165	$11
New Mexico	$4,462	$6	$5,323	$8
Oklahoma	$2,410	$11	$6,494	$13
Texas	$11,830	$61	$33,892	$60

Region 6 also works with three Indian Health Service offices to implement allocated State Revolving Fund tribal set-aside funding. The Indian Health Service needs are assessed annually.

In 2107, the Clean Water and Drinking Water total for each of the IHS offices are listed in the table below. (Amounts are shown in millions of US dollars.)

IHS Office	Total CW & DW Needs	FY17 CW Indian Set-Aside	FY17 DW Tribal Set-Aside
Albuquerque (NM & CO Tribes)	$136	$1.5	$1.4
Oklahoma (OK & KS Tribes)	$94	$.82	$.47
Nashville (TX, LA & 26 other States)	$158	$0	$0

Abandoned Uranium Mine Wastes

The evaluation objectives are to determine whether the EPA has a method for prioritizing cleanup of the 50 abandoned uranium mine sites in the Navajo Nation covered under a $990 million special account from 2015; and whether the EPA has a resource allocation methodology for the special account funds that accounts for estimated cleanup costs, timeframe for cleanup, and scope of cleanup for the 50 sites. The objective questions are preliminary and subject to change if the OIG moves into the fieldwork phase of the evaluation. The OIG plans to conduct work at EPA headquarters and Regions 6 and 9.

About 70 percent of all the uranium mined in the United States from the 1940's through the 1980's came from the 2,500 square mile Grants Mining District located on Navajo and New Mexico lands. Thousands of exploratory borings or holes were made and hundreds of major uranium mines and mills were active in the District before being abandoned. The legacy of the uranium mining industry is millions of tons of waste rock spread over miles and billions of gallons of contaminated water impacting ground water that continue to pose risks to human health and the environment.

Little funding was available to address the problems presented by the uranium mining boom until the February 2011 Tronox settlement that resolved the environmental liability of the defunct Kerr McGee corporation. The settlement provided $900 million to address uranium mine contamination at 55 mines located on or adjacent to Navajo Nation lands. A Tronox Multi-Agency Stakeholders Group was formed in 2015 to oversee the implementation of the settlement. Region 6 is in the process of completing removal site evaluations and engineering evaluation/cost analyses on mines to support future prioritization and cleanup of Tronox mines.

Region 6 is also utilizing the National Priorities List (NPL) process at three mining related sites in New Mexico: Homestake Mill Site near Grants, NM; United Nuclear Corporation, near Northeast Church Rock, NM; and the Jackpile-Paguate mine, near the Pueblo of Laguna village of Paguate, NM. These three NPL sites are undergoing assessment and cleanup work led by potentially responsible parties.

On November 16, 2017, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the EPA provided notification of plans to begin preliminary research to examine aspects of the EPA's management of abandoned uranium mine sites in the Navajo Nation. The OIG characterized needed improvement of the EPA's oversight of states, territories and tribes to accomplish environmental goals as a challenge in its 2017 Key Management Challenges report. This project is included in the OIG fiscal year 2018 annual plan.

Jackpile-Paguate Uranium Mine Superfund Site, Laguna Pueblo, NM

The Pueblo of Laguna requested that EPA evaluate the Jackpile mine for inclusion on the National Priority List. EPA confirmed elevated levels of uranium in surface water and groundwater exist across the site and following consultation with the Pueblo of Laguna, EPA listed the Site on the NPL. EPA will oversee the Remedial Investigation work by Atlantic Richfield, to better characterize site risks, and will oversee Feasibility Study work to assess potential remedies for mitigating such risks.

EPA and Atlantic Richfield reached a settlement agreement on July 1, 2017, under an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) to conduct the investigation for the site. Atlantic Richfield began work in July on activities associated with the site investigation and is coordinating with EPA and the Pueblo of Laguna on these actions. EPA has conducted many community meetings in coordination with tribal government to keep the community informed of on-going clean-up efforts at this mine.

This Superfund site was the largest open pit uranium mine in the world and is located entirely on the Pueblo of Laguna in Cibola County, New Mexico. The site is the largest open-pit uranium mine in the world. Anaconda operated the mine from 1953 to 1982. During the 29 years of mining, approximately 400 million tons of rock were moved within the mine area. Approximately 25 million tons of uranium ore from the mine were transported via railroad to Anaconda's Bluewater Mill 40 miles west of the site. The Atlantic Richfield Company is the Responsible Party at the site, and is the corporate successor to Anaconda.

Vertac Superfund Site, Jacksonville, AR

The Superfund law requires EPA to conduct a review of the protectiveness of remedies where waste was left in place every five years. EPA completed the fourth Five Year Review in 2014 that evaluated the current protectiveness of the remedy. Because EPA had released revised toxicity values for dioxin in 2012, the 2014 5-year review called for a more thorough site specific evaluation to conducted. EPA is working with the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, the City of Jacksonville, Arkansas, and Hercules LLC (the responsible party) to determine what sampling may be needed based on the reassessment of dioxin cleanup level.

Local elected officials and the State are concerned that testing be done in a way that does not alarm residents and have a negative impact on the community. EPA has met and will continue to meet with the Mayor of Jacksonville and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality until a satisfactory protocol is developed.

The 193 acre Vertac Superfund Site in Jacksonville, Arkansas was the location of herbicide plant that operated from 1948 to 1980 and manufactured "Agent Orange" during the Vietnam War. It was added to the National Priorities List in 1982 and was the focus of a major cleanup program that concluded in 1998. The major contaminate of concern at this site is dioxin. About 1,000 people live within a mile of the site and the cleanup included many residential properties that were impacted by contaminants from the site.

Brownfields Program

Since its inception in 2002, the Region 6 Brownfields program has leveraged more than $2 billion in funds for redevelopment; 1,826 properties have been assessed with most of these properties going back into productive use, benefitting the economies of many communities. More than 16,448 jobs have been created with these leveraged projects.

Region 6 manages a robust Brownfields program that has helped transform cities such as Dallas, Houston, Oklahoma City, Little Rock, and others. Opportunities often exceed available grant funding.

In addition to grants, Region 6 offers two programs to help communities get ready for assessment grants or cleanup grants. Region 6 holds one to two Brownfields workshops per state each year hosts an annual Brownfields conference in June. A weekly Brownfields newsletter provides important updates to communities on upcoming competitions and other vital Brownfields information.

Region 6 Brownfield program manages 58 grants in communities throughout Region 6. Some communities with Brownfields grants include: Oklahoma City and Tulsa, OK; West Arkansas Planning District, Southwest Arkansas Planning District, Pine Bluff and Pulaski County, AR; Austin, San Antonio, Houston, TX; and Silver City, NM. Region 6 also has state and tribal grants with Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Oklahoma Corporation Commission, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas Railroad Commission, Intertribal Environmental Commission (OK), Eight Northern Indian Pueblo Council (NM), Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma, and Absentee-Shawnee of Oklahoma.

Donna Canal and Reservoir Superfund Site

EPA and TCEQ are developing a coordinated plan to permanently address pollution at the Donna Canal and Reservoir site. The state of Texas is a potential responsible party and cleanup cost will need legislature authorization during the 2018 session.

The Donna Canal and Reservoir Superfund Site is located in Hidalgo County, Texas, near the Texas/Mexico border. The local irrigation district pumps water from the Rio Grande River and transfers the water through several miles of canals for irrigation and drinking water supply. The canal system is contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls in the surface water, sediment, and fish. Extensive EPA studies have identified the source of contamination as a large, 90-year-old, 1,200-foot-long underground pipe.

The contamination bio accumulates in fish. Because the site is a popular with residents for fishing, fish have been periodically removed from the canal and reservoir to prevent human consumption. The fish are removed from the system by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service using electroshocking methods. To date, nearly 40,000 fish have been removed and a public outreach program has focused on informing the public to avoid fishing in the system. Local residents catch and consume contaminated fish from the canal despite no-fishing orders issued by the state.

Chaco Canyon

In April 2018, as a Cooperating Agency under the National Environmental Policy Act, EPA will review the preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement related to Unconventional Oil & Gas production for leased parcels in Chaco Canyon prepared by the Bureau of Land Management. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement is expected to be published for public comment in August 2018.

Bureau of Land Management asked EPA to participate in the development of the EIS as a Cooperating Agency. A federal, state, tribal or local agency having special expertise with respect to an environmental issue or jurisdiction by law may be a cooperating agency. A cooperating agency has the responsibility to: assist the lead agency by participating in the National Environmental Policy Act process at the earliest possible time; participate in the scoping process; develop information and prepare environmental analysis that the agency has special expertise in; and make staff support available. In February 2017, EPA Region 6 agreed to participate as Cooperating Agency. EPA signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Farmington Field Office and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Navajo Region to establish expectations.

On January 25, 2017, the Bureau of Land Management leased nearly 850 acres of land for unconventional oil and gas development in Chaco Canyon, netting close to $3 million. The sale had been postponed three times over the last five years because of concerns relating to the proximity to Chaco Culture National the National Historical Park - a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization World Heritage site and an International Dark Sky Park.

While Chaco Canyon and its ruins, such as Pueblo Bonito, are protected from development, as is a 10-mile buffer around the park, surrounding areas are not. Chaco is the core of a much larger Ancestral Puebloan civilization that extended for hundreds of miles in the central San Juan Basin from about 900 to 1150 A.D. The land today is sacred to Navajo, Hopi, Zuni and other Pueblo Indians, and bears remnants of a system of 30-foot-wide roads radiating outward from Chaco Canyon, as well as extensive ruins, artifacts and even lunar calendars etched into boulders. All of those are still undergoing study by archaeologists.

About 90 percent of the Chaco Canyon area has already been leased for unconventional oil and gas development, and Tribal and Non-Governmental Organization representatives fought to exclude the remaining areas. They succeeded in delaying this lease sale multiple times over concerns that hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling would harm public health and the environment. A petition signed by 650 residents and industry representatives, however, asked the Bureau of Land Management to allow the sale to proceed for the jobs and revenue it would generate. The leased parcels will not be released to the winning bidders by BLM until several protests filed against the leases have been resolved.

Waste Isolation Pilot Project, Carlsbad, NM

The Waste Isolation Pilot Project (WIPP) has made tremendous progress since resuming underground operations in January 2017. After a nearly three-year hold on emplacement, WIPP operations are focused on addressing the nearly 20,000 containers of transuranic waste across the Department of Energy complex. Department of Energy is working with generator sites to ensure that waste destined for the WIPP meets all new acceptance criteria and robust basis of knowledge evaluations.

After inspections by Department of Energy, Mine Safety Health Administration, EPA, and NMED, emplacement of transuranic waste to the underground WIPP resumed on January 4, 2017. Department of Energy says emplacement is at a pace to assure compliance with the enhanced safety procedures and characterization process. Department of Energy currently has more than 22,000 containers of transuranic waste in storage at Department of Energy sites across the country to be placed permanently at WIPP. Shipments are scheduled to the WIPP from Waste Control Specialists in Texas and Department of Energy facilities in Idaho, Oak Ridge, Savannah River and Los Alamos.

The Waste Isolation Pilot Plant near Carlsbad, New Mexico, is the only permanent nuclear repository for defense related transuranic waste. The facility was closed in February 2014 after a radiation release occurred in one of the containers in the underground repository 2150 feet below the surface.

Environmental regulation of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant is the responsibility of New Mexico Environment Department for hazardous waste under the RCRA, with oversight by Region 6. The Office of Radiation and Indoor Air (ORIA) at EPA headquarters is responsible for approving the facility as capable for safely containing radioactive waste under the Land Withdrawal Act and EPA's radioactive waste disposal standards.

Waste Control Specialists, Andrews, Texas

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and EPA are expecting a feasibility report from the Department of Energy by December 31, 2017, that will describe the options for treatment and disposal of transuranic mixed waste currently stored at Waste Control Specialists (WCS). This problematic waste was part of the same waste stream that led to the radiation release at the Waste Isolation Pilot Project in February 2014. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has made it clear to DOE that it is unacceptable for the waste to remain at Waste Control Specialists. In April 2014, transuranic mixed waste with hazardous waste was shipped from Los Alamos National Lab to WCS for temporary storage. Waste Control Specialists is a commercial waste treatment, storage and disposal facility located about 30 miles west of the town of Andrews, near the Texas/New Mexico border. Waste Control Specialists is 100 miles from the Waste Isolation Pilot Project in Southeastern New Mexico. This waste would normally have been shipped directly to Waste Isolation Pilot Project for emplacement; however, the Waste Isolation Pilot Project was closed due to a radiation release in February 2014. It was eventually determined that a portion of the Los Alamos National Lab waste at Waste Control Specialists was part of the same waste stream as the waste that led to the radiation release at Waste Isolation Pilot Project. That portion was segregated at Waste Control Specialists for safety reasons and placed in a landfill.

In 2017 DOE shipped a significant portion of this waste to the WIPP. The remaining portion of the waste, about 120 containers out of 462, may require further treatment before it can be shipped to the WIPP. The DOE feasibility study will offer options for treatment and disposal of this waste.

Waste Control Specialists is regulated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality through their hazardous waste program and by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. EPA's role is oversight of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Hazardous Waste Program.

Takata Airbag Inflator Recall

In November 2017 the State of Texas amended the Clean Harbors, Deer Park Hazardous Waste permit, incorporating provisions for disposal of explosives to allow them to accept Takata airbag inflators currently stored in Eagle Pass, Texas; Howell, Michigan; and Joplin, Missouri. Disposal is anticipated as soon as the Department of Transportation's Preservation Order from the recall is lifted.

Takata has recalled over 60 million airbag inflators due to a defect associated with ammonium nitrate and temperature/humidity cycling of the airbag inflators. Takata has reached storage capacity in warehouses in Michigan (12 million inflators stored) and Missouri (5 million inflators stored). Takata is currently storing recalled inflators at a warehouse in Eagle Pass, Texas, which will reach capacity (5.3 million inflators) in January 2018.

The Department of Transportation issued a Preservation Order that requires Takata to preserve all inflators from U.S. vehicles involved in the recall. EPA does not consider the stored, undeployed inflators to be discarded waste; therefore, they are not subject to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act at this time. Department of Transportation is reviewing the Preservation Order to allow for the systematic disposal of air bag inflators. Once a subset of inflators is no longer covered by the Preservation Order it would immediately become a hazardous waste, and hazardous waste storage/disposal rules would apply.

Takata is in conversations with disposal facilities in Missouri, Texas, and possibly other states in anticipation of permission being granted to dispose of a significant quantity of the recalled air bag inflators. There are about 150,000 lbs. of ammonium nitrate per million inflators. Takata declared bankruptcy in June 2017, and upon its exit, the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) will become more responsible for the recall activity.

At EPA's request, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality conducted a site visit to the Eagle Pass storage facility in October 2017, and coordinated with the local fire chief on emergency response planning.

Oklahoma Underground Storage Tank Program

EPA has prepared a direct final rule to grant approval of Oklahoma's Underground Storage Tank program. Without adverse comment, the rule will be effective 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. The action is pending Federal Register notice.

EPA amended the Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulations in 2015. As a result, states need to reapply to EPA for approval of their UST programs. The Oklahoma Corporation Commission has responsibility for the program in Oklahoma.

Oklahoma has enacted statutes and developed regulations in accordance with EPA requirements, put other necessary components of the program in place and applied for formal approval.

A state program can be approved if it is judged to meet three criteria: it sets standards for eight performance criteria that are no less stringent than federal standards; it contains provisions for adequate enforcement; and it regulates at least the same USTs as are regulated under federal standards.

Oklahoma Coal Combustion Residue Permitting Program

The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality has requested review and approval of its permit program pertaining to coal combustion residual (CCR) units. Should the Agency approve Oklahoma's program, it will be the first program approval acted upon by EPA.

There are six Coal Combustion Residue facilities in Oklahoma. The state's application is currently under review by EPA. Oklahoma did not include in its coal combustion residual rules the EPA recommendation of notice and opportunity for public involvement in settlements of civil actions. However, since this recommendation is based solely on Agency guidance, EPA is evaluating if this should prevent approval of the state's proposed program.

On October 12, 2017, letters were sent to tribal leaders offering consultation and coordination regarding the CCR Permit Program Application from the State of Oklahoma. On October 19, 2017, Region 6 began government-to-government consultation and coordination by having a conference call to answer questions on the CCR program and the Oklahoma application.

On September 14, 2017, EPA granted two petitions to reconsider substantive provisions of the final rule regulating coal combustion residuals (CCR) as nonhazardous waste under subtitle D of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

In granting the petitions, EPA determined that it was appropriate, and in the public's interest to reconsider specific provisions of the final CCR rule based in part on the authority provided through the Water Infrastructure for Improvements to the Nation Act. EPA did not commit to changing any part of the rule, or agreeing with the merits of the petition – the Agency simply granted petitions to reconsider specific provisions. Should EPA decide to revise specific provisions of the final CCR rule, it will go through notice and comment period.

OBJECTIVE 1.4-ENSURE SAFETY OF CHEMICALS IN THE MARKETPLACE:

Effectively implement the Toxics Substances Control Act, and the Federal Incesticide, Fungicide, and Rodentcide Act, to ensure new and existing chemicals and pesticides are reviewed for their potential risks to human health and the environment.

Pesticide Imports

Region 6 has a robust Pesticide import program. In FY 2017 (October 2016 to September 2017) we took actions to prevent over 450,000 pounds of illegal pesticides from entering the United States. There are more shipments of pesticides entering the United States through Region 6 ports than in any other region. Our nine regional ports historically receive over 30% of the shipments of pesticide products entering the U.S. Currently, our largest ports for pesticide products are El Paso, Laredo, and Houston.

We review incoming Notices of Arrivals so that we can advise U.S. Customs to reject the shipment or admit it into the United States. The Notice of Arrivals are usually accompanied by the product label, and we confirm correct labeling for the product in real time

GOAL 2- COOPERATIVE FEDERALISM:

Rebalance the power between Washington and the states to create tangible environmental results for the American people.

OBJECTIVE 2.1-ENHANCE SHARED ACCOUNTABILITY:

Improve environmental protection through joint governance and compliance assistance among state, tribal, local, and federal partners.

Los Alamos Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems Designation

EPA was petitioned to designate unregulated storm water discharges in Los Alamos County, NM as contributing to violations of water quality standards. Region 6 has primacy for the National Pollution Discharge & Elimination System program in New Mexico. EPA plans to make a final designation decision concurrently with issuance of a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permit for Los Alamos area in late 2018.

Los Alamos County leaders and the Department of Energy, the federal agency managing Los Alamos National Laboratory, requested EPA to not designate the area. Local tribal leaders support the designation.

The petition cites EPA's duty to issue a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permit to control urban storm water discharges from Los Alamos National Laboratory and Los Alamos County. In August 2017, EPA denied the Santa Fe-based Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety petition to terminate Outfall 051 from Los Alamos National Laboratory's NPDES water discharge permit. The petition alleged that since Los Alamos National Laboratory does not normally discharge from this outfall, continued authorization under the National Pollution Discharge & Elimination System permit improperly provides an exemption from regulation under Resource Conservation Recovery Act.

Several ephemeral and intermittent waters in the Los Alamos area are listed as impaired for one or more pollutants including PCBs, gross alpha, aluminum, copper, zinc, arsenic, selenium, thallium, and mercury.

Osage County Underground Injection Control Program

Region 6 continues to issue and enforce compliance orders to require underground injection wells contributing to over-pressurization of the subsurface zones to shut-in, and align operator permit and reporting requirements in Osage County with the requirements in other areas of the state. EPA Region 6 has issued three Proposed Administrative Orders (AO) to Warren American Oil Company, Jireh Resources, LLC, and Novy Oil and Gas, Inc. addressing seven wells that require the well operators to shut-in or shut-down their injection wells.

A hearing occurred on October 11, 2017 in Tulsa, Oklahoma and all three respondents provided testimony. All three operators assert the contamination is a one-time occurrence and dispute EPA's contention that the Mississippi Chat has lost confinement and that injection zones have lost containment of injected fluids. Warren American Oil Co testified that they would like to pump and remove the contamination from North Bird Creek. The company is communicating with the landowner for permission. To date, the operators continue to operate and have not shut-in/shut-down their injection wells. The proposed Orders have not yet been finalized. EPA is considering all comments submitted by the public and operators before issuing a Final Orders. There is a strong possibility that the operators will contest the Final Orders in district court.

Based on the Osage Allotment Act of 1906, the Osage Nation owns all subsurface mineral rights within Osage County (the largest county in Oklahoma at 2,304 mi^2). The Osage Minerals Council develops and administers the Osage Mineral Estate. The Bureau of Indian Affairs, under delegation from the Secretary of the Interior, administers oil and gas resources in Osage County for the benefit of the Osage Nation. The Osage Minerals Council must consent to leases and the Bureau of Indian Affairs Superintendent approves them. Since Osage County is Indian Country, EPA administers the Underground Injection Control program with assistance from the Osage Nation, per a Memorandum of Agreement.

In August 2016, Bureau of Indian Affairs alerted EPA to elevated levels of Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (over 80,000 parts-per-million) in an upper tributary of North Bird Creek. The water supply for the city of Pawhuska, about 15 miles downstream, has not been impacted. After collecting a variety of data from three operators of seven injection wells, EPA issued orders requiring the wells be shut-in. EPA held a hearing on October 11, 2017, related to proposed Administrative Orders sent to Warren American Oil Company, Jireh Resources LLC, and Novy Oil and Gas, Inc. All three respondents believe the contamination is a one-time occurrence and dispute EPA's contention that the Mississippi Chat is over-pressurized. EPA continues to monitor for any possible impacts to downstream users.

Two significant earthquakes (Magnitude 5.8 on 9/3/2016 and Magnitude 4.3 on 11/1/2016) highlighted areas of concern within Osage County. EPA, working closely with Oklahoma Corporation Commission, Osage Nation Minerals Council, Osage Nation, US Geological Survey and Bureau of Indian Affairs, responded consistently with the Corporation Commission response strategy and quickly to these events to shut in, reduce or cap injection volumes in the appropriate disposal wells.

In an effort to strengthen Underground Injection Control permits for oil and gas related injection wells in Osage County, the Region has developed new permit conditions under its direct-implementation program for Osage. The new requirements are consistent with permit conditions currently required under the Oklahoma Corporation Commission's injection well program. These include requirements for daily monitoring of injection pressures and volumes, and earthquake contingencies that would automatically require reduced injection volume or well shut-down if a nearby earthquake occurs. We plan to include these requirements in all new Osage UIC permits and to modify existing permits in a phased approach during calendar year 2018.

US-Mexico Border Program: 2020

The 1983 La Paz Agreement contains an organizational structure of coordinating bodies that includes U.S., tribes and states' executive officers and chairmanship, chaired by EPA's Regional Administrator and Mexico's federal delegate. They convened as a Regional Work Group (RWG) with a primary function to identify and prioritize regional implementation efforts that address the goals and objectives of Border 2020 (B2020). Region 6 has two RWGs: New Mexico-Texas-Chihuahua and Texas-Coahuila-Nueva Leon-Tamaulipas.

Border 2020, the latest environmental program implemented under the 1983 La Paz Agreement, is an eight-year, bi-national environmental program for the U.S.-Mexico border region which began in 2012. The program was developed by EPA and SEMARNAT, the U.S. border tribes, and the environmental agencies from each of the ten U.S. and Mexico border States. The mission of the Border 2020 program is to protect the environment and public health in the US-Mexico border region consistent with the principles of sustainable development. The program also encourages meaningful participation from communities and local stakeholders.

The Presidents of the United States and Mexico signed the Border Environment Cooperation Commission and North American Development Bank Agreement in November 1993, which created a bi-national program that that develops and funds environmental infrastructure projects for communities along the border. The projects include drinking water access, wastewater treatment, municipal solid waste, improving air quality, and water management among others. The Border Environment Cooperation Commission is responsible for working with communities on project development; the North American Development Bank Agreement provides financing and helps arrange other public and private sector funding.

The integration of Border Environment Cooperation Commission and North American Development Bank was approved by the U.S. and Mexican governments, with entry into force of the amended charter in September 2017. Border Environment Cooperation Commission merged with North American Development Bank, and all Border Environment Cooperation Commission grants, contracts and other arrangements must be legally transferred to North American Development Bank in anticipation of the institutional integration. They have a joint Board of Directors, composed of members from the U.S. Department of Treasury, Department of State, EPA, and their Mexican counterpart agencies, as well as state and public representatives.

US-Mexico Border Program: Border Water Infrastructure Program Grants

Many border communities are financially disadvantaged and cannot bear the debt burden necessary to build or rebuild water infrastructure through conventional channels. Significant progress is being made in providing these communities with essential drinking water and wastewater services. However, there remains a substantial documented need for additional services. During EPA's most recent "solicitation of need," it was estimated that a construction cost of about $300 million remains unfunded in order to address the highest priority water and wastewater projects.

The U.S./Mexico Border Water Infrastructure Program is working with the North American Development Bank, other federal and state partners, as well as Mexico's CONAGUA federal water commission to request project applications under a new Prioritization Cycle fiscal year 2018 (Oct 2017 to Sept 2018). A number of changes to the previous prioritization process will allow the program to accept applications year-round and assess project selection throughout the year, therefore being able to maintain a portfolio of projects in development as well as construction. An additional 11 projects in development are expected to initiate construction during fiscal year 2018. These projects will supplement 10 projects currently in construction.

The U.S./Mexico Border Water Infrastructure Program was started with an open project-application process that provided technical assistance and construction funding on a first-come, first-served basis. However, in 2005, EPA in collaboration with Border Environment Cooperation Commission, North American Development Bank and Mexico's federal water commission initiated a 2-year project solicitation process to prioritize projects to address human health and environmental issues.

EPA provides funding in the form of the Project Development Assistance Program for project planning, studies, development, environmental process review clearance and final design and funding in the form of the Border Environment Infrastructure Fund for construction assistance.

In 1994, the United States Congress provided $100 million to EPA as part of the State and Tribal Assistance Program appropriation to support communities along the U.S./Mexico Border area within 62 miles (100 km) on each side of the border. Since then, Congressional State and Tribal Assistance Program annual appropriations to EPA totaled over $700 million. These funds were identified to support high-priority drinking water and wastewater infrastructure to strengthen local capacity and strategically address environmental issues in the U.S./Mexico Border area at a community level. The Border Water Infrastructure Program funds construction projects that prevent millions of gallons of raw sewage from entering border region waters, significantly reducing risks to public health and the environment in the United States. Benefits to the United States also include minimizing the potential exposure to or spread of diseases through the provision of safe drinking water services and improving the quality of our shared waterways for recreational and other designated beneficial uses. Construction of these structures stimulates local economies and creates new jobs in these depressed communities.

Indian General Assistance Program Consortia

The Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council (New Mexico) consortia has indicated to the Office of Environmental Justice, Tribal and International Affairs that it has a concern with the new requirement of providing annual documentation from each Indian General Assistance Program (GAP) eligible consortia member, in order to receive an Indian General Assistance Program grant for the consortia. Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council has requested to discuss the issue and the proposed documentation requirement with regional and headquarter leadership.

On October 18, 2017, Region 6 was informed by the American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO) that the regional consortia receiving Indian General Assistance Program grants would be required to submit additional adequate documentation for each individual Indian General Assistance Program grant applied for. American Indian Environmental Office determined that the current process would no longer be considered sufficient for satisfying the adequate documentation standard. Both consortia in the Region are impacted and would be required to submit documentation that demonstrates (1) the existence of the partnership between eligible tribal governments; and (2) the authorization of the consortium by all Indian General Assistance Program-eligible member tribes to apply for and receive that specific proposed grant. Documentation would be requested by the consortia from their members and provided to EPA prior to approval of the Indian General Assistance Program grant award.

Region 6 held a joint conference call with Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council (New Mexico) and Inter-Tribal Environmental Council (Oklahoma) to discuss the consortia documentation issue. Region 6 explained the new requirement for documentation. Processes for obtaining the documentation was discussed, as well as a June 1, 2018 deadline for submission of documentation to the Region

Oil & Gas Collaboration

Region 6 is organizing a series of meetings with our state regulatory partners to discuss coordination in addressing issues and concerns related to the oil and gas industry. We will be travelling to each state capital over the next six to eight weeks to meet jointly with the lead state environmental and state oil and gas regulatory agency. This effort supports Administrator Pruitt's July 2017 commitment for increased coordination and collaboration including meeting with the state agencies involved in Oil & Gas regulatory oversight, working on best-practices for EPA in regulating Oil & Gas, and convening a roundtable of state agencies, industries and EPA in late January 2018 to discuss Oil & Gas regulations

Another aspect of Administrator Pruitt's commitment is to convene a roundtable with representatives of the oil and gas sector and state regulatory agencies to discuss industry concerns and enhance communication while ensuring safe and responsible domestic oil and gas production. EPA has been working with the Environmental Council of State (ECOS) and the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC), which represent the state agencies that regulate the industry, to co-host the Oil and Natural Gas roundtable. The roundtable will bring together a small group of representatives from state agencies, tribes, industry, non-government organizations, and EPA. The discussions will focus on barriers to cost-effective and timely compliance, meaningful solutions and innovative examples.

In response to inquiries from state oil and gas regulatory agencies and individual companies, EPA has been examining technical innovations that would facilitate produced water management options beyond traditional disposal approaches. It is thought that these alternatives will address concerns raised by the public about the use of scarce water resources in times of draught and potential induced seismicity from disposal wells.

Freedom of Information Act Requests

The Region has 105 open Freedom of Information Act Requests and 23 are overdue. Five of the overdue Freedom of Information Act Requests have been completed by the Region but require Headquarters approval to release which has not been granted. In addition, EPA Headquarters identified 9 Freedom of Information Act Requests that were significantly overdue earlier this fall and asked the Region to address these by the end of December. We have 2 left to address and they are on track to be completed by the end of the month.

In preparation for a national Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Lean project that will begin in January 2018, Region 6 formed a regional team to capture and improve our current processes in (1) assigning and tracking Freedom of Information Act Requests, and (2) searching, reviewing and then uploading responsive records.

On November 21, 2107, EPA announced that the Agency is on track to significantly reduce the backlog of FOIA requests received prior to 2017. EPA's National FOIA Office and offices across the agency have been working hard to clear the backlog of FOIA requests that existed at the start of 2017. As of early October, 2017, EPA had 652 open FOIA requests that were submitted in prior years. As of November 21, the Agency is on track to provide responses to over 70 percent of those requests by the end of the calendar year. In addition to clearing the backlog from previous years, EPA continues to process incoming FOIA requests, to ensure the current administration is being open and transparent and to avoid unnecessary costs to the American taxpayer. For requests that cannot be completed by the end of the calendar year, the Agency is developing request-specific plans to ensure they are completed as early as possible. EPA is currently defending 45 FOIA lawsuits (Region 6 has none), which demonstrates that the public feels stronger about access to information. The National FOIA Office set targets, shared best practices, and worked together with the regions and programs to ensure that relevant information is shared with the public in ways that properly responded to each request. The National FOIA Office will also be developing a new webpage showing the progress of the backlog reduction effort, which will be found www.epa.gov/foia.

In fiscal year 2017 EPA received 11,493 FOIA requests (Region 6 receives 644 requests per year on average), 995 more than the previous fiscal year. In that same period, EPA received 36 new FOIA lawsuits, compared to only 12 lawsuits in the previous year. The EPA is under a production deadline in litigation brought by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). Theirs is one of several FOIA requests seeking communications between EPA staff and the Trump Presidential Transition Team.

The numbers provided for pre-2017 FOIA requests do not include 34 pre-2017 requests received by EPA's Office of the Inspector General, which is an independent office within EPA.

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Environmental Justice Forum

In June 2018, Region 6 is planning to host a region-wide environmental justice forum to discuss solutions to environmental justice community concerns. The Environmental Justice Forum will bring together state officials, community representatives, and local governments, and representatives from our state environmental agencies as part of an on-going strategy to understand community concerns and educate communities on environmental impacts.

Beginning in 2013, we held environmental justice workshops in each of the five states (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas) that culminated in the Environmental Justice Summit that was held in Dallas in 2016. Each of the state workshops and the Summit brought together grassroots organizations and partners, academia, local officials and government representatives to better understand concerns and challenges facing environmental justice communities. Participants discuss strategies and best practices for healthy communities and a collaborative action plan that addresses regional and state-wide environmental justice priorities. Each of our state environmental agencies have a program similar to EPA's environmental justice program.

On February 6, 2017 the Environmental Conference of States issued a report, titled "State Approaches to Community Engagement and Equity Considerations in Permitting," highlights efforts by Tennessee, California, New York, South Carolina, Mississippi and Minnesota to integrate EJ into their environmental permits, though it cautions that regulators' discretion in that area can be limited both by the terms of the Civil Rights Act's Title VI and state laws. The EPA released the Environmental Justice 2020 Action Agenda in October 2016. The final document incorporates relevant input from Environmental Conference of States, which represents many state environment agencies.

In October 2017, EPA announced nearly $1.2 million in competitive grants selected for award to 36 locally based community and tribal organizations working to address environmental justice issues in their communities. The grants enable organizations to conduct research, provide education, and develop community-driven solutions to local health and environmental issues in minority, low-income, and tribal communities. Region 6 received four grants. The ARC Foundation seeks to train up to 200 Oklahoma City residents on affordable water conservation practices for home use, as well as to bring more awareness to the community about the need to protect its natural water resources. Arkansas Interfaith Power & Light proposes to renovate and repurpose an abandoned building and lot to become a local community center where individuals in at-risk areas of Little Rock will be introduced to holistic solutions to local energy production and healthy food alternatives. Sandia Pueblo camps seek to address surface water impairment on the 19 Pueblo reservations by providing water quality monitoring trainings and improving educational outcomes for tribal youth in New Mexico. In New Orleans, T.R.E.E.'s Sunship III program brings 7th grade students from local, low-income schools to the outdoor classroom.

In order to ensure the most underserved and overburdened communities have a meaningful say in environmental protection and regulation, the Office of Environmental Justice moved to the Office of Policy in September 2017. The Office of Environmental Justice works in partnership with the Office of Sustainable Communities, which was renamed the Office of Community Revitalization, to support meaningful engagement and public participation across the agency and lead federal level coordination to consider overburdened community needs and the application of federal resources to meet those needs.

Making a Visible Difference in Communities

EPA Region 6 has selected six communities to better coordinate and leverage resources throughout the agency and with other federal partners. These on-going projects focus on both long standing environmental concerns and their relation to public health as well as emerging issues within communities.

In Crossett, Arkansas, the residents from the predominantly African-American community in West Crossett have been concerned for many years about air emissions and water discharges from the Georgia-Pacific LLC paper facility, particularly the effects of long-term exposure to hazardous chemicals. The Pueblo de Cochiti is interested in integrating green infrastructure into land use planning, stormwater management, infrastructure improvements, transportation planning and open space to enhance community and tribal lands in New Mexico. The town of Anthony, New Mexico lacks land use strategies, has a severe deficit of public recreational facilities, and lacks adequate zoning and subdivision regulations. The nearby communities of Alexandria and Pineville, Louisiana encompass multiple hazardous waste sites, including two active creosoting companies, two remediated EPA Superfund sites and a state-lead inactive waste site. The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma requested Brownfields assistance to redevelop a closed middle school complex into a native serving Boys and Girls Club and new office space. This work includes abating asbestos and lead-based paint in buildings. In Texas, there are 555 colonias which lack adequate road paving, drainage or solid waste disposal. An additional 337 lack access to potable water, adequate wastewater disposal, or are un-platted. This amounts to 153,842 people experiencing infrastructure challenges that could lead to serious environmental health risks.

Children's Environmental Health in the U.S. Border States of Texas and New Mexico

EPA funds activities that address children's health through requests for proposals and partnering with the Southwest Center for Pediatric Environmental Health (SWCPEH). EPA recently launched a children's Request for Proposal for funding in October 2017. Region 6 intends to announce awards to New Mexico Department of Health, Texas A&M and Texas Tech in December 2017.

Improving children's health is fundamental to EPA's mission, and one of the fundamental strategies under the Border 2020 Environmental Program. Children along the border in Texas and New Mexico are impacted by high rates of asthma, obesity exposures to pesticides, chemicals, mercury, lead, vector borne diseases and poor water and air quality, among others. Children are more vulnerable to pollutants than adults due to differences in behavior and biology. U.S. border communities often face a great public health threat because of lack of basic services and adequate infrastructure, illegal dumping, substandard housing, lack of public spaces or parks, and other economic hardships.

The US-Mexico Border Program and EPA's Office of Children's Health funds grants to educate health workers who work directly with U.S. border communities on children's health issues. In 2016, training was hosted in three U.S. border communities and focused on the Healthy Homes Curriculum and water-borne illnesses. EPA held two Children's Environmental Health Symposiums (El Paso, Texas – September 2015; Brownsville, Texas – August 2016) which focused on 1) education on how early childhood exposure can affect children's health; and 2) networking among the healthcare community and the public in order to better understand children's environmental health risks along the U.S.-Mexico Border.

Revitalizing Communities by Growing Local Food Economies

On November 21, 2017, EPA recognized the outstanding accomplishments of 16 winners participating in EPA's Food Recovery Challenge. The award recipients achieved the highest percent increases in their sector comparing year to year data. Region 6 had three winners: University of Houston, the Dallas, Texas Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center, and the Café de Novo (Dallas, Texas).

The Local Foods, Local Places program was established in December 2014 as a national initiative that helps people create walkable, healthy, economically vibrant neighborhoods through local food enterprise. The program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, EPA, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Appalachian Regional Commission, and the Delta Regional Authority, selected 24 communities to participate in Local Foods, Local Places in 2017. In 2017, federal partners are investing $810,000 in Local Foods, Local Places.

In Region 6 the Louisiana State University Agriculture Center in Tallulah will connect ongoing community efforts around physical fitness, access to healthy food and downtown revitalization. The Downtown Albuquerque Main Street Initiative in New Mexico, plans to transform a vacant building in a struggling part of downtown into a community kitchen and local food hub to provide vocational opportunities for local farmers and food entrepreneurs.

GOAL 3- THE RULE OF LAW AND PROCESS:

Administer the law, as Congress intended, to refocus the Agency on its statutory obligations under the law.

OBJECTIVE 3.1-COMPLIANCE WITH THE LAW:

Enforce environmental laws to correct noncompliance and promote cleanup at contaminated sites.

San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site

EPA is working with the Department of Justice to issue special notice for negotiation of a consent decree for the response action and an administrative order on consent that will facilitate early commencement of the specific design for work at the site. EPA plans to meet with the responsible parties in early December.

On October 11, 2017, Administrator Pruitt signed the Record of Decision for this site calling for excavation and off-site disposal of dioxin wastes at a cost of about $115 million. Negotiations with the responsible parties for the consent decree are expected to take six to 12 months. The design activities can take as long as another six to 12 months, and then work will start. The Region has requested a meeting with the potentially responsible parties to discuss early commencement of design so that it can be conducted while the consent decree negotiations are being pursued. A public meeting to discuss the Record of Decision and provide a site update is scheduled for December 4.

Following Hurricane Harvey, EPA conducted an assessment of the site to determine the extent of damage caused by the storm, and the potentially responsible parties found erosion of the river bottom adjacent to the temporary armored cap. The survey of the San Jacinto riverbed found erosion of the river bottom up to 12 feet deep near the cap. The total area of river bottom eroded in the vicinity of the cap was over 20,000 square feet. The stabilization work approved today includes placement of a geotextile fabric layer covered with at least three feet of rock with a median diameter of eight inches. EPA directed the potentially responsible parties to stabilize a 40-foot by 400-foot area adjacent to the east side of the cap to prevent future undermining of the armored cap. The temporary armored cap has not been damaged in this area.

On September 28, shortly after Hurricane Harvey, EPA received preliminary data from sediment samples collected by EPA's dive team from 14 areas at the site. Samples from one of the 14 areas confirmed the protective cap had been damaged and the underlying waste material was exposed. Repairs to add armored rock to the cap were completed shortly after the sampling was conducted. All repairs to the damaged cap from the storm are now complete. EPA directed the potentially responsible parties to collect additional samples near the damaged area, and sampling has also been completed. Six additional samples were collected and preliminary results did not show elevated levels of dioxins in nearby sediments.

The San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site is situated east of Houston, Texas. Pits were built in the mid-1960s along the banks of the San Jacinto River and used for disposal of pulp wastes containing dioxins. The waste pits are partially submerged in the river due to regional subsidence. A temporary armored cap was completed in 2011 under an EPA order to prevent continuing releases and direct contact with the waste material.

Petition to Withdraw Texas's Federally Approved/Authorized Permitting Programs

On January 11, 2016, the Environmental Defense Fund and Caddo Lake Institute filed a Petition for Administrative Action asking EPA to withdraw National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permitting authority under the Clean Water Act from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and requesting that EPA find Texas's New Source Review permitting program under the Clean Air Act substantially inadequate. There is no statutory or regulatory deadline to complete the informal investigation. At some point the petitioners may seek to have the Federal Court set a schedule for an EPA decision on the petitions.

The Petition alleges that amendments adopted by Texas in 2015 to the state's contested case hearing process restrict public participation in the permitting process contrary to Texas's federally approved/authorized permitting programs by 1) restricting the public's ability to obtain judicial review of permitting decisions, 2) reducing opportunities for public participation by increasing the burden on permit opponents in a contested case hearing, and 3) providing inadequate resources for implementation and enforcement of the Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act.

The Petition and the revisions themselves also highlight a broader National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, Title V, and New Source Review authorization issue. EPA based its 1998 authorization of the Texas Clean Water Act program upon a finding that participation in a contested case hearing was not a prerequisite to judicial review. Texas made the same assertion during EPA's approval of Texas's Title V and New Source Review programs under the Clean Air Act. EPA is working with the state to understand the meaning of recent state court decisions, as well as statements made by the Texas Attorney General, which may call into question the adequacy of public participation in the state's programs. EPA has begun an informal investigation into the allegations in the Petition. The objective of this investigation, which is provided for under the Clean Water Act and EPA's implementing regulations, is to gather enough information to reach a preliminary assessment as to whether cause exists to initiate formal withdrawal proceedings

State of New Mexico v. EPA, et. al. (Gold King Mine spill and Bonita Peaks Mining District Superfund Site in Colorado)

The EPA is currently involved as a co-defendant in litigation and plans to engage in settlement discussions with the State of New Mexico and other affected governmental parties resulting from the 2015 Gold King Mine release into downstream waters. On August 5, 2015, EPA Region 8 and its contractors were investigating metals-laden and acid mine water leaking from the Gold King Mine near Silverton, Colorado. While excavating above an old adit, pressurized water leaked above and out of the mine tunnel, spilling approximately three million gallons of contaminated water into Cement Creek, a tributary of the Animas River. The plume of contaminated water travelled down the Animas River, into the San Juan River in New Mexico and eventually settled into Lake Powell in Utah.

On May 23, 2016, the State of New Mexico sued the EPA, its contractor, and Colorado mine owners in U.S. District Court. On August 16, 2016, the Navajo Nation also sued the EPA, its contractor, and Colorado mine owners with similar allegations and claims against the EPA and co-defendants and, as a result, its suit was consolidated with New Mexico's suit. New Mexico's suit alleges the EPA and co-defendants are jointly and severally liable under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) for New Mexico's past, present and future CERCLA response costs. The suit also seeks to compel the EPA under the Clean Water Act (CWA) to abate pollution from inactive and abandoned mines along the Upper Animas River Basin in Colorado that are discharging acid mine drainage water into New Mexico's waters. New Mexico has also threatened to amend its complaint to seek tort damages against the EPA. On February 13, 2017, the EPA filed a motion to dismiss both complaints on sovereign immunity grounds. The Court has not yet ruled on EPA's motion. EPA seeks to engage in settlement negotiations with New Mexico. New Mexico submitted a settlement demand letter in the summer of 2017. The Navajo Nation has rebuffed EPA's efforts to engage in settlement negotiations. The State of Utah has also threatened to sue the EPA for the spill. In its settlement demand, New Mexico seeks a collaborative and holistic approach to CERCLA remedial efforts for the Bonita Peak Mining District Superfund Site, which is a newly designated Superfund site, within which lies the Gold King Mine. New Mexico also seeks the performance of short term response actions under CERCLA in water ways affected by the spill. In addition, New Mexico seeks funding for or the performance of long term monitoring of water ways affected by the spill and funding for other water projects within those waters affected the spill. Lastly, New Mexico seeks reimbursement of response and monitoring costs, some of which may overlap with funds appropriated under the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN Act). EPA Region 6 presumably may have a part or be involved in some or all of these efforts sought by New Mexico. EPA intends to respond to New Mexico's settlement demands (made in Summer of 2017) by December 18, 2017. It is hoped that a settlement with New Mexico will encourage and spur negotiations and a possible settlement with the State of Utah and the Navajo Nation.

EPA Regional Sustainability Environmental Sciences Research Program (RESES) Project

Both solids and liquids from about 90 dairy farms are washing out of lagoons, directly into adjacent streams, creating water quality impairments in several parishes in Louisiana. These small farmers recognize this current condition is not acceptable and EPA is helping them find ecologically effective and economically viable options to update or replace outdated management lagoon systems.

As dairy waste overflows from the lagoons into nearby bodies of water, excess nutrients and fecal bacteria enter these surface waters, leading to impairment. Sediments may also contain heavy metals, pesticides and antibiotics.

Most of these lagoons were constructed over 20 years ago and were built to intercept and capture these dairy operation waste streams and runoff from the walk-up area in order to protect down gradient, downstream water quality. Through the course of many years these lagoons have filled with solids, thus reducing storage capacity. Many of them have fallen into disrepair and are overgrown with vegetation and mature trees that further impede the proper functioning of these systems. The absence of lagoon dewatering and irrigation equipment has created a condition where most of these lagoons overflow and allow this waste to directly flow into adjacent surface water ways and thus move down gradient impacting the water quality of these receiving water bodies.

With the short supply of contractors attempting to rehabilitate the dairy lagoons, farmers are often subject to waiting years before any help arrives. EPA has also learned that several farmers have submitted applications to close down their operations, and others that have already shut down, have likely not been properly decommissioned.

EPA, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Louisiana State University Ag Center (LSU), Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) are planning several workshops with dairy farmers to provide direct assistance.

Macy's Retail Holdings, Inc.

Over the next year, Macy's will develop a program to train an estimated 400 retailers in Oklahoma and Texas on how to comply with hazardous waste requirements. Live training events held in Oklahoma and Texas and will also be recorded to create a webinar that can be shared to Macy's locations nationwide. After completing the 11 third-party audits of its largest facilities, Macy's will share results with more than 620 locations outside the region with instructions to review the issues and address noncompliance. Macy's will also promote the training webinars and recorded sessions to appropriate personnel nationwide.

Based on the average rate of hazardous-waste generation at the 44 stores involved in the settlement, EPA estimates that Macy's may manage about 1.2 million pounds of hazardous waste nationwide per year. EPA announced a settlement with Macy's over violations of hazardous waste regulations. In addition to correcting violations, Macy's will also develop a program with the capacity to train 400 retailers in Oklahoma and Texas, and conduct third-party audits at 11 of its largest facilities within Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and New Mexico, among other required actions. The company paid a $375,000 civil penalty within 30 days of the effective date of the settlement, and must comply with all other requirements within one year of September 26, 2017.

EPA found Macy's had violated the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the federal law that regulates hazardous and solid wastes, for several periods during 2012-2015. During these times, each Macy's store identified in the settlement generated thousands of pounds of hazardous waste to qualify as a small-quantity generator but failed to notify EPA and state authorities. Macy's also failed to meet the conditions for small-quantity generator status and did not complete appropriate manifests. Overall, Macy's generated more than 269,168 pounds of hazardous waste from 2012-2015 for the 44 locations identified in the settlement.

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, passed by Congress in 1976 gives EPA the authority to control hazardous waste from "cradle-to-grave." RCRA sets national goals for protecting human health and the environment from the potential hazards of waste disposal, conserving energy and natural resources, reducing the amount of waste generated, and ensuring wastes are managed in an environmentally sound manner.

OBJECTIVE 3.3-PRIORITIZE ROBUST SCIENCE:

Refocus the EPA's robust research and scientific analysis to inform policy making.

Illinois River Multijurisdictional Nutrient Modeling Effort

The $1.5 million modeling effort relies on two highly specialized computer models – a watershed and lake model – and is designed to reproduce conditions within the watershed. While the watershed model has been completed, the lake model met delays earlier this year and is delayed until April 2018.

Pollution controls in this two-state jurisdiction have been controversial for many years. As the Attorney General for Oklahoma, Scott Pruitt worked with his counterpart in Arkansas to reach agreement to study the water quality of the Illinois River that crosses between the two states and has been enjoyed by generations of Oklahomans and Arkansans. The Statement of Joint Principles provided for a best science study using EPA-approved methods, with both states agreeing, for the first time, to be bound by the outcome.

Oklahoma and Arkansas agencies have provided detailed comments on the modeling efforts to date. EPA regional staff have reviewed and modified the model calibrations in an effort to address stakeholder concerns and continue to strive to achieve consensus among the principals as to the utility of the watershed and lake models.

EPA continues developing technically robust and scientifically defensible water quality models of the Illinois River Watershed in northeast Oklahoma and northwest Arkansas. Once completed, the data can be used to help derive Total Maximum Daily Loads for the watershed and reduce nutrient loadings in the watershed. The watershed is currently impaired as a result of nutrient loadings from municipal discharges and nonpoint sources (e.g., agricultural runoff).

Since 2009, EPA has been funding, on behalf of our regulatory partners from both Oklahoma and Arkansas, the development of an agreed-upon scientific model to use in developing Total Maximum Daily Loads or other load-reduction approaches where needed. EPA plans to release the revised water quality models for public review and comment.

Some business sectors including the poultry industry is concerned that the modeling and possible subsequent Total Maximum Daily Loads would adversely affect the land application of poultry litter in the watershed and provide a target loading for nonpoint reductions.

OBJECTIVE 3.4-STREAMLINE AND MODERNIZE:

Issue permits more quickly and modernize our permitting and reporting systems.

EPA/TCEQ NPDES Oversight Permitting Process Improvement Project

The current process of exchanging, reviewing, and resolving permits may delay the final issuance of Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits. On December 5-7, 2017, Region 6 and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality participated in a process improvement workshop explore ways to issue permits more quickly and reduce the current permit backlog.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has one of the largest universes of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits, or Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES), in the nation. On average, EPA Region 6 reviews 170 draft Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits each year.

Treatment as a State Lean Project

Region 6 has created a Lean project team comprised of EPA Region 6 and tribal environmental staff members working to reduce the time required for approval of tribal applications to implement water quality standards programs.

The Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, and Clean Air Act emphasize the role of states in protecting the environment and public health and allow EPA to authorize states to implement their own programs in lieu of the federal program (referred to as program authorization). From 1986 to 1990, Congress amended these three acts to authorize EPA to treat pueblos and tribal nations in a similar manner as a state for purposes of program authorization.

Under EPA's implementation of the Clean Water Act, a tribe may submit a request to EPA for Treatment as a State status and a request for approval of its adopted water quality standards, either separately or at the same time. Section 518 of the Clean Water Act lists the eligibility criteria EPA will use to approve Treatment as a State status and to authorize Indian tribes to administer Clean Water Act programs.

Region 6 currently has 13 pueblos and tribal nations that have achieved Treatment as a State status for water quality standards, and 11 pueblos have federally approved water quality standards. The last four Treatment as a State applications for water quality standards have taken more than two years to approve, and a current Clean Air Act grant Treatment as a State application is approaching two and a half years for approval

OBJECTIVE 3.5-IMPROVE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS:

Provide proper leadership and internal operations management to ensure that the Agency is fulfilling its mission.

Lead Region for Information Technology

For Fiscal Years 2017 and 2018, Region 6 is serving as the Information Technology Lead Region. On a two-year rotating basis, a regional office is designated by the Office of Environmental Information (OEI) as the Information Technology (IT) Lead Region to support OEI in its implementation of the Agency's information technology/information management priorities.

The Lead Region for Information Technology is responsible for representing all EPA Regions in discussions and decision-making processes, and for communicating the Agency's Information Technology/Information Management Strategic Advisory Committee recommendations, decisions, and implementation requirements to the other Regions.

A bi-weekly teleconference is held with the Agency's Chief Information officer, Deputy Regional Administrator (DRA), and the Region 6 Senior Information Officer to establish IT/IM priorities, review progress on initiatives, discuss related issues, and make decisions of Agency-wide significance. Cybersecurity and IT/IM budgeting issues are also considered. Decisions made in these meetings are subsequently communicated by Office of Environmental Information and the Lead Region through the governance structure.

The Lead Region system was established in 1984 to provide an organized, facilitative, and consistent mechanism for EPA HQ and the ten regional offices to interact together. The system enhances EPA's ability to protect human health and the environment and is at the forefront of HQ initiatives in soliciting regional input on Agency decisions, incentivizing participation, and leveraging effective communication.

EPA Lab Study

Region 6 has one of 6 regional laboratories that occupy space leased from private companies. [redacted]

EPA has announced decisions not to renew developer-leased laboratories in Region 4 and 8 and consolidate in government-owned facilities. The four remaining labs' leases expire over the next few years and are currently being evaluated and the announced is expected in January 2018.

The laboratory is a full-service analytical laboratory providing routine and specialty environmental analytical services for air, soil, water, and drinking water samples.

Options for the future of the Houston Environmental Laboratory are currently being developed in collaboration with Office of Administration Resource Management. There is a great benefit of having the lab located in Houston due to the major Gulf Coast industrial presence and the ability to provide assistance during natural disasters that are common along the Gulf Coast. A recent example of this important function is the service it provided in responding to Hurricane Harvey.

Region 6 will need laboratory space for support of analytical services, and office/cube space for program personnel and contractors. There are 33 FTE assigned to our lab unit, 10 FTE from other business units and 10 contractors that support the facility with analytical services, security, records management, IT support and administrative assistance. Additional considerations include provision for a Hazardous Materials Storage area, loading dock, and parking for the lab's fleet vehicles, trailers, and mobile labs, all contained within a secure fence. We estimate we will need 10,000 square feet for personnel/program/mission support (this includes circulation) and an additional 16,000 square feet for the laboratory functions.

In December 2012, EPA began a study of its laboratory enterprise to identify opportunities to increase efficiency and effectiveness while ensuring the agency's ability to continue to provide the preeminent research, science, and technical support critical to advance our mission.

State Delegation of Environmental Acts
December 2017

CLEAN AIR ACT (CAA)

The CAA regulates air emissions from stationary and mobile sources. It authorizes EPA to establish National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and delegate the following programs to states.

NSPS: New Source Performance Standards. Under CAA Sec. 111, new or modified existing sources must operate in compliance with the technology-based emissions standards of performance, which limit the amount of certain pollutants that may be emitted.

NESHAPS: National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants. EPA may add substances to the hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) list (CAA Sec 112(b)(1)) that can cause serious health problems when emitted.

PSD: Prevention of Significant Deterioration. This program aims to prevent significant deterioration of air quality in different areas that meet the NAAQS. For example, in national wilderness areas and parks, which cannot be redesignated, the maximum allowable increase of any criteria pollutant (ozone, NOx, CO, lead, PM, and SO2) is significantly lower.

Title V: Operating permits. A single permit may be issued for a facility with multiple sources. All operators must comply with permits issued under the CAA by EPA or by the state with permitting authority.

NSR: New Source Review. To receive a PSD permit, a new or modified major source must show that it will not contribute to a violation of the increments or of NAAQS, and that it will use Best Available Control Technology (BACT), which must be at least as stringent as the applicable NSPS or NESHAPS.

CLEAN AIR ACT STATE DELEGATIONS

State	NSPS	NESHAPS	PSD	Title V	NSR
AR	P	P – Not area sources	A	A	A
LA	P	P	A	A	A
NM	P	P	A	A	A
OK	P	P	A	A	A
TX	P	P	A	A	A

CLEAN WATER ACT (CWA)

The CWA aims to restore and maintain the nation's surface waters. It is implemented via various regulatory programs, which delegated states are authorized to enforce.

NPDES: Nation Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. A NPDES permit is required for any pollutant discharge from a point source into navigable waters. EPA or states with delegated authority are required to set limits (determined by national technology-based standards, state water quality standards, waterbody conditions, etc.) on pollutants that facilities may discharge.

Pretreatment. Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs) are required to develop and impose pretreatment programs and standards for discharges from non-point sources. The pretreatment standard for existing sources is the Best Available Technology Economically Achievable (BAT), and the standard for new sources is the New Source Performance Standards (i.e., best demonstrated technology).

Sludge Management. Under CWA Sec. 405, sewage sludge disposal from a POTW operation that causes any pollutant to enter navigable waters is prohibited, unless in accordance with a NPDES permit.

SRF: State Revolving Fund. Under CWA Sec. 604(b), each state must annually reserve either
$100,000 or one percent of the sums allocated to the state for that year to finance two programs: the non-point source management plan under Sec. 205(j) and the continuing planning process for water quality standards and implementation plans under Sec. 303(e). While SRF is not delegable, states carry out water quality planning with SRF funds.

Section 404: Wetlands. Dredged or filled material discharge in wetlands is prohibited unless in compliance with a permit issued under CWA Sec. 404. This program, administered by the U.S. Corps of Engineers, only delegates authority to states for non-tidal, non-navigable waters and wetlands.

CLEAN WATER ACT STATE DELEGATIONS

State	NPDES	Pretreatment	Sludge Management	Water Quality Planning	Wetlands
AR	Y	Y	N	S	N
LA	Y	Y	N	S	N
NM	ND	ND	ND	S	N
OK	Y – Not Oil & Gas	Y	Y	S	N
TX	Y – Not Oil & Gas	Y	Y	S	N

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY ACT (RCRA)

RCRA aims to assist in the development of management plans and facilities for solid waste, hazardous waste, and underground storage tanks that hold petroleum products or other chemicals. States are delegated to oversee the following programs to ensure maximum protection from hazardous waste disposal and conservation of energy and natural resources.

Subtitle C: Hazardous Waste

Base program. RCRA "General Provisions" Subchapter I is the foundation of this program, which includes requirements for safe recycling, composting, and storage and disposal of wastes.

Corrective Action. All facilities with a Treatment, Storage, and Disposal (TSD) permit (Treatment, Storage and Disposal) or which are operating under an interim status are required to clean up current and former waste treatment, storage, and disposal areas. Corrective action is the process through which areas (solid waste management units) of a facility, which could have received hazardous waste, are evaluated for safety and if necessary, are cleaned up.

Mixed Waste. This program regulates the treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous wastes subject to RCRA and radioactive mixed wastes subject to the Atomic Energy Act.

BIF: Regulation of Burning of Hazardous Wastes in Boilers and Industrial Furnaces. This program controls emissions of toxic organic compounds, toxic metals, hydrogen chloride, chlorine gas and particulate matter from boilers and industrial furnaces which burn hazardous waste.

Toxicity Characteristic: Toxicity Characteristics Revisions. Toxicity characteristics are used to identify hazardous wastes or wastes subject to regulation under RCRA Subtitle C. States refer to EPA's national regulatory levels for toxic chemicals.

LDR California Wastes. Land Disposal Restrictions (LDRs) refer to a category of wastes previously banned in California which have subsequently been incorporated into RCRA. The classification includes free liquids associated with sludge, heavy metals, acids with pH less than 2, polychlorinated byphenols, and halogenated organic compounds. California wastes, with the exception of halogenated organic wastes, must be rendered into a solid before landfill disposal.

LDR 1/3 Wastes. LDRs for first scheduled wastes (first-third wastes) refers to the regulation of the first phase of LDR implementation for wastewaters, process residuals, preservative dippage, etc.

LDR 2/3 Wastes. Phase II LDR treatment standards treat newly listed wastes and those with organic toxicity characteristics. This may include soil and debris contaminated with first scheduled wastes and radioactive wastes mixed with first-third wastes.

LDR 3/3 Wastes: Land Disposal Restrictions for Third Scheduled Wastes. This program details the disposal of LDR 2/3 wastes, which may only be disposed of if the landfill has a permit (or is in interim status), and complies with the requirements.

Subtitle D: Solid Waste. The program details recycling, composting, and disposal of solid waste (e.g. garbage a waste treatment plant, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility; discarded material from industrial, commercial, mining, and agricultural operations).

Subtitle I: Underground Storage Tanks (UST). This program provides regulations for USTs consisting primarily of gasoline, crude oil, and other petroleum products. Subtitle I includes requirements for tank notification, interim prohibition, new tank standards, reporting and recordkeeping requirements for existing tanks, corrective action, financial responsibility, compliance monitoring and enforcement, and approval of state programs.

RCRA STATE DELEGATIONS

State	C/ Base Program	C/ Corrective Action	C/ Mixed Waste	C/ BIF	C/ Toxicity Characteristic	C/ California LDR	C/ LDR 1/3 Wastes	C/ LDR 2/3 Wastes	C/ LDR 3/3 Wastes	D/ Solid Waste	I/ UST
AR	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
LA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
NM	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
OK	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
TX	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT (SDWA)

SDWA regulates public drinking water supply. Many states are delegated to play an important role in enforcing the following programs which protect drinking water and its sources.

PWSS: Public Water System Supervision. The Office of Drinking Water within each state environmental agency has the authority to implement the program if the state has primary enforcement responsibility (primacy), delegated by EPA.

Wellhead Protection Program. Each state must have an approved program to protect wellhead areas to protect its residents from contaminants with potentially adverse effects. This program delegates "wellhead protection areas," which are surface and subsurface areas surrounding a water well or well field which supply public water and through which contaminants are likely to move toward and reach it.

Sec. 1422 Underground Injection Control (UIC). Under SDWA Sec. 1422, the EPA or delegated state authority may control underground injections (subsurface emplacement of fluids by well injection (natural gas and oil are exempted)), which endanger drinking water resources with contaminants.

Sec. 1425 UIC. Delegated states may show that the underground injections in connection with oil or natural gas operations meet the requirements of the UIC program.

SDWA STATE DELEGATIONS

State	PWSS	Wellhead Protection	Ground Water Rule	Coliform Drinking Water Rule	UIC/ 1422	UIC/ 1425
AR	Y	ND	Y	Y	Y	Y
LA	Y	ND	I	I	Y	Y
NM	Y	ND	Y	Y	Y	Y
OK	Y	ND	Y	Y	Y	Y
TX	Y	A	N	N	Y	Y

TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT (TSCA)

TSCA addresses the protection, importation, use, and disposal of many toxic substances. Through delegation, states assist EPA in the oversight of various programs within the act.

MAP: Model Accreditation Plan. MAP requires people conducting asbestos-related activities in schools or public buildings to be certified by EPA.

AHERA Waiver. The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) requires Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to inspect schools for asbestos-containing material and prepare management plans to reduce the hazard.

Indoor Radon. States may apply for grant assistance for developing and implementing programs for the assessment and mitigation of radon. Activities eligible for grant assistance are:

1. Surveys of radon levels, including special surveys in public buildings or certain geographic areas;
2. Development of public information and educational materials concerning radon assessment, mitigation, and control programs;
3. Implementation of programs to control radon in existing and new structures;
4. Purchase by the state of radon measurement devices;
5. Purchase of and maintenance of analytical equipment connected to radon measurement and analysis.
6. Payment of costs of EPA-approved training programs related to radon for permanent state or local employees;
7. Payment of general overhead and program administration costs;
8. Development of data storage and management system for information concerning radon occurrence, levels, and programs;
9. Payment of costs of demonstration of radon mitigation methods and technologies as approved by the EPA.
10. A toll-free radon hotline to provide information and technical assistance, etc.

Lead based Paint Abatement Program . Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, Lead, Requirements for Lead-Based Paint Activities in Target Housing and Child-Occupied Facilities Rule. This rule ensures that individuals conducting lead-based paint abatement, risk assessment, or inspection are properly trained and certified, that training programs are accredited, and that these activities are conducted according to reliable, effective and safe work practice standards.

Lead based Paint Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program. The Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule (RRP Rule) requires that firms performing renovation, repair, and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in homes, child care facilities and pre-schools built before 1978 have their firm certified by EPA (or an EPA authorized state), use certified renovators who are trained by EPA-approved training providers and follow lead-safe work practices.

TSCA STATE DELEGATIONS

State	MAP	AHERA Waiver	Lead Paint RRP	Indoor Radon	Lead Paint Abatment
AR	N	ND	N	ND	Y
LA	Y	Y	N	NA	Y
NM	N	N	N	ND	N
OK	Y	Y	Y	ND	Y
TX	Y	Y	N	ND	Y

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND RIGHT TO KNOW ACT (EPCRA)

EPCRA aims to help communities plan for emergencies involving hazardous substances. Delegated states are authorized to implement the following programs.

Sec 313: Toxic Chemical Release Form. EPCRA Sec. 313(c) specifies that owners or operators of facilities with toxic chemicals in quantities exceeding the threshold quantity established under Sec. 313(f) must complete a toxic release chemical form for each chemical.

Sec 304. This program details emergency notification and response procedures, which are required when a reportable quantity of an extremely dangerous substance from a facility that stores, produces or uses such substance is released. The chemicals for which notification must be given are the hazardous substances listed under Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Sec. 302 and the extremely hazardous substances listed under EPCRA Sec. 9602.

Sec 312. The owner or operator of a facility required to have a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for a hazardous chemical under OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Act), and regulations promulgated under OSHA must submit a MSDS or a list of such chemicals to the appropriate local emergency planning committee, the state emergency response commission, and the fire department with jurisdiction over the facility.

EPCRA STATE DELEGATIONS

State	SEC 313	SEC 304, 312
AR	N	ND
LA	N	ND
NM	N	ND
OK	ND	ND
TX	ND	ND

FEDERAL INSECTICIDE, FUNGICIDE, AND RODENTICIDE ACT (FIFRA)

FIFRA controls pesticide distribution, sale, and use requiring EPA registering, licensing, and labeling. Through delegation, states can take primacy on some parts of this work.

Sec 23: State Cooperation, Aid, and Training. This program enables delegated state authority to train their personnel and assist the EPA in implementing cooperative enforcement programs.

Endangered Species. Endangered Species Protection Program relies on cooperation between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), EPA Regions, states, and pesticide users to ensure that, in concordance with the Endangered Species Act, pesticide use will not result in harm to species listed as endangered and threatened by the FWS or to habitat critical to those species' survival.

Worker Protection. This program details the safety regulations that aim to protect workers from risks posed by agricultural pesticides. The regulations require warnings about the applications, use of personal protective equipment, and restrictions on entry to treated areas.

Groundwater Protection. This program allows the continued use of necessary pesticides that would otherwise have been prohibited for potential environmental harm. Delegated states that want to use certain pesticides can prepare a generic State Management Plan for those listed by the EPA in the Federal Register to prevent and reduce the possibility of ground water pollution.

FIFRA STATE DELEGATIONS

State	Sec 23(a)	Sec 23(b)	End. Species	Worker Protection	Groundwater Protection
AR	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
LA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
NM	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
OK	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
TX	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

OIL POLLUTION ACT (OPA)

EPA established OPA in response to public concern over effects of the Exxon Valdez oil spill. OPA aims to provide standards and resources for the nation to adequately prevent and respond to future spills. The statute focuses on oil spills into navigable waters, and highlights the prevention of spills and liability for spill clean-up and damages to natural resources. States can acquire delegation of this work

OPA STATE DELEGATIONS

State	OPA
AR	ND
LA	ND
NM	ND
OK	ND
TX	ND

COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE, COMPENSATION, AND LIABILITY ACT (CERCLA)

CERCLA was passed in 1980 to give EPA the authority to respond to releases or threatened releases of hazardous substance, pollutants or contaminants that may present an imminent and substantial threat to public health or welfare. EPA can initiate the action or require potentially responsible parties (PRPs) to take action and seek reimbursement of costs from the PRPs. The program is not delegable to the states.

CERCLA STATE DELEGATIONS

State	CERCLA
AR	ND
LA	ND
NM	ND
OK	ND
TX	ND

KEY ABBREVIATIONS IN DELEGATION TABLES

Codes

I	Interim Status -- state is operating the program pending final EPA authorizations.
IN	In the process of being delegated/authorized or SIP approved.
ND	Not subject to delegation, but states may have approved program.
P	Partial Delegation/Authorization/Approval -- some parts of the programs have been approved but not the entire program.
S	State program -- program operated by the state, for which EPA approval is not applicable.
A	Approved state program or State Implementation Plan -- state's plan for meeting the applicable national standards.
Y	Delegated or Authorized -- the state runs the program under EPA oversight.
N	Not Delegated/Authorized/Approved
N/A	Not Applicable

Qualifications

1	The state has the authority to enforce some or all of these regulations; some approved through the SIP process, while others were delegated.
2	EPA still maintains responsibility for audit resolution.
3	Only the enforcement portion can be delegated.
4	Program close-out.

REGION 6 PETITIONS

Petition	Date Filed	Stat/Reg Basis	State	Brief Summary	Specified Deadline if Applicable[1]	Status
Petitions to Withdraw State Programs						
Petition to Withdraw/Find Substantially Inadequate TX's Federally Approved Permitting Programs	01/11/16	CWA §402(c)(3); 40 CFR 123.62 & 123.63; APA §553(e)	TX	Filed by Environmental Defense Fund and Caddo Lake Institute seeking withdrawal of TCEQ's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting authority under the CWA and requesting that EPA find Texas' new source review permitting program under the CAA substantially inadequate. The Petition alleges amendments to the state's Contested Case Hearing process restrict public participation in the permitting process in ways problematic to Texas's federally approved/authorized permitting programs.	None specified by statute or regulation	Under Review
Petition to Withdraw LA's NPDES Program	05/15/97	CWA §402(c); 40 CFR 123.63 & 123.63	LA	Filed by Tulane Environmental Law Clinic on behalf of the Gulf Coast Commercial Fisherman's Coalition, the Delta Chapter of the Sierra Club and the Louisiana Action Network requesting EPA withdraw LA's NPDES program. The Petition alleged LDEQ had improperly used three emergency rules to "authorize" continued discharges of produced water beyond a January 1,	None specified by statute or regulation	Initial allegations resolved in '97. Working with LA to address wording of Emergency Declarations during flood events.

[1]NOTE that even if a particular deadline is not specified in law, the Administrative Procedure Act more generally refers to a court being able to "compel agency action unlawfully withheld or unreasonably delayed" in some circumstances. See, e.g., 5 U.S.C. § 706(1).

Petition	Date Filed	Stat/Reg Basis	State	Brief Summary	Specified Deadline if Applicable[1]	Status
				1997, "no discharge" deadline in the facilities' NPDES permits.		
Request for Withdrawal of UIC Primacy from the Oklahoma Corporation Commission (Identical Request received from 28 additional citizens)	08/19/15	40 CFR 145.33 and 145.34	OK	Letter from Oklahoma citizen asking EPA to withdraw Primacy for the Underground Injection Control (UIC) program under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) from the Oklahoma Corporation Commission due to ongoing earthquakes.	None specified by regulation	Under Review
Air Petitions						
Notice of Intent to Sue regarding alleged unreasonable delay in addressing SSM exemptions in revised permits for coal fired power plants	Petition received 5/25/15; Notice of Intent received 7/1/16		TX			Working with TX on path forward
Notice of Intent to sue regarding alleged unreasonable delay to revise, reissue, or deny the Pirkey Title V permit issued by TCEQ	9/30/17	APA §706(1)	TX	The Environmental Integrity Project petitioned EPA to correct certain deficiencies contained in a title V permit issued by TCEQ.	None specified by Statute	Working with TCEQ on a path forward
Petition for EPA Action Addressing Startup, Shutdown, and Maintenance Exemptions in Revised Permits for Texas Coal-fired Power Plants	05/27/15	APA §553(e)	TX	The Environmental Integrity Project (EIP) and seven other environmental groups petitioned EPA to correct identified deficiencies with Texas's implementation of its planned maintenance, startup, and shutdown (MSS) air permitting program.	None specified by Statute	Path Forward Agreed to
Notice of Intent to Sue for Delay in Responding to above Petition	07/01/16	APA §706(1)	TX	EIP submitted a NOI to sue EPA for unreasonable delay in responding to the May 27, 2015 petition.	60 days up 08/31/16	

Petition	Date Filed	Stat/Reg Basis	State	Brief Summary	Specified Deadline if Applicable[1]	Status
Water Petitions						
Petition asking EPA to determine WQS are necessary for Mossy Lake and Coffee Creek	09/10/15	APA §553(e); CWA §303(c)(4)(B)	ARK	Filed by Tulane Environmental Law Clinic on behalf of Ouachita Riverkeeper seeking a determination that new/revised water quality standards (WQS) are necessary for Mossy Lake and Coffee Creek in Ark.	None specified by statute or regulation.	Under Review
Notice of Intent to Sue regarding EPA's alleged Failure to o Consult on Approval of LA WQS	01/10/17	ESA §7(a)(2)	LA	60 Day Notice of Intent (NOI) to sue for violations of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) related to EPA's alleged failure to consult under Section 7(a)(2) on the approval of Louisiana's Dissolved Oxygen Criteria Revisions for the Eastern Lower Mississippi Alluvial Plain (eLMRAP) Ecoregion. Submitted by Tulane Environmental Law Clinic on behalf of the Gulf Restoration Network, Little Tchefuncte River Association, Sierra Club Delta Chapter, Louisiana Audubon Council, and the Louisiana Environmental Action Network.	60 days up 03/11/17	Under Review

Petition	Date Filed	Stat/Reg Basis	State	Brief Summary	Specified Deadline if Applicable[1]	Status
Letter asking Region 6 to Review and Object to Draft NPDES Permit for GP-Crossett Paper Operations in Crossett, Ark.	05/03/17		ARK	Letter from Tulane Environmental Law Clinic on behalf of Ouachita Riverkeeper and Louisiana Action Network (LEAN) asking EPA to object to ADEQ's draft NPDES permit for the Georgia-Pacific Crossett LLC – Crossett Paper Operations facility in Crossett, Ark.	None	EPA issued interim objection on 05/19/17 seeking additional information
Cross Cutting Issues Petitions						
Notice of Intent to Sue alleging EPA failed to reinitiate ESA consultation with FWS on EPA's prior approval of Texas' NPDES program	10/24/17	ESA §7(a)(2); 50 CFR §402.16	TX	60 Day Notice of Intent (NOI) to sue for violations of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) related to EPA's alleged failure to reinitiate consultation under ESA Section 7(a)((2) regarding EPA's 1998 approval of Texas' NPDES program. Submitted by Frederick, Perales, Allmon & Rockwell law firm on behalf of Protect our Water (POW).	60 days up 12/23/17	Under Review
RCRA Petitions						
17 RCRA No-Migration Petitions: Angus Chemical – Sterling, LA Texas Molecular – Deer Park, TX Vopak – Deer Park, TX		40 CFR 268.6	LA, TX, ARK	Petitions filed by various hazardous waste injection well operators for variances to the Hazardous Waste Land Disposal Prohibitions under subpart C of 40 CFR Part 268.	None specified by regulation	Various stages of Review

Petition	Date Filed	Stat/Reg Basis	State	Brief Summary	Specified Deadline if Applicable[1]	Status
Letter asking Region 6 to Review and Object to Draft NPDES Permit for GP-Crossett Paper Operations in Crossett, Ark.	05/03/17		ARK	Letter from Tulane Environmental Law Clinic on behalf of Ouachita Riverkeeper and Louisiana Action Network (LEAN) asking EPA to object to ADEQ's draft NPDES permit for the Georgia-Pacific Crossett LLC – Crossett Paper Operations facility in Crossett, Ark.	None	EPA issued interim objection on 05/19/17 seeking additional information
Cross Cutting Issues Petitions						
Notice of Intent to Sue alleging EPA failed to reinitiate ESA consultation with FWS on EPA's prior approval of Texas' NPDES program	10/24/17	ESA §7(a)(2); 50 CFR §402.16	TX	60 Day Notice of Intent (NOI) to sue for violations of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) related to EPA's alleged failure to reinitiate consultation under ESA Section 7(a)((2) regarding EPA's 1998 approval of Texas' NPDES program. Submitted by Frederick, Perales, Allmon & Rockwell law firm on behalf of Protect our Water (POW).	60 days up 12/23/17	Under Review
RCRA Petitions						
17 RCRA No-Migration Petitions: Angus Chemical – Sterling, LA Texas Molecular – Deer Park, TX Vopak – Deer Park, TX		40 CFR 268.6	LA, TX, ARK	Petitions filed by various hazardous waste injection well operators for variances to the Hazardous Waste Land Disposal Prohibitions under subpart C of 40 CFR Part 268.	None specified by regulation	Various stages of Review

Petition	Date Filed	Stat/Reg Basis	State	Brief Summary	Specified Deadline if Applicable[1]	Status
				the Hazardous Ranking System. The site was proposed for the NPL on 9/9/2016. Final listing on the NPL is pending.	The last NPL update was 9/9/16.	
Petition to propose American Creosote Deridder site to the NPL	12/15/16	CERCLA § 105 as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 9605	LA	Petition submitted by LDEQ asking that the American Creosote Deridder site be proposed to the NPL based on evaluations of the site under the Hazardous Ranking System. The site has not been proposed to the NPL.	CERCLA § 105(a)(8)(B) requires that the *NPL* be revised at least *annually.* The last NPL update was 9/9/16.	The Site was proposed for addition to the NPL on August 3, 2017.
Petition to propose Eagle Industries site to the NPL	3/8/17	CERCLA § 105 as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 9605	OK	Petition submitted by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma supporting proposal of the Eagle Industries site to the NPL and requesting EPA's assistance in addressing contamination. The site has not been proposed to the NPL.	CERCLA § 105(a)(8)(B) requires that the *NPL* be revised at least *annually.* The last NPL update was 9/9/16.	The Site was proposed for addition to the NPL on August 3, 2017.
Letter/petition for Removal of San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site	2016?		TX	Letter/petition filed by 10's of 1,000's of citizens supporting EPA's proposal to remove the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site along the San Jacinto River east of Houston.		On October 11, 2017 the EPA Administrator signed a Record of Decision selecting a remedy which requires removal of contaminated soils from the Site.
Title VI Petitions						
Title VI Complaint against ADEQ	04/26/16	Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d; 40 C.F.R. Part 7	ARK	Complaint filed by Tulane Environmental Law Clinic on behalf of LEAN, et al, alleging ADEQ violated Title VI by allowing administrative continuance of GP - Crossett's NPDES permit,	Various deadlines for complaint investigation and resolution established	EPA's External Civil Rights Compliance Office (ECRCO) accepted the

Petition	Date Filed	Stat/Reg Basis	State	Brief Summary	Specified Deadline if Applicable[1]	Status
				which the Complaint alleges does not meet the requirements of the CWA, and by exposing the African American community in the vicinity of GP – Crossett to harmful emissions and by effectively denying them use of Coffee Creek.	under 40 C.F.R. 7.115(c)	complaint for investigation on 6/28/16. EPA is working toward informal resolution of the complaint through a compliance agreement with ADEQ.
Title VI Complaint against Albuquerque Air Quality Division and the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Air Quality Control Board	9/16/14	Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d; 40 C.F.R. Part 7	NM	Complaint filed by the Southwest Organizing Project alleging the Albuquerque Air Quality Division and the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Air Quality Control Board violated Title VI with regard to the City of Albuquerque's minority residents by not considering cumulative impacts when permitting air polluting facilities and by denying a request for hearing to adopt a requirement for consideration of cumulative impacts in the permitting process.	Various deadlines for complaint investigation and resolution established under 40 C.F.R. 7.115(c)	EPA is working toward resolution of the complaint with the City of Albuquerque.

[i] Chart does not necessarily include all Notices of Intent to Sue or all Petitions filed under CAA Title V. Region 7 maintains a separate database of the Title V Petitions nationwide.

REGION 6 DEFENSIVE LITIGATION STATUS
December 2017

COURT DEADLINES FOR EPA ACTION

Action	Deadline	Comments
LA Regional Haze	12/15/17	CD deadline to take final action
TX Regional Haze BART	9/29/17	Pursuant to CD deadline, Administrator signed final action.
SO2 Designations	Round 3: 12/31/17 Round 4: 12/31/20	Round 3: modeled areas/ areas with no monitors Round 4: remaining areas/ newly monitored areas

[1] The information provided is based upon current projects within the Office of Regional Counsel.

ACTIVE DEFENSIVE LITIGATION DEADLINES

Action	Deadline	Comments
TX Regional Haze Reasonable Progress, 5th Circuit[2]	Status Report filed on 12/4/17	Remanded without vacatur 3/22/17
TX Regional Haze Reasonable Progress, 10th Circuit		Transferred to 5th Circuit
TX Regional Haze Reasonable Progress, D.C. Circuit	12/27/17 (Status Report, which we plan to file early on 12/15)	Stayed pending 5th Circuit resolution
TX Regional Haze BART D.C. District	12/4/17	Plaintiffs filed sur-reply in support of why EPA's final action dated 9/29/17 did not satisfy the CD obligation
TX Interstate Transport 5th Circuit	5/11/2018	Deadline to reinstate the petition. Settlement discussions continue
SO2 designations Rounds 1 and 2 D.C. Circuit	2/12/18 (EPA brief due)	This is a challenge to designations involving multiple states. It is likely that all Texas issues are pending until the 5th Circuit acts
SO2 designations Rounds 1 and 2, 5th Circuit	1/10/18 (Status Report)	Action held in abeyance pending Agency consideration of Petitions for Reconsideration.
Arkansas Regional Haze 8th Circuit[3]	12/15/17	Abeyance concludes. Will request further abeyance from court. Merits briefs and stay motions are currently being held in abeyance to facilitate settlement.
Texas T5 petitions D.C. District	1/17/18	EPA's cross reply in support of EPA's summary judgment motion due.
2015 Ozone Designations Northern District of CA	12/4/17	Complaint filed for declaratory and injunctive relief for nondiscretionary CAA failure to promulgate designations for all areas by Oct. 1, 2017.
Gold King Mine New Mexico District Court		Awaiting decision on EPA's motion for summary judgment. EPA is pursuing settlement
Entergy Confidential Business Information (CBI) determination challenge Eastern District of Louisiana		Case stayed for settlement discussions Entergy and intervenor Sierra Club are having settlement discussions
City of Ruidoso Downs and Village of Ruidoso WWSTP NPDES Environmental Appeals Board (EAB)	1/18/17	Responsive brief due
Request to terminate NPDES permit as to 1 outfall at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) facility Environmental Appeals Board (EAB)		Awaiting decision from EAB

[2] EPA partially granted a petition for reconsideration filed by Luminant with respect to the Texas regional haze reasonable progress FIP.

[3] EPA partially granted a petition for reconsideration filed by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality with respect to the Arkansas regional haze FIP.

District 3
Steve Womack (R)

District 4
Bruce Westerman (R)

District 03

District 02

District 04

Little Rock

BENTON
CARROLL
BOONE
MARION
BAXTER
FULTON
SHARP
IZARD
WASHINGTON
MADISON
NEWTON
SEARCY
STONE
INDEPENDENCE
CRAWFORD
JOHNSON
FRANKLIN
POPE
VAN BUREN
CLEBURNE
SEBASTIAN
LOGAN
CONWAY
FAULKNER
WHITE
YELL
PERRY
PRAIRIE
SCOTT
PULASKI
LONOKE
MONTGOMERY
GARLAND
SALINE
POLK
HOT SPRING
GRANT
JEFFERSON
PIKE
HOWARD
CLARK
SEVIER
DALLAS
CLEVELAND
LINCOLN
LITTLE RIVER
HEMPSTEAD
NEVADA
OUACHITA
CALHOUN
DREW
BRADLEY
MILLER
COLUMBIA
UNION
ASHLEY
LAFAYETTE

ARKANSAS
115th U.S. Congressional Districts

There are no Federally recognized tribes in Arkansas.

District 1
Rick Crawford (R)

District 2
French Hill (R)

Governor

Asa Hutchinson (R)

Director
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality

Becky Keogh

Senator John Boozman (R)

Senator Tom Cotton (R)

Legend

- State Capitol
- Interstate
- State
- County

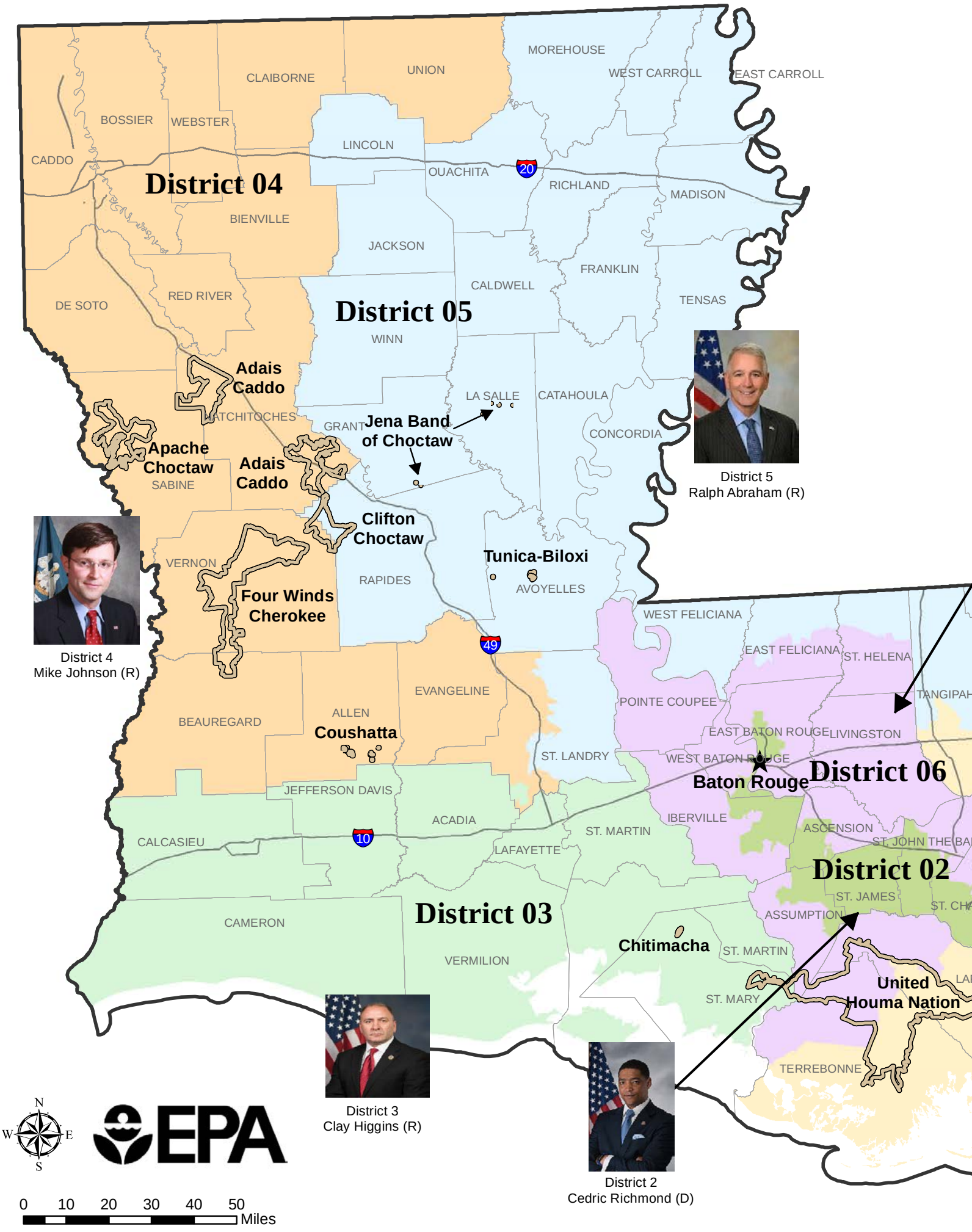
Congressional District
- 01
- 02
- 03
- 04

N W E S

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 Miles

Data Sources
Base Features: U.S. Census Bureau.
115th Congressional Districts: U.S. Census Bureau.
Photos: Respective websites.

Map Created by EPA Region 6 Superfund GIS Support for EPA Region 6 External Affairs.
February 8, 2017. Map ID 20170208ML01.


District 04
District 05
District 06
District 02
District 03
CADDO
BOSSIER
WEBSTER
CLAIBORNE
UNION
MOREHOUSE
WEST CARROLL
EAST CARROLL
LINCOLN
OUACHITA
RICHLAND
MADISON
BIENVILLE
JACKSON
FRANKLIN
CALDWELL
TENSAS
DE SOTO
RED RIVER
WINN
LA SALLE
CATAHOULA
CONCORDIA
GRANT
NATCHITOCHES
SABINE
VERNON
RAPIDES
AVOYELLES
WEST FELICIANA
EAST FELICIANA
ST. HELENA
POINTE COUPEE
EAST BATON ROUGE
LIVINGSTON
WEST BATON ROUGE
Baton Rouge
ST. LANDRY
EVANGELINE
ALLEN
BEAUREGARD
JEFFERSON DAVIS
ACADIA
IBERVILLE
ASCENSION
ST. MARTIN
CALCASIEU
LAFAYETTE
ST. JAMES
ASSUMPTION
CAMERON
VERMILION
ST. MARY
TERREBONNE
Adais Caddo
Apache Choctaw
Adais Caddo
Jena Band of Choctaw
Clifton Choctaw
Tunica-Biloxi
Four Winds Cherokee
Coushatta
Chitimacha
United Houma Nation
District 5
Ralph Abraham (R)
District 4
Mike Johnson (R)
District 3
Clay Higgins (R)
District 2
Cedric Richmond (D)
N
W
E
S
EPA
0 10 20 30 40 50
Miles

LOUISIANA
115th U.S. Congressional Districts and Tribal Lands

Governor

John Bel Edwards (D)

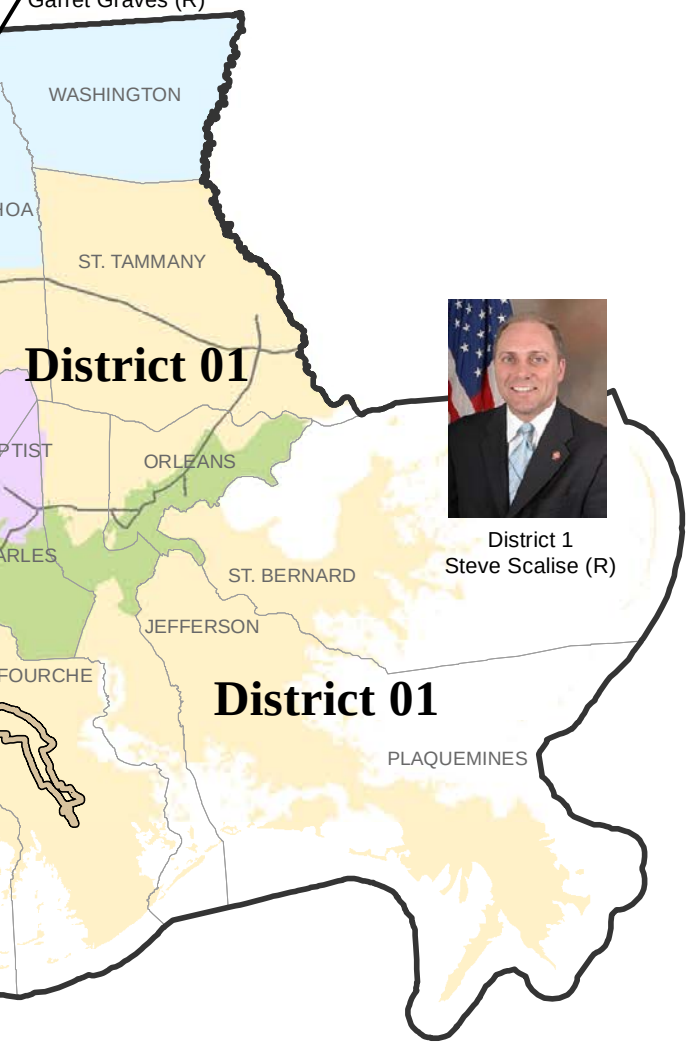
Secretary
LA Department of Environmental Quality

Chuck Carr Brown

Senator Bill Cassidy (R)

Senator John Neely Kennedy (R)

District 6
Garret Graves (R)



District 1
Steve Scalise (R)

Legend

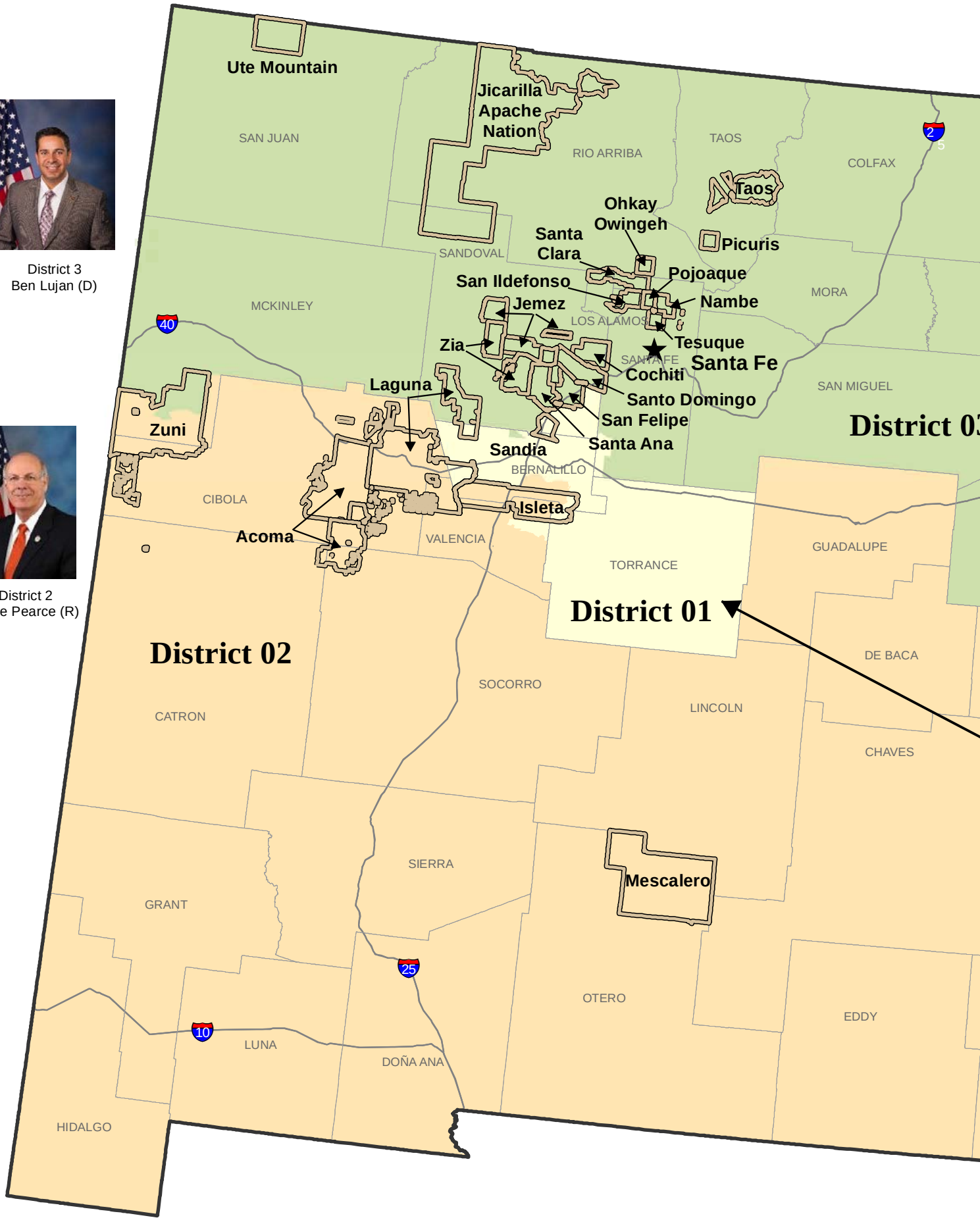
★ State Capitol	Congressional District
Interstate	01
Tribal Land	02
Parish	03
State	04
	05
	06

Data Sources
Base Features: U.S. Census Bureau.
115th Congressional Districts: U.S. Census Bureau.
Photos: Respective websites.

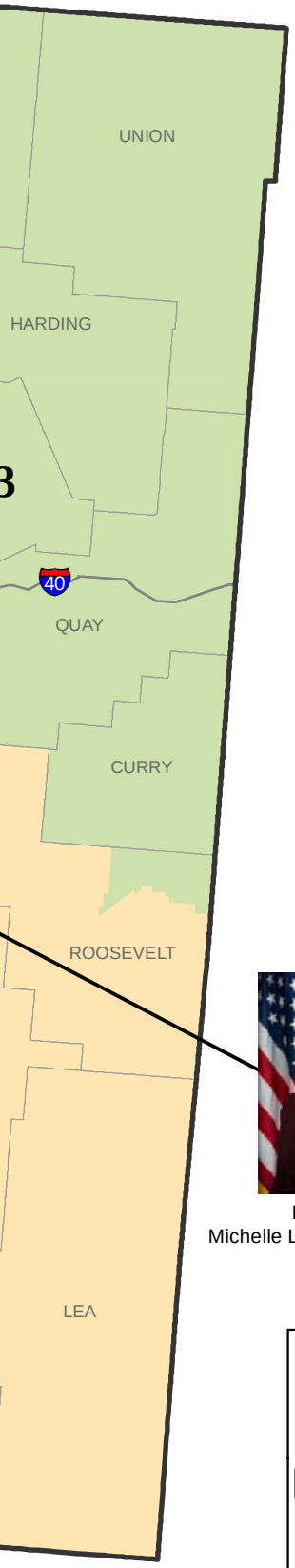
Map Created by EPA Region 6 Superfund GIS Support for EPA Region 6 External Affairs.
February 8, 2017. Map ID 20170208ML04.

District 3
Ben Lujan (D)

District 2
Steve Pearce (R)



NEW MEXICO
115th U.S. Congressional Districts and Tribal Lands



Governor

Susana Martinez (R)

Secretary
NM Environment Department

Butch Tongate

Senator Tom Udall (D)

Senator Martin Heinrich (D)

District 1
Michelle Lujan Grisham (D)

Legend

★ State Capitol	Congressional District
Interstate	01
Tribal Land	02
County	03
State	

N
W E
S

0 20 40 60 80 100
Miles

Data Sources
Base Features: U.S. Census Bureau.
115th Congressional Districts: U.S. Census Bureau.
Photos: Respective websites.

Map Created by EPA Region 6 Superfund GIS Support for EPA Region 6 External Affairs.
February 8, 2017. Map ID 20170208ML03.

OKLAHOMA
Tribal Lands

N
W E
S

EPA

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70

Miles

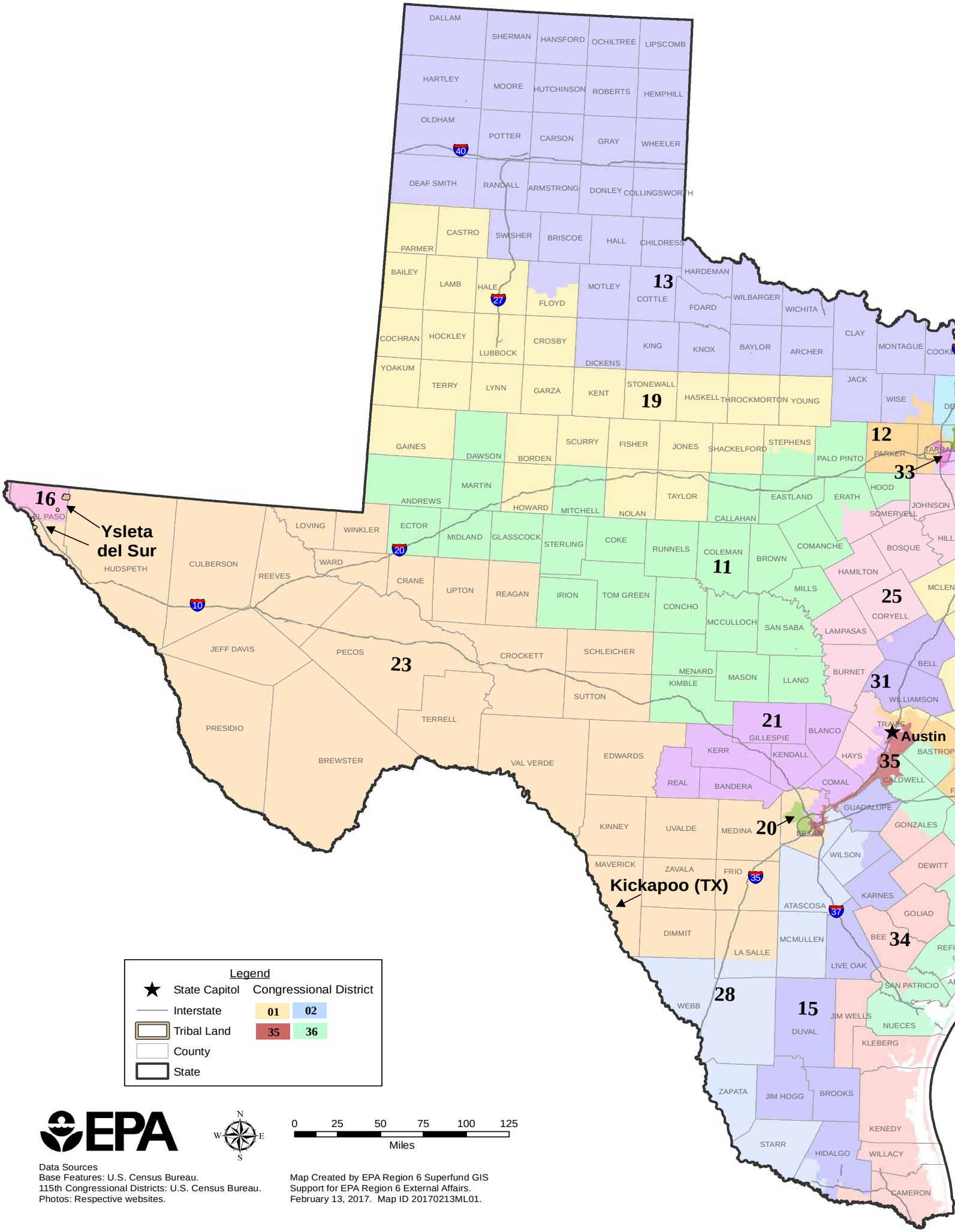
Data Sources
Base Features: U.S. Census Bureau, NAVTEQ.

Map Created by EPA Region 6 Superfund GIS Support for EPA Region 6 External Affairs.
February 14, 2017. Map ID 20170214ML03.

Legend

- ★ State Capitol
- Major City or Town
- Interstate
- Tribal Land
- County
- State

Kaw/Ponca
Kaw
KAY
GRANT
ALFALFA
Tonkawa
Ponca City
OSAGE
Osage
Ponca
Otoe-Missouria
GARFIELD
MAJOR
NOBLE
PAWNEE
Pawnee
35
Miami
Quapaw
Miami/Peoria
Peoria
Ottawa
Modoc
NOWATA
Eastern Shawnee
WASHINGTON
Wyandotte
Oologah Lake
CRAIG
Seneca-Cayuga
Grand Lake O The Cherokees
44
ROGERS
DELAWARE
MAYES
Cherokee
Tulsa
TULSA
PAYNE
KINGFISHER
BLAINE
LOGAN
WAGONER
CHEROKEE
ADAIR
CREEK
Iowa
Sac and Fox
Muscogee (Creek)
Muskogee
LINCOLN
OKMULGEE
MUSKOGEE
Kickapoo
CANADIAN
OKLAHOMA
SEQUOYAH
Oklahoma City
Caddo-Wichita-Delaware
OKFUSKEE
40
MCINTOSH
Creek/ Seminole
CLEVELAND
POTTAWATOMIE
Citizen Potawatomi Nation-Absentee Shawnee
CADDO
SEMINOLE
Asa Hutchinson (R)
Lake Eufaula
HASKELL
HUGHES
PITTSBURG
Seminole
MCCLAIN
Washita River
GRADY
LE FLORE
LATIMER
Ada
GARVIN
PONTOTOC
Fort Sill Apache
Lawton
COAL
Choctaw
MURRAY
PUSHMATAHA
STEPHENS
ATOKA
Chickasaw
JOHNSTON
CARTER
Ardmore
Tribal Nation Tpke
MCCURTAIN
JEFFERSON
LOVE
MARSHALL
Durant
CHOCTAW
Lake Texoma
BRYAN
Red River



Data Sources
Base Features: U.S. Census Bureau.
115th Congressional Districts: U.S. Census Bureau.
Photos: Respective websites.

Map Created by EPA Region 6 Superfund GIS
Support for EPA Region 6 External Affairs.
February 13, 2017. Map ID 20170213ML01.

TEXAS
115th U.S. Congressional Districts and Tribal Lands

Governor

Greg Abbott (R)

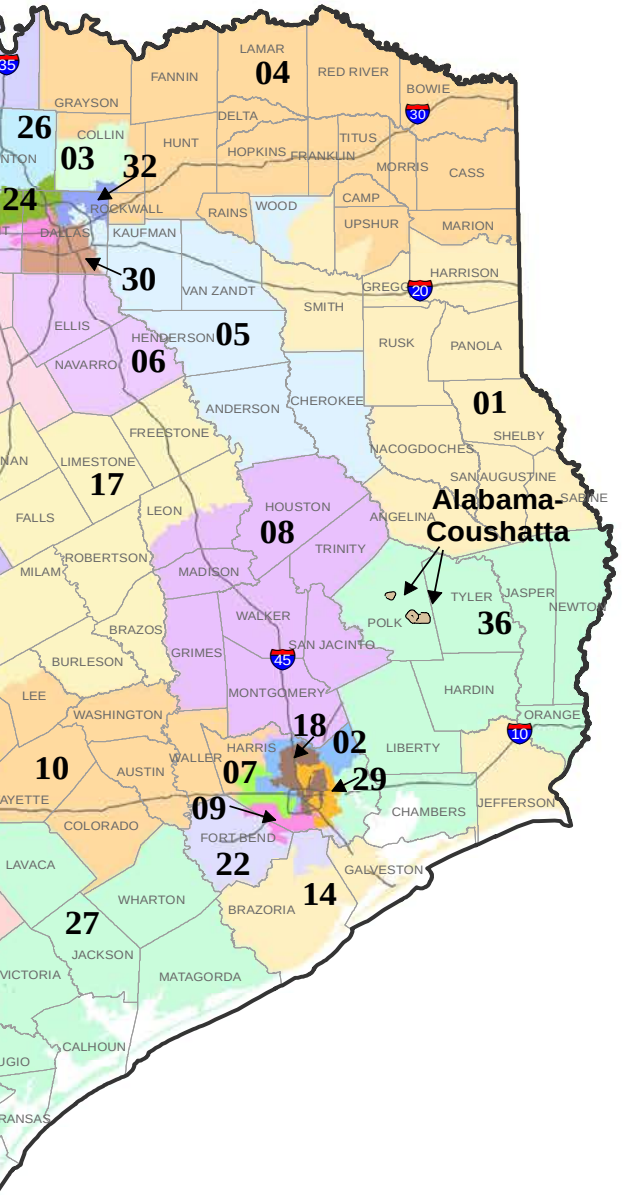
Chairman

TX Commission on Environmental Quality

Bryan Shaw

Senator John Cornyn (R)

Senator Ted Cruz (R)



Representatives by District

1. Louie Gohmert (R)

2. Ted Poe (R)

3. Sam Johnson (R)

4. John Ratcliffe (R)

5. Jeb Hensarling (R)

6. Joe Barton (R)

7. John Abney Culberson (R)

8. Kevin Brady (R)

9. Al Green (D)

10. Michael T. McCaul (R)

11. Mike Conaway (R)

12. Kay Granger (R)

25. Roger Williams (R)

26. Michael C. Burgess (R)

27. Blake Farenthold (R)

28. Henry Cuellar (D)

29. Gene Green (D)

30. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D)

13. Mac Thornberry (R)

14. Randy Weber (R)

15. Vincente Gonzalez (D)

16. Beto O'Rourke (D)

17. Bill Flores (R)

18. Sheila Jackson-Lee (D)

19. Jodey Arrington (R)

20. Joaquin Castro (D)

21. Lamar S. Smith (R)

22. Pete Olson (R)

23. Will Hurd (R)

24. Kenny Marchant (R)

31. John R. Carter (R)

32. Pete Sessions (R)

33. Marc Veasey (D)

34. Filemon Vela (D)

35. Lloyd Doggett (D)

36. Brian Babin (R)

U.S. EPA Region 6
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Dallas, TX 75202

December 2017