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From: EPA Press Office [mailto:press=epa.gov@cmail20.com] **On Behalf Of** EPA Press Office
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2018 7:55 AM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>
Subject: EPA Weekly Report For 01/19/18

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EPA WEEKLY REPORT

From a wide-ranging interview with CBS News, meeting with Regional Administrators in Dallas, outlining our goals for 2018, to releasing the Superfund redevelopment list, it was a winning week at the EPA.

[Click Here To Watch The Full 24 Minute Interview With CBS News](#)

The Wall Street Journal reports Pruitt aims to accelerate his efforts to remake the EPA. “Environmental Protection Agency chief Scott Pruitt plans to use his second year on the job to accelerate efforts to remake the agency, saying he wants to speed its permitting processes and transform a culture he says is bureaucratic. In an interview with The Wall Street Journal, Mr. Pruitt outlined the changes he is looking to make in year two: repealing and rewriting Obama-era rules for power plant emissions, speeding up the EPA’s permit review process, implementing weekly performance assessments across the agency and fostering a public debate about climate change.”

ABC News reports that Pruitt is working on the redevelopment of Superfund sites in East Chicago, an area of land near the Seattle Seahawks and other places across the country. “Thirty-one of the country’s most contaminated sites are likely to be available for building new housing, business or other development soon after they are cleaned up, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said today, a step that’s part of Administrator Scott Pruitt’s push to accelerate the cleanup and make the land available for community use... Another example on the list is a Superfund site on the coast of Lake Washington

and close to the practice facility for the Seattle Seahawks. It was contaminated by coal tar and creosote from manufacturing until 1969 and a cleanup plan is expected to be finalized in 2019. The owner of the land wants to redevelop it for 10 buildings with retail and residential units, according to an EPA fact sheet.”

E&E News reports that **Pruitt credits MLK’s legacy on environmental justice**. “Pruitt said in his email that ‘we honor’ King’s record of service. ‘Dr. King was the primary spokesperson for nonviolent activism related to our country’s civil rights movement of the 1960s, and we commemorate his vision and legacy of service,’ said the EPA chief. Pruitt also thanked EPA employees who took part in community service on the King holiday earlier this week. ‘I know that there is a strong ethic of community service within the EPA family and thank all of you who ... participated in service projects in your hometowns across the country,’ he said.”

TO THE STATES ...

In California, the Sacramento Bee reports an Aerojet Superfund site makes EPA redevelopment priority list. “The former Aerojet General Corp. rocket propulsion development and testing site in Rancho Cordova has been put on a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency list of sites ‘with the greatest expected redevelopment and commercial potential.’”

In Colorado, the Denver Post reports about the redevelopment and commercial potential regarding a Superfund site near Vail. “A federal environmental cleanup site near Vail has landed on the Environmental Protection Agency’s national list of contaminated areas with the greatest expected redevelopment and commercial potential. The Eagle Mine Superfund site just outside of Minturn is among nearly two dozen federal cleanups across the U.S. that were on the list released Wednesday.”

In Michigan, Mlive reports that Congressman Upton praised the EPA’s work. “The Environmental Protection Agency is focusing resources to capitalize on the redevelopment potential of Superfund sites in Kalamazoo and Benton Harbor... [Congressman Upton] called it good news for Benton Harbor and Kalamazoo in a Wednesday statement. ‘It shows there is a clear priority to expedite work on these Superfund sites for the betterment of our economy and for commercial development,’ he said.”

In Pennsylvania, the Tribune-Review reports about three Superfund sites that made the redevelopment list. “The federal Environmental Protection Agency named three Pennsylvania sites among 30 on the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL) with the greatest redevelopment and commercial potential. The three Pennsylvania sites are: The BoRit Asbestos Superfund site in Ambler, Montgomery County, the Metal Bank Superfund site in northeast Philadelphia, and the Crater Resources Inc./Keystone Coke Co./Alan Wood Steel Co. Superfund site (aka Crater Resources) in Upper Merion

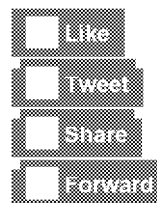
Township, Montgomery County.”

In Texas, the [Houston Chronicle](#) reports that Pruitt takes on entrenched air pollution system. “At EPA headquarters in downtown Washington, one of the officials charged with speeding up the permitting process is Henry Darwin, the agency’s chief of operations. As the head of Arizona’s environmental agency, Darwin managed to cut wait times for environmental permits by more than 60 percent. He credits that time savings to the implementation of a management technique known as ‘lean manufacturing,’ which has its origins in the efficiency protocols established by the Japanese auto manufacturer Toyota following World War II. Under the methodology, bureaucratic systems are analyzed for wasteful, unnecessary activities, which are then eliminated. ‘The fact of the matter is most processes that have not gone through a process improvement event, 80 to 90 percent of that time the process takes is spent sitting without any activity,’ he explained. ‘We’re just trying to eliminate periods of time where there’s no work being performed.’”

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