

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard
Sent: Wed 10/4/2017 8:29:06 PM
Subject: Draft EPA strategic plan drops all reference to climate change

By Alex Guillén

10/04/2017 04:26 PM EDT

The Trump administration has dropped all mention of climate change or rules to reduce carbon emissions from a strategic plan outlining EPA's priorities for the next four years, according to a draft obtained by POLITICO.

The draft was circulated around EPA for comment earlier today along with an accompanying one-page graphic.

The document creates a new framework for EPA's mission that reflects the management style of Administrator Scott Pruitt. It defines EPA's "core mission" as ensuring clean air, water and land. It calls for more "cooperative federalism" to empower state governments. And it touts the "rule of law and process," which is meant to "refocus the Agency on its statutory obligations under the law."

The draft was released to EPA employees just days after Pruitt missed a key statutory deadline to implement the 2015 ozone standard. EPA has offered no update on that issue.

"I believe this draft Plan provides the foundation for a more efficient and effective agency, enabling us to accelerate progress and deliver real, tangible results for the American people," Pruitt wrote in an email to EPA staff today.

The previous strategic plan released by the Obama administration in 2014 listed climate change as "goal one," along with broader air quality issues. The new draft plan makes no mention of climate change, though it does address non-climate air issues, as well as a litany of other regulatory, permitting and administrative goals for EPA.

WHAT'S NEXT: EPA will publish the draft plan in Thursday's Federal Register and take comments through Oct. 31.

Lorraine Woellert contributed to this report.

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