

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: InsideEPA.com
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Subject: The Morning Headlines from InsideEPA.com -- December 5, 2017

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

December 5, 2017

Latest News

EPA Staff Defend Modeling For Vehicle GHG Rules Amid Industry Attack

EPA career staffers are defending their technical modeling used to analyze the agency's greenhouse gas standards for model year 2022-2025 light-duty vehicles against an auto industry attack that the modeling is "biased" in favor of finding greater fuel efficiency gains from advanced vehicle technology.

Court Slated To Hear Arguments Over States' CWA Powers To Block Pipelines

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit is poised to hear arguments in a dispute between federal energy regulators and New York over the state's effort to block a natural gas pipeline by withholding its approval under the Clean Water Act (CWA), a case that could set a precedent for North Carolina's efforts to block a different pipeline.

Trucking Sector Blasts Legal, Policy Rationale For Glider GHG Rule Repeal

Numerous representatives of the trucking sector -- including for manufacturers, large fleets and advanced technology firms -- are pushing back hard against EPA's proposal to scrap greenhouse gas restrictions on "glider" trucks that combine used engines with a new chassis, arguing EPA's legal justification could open up a massive Clean Air Act loophole and disadvantage numerous businesses that have invested in cleaner technology.

States Warn Of Economic Impacts If EPA Strategic Plan Drops SMM Effort

State waste managers are raising concerns that EPA's omission of sustainable materials management (SMM) from the agency's draft multi-year strategic plan will cause economic harm, making the United States less competitive with other countries that are pursuing a circular economy.

6th Circuit Poised To Hear Novel Challenge To EPA CWA Permit Objection

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit is poised to hear oral argument Dec. 6 in a novel case that tests whether EPA can face legal challenges for objecting to Army

Corps of Engineers-issued Clean Water Act (CWA) permits even when the agency does not formally deny a permit application.

EPA Scraps Plan For Mining Finance Rule, Raising Doubts About Other Sectors

Despite staff expectations, the Trump administration is dropping an Obama-era proposal to issue the first-ever financial responsibility requirements under section 108 of the Superfund law for the mining sector, saying it would create an undue burden on the sector and creating doubts over whether the agency will pursue similar rules for other industries.

Daily Feed

EPA launches new PFAS initiative

EPA is launching a new, cross-agency workgroup to help a growing number of states, localities and tribes that are struggling to deal with the chemicals in their jurisdictions.

Texas seeks RFS waiver ahead of Cruz, Trump meeting

Texas is asking EPA for a renewable fuel standard (RFS) waiver based on severe economic harm, ahead of a meeting between President Donald Trump and GOP Senate critics of the RFS.

District court judge weighs EPA capacity for air toxics reviews

A federal judge is considering which deadlines to impose on EPA to complete air toxics reviews, while an advisory committee is critiquing the agency's review methods.

Ewire: NAM launches coalition to fight plaintiffs' environmental tort suits

“The manufacturers' pushback is in the beginning stages, but it is expected to become as prominent as the trade group's nationwide campaign against the Obama administration's strict ozone standards.”

Sen. Barrasso urges EPA to issue RFS environment studies

Senate environment panel Chairman John Barrasso (R-WY) is pressing EPA to release overdue environmental reports on the renewable fuel standard.

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