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**From:** Bloomberg BNA  
**Sent:** Fri 6/16/2017 12:07:00 AM  
**Subject:** June 16 -- Daily Environment Report



## **Daily Environment Report**

June 16, 2017 - Number 115

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### Leading the News

#### *EPA*

##### No Region Shakeup or Staff Layoffs, EPA's Pruitt Says

The EPA is not aiming to relocate any of its 10 regional offices, and ongoing discussion of that prospect is “pure legend,” Administrator Scott Pruitt told House appropriators June 15.

#### *Energy*

##### Energy Department Climate Office Closure One of ‘Many’ Planned

The Energy Department's closure of its Office of International Climate and Technology, which works on global emission reductions, is one of many program offices the agency is eyeing to cut as part of fiscal year 2018 budget reductions, an agency official said.

#### *Pesticides*

##### Monsanto: Hidden Cancer Study is ‘Scientific Vandalism’

Disputes over the impartiality of an international cancer research agency are flaring again, as documents suggest that a major study's preliminary data was hidden by a U.S. scientist when reviewing the cancer-causing potential of Monsanto Co.'s Roundup.

### News

#### *Air Pollution*

##### N.Y. Subpoenas Fiat Chrysler Over Emissions Cheating Devices

New York's financial regulator subpoenaed Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV for information about the possible use of any software installed in vehicles to cheat emissions testing in the state, according to a person familiar with the matter.

#### *Chemical Security*

### Groups Sue Over EPA Delay of Chemical Plant Safety Rules

A coalition of environmental and public health organizations is asking the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit to review EPA's decision to delay new chemical plant security regulations to 2019.

### *Chemicals*

#### Dow, Dupont Win U.S. Antitrust Nod to Create Chemicals Giant

Dow Chemical Co. and DuPont Co. won U.S. antitrust approval for their \$73 billion merger, overcoming one of the last remaining hurdles to a deal that would create a global chemicals giant.

### *Chemicals*

#### EPA Task: Balance Chemical Trade Secrets With Public Data

The EPA says it's hard pressed to withhold the identities of certain chemicals while also making public any health, worker safety, or environmental risk information about the chemicals under the amended toxics law passed last June.

### *Chesapeake Bay*

#### Pennsylvania Bill Would Hinder Bay Cleanup, State Official Says

A proposed Pennsylvania budget bill from Republicans would further cripple the state's Chesapeake Bay cleanup efforts by cutting funding to conservation districts that help farmers reduce water pollution, Pennsylvania Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding said June 15.

### *Climate Change*

#### EU Environment Agency Warns of 'Rapid' Arctic Changes

The European Union should do more to relieve the pressures on the Arctic ecosystem or risk a breakdown of "the Arctic's role in global climate regulation," the European Environment Agency said June 15.

### *Climate Regulation*

#### California Utilities Must Reduce, Fix Pipeline Methane Leaks

California adopted new standards requiring natural gas utilities for the first time to reduce methane leaks from pipelines.

### *Climate Science*

#### Trump's Budget Puts Climate Research Program on Thin Ice

The U.S. could fall behind on mitigating expensive and irreversible damage from climate change domestically as a result of the White House's proposed cuts to an interagency research program's budget. Funding worries for the domestic climate and climate-related research program come at a time of uncertainty about the Trump administration's priorities for climate change as it slashes funding for that work across the government. President Donald Trump has pledged that the U.S. will ...

### *Congress*

#### Nuclear Waste Bill Set to Change After Subcommittee Markup

Draft legislation on rebooting efforts to make Nevada's Yucca Mountain the nation's permanent repository for nuclear waste, which a House subcommittee approved June 15, will likely see changes before it's formally introduced, the subcommittee chairman says.

### *EPA*

#### Former Arizona Environment Chief Tapped as EPA's COO

A former top aide to Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey (R), is joining the EPA as its chief operating

officer, a position that doesn't require Senate confirmation, according to an agency spokeswoman and Ducey's office.

#### ***EPA***

##### **Trump Spurs Bipartisanship as Lawmakers Vow to Stop EPA Cuts**

President Donald Trump's plan to slash spending on the Environmental Protection Agency was blasted by lawmakers, as Republicans and Democrats took turns telling the agency's head that proposed budget cuts were unlikely to survive in Congress.

#### ***Emissions Trading***

##### **Singapore's Carbon Tax May Be Felt Throughout Southeast Asia**

When Singapore rolls out Southeast Asia's first carbon tax in 2019, the biggest impact may not be on carbon emissions at all—at least, not directly.

#### ***Energy***

##### **China, India Seen as \$4 Trillion Opportunity for Energy by 2040**

China and India will be the biggest recipients for new investment in power-generating capacity by 2040, representing a \$4 trillion opportunity for the energy sector.

#### ***Energy***

##### **House Panel Extends \$6 Billion in Untapped Nuclear Tax Credits**

The U.S. House Ways and Means Committee approved a bill that would extend a \$6 billion tax benefit for the nuclear power industry, a potential boon to Scana Corp. and Southern Co., which are building facilities in Georgia and South Carolina.

#### ***Energy***

##### **Malicious Attacks on Electric Grid Facilities Over-Reported**

The incidence of sabotage and vandalism to the U.S. electric grid might be less severe than data reported to the federal government suggest, a Bloomberg BNA data analysis shows.

#### ***Energy***

##### **Senate Panel Advances Nuclear Regulator Nominee Svinicki**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is a step closer to retaining its quorum as the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee advanced the nomination of current NRC Chairman Kristine Svinicki for a third term at the agency.

#### ***Enforcement***

##### **Home Builder to Pay \$425,000 Fine Over Stormwater Violations**

A national home builder has agreed to pay a \$425,000 fine for not obtaining a Clean Water Act permit for discharging stormwater from construction sites in New York and New Jersey, the Justice Department announced June 15.

#### ***Forests***

##### **House Republican Tries to Win Democratic Support for Forest Bill**

A forest management bill has been revised with the hope of attracting more votes from Democrats, Rep. Bruce Westerman (R-Ark.) told Bloomberg BNA after a June 15 hearing on his draft legislation.

#### ***Motor Vehicles***

##### **EPA Isn't Reviewing California's Clean Air Act Waiver: Pruitt**

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt said the agency isn't reviewing a Clean Air Act preemption waiver granted to California that allows the state to impose air pollution control requirements that are stricter than those of the federal government.

### ***Oil & Gas***

#### **U.S. Toughens Stance on Russian Gas as Engie Defends New Pipe**

As U.S. lawmakers targeted Russia's controversial \$10-billion natural gas pipeline to Europe in a plan for expanded sanctions, French utility Engie SA defended the link that it says is vital for the region's fuel supplies.

### ***Pesticides***

#### **EPA Approves Dow, Monsanto Gene-Silencing Tech to Fight Pests**

Farmers will soon have access to a novel technology to fight corn rootworm, a devastating pest that has grown resistant to traditional pesticides.

### ***Pesticides***

#### **USDA Takes Protective Measures on Cyanide Use After Dog Death**

The Agriculture Department is updating guidelines for cyanide predator controls in light of recent accounts of the devices killing and injuring pets and people.

### ***Renewable Energy***

#### **Garbage to Light 80,000 Aussie Homes Amid Energy Rethink**

Australia's poor recycling track record has an upside.

### ***Renewable Energy***

#### **Solar Power Will Kill Coal Sooner Than You Think**

Solar power, once so costly it only made economic sense in spaceships, is becoming cheap enough that it will push coal and even natural-gas plants out of business faster than previously forecast. That's the conclusion of a Bloomberg New Energy Finance outlook for how fuel and electricity markets will evolve by 2040. The research group estimated solar already rivals the cost of new coal power plants in Germany and the U.S. and by 2021 will do so in quick-growing markets such as China and ...

### ***Solid Waste***

#### **N.C. Lawmakers Approve Spraying of 'Garbage Juice'**

Landfill operators in North Carolina would be authorized to spray leachate and wastewater into the air to help manage solid waste under a bill approved by state lawmakers June 15.

### ***Toxic Substances***

#### **EU Moves to Limit Chemicals in the Workplace, Electronics**

European Union member countries are backing a plan to establish bloc-wide workplace exposure limits on five cancer-causing substances that would protect more than 4 million workers at industrial sites producing chemicals, lubricants, plastics and pharmaceuticals.

### ***Water Pollution***

#### **GOP Bill Attempts to Revoke EPA's Water Act Veto Authority**

A bill attempting to revoke the Environmental Protection Agency's authority to veto dredge-and-fill permits was introduced June 15 by Rep. Bob Gibbs (R-Ohio).

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