

Message

From: Sarah Kerr [Ex. 6]
Sent: 10/25/2017 7:41:23 PM
To: StClair, Christie [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=06618c5ed0e744a3bfe8443360018c26-StClair, Ch]
CC: Kluesner, Dave [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=e0316bd797cc4b9a85d3115fb56bdbc6-Kluesner, Dave]; Press [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b293283291dc44e0b5d1c36be9281d8a-Press]
Subject: Re: Press inquiry: Money in Superfund / WNYC + CUNY

Thank you!

On Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 11:07 AM, StClair, Christie <StClair.Christie@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Sarah,

Please attribute to an agency spokesperson.

- 1)
 - a. Are you able to confirm how much money is currently in the national Superfund account?
 - b. Am I reading correctly here that there is currently 3.3 billion in Superfund that supplements the 1.1 billion that congress has appropriated annually?

At the end of FY 2016, there was \$3.3 billion available in Superfund special accounts. Superfund special accounts help pay for cleanup at the sites designated in individually negotiated legal settlement agreements. Each account is set up separately and distinctly and may only be used for the sites and uses outlined in the settlement(s) with the potentially responsible parties (PRPs). The balance of \$3.3 billion at the end of FY 2016 in special accounts is not equivalent to the FY 2017 Superfund appropriation of approximately \$1.1 billion as the funds collected under settlements are restricted to financing future cleanup work at particular sites for the length of the project. Through the use of special accounts, EPA ensures responsible parties pay for cleanup so that annually appropriated resources from the Superfund Trust Fund are generally conserved for sites where no viable or liable PRPs can be identified.

For an explanation of the Superfund Trust Fund and special accounts, please see pages 57-58 of EPA's FY 2018 Budget in Brief at <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-05/documents/fy-2018-budget-in-brief.pdf>.

2) Is there a publicly available estimate of how much it will cost to eventually clean-up all 1,300 Superfund sites on the list?

In 2010, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) analyzed responses to a survey of EPA regional officials and estimated that, as of September 30, 2009, the federal government's cost to conduct remedial construction at non-federal NPL sites in 2015 and beyond was \$3 billion (GAO Report 10-380, p.20 – May 2010). Per the GAO report, "These data include EPA's cost estimates for 142 of the 416 nonfederal sites that are not construction complete. For the remaining

274 sites, EPA was unable to provide annual cost estimates for 57 sites, EPA indicated that responsible parties are fully funding remedial actions at 206 sites, and EPA does not expect to incur additional costs to complete construction at 11 sites. Unless otherwise specified, these numbers are as reported by EPA, and are not adjusted for inflation by GAO.”

Thanks,

Christie

From: StClair, Christie
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2017 10:21 AM
To: 'Sarah Kerr' <[redacted] Ex. 6 >
Subject: RE: Press inquiry: Money in Superfund / WNYC + CUNY

Sarah, the team is still working on this, I'll keep you posted.

From: Sarah Kerr [mailto:[redacted] Ex. 6]
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2017 4:18 PM
To: StClair, Christie <StClair.Christie@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Press inquiry: Money in Superfund / WNYC + CUNY

Hi Christie,

Just wanted to check in to see if this sounds doable?

Thanks so much!

On Fri, Oct 20, 2017 at 1:26 PM, Sarah Kerr <[redacted] Ex. 6 > wrote:

Monday evening, but hoping to confirm #s before that if possible? Thank you so much for the quick response.

On Fri, Oct 20, 2017 at 1:25 PM, StClair, Christie <StClair.Christie@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Sarah, what is your deadline?

Christie

From: Sarah Kerr [mailto:Ex. 6]
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2017 12:55 PM
To: StClair, Christie <StClair.Christie@epa.gov>
Subject: Press inquiry: Money in Superfund / WNYC + CUNY

Hi Christie,

I am a freelance reporter working on a story for WNYC in New York City as a part of a project with the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism. I just gave you a ring on the phone but seem to have missed you.

I was looking to confirm a few figures around Superfund for context on a story I am working on about the Wolff-Alport Chemical Company site in Ridgewood, Queens.

1) Are you able to confirm how much money is currently in the national Superfund account? Am I reading correctly here that there is currently 3.3 billion in Superfund that supplements the 1.1 billion that congress has appropriated annually?

2) Is there a publicly available estimate of how much it will cost to eventually clean-up all 1,300 Superfund sites on the list?

Thanks. If easier to give me a call back, I can be reached at Ex. 6

Best,

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Sarah S. Kerr

Twitter: [@sskerrr](#) // [LinkedIn](#)

Ex. 6 / GPG: Ex. 6

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