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From: POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard
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Subject: Trump budget request maintains steep EPA cuts

By Alex Guillén

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The Trump administration's proposed budget calls for slashing EPA's funding for fiscal 2018 by 31 percent, the most severe cut of any major federal agency.

The budget would see EPA's funding drop to just over \$5.6 billion, down from the \$8.2 billion EPA ultimately got for fiscal 2017, in line with the figures the administration issued in its previous "skinny" budget.

Only a few areas would see modest budget increases, such as the State Revolving Funds that make low-interest loans for water infrastructure projects and a chemical review program that is expanding to keep pace with last year's overhaul of the Toxic Substances Control Act.

But almost every other EPA office would face significant cuts that have already been criticized by lawmakers from both parties. Those cuts target climate change-related programs, hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of state grants, regional water cleanup efforts in places like the Chesapeake Bay and the Great Lakes and the agency's enforcement efforts.

Appropriators on the Hill have expressed skepticism that Congress will cut EPA's budget as deeply as the White House is requesting.

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