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From: InsideEPA.com
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Subject: The Morning Headlines from InsideEPA.com -- July 12, 2017

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

July 12, 2017

Latest News

House Bill Would Cut EPA's FY18 Funds, But Far Less Than Trump Sought

House appropriators are proposing to provide EPA with \$7.5 billion in fiscal year 2018, a reduction of \$528 million below the fiscal year 2017 level and \$1.9 billion above the Trump administration's request -- but the measure is drawing criticism from environmentalists over the cuts and policy riders, including one that would postpone until 2026 mandates for states to submit ozone control plans.

EPA Cites Public Input To Justify Air Law Authority For RMP Policy Delay

EPA is claiming broad Clean Air Act authority for its final rule that significantly delays implementation of Obama-era revisions to the agency's facility safety policy, saying its decision to first seek public comment on the delay shields it from the legal uncertainty that led an appellate court to recently vacate a stay of an unrelated air rule.

Methane NSPS Supporters Say EPA Recall Bid Would 'Nullify' Court Ruling

Environmentalists and a group of Democratic state officials are urging a federal appellate court to reject EPA's motion to further delay implementing Obama-era oil and gas methane limits the agency had sought to stay, charging that its request "distorts" the court mandate requiring officials to immediately lift the stay and, if granted, would "effectively nullify" its ruling vacating EPA's stay.

Ash Recyclers Press EPA To Revive Bush-Era Voluntary Reuse Program

Coal ash recyclers are pressing the Trump administration to revive a controversial George W. Bush-era program through which EPA and other agencies worked with the sector to promote beneficial reuse of ash, but environmentalists are warning that the program could undermine EPA restrictions on using ash as structural fill material.

Utilities Seek Swift Issuance Of EPA Coal Ash Guide For Permit Certainty

The power sector is pressing Trump administration officials to quickly release EPA's draft guidance for states on crafting permit programs to govern coal ash disposal,

saying release of the federal guidance is vital to give state officials certainty on what the federal procedures will be for reviewing and approving states' ash permitting efforts.

TSCA Reform Supporters Tout Fee Rule To Help Offset EPA Budget Cuts

EPA's acting toxics chief and supporters of the agency's efforts to reform the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) say the pending draft rule imposing fees on the chemical sector could help to offset proposed EPA funding cuts in fiscal year 2018 that environmentalists and others have warned might risk hindering implementation of the law.

Former Officials Seek To Clarify EPA Risk Practices, Strengthen Rule Reviews

Two former Bush administration regulatory review officials are urging the Trump administration to overhaul EPA and other agencies' regulatory risk assessment and management process to make them more transparent and to further strengthen regulatory review requirements, measures they say will bolster review of rules' impacts, but which also seem likely to further slow the regulatory process and benefit regulated entities.

Daily Feed

EPA prepares to overhaul NSR rules

Draft air office program guidance for FY18-19 includes language pledging to reform NSR rules.

Pruitt's climate strategy: televised science debate, Congress acts on risks

Pruitt says there could be a legal basis to challenge EPA's greenhouse gas endangerment finding though he would rather Congress address the issue. He added that his planned debate on climate science, which could be televised, is not intended to target the finding.

EPA moves to withdraw Pebble Mine 'veto' proposal

EPA is following through on its settlement agreement with the Pebble Mine developer to withdraw its novel proposal for a preemptive "veto" of the planned mine.

Senate confirms Rao as OIRA chief

Rao has drawn fire over her support for the so-called "non-delegation doctrine," though opposition from Democrats and environmentalists never really gained steam.

California officials unveil latest cap-and-trade package

Lawmakers are slated to vote as soon as July 13 two bills: one to extend the GHG

program and a second that strengthens monitoring requirements and penalties.

Ewire: Trump deregulatory teams have 'deep industry ties'

From today's Ewire: An investigation identifies the officials rolling back regulations at EPA and other agencies and their potential conflicts of interest. Plus: Trump officials struggle to roll back methane rules.

New Jersey legislators seek to ban chlorpyrifos

New Jersey legislators are seeking to ban chlorpyrifos after the Trump EPA reversed the Obama administration's plan to ban use of the common pesticide on food.

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