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

November 15, 2017

**Latest News**

**Oklahoma Official Seeks Greater State Role In EPA's Superfund Reforms**

States are pressing EPA to boost their role in the Superfund cleanup process and to generally increase communications between state and federal agencies, according to Oklahoma environment chief Scott Thompson, who leads a national states' workgroup focused on EPA's Superfund reforms.

**EPA Regional Heads Downplay Superfund Sites' Damage From Hurricanes**

The heads of three EPA regions are downplaying reports of contamination from Superfund sites and facility leaks in the aftermath of this year's disastrous hurricane season, saying any contaminated sites have been contained and did not pollute drinking water in damaged areas despite early reports to the contrary.

**Pending EPA Nominees To Face At Least Two-Week Wait For Senate Votes**

Several nominees for top political slots at EPA that have been long awaiting Senate confirmation likely must wait at least an additional two weeks, with the chamber not planning to take up any additional agency candidates until the week of Nov. 27 at the earliest, Capitol Hill sources say.

**GOP Senators Tout Bills To Ease EPA Air Rules But Democrats Push Back**

Republican senators at a Nov. 14 environment panel hearing touted several bills they said would help to ease compliance with Obama EPA air rules for manufacturers of bricks and wood stoves, though Democrats on the panel pushed back by warning that the legislation ultimately would undermine Clean Air Act protections.

**EPA Launches Two-Year Pilot Aimed At Streamlining Superfund ARARs**

EPA's Superfund office is launching a two-year pilot project to field a "best practices" process developed jointly by EPA and states aimed at discussing and identifying state cleanup standards earlier in the remedial process in order to avert disputes and bottlenecks over applying the standards.

## **New EPA Advisory Committees' Chairmen Have History Of Agency Criticism**

The new chairmen of two influential EPA science advisory committees have a history of criticizing the agency's scientific analyses in ways fundamental to how EPA evaluates and seeks to support regulations to manage environmental risks, ranging from risk assessment approaches generally to specific air pollutants and chemicals.

### **Daily Feed**

#### **Democrats, environmentalists vow ongoing climate push**

Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) said Democrats' message at the United Nations climate talks was that “the administration is not only isolated in the world . . . it is isolated from the rest of America.”

#### **North Carolina newspaper opposes EPA toxics office nominee**

The newspaper is urging its readers to lobby the state's senators to oppose the Trump administration's nomination of Michael Dourson to be EPA toxics chief.

#### **NRDC urges EPA to hold more hearings on CPP repeal**

“The agency [must] give the public real opportunities to speak at hearings in the nation's capital and across the nation when proposing to repeal the” Clean Power Plan, the environmental group says.

#### **CATF cites oil & gas emission equity harms to fight EPA rule repeal**

Environmentalists hope new findings about harms African-American fence-line communities face from oil and gas emissions will help block EPA from scrapping methane limits for the sector.

#### **CEI files suit to compel Paris Agreement documents**

The free-market group, which argues that the Paris Agreement is a treaty requiring Senate ratification, is seeking State Department documents that it hopes will bolster that claim.

#### **Ewire: Trump's pro-fossil event at U.N. climate talks prompt outcry**

In today's news roundup: Climate change advocates are faulting the Trump administration's pro-fossil side event at the United Nations climate talks. But is the message getting to career U.S. diplomats?

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