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TRUMP'S EPA: Agency at a crossroads -- Complete coverage

August 4, 2017

Latest News

Pruitt's Critics Say Ozone Reversal Shows EPA 'Chaos,' Limits On Power

Environmentalists and other critics of EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt say his sudden decision to scrap a one-year delay he had announced for issuing ozone air standard attainment designations suggests an agency in “chaos,” and shows that there are limits to his discretionary authority for postponing Obama-era rulemakings.

Seeking En Banc Review, Industry Doubts Jurisdiction Over NSPS Stay

A coalition of oil and gas groups is renewing its call for the full U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit to reconsider a three-judge panel's ruling that vacated EPA's administrative pause of its methane standards for new drilling equipment, arguing the panel incorrectly reviewed an agency action that was “not final.”

Pending 4th Circuit Cases Could Set Standard For Coal Ash Liability

An array of citizen enforcement suits, centered in the states governed by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit, are testing Clean Water Act (CWA) and Resource Conservation & Recovery Act (RCRA) limits on water contamination from coal ash disposal sites -- with the potential for rulings that would have nationwide influence on those issues going forward.

EPA Weighs New Credits, Consumer Data That Could Ease Vehicle GHG Rules

EPA is weighing new incentives for ride-sharing services that use electric vehicles and cars designed to run in “eco” mode, while also soliciting data on consumers' preference for fuel efficient cars, according to remarks from a top EPA transportation official cited in multiple press reports.

Industry Sectors Split Over EPA Formaldehyde Emissions Standard Rule

Industry sectors affected by EPA regulation of formaldehyde emissions from pressed wood products are split in their reaction to the agency's latest direct final rule to alter or delay the emissions standards, with a consumer electronics association seeking

another extension of compliance deadlines while other industry groups support the rule.

EPA Issues Best Practices Report To Prevent Sudden Mine Waste Releases

EPA has issued a best practices technical report aimed at aiding the agency in preventing sudden, uncontrolled mine waste releases during cleanups at abandoned hardrock mining sites, prompted by the mine wastewater "blowout" that EPA contractors caused at the Gold King Mine in Colorado in 2015 which drew national attention.

Daily Feed

Alumni group launches job center for exiting EPA employees

"We are not encouraging our former colleagues at EPA to leave," a top official said. "However, if they do decide to leave, or have that decision forced on them, we want to help them find another good job."

EPA backs Sierra Club's Title V objections

A Sierra Club attorney says Pruitt's decision is not a surprise because "the law and the regulations are so clear . . . I don't think they really had any other choice."

Opinion: A pessimistic view on Trump's federalism

"Striking the right balance between federal and state power requires careful attention to context and the costs and benefits of decentralization," says Micheal Livermore, an associate professor of law at the University of Virginia.

D.C. Circuit sets argument in coal ash rule challenge

The appeals court will hear argument Oct. 17, which could be the Trump administration's first chance to weigh in on the substance of the Obama-era ash disposal rule.

Ewire: Is ozone reversal strike two in Pruitt's deregulatory agenda?

Is EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt's sudden decision to designate areas attainment with Obama-era ozone standards this October the latest setback in his efforts to roll back the previous administration's policies?

Environmentalists seek bolstered injection rules for EOR

"EOR technologies and the dangers they pose to the environment are largely unknown to the public. EOR presents real threats to drinking water, yet oversight of these practices has lagged," their report says.

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