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**From:** InsideEPA/climate  
**Sent:** Tue 8/1/2017 9:36:53 PM  
**Subject:** Today on Climate Beat

August 1, 2017

## Today on Climate Beat . . .

. . . we talked regulation, noting that the Trump administration is said to be planning a significantly scaled-back replacement rule for the Obama EPA's Clean Power Plan, with the new rule focusing on greenhouse gas reduction strategies that can occur “inside the fence” of a regulated power plant such as efficiency upgrades.

In climate science news, leaders of 16 scientific groups are asking EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt for a meeting on his planned “red team, blue team” review of climate change science, arguing climate science for years has undergone significant peer review and that Pruitt’s effort has the potential to undermine the “integrity” of the scientific process.

In personnel news, the Senate Judiciary Committee is poised to vote on the nomination of Jeffrey Clark to head the Department of Justice's environment division, with the panel having scheduled an Aug. 3 business meeting to vote on several nominations including Clark's.

Elsewhere in the Senate, a bipartisan group of senators is floating legislation to create a new investment tax credit for offshore wind facilities, saying the technology “offers enormous potential” for producing domestic clean energy near large population centers that could rely on existing transmission lines.

And staying in Congress, Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-MI) has introduced legislation to prohibit the “closure, consolidation, or elimination” of EPA offices, underscoring that Democrats likely will keep pressing Pruitt for assurances that he is not planning to shutter EPA regional or program offices in tandem with proposed budget cuts.

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