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Subject: The Morning Headlines from InsideEPA.com -- August 30, 2017

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

August 30, 2017

Latest News

In Wake Of Hurricane, CLF Targets Shell To Address Climate Under CWA

Citing the effects of Hurricane Harvey, a New England environmental group is stepping up its novel campaign to force industrial facilities to address the impacts of climate change under the Clean Water Act (CWA), filing new litigation against oil major Shell that charges it failed to address climate impacts in a mandatory stormwater plan for a Rhode Island facility.

Seeking Second Rewrite, Split SAB Again Rejects Advice On Biomass CO2

For the second time in less than two years, EPA's Science Advisory Board (SAB) has again rejected draft advice from a special panel on how the agency should estimate carbon dioxide emissions from biomass power, deciding to revise language addressing the time frame over which emissions impacts are measured, an issue that has long stymied the effort.

Amidst Uncertainty, Lawmakers Float Array Of EPA Spending Bill Riders

House lawmakers are proposing a barrage of amendments targeting or protecting EPA programs in advance of scheduled floor consideration next week of spending legislation for EPA and other agencies, though the ultimate impact of any of the policy proposals is unclear given the fluid state of spending negotiations for fiscal year 2018.

Texas Floats Arsenic Cancer Risk Value, Providing Model For Revising EPA's

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is proposing a cancer risk estimate for arsenic that -- while using EPA's strict default linear method for cancer risk calculation -- produces a much weaker value than the agency's controversial 2010 proposal, providing a model for how the Trump administration may revise EPA's if it seeks to do so.

Environmentalists Cite Water Law, Air Act Cases To Fight Utility ELG Delay

Environmentalists are urging a federal district judge to preserve their suit over EPA's

delay of an Obama-era effluent rule for power plants by arguing the Clean Water Act (CWA) allows district court cases over suspension of water rules, while citing two high-profile Clean Air Act (CAA) cases to undermine the agency's basis for the stay.

Appellate Decisions Will Guide Future Of EPA's SO2 NAAQS Designations

Two recent decisions by federal appeals courts will guide the future of EPA's issuance of designations for which areas are attaining the 2010 sulfur dioxide (SO₂) air standard, with one court agreeing to hear a suit over four existing designations while a separate circuit court has approved EPA's timetable for issuing other designations.

Daily Feed

Wisconsin DNR chief picked as Region 7 deputy administrator

Cathy Stepp's selection is likely to please regulated industries but draw fire from environmentalists who have criticized her tenure at the helm of the state environmental agency.

Another top Trump EPA official faces ethics concerns

Albert Kelly, the former banker who is leading Administrator Scott Pruitt's Superfund reform task force, is barred from future banking activities for violating federal financial rules.

Environmentalists resist EPA standing claims in landfill methane suit

"EPA is simply wrong to suggest that Petitioner's member declarants have not demonstrated specific harm from emissions regulated by the Rules," environmentalists' says.

RFA seeks to expand EPA fuel rule waiver in wake of Harvey

Seeking approval for E15, the Renewable Fuels Association says EPA could help ease gas prices by expanding already-issued fuel standard waivers beyond Texas and Louisiana to include the entire United States.

Ewire: Harvey's effects on EPA

EPA is "leaning forward" in its response to Harvey. Plus, Pruitt plans to return to deregulatory agenda after storm response.

EPA seeks to pause cleanup-related ESA suit

EPA is seeking a stay of Endangered Species Act litigation over cleanup at a Superfund site in order to complete a biological analysis that could lead to dismissal of the suit.

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