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

November 30, 2017

**Latest News**

**Brownfields Bill Backers Plan Push To Fund Program At New Spending Level**

As the House prepares to vote on bipartisan brownfields legislation later this week, supporters of the bill say they plan to urge appropriators to fully fund any revised EPA program at the increased funding levels the new bill authorizes in order to gain the full benefits of the legislation and ensure the agency can fund more projects than it currently is.

**Former EPA Official Blasts Senate Spending Bill As Threat To Enforcement**

EPA's former enforcement chief is blasting draft Senate spending legislation as a major threat to the agency's ability to bring new enforcement actions, citing significant proposed cuts in several spending categories that would translate into even larger reductions in the agency's ability to bring actions than broad spending figures suggest.

**CBD Sues To Glean Scope Of Industry Influence In Pruitt 'Sue-Settle' Order**

The Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) is suing EPA under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to gather information on Administrator Scott Pruitt's recent directive that seeks to curb so-called "sue-and-settle" agreements the agency reaches, often with environmental groups, to set a deadline to take a mandatory action.

**House Republicans Hold 'Nascent' Talks On Bill To Limit CWA Jurisdiction**

The top Republican on the House science panel's environment subcommittee says there are "bubbling, nascent discussions" on potential legislation to limit the reach of the Clean Water Act (CWA), but any such bill could be far off despite subcommittee members voicing support for restricting the law's scope during a Nov. 29 hearing.

**Barrasso Backs Rule Fix To End Democrats' Holds On Trump's EPA Picks**

Senate environment committee chairman John Barrasso (R-WY) is publicly supporting GOP efforts to limit debate on executive branch nominees in an effort to

end continuing Democratic delays on a suite of Trump administration nominees for EPA and other top environmental policy slots.

### **Key Trump Picks At Odds Over EPA's Power To Weigh Costs In Air Standards**

Key Trump administration environment nominees are at odds over whether EPA has sufficient legal authority to consider compliance costs when setting national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS), even though a unanimous Supreme Court opinion found that the agency lacks such power under the Clean Air Act (CAA).

### **Daily Feed**

#### **EPA says methane ICR withdrawal shows 'deregulatory' success**

EPA is meeting its targets for “deregulatory actions” required by executive orders from President Donald Trump, a top agency official says.

#### **Research ties PFOA phase-out with drop in low birth weights**

The study's authors are praising EPA for its voluntary phase out agreement it struck with the chemical's manufacturers in 2006.

#### **Ewire: Pruitt says hurricanes may be 'enhanced' by climate change**

The EPA chief says scientific studies “don't talk about cause and effect” when it comes to climate change and hurricanes, but they could show that storms are “enhanced in some way.”

#### **Survey finds many lawmakers muted on CPP repeal**

A group supporting federal climate change policy finds the reaction is “substantially more muted” than lawmaker responses to President Donald Trump's June announcement that he intends to leave the Paris climate agreement.

#### **NACEPT plans second 'citizen science' report for EPA**

A second report due in April from an EPA advisory committee will recommend ways the agency can strengthen its use of non-governmental “citizen science.”

#### **Stakeholders spar over scope of future CWA jurisdiction rule**

Industry, environmental groups, states and other stakeholders' comments on a possible new Clean Water Act jurisdiction rule likely preview future litigation arguments.

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