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Leading the News

Energy

Quorum Assured at Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Senate Approves Svinicki

The Senate June 26 approved Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chairman Kristine Svinicki for a third term at the agency, just days before her current term expired.

Superfund

Pruitt Could Turn To Superfund Alternative

The Environmental Protection Agency may turn to a contentious alternative in its effort to streamline the Superfund program.

News

Air Pollution

Justices Reject Challenge to EPA Equipment Malfunction Rule

The U.S. Supreme Court will not review an EPA regulation that requires industrial facilities to comply with air pollution limits even when equipment malfunctions.

Chemicals

Correction

The June 16 story, "Less Use of Flame Retardant Lessens Impact of California Rule," was updated to reflect the proper name of the chemical group Methylene Diphenyl Diisocyanates. The online version has been corrected.

Climate Change

China 'Future Proofing' for Climate Change, Researcher Says

China is among the few countries preparing for a day when some coastal populations may

need to move inland due to rising sea levels, according to a Cornell University study.

Corporate Responsibility

European Companies to Report Environmental Risks in 2018

Companies operating in the European Union can lean on non-binding guidance published by the European Commission June 26 when meeting an obligation to begin reporting environmental and social information starting in 2018.

EPA

EPA Call for Advisory Panel Experts Worries Environmentalists

The EPA is seeking scientists to staff an air pollution advisory committee, but some environmental groups worry the Trump administration will replace members finishing their first term and give industry groups more say on scientific matters.

Energy

EU Ministers Move Forward on Energy-Saving Measures

Energy ministers from the European Union's 28 member nations June 26 provisionally agreed to a 30 percent energy efficiency target for the bloc, to be achieved by 2030, and also decided on measures on energy savings for buildings and energy labeling of appliances.

Energy

Tariffs on Solar Panels Seen Slowing Industry Growth by 66%

A trade complaint asking the Trump administration to impose tariffs on solar panels could devastate the U.S. industry, wiping out two-thirds of solar systems forecast to be installed over the next five years, according to a June 26 report by GTM Research.

Enforcement

EPA Targets Colorado Oil, Gas Firm in Early Enforcement Action

A Colorado oil and gas firm failed to control air pollution emissions from storage tanks throughout the Denver-Julesburg Basin, the EPA said in a lawsuit alleging violations of the Clean Air Act.

Environmental Justice

Former Environmental Justice Official's Records Sought in Lawsuit

A free-market advocacy group wants to know if a former EPA official has unduly influenced the agency's environmental justice work since leaving the Obama administration.

Hazardous Waste

New Mexico Can't Bring Gold King Waste Claims Against Colorado

The U.S. Supreme Court will not hear New Mexico's claims that Colorado violated federal hazardous waste laws in connection with the Gold King Mine spill.

Natural Gas

Cheniere's LNG Market Share Expands as Korea Contract Starts

Add South Korea to the growing list of regulars buying America's shale gas.

Radioactive Waste

House Panel to Mark Up Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Bill

The House Energy and Commerce Committee will mark up legislation June 28 that would restart efforts to make Yucca Mountain the U.S. permanent repository for nuclear waste.

Renewable Energy

China Says Qinghai Province Beats Portugal's Clean-Power Record

The Chinese province of Qinghai in the nation's northwest set a record by using clean energy for seven continuous days, surpassing the previous title-holder Portugal.

Water Infrastructure

Carp Near Great Lakes Renews Fears, Hopes for Action

The discovery of an Asian silver carp June 22 in waters on the South Side of Chicago just nine miles from Lake Michigan has reinforced calls for the Trump administration to release a study with recommendations that might stop the spread of the invasive species.

Water Infrastructure

Federal Scientists Sign Off on California Delta Project

Federal agencies signed off on a plan to re-engineer California's primary water conveyance system, moving the state's proposed \$17.1 billion project forward.

Water Pollution

China Indicates Tougher Water, Soil Pollution Laws on Horizon

China's top legislative body is considering tougher penalties for those who pollute the country's water, and indicated it could prohibit the building of homes or schools in areas with contaminated soil.

Water Resources

Peru Makes Water Access Constitutional Right, Sets Up Sewage Plan

Peru is taking steps to implement President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski's pledge to vastly increase water and wastewater coverage, including modifying the country's Constitution to make water access a constitutional right.

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