

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: InsideEPA.com
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Subject: The Morning Headlines from InsideEPA.com -- August 17, 2017

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

August 17, 2017

Latest News

EPA Elevates Role Of Industry-Sought Criteria In Vehicle GHG Rule Review

EPA is elevating the importance of industry-sought criteria, including consumer acceptance, affordability and economic impacts, in its reconsideration of greenhouse gas standards for light-duty vehicles in the years leading up to 2025, according to recently released documents from a meeting the agency hosted with automakers earlier this summer.

Public Interest Groups Defend Standing In Suit Over Trump's '2-1' Rule Order

Public interest groups are fighting the Department of Justice's (DOJ) novel claim that showing harm to the groups' ability to comment on regulatory repeals is not enough to give them standing to sue over President Donald Trump's executive order (EO) directing agencies to identify two rules to repeal for every new rule they issue, countering that DOJ's argument would limit citizens' ability to challenge a host of constitutional violations.

Methane NSPS Delay Faces Same High Bar As Vacated Effort, EPA Critics Say

EPA's proposal to delay implementation of Obama-era methane rules for new oil and gas facilities for two years faces the same legal problems as the agency's earlier 90-day pause that was vacated by an appellate court, according to formal comments from former agency officials, environmentalists and legal experts.

Firefighters Seek To Block Industry Tool Said To Ease RMP Compliance

Washington state firefighters are urging Democratic senators to halt development of a novel dispersion modeling approach for assessing risks from toxic gas releases, arguing the federal agency and industry collaboration underestimates risks to the public in filings with EPA and other agencies, though an industry group says the method is based on sound science and may still be revised.

EPA Faces Test Over West Virginia Bid To Expand Use Of Novel WQS Method

West Virginia officials are asking EPA to approve a new law that would, if approved,

allow a state for the first time to use a novel method for estimating water flow when calculating water quality standards for non-carcinogens, a plan that is already drawing strong criticism from environmentalists who say it would ease protections.

Daily Feed

Trump draws backlash for repealing strict flood standards

Some of the strongest criticisms came from the conservative R Street Institute, where officials charged that the repeal will result in increased cost to taxpayers as they are forced to subsidize construction in vulnerable areas.

CSAPR supporters oppose industry bid to delay suit

Defenders of EPA's emissions trading rule are opposing industry's proposed four-month briefing delay, saying power companies are seeking to stay the litigation even though deadlines for such motions have long passed.

Quote-unquote: speaking of NEPA deadlines, deregulation and enforcement

Today's quotes cover the administration's new two-year NEPA deadline, the 2-for-1 order, reworking CWA provisions and more.

Ebell calls for EPA to shutter regions, overhaul science policy

The former head of Trump's EPA transition team details an aggressive agenda for EPA reform that would close every regional office and shift enforcement authority to program offices.

Ewire: Universities launch major new study on PFCs

As states grapple with growing concerns over contamination from perfluorinated chemicals, researchers are creating a new center to study potential exposure pathways, develop better detection tools and other efforts.

Another critique of Pruitt's 'red team' climate science review

"Debating climate science should not be a cage match," says a prominent climate scientist.

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