To: Amy Bhesania[Bhesania.Amy@epa.gov]
From: Weber, Rebecca
Sent: Tue 10/20/2015 8:03:35 PM
Subject: FW: Daily Digest for 10/20/15

See gsa meeting…r u aware of what is being discussed? There are many opps w them…

From: Albano, Emily
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2015 2:48 PM
To: R7 Daily Digest INBOX <R7_Daily_Digest_INBOX@epa.gov>
Subject: Daily Digest for 10/20/15

OPA Daily Digest for 10/20/15

Upcoming EPA Region 7 Events by Division

* New additions noted with an asterisk

RA:

10/27/15 - Courtesy Visit with Rob Manes and John Cougher, The Nature Conservancy, Regional Office. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

10/29/15 – Regional Recognition Ceremony, Regional Office. Contact: Monica Espinosa, 7541

11/2/15 – Regional Tribal Operations Committee Meeting, Sloan, Iowa. Contact: Patrick Bustos, 7969

11/10/15 – Meeting with GSA Region 6 Administrator on Executive Order requirement for EPA/GSA climate change program development through Federal Executive Board, Regional Office. Contact: Chris Taylor, 7736

11/12/15 – National Association of Farm Broadcasters Convention, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

11/30/15 - Process Excellence Improvement Training, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Jonathan Cooper, 7287

12/8-9/15 - Four State Directors Meeting, Regional Office. Contact: Dick Sumpter, 7661

DRA:

10/27/15 - Courtesy Visit with Rob Manes and John Cougher, The Nature Conservancy, Regional Office. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

11/17-18/15 - Executive Management Council Meeting, Washington D.C. Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

12/8-9/15 - Four State Directors Meeting, Regional Office. Contact: Dick Sumpter, 7661

10/29/15 – Regional Recognition Ceremony, Regional Office, Contact: Monica Espinosa, 7541

11/10/15 – Meeting with GSA Region 6 Administrator on Executive Order requirement for EPA/GSA climate change program development through Federal Executive Board, Regional Office. Contact: Chris Taylor, 7736

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

10/20/15 – Central States Air Resources Assoc. (CenSARA) meeting, Lincoln, Neb. Contacts: Mike Jay, 7460

10/20/15 - Energy & Environment Policy Forum, Kansas City, Missouri. Contact: Craig Bernstein, 7688

10/26/15 – Clean Harbors permit public information session, Kimball, Neb. Contact: Ken Herstowski, 7631

10/28/15 – Nebraska Power Summit to discuss Clean Power Plan, Lincoln, Neb. Contact: Mark Smith, 7876

10/29/15 – Iowa Emergency Response Commission meeting, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Pat Reitz, 7674

11/2/15 – Regional Tribal Operations Committee, "Air Matters: Healthy Homes Kit" presentation, Sloan, Iowa (Winnebago Tribe), Gina Grier, 7078

11/3-4/15 - Iowa Energy Summit, Altoona, Iowa. Staffing ENERGY STAR display. Contact: Craig Bernstein 7688

11/4-5/15 – RCRA division directors meeting, Washington, DC. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487

CNSL

10/23/15 - Iowa Bar Association Annual Meeting, Des Moines, EPA Update (general update on hot issues, legal developments, and priorities). Contact: David Cozad, 7587

10/27/15 – St. Louis Area Safety Council, EPA Update, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: David Cozad, 7587

ECO

11/18- 19/15 – MDNR Integrated Compliance Information System–National Pollutant Discharge

Elimination System (ICIS-NPDES) HQ Training, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact: Neal Gilbert, 7985

ENST

10/22-23/15 - MESB nutrient sampling field work on UMR, Missouri River and major tributaries. Contact: Larry Shepard, x7441 and Gary Welker, x7177.

10/27/15 - Corps Annual Operating Plan meeting for 2016 AOP in Corps office near Smithville Lake. AOP is yearly plan implementing the Corps Master Control Water Plan for Mo River System (reservoir releases). Contact: Larry Shepard, 7441.

10/30/15 - Corps Missouri River Bed Loss Feasibility Study/EIS Stakeholders meeting at MARC (9:00 to 11). Contact: Larry Shepard, x7441.

11/16-20/15 – Quality Assurance Training at Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Diane Harris, 7258

PLMG

None

RA/OPA

None

SUPR

***10/20/15 –** Meeting with Metropolitan Area-Wide Planning Agency, Omaha, NE: contact: Jennifer Morris, x7341

***10/20/15 –** Nebraska Brownfields Resource Conference, Lincoln, NE: contact: Jennifer Morris, x7341

***10/19-21/15 –** Federal Facilities Leadership Conference, Washington, DC: contact Jeff Field, x7548

***10/21-22/15 –** Meeting with Upper Mississippi River Spills Group, Davenport, Iowa: contact Joe Davis, x7909

***10/22-23/15 –** Iowa Hazmat Symposium, Ames, Iowa: contact: Doug Ferguson, x7221

***10/26-29/15 –** National Response Team Meeting, St. Louis, MO: contact Scott Hayes, x7670

10/29/15 – National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, a public meeting will be held to announce the award of a HUD Lead Hazard Control grant and to celebrate the transition of the Omaha Lead site from EPA-lead to Local-lead. Key HUD officials participating in the meeting are Michelle Miller, Asst. Deputy Director, Shannon Steinbauer and two local HUD staff. Omaha, Neb. Contact: Steve Kemp, 7194

***11/1-4/15 –** Superfund Director's Meeting, Washington DC: contact Mary Peterson, x7882

WWPD

10/19-23/15 – National Association of State Drinking Water Administrators meeting, Fort Worth, Tex. Contacts: Mary Mindrup, 7431, Neftali Hernandez-Santiago, 7036, Gabrielle Thompson, 7569

10/20-23/15 – EPA Region 5 Pretreatment Training Workshop, Chicago, Ill. Contacts: Paul Marshall, 7419, Seth Draper, 7080

10/21/15 – Renovation Repair and Painting Update Presentation, Cape Girardeau County Board of Realtors, Cape Girardeau, Mo. Contact: Tom Brick, 7913

10/21/15 – Renovation Repair and Painting Update Presentation, Painting and Decorating Contractors of America National Webinar, Maryland Heights, Mo. Contact: Tom Brick, 7913

10/23/15 – Speak at Iowa State Bar Association, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

10/27-29/15 – EPA National Drinking Water Direct Implementation Meeting, Las Vegas, Nev. Contact: Kim Burr, 7069

11/2-3/15 – Hypoxia Task Force Meeting, Washington, DC. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

11/4-6/15 – EPA Water Division Directors Meeting, Atlanta, Ga. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

11/12/15 – Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Climate Resilience Workshop, Kansas City, Mo. Contacts: Amy Shields, 7396, Roberta Vogel-Leutung, 7072

11/18-19/15 – Kansas Governor's Conference on the Future of Water in Kansas, Manhattan, Kan. Contact: Amy Shields, 7396

Congressional Inquiries:

Rep. Jason Smith (Mo.) – 10/6/15 – Email – Questions about EPA's fine to Crystal City for a sewage leak. Due: 10/9/15. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

State Government Inquiries:

None

Press Inquiries:

Inside EPA – Bridget DiCosmo – 8/3/15 – Requesting interview with Acting Regional Administrator Mark Hague on EPA's e-enterprise efforts. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (open)

KETC Channel 9 Public Television, St. Louis – Brenda Madden Kimberlin – 9/23/15 – Questions about Carter Carburetor Superfund Site in St. Louis. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

KMUW St. Louis Public Radio – Veronique LeCapra – 10/14/15 – Questions about Westlake Landfill and emergency response plan. Contact: Curtis Carey, 7506 (open)

Wall Street Journal – John Emshwiller – 10/16/15 - Questions about the West Lake Landfill. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (open)

KWMU St. Louis Public Radio – Veronique LaCapra – 10/16/15 - Questions about the West Lake Landfill. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (closed)

KSDK Channel 5 St. Louis – Mary Ann Martinez – 10/16/15 - Questions about the West Lake Landfill. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (open)

St. Louis Post-Dispatch – Jacob Barker – 10/16/15 - Questions about the West Lake Landfill. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (closed)

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: http://go.usa.gov/Qx5

None

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets

None

Environmental Stories:

Los Angeles Times - Officials squabble as underground fire burns near radioactive waste dump in St. Louis area – 10/20/15 - A fire is smoldering beneath a landfill in a densely populated suburb of St. Louis — and it has been there for five years. Underground landfill fires, or "smoldering events" as some officials call them, aren't rare. What makes the fire at the landfill in Bridgeton, Mo., so unusual is that it's less than a quarter of a mile from a large deposit of nuclear waste — with no barrier in its way.

http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-nuclear-fire-20151020-story.html

Waste360 - The Bridgeton Landfill Fire Explained – 10/20/15 - In recent weeks, there's been a flurry of stories and reports about the Bridgeton (Mo.) Sanitary Landfill. An underground fire has smoldered on the site for more than five years, which is of concern because of radioactive waste that was buried on the site illegally in 1973.

http://waste360.com/nuisances/bridgeton-landfill-fire-explained

Lake News Online - Missouri among 20 other states challenging EPA's Clean Power Plan – 10/20/15 - Missouri Attorney General Chris Koster recently announced the state would be joining 22 others in challenging the EPA's Clean Power Plan, arguing the plan exceeds the federal agency's authority that set strict limits on carbon emissions for each state.

http://www.lakenewsonline.com/article/20151019/NEWS/151019022

Topeka Capital-Journal - Meeting to discuss Clean Power Plan – 10/20/15 - An informational briefing on the federally mandated Clean Power Plan is scheduled for 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4, at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Topeka, 4775 S.W. 21st.

http://cjonline.com/news/2015-10-20/meeting-discuss-clean-power-plan

Neosho Daily News - BILL REIBOLDT: Maybe it's time to investigate EPA – 10/19/15 - Multi-state opposition has been building against the Obama Administration's recent EPA rulings on water and energy. Several states have joined together in lawsuits to challenge the controversial Waters of the United States (WOTUS) and the Clean Power Plan (CPP).

http://www.neoshodailynews.com/article/20151019/OPINION/151018967

E&E Publishing - State regulators, utilities see advantages in mass-based approach to EPA rule – 10/20/15 - U.S. EPA's draft Clean Power Plan prompted concerns last year about a "dash to gas" -- a wide-scale, costly build-out of natural-gas-fired generation to replace retiring coal plants.

http://www.eenews.net/stories/1060026570

KWWL-TV Ch. 7 - Waterloo consent agreement passes in alleged EPA violations – 10/20/15 - You can expect to pay more in sewer usage taxes in the near future if you live in Waterloo. The city of Waterloo is accused of violating the federal Clean Water Act, specifically in regards to sewage overflow, and now it has to pay millions of dollars.

http://www.kwwl.com/story/30301563/2015/10/19/waterloo-consent-agreement-passes-in-alleged-epa-violations

Associated Press – Monitors arrive after radioactive waste site fire in Nevada – 10/20/15 - Radiation wasn't immediately detected during fly-overs of a burned trench containing long-buried radioactive waste at a commercial disposal site in rural southern Nevada, state and federal officials said Monday.

http://www.kansascity.com/news/article40152912.html

Fox News - GOP senator rips EPA, White House for skipping climate hearing – 10/19/15 - A top Republican senator is crying foul after the Environmental Protection Agency and a key White House office declined to take part in an upcoming hearing on the administration's role in international climate negotiations, ahead of a landmark conference in Paris next month.

http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2015/10/19/republican-epa-obama-hearing/

DeSmog (blog) - EPA Coal Ash Regulations Take Effect Today, But Battle Continues – 10/20/15 - Until the Tennessee Valley Authority's coal ash disaster shoved homes from their foundations in the middle of the night in Dec. 2008, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, bending to pressure from industry, allowed coal plants to self-monitor coal ash waste.

http://www.desmogblog.com/2015/10/19/epa-coal-ash-regulations-take-effect-today-battle-continues

Daily Caller - Trump Vows To Cut 'Disgraceful' EPA – 10/20/15 - Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump is vowing to take a hatchet to the federal government if elected, putting the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in his crosshairs.

http://dailycaller.com/2015/10/19/trump-vows-to-cut-disgraceful-epa/

Hoosier Ag Today - EPA Under Investigation Over RFS Data – 10/20/15 – The Environmental Protection Agency's internal watchdog is launching an investigation into the agency's analysis of the climate impacts of biofuels, according to Agri Pulse. In a letter posted on its website, EPA's Office of Inspector General said it "plans to begin preliminary research" to determine whether EPA has properly accounted for the full greenhouse gas emissions of biofuels.

http://www.hoosieragtoday.com/epa-under-investigation-over-rfs-data/

RTO Insider - Former EPA Official: Clean Power Plan won't Survive – 10/20/15 - Former Environmental Protection Agency official Jeff Holmstead says he hasn't made predictions on how the courts will rule on previous environmental rules affecting the electric industry.

http://www.rtoinsider.com/former-epa-official-clean-power-plan-18582/

Waterloo Cedar Falls Courier - Waterloo City Council approves EPA consent decree – 10/20/15 - City Council members have agreed to pay a $272,000 fine and make sewer improvements to resolve claims brought by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

http://wcfcourier.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/waterloo-city-council-approves-epa-consent-decree/article_7eb1e6f1-5c3a-5901-a62a-8d85908d2432.html

Native American Times - New EPA Grant Accelerates Quapaw Tribe's Tar Creek Superfund Clean-Up - 10/20/15 - No group of people was hurt worse by the environmental tragedy of Tar Creek than the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma. And until now no group has done more to clean up the mess left behind from decades of lead and zinc mining. Recent events have greatly accelerated the clean-up process and delivered a realization, for the first time, that this 40-square-miles of devastation can be restored and put to good use.

http://www.nativetimes.com/index.php/news/environment/12282-new-epa-grant-accelerates-quapaw-tribe-s-tar-creek-superfund-clean-up

Counterpunch - The Fire This Time in Ferguson - 10/20/15 - The legacy of the World War II effort to build the atom bomb is haunting the present and may still be wreaking destruction more than 70 years after two bombs killed hundreds of thousands in Japan. This time the target is in the middle of the United States.

http://www.counterpunch.org/2015/10/20/the-fire-this-time-in-ferguson/

Farm Futures - Read the fine print in EPA's farm data case - 10/20/15 - EPA won a legal decision in Washington, D.C., on Sept. 29, which has been advertised as a victory for U.S. Farmers and Ranchers trying to protect private, personal, and financial records regarding their Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations. I have some qualms about the case after reading the court decision.

http://farmfutures.com/blogs-read-fine-print-epas-farm-data-case-10306

Waterloo Cedar Falls Courier - Settlement clears way for fire rubble removal - 10/20/15 - City leaders chose expediency over cost in cleaning up the fire-damaged remnants of a former clothing store.

http://wcfcourier.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/settlement-clears-way-for-fire-rubble-removal/article_ee78afeb-e753-56e2-a956-f76d5a19c837.html

North Platte Telegraph - Keystone XL opponents push to overturn pipeline law - 10/20/15 - Nebraska landowners who oppose the Keystone XL pipeline are still trying to overturn a state law that allowed the governor to approve the project route, even though pipeline developer TransCanada is no longer relying on it.

http://www.nptelegraph.com/news/state/keystone-xl-opponents-push-to-overturn-pipeline-law/article_a80c72c2-74a8-5da1-b1dd-079fdf74ab36.html