



**United States
Environmental Protection Agency**

FISCAL YEAR 2025

**Justification of Appropriation
Estimates for the
Committee on Appropriations**

Tab 16: Appendix

**Environmental Protection Agency
FY 2025 Annual Performance Plan and Congressional Justification**

Table of Contents – Appendix

Acronyms for Statutory Authority.....	2
Coordination With Other Federal Agencies.....	7
FY 2025 Estimated Cybersecurity Resources	48
EPA Budget by National Program Manager and Major Office	50
EPA Response to OIG Top Management Challenges	53
Challenge 1: Mitigating the Causes and Adapting to the Impacts of Climate Change....	53
Challenge 2: Integrating and Implementing Environmental Justice.....	54
Challenge 3: Safeguarding the Use and Disposal of Chemicals.....	55
Challenge 4: Promoting Ethical Conduct and Protecting Scientific Integrity.....	58
Challenge 5: Managing Grants, Contracts, and Data Systems.	59
Challenge 6: Maximizing Compliance with Environmental Laws and Regulations.	59
Challenge 7: Overseeing, Protecting, and Investing in Water and Wastewater Systems.	61
EPA User Fee Programs.....	63
Eliminated Programs.....	67
Expected Benefits of E-Government Initiatives	68
FY 2025 Administrator’s Priorities.....	73
EPA Consolidations, Reorganizations, Realignments, or Other Transfer of Resources	74
FY 2025 Environmental Justice Estimated Program Budget¹	76
FY 2025 STAG Categorical Program Grants	77
Making Litigation Costs Transparent – Equal Access for Justice Act (EAJA).....	86
Office of Enforcement Compliance Assurance Travel by Program Project	88
On-Site Inspections and Off-site Compliance Monitoring Compliance Activities from EPA’s Integrated Compliance Information System	89
Physicians’ Comparability Allowance (PCA) Plan.....	91
Program Projects by Program Area	96
Proposed FY 2025 Administrative Provisions.....	107
Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act	111
Working Capital Fund	164

Environmental Protection Agency Acronyms for Statutory Authority

The following is not an exhaustive list of [U.S.] statutory authorities but includes those commonly referred to by acronym in this document.

ACE: Air, Climate, and Energy

ADA: Americans with Disabilities Act

ADEA: Age Discrimination in Employment Act

AEA: Atomic Energy Act, as amended, and Reorganization Plan #3

AHERA: Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act

AHPA: Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act

AIM: American Innovation and Manufacturing Act of 2019

ANCSA: Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act

APA: Administrative Procedures Act

ARP: American Rescue Plan

ARRA: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

ASHAA: Asbestos in Schools Hazard Abatement Act

ASTCA: Antarctic Science, Tourism, and Conservation Act

AWIA: America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018

BEACH Act of 2000: Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act

BRERA: Brownfields Revitalization and Environmental Restoration Act

BUILD Act: Brownfields Utilization, Investment, and Local Development Act

CAA: Clean Air Act

CAAA: Clean Air Act Amendments (1970 and 1990)

CARES: Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act

CCA: Clinger Cohen Act

CERCLA: Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (1980)

CFOA: Chief Financial Officers Act

CICA: Competition in Contracting Act

CRA: Civil Rights Act

CSA: Computer Security Act

CWA: Clean Water Act (1972)

CWPPR: Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act of 1990

CZARA: Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments

CZMA: Coastal Zone Management Act

DERA: Diesel Emissions Reduction Act

DPA: Deepwater Ports Act

DREAA: Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act

DWWIA: Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021

ECRA: Economic Cleanup Responsibility Act

EFOIA: Electronic Freedom of Information Act

EISA: Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007

EO: Executive Order

EPAct: Energy Policy Act of 2005

EPAA: Environmental Programs Assistance Act

EPCA: Energy Policy and Conservation Act

EPCRA: Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (1986)

ERDDAA: Environmental Research, Development and Demonstration Authorization Act

ESA: Endangered Species Act

ESECA: Energy Supply and Environmental Coordination Act

FACA: Federal Advisory Committee Act

FAIR: Federal Activities Inventory Reform Act

FASA: Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act (1994)

FAST: Fixing America's Service Transportation Act

FCMA: Fishery Conservation and Management Act

FEPCA: Federal Environmental Pesticide Control Act of 1972, enacted as amendments to FIFRA

FFATA: Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006

FFDCA: Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act

FFMIA: Federal Financial Management Improvement Act of 1996

FGCAA: Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act

FIFRA: Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (1972)

FISMA: Federal Information Security Modernization Act

FITARA: Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act

FLPMA: Federal Land Policy and Management Act

FMFIA: Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act (1982)

FOIA: Freedom of Information Act

FPA: Federal Pesticide Act

FPAS: Federal Property and Administration Services Act

FQPA: Food Quality Protection Act (1996)

FRA: Federal Register Act

FSA: Food Security Act

FSMA: Food Safety Modernization Act

FTTA: Federal Technology Transfer Act

FUA: Fuel Use Act

FWCA: Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

FWPCA: Federal Water Pollution and Control Act (also known as the Clean Water Act [CWA])

GISRA: Government Information Security Reform Act

GMRA: Government Management Reform Act

GPRA: Government Performance and Results Act (1993)

GPRAMA: Government Performance and Results Modernization Act of 2010

HMTA: Hazardous Materials Transportation Act

HSWA: Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984, enacted as amendments to RCRA

IGA: Inspector General Act

IJA: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

IPA: Intergovernmental Personnel Act

IPIA: Improper Payments Information Act

IRA: Inflation Reduction Act

ISTEA: Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act

IT: Information Technology

ITMRA: Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996-aka Clinger/Cohen Act

MCRBMA: Mercury-Containing and Rechargeable Battery Management Act

MGT: Modernizing Government Technology Act

MPPRCA: Marine Plastic Pollution, Research and Control Act of 1987

MPRSA: Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act

NAWCA: North American Wetlands Conservation Act

NEEA: National Environmental Education Act

NEPA: National Environmental Policy Act

NHPA: National Historic Preservation Act

NISA: National Invasive Species Act of 1996

ODA: Ocean Dumping Act

OPA: Oil Pollution Act of 1990

OWBPA: Older Workers Benefit Protection Act

PBA: Public Building Act

PFCRA: Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act

PHSA: Public Health Service Act

PIIA: Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019

PLIRRA: Pollution Liability Insurance and Risk Retention Act

PPA: Pollution Prevention Act

PR: Privacy Act of 1974

PRA: Paperwork Reduction Act

PREA: Pesticide Registration Extension Act of 2012 (also known as PRIA 3)

PRIA: Pesticide Registration Improvement Act of 2003

PRIA 4: Pesticide Registration Improvement Extension Act of 2018

PRIA 5: Pesticide Registration Improvement Act of 2022

PRIRA: Pesticide Registration Improvement Renewal Act

QCA: Quiet Communities Act

RCRA: Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, enacted as amendments to SWDA.

RFA: Regulatory Flexibility Act

RICO: Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act

RLBPHRA: Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act

SARA: Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986

SBLRBRERA: Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization and Environmental Restoration Act

SBREFA: Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996

SDWA: Safe Drinking Water Act

SICEA: Steel Industry Compliance Extension Act
SMCRA: Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act
SOS 2.0: Save Our Seas Act 2.0
SPA: Shore Protection Act of 1988
SWDA: Solid Waste Disposal Act
TSCA: Toxic Substances Control Act
UMRA: Unfunded Mandates Reform Act
UMTRLWA: Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Land Withdrawal Act
USMCA: United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act
USTCA: Underground Storage Tank Compliance Act
VIDA: Vessel Incidental Discharge Act
WIFIA: Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act
WIIN: Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act
WQA: Water Quality Act of 1987
WRDA: Water Resources Development Act
WSRA: Wild and Scenic Rivers Act
WWWQA: Wet Weather Water Quality Act of 2000

Coordination With Other Federal Agencies

Air and Radiation Programs

National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) Implementation

EPA cooperates with other agencies to achieve goals related to ground level ozone and particulate matter (PM), and to ensure the actions of other agencies are compatible with state plans for attaining and maintaining the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The Agency works closely with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Department of the Interior (DOI), and Department of Defense (DOD) on issues such as prescribed burning at silviculture and agricultural operations. EPA, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) also work with state and local agencies to integrate transportation and air quality plans, reduce traffic congestion, and promote livable communities.

Air Quality in the Agricultural Sector

To improve EPA's understanding of environmental issues in the agricultural sector, the Agency works with USDA and others to improve air quality while supporting sustainable agriculture. The collaborative approach to the agriculture sector includes scientific assessment, outreach and education, and implementation/compliance.

Regional Haze

EPA works with the National Park Service (NPS), and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and DOI in implementing its regional haze program and operating the Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments (IMPROVE) visibility monitoring network. The operation and analysis of data produced by this air monitoring system is an example of the close coordination of efforts between EPA and state and tribal governments.

Air Quality Assessment, Modeling, and Forecasting

For pollution assessments and transport, EPA works with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) on technology transfer using satellite imagery. EPA further distributes NASA satellite products and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) air quality forecast products to states, local agencies, and tribes to provide a better understanding of daily air quality and to assist with air quality forecasting. EPA also works with the Department of the Army on advancing emission measurement technology and with NOAA for meteorological support for our modeling and monitoring efforts. EPA collects real-time ozone and PM measurements from state and local agencies, which are used by both NOAA and EPA to improve and verify Air Quality Forecast models.

EPA's *AirNow* Program (the national real-time Air Quality Index reporting and forecasting system) works with the National Weather Service (NWS) to coordinate NOAA air quality forecast guidance with state and local agencies for air quality forecasting efforts and to render the NOAA model output in EPA's Air Quality Index (AQI), which helps people determine appropriate air quality protective behaviors. In wildfire situations, EPA and USFS work closely with states to deploy monitors and report monitoring information and other conditions on *AirNow*. The *AirNow* Program also collaborates with NPS and USFS in collecting air quality monitoring observations,

in addition to over 130 state, local, and tribal air agency observations, and with NASA in a project to incorporate satellite data with air quality observations.

EPA, USDA, and DOI established a collaborative framework to address issues pertaining to wildland fire and air quality. The agreement recognizes the key roles of each agency, as well as opportunities for collaboration. For example, the partnership explains that the agencies seek to reduce the impact of emissions from wildfires, especially catastrophic wildfires, and the impact of those emissions on air quality as well as highlighting opportunities for information sharing and collaboration.

Mobile Sources

EPA works with DOT's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) on the coordinated national program establishing standards to improve fuel efficiency for light-duty and heavy-duty vehicles. Specifically, EPA, in coordination with DOT's fuel economy and fuel consumption standards programs, implements vehicle and commercial truck greenhouse gas standards.

To address criteria pollutant emissions from marine and aircraft sources, EPA works collaboratively with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), as well as with other federal agencies, such as the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). EPA also collaborates with the USCG in the implementation of Emission Control Area (ECA) around the U.S., and with Mexico and Canada in the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) to evaluate the benefits of establishing a Mexican ECA.

To better understand the sources and causes of mobile source pollution, EPA works with the Department of Energy (DOE) and DOT to fund applied research projects including transportation modeling projects. EPA also works closely with DOE on refinery cost modeling analyses to support clean fuel programs, evaluation of petitions for small refinery hardship exemptions under the Renewable Fuel Standards (RFS) Program, and coordination regarding fuel supply during emergency situations.

For mobile sources program outreach, the Agency participates in a collaborative effort with DOT's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to educate the public and communities about the impacts of transportation choices on traffic congestion, air quality, climate change, and human health. These partnerships can involve policy assessments and toxic emission reduction strategies in different regions of the country. EPA works with DOE, DOT, and other agencies, as needed, on the requirements of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, such as the Renewable Fuel Standard. EPA also has worked with other agencies on biofuel topics through the Biomass Research and Development Institute.

To develop air pollutant emission factors and emission estimation algorithms for military aircraft, ground equipment, and vehicles, EPA partners with the DOD. This partnership provides for the joint undertaking of air-monitoring/emission factor research and regulatory implementation.

Air Toxics

EPA works closely with other health agencies such as the CDC, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) on health risk characterization for both toxic and criteria air pollutants. The Agency also contributes air quality data to CDC's Environmental Public Health Tracking Program, which is made publicly available and used by various public health agencies.

Addressing Transboundary Air Pollution

In developing regional and international air quality projects, and in working on regional agreements, EPA works with the Department of State (DOS), NOAA, NASA, DOE, USDA, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and with regional organizations. In addition, EPA has partnered with other organizations and countries worldwide, including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the European Union (EU), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), CEC, Canada, Mexico, China, and Japan. EPA also partners with environment and public health officials and provides technical assistance through UNEP to facilitate the development of air quality management strategies to other major emitters and/or to key regional or sub-regional groupings of countries.

Stratospheric Ozone

EPA works closely with DOS and other federal agencies in international negotiations among Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, with the goal of protecting the ozone layer and through managing ozone depleting substances (ODS) it controls. EPA also supports several multilateral environmental agreements to simultaneously protect the ozone layer and climate system working closely with the DOS and other federal agencies, including but not limited to the Office of Science Technology and Policy (OSTP), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), Department of Commerce (DOC), OMB, USDA NOAA, and NASA.

EPA works with other agencies, including the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) and DOC, to analyze potential trade implications in stratospheric protection regulations that affect imports and exports. EPA has coordinated efforts with the Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Department of Treasury (U.S. Treasury), and other agencies to curb the illegal importation of ODS.

Indoor Air and Radon

EPA works closely with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), DOE, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to reduce risks from poor air quality in homes and schools. EPA also partners with the U.S. Department of Education (ED) to provide guidance and technical assistance to improve school environments through indoor air quality (IAQ) improvements. EPA, CDC, and HUD have leadership roles in the public-private strategic partnership to advance radon risk reduction (National Radon Action Plan). EPA co-leads the Federal Asthma Disparities Work Group under the President's Task Force and leads the Federal Interagency Committee on Indoor

Air Quality—these two coordinating bodies serve to increase communication, coordination, and collaboration across the federal family to address IAQ risk reduction.

Radiation and Radiation Preparedness and Response

EPA works primarily with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), DOE, and DHS on multiple radiation-related issues. EPA has ongoing planning and guidance discussions with DHS on emergency response activities, including exercises responding to nuclear related incidents. As the regulator of DOE's Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), EPA is charged with coordinating with DOE to ensure the facility is operating in compliance with EPA regulations. EPA is a member of the Interagency Radiation Source Protection and Security Task Force, established in the Energy Policy Act, to improve the security of domestic radioactive sources. EPA also is a working member of the interagency Nuclear Government Coordinating Council (NGCC), which coordinates across government and the private sector on issues related to security, communications, and emergency management within the nuclear sector. EPA is a charter member of the Interagency Nuclear Safety Review Board which was established to review the nuclear safety analysis for launching space nuclear systems. EPA works with DOD, DOE, NASA, NRC, DOS, and DOT to coordinate the safety review and launch emergency response plans for commercial and non-commercial launches of space nuclear systems.

For emergency preparedness, EPA coordinates with other federal agencies through the Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee and the Advisory Team for Environment, Food and Health which provides federal scientific advice and recommendations to state and local decision makers, such as governors and mayors, during a radiological emergency. EPA participates in planning and implementing exercises including radiological anti-terrorism activities with the HHS, NRC, DOE, DOD, and DHS.

EPA is a charter member and co-chairs the Interagency Steering Committee on Radiation Standards (ISCORS), which was created at the direction of Congress. Through its activities, member agencies are kept informed of cross-cutting issues related to radiation protection, radioactive waste management, and emergency preparedness and response. ISCORS also helps coordinate U.S. responses to radiation-related issues internationally.

During radiological emergencies, EPA works with expert members of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). EPA also works with OECD's Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) on two committees: the Radioactive Waste Management Committee (RWMC) and the Committee on Radiation Protection and Public Health (CRPPH). Through participation on the CRPPH, EPA is successful in bringing U.S. perspectives to international radiation protection policy.

Climate Change

To carry out a diverse range of regulatory and partnership programs to help tackle the climate crisis, EPA works with several federal agencies, including the Department of HUD, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), DOE, NASA, USDA, DOS, USAID, DOI, and DOT.

Climate protection partnership programs, government-wide, stimulate the development and use of renewable energy technologies, energy efficient products, and other strategies that will help reduce

greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. This effort is led by EPA and DOE with significant involvement from the USDA, HUD, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

The Global Methane Initiative (GMI) is a U.S.-led, international public-private partnership that brings together over 40 partner governments and over 1,000 public and private sector organizations to advance methane recovery and use methane as a clean energy source. EPA works with DOS on the GMI, building on the success of EPA's domestic methane programs and focusing on advancing methane reductions from agriculture, coal mines, landfills, oil and gas systems, and municipal wastewater.

EPA also will support DOS as the technical lead in developing projections and compiling information on GHG mitigation policies and measures as part of the upcoming U.S. Biennial Report and National Communication as required by the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change. EPA will support the State Department and National Science Foundation with applying applicable goals and GHG mitigation policies in the review of environmental evaluations for non-Governmental activities in Antarctica consistent with Antarctica Treaty Commission commitments.

EPA also is working with NASA to study and prototype capabilities for a greenhouse gas monitoring and information system that will integrate data from a variety of sources with a goal of making data more accessible and usable to federal, state, and local governments, researchers, the public, and other users.

Research Supporting the Air and Radiation Program

EPA continues to coordinate with other agencies, such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH), HHS, CDC, NOAA, DOE, USDA, and USFS to develop effective and sustainable approaches to manage air pollution and climate change risks.

ENERGY STAR

In 2009, EPA and DOE signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that redefined roles and responsibilities to address implementation challenges and capitalize on the strengths of each agency. Prior to 2009, both EPA and DOE were implementing the Program for different products, resulting in inconsistent approaches, duplicative efforts, and market confusion. The 2009 Memorandum of Understanding was designed to solve such problems raised by industry stakeholders. EPA is the ENERGY STAR brand manager and is accountable for maintaining the integrity of the label. For ENERGY STAR products, EPA is responsible for setting product performance levels, educating consumers and businesses, and supporting the efforts of manufacturers, retailers, and utilities. EPA also oversees third-party certification and verification testing. EPA also is responsible for the ENERGY STAR Residential New Construction, Commercial, and Industrial programs, including ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager.

For ENERGY STAR products, DOE develops test procedures for ENERGY STAR products and contributes to verification testing of appliances and equipment. DOE sets minimum, mandatory energy efficiency standards for some products through a regulatory process. EPA and DOE work closely to share data and analyses, synchronize timing, and coordinate requests to industry in the

development of both the voluntary ENERGY STAR specifications and the DOE minimum efficiency standards. DOE also is responsible for implementing Home Performance with ENERGY STAR.

Water Programs

Collaboration with Public and Private Partners on Water Infrastructure Preparedness, Response and Recovery

EPA coordinates with other federal agencies, primarily DHS, CDC, FDA, and DOD, on biological, chemical, and radiological contaminants of high concern, and how to detect and respond to their presence in drinking water and wastewater systems. EPA works with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and DHS, particularly with respect to ensuring the timely dissemination of threat information through existing communication networks. Additionally, throughout the pandemic, EPA worked with DHS and other federal agencies to coordinate aspects of information sharing, disseminate personal protective equipment, address shortages of treatment chemicals, provide for equipment and qualified water system operators, and recognize water system operators and associated contract personnel as critical workers.

EPA works with USACE and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to refine coordination processes among federal partners engaged in providing emergency response support to the water sector, including maintaining clear roles and responsibilities under the National Disaster Recovery Framework. In addition, EPA continues to work with FEMA, USACE, and other agencies, on the Federal Interagency Floodplain Management Task Force regarding water resources and floodplain management.

As the Agency in charge of water sector security, EPA works with DHS Cyber and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and other government agencies on the Industrial Control System (ICS) working group to develop an ICS interagency Strategy and Implementation Plan. EPA also collaborates with CISA on various working groups and cybersecurity issues such as roles and responsibilities, ICS supply chain, cyber workforce, cybersecurity standards, and cyber response.

Drinking Water Programs

EPA and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) established an Interagency Agreement to coordinate activities and information exchange in the areas of unregulated contaminants occurrence, the environmental relationships affecting contaminant occurrence, protection area delineation methodology, and analytical methods. This effort improves the quality of information to support risk management decision-making at all levels of government, generates valuable new data, and eliminates potential redundancies. EPA also collaborates with HUD, HHS, DOI and USDA to develop strategies to decrease drinking water lead exposure in homes. The partnership promotes the exchange of information, leverages funding, and reviews processes to facilitate better-informed and coordinated decisions and investments.

In addition, EPA collaborates with DHHS to better understand, characterize, and manage public health risks from Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CECs), with activities spanning from assessing CDC's waterborne disease surveillance data related to *legionella* and other biofilm-related pathogens to partnering with FDA on antibiotic resistance-related issues. EPA collaborates

with multiple federal agencies to address Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) issues including DOD, DOE, USDA, FDA, DHHS, the NIH, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the Small Business Administration (SBA), NASA, FAA, and the Executive Office of the President (EOP).

Infrastructure Support for Tribal Water Systems

EPA coordinates the multi-agency tribal Infrastructure Task Force (ITF), created to develop and coordinate federal activities in delivering water infrastructure, wastewater infrastructure and solid waste management services to tribal communities. The ITF is the formal mechanism for interagency coordination among EPA, DHHS's Indian Health Service (IHS), HUD, USDA, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

Drinking Water and Wastewater Work in Indian Country

EPA works under a five-federal agency MOU to better coordinate the federal government's efforts in providing access to safe drinking water and basic wastewater facilities for tribal communities. EPA, DOI, DHHS, USDA, and HUD work as the Federal Tribal Infrastructure Task Force (TITF) to use their combined authorities to maintain a framework to enhance interagency efficiency and coordination, and to cultivate greater cooperation in carrying out their tribal infrastructure responsibilities. Since 2007, the TITF has: maintained procedures necessary for a common understanding of the programs pertaining to funding infrastructure construction, solid waste management efforts, and technical assistance to tribes; worked together to improve the capacity of tribal communities to operate and maintain sustainable infrastructure; enhanced the efficient leveraging of funds; worked directly with tribes to promote an understanding of federal programs; identified ways to improve construction, operation, and maintenance of sustainable infrastructure; and worked to allow and facilitate the exchange of data and information amongst partners.¹

Sustainable Rural Drinking and Wastewater Systems

EPA and USDA work together to increase the sustainability of rural drinking water and wastewater systems to ensure the protection of public health, water quality, and sustainable communities. The two agencies facilitate coordinated funding for infrastructure projects that aid in the compliance of national drinking water and clean water regulations.

National Water Sector Workforce Development

EPA and the Departments of Education, Interior, Agriculture, and Veterans Affairs (VA) are building on existing collaborations, exploring new opportunities and actions, and identifying potential additional federal programs and partners to support the Nation's water sector professionals.

Coordination with Department of Defense on Analytical Methods for Detecting PFAS

EPA's Clean Water Act (CWA) analytical methods program is collaborating with DOD on their efforts to develop an analytical method for detecting certain PFAS compounds in wastewater.

¹ For additional information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/tribal/federal-infrastructure-task-force-improve-access-safe-drinking-water-and-basic-sanitation>.

Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage (CCUS)

EPA participates in quarterly and ad hoc meetings with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), DOE, DOI, DOT, and DOJ to share information on carbon capture and storage developments. In addition, EPA serves as a liaison to DOE's National Risk Assessment Partnership to advance its work in developing tools to improve collective understanding of risk at CO₂ storage projects and inform science and risk-based decision-making at geologic sequestration projects; and to explore opportunities to integrate the partnership work into EPA's Class VI permitting process. EPA also will collaborate with DOE and CEQ on several reports and other initiatives related to carbon sequestration requested by Congress, including developing a report on UIC Class VI permitting. Through the CAA §309 review program, EPA is collaborating with DOE and other agencies as needed to assist with identifying potential impacts and ways to avoid and minimize those impacts from CO₂ storage projects.

Research to Support Water Programs

Other federal and non-federal entities conduct research that complements EPA's research on priority contaminants in drinking water. Cooperative research efforts have been ongoing with the American Water Works Association, Water Research Foundation, and other stakeholders to coordinate drinking water research where the private sector is conducting research in areas such as analytical methods, treatment technologies, and the development and maintenance of water resources. EPA also has worked with the USGS to evaluate performance of newly developed methods for measuring microbes in potential drinking water sources.

Interagency coordination in research also is occurring in developing sediment criteria. Here, EPA has joint research initiatives with NOAA and USGS for linking monitoring data and field study information with available toxicity data and assessment models for developing sediment criteria.

EPA also conducts studies with the USGS to monitor the occurrence of contaminants of emerging concern (CECs). Research efforts to monitor the effects of chemical mixtures continue, increasing our understanding of wastewater effluent impacts to human and aquatic health and prioritizing future research on developing solutions for the removal of CECs in wastewater treatment operations.

Source Water Collaborative

EPA participates in the Source Water Collaborative along with USDA (NRCS, Farm Service Agency (FSA), USFS), USGS, and 25 other national organizations. The goal of the collaborative is to protect sources of drinking water by combining the strengths and tools of its member organizations. EPA provides funding to support these efforts.

Source Water Protection and Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)

To combat HABs and hypoxia, the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act of 2014 (HABHRCA) supports the scientific understanding and the ability to detect, predict, control, mitigate, and respond to HABs and hypoxia. This legislation established the Interagency Working Group (IWG) on HABHRCA (IWG-HABHRCA). It tasked the group with coordinating and convening federal agencies to discuss HAB and hypoxia events in the U.S., and to develop action plans, reports, and assessments of these situations. The IWG-HABHRCA is co-chaired by representatives from EPA and NOAA, and it is composed of the following member

agencies and departments: CDC, FDA, NIEHS, USACE, USGS, BOEM, NPS, FWS, NASA, USDA, DOS, and the National Science Foundation (NSF).

2018 Farm Bill Source Water Protection Provisions

EPA collaborates with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), state and utility partners to develop implementation strategies and guidance to comply with the 2018 Farm Bill provisions. These provisions dedicate at least 10 percent of total funds available for conservation programs (apart from the Conservation Reserve Program) to be used for source water protection. In addition, the Agency partners with NRCS to foster collaboration at the state and local levels to identify priority source water protection areas in each state to address agriculture-related impacts to drinking water sources. EPA also is collaborating with USFS in developing strategies to implement the 2018 Farm Bill (Title VIII, Subtitle D, Section 8404) Source Water Protection provisions requiring a “Water Source Protection Program” on National Forest Service (NFS) lands. EPA is supporting USFS by fostering partnerships with state, utilities, and other water stakeholders.

National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI)

The Agency works with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), which implements Farm Bill conservation programs that can help control nonpoint source pollution. The National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) partnership with USDA focuses federal resources on agricultural sources of pollution in select watersheds in every state. Between FY 2017 and FY 2022, over \$43.3 million in Clean Water Act section 319 funding was invested in NWQI watersheds, which was matched by over \$52.4 million in nonfederal funding.² These conservation efforts have reduced sediment loss from cropland by >1.2 million tons, reduced phosphorous loss by >3.4 million pounds and reduced nitrogen loss by >15.2 million pounds.

Gulf Hypoxia Task Force

EPA, as the federal chair of the Gulf Hypoxia Task Force, works with member federal agencies (USDA, NOAA, USGS) and twelve member states to continue implementation of the 2008 Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan. A key goal of the Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan is to improve water quality in the Mississippi River Basin and reduce the size of the hypoxic zone in the Gulf of Mexico by implementing existing and innovative approaches to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus pollution in the Basin and the Gulf. The Hypoxia Task Force is developing basin-wide metrics, while Task Force member states are using Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act resources to implement nutrient reduction strategies, partner with land grant universities, report on measures to track progress, and identify a need for adaptive management. State support for effective nutrient reduction in the Gulf is coordinated with other Hypoxia Task Force federal member agencies, such as the U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Geological Survey, in high-priority watersheds.

Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program

The Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program, established by section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments, addresses nonpoint source pollution problems in coastal waters. Section 6217 requires states and territories with approved Coastal Zone Management Programs to develop Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Programs. In its program, a state or territory describes how it will implement nonpoint source pollution controls, known as

² Data as of February 20, 2024.

management measures. This program is administered jointly with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration

The EPA Deepwater Horizon (DWH) Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDA) Program works closely with federal (NOAA, DOI, USDA) and state (5 Gulf states) NRDA co-Trustees to evaluate, select, and implement projects to restore Gulf of Mexico natural resources injured by the DWH oil spill. This restoration effort provides the opportunity for EPA and co-Trustees to collaborate on a wide variety of issues across the Gulf that are important to the federal co-Trustees including water quality, nutrient reduction, fisheries, wetlands, marine debris, coastal resilience, monitoring, and adaptive management.

The Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA)

The Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA) regulates the disposition of any material in the ocean unless expressly excluded under MPRSA. Under the MPRSA, EPA is responsible for establishing criteria for reviewing and evaluating permit applications, as well as issuing MPRSA permits for materials other than dredged material (for example, MPRSA emergency, research, general, and special permits). This will include addressing MPRSA permitting requests for climate mitigation approaches including ocean-based carbon dioxide removal activities or ocean-based solar radiation management activities. In the United States, the primary material (in terms of volume) disposed of in the ocean is dredged material, which is sediment that is excavated or otherwise removed from our nation's waterways. The removal of sediment supports a network of coastal ports and harbors that are used for commercial, transportation, national defense and recreational purposes. Under the MPRSA, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is responsible for issuing ocean dumping permits and federal project authorizations, using EPA's environmental criteria. All MPRSA permits and federal project authorizations for ocean dumping of dredged material are subject to EPA review and written concurrence. EPA and USACE together develop site management and monitoring plans for each designated ocean dredged material disposal site. In the United States, the MPRSA implements the requirements of the London Convention, where EPA collaborates with the State Department, USACE, USACE, USCG, DOE, NOAA, DOD, Navy, NASA, and DOI.

Vessels

EPA works closely under the Clean Water Act to jointly regulate vessels of the armed forces with the Department of Defense through the Department of the Navy. EPA works closely with the U.S. Coast Guard to regulate incidental discharges from commercial vessels – EPA establishes discharge standards that become effective once the Coast Guard issues implementing regulations under the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act.

Urban Waters Federal Partnership

EPA leads the Urban Waters Federal Partnership with over 15 federal partner agencies, including DOI and USDA, to support 21 Urban Waters locations. The Urban Waters Federal Partnership reconnects urban communities, particularly those that are overburdened or economically distressed, with their waterways by improving coordination among federal agencies and

collaborating with community-led revitalization efforts to improve our nation's waters and promote their economic, environmental, and social benefits.

Wetlands

EPA works closely with USACE to oversee and implement the Clean Water Act section 404 permitting program. [Section 404 of the Clean Water Act](#) establishes a program to regulate the discharge of [dredged](#) or [fill](#) material into [waters of the United States](#), including wetlands. EPA develops and interprets policy, [guidance](#), and environmental criteria used in evaluating permit applications; determines scope of [geographic jurisdiction](#) and applicability of exemptions; and reviews and comments on individual permit applications. EPA also coordinates with the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on certain permitting actions.

Interagency Coastal Wetlands Workgroup

EPA works on the Coastal Wetlands Initiative in partnership with a number of federal agencies involved in coastal wetlands conservation, including FWS, NMFS, DOT, USGS, USDA, and USACE. The goal of the Interagency Coastal Wetlands Workgroup is to reduce and reverse the trend of coastal wetland loss. The workgroup has developed a series of recommendations to address coastal wetland loss grouped under five themes: increasing the acreage of wetlands restored in coastal watersheds; reducing loss of coastal wetlands to development; reducing loss of coastal wetlands associated with silviculture in the Southeast; supporting the collection, enhancement, and dissemination of landscape-scale wetland monitoring data; and conducting targeted outreach and stakeholder engagement.

Coral Reef Task Force

EPA partners with other federal agencies in support of the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force (USCRTF). The USCRTF was established in 1998 by Presidential Executive Order to lead U.S. efforts to preserve and protect coral reef ecosystems. The USCRTF includes federal agencies, states, territories, commonwealths, and Freely Associated States. The USCRTF helps build partnerships, strategies, and support for on-the-ground action to conserve coral reefs.

National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)

EPA partners with other federal agencies, states and other organizations to promote water quality monitoring. The NWQMC includes representatives from NOAA, Forest Service, NRCS, FWS, NPS and participation from USGS. A key deliverable of the NWQMC is the National Monitoring Conference. The NWQMC established a Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) workgroup to advance inclusion of JEDI issues in programming and expand representation of Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning, intersex, asexual, and more (LGBTQ+) in the conference.

National Aquatic Resource Surveys

EPA partners with other federal agencies, states, territories, and tribes in implementation of NARS, a national monitoring network producing statistically representative assessments on the condition of the nation's rivers and streams, lakes, wetlands, coastal estuaries, and Great Lakes nearshore waters. Federal agencies that have participated in NARS include NRCS, NPS, FS, BLM, and USGS.

Advice about Eating Fish and Shellfish

FDA and EPA collaborate to issue advice regarding eating fish and shellfish that are lower in mercury and other contaminants. This advice is for those who might become pregnant, are pregnant, or are breastfeeding as well as parents and caregivers who are feeding children. It can help people make informed choices about the types of fish that are nutritious and safe to eat.

National Water Reuse Action Plan Development and Implementation

EPA continues to lead the National Water Reuse Action Plan (WRAP) in close partnership with our Federal Partners across the full spectrum of water users. Since 2020, the effort has grown to include 157 organizations and 69 coordinated actions, with publicly available products that expand water reuse expertise and address implementation challenges. The Water Reuse Interagency Working Group, formally established under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law with participants from more than ten federal agencies, demonstrates leadership through WRAP implementation and is celebrating its second year of coordinating and developing tools, actions and resources to advance water reuse. The Working Group will release a report to Congress in 2024 that presents key information and outcomes related to its duties and outlines anticipated future activities. Federal Partners include components of the Executive Office of the President, HHS, DHS, GSA, USAID, USDA, DOD, DOE, DOI, and the State Department.

Land and Emergency Management Programs

Brownfields

EPA's Brownfields and Land Revitalization Programs partner with the NPS's River, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program to support *Groundwork USA* and individual Groundwork Trust organizations in their efforts to engage youth in brownfields redevelopment and community revitalization.

Superfund Remedial Program

The Superfund Remedial Program maintains ongoing coordination and collaboration with ATSDR, NIEHS, HUD, and USACE as well as with the Federal Mining Dialogue and the Federal Remediation Technologies Roundtable, two multi-agency consortia. Interaction with these entities enhances program implementation through activities that are mutually beneficial, such as information sharing and resource leveraging. For example, ATSDR has a statutory mandate to complete health assessments on sites listed on EPA's National Priorities List while EPA conducts site characterization and remediation. Moreover, EPA site managers work with their ATSDR counterparts to coordinate public human health messaging. For NIEHS, EPA collaborates and coordinates academic research related to contaminant toxicities, site characterization and remediation and risk communication. EPA collaborates with HUD on residential risk evaluation and mitigation, while the Agency's work with USACE spans a wide range of technical, management and acquisition support functions to implement or oversee responsible party Superfund project implementation for the remedial and removal programs. EPA's participation in the Federal Mining Dialogue has established the Agency's role in a multi-agency (*e.g.*, DOE, DOI, etc.) partnership to address abandoned hard rock mining sites on federal and mixed ownership lands. Membership in the Federal Remediation Technologies Roundtable facilitates EPA's collaboration with multiple federal entities, such as DOD, NASA, DOT, to advance the use of innovative technologies to clean up hazardous waste contamination. EPA also co-chairs with DOE

and DOD a subgroup of the PFAS Interagency Policy Committee (IPC) on PFAS cleanup and disposal. The purpose is to foster inter-agency collaboration and communication to accelerate PFAS cleanups. USDA, EPA, SBA, OMB/OIRA, DHS, DOT/FAA, OSTP and CEQ also participate in this IPC subgroup and CEQ leads the IPC group.

Superfund Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Program

EPA's Superfund Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Program coordinates with other Federal Agencies (OFAs); state, tribal, and local governments; and communities to implement its statutory responsibilities to ensure protective and efficient cleanup and reuse of federally contaminated land on the Federal Agency Hazardous Waste Compliance Docket and the NPL. Successful coordination requires strong partnerships and enhanced engagement by having regularly scheduled and ad hoc meetings that target and resolve critical programmatic issues, emphasize selection and implementation of protective cleanups, and recognize site reuse opportunities and successes. EPA has committed to early engagement with our partners that focus on issues with a problem-solving and action-oriented approach.

The Program also coordinates with national organizations that help to improve engagement such as the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials (ASTSWMO), the Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC), and the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS). ASTSWMO has a Federal Facilities Research Center Subcommittee that promotes and enhances state and territory involvement in the cleanup and reuse of contaminated federal facilities and fosters information exchange by and between states, territories, and OFAs. This includes identifying and researching emerging issues related to state and federal cleanup programs at federal facility sites, producing and disseminating resource documents and tools, and working with EPA and OFAs on a variety of federal facility issues and forums. Current topics of interest include addressing contaminants of emerging concern like PFAS; ensuring Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs) are identified and implemented; coordination with civilian federal agencies; Performance-Based Contracting; and participating in the implementation and oversight of the Munitions Response Program. ITRC is a state-led coalition working to reduce barriers to the use of innovative air, water, waste, and remediation environmental technologies and processes. ITRC produces documents and training that broaden and deepen technical knowledge and expedite quality regulatory decision making while protecting human health and the environment. EPA, along with OFAs and industry representatives, works through ITRC in defining continuing research needs through its teams including on topics of relevance and benefit to federal facility sites, like PFAS, chemicals of emerging concern, and performance-based optimization of pump and treat systems.

Through the establishment of a national cleanup dialogue with the DOE and the states in coordination with ECOS, EPA supports special emphasis engagement for nuclear weapons sites, the largest and costliest portfolio of remaining federal facilities cleanup work. The Dialogue enhances ongoing working relationships in the cleanup of DOE Environmental Management sites and focuses on topics of mutual relevance and highest priority to ensure timely advancement of protective cleanups. The Dialogue exemplifies how collaboration can advance DOE sites and foster an understanding of challenges and successes nationally.

EPA also participates with OFAs and states on the Munitions Response Dialogue (MRD), partners with DOD research and development programs on munitions management and environmental restoration. Current MRD activities include EPA, DOD, Federal Land Management Agencies, and states updating and harmonizing previous munitions risk/hazard assessment methodologies. The MRD's goal is to achieve consensus on an updated munitions risk/hazard assessment methodology. EPA also co-chairs the Intergovernmental Data Quality Task Force (IDQTF) with DoD and DOE. The IDQTF works to ensure that environmental data are of known and documented quality and suitable for the intended use.

EPA actively participates in the Defense Environmental Restoration Program and Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) forums hosted by the DOD. DOD's gathering of State and Federal regulators offers a unique opportunity to partner, share information, and facilitate more efficient and effective management of DoD's cleanup program. Recent forums focused on emerging issues, best practices, and lessons learned, as well as new policies and technology investments to maximize efficiencies and minimize the time it takes to complete cleanup at active, Base Realignment and Closure installations, and FUDS. Similar forums hosted by DOD service components provide EPA and states further opportunities for engagement, often focused on topics tailored to the unique aspects of the response programs of the Army, Navy or Air Force.

Accelerate Work to Clean-up Contaminated Lands Under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA)

EPA with the other federal agencies (DOI, DOD and others as needed) will use a whole-of-government approach to clean up and address lands that were contaminated when transferred under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). Agencies will strengthen collaboration between the Federal government, the State of Alaska, Alaska Native Corporations, Tribes, and Alaska Native Organizations to improve data and transparency through the creation of a joint inventory and public facing dashboard; prioritize assessment and cleanup of contaminated sites; and initiate cleanup of sites that have not yet been addressed.

RCRA Waste Minimization and Recycling: Supporting Sustainable Materials Management and a Circular Economy for All

Natural resource extraction and processing make up approximately 50 percent of total GHG emissions. Under RCRA, EPA provides data, information, guidelines, tools, and technical assistance on resource conservation, recycling, and resource recovery. As part of this work, EPA focuses on increasing the conservation and recovery of municipal solid waste (e.g., plastics, aluminum, paper, food waste) and industrial waste (e.g., construction and demolition materials) to advance a circular economy. EPA is working closely with other federal agencies to implement EPA's 2021 National Recycling Strategy, the 2020 Save our Seas Act 2.0, and the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), as well as to develop, finalize and implement additional strategies on plastics, food waste and organics, critical minerals and electronics, textiles, and the built environment.

The Save our Seas Act 2.0, passed by Congress in December 2020, demonstrates bipartisan congressional support and provides EPA with authority to further act on domestic recycling and address plastic waste through new grant programs, studies, and extensive federal coordination. EPA is coordinating with DOE, several offices within the DOC (NIST, NOAA, USTR and ITA),

and USAID to implement the Save our Seas 2.0 Act, with particular emphasis on addressing the global plastic pollution challenge. In FY 2023, EPA released the *Draft National Strategy to Prevent Plastic Pollution* and anticipates implementing the final strategy in FY 2025.

EPA works collaboratively with USDA, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to reduce food waste in support of the national goal of reducing food loss and waste by 50 percent by 2030. In FY 2024, EPA released the *Draft National Strategy for Reducing Food Loss and Waste and Recycling Organics* in partnership with USDA and FDA and anticipates implementing the final strategy in FY 2025. EPA also provides national estimates of food waste generation and management and convenes, educates, and supports communities seeking to reduce food waste.

The IJJA was enacted on November 15, 2021. The IJJA provides funding for the Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) grant program grants under section 302(a) of the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act as well as education and outreach grants focused on improving material recycling, recovery, management. The IJJA also establishes new programs focused on battery recycling and directs EPA to develop a model recycling program toolkit, increase coordination on federal procurement guidelines, and provide assistance to the educational community to incorporate recycling best practices into school curriculum. EPA coordinates closely with DOE on the development of battery recycling best practices and the voluntary labeling program, as DOE also received significant new IJJA funding to advance battery recycling.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) Programs

The RCRA Corrective Action Program coordinates closely with OFAs, primarily DOD and DOE, which have many corrective action sites. A top agency priority is to help federal facilities meet the Program's goals of investigating and cleaning up hazardous releases. EPA also coordinates with other agencies on cleanup and disposal issues posed by PCBs under the authority of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).

Emergency Preparedness and Response

EPA plays a major role in reducing the risks that accidental and intentional releases of harmful substances and oil discharges pose to human health and the environment. EPA's leadership in federal preparedness begins with co-chairing the National Response Team (NRT) and the 13 Regional Response Teams (RRTs) with the USCG. These teams, which have member participation from 15 total federal agencies (EPA, USCG, DOS, DOD, DHS/FEMA, DOE, USDA, DHHS (including CDC, NIOSH, and ATSDR), DOI, DOC, DOT, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), DOJ, and the U.S. Department of Labor [DOL] [including OSHA]), provide guidance and deliver federal assistance to state, local, and tribal governments to plan for and respond to natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other major environmental incidents. This requires coordination with many federal, state, and local agencies. The Agency participates with other federal agencies to develop national planning and implementation policies at the operational level.

The National Response Framework (NRF), under the direction of DHS, provides for the delivery of federal assistance to states to help them deal with the consequences of terrorist events, acts of malfeasance, as well as natural and other significant disasters. EPA maintains the lead

responsibility for the NRF's Emergency Support Function #10 (covering inland hazardous materials and petroleum releases) and participates in the Federal Emergency Support Function Leaders Group which addresses NRF planning and implementation at the operational level.

EPA supports the Weapons of Mass Destruction Strategic Group (WMDSG) crisis-action team intended to coordinate the United States Government's efforts to successfully resolve a WMD threat and support interagency senior leader decision making. The WMDSG is comprised of over 50 SMEs representing over 15 different departments and agencies. The WMDSG is on call 24/7/365 to respond to the FBI's Strategic Information and Operations Center (SIOC) within two hours. The WMDSG – led by the FBI – provides enhanced coordination by focusing on information sharing and operation synchronization. The WMDSG helps maintain situational awareness by working directly with FBI Counterterrorism Division (CTD) regarding investigative activities, and the National Assets Command Post (NACP) regarding crisis operations.

EPA participates as a member of the FEMA Domestic Emergency Support Team (DEST) which, during a Weapon of Mass Destruction (WMD) incident or credible threat, serves to provide expert advice, guidance, and support to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Assistant Director in Charge (ADIC) or Special Agent in Charge (SAC). The Consequence Management Coordination Unit (CMCU) is a national level incident support element responsible for strategic consequence management decision support to the FEMA Administrator, the FBI WMDSG, and provides support to the DEST.

The National Biodefense Strategy (NBS) provides a single coordinated effort to orchestrate the full range of activity that is carried out across the United States Government to protect the American people from biological threats. The National Security Presidential Memorandum (NSPM)-14 strategy explains how the United States Government will manage its activities more effectively to assess, prevent, detect, prepare for, respond to, and recover from biological threats by coordinating its biodefense efforts with those of international partners, industry, academia, non-governmental entities, and the private sector. The Biodefense Steering Committee, chaired by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and comprising the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, will be responsible for overseeing and coordinating the execution of the strategy and its implementation plan, and ensuring federal coordination with domestic and international government and non-governmental partners. EPA regularly works with the Biodefense Steering Committee to address questions from the White House Security Council.

EPA supports the DHS Science and Technology Directorate through Interagency Agreements to conduct bench-scale research and full-scale field studies to improve the nation's ability to respond to and recover from terrorist incidents. These multi-year, interagency efforts include critical efforts to improve consequence management of wide-area biological events, chemical warfare agent attacks, and radiological incidents.

EPA continues to provide critical assets and expertise as members of DHS's nuclear incident response team (NIRT). EPA maintains mission capable systems and personnel trained to respond to a nuclear incident. EPA coordinates and collaborates with the DOE as part of NIRT. EPA and

DOE participate in joint exercises and data exchanges to ensure our national programs provide equivalent capabilities during response activities.

EPA continuously monitors DOD investments and technological developments as they mature from basic research through advanced manufacturing for potential transition to civilian applications and reducing or eliminating duplication of efforts. Through the DOD- sponsored multi-agency aligned irregular warfare support directorate program, EPA submits and reviews partner agency requirements to identify synergistic efforts throughout all of government. EPA is providing DOD organizations laboratory sampling capacity for chemical warfare demilitarization operations at army depots. EPA can mobilize units to these army depots and perform Chemical Agent Standard Analytical Reference Material (CASARM) Quality Assurance Plan compliant analytical services, which illustrates the strong partnership and alignment with the organizations.

Chemical Accident Prevention and Response

Under CAA Section 112(r), EPA administers the Risk Management Program (RMP) regulations designed to prevent and respond to chemical accidents at fixed facilities that use or store more than a threshold quantity (TQ) of listed highly toxic or flammable substances in a process. In administering these regulations, EPA collaborates closely with other federal agencies, including DOL, DOT, DHS, and others. An important nexus for this collaboration is the National Working Group on Chemical Safety and Security, which includes participation by EPA, DOL/OSHA, DHS, DOT, and BATF. The Working Group was initially formed as a result of Executive Order 13650 – Improving Chemical Facility Safety and Security – which tasked federal agencies with various actions to further improve chemical facility safety and security in coordination with facility owners and operators. Through the Working Group, EPA works with federal agency partners to share information, develop fact sheets and guidance, and coordinate regulatory and policy actions relating to chemical safety and security. EPA also conducts additional regular coordination with DOL and OSHA, which administer the OSHA Process Safety Management standard, a regulation that shares common provisions with EPA’s RMP regulations.

Under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, EPA administers regulations that establish the list of extremely hazardous substances for community emergency response planning, as well as regulations that establish chemical inventory and release reporting requirements. In administering these regulations, EPA works closely with DOT, DHS, FEMA, and other agencies that are involved in planning for chemical emergencies. For example, EPA collaborates with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to develop the Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO) software suite and Tier II Submit software, which provide free computer software tools to help fire departments, local emergency agencies and other stakeholders manage chemical inventory information and develop and implement emergency response plans.

Oil and Chemical Spills

EPA is responsible for maintaining the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), which sets out the federal government’s blueprint for responding to oil and hazardous substance spills. More specifically, the NCP details federal responsibilities and procedures for preparing for and responding to discharges of oil or releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants in inland and coastal zones of the U.S. EPA is authorized

to amend the NCP in consultation with other federal agencies. Under the NCP, EPA serves as the pre-designated On-Scene Coordinator for oil discharges and hazardous substance releases in the inland zone. As part of its responsibilities, EPA also maintains a list—called the Product Schedule—of dispersants and other chemical and bioremediation products that may be authorized for use during an oil spill.

EPA helps agencies such as FWS and the USCG and works in coordination to address oil discharges nationwide. EPA also assists agencies with judicial referrals when enforcement of violations becomes necessary. In addition, EPA and the USCG work in coordination to address oil spills nationwide. Under the authorities provided by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (FWPCA) or Clean Water Act (CWA), EPA develops oil discharge response, prevention, and preparedness regulations. EPA also provides compliance monitoring activities to enforce these regulations and coordinates with USCG, DOT, and BSEE in their implementation.

EPA serves as member of the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Oil Pollution Research (ICCOPR) established under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990. ICCOPR coordinates a comprehensive program of oil pollution research, technology development, and demonstration among federal agencies in cooperation and coordination with external entities, such as industry, universities, research institutions, state governments, and other nations, as appropriate. Comprised of 16 federal agencies, ICCOPR is chaired by USCG, with EPA having served in a rotating Vice Chair capacity. ICCOPR develops priorities for oil spill research across the federal government on a 6-year cycle and prepares biennial reports to Congress on research activities and key interagency committee activities.

Strengthen Human Health and Environmental Protection in Indian Country

EPA, DOI, DHHS, USDA, and HUD work through several MOUs as partners to improve infrastructure on tribal lands. All five federal partners have committed to continue federal coordination in delivering services to tribal communities. The Infrastructure Task Force has built on prior partner successes, including improved access to funding and reduced administrative burden for tribal communities through the review and streamlining of agency policies, regulations, and directives as well as improved coordination of technical assistance to water service providers and solid waste managers through regular coordination meetings and web-based tools.

Homeland Security

EPA's Homeland Security, Preparedness and Response Program continues to develop and maintain agency assets and capabilities to respond to and support nationally significant incidents with emphasis on those involving chemical warfare agents. The Program implements a broad range of activities for a variety of internal and multi-agency efforts consistent with the NRF and the Homeland Security Presidential Directives that EPA leads or supports. This includes being the lead analytical agency for environmental sampling during a CWA incident. EPA also coordinates its preparedness activities with DHS, FEMA, FBI, and other federal, state, and local agencies.

Research to Support Homeland Security

EPA collaborates with numerous agencies on Homeland Security research to leverage funding across multiple programs and produce synergistic results. EPA's Homeland Security Research Program and OLEM work with DHS provide science-based information and options to support

decisions made in its role as a lead agency responsible for cleanup during a Stafford Act declaration under ESF-10 and as the lead agency for water infrastructure. EPA also works with the DOD and its sub-organizations in its research work related to biological and chemical warfare agents. Further, EPA participates in a tri-agency research partnership (Technical Coordination Working Group [TCWG]) with the DOD and DHS that focuses on chemical and biological defense needs and gaps. TCWG activities include information sharing; joint science and technology research projects; and complementing policies. EPA also collaborates with the CDC in conducting biological agent research.

EPA works with these aforementioned entities and others to address areas of mutual interest and concern related to both homeland security cleanup and water infrastructure protection issues. The Program conducts joint research with USDA and DOI focusing on addressing homeland security threats at the intersection of the environment/public health and agriculture/natural resources. EPA also works with DOE to access and conduct research at the DOE's National Laboratories specialized research facilities, such as to establish the Water Security Test Bed and develop analytical capabilities for biological and chemical agents in environmental matrices.

Research to Support Land and Emergency Management Programs

EPA has complementary and joint programs with DOI (e.g., USGS, BLM), DOE, HHS (e.g., NIEHS), DOA (e.g., USFS), USACE, NOAA, and many others to minimize duplication, maximize scope, and maintain a real-time information flow for land remediation, sustainable materials management, human and environmental health, and other wellbeing issues. EPA coordinates its research to support a range of environmental priorities at other federal agencies, including work with DOD in its Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program and the Environmental Security Technology Certification Program, and work with DOE and its Office of Health and Environmental Research. EPA also conducts collaborative laboratory research with DOD, DOI, and USGS to improve characterization and risk management options for dealing with subsurface contamination. Additionally, EPA works through the Environmental Research Institute of the States (ERIS) and its Interstate Technology Regulatory Council (ITRC) in defining continuing research needs through its teams on topics including PFAS, radionuclides, and brownfields. EPA leverages the leadership support provided by OSTP's National Science and Technology Council to coordinate our research and activities with other federal agencies.

Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention Programs

Coordination for General Issues Relating to Chemical Safety

EPA established an Interagency Policy Group comprised of other federal agencies with interest and expertise in chemical issues to hold periodic meetings to obtain input on significant actions such as the TSCA risk evaluations, rules, and potential existing chemical candidates for Prioritization under TSCA. The agencies on the Interagency Policy Group include: CPSC, DOD, OMB, NASA, DOL, SBA, NIH, FDA, and CDC. EPA has utilized this group to review TSCA materials including, but not limited to, documents related to the scoping of existing chemicals for risk evaluation. Additionally, EPA has initiated regular engagement with both NIOSH and OSHA to discuss occupational exposure assessments and risk management.

EPA also engages in biannual meetings with the OMNE Committee,³ which includes the OSHA, Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), NIOSH, and the NIEHS. The OMNE Committee exists to provide a venue for federal agencies to share information and coordinate activities regarding proposed rules, risk assessments, and risk management strategies for controlling exposure to chemicals.

Furthermore, EPA is actively engaged in multiple working groups related to the National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI) including the US - EU Community of Researchers for Nanotechnology, the Interagency Nano-plastics group, the Nanotechnology Signature Initiative for Sensors and the Nanotechnology Environmental and Health Implications (NEHI) working group.

Interagency Testing Committee

TSCA section 4(e) created the TSCA Interagency Testing Committee (ITC) as an independent advisory committee to the Administrator of the U.S. EPA. The ITC was created to make recommendations to the EPA Administrator on prioritizing and selecting chemicals for testing or information reporting to meet the coordinated data needs of its member U.S. Government organizations. These chemicals are added to the “Priority Testing List”. The ITC meets every six months to discuss testing needs and transmits any recommended revisions to the Priority Testing List to the EPA Administrator for action and publication in the Federal Register. In addition to EPA, statutory members of the ITC include CPSC, CEQ, DOC, FDA, NIEHS, NIOSH, NSF, and OSHA. Liaison members include ATSDR, DOD, DOI and USDA.

Federal Lead Action Plan

Established by Executive Order 13045, the President’s Task Force on Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Children comprises 17 federal departments and offices and is co-chaired by the Secretary of DHHS and the EPA Administrator. In December 2018, through cross-governmental collaboration, the Task Force unveiled the Federal Action Plan to Reduce Childhood Lead Exposures and Associated Health Impacts (Federal Lead Action Plan). The Federal Lead Action Plan is a blueprint for reducing lead exposure and associated harms by working with a range of stakeholders, including states, tribes, and local communities, along with businesses, property owners and parents. In 2019, EPA released the *Implementation Status Report for EPA Actions under the December 2018 Federal Action Plan to Reduce Childhood Lead Exposures and Associated Health Impacts*⁴ and *Progress Report on the Federal Action Plan to Reduce Childhood Lead Exposures and Associated Health Impacts*.⁵ In FY 2025, the Agency will continue to lead those goals and actions, coordinate with federal, state, tribal and community partners to amplify the impacts, and report on activities and implementation, as appropriate.

Participation in International Agreements addressing Chemicals and Pesticide Management

To participate effectively in international agreements addressing chemicals and pesticide management (e.g., the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Minamata

³ The OMNE Committee is named for the first letter in each participating agency’s name.

⁴ For additional information, please visit: https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2019-04/documents/leadimplementationbooklet_april2019.pdf.

⁵ For additional information, please visit: https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2019-10/documents/lead_action_plan_booklet_v8_004.pdf.

Convention on Mercury, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedures for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, CODEX Alimentarius, and a wide range of multilateral, regional, and bilateral free trade agreements), EPA coordinates with other federal agencies, such as the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), DOS, DOC, USDA, DOE, FDA, and DHHS on a regular basis to develop the policy views and positions of the United States.

EPA also coordinates with other parts of the U.S. Government, including the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), NIH, and CPSC, on more technical international matters related to the safety and management of chemicals and pesticides. At the regional and global levels, EPA engages in bilateral cooperation and information exchange with a wide range of countries and regional organizations, such as the European Union (EU), Canada, China, Australia, Japan, Brazil, and many others.

In addition to participating in the U.S. Government trade development process, EPA also specifically engages in trilateral cooperation with Canada and Mexico through the U.S.-Mexico-Canada (USMCA) Free Trade Agreement, particularly with respect to the provisions related to agriculture, technical barriers to trade, and environment, among others. Such engagement is designed to promote further trade and regional cooperation among the three governments through targeted efforts and technical working groups. EPA is engaged within the USMCA's CEC on a project to build transparency on industrial chemical releases and transfers of waste to support increased data compatibility, digital tools for analyzing waste handling practices and identification of potential compliance issues and strategies to promote pollution prevention opportunities. More broadly, EPA is working within the USMCA's CEC on projects to identify strategies to address pollutants, especially short-lived climate pollutants, encourage nature-based solutions and other pollution prevention approaches, and support community resilience and climate adaptation strategies.

EPA has a longstanding program of cooperation with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) on various topics of mutual concern such as the development of guidance, methods, tools, and sharing of best practices in the areas of risk assessment and risk management of chemicals and pesticides. For example, EPA serves as the National Coordinator for the United States in support of the OECD Test Guidelines Program's mutual acceptance of data work, which aims to reduce the need to repeat health effects studies due to incompatible test protocols. Additionally, among others working groups and committees, EPA is engaged in the OECD Working Group on Pesticides (WGP), which shares pesticide registration work and develop tools to monitor and minimize pesticide risk to human health and the environment, and with the Chemicals and Biotechnology Committee, which oversees eleven working groups and other subsidiary bodies in the chemicals and pesticide arenas. In addition, EPA chairs the OECD Working Party on Risk Management, which share information relating to activities relevant to regulatory and non-regulatory risk management efforts.

Capacity Building and Technical Assistance

EPA also participates significantly with other agencies and international organizations in the development, coordination, and delivery of capacity-building and technical assistance. For example, EPA is collaborating with USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service and the Inter-American

Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture to address the many inquiries from foreign countries on pesticide registrations, standard setting processes, maximum residue level (MRL) harmonization, and risk assessment procedures. The Agency also collaborates with USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service on research on foreign animal disease to determine decontamination and waste management strategies following large outbreaks impacting livestock (e.g., African Swine Fever, Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza).

Certification and Training, Worker Protection, IPM, and Environmental Stewardship

EPA will continue to coordinate with USDA, DOD, DOI, DOE, tribes, territories, and states to implement Certification Plans for pesticide applicators who use the riskiest pesticides. EPA provides technical guidance and assistance to the states and tribes in the implementation of all pesticide program activities, such as protecting workers, promoting Integrated Pest Management and environmental stewardship. EPA also provides support through grants, cooperative agreements, or interagency agreements with states, tribes, and other partners, including universities, non-profit organizations, other federal agencies, pesticide users, environmental groups, and other entities, as necessary, to assist in strengthening and implementing EPA's pesticide activities, such as worker protection, pollinator protection and certifying pesticide applicators.

Assessing Potential Pesticide Risks with Supplemental Data

EPA relies on data from DHHS and USDA to supplement data from the pesticide industry to assist the Agency in assessing the potential risks of pesticides in the diets of adults and children. Specifically, EPA uses National Health and Nutrition Survey (NHANES) food consumption survey data developed by the DHHS, as well as pesticide residue data in food commodities generated by the USDA in its Pesticide Data Program (PDP) as inputs for dietary risk assessment.

Endangered Species & Pollinator Protection

EPA will continue collaborating with the USDA, FWS, and NMFS on protecting endangered and threatened species and improving methods for assessing potential risks and effects of pesticides to them. EPA, in cooperation with USDA, other federal agencies, state agencies, tribes, territories, and other entities, will continue to address pesticide risks to bees and other pollinators which are critical to our environment and the production of food crops.

Public Health Protection and Initiatives

EPA regularly consults and collaborates with DHHS, USDA, FDA, and DOD on pesticide actions that may have implications for public health. Additional efforts are being made to implement a framework intended to expand the federal government's process for assessing the risk that certain antibacterial or antifungal pesticides may pose to the effectiveness of human and animal drugs.

Homeland Security – Protecting Food & Agriculture Sectors

EPA collaborates with the agencies such as DOD, DHS, DHHS, USDA, FDA, FEMA, and other federal, tribal, and state organizations on a variety of homeland security issues as part of the Government Coordinating Council (GCC) For Food and Agriculture. The issues focus on protecting the public and food and agriculture sector from various threats (e.g., biological agents, diseases, or natural disasters) which are vital to critical functions of the government and private sector. EPA collaborates with these organizations on many issues such as research pertaining to

effective disinfectants for high threat microorganisms, planning for response to various potential incidents, training and development of policies and guidelines. Technical and analytical support is provided to EPA Regions and states specific to enforcement and litigation of possible illegal pesticides and/or contamination of registered products. In addition to GCC efforts, EPA continues to partner with the OSHA, NIOSH, and CPSC on risk assessment and risk mitigation activities.

Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC) and State and Tribal Stakeholder Groups

One of the Agency's methods for receiving input on pesticide issues has been the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC), a Federal Advisory Committee, that brings together a broad cross-section of knowledgeable stakeholders from organizations that represent divergent views in order to discuss pesticide regulatory, policy, and implementation issues. The PPDC includes members from federal and state governments, industry/trade associations, pesticide user and commodity groups, consumer and environmental/public interest groups, and others. The PPDC provides a structured environment for meaningful information exchanges and discussions, and keeping the public involved in decisions that affect them. Dialogue with outside groups is essential for the Agency to remain responsive to the needs of its many partners. EPA also works extensively with the Association of American Pest Control Officials and the Tribal Pesticide Program Council to maximize communication with states, tribes, and territories on pesticide implementation issues.

General Research to Support Chemical Safety

EPA participates in a multi-agency effort under the *Tox21* Consortium. *Tox21* pools chemical research, data and screening tools from multiple federal agencies including the NIH and FDA. EPA has contributed a chemical library, currently exceeding 4,000 chemicals, to the *Tox21* testing program.^{6,7} Nearly all of this library includes data from EPA's Toxicity Forecaster (*ToxCast*TM), an effort that utilizes existing resources to develop faster, more thorough predictions of how chemicals may affect human and environmental health. The *Tox21* Consortium has screened thousands of chemicals with more than 70 assays, resulting in more than 120 million data points which can inform decision making regarding the safety of chemicals. The full *Tox21* library comprises approximately equal sized contributions from the EPA, the National Toxicology Program (NTP), and the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS).

EPA is committed to working collaboratively with federal, state, tribal and local partners to address the challenges posed by PFAS. Efforts include working with other federal agencies to address scientific challenges such as the lack of published toxicity data for most PFAS chemicals. The results will be used to identify categories of PFAS chemicals having similar structural and toxicological properties that may inform the development and strength of predictive toxicological models. EPA anticipates increased interagency collaboration on PFAS research and development efforts through an OSTP-led interagency working group, established as required by the FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act.

⁶ Collins, F.S., Gray, G.M., and Bucher, J.R. (2008). Transforming environmental health protection. *Science*, 319, 906–907. doi: 10.1126/science.1154619.

⁷ Tice, R.R., Austin, C.P., Kavlock, R.J., and Bucher, J.R. (2013). Improving the human hazard characterization of chemicals: a *Tox21* update. *Environmental Health Perspectives*, 121, 756–765. doi: 10.1289/ehp.1205784.

EPA's chemical safety research strongly supports the development of New Approach Methods (NAMs), which improve the Agency's understanding of chemical toxicity. EPA research informed development of a guidance document, published in June 2023,⁸ on the use of developmental neurotoxicity NAMs data in Integrated Approaches to Testing and Assessment (IATA) case studies. This work was done in collaboration with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and other international regulatory partners.

Research to Support Agencywide Risk Assessment Activities

EPA collaborates globally with other federal agencies on research to accelerate the pace of chemical risk assessment and to provide greater regulatory certainty for the public. EPA is working with Health Canada and the European Joint Research Center on the development and testing of new non-animal approach methodologies to evaluate chemicals quickly and cost-effectively for safety. These new approach methods are a critical part of implementing the TSCA Strategic Plan to reduce, refine, and replace the use of vertebrates in toxicity testing and evaluation. EPA also commenced work with Health Canada and ECHA to promote sharing of non-confidential chemical safety information with the intent of advancing chemical evaluations across regulatory jurisdictions. This collaborative approach will help EPA and other federal agencies screen, prioritize, and evaluate chemicals, and promote implementation of alternative methods to replace vertebrate animal testing under TSCA. Finally, EPA is engaged in multiple OECD chemical safety groups that share information, expertise, and research results related to chemical safety. Ultimately, these international efforts will work towards creating transparent data requirements for industry and reducing the regulatory uncertainty of multiple regulatory environments globally.

EPA consults and collaborates routinely with other federal agencies to improve the rigor and consistency of the science and practice of risk assessment. EPA engages on the science of individual assessments, such as the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) assessments. EPA also coordinates, respectively, with: ATSDR, through an MOU on the development of toxicological assessments; NIEHS and the National Toxicology Program, on assessment methodology, software, and assay development platforms; FDA on advisories and reports; and DOD on assessment development methods. EPA serves as advisors to federal and international agencies and departments (*e.g.*, IARC, EFSA, Health Canada, WHO, ATSDR) to review and provide scientific input on risk assessment related topics. In addition, EPA collaborates with other federal agencies on complex human health assessment science topics through workshops, including those managed by National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM). EPA also participates in the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM) to work towards increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of U.S. federal agency test method review, eliminating unnecessary duplication of effort, sharing experience among U.S. federal regulatory agencies, and reducing, refining, and replacing the use of animals in testing.

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

EPA's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program (EPP) collaborates closely with partner federal agencies in developing, refining, and issuing EPA's Recommendations of Specifications, Standards, and Ecolabels for Federal Purchasing. Through FY 2023 these recommendations have

⁸ For more information on the OECD guidance document, see: <https://www.oecd.org/env/ehs/testing/developmental-neurotoxicity.htm>.

been maintained and updated to include 48 private sector standards and ecolabels that cover 30 product and service categories commonly acquired through federal purchasing. These recommendations help federal procurement officials determine which private sector standards and ecolabels, among sometimes dozens within a single purchase category, are appropriate and effective in meeting federal procurement goals and mandates for environmental performance. The EPP Program's work has generated significant cost savings and environmental benefits to the federal government.

EPA also coordinates federal procurement programs that integrate environmental performance into procurement, including building software tools for seamlessly integrating sustainable procurement conditions and language into government procurement solicitations and contracts. Environmental benefits calculators help federal agencies document the environment performance and benefits associated with their sustainable procurement. Working with the General Services Administration, the EPP Program assists in identifying and highlighting best-in-class existing blanket purchase contracts to further support and streamline efforts by federal procurement officials to meet federal environmental and cost effectiveness goals, putting tools into the hands of federal procurement officials, and collaborating with federal agencies such as the General Services Administration, National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Departments of Defense and Energy, and others.

Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Programs

General Enforcement Coordination

The Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Program coordinates closely with:

- Department of Justice (DOJ) on all civil and criminal environmental enforcement matters. In addition, the Program has coordinated with other agencies on specific environmental issues as described herein.
- The Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) in preventing and responding to accidental releases and endangerment situations.
- Department of Interior's (DOI) Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and Department of Health and Human Service's (DHHS) Indian Health Service (IHS) on issues relative to compliance with environmental laws in Indian country.
- The Department of Commerce (DOC) and Small Business Administration (SBA) on the implementation of the Small Business Regulatory Fairness Act (SBREFA). In addition, it has collaborated with the SBA to maintain current environmental compliance information at *Business.gov*, a website initiated as an e-government initiative in 2004, to help small businesses comply with government regulations. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on cases that require defendants to pay civil penalties, thereby assisting the IRS in assuring compliance with tax laws.
- United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on Clean Water Act (CWA) wetlands compliance issues.
- USACE on Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) sites.
- Department of Transportation's (DOT) Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration on pipeline spills.
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) on the regulation of animal feeding

operations and on food safety issues arising from the misuse of pesticides and shares joint jurisdiction with the Federal Trade Commission on pesticide labeling and advertising.

- The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) to target potential noncompliance with the TSCA lead-based paint regulations to reduce service members' and their children's exposure to lead-based paint in privatized military housing.
- The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to collaborate on ensuring compliance with lead-based paint regulations in pre-1978 housing.
- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in the compliance with and enforcement of FIFRA and its implementing regulations at immigration and detention facilities owned/operated by ICE and ICE contractor facilities.
- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Customs and Border Protection (CBP) on compliance with and enforcement of imported products regulated under the Clean Air Act (CAA), American Innovation and Manufacturing Act (AIM Act), Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), and Toxics Substances Control Act (TSCA).
- The General Service Administration's Technology Transformation Services to advance modernization of IT solutions.

International Trade

EPA works with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) on implementing the secure International Trade Data System (ITDS) across all federal agencies and on chemical and pesticide imports, hazardous waste and Cathode Ray Tube exports, imports of internal combustion vehicles and engines that do not meet Clean Air Act requirements, implementation of the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act, as well as on a variety of other import/export issues under the various statutes.

Coordination on Issues Involving Shared Jurisdiction

EPA and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) share jurisdiction over general-purpose disinfectants used on non-critical surfaces and some dental and medical equipment surfaces. EPA and FDA also collaborate and share information on Good Laboratory Program inspections to avoid duplication of inspections and maximize efficient use of limited resources. EPA, FDA, and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) jointly regulate drinking water safety on airlines via the Aircraft Drinking Water Rule. EPA and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) entered into a new Memorandum of Understanding in 2024, to establish a framework for consultation, information-sharing, and collaboration on civil enforcement, thereby strengthening this partnership and ensuring efficient use of resources to reduce childhood lead exposures and associated health impacts. The Agency has coordinated with the United States Coast Guard (USCG) under the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships, and on discharges of pollutant from ships and oil spills under the CWA. EPA also works with DOI on CWA permit enforcement on the Outer Continental Shelf, as well as both the Interior and Transportation Departments on enforcement of CWA requirements for offshore facilities.

Criminal Enforcement

EPA's Criminal Enforcement Program coordinates with FBI, CBP, DOL, U.S. Treasury, DHS, DOI, USCG, and DOJ and with international, state, tribal, and local law enforcement organizations in the investigation and prosecution of environmental crimes. EPA also works with DOJ to

establish task forces that bring together federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement organizations to address environmental crimes. EPA has an Interagency Agreement with DOJ's Environment and Natural Resources Division to develop the first federal Environmental Crime Victim Assistance Program. This allows both agencies to meet their statutory obligations under the Crime Victims' Rights Act (CVRA) and the Victims' Rights and Restitution Act (VRRRA), to make sure that environmental crime victims are notified of and accorded their rights under the CVRA and VRRRA. In addition, the Program has an Interagency Agreement with the DHS to provide specialized criminal environmental training to federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement personnel at the Federal Law Enforcement Center (FLETC) in Glynco, Georgia.

Monitoring the Environmental Compliance of Federal Agencies

Most environmental statutes require departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the U.S. government to comply with environmental requirements just like any other regulated entity. EPA and states inspect federal facilities and take enforcement actions, as appropriate. In addition, Executive Order 12088 on *Federal Compliance with Pollution Control Standards* requires federal agencies to comply with pollution control standards and directs EPA to monitor compliance by federal agencies with all environmental laws and provide technical assistance. The Federal Facility Enforcement Program coordinates with other federal, state, tribal, and local agencies to ensure compliance by federal agencies with all environmental laws. EPA works with the Federal Facilities Environmental Stewardship and Compliance Assistance Center (*FedCenter*) (www.fedcenter.gov), which is governed by a board of more than a dozen contributing federal agencies. FedCenter works with federal agencies to plan Federal Environmental Symposiums to encourage collaboration, information sharing, stewardship, and improved environmental compliance across the federal government. EPA is working with other Agencies through *FedCenter* to address Administration priorities including PFAS and Environmental Justice (EJ). EPA also partners with other federal agencies to identify ways to expedite cleanup of Superfund sites and prevent and address regulatory compliance issues.

EPA has commenced several specific collaborative efforts to work one-on-one with other federal agencies to help foster productive relationships through environmental compliance outreach efforts. EPA has developed partnerships with other federal agency headquarters offices including, for example, HHS, BIA, DoD, USCG, DHS, the Department of Energy (DOE), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Veterans Health Administration and the Department of Interior to discuss EPA's National Enforcement and Compliance Initiatives (NECI) and explore ways EPA can best help federal agencies remain aware of their environmental compliance status and requirements nationwide. EPA has instituted a monthly dialogue with DoD to help address compliance issues in privatized military housing with a particular focus on compliance with TSCA lead-based paint requirements.

In the context of EPA's NECIs, the Agency proactively addresses potential significant noncompliance by sending letters to federal agencies highlighting facility noncompliance so facilities can expeditiously take the necessary actions to address the compliance issues. EPA also has issued multiple compliance advisories under, for example, the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Clean Water Act, to other federal agencies providing information on their compliance status, NECIs and other enforcement initiatives.

Superfund Enforcement

coordinates with Other Federal Agencies (OFAs) in their use of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) enforcement authority. This includes the coordinated use of such authority at individual hazardous waste sites that are located on both non-federal land (generally EPA jurisdiction) and federal lands (generally other agency jurisdiction). As required by Executive Order No. 13016, other departments and agencies must receive concurrence from EPA before use of CERCLA Section 106 authority.

EPA coordinates closely with Federal Land Management Agencies (FLMAs), such as the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the United States Forest Service (USFS), at mixed ownership sites (*i.e.*, those sites located partially on privately-owned land and partially on federally owned land) pursuant to Executive Order No. 12580. EPA frequently enters into Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with FLMAs designed to provide a framework for agencies to coordinate response actions. EPA meets with DOI, USDA, and other agencies as part of the Federal Mining Dialogue, to discuss developments arising out of the CERCLA work at such sites. EPA leads the Federal Mining Dialogue's Enforcement Subcommittee.

EPA also coordinates with DOI, USDA, DOC, DOE, and DOD to ensure that appropriate and timely notices, required under CERCLA, are sent to the Natural Resource Trustees notifying them of potential damages to natural resources. EPA also coordinates with Natural Resource Trustees on natural resource damage assessments, investigations, and planning of response activities under Section 104 of CERCLA. When an enforcement action is initiated at a site where hazardous substances are found to have caused damages to natural resources, EPA coordinates with the Trustees by including them in negotiations with potentially responsible parties concerning the releases that have caused those damages.

EPA's Superfund Federal Facilities Enforcement Program ensures that: (1) all federal facility sites on the NPL have interagency agreements, also known as Federal Facility Agreements (FFAs) with enforceable cleanup schedules; (2) FFAs are monitored for compliance and enforcement taken, where appropriate; (3) federal sites are transferred to new owners in an environmentally responsible manner; and (4) compliance assistance is available to the extent possible. This program also ensures that federal agencies comply with Superfund cleanup obligations "in the same manner and to the same extent" as non-federal entities. To enable the cleanup and reuse of such sites, the Federal Facilities Enforcement Program also has coordinated on creative solutions that help restore facilities, so they can once again serve an important role in the economy and welfare of local communities, and the country. EPA also has established a partnership with the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) and DOE, the DOE Dialogue, to build relationships and tackle enduring challenges at DOE cleanup sites.

International and Tribal Affairs Programs

Supporting Global Policy to Reduce Pollution and Harmful Chemicals

EPA is working in close coordination with the Department of State, USAID, NOAA, and other key Agencies on the development of a global agreement on plastic pollution. These partnerships help identify domestic activities that EPA can implement to reduce plastic pollution and leakage into the marine environment. In addition, EPA continues to provide technical assistance to reduce

plastic pollution through the Agency's Trash Free Waters program.

EPA has a strong network of partners working to achieve reductions in global mercury use and emissions, particularly when adverse U.S. impacts would be likely. EPA works closely with the DOS in leading the technical and policy engagement for the U.S. in the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the multi-stakeholder Global Mercury Partnership. In addition, EPA collaborates with several federal agencies including USGS and USAID to advance robust implementation of the Minamata Convention by other countries. EPA also continues to share information through the Arctic Council on reducing releases of mercury which disproportionately impact indigenous arctic communities.

EPA also works with USDA, OMB, and FDA on the on reducing food waste which includes international cooperation on measuring food waste reductions and pilot activities that can create market opportunities for U.S. technologies and innovation.

Tackling the Climate Crisis, Accelerating Environmental and Economic Justice

EPA works with international partners, such as foreign governments and international organizations, to deploy assistance that can strengthen on the ground action to tackle the climate crisis, reduce transboundary pollution that impacts local communities and travels through the environment to impact other communities across the globe, and that strengthen fundamental environmental rule of law. An important example of this work is EPA's efforts to identify environmental best practices and standards in the critical minerals supply chain. This work entails significant dialogue and coordination. EPA also leads engagement on key issues in the Group of Seven (G7) and the Group of Twenty (G20) through environment ministerial meetings which negotiates key outcomes on issues such as climate change, food waste, marine litter, resource efficiency, air quality and pollution prevention. EPA's engagement with international financial institutions, United Nations (UN) entities, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation (OECD).

Supporting Environmental Priorities in Global Trade Policy and Implementation of Environmental Cooperation Agreements

EPA is a member of the Trade Policy Staff Committee, the Trade Policy Review Group, and relevant subcommittees – interagency mechanisms that provide advice, guidance, and clearance to USTR in the development of U.S. international trade and investment policy.

EPA continues its participation in the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC), which provides regional and international leadership to advance environmental protection, human health, and sustainable economic growth in North America. EPA also will continue work on implementation of the Environment Chapter of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) and other free trade agreements. EPA also continues active participation in the United States Trade Representative (USTR)-led Interagency Environment Committee for Monitoring and Environment (IECME) established to promote Mexican and Canadian compliance with their environmental obligations. In addition, EPA continues to work with partners (including the U.S. Treasury, State Department, USAID, and the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation), to improve environmental governance of U.S. funded international development projects.

Addressing Transboundary Pollution

EPA collaborates with countries around the world to address foreign sources of pollution in coordination with DOS, USAID, DOJ, Treasury, and others. EPA works closely with DHHS to advance recognition of environmental risk factors of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and how to mitigate the risks, including from lead and mercury. In addition, EPA continues to strengthen its activities in the Arctic by working with Alaska, tribes, federal agencies, and the private sector to build international support for U.S. environmental policy objectives with the Arctic countries and continues to engage in Arctic Council cooperation pursuant to parameters set out by the National Security Council and the Department of State. These objectives cover a range of topics, including reducing harmful air emissions and exposure to mercury. Further, EPA collaborates with DOS, the Government of Canada, tribes, federal agencies, and other stakeholders to address transboundary water pollution caused by historic and current mining practices in the Kootenai watershed.

EPA continues to work in partnership with Mexico's National Water Commission (CONAGUA) and the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) to reduce the wastewater pollution in the Tijuana River, its tributaries, and the Pacific Ocean. In FY 2022, EPA and CONAGUA signed a Statement of Intent (SOI) identifying projects to be implemented in the short- and long-term to stem the flow of transboundary pollution in the San Diego/Tijuana region. Concurrently, the USIBWC and CILA (USIBWC's counterpart in Mexico) signed Minute 328 as the first step in binational implementation of the SOI, including operations and maintenance cost-sharing for the proposed expansion of the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant (ITP). EPA actively participates in monthly meetings with USIBWC and CONAGUA to track progress on projects and advance the commitments made in these two binational agreements.

Working in Indian Country

EPA is an active participant in the White House Council on Native American Affairs (WHCNA). The WHCNA is an interagency principals-level council established in June 2013 in response to requests from tribal leaders across Indian country for a Cabinet-level council to uphold treaty and trust obligations, support the Nation-to-Nation relationship, and improve tribal engagement and consultation. The Biden-Harris Administration reconvened the WHCNA and established six subcommittees: Climate Change, Tribal Homelands, and Treaties; Health; Education; Economic Development, Energy, and Infrastructure; Public Safety and Justice; and International Indigenous Issues.

EPA serves as the co-lead (with DOI and USDA) on the Climate Change, Tribal Homelands, and Treaties Committee. Within this Committee, EPA is a co-lead on the Climate Adaptation Subcommittee. Indigenous Knowledge (IK)-related work, also referred to as Traditional Ecological Knowledge, remains a priority within the WHCNA Climate Change, Tribal Homelands, and Treaties Committee. EPA is active in the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Subcommittee on Indigenous Knowledge.

EPA also serves as the co-lead (with DOI and the DOS) on the WHCNA International Indigenous Issues Committee. Within this Committee, EPA is co-lead on three subcommittees, including Human Rights and Environmental Justice, Cross Border Issues, and Climate Crisis.

Additionally, EPA is involved as a participant on the WHCNA Health Committee and the Economic Development, Energy, and Infrastructure Committee.

Central Planning, Budgeting and Finance Programs

Working with Federal Partners on Improving Management and Accountability throughout the Federal Government

EPA coordinates appropriately with Congress and other federal agencies, such as the U.S. Treasury, the Government Accountability Office (GAO), and GSA. EPA participates and makes active contributions to standing interagency management committees, including:

- the Chief Financial Officers Council, which focuses on improving resources management and accountability throughout the federal government.
- the Performance Improvement Council, which coordinates and develops strategic plans, performance plans, and performance reports as required by law.
- OMB-led E-Government initiatives, such as the Financial Management and Budget Formulation and Execution Lines of Business.
- the Bureau of Census-maintained Federal Assistance Awards Data System.
- the President's Management Council, which oversees developing and implementing Cross-Agency Priority (CAP) goals; and
- the Evaluation Officer Council, which serves as a forum to exchange information with the broader Federal evaluation community.

Provide Government-to-Government Employee Relocation Services

EPA provides government-to-government employee relocation services via interagency agreements through EPA's Federal Employee Relocation Center (FERC) as a Working Capital Fund (WCF) activity. EPA-FERC provides "one-stop shop" domestic and international relocation services to other federal agencies to increase operational efficiency and save the government money. Relocation services are currently provided internally to all EPA offices, and externally to the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), Department of Labor (DOL), Office of Personnel Management (OPM), United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), Health and Human Services Office of Global Affairs (HHS-OGA), United States Agency of Global Media (USAGM), and Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP).

Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights Programs

Environmental Justice

Presidential EO 14008 on *Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad* enhanced and expanded several important means of interagency coordination and collaboration related to environmental justice. EO 14008 elevated the existing Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice, formerly chaired by EPA, to the White House Environmental Justice Interagency Council (IAC), chaired by the CEQ. This executive order also established a White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council (WHEJAC) to provide advice and recommendations to the IAC and CEQ on environmental justice recommendations for the entirety of the executive branch of the federal government. The IAC will be the primary venue for inter-agency coordination of executive branch federal activities related to environmental justice.

Through the Justice40 Initiative, also mandated in EO 14008, the IAC will work to achieve the goal that forty percent of federal benefits from certain federal programs flow to disadvantaged communities and will publish an annual public performance scorecard on implementation by federal agencies. The IAC will likewise coordinate recommendations on further updates to EO 12898 and provide leadership to interagency efforts to address current and historic environmental injustices. As stipulated in EO 14008, EPA will provide all support necessary for administration of the WHEJAC and is one of three agencies charged with providing support to CEQ for administration of the IAC. EPA also will play a prominent membership role within the IAC as a participating agency.

Mission Support Programs

Working with Federal Partners on Improving Management and Accountability throughout the Federal Government

EPA provides leadership and expertise to government-wide activities in various areas of human resources, grants management, contracts management, suspension and debarment, and homeland security. These activities include specific collaboration efforts through:

- The Chief Human Capital Officers Council, a group of senior leaders that discuss human capital initiatives across the federal government.
- The Legislative and Policy Committee, a committee comprised of other federal agency representatives who assist OPM in developing plans and policies for training and development.
- The Chief Acquisition Officers Council, the principal interagency forum for monitoring and improving the federal acquisition system. The Council also is focused on promoting the President's specific initiatives and policies in all aspects of the acquisition system.
- The Award Committee for E-Government (E-Gov) provides strategic vision for the portfolio of systems/federal wide supporting both federal acquisition and financial assistance. Support also is provided to the associated functional community groups, including the Procurement Committee for E-Gov, the Financial Assistance Committee for E-Gov, and the Intergovernmental Transaction Working Group.
- The Grants Quality Service Management Office (QSMO) leads efforts to transform the federal grants management process by focusing on standardization and modernization of grants systems to increase efficiency and reduce burden for grant applicants, recipients, and the federal grants workforce; and better leveraging the buying power of the government to access high-quality shared solutions and reduce costs. The Grants QSMO supports the work of OMB's Office of Federal Financial Management and Office of the Federal Chief Information Officer and GSA's Office of Shared Solutions and Performance Improvement.
- The Interagency Suspension and Debarment Committee (ISDC), a representative committee of federal agency leaders in suspension and debarment. The Committee facilitates lead agency coordination, serves as a forum to discuss current suspension and debarment related issues, and assists in developing unified federal policy. Besides participating in the ISDC, EPA: (1) provides instructors for the National Suspension and Debarment Training Program offered through the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, and (2) supports the development of coursework and training on the suspension and debarment process for the Inspector General Academy and the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency.

- The Financial Management Line of Business (FMLoB) has been expanded to also encompass the Grants Management Line of Business. The combined FMLoB, with U.S. Treasury as the managing partner, will more closely align the financial assistance and financial management communities around effective and efficient management of funds. EPA also participates in the Grants.gov Users' Group, as well as the Federal Demonstration Partnership which is designed to reduce the administrative burdens associated with research grants.
- The Interagency Committee on Federal Advisory Committee Management (Committee Management Officer Council) provides leadership and coordination on federal advisory committee issues and promotes effective and efficient committee operations government-wide. In addition to serving on the Council, EPA works with the GSA Committee Management Secretariat to establish and renew advisory committees, conduct annual reviews of advisory committee activities and accomplishments, maintain committee information in a publicly accessible online database, and develop committee management regulations, guidance, and training. Further, EPA participates on the GSA Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) Attorney Council Interagency Workgroup to keep abreast of developments in the statutory language, case law, interpretation, and implementation of the FACA.
- The Interagency Security Committee (ISC) is the leading organization for nonmilitary federal departments and agencies in establishing policies for the security and protection of federal facilities, developing security standards, and ensuring compliance with those standards. EPA participates in the ISC as a primary member and in sub-committees and workgroups to facilitate EPA's compliance with ISC standards for facilities nationwide.
- The OPM Background Investigations Stakeholder Group (BISG) is a collaborative organization that is derived from the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004. The BISG is comprised of senior security officials across the federal government who are responsible for the submission, adjudication and/or oversight of personnel security programs. EPA works with this group to discuss topics regarding background investigations, focusing on standardizing and improving the Agency's personnel security program.
- EPA manages the Senior Environmental Employment (SEE) Program's interagency agreements with other federal agencies. The interagency agreements are with the White House/CEQ, the CDC/ATSDR, and the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council. SEE enrollees provide administrative, technical, and professional support to these agencies for projects relating to pollution prevention, abatement, and control.
- EPA's Office of Administrative Law Judges (OALJ) partners with other Federal agencies, including the USPTO, NOAA, and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, to serve as Presiding Officers for proceedings to adjudicate complaints brought before the partner organizations. This collaboration allows partner organizations the ability to provide constitutionally guaranteed legal due process and review without staffing and supporting their own Offices of Administrative Law Judges, while EPA's judges expand their experience and knowledge in the area of administrative law. The services OALJ provides to other agencies are reimbursed by the borrowing organization.

Work with the Department of Interior's Interior Business Center

In FY 2025, EPA will continue working with DOI's Interior Business Center (IBC), an OPM- and OMB-approved Human Resources Line of Business shared service center. IBC offers HR transactional processing, compensation management and payroll processing, benefits administration, time and attendance, HR reporting, talent acquisition systems, and talent

management systems. EPA also continues its charter membership on the OPM HR Line of Business (LoB) Multi Agency Executive Strategy Committee (MAESC), providing advice and recommendations to the Director of OPM as well as additional government-wide executive leadership, for the implementation of the HR LoB vision, goals, and objectives.

Partnering with GSA on the USAccess Program

EPA continues partnering with GSA on the *USAccess* Program for Personal Identity Verification cards and identity credential solutions, which provides an efficient, economical and secure infrastructure to support its credentialing needs, and migrations to the Enterprise Physical Access Control System, allowing the Agency to control access in EPA space, including restricted and secure space.

Environmental Information Programs

To support EPA's overall mission, the Agency continues to collaborate with federal, state, and tribal agencies on a variety of initiatives focused on making government more efficient and transparent in protecting human health and the environment. EPA's Environmental Information programs are primarily involved in the information technology (IT), information management (IM), and information security aspects of the projects on which it collaborates.

The Chief Information Officer (CIO) Council

The CIO Council is the principal interagency forum for improving practices in the design, modernization, sharing, and performance of federal information resources. The Council develops recommendations for IT/IM policies, procedures, and standards; identifies opportunities to share information resources; and assesses and addresses the needs of the federal IT workforce.

The Chief Data Officer (CDO) Council

The CDO Council was established by statute in the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018. The Council's vision is to improve government mission achievement and increase the benefits to the Nation through improvement in the management, use, protection, dissemination, and generation of data in government decision-making and operations.

eRulemaking

The eRulemaking Program is a Federal E-Government shared LoB that manages the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) and Regulations.gov. The Program provides the public with one-stop access to electronic dockets and the ability to electronically comment on proposed rulemakings and de-regulatory actions for multiple federal agencies.

The National Environmental Information Exchange Network (EN)

EPA's EN Program and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) are coordinating on using the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) system. This coordination will lead to automated processing of over eight million EPA-related electronic filings needed to clear legitimate imports and exports. With the move from paper filings to electronic filings combined with automated processing through ACE, filing time can be reduced from weeks/days to minutes/days. This significant processing improvement directly impacts the movement of goods into commerce and

the economy while helping to ensure compliance with environmental and CBP laws and regulations. It also helps the U.S. Government keep pace with the speed of business.

Automated Commercial Environment/International Trade Data System (ACE/ITDS)

ITDS is the electronic information exchange capability, or “single window,” through which businesses will transmit data required by participating agencies for the import or export of cargo. ACE is the system built by CBP to ensure that its customs officers and other federal agencies have the information they need to decide how to handle goods and merchandise being shipped into or out of the United States. It also will be the way those agencies provide CBP with information about potential imports/exports. ITDS eliminates the need, burden, and cost of paper reporting. It also allows importers and exporters to report the same information to multiple federal agencies with a single submission and facilitates movement of cargo by automating processing of the import and exports. ITDS provides the capability for industry to consolidate reporting for commodities regulated by multiple agencies. For these consolidated reports, the industry filers will receive the appropriate status response when their filings meet each agency’s reporting requirements. Once all agency reporting requirements have been met, filers can receive a coordinated single U.S. government response to proceed into the commerce of the United States.

EPA has the responsibility and legal authority to make sure pesticides, toxic chemicals, vehicles and engines, ODS, and other commodities entering and hazardous waste exiting the country meet its human health and environmental standards. EPA’s ongoing collaboration with CBP on the ACE/ITDS effort will improve the efficiency of processing these shipments through information exchange between EPA and CBP and automated processing of electronic filings. As resources permit, EPA will continue to work with CBP to automate the manual paper review process for admissibility so that importers and brokers (referred to collectively as Trade) can know before these commodities are loaded onto an airplane, truck, train, or ship if their shipment meets EPA’s reporting requirements. Because of this automated review, Trade can greatly lower its cost of doing business and customs officers at our nation’s ports will have the information on whether shipments comply with our environmental regulations. EPA will continue to collaborate with CBP to support regulatory changes and integrate with new ACE capabilities for streamlining the import and export processes for America’s businesses.

Geospatial Information

EPA works with 31 federal agencies through the activities of the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) and the OMB Geospatial Line of Business (Geo LoB). EPA also participates in the FGDC Steering Committee. A key component of EPA’s work with FGDC is developing and implementing the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) and the National *GeoPlatform*. The key objective of the NSDI is to make a comprehensive array of national spatial data – data that portrays features associated with a location or tagged with geographic information and can be attached to and portrayed on maps – easily accessible to both governmental and public stakeholders. Use of this data, in tandem with analytical applications, supports several key EPA and government-wide business areas. These include ensuring that human health, demographics and environmental conditions are represented in the appropriate contexts for targeting and decision making; enabling the assessment, protection, and remediation of environmental conditions; and aiding emergency first responders and other homeland security activities. EPA supports geospatial initiatives through efforts such as EPA’s *GeoPlatform*, the Exchange Network, National

Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Assist, *EJScreen*, the EPA Metadata Editor, Facilities Registry System (FRS) Web Services, and *My Environment*. EPA also works closely with its state, tribal, and international partners in a collaboration that enables consistent implementation of data acquisition and development, standards, and technologies supporting the efficient and cost-effective sharing and use of geographically based data and services.

Federal Executive Boards

The Federal Executive Boards Line of Business will be established in FY 2023. This LoB will provide more support to regional Federal Executive Board staff members. In line with the Biden Administration's initiatives, the Federal Executive Boards support and strengthen the Federal Workforce, including by serving as a forum for communication and collaboration among Federal agencies outside of Washington, DC.

The Administrator's Office

Regulatory Management and Economic Analyses

EPA's Policy Office (OP) interacts with federal agencies during its rulemaking activities. Per governing statutes and agency priorities, OP submits "significant" regulatory actions to OMB for interagency review prior to signature and publication in the Federal Register. In addition, OP coordinates EPA's review of other agency's regulatory actions submitted to OMB for review. Under the Congressional Review Act, rules are submitted to each chamber of Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. For regulations that may have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities, OP collaborates extensively with SBA and OMB. OP also collaborates with other federal regulatory and natural resource agencies to collect data used in economic benefit-cost analyses of environmental regulations and policies and to foster improved interdisciplinary research and reporting. Activities include representing EPA on interagency workgroups or committees tasked with measuring the economic benefits and costs of federal policies and programs. Occasionally, OP also provides technical reviews of other agencies research and analyses. In addition, OP's Office of Federal Activities, engages early with the lead federal agency and supports CEQ for significant regulatory actions that require compliance with National Environmental Policy Act via an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). In so doing, EPA provides technical assistance, as needed, to help scope and develop the draft EIS, recommending ways to avoid and minimize impacts to improve environmental outcomes.

Children's Health

The Administrator of EPA and the Secretary of DHHS co-chair the President's Task Force on Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Children. The Task Force comprises 17 federal departments, agencies, and White House offices. A senior staff steering committee, co-chaired by the Director of EPA's Office of Children's Health Protection (OCHP), coordinates interagency cooperation on Task Force priority areas, including lead, asthma disparities, climate change, emergencies, and disasters. As part of this effort, OCHP coordinates with other agencies to improve government-wide support in implementing children's health legislative mandates and outreach, including providing children's environmental health expertise on interagency activities and coordinating EPA expertise. OCHP also coordinates with ATSDR to support provision of training and hands on consultations with doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals to address issues of potential exposures of children to environmental contaminants, such as lead and

asthma triggers including mold and vermin. OCHP also works the Interagency Policy Council's groups on Maternal Health and Child Development, as well as with other federal agencies to address emerging risks to children's environmental health and supports federal interagency information exchange and cooperation, such as on lead and wildfires. This work supports not only Presidential Executive Order (EO) 13045: *Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks*, but also addresses climate change and environmental justice under Presidential EO 14008: *Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad*.

Climate Adaptation and Resilience

Presidential EO 14008 on *Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad* created the National Climate Task Force which facilitates the organization and deployment of a government-wide approach to combat the climate crisis. EPA is one of 25 federal agencies participating in the Task Force, where the Agency focuses on increasing resilience and adaptation to the impacts of climate change, including protection of public health and conservation of our lands, waters, oceans, and biodiversity.

EPA works with other federal agencies through the U.S. Global Change Research Program's (USGCRP's) Federal Adaptation and Resilience Group to coordinate federal research related to climate resilience and adaptation. EPA is collaborating with USGCRP/Subcommittee on Global Change Research (SGCR) on Climate Literacy, including development of the USGCRP's new "Climate Literacy Guide".

EPA participates in CEQ's "Tiger Team" developing performance measures on adaptation for all federal agencies. EPA participates in the new Climate Resilience Sub-IPC overseeing the development of the National Climate Resilience Framework. EPA participates in numerous Interagency Work Groups (IWGs) related to resilience and adaptation, including the Coastal Workgroup, OMB's Infrastructure Resilience Work Group, the Climate Adaptation Subcommittee of the White House Council on Native American Affairs, and the CEQ Federal Climate Adaptation Plan Network.

EPA works closely with NOAA, in number of efforts: EPA's Integrated Climate Sciences Division (ICSD) collaborates with NOAA's Regional Climate Service Centers to improve the provision of practical real-time and projected climate information and services to communities nationwide; NOAA, EPA and HHS are co-leads of the Extreme Heat IWG; NOAA staff have been detailed to EPA to support the development of "climate layers" in EJScreen; and NOAA collaborates with EPA geographic programs in the Great Lakes, Chesapeake Bay, Puget Sound, Long Island Sound, Gulf of Mexico, Lake Champlain, Southeast New England, South Florida, Pacific Northwest Forest.

EPA chairs the Subgroup on Tribal Climate Adaptation to enable a whole-of-government approach to supporting tribes as they anticipate, prepare for, adapt to, and recover from the devastating impacts of climate change. EPA collaborates with DOI/BIA to leverage funding for Tribes as well as developing a "Money Map" platform for Tribes to identify all federal resources specifically available to them. EPA also engages the NIST's Climate Resiliency Program to share experiences, expertise, and support areas of mutual interests.

National Climate Task Force

The Administrator of EPA is a member of the National Climate Task Force. The Task Force shall facilitate the organization and deployment of a Government-wide approach to combat the climate crisis. This Task Force shall facilitate planning and implementation of key Federal actions to reduce climate pollution; increase resilience to the impacts of climate change; protect public health; conserve our lands, waters, oceans, and biodiversity; deliver environmental justice; and spur well-paying union jobs and economic growth. As necessary and appropriate, members of the Task Force will engage on these matters with state, local, tribal, and territorial governments; workers and communities; and leaders across the various sectors of our economy.

National Environmental Policy Act

EPA's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Implementation Program implements the environmental requirements of NEPA and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act (CAA) to review other federal agency environmental impact statements (EIS) and NEPA regulations. Through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with CEQ,⁹ EPA regularly supports and assists CEQ in the development of guidance and technical tools. This work also includes engaging with officials throughout the federal government and across EPA while supporting EPA's lead NEPA Official. EPA has special authority and responsibilities under CAA section 309 to review and publicly comment on NEPA environmental analyses for major projects across the federal government. This work is expected to increase substantially in scope and importance based on projected increases in energy development and infrastructure projects.

EPA focuses on early engagement with other federal agencies consistent with NEPA principles and uses interagency cooperation for early identification of issues and potential solutions to reduce impacts and improve environmental outcomes. EPA's expertise helps other agencies analyze complex NEPA issues. Through our review of other federal agencies' EISs and the tools and training provide, EPA facilitates the robust consideration of impacts related to climate change and EJ; further, EPA plays a critical role in identifying ways to mitigate environmental impacts, including on overburdened and underserved communities.

Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act Title 41 Coordination

The Office of Federal Activities (OFA) coordinates across 13 other federal agencies, the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council (FPISC), the Council on Environmental Quality, and the Office of Management and Budget to coordinate on permitting and meet EPA's Permitting Action Implementation Plan goals. EPA uses its EPA Permitting Action Implementation Plan to help address the expansion of permitting for major infrastructure projects, expanded FAST-41 covered sectors, and to address seven critical elements of the Plan:

- Accelerating smart permitting through early cross-agency coordination.
- Establishing clear timeline goals and tracking key project information.
- Engaging in early and meaningful outreach and communication with states, tribes, territories, and local communities.
- Improving agency responsiveness, technical assistance, and support.

⁹ 1977 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between CEQ and EPA addressed the allocation of responsibilities between the two agencies for assuring government-wide implementation of NEPA. This includes the operational duties associated with the administrative aspects of EISs. Through this MOU, EPA became the official recipient for all copies of EISs.

- Using agency resources and the environmental review process to improve environmental and community outcomes.
- Ensuring staffing levels are adequate to address anticipated environmental review and permitting-related workloads.
- Addressing, elevating, and resolving schedule delays, disputes and other issues impacting the environmental and permitting process in a timely manner.

Community Revitalization and Sustainable Communities

OP participates in several Interagency Working Groups (IWG) and Interagency Policy Committees (IPC), including the Rural Prosperity IPC, Urban Equity IPC, Food Strategy IPC, and the Coal and Powerplant Communities IWG. These interagency efforts support improving community outcomes on a range of issues including climate resilience, economic transition, diversification, prosperity, and environmental protection. These work groups have grown out of recent executive orders and policy initiatives taken on by the Administration. OP works collaboratively with national program offices and EPA regions to support their involvement in these interagency efforts so that the full range of EPA equities are at the table and engaged to advance Administration priorities.

As part of the Coal and Power Communities Interagency Work group (IWG), OP is working closely with the eleven other federal agencies to support coal, oil and gas, and power plant communities to create good-paying union jobs, spur economic revitalization, remediate environmental degradation, and support energy workers. OP is actively participating in the IWG's working group activities, including community engagement, integration, policy, and investments. OP also supports the efforts of the IWG by engaging with EPA's regional offices (particularly R3 and R5) as well as national programs to support the Administration's efforts to help coal and power plant communities transition their economies.

The EPA Administrator co-chairs the Extreme Heat IWG and OP's Associate Administrator is co-leading the work group with colleagues from HHS and NOAA with over a dozen federal agencies and White House participation. OP also works alongside OAR, ORD, and OEJ to contribute knowledge and experience on green infrastructure, effective communication, and climate adaptation approaches to help communities reduce the occurrence and impact of heat islands and extreme heat (advancing both climate adaptation and mitigation).

OP works with EPA's Office of Air and Radiation, the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation, the DOE Vehicle Technologies Office and the National Renewable Energy Lab to explore interagency approaches that advance the Administration's priorities and Presidential commitments on electric vehicles. This work has a specific emphasis on helping communities identify policies and funding opportunities that ensure charging infrastructure and clean transportation policies support more equitable outcomes in low-income neighborhoods in both rural and urban areas.

OP has several inter-agency efforts on priority projects funded through the American Rescue Plan. OP works with DOT and HUD to ensure that infrastructure funding investments advance communities' visions and priorities. OP also works with federal partners to advance community-level efforts to simultaneously advance community priorities and climate goals. Both of these projects model the application of a community-driven approach to efficiently advance agencies'

mission. They also demonstrate an effective way to advance the goals outlined in EO 14008 on *addressing the climate crisis and environmental justice*.

OP is the lead on EPA's Memorandum of Agreement with FEMA, which allows the two agencies to work together to help communities become safer, healthier, and more resilient. The agencies collaborate to help communities hit by disasters rebuild in ways that protect the environment, create long-term economic prosperity, and enhance neighborhoods. FEMA and EPA also help communities incorporate strategies, such as green infrastructure, into their hazard mitigation plans and direct development away from vulnerable areas. EPA and FEMA are using the lessons they learn from working together under this agreement and with other federal agencies to better coordinate assistance to communities on hazard mitigation planning, climate adaptation actions, and post-disaster recovery. OP coordinates closely with all 10 Regions and many National Programs on this partnership.

Through an interagency agreement with GSA, OP continues updating the Smart Location Calculator and Smart Location Database to give the federal government more information to guide decisions about locating new federal investments. GSA and EPA also are collaborating on technical assistance around a new site selection support tool to help GSA and other federal agencies make decisions on where to site new government facilities informed by the cost local and state governments would likely incur to provide infrastructure and services. The tool will be based on known relationships between the built environment and the cost to provide infrastructure for a site and related costs for operation and maintenance over time. EPA also has historically coordinated with GSA on their Good Neighbor Program by helping communities leverage major federal investments, such as courthouses or ports of entry, to focus on downtown revitalization. In FY 2025, EPA will continue work with GSA and Nogales, AZ to evaluate strategies to leverage the Federal investments in the land port of entry to support community goals for downtown and neighborhood revitalization.

OP has in the past and continues to coordinate with agencies and departments that work in communities across the country. This has been through formal and semi-formal arrangements like the HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC) and Strong Cities, Strong Communities (SC2). Further, OP has a number of Interagency Agreements (IA) and Memoranda of Agreements to partner with other agencies on technical assistance in areas like disaster recovery, capacity building at the community level, and economic revitalization that supports improved environmental and human health results. Partnering agencies include and have included: USDA (Rural Development, Forest Service, Agricultural Marketing Service), DOT, FEMA, GSA, HUD, HHS, Appalachian Regional Commission, Northern Border Regional Commission, Delta Regional Authority, and EDA. These agencies often participate in community workshops that OP offers through technical assistance programs such as: Local Foods, Local Places, Building Blocks, and Recreation Economy for Rural Communities.

Interagency Policy Committees

EPA participates in interagency groups and collaborates with federal partners on the implementation of Executive Orders including EO 14017 on *America's Supply Chains*, Climate Innovation, Climate and Economics, and the US-EU Summit on Trade and Technology Council. EPA is working with NSC, NEC, CEQ, DOC, DOE, DOD, State, and other agencies on supply

chain issues associated with semiconductors, critical minerals, EV batteries, and other critical materials. EPA also actively participates on the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council, the White House Task Force on Worker Organizing and Empowerment and the Interagency Policy Committee (IPC) on Workforce Development and the White House Gender Policy Council.

Interagency Council on Statistical Policy

The Interagency Council on Statistical Policy (ICSP) is the coordinating body for the Federal Statistical System and plays a leading role in implementing the Evidence Act and advancing the Federal Data Strategy. The ICSP sets strategic goals for modernizing agency statistical practices and products and advances those goals through cross-agency collaborations on strategic initiatives. EPA will continue to work with the ICSP to advance the Federal statistics and availability of robust information to support evidence-based policy.

The Inspector General

Work with the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE)

EPA's Inspector General is a member of the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE), an organization comprised of federal Inspectors General (IGs), GAO, and the FBI. The CIGIE coordinates and improves the way IGs conduct audits, investigations, and internal operations. The CIGIE also promotes joint projects of government-wide interest and reports annually to the President on the collective performance of the IG community.

Activity Coordination, Information Exchange, and Training

EPA's OIG coordinates criminal investigative activities with other law enforcement organizations such as the FBI, Secret Service, and DOJ. In addition, the OIG participates with various inter-governmental audit forums and professional associations to exchange information, share best practices, and obtain or provide training. The OIG also promotes collaboration among EPA's partners and stakeholders in its participation of disaster response and its outreach activities.

Collaborative Work with Inspectors General and Other Partners

EPA's OIG initiates and participates in collaborative audits, program evaluations, and investigations with OIGs of agencies with an environmental mission such as the DOI, USDA, as well as other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies as prescribed by the IG Act, as amended.

Statutory Duties

As required by the IG Act, EPA's OIG coordinates and shares information with the GAO. EPA's OIG currently serves as the Inspector General of the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigations Board (CSB). EPA's OIG will continue to perform its duties with respect to the CSB until otherwise directed.

FY 2025 Estimated Cybersecurity Resources

NIST Framework Function¹⁰	NIST Capability¹⁰	FY 2025 President's Budget (Dollars in Millions)
Identify	Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM)	\$0.000
	Non-CDM Information Security Continuous Monitoring	\$10.251
	Mobile Device Management	\$0.865
	Authorization and Policy	\$19.734
	Standards Development and Propagation	\$0.610
	Data Categorization and Classification	\$0.019
	Supply Chain Risk Management (SCRM) and Acquisitions Management	\$0.931
	Other Identify Capabilities	\$0.049
Identify Total		\$32.459
Protect	Trusted Internet Connections	\$0.906
	Credentialing and Access Management	\$0.347
	Insider Threat	\$0.000
	System Security Testing and Analysis	\$4.381
	Security Training	\$1.244
	Cloud Security	\$1.961
	Data Safeguarding	\$2.545
	Secure Data Transmission	\$3.624
	Research & Development	\$0.227
	Counterintelligence	\$1.142
	Zero Trust Network Architecture	\$2.106
	Security Log Management	\$1.400
	Secure Patch Management	\$2.618
	Other Protect Capabilities	\$1.530
Protect Total		\$24.031
Detect	Anti-Phishing and Malware Defense	\$0.915
	Data Loss Prevention	\$0.406
	Intrusion Prevention	\$0.000
	Endpoint Detection and Response	\$0.292
	Other Detect Capabilities	\$0.261
Detect Total		\$1.874

¹⁰ These estimates are presented using the National Institute of Standards and Technology Framework functions and capabilities. For more information, please see: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/CSWP/NIST.CSWP.04162018.pdf>.

NIST Framework Function¹⁰	NIST Capability¹⁰	FY 2025 President's Budget <i>(Dollars in Millions)</i>
Respond	Incident Management and Response	\$3.659
	Prosecution and Investigation of Cyber Intrusions	\$0.610
	Other Respond Capabilities	\$0.642
Respond Total		\$4.911
Recover	Disaster Recovery	\$0.583
	Incident Recovery	\$0.512
	Incident Notification	\$0.915
	Other Recover Capabilities	\$0.158
Recover Total		\$2.168
Cybersecurity Total		\$65.443

EPA Budget by National Program Manager and Major Office

Dollars in Thousands

		FY 2025 President's Budget			
NPM	Major Office	Pay (\$K)	Non-Pay (\$K)	Total (\$K)	FTE
AO	Immediate Office	\$8,663	\$6,490	\$15,153	48.1
	Office of Administrative and Executive Services	\$3,200	\$1,343	\$4,543	14.6
	Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations	\$8,983	\$917	\$9,900	45.4
	Office of Public Affairs	\$6,114	\$343	\$6,457	35.2
	Office of Public Engagement and Environmental Education	\$2,153	\$11,118	\$13,271	12.5
	Office of Policy	\$31,924	\$19,652	\$51,576	164.2
	Office of Children's Health Protection	\$2,999	\$3,476	\$6,475	13.9
	Office of Civil Rights	\$3,995	\$518	\$4,513	22.5
	Office of Executive Secretariat	\$4,124	\$154	\$4,278	21.7
	Office of Homeland Security	\$2,858	\$1,647	\$4,505	13.1
	Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization	\$2,131	\$1,114	\$3,245	9.5
	Science Advisory Board	\$3,479	\$1,230	\$4,709	18.4
	Regional Resources	\$54,534	\$29,279	\$83,813	289.5
AO Total		\$135,157	\$77,281	\$212,438	708.6
OEJECR	Immediate Office	\$9,086	\$80,001	\$89,087	49.7
	Office of Resource Management and Communications	\$2,000	\$100	\$2,100	12.0
	Office of Community Support	\$7,498	\$100,001	\$107,499	42.0
	Office of Policy, Partnerships and Program Development	\$11,286	\$81,025	\$92,311	64.8
	Office of External Civil Rights Compliance	\$9,282	\$2,765	\$12,047	48.7
	Regional Resources	\$27,800	\$18,369	\$46,169	155.5
OEJECR Total		\$66,952	\$282,261	\$349,213	372.7
OAR	Immediate Office	\$11,312	\$235,699	\$247,011	56.9
	Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards	\$87,430	\$188,823	\$276,253	462.7
	Office of Atmospheric Protection	\$58,952	\$222,911	\$281,863	308.9
	Office of Transportation and Air Quality	\$79,921	\$213,660	\$293,581	400.1
	Office of Radiation and Indoor Air	\$39,653	\$56,222	\$95,875	207.5
	Regional Resources	\$143,129	\$200,202	\$343,331	777.0
OAR Total		\$420,397	\$1,117,517	\$1,537,914	2,213.1
OCFO	Immediate Office	\$3,249	\$11,062	\$14,311	17.0
	Office of Budget	\$8,260	\$2,998	\$11,258	40.2
	Office of Planning, Analysis and Accountability	\$4,779	\$361	\$5,140	25.0
	Office of Technology Solutions	\$9,254	\$27,521	\$36,775	43.4
	Office of Resource and Information Management	\$3,155	\$1,659	\$4,814	16.5
	Office of the Controller	\$26,403	\$2,936	\$29,339	130.7
	OCFO eEnterprise	\$956	\$598	\$1,554	5.0
	Office of Continuous Improvement	\$1,912	\$510	\$2,422	10.0
	Regional Resources	\$29,051	\$2,497	\$31,548	160.0
OCFO Total		\$87,019	\$50,142	\$137,161	447.8
OCSPP	Immediate Office	\$2,594	\$1,405	\$3,999	12.2
	Office of Pesticide Programs	\$70,313	\$53,509	\$123,822	369.0
	Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics	\$91,193	\$66,553	\$157,746	477.6
	Office of Program Support	\$38,282	\$3,714	\$41,996	185.5
	Regional Resources	\$26,586	\$45,397	\$71,983	151.8
OCSPP Total		\$228,968	\$170,578	\$399,546	1,196.1
OECA	Immediate Office	\$7,415	\$4,893	\$12,308	40.4
	Office of Civil Enforcement	\$36,085	\$28,159	\$64,244	172.6
	Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics, and Training	\$75,208	\$14,837	\$90,045	339.9
	Office of Compliance	\$25,385	\$59,004	\$84,389	127.5
	Federal Facilities Enforcement Office	\$3,493	\$1,910	\$5,403	17.2
	Office of Site Remediation Enforcement	\$1,651	\$693	\$2,344	8.6
	Regional Resources	\$246,754	\$64,866	\$311,620	1,347.7
OECA Total		\$395,991	\$174,362	\$570,353	2,053.9

NPM	Major Office	Pay (\$K)	Non-Pay (\$K)	Total (\$K)	FTE
OGC	Immediate Office	\$57	\$40	\$97	10.6
	Air and Radiation Law Office	\$743	\$3	\$746	40.5
	Pesticides and Toxic Substances Law Office	\$819	\$2	\$821	20.8
	Solid Waste and Emergency Response Law Office	\$1,666	\$131	\$1,797	17.3
	Water Law Office	\$522	\$114	\$636	22.2
	Resource Management Office	\$574	\$3	\$577	8.7
	Civil Rights and Finance Law Office	\$672	\$4	\$676	27.1
	Ethics Office	\$14	\$22	\$36	2.7
	General Law Office	\$322	\$15	\$337	26.8
	National FOIA Office	\$48	\$554	\$602	9.2
	Cross-Cutting Issues Law Office	\$619	\$9	\$628	17.4
	Alternate Dispute Resolution	\$165	\$6	\$171	0.9
	Other Legal Support	\$50,515	\$10,472	\$60,987	34.1
	Regional Resources	\$39,458	\$1,378	\$40,836	174.0
OGC Total		\$96,194	\$12,753	\$108,947	412.3
OIG	Immediate Office	\$1,347	\$316	\$1,663	7.0
	Office of Congressional and Public Affairs	\$2,469	\$579	\$3,048	12.8
	Office of Counsel	\$2,469	\$579	\$3,048	12.8
	Office of Audit	\$22,892	\$5,365	\$28,257	119.0
	Office of Information Technology	\$4,489	\$1,052	\$5,541	23.3
	Office of Mission Support	\$3,366	\$790	\$4,156	17.5
	Office of Strategic Analysis and Results	\$2,693	\$631	\$3,324	14.0
	Office of Special Review and Evaluation	\$11,222	\$2,631	\$13,853	58.3
Office of Investigations	\$13,242	\$3,104	\$16,346	68.8	
OIG Total		\$64,189	\$15,047	\$79,236	333.5
OITA	Immediate Office	\$1,598	\$201	\$1,799	8.0
	Office of International Affairs	\$10,740	\$17,064	\$27,804	53.8
	Office of Management and International Services	\$2,595	\$2,591	\$5,186	13.0
	American Indian Environmental Office	\$7,390	\$3,220	\$10,610	37.0
	Regional Resources	\$25,526	\$112,865	\$138,391	141.6
OITA Total		\$47,849	\$135,941	\$183,790	253.4
OLEM	Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office	\$3,368	\$7,466	\$10,834	16.2
	Office of Land and Emergency Management Assistant Administrator and Deputy Assistant Administrator	\$6,590	\$2,036	\$8,626	30.0
	Office of Communication, Partnership, and Analysis	\$1,804	\$889	\$2,693	9.3
	Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation	\$1,786	\$2,195	\$3,981	10.1
	Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery	\$31,022	\$31,752	\$62,774	160.0
	Office of Underground Storage Tanks	\$4,293	\$3,251	\$7,544	22.6
	Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization	\$3,114	\$13,200	\$16,314	16.6
	Office of Emergency Management	\$14,067	\$46,726	\$60,793	69.0
	Regional Resources	\$166,793	\$720,572	\$887,365	919.1
OLEM Total		\$232,837	\$828,087	\$1,060,924	1,252.9

NPM	Major Office	Pay (\$K)	Non-Pay (\$K)	Total (\$K)	FTE
OMS	Immediate Office	\$4,187	\$4,483	\$8,670	21.6
	Office of Resources and Business Operations	\$7,736	\$13,567	\$21,303	39.9
	Office of Engagement and Program Management	\$8,569	\$3,800	\$12,369	44.2
	Office of Chief Sustainability Officer	\$1,114	\$591	\$1,705	6.0
	Office of Administrative Law Judges	\$2,676	\$175	\$2,851	13.8
	Environmental Appeals Board	\$2,326	\$175	\$2,501	12.0
	Office of Acquisition Solutions	\$50,859	\$7,541	\$58,400	262.1
	Office of Grants and Debarment	\$14,830	\$1,341	\$16,171	76.5
	Office of Site Management and Operations	\$13,416	\$58,425	\$71,841	69.2
	Office of Real Property, Safety and Security	\$11,264	\$381,706	\$392,970	58.1
	Office of Inclusive Excellence	\$5,777	\$1,791	\$7,568	29.8
	Office of HR Strategy	\$15,354	\$13,095	\$28,449	79.2
	Office of Human Capital Operations	\$32,802	\$4,817	\$37,619	169.2
	Office of Information Technology and Operations	\$931	\$9,219	\$10,150	4.8
	Office of Digital Services & Technical Architecture	\$6,301	\$4,637	\$10,938	32.5
	Office of Information Management	\$15,529	\$45,983	\$61,512	80.1
	Office of Information Security & Privacy	\$3,703	\$28,054	\$31,757	19.1
	Office of Records, Administrative Systems and eDiscovery	\$8,938	\$21,778	\$30,716	46.1
Regional Resources	\$96,957	\$57,701	\$154,658	534.3	
	OMS Total	\$303,269	\$658,879	\$962,148	1,598.5
ORD	ORD Headquarters	\$54,042	\$68,201	\$122,243	284.9
	Center for Computational Toxicology & Exposure	\$50,491	\$38,082	\$88,573	266.7
	Center for Environmental Measurements & Modeling	\$74,640	\$66,093	\$140,733	393.7
	Center for Public Health & Environmental Assessment	\$75,457	\$56,652	\$132,109	396.6
	Center for Environmental Solutions & Emergency	\$49,772	\$41,431	\$91,203	264.2
	Office of Science Advisor, Policy and Engagement	\$13,856	\$58,472	\$72,328	73.2
	Regional Resources	\$21,102	\$7,640	\$28,742	122.1
	ORD Total	\$339,360	\$336,571	\$675,931	1,801.4
OW	Immediate Office	\$13,969	\$8,806	\$22,775	66.2
	Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water	\$41,961	\$134,122	\$176,083	216.5
	Office of Science and Technology	\$27,491	\$32,191	\$59,682	133.6
	Office of Wastewater Management	\$31,178	\$211,415	\$242,593	156.6
	Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds	\$23,689	\$38,079	\$61,768	116.3
	Regional Resources	\$247,574	\$3,905,577	\$4,153,151	1,386.2
	OW Total	\$385,862	\$4,330,190	\$4,716,052	2,075.4
	Reimbursable FTE*				2,425.8
	Total Agency Resources	\$2,804,044	\$8,189,609	\$10,993,653	17,145.4

*This includes the FTE for the Superfund Enforcement, Remedial, and Emergency Response and Removal accounts that are proposed to be transitioned from annual appropriations to Superfund Tax receipts.

EPA Response to OIG Top Management Challenges

The mission of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is to protect human health and the environment. The Office of Inspector General's (OIG) FY 2024 Top Management Challenges report highlights risks that the EPA regularly tracks progress through its robust performance management process and the *EPA FY 2022-2026 Strategic Plan*. The EPA will continue to focus on the following seven challenge areas to drive continued progress and change in the ongoing environmental and human health challenges. In addition, as mentioned in the management challenge descriptions, the FY 2025 President's Budget request includes resources to assist in expanding work in a number of these areas and other key priorities. The responses below provide a summary of the major topics.

Challenge 1: Mitigating the Causes and Adapting to the Impacts of Climate Change.

Agency Response: The EPA is working to achieve greenhouse gas emission reductions through an integrated approach of regulations, partnerships, and technical assistance. The Agency is taking multiple actions to limit carbon dioxide (CO₂) and methane emissions as well as working to reduce high-global warming potential greenhouse gases (GHG), like hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), that will help the U.S. realize near-term climate benefits. These actions include but are not limited to:

- Issued American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act rules to phase down production and consumption of HFCs by 85 percent by 2036: final rules to amend the production and consumption baselines and methodology to issue allowances for 2024 through 2028; a final rule to facilitate the transition to next-generation heating and cooling technologies; and a proposed rule to maximize reclamation and minimize releases of HFCs.
- Proposed emissions standards for light-, medium-, and heavy-duty vehicles (phase 3) for model year 2027 and beyond to avoid nearly 10 billion tons of CO₂ emissions, twice more than total U.S. CO₂ emissions in 2022.
- Issued proposed rules to limit GHG emissions from new and existing power plants under section 111(b) and (d) of the CAA.
- Issued proposed rule to reduce emissions of methane and other harmful air pollution from new and existing sources in the oil and natural gas industry.
- Issued a proposal to amend reporting requirements for petroleum and natural gas systems under the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program (GHGRP) consistent with directives in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).
- Launched Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program under the IRA, awarding \$250 million in planning grants to states, Tribes, and major cities and announcing the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for \$4.6 billion in implementation grants.
- Launched the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) under the IRA, which will award, by the end of FY 2024 and in accordance with its statutory deadline, nearly \$27 billion across three competitive grants competitions: the \$14 billion National Clean Investment Fund, the \$6 billion Clean Communities Investment Accelerator, and the \$7 billion Solar for All competition.

The EPA works with federal, state, Tribal, and local government agencies and key GHG emitting sectors to tackle the climate crisis and deliver environmental and public health benefits for all

Americans. The EPA builds partnerships, provides tools, and verifies and publishes GHG data, economic modeling, and policy analysis, all of which increase the understanding of climate science, impacts, and protection. The EPA also extends this expertise internationally and plays critical roles in shaping and advancing international agreements and solutions. This international collaboration helps to both improve public health and air quality in the U.S. and level the global playing field for American businesses.

The EPA is maintaining its strong commitment to help strengthen the nation's adaptive capacity and resilience, with a particular focus on advancing EJ. The Agency is ensuring its programs, policies, rulemaking processes, enforcement and compliance assurance activities, and operations consider current and future impacts of climate change and how those impacts disproportionately affect certain communities.

Consistent with Executive Order 14008, the EPA has made advances implementing the agencywide priorities identified in the Climate Adaptation Action Plan. It is integrating climate adaptation into rulemaking processes, including regulations and permitting. It also is modernizing its financial assistance programs to encourage climate-resilient investments across the nation. The immediate focus is on the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the IRA, to ensure that the outcomes of investments made with those funds are resilient to the impacts of climate change.

The EPA is embedding climate adaptation into enforcement activities. The Agency's enforcement and compliance assurance program includes climate adaptation and resilience in case conclusions whenever appropriate and providing technical assistance to achieve climate-related solutions and build climate change capacity among the EPA's staff and our state and local partners.

In addition to implementing measures to protect the Agency's workforce, facilities, and critical infrastructure from climate change risks, the EPA also partners with other federal agencies to build the nation's resilience to the impacts of climate change. The Agency contributed to the development of the National Climate Resilience Framework, which was released at the White House Summit on Building Climate Resilient Communities. The EPA is now supporting implementation of the Framework to partner with states, Tribes, territories, local governments, community groups, EJ organizations, and businesses to strengthen adaptive capacity and increase the resilience of the nation, with a particular focus on advancing EJ.

Responsible Agency Official(s): Betsy Shaw, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation; Victoria Arroyo, EPA Senior Climate Adaptation Official; David Widawsky, Director, Office of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.

Challenge 2: Integrating and Implementing Environmental Justice.

Agency Response: In FY 2023, the EPA continued to build out its newest national program, the Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights (OEJECR). The Program, founded in September 2022, brought together the Office of Environmental Justice, the Office of General Counsel's External Civil Rights Compliance Office, and the Office of General Counsel's Conflict Prevention and Resolution Center. Consistent with the *EPA FY 2022-2026 Strategic*

Plan and fueled by historic investment for the EPA and through the IRA for the Environment and Climate Justice block grants, the OEJECR is providing an unprecedented level of support throughout the EPA to: 1) engage and support communities; 2) work with and support external partners such as states, Tribes, and local government ; and 3) bring a stronger structural and systemic ability to integrate EJ and comply with civil rights requirements throughout all of the EPA's policies, programs, and activities. This approach provides support for communities and their partners to advance solutions to on-the-ground challenges and the integration of EJ and civil rights throughout other levels of government while also advancing the integration of EJ and civil rights within the EPA's policies, programs, and actions.

The OEJECR currently is working, along with all other EPA programs, on the next iteration of its National Program Guidance to carry actions successfully to the end of the current strategic plan. Efforts are in conjunction with the EPA's updated Equity Action Plan (EAP), crafted and published in accordance with Executive Order 14091. Among other priorities, the EAP specifically prioritizes developing a comprehensive framework for considering cumulative impacts in relevant EPA decisions and operationalizing that framework in EPA's programs and activities.

The EPA also continues to provide direct support to the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) as it leads implementation of EO 14008 and EO 14096. In particular, the EPA continues to support the management of the White House Environmental Justice Interagency Council (IAC) and regularly engages and supports the CEQ's staff in leading the IAC on Environmental Justice, as well as providing advice based upon the Agency's experience on specific elements such as development of the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool and the EJ Scorecard.

Also reflecting the EPA's federal leadership role, the Agency is working directly with other federal agencies to coordinate and align efforts through the IJIA, commonly referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the IRA, and annual appropriations by serving as co-chair with the Department of Transportation for the federal Thriving Communities Network (TCN). This effort is especially critical as so many agencies, through the Justice40 Initiative, look for ways to ensure that the benefits of their programs and investments reach disadvantaged communities. The EPA complements these efforts by providing direct support to build the capacity of those disproportionately impacted communities to push from the bottom up and connect with the resources of numerous federal agencies. Since its inception, the TCN has grown from four initial federal agencies to a current total of nine.

Responsible Agency Official: Theresa Segovia, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights

Challenge 3: Safeguarding the Use and Disposal of Chemicals.

Agency Response: The Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, enacted in 2016, dramatically increased the EPA's Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) authorities, responsibilities, and workload. Despite this significant increase in responsibility, appropriations for the TSCA program were flat for the first six years and had minor increases since. In FY 2023,

the EPA requested \$124.2 million and received \$82.6 million, which is being used across the EPA's TSCA program to support an additional 65 full time equivalents. In November 2021, the EPA's OIG estimated that the EPA's capacity needed to increase by 140 percent to meet the deadlines for the existing chemical risk evaluations ongoing at that time. The FY 2023 appropriations for the TSCA represented a 39 percent increase from 2020 levels, far less than the OIG estimated was needed. Without resources commensurate with the Lautenberg Act's expectations, the TSCA implementation may remain a challenge for EPA.

The EPA's approach to improving implementation of the Lautenberg Act is twofold. First, the EPA will continue to seek sufficient resources, including ensuring that the TSCA's fees reflect the true costs of implementation. The EPA is investing more resources in recruitment and more timely hiring of scientists with expertise in various human health risk assessment disciplines. This is needed in part to provide senior level scientific peer review of chemical risk assessment products earlier in the risk evaluation process. In November 2022, the Agency published a supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking on fees for administering the TSCA. As of November 2023, the final fees rule is undergoing interagency review.

Second, the EPA will increasingly seek to identify and implement additional process and program efficiencies. These efficiencies include tailoring risk evaluation steps and processes for existing chemicals in a "fit for purpose" manner and minimizing re-work by ensuring appropriate internal scientific peer review is occurring as the risk evaluations are completed. The EPA also is better utilizing existing comprehensive risk assessments completed by other authoritative governmental bodies and modifying the peer review process for risk evaluations in cases in which the Agency's and OMB's guidance on peer review provide the EPA with appropriate options that are less resource intensive.

For the new chemicals program, efficiencies include developing category approaches to streamline risk assessment and regulatory decisions for similar chemicals with similar uses. In FY 2023, the EPA continued its project to inventory, screen, and revise its existing standard operating procedures (SOP) and guidance for new chemicals review. Also in FY 2023, the EPA released standardized approaches for risk assessment and risk management of new alternative fuels, mixed metal oxides (MMOs) including cathode active materials, and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). MMOs are a key component in lithium-ion batteries used in electric vehicles and can be used for semi-conductors and renewable energy generation and storage. Additionally, an SOP for addressing differing scientific opinions has been in practice since 2022. The EPA proposed amendments in FY 2023 to the new chemical procedural regulations under the TSCA that are intended to align the regulatory text with new chemicals review provisions of the Lautenberg Act and to improve the efficiency of the EPA's review processes.

The EPA continues to make significant strides in using its authority under the TSCA to reduce risks posed by existing and new chemicals. In FY 2023, the EPA proposed three TSCA section six rules to address unreasonable risks to health and submitted two additional rules to the OMB for interagency review. The Agency also issued six final and one draft revised unreasonable risk determinations amending the TSCA's risk evaluations to better address worker risks. The EPA also released for public comment and peer review a set of principles for evaluating cumulative risks under the TSCA and an approach for applying those principles to the evaluation of the

cumulative risk posed by certain phthalate chemicals undergoing the TSCA's section six risk evaluation.

Turning to the EPA's Pesticide Program, the prioritization of review of Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA) actions with statutory decision timeframes over non-PRIA actions without statutory due dates has led to a decrease in the number of non-PRIA completions in recent years, and the development of a backlog. During this same period of time, the EPA has seen an increase in new submissions for PRIA actions as well as renegotiation of PRIA-fee-for-service actions or the non-PRIA backlog. Currently, there are more than 11,000 non-PRIA pesticide actions from previous years that are still pending completion. Despite completing record numbers of PRIA actions in the past few years, the EPA's FY 2022 renegotiation rate for PRIA actions rose to almost 52 percent for all PRIA applications and to over 70 percent for conventional pesticides. For comparison, five years ago in FY 2018 the PRIA renegotiation rate was 17 percent, and at the end of FY 2021, the renegotiation rate was 34 percent.

The EPA recognizes that greater market predictability around the EPA's decision review timeframes is one of the main objectives of the PRIA and its reauthorizations. The PRIA 5 increased fees related to the EPA's review of new applications and reevaluation of pesticides currently in the marketplace, but due to increasing use of maintenance fees to the OIG-recommended levels, these increased fees and appropriated funding are at best maintaining the EPA's resource levels. The EPA is in the middle of a multi-year upgrade to its information technology systems that, when completed, is expected to result in increased efficiency and increased transparency to applicants about their actions pending with the EPA.

The Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) requires the Agency to review each registered pesticide every 15 years. The initial review is to be completed by October 1, 2026, in the case of pesticides registered before October 1, 2007. As of April 2023, a total of 789 pesticide cases had that registration review deadline. However, the EPA has been unable to complete all required registration review processes. As of the end of FY 2023, 614 final or interim decisions were completed of the 789, and 717 draft risk assessments were completed. However, court decisions relating to the Endangered Species Act (ESA) have increased the scientific complexity of the EPA's registration review decisions and dictated changes in the registration review workplan.

To address a decades-old challenge of protecting endangered species from pesticides while minimizing regulatory impacts to pesticide users, the first-ever comprehensive workplan, Balancing Wildlife Protection and Responsible Pesticide Use, was released in April 2022. The workplan describes new and creative solutions for the EPA to come into compliance with the ESA and establishes four overall strategies and dozens of actions to adopt those protections while providing farmers, public health authorities, and others with access to pesticides. The workplan also sets a new vision for a successful ESA-FIFRA program that focuses on supporting the development of safer technologies to control pests, completing timely FIFRA decisions, and collaborating with other agencies and stakeholders on implementing the plan. The EPA released a workplan update in November 2022, explaining how it will adopt early mitigation for the ESA's species as part of registration review decisions. In addition to the ESA workplan, the Agency received in the FY 2023 enacted budget additional funding of approximately \$5 million in

contracts and payroll to support 10 additional FTE to make incremental progress toward meeting the ESA's mandates.

Responsible Agency Official: Rick Keigwin, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

Challenge 4: Promoting Ethical Conduct and Protecting Scientific Integrity.

Agency Response: The EPA's Scientific Integrity Policy has been in effect since 2012 and is one of the longest standing scientific integrity policies in the federal government. In recognition of the EPA's leadership in scientific integrity, the White House's Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) appointed the EPA's Scientific Integrity Official as a co-chair of three related White House initiatives that implement the January 2021 Executive Memorandum on scientific integrity and drive such policy across federal executive branch agencies. Scientific integrity at the EPA will be further strengthened by updating the policy to meet the OSTP's requirements for policy content, implementation, and evaluation. The EPA anticipates releasing its updated policy later this year. The updated draft policy was released for public comment in early 2024.

The EPA is unwavering in its commitment to promptly address scientific integrity concerns and investigate and adjudicate allegations. The Agency will continue to strengthen mechanisms to protect and maintain a culture of scientific integrity and is on target to develop and implement procedures to address allegations, including violations involving high-profile issues or senior officials, including political appointees. The EPA's steadfast commitment to implementing its Scientific Integrity Policy in support of a culture of scientific integrity, enhanced transparency, and the protection of scientists is evidenced by Agencywide training and outreach activities that engage employees on scientific integrity. The Agency has recognized the important role of leaders in enhancing a culture of scientific integrity and accordingly added a scientific integrity requirement into the performance plan requirements for its Senior Executive Service, Scientific and Professional, and Senior-Level leaders in FY 2022 and General Schedule supervisors in FY 2024. This language requires these leaders and supervisors to be responsible for exemplifying firm commitment to principles of scientific integrity in all relevant situations.

The EPA will continue to maintain scientific integrity's high visibility throughout the Agency through regular outreach, including hosting an annual meeting with the EPA's employees and launching updated training for new employees, to build upon 10 years of the Scientific Integrity Program at the Agency. This combined with the release of the FY 2024 update to the Scientific Integrity Policy, based on the White House's guidance, will position the EPA to maintain its position when it comes to advancing scientific integrity within the Agency and across the federal government.

Responsible Agency Official: Maureen Gwinn, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Research and Development

Challenge 5: Managing Grants, Contracts, and Data Systems.

Agency Response: The EPA has identified “Grantee Engagement and Outreach: Pre- and Post-Award Oversight of Recipients of Federal Financial Assistance” as one of the Agency’s Enterprise Risks. Significant new grant funding through the IIJA, IRA, and Congressionally Directed Spending will result in an increase in the number of new grant applicants, including from underserved communities and those that are first-time applicants. Effective grants management is a key focus of the EPA’s implementation of the IIJA and IRA and the Agency is undertaking several actions to reduce fraud, waste and abuse risks to the Agency. The EPA is providing extensive outreach, training, and technical assistance to potential new recipients of federal funding that may find it challenging to comply with federal grants management requirements throughout the grant lifecycle. This outreach includes live and recorded training, direct programmatic support, and technical assistance, and publishing new policy and guidance to strengthen compliance where needed. Further, the Agency is continuing to collaborate with the OIG on providing training to potential grant recipients. The EPA also is working to strengthen existing post-award monitoring and internal processes to strengthen internal controls to prevent improper payments or waste, fraud, and abuse. Lastly, the Agency continues to make progress partnering with domestic manufacturers and supply networks to support the implementation of the Build America, Buy America Act.

Additionally, the EPA’s Office of Continuous Improvement within the Office of the Chief Financial Officer is leading an effort to map out grants processes and systems across the Agency to identify potential opportunities to streamline grant timeliness pre- and post-award and improve grants data management to ensure the Agency has access to high-quality, timely data, which its programs and stakeholders will rely on for monitoring program results. Further, to effectively manage contracts funded by the IIJA and IRA, the EPA has a contract monitoring dashboard that includes the percentage of those supplemental appropriation funds placed on each contract awarded. Reviews of invoices for contracts that are funded with IIJA and IRA resources will occur to ensure proper billing and progress are made under those contracts.

Responsible Agency Officials: Kimberly Patrick, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Mission Support; Gregg Treml, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Challenge 6: Maximizing Compliance with Environmental Laws and Regulations.

Agency Response: The EPA recognizes enforcement as a critical part of the Agency’s mission and maintains a strong enforcement program. Under the current Administration, the EPA has increased its focus on traditional civil and criminal enforcement tools, with particular attention on environmental and public health threats to overburdened communities. The revitalization of the EPA’s enforcement and compliance program is underway, and in FY 2023, the program received an increase of nearly \$70 million and 112 FTEs over FY 2022 levels. In addition, the Agency requests an increase of nearly 201 FTE in the FY 2025 President’s Budget. The Enforcement and Compliance Assurance program had an excellent FY 2023 with the most on-site inspections since FY 2019, 70 percent more criminal cases opened than during FY 2022, and 60 percent of the program’s inspections and more than 50 percent of the case conclusions in EJ communities. The program is positioned to have a particularly strong FY 2024, with a significant number of new

hires and building on the successes from FY 2023. In addition to the increase in FTE for the program, the EPA has invested significant resources to purchase new equipment for our inspectors.

With respect to climate enforcement and compliance strategy, the EPA will prioritize enforcement and compliance actions to mitigate climate change and include climate adaptation and resilience in case conclusions, whenever appropriate. The requirements will apply across all the EPA's enforcement and compliance efforts, including criminal, civil, federal facilities, and cleanup actions. Earlier this year, the OECA announced six initiatives for FYs 2024 through 2027. For the first time, the Agency is pursuing an initiative focused on mitigating climate change, as well as initiatives addressing exposure to PFAS, and protecting communities from carcinogenic coal ash contamination. The EPA is strengthening efforts to address hazardous air pollution in overburdened communities by adding, also for the first time ever, a geographical focus to the Agency's existing air toxins initiative. We are continuing existing initiatives focused on providing safe drinking water and reducing the risk of deadly chemical accidents. (These activities also relate to and address the Management Challenge 1, Mitigating the Causes and Adapting to the Impacts of Climate Change).

During FY 2023, the OECA conducted ~4,700 on-site inspections in areas of potential EJ concern to increase our presence in low-income and minority communities, up from 57 percent in FY 2022 to over 60 percent in FY 2023. Where the EPA found noncompliance with environmental statutes that were potentially impacting these overburdened and vulnerable communities, the Agency pursued enforcement cases with the following results: initiated 957 enforcement actions, a 28 percent increase over FY 2022; concluded 986 enforcement actions, a 33 percent increase over FY 2022; assessed a total of \$167 million in penalties up \$7 million over FY 2022; estimated value of \$3.7 billion in injunctive relief; and commitments to reduce/treat/dispose ~1.2 billion pounds of air/toxics/water. These FY 2023 results show a continued trend to increase enforcement and compliance efforts in overburdened communities. (These activities also relate to and address the Management Challenge 2, Integrating and Implementing Environmental Justice).

The OIG issued multiple reports focused on improving oversight of and collaboration with states to ensure compliance with environmental laws and regulations. This year, the EPA updated its policies to reflect that states and the EPA, as co-regulators, have a shared commitment to work together to protect human health and the environment, taking advantage of the strengths and capabilities of both federal and state authorities.

The Agency remains actively engaged with the OIG in implementing corrective actions that will respond to concerns raised in the reports. The OECA looks forward to working with colleagues across the Agency, as well as state and Tribal partners, stakeholders, and the OIG in addressing issues presented in the FY 2024 Top Management Challenges report.

Responsible Agency Official: Cecil Rodrigues, Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

Challenge 7: Overseeing, Protecting, and Investing in Water and Wastewater Systems.

Agency Response: The EPA helps to identify and better understand the needs for water infrastructure across the country, through the Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey or the Clean Watersheds Needs Survey. EPA funds infrastructure projects through multiple funding and financing programs and provides technical assistance to connect communities and Tribes to federal funding. The IIJA delivers more than \$50 billion to the Agency to improve our nation's drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure. Additionally, the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act and the America's Water Infrastructure Act established various grant programs that improve drinking water and water quality, deepen infrastructure investments, enhance public health and quality of life, increase jobs, and bolster the economy.

The EPA oversees programs that are specifically designed to help address technical, managerial, and financial capacity issues that may contribute to water system non-compliance. Under the Agency's capacity development program, the EPA works with states and Tribes to ensure there is a framework in place for systems to acquire and maintain the knowledge, tools, and resources they need. The Agency assists systems in identifying solutions to problems and provides access to funding through the EPA WaterTA, which provides hands-on support for communities to assess their needs, identify potential solutions, and develop funding applications. The Agency also has a number of long-standing technical assistance programs that support communities in identifying water challenges, developing plans, building capacity, and developing application materials to access water infrastructure funding. These programs include the Area-Wide Optimization Program, Creating Resilient Water Utilities, and EPA's cybersecurity program. The Agency's Water Finance Center provides financing information to help local decision makers make informed decisions for drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure to protect human health and the environment.

The EPA continues to underscore that adopting cybersecurity best practices at drinking water and wastewater utilities is essential to protect communities from the increasing number and severity of cyber-threats facing our nation's water systems. The Agency is taking steps to support states and Tribes, technical assistance providers, and drinking water and wastewater systems by providing ongoing technical assistance in the form of cybersecurity assessments, subject-matter expert consultations, training, and funding. The EPA conducts cybersecurity assessments for utilities through the Water Sector Cybersecurity Evaluation Program where utilities work with a cybersecurity professional to complete an assessment using the Water Cybersecurity Assessment Tool. The Agency offers direct technical assistance through the Cybersecurity Technical Assistance Program for the Water Sector where primacy agencies, technical assistance providers, and utilities can submit cybersecurity questions and receive one-on-one remote assistance (via phone or email) from a cybersecurity subject-matter expert. The Agency offers cybersecurity training and tabletop exercises free to the water sector and hosts workshops across the country to assist primacy agencies with promoting cybersecurity best practices for their water and wastewater systems.

To assist with costs, the EPA has several funding resources available to support drinking water and wastewater systems in implementing cyber projects including the EPA managed Clean Water State Revolving Fund, Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, Water Infrastructure Finance and

Innovation Act, and the Drinking Water System Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability Program. In addition, EPA works with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) jointly managed Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program, and the Tribal Cybersecurity Grant Program regarding additional funding for drinking water and clean water cyber projects.

In addition, the Agency's Cybersecurity Incident Action Checklist provides utilities with guidance for preparation, response, and recovery of a cybersecurity incident. The EPA, in conjunction with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency within the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, coordinates with water systems to share information regarding water or wastewater system cybersecurity threats.

Responsible Agency Official: Benita Best-Wong, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Water

EPA User Fee Programs

In FY 2025, EPA will have several user fee programs in operation. These user fee programs and proposals are referenced below. EPA will continue to review whether fees should be assessed for programs that provide special benefits to recipients beyond those that accrue to the public, in accordance with OMB Circular A-25.

Current Fees: Pesticides

Fee collection authority exists under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act of 1988, as amended by the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act of 2022 (“PRIA-5”), which was part of the FY 2023 omnibus (P. L. 117-328) passed in December 2022. PRIA-5 reauthorizes these fee authorities through fiscal year 2027 and adjusts fee amounts for certain registration activities.

- **Pesticides Maintenance Fee (7 U.S.C. §136a-1(i))**

The Maintenance Fee provides funding for the registration review programs and a certain percentage supports the processing of applications not covered by a fee table under Section 33(b)(3)(B). PRIA-5 reauthorizes collection of this fee through FY 2027 and raises the collection target by \$11 million to an average collection of \$42 million over five years of PRIA-5 authorization.

- **Enhanced Registration Services (7 U.S.C. §136w-8(b))**

Entities seeking to register pesticides for use in the United States pay a fee at the time the registration action request is submitted to EPA, setting specific timeframes for the registration decision service. This process has introduced new pesticides to the market more quickly. PRIA-5 reauthorizes collection of these fees through FY 2027 and adjusts fee amounts for certain types of registrations. In FY 2025, EPA expects to collect approximately \$26 million from this fee program.

Current Fees: Other

- **Clean Air Part 71 Operating Permits Program**

Title 40 CFR Part 71 § 71.9 authorizes and establishes requirements for the Clean Air Part 71 program - a comprehensive Federal air quality operating permit program for air pollution control agencies that do not have a delegated Title V program on charging and collecting user fees, as required by Section 502(b)(3) of the Clean Air Act. All sources subject to the operating permit requirements of Title V shall have a permit to operate that assures compliance with all applicable requirements. The owners or operators shall pay annual fees that are sufficient to cover the permit program costs, in accordance with the procedures described in this section.

- **Service Fees for the Administration of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA Fees Rule)**

On June 22, 2016, the “Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act” (P.L. 114-182) was signed into law, amending numerous sections of TSCA, including providing authority for the establishment of a new, broader TSCA User Fee program to replace and expand the former Section 5 Pre-Manufacturing Notification Fee. Section 26 of TSCA authorizes EPA to collect user fees to offset 25 percent of the Agency’s full costs for implementing TSCA Sections 4, 5, 6, and 14.¹¹ Fees are charged for: issuance of Test Orders, Test Rules and Enforceable Consent Agreements under TSCA Section 4; submission of Pre-Manufacturing Notices, Significant New Use Notices and Microbial Commercial Activity Notices and certain submissions for exemptions under TSCA Section 5; and development of EPA-Initiated Risk Evaluations and Manufacturer-Requested Risk Evaluations (MRREs) under TSCA Section 6.

EPA promulgated the TSCA User Fee Rule in October 2018.¹² EPA proposed revisions to the fee rule in January 2021. Based on public comments received on the proposed rule, as well as stakeholder engagement and an analysis by EPA of its workforce and budget to develop a more accurate estimate of its anticipated costs to implement TSCA, in November 2022 the Agency issued a supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking that modifies and adjusts this earlier proposal. As of August 2023, EPA was developing a final rule the Agency expects to publish in early CY 2024. EPA is proposing these changes to ensure that the fees collected will provide the Agency with up to 25 percent of eligible TSCA costs consistent with direction in the FY 2022 and FY 2023 appropriations law to consider the “full” implementation costs of TSCA. An adjustment of the fees, via the rulemaking, would impact the estimates of fee collections below.

EPA collected \$2.74 million in fee revenue in FY 2019 from Section 5 submissions. In FY 2020, the Agency collected \$3.03 million in fee revenue from Section 5 submissions as well as \$2.5 million from two Section 6 MRREs for chemicals within the TSCA Work Plan (Di-isodecyl Phthalate [DIDP] and Diisononyl Phthalate [DINP]). In FY 2021, the Agency collected \$28.6 million: \$3.3 million from Section 5, \$24.05 million from 19 of the 20 Section 6 EPA-Initiated Risk Evaluations, and \$1.25 million from one Section 6 MRRE for a TSCA Work Plan chemical (Octamethylcyclotetrasiloxane [D4]). (The Agency invoiced \$88.2 thousand for Section 4 Test Orders in FY 2020 and FY 2021 but did not start receiving submissions until FY 2022.) Because nearly \$17 million of the collections for the 19 Section 6 Risk Evaluations was not due to be paid until September 2, 2021, those funds were not accessible to EPA until early FY 2022. In FY 2022, EPA collected approximately \$5.1 million (\$1.46 million from the remaining Section 6 EPA-Initiated Risk Evaluations invoices, \$3.5 million from Section 5 submissions, and \$88.2 thousand from invoiced Section 4 Test Order submissions) and is projected to collect \$5.23 million in FY 2023 (\$3.65 million in Section 5 submissions, \$93.2 thousand from Section 4 Test Order invoices, and an additional amount from one TSCA Section 6 Manufacturer-Requested Risk Evaluation at \$1.49 million if the MRRE request is granted) and \$11.9 million in FY 2024 (\$ 10.2 million in Section 5 submissions, \$125 thousand from section 4 Test Order invoices and an additional amount from one TSCA Section 6 Manufacturer-Requested Risk Evaluation at \$1.497M if the MRRE request is granted.), all subject to potential fee level changes. In FY 2025 EPA estimates to collect approximately \$31 million (\$8.7 million in Section 5 submissions, \$21.2 million from the next

¹¹ TSCA, as amended by the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, Section 26(b)(1) and (4)

¹² For additional information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/tscfa-fees/fees-administration-toxic-substances-control-act>.

round of Section 6 EPA-initiated chemical risk evaluations \$125 thousand from section 4 Test Order invoices, and an additional amount from one TSCA Section 6 Manufacturer-Requested Risk Evaluation at \$1.52M if the MRRE request is granted). Collections estimates in FY 2024 and 2025 are based on fees from EPA's November 16, 2022, supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking that proposed revisions to the current fee schedule. EPA will allocate FY 2021 Section 6 collections over the risk evaluation lifecycle (3-3.5 years). TSCA requires EPA to update the fees every three years.¹³ Fees collected/projected to be collected in FY 2019 through FY 2021 equated to approximately 14 percent of associated expenditures for those three fiscal years, below the 25 percent target. While TSCA allows the Agency to collect up to 25 percent of its costs for eligible TSCA activities via fees, to date, EPA has collected roughly half of that amount due to the insufficiencies of the current fees rule.

- **Motor Vehicle and Engine Compliance Program Fee**

This fee is authorized by the Clean Air Act of 1990 and is administered by the Office of Transportation and Air Quality. Fee collections for manufacturers of light-duty vehicles, light- and heavy-duty trucks, and motorcycles began in August 1992. In 2004, EPA promulgated a rule that updated existing fees and established fees for newly regulated vehicles and engines. The fees established for new compliance programs are paid by manufacturers of heavy-duty and nonroad vehicles and engines, including large diesel and gas equipment (earthmovers, tractors, forklifts, compressors, etc.), handheld and non-handheld utility engines (chainsaws, weed-whackers, leaf-blowers, lawnmowers, tillers, etc.), marine (boat motors, watercraft, jet-skis), locomotive, aircraft and recreational vehicles (off-road motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles) for in-use testing and certification. In 2009, EPA added fees for evaporative emissions requirements for nonroad engines. EPA intends to apply certification fees to additional industry sectors as new programs are developed. In FY 2025, EPA expects to collect approximately \$25.3 million from this fee program based upon a projection of the original rulemaking cost study adjusted for inflation.

- **Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest**

The Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest Establishment Act (P. L. 112-195) provides EPA with the authority to establish a program to finance, develop, and operate a system for the electronic submission of hazardous waste manifests supported by user fees. In accordance with the Act, EPA established the e-Manifest program. EPA finalized the user fee rule, *Hazardous Waste Management System: User Fees for the Electronic Hazardous Waste Manifest System and Amendments to Manifest Regulations*, in December 2017, and the e-Manifest system launched in June 2018.

In FY 2025, EPA will continue to operate the e-Manifest system and the Agency anticipates collecting and depositing approximately \$20 million in e-Manifest user fees into the Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest System Fund. Based upon authority to collect and spend e-Manifest fees provided by Congress in annual appropriations bills, the fees will fully support the e-Manifest program, including the operation of the system, necessary program expenses, and future development costs.

¹³ For additional information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/tscfa-fees/fees-administration-toxic-substances-control-act>.

- **Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Program Account (WIFIA) Program Fees**

The FY 2025 OMB Submission requests authorization for the Administrator to collect and obligate fees established in accordance with Title V, subtitle C, Sections 5029 and 5030 of Public Law 113-121, the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014. These funds shall be deposited in the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Program Account (WIFIA) and remain available until expended. WIFIA fee regulations were first promulgated in FY 2017. Fee revenue will be used for the cost of contracting with expert services such as financial advisory, legal advisory, and engineering firms.

The requested WIFIA program fee expenditure authority would be in addition to the \$8 million request for administrative and operations expenses. Fee revenue does not take the place of the request for WIFIA administration. The appropriated administrative level and the anticipated fee revenue are both needed to successfully implement the WIFIA Program. In FY 2025, EPA estimates that \$10 million in WIFIA fees could be collected.

Eliminated Programs

Eliminated Program Projects¹⁴

Water Quality Research and Support Grants (also referred to as Congressional Priorities)

(FY 2025 President's Budget: \$0.0, 0.0 FTE)

This program is proposed for elimination in the FY 2025 President's Budget. Work to advance water quality protection can be accomplished within core statutory programs funded in the Budget request. This program focuses on water quality and water availability research, the development and application of water quality criteria, the implementation of watershed management approaches, and the application of technological options to restore and protect water bodies. For training and technical assistance aspects of the Program, states have the ability to develop technical assistance plans for their water systems using Public Water System Supervision funds and set-asides from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). For research and development components of the Program, EPA was instructed by Congress to award grants on a competitive basis, independent of the Science to Achieve Results (STAR) program and give priority to not-for-profit organizations that: conduct activities that are national in scope; can provide a twenty-five percent match, including in-kind contributions; and often partner with the Agency. In addition, this program was directed by Congress to work with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to invest in agronomic research to better understand PFAS uptake into plants and animals to help reduce PFAS exposure in our food supply farm viability. It also includes a number of Congressional Directed Spending grants.

Infrastructure Assistance: Clean Water Congressionally Directed Spending

(FY 2025 President's Budget: \$0.0, 0.0 FTE)

This program is proposed for elimination in the FY 2025 Budget. The purpose of this Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) is to provide grants to specific communities to work on specific clean water infrastructure projects. Congress has set aside funding from the State Revolving Funds (SRFs) to fund these CDS projects, which do not move through the SRFs, and do not recycle to facilitate future projects. Grants and work provided by this program can be accomplished with the restoration of funding for non-CDS projects within the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF).

Infrastructure Assistance: Drinking Water Congressionally Directed Spending

(FY 2025 President's Budget: \$0.0, 0.0 FTE)

This program is proposed for elimination in the FY 2025 Budget. The purpose of this CDS is to provide grants to specific communities to work on specific drinking water infrastructure projects. Congress has set aside funding from the State Revolving Funds (SRFs) to fund these CDS projects, which do not move through the SRFs, and do not recycle to facilitate future projects. Grants and work provided by this program can be accomplished with the restoration of funding for non-CDS projects within the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF).

¹⁴ Although not eliminated, funding for Superfund Enforcement, Remedial and Emergency Response and Removal programs is proposed to be transitioned from annual appropriations to Superfund Tax receipts in FY 2025. Work will continue and FTE will be funded through the tax receipts as reimbursable FTE and included in the annual FTE count.

Expected Benefits of E-Government Initiatives

Budget Formulation and Execution Line of Business

The Budget Formulation and Execution Line of Business (BFELoB) allows EPA and other agencies to access budget-related benefits and services. The Agency has the option to implement LoB-sponsored tools, training, and services.

EPA has benefited from the BFELoB by sharing valuable information on how systems and software being developed by the LoB have enhanced work processes. This effort has created a government-only capability for electronic collaboration (Wiki) in which the Budget Community website allows EPA to share budget information internally, with OMB, and with other federal agencies. The Agency also made contributions to the Human Capital Workgroup, participating in development of online training modules for budget activities – a valuable resource to all agency budget staff. The LoB has developed the capability to have secure, virtual online meetings where participants can view budget-related presentations from their workspace and participate in the discussion through a conference line. The LoB provides regularly scheduled symposia as an additional forum for EPA budget employees.

Fiscal Year	Account Code	EPA Contribution (in thousands)
2023	020-99-99-99-99-3200-24	\$120.0
2024	020-99-99-99-99-3200-24	\$125.0
2025	020-99-99-99-99-3200-24	\$130.0

eRulemaking

The eRulemaking Line of Business is designed to: enhance public access and participation in the regulatory process through electronic systems; reduce the burden on citizens and businesses in finding relevant regulations and commenting on proposed rulemaking actions; consolidate redundant docket systems; and improve agency regulatory processes and the timeliness of regulatory decisions. EPA has served as the managing partner for this Line of Business; however, in FY 2020, EPA transferred management services to the General Services Administration (GSA). EPA continues to be involved as a partner agency.

Fiscal Year	Account Code	EPA Service Fee (in thousands)
2023	020-99-99-99-99-0060-24	\$1,380.0
2024	020-99-99-99-99-0060-24	\$1,145.0
2025	020-99-99-99-99-0060-24	\$1,470.0

Federal Audit Clearinghouse

In FY 2024, the Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC) will transition from the U.S. Census Bureau to the General Services Administration and has been added to the E-Gov and LoB initiatives. This LoB supports the ongoing maintenance and modernization of the FAC. The FAC distributes single audit reporting packages to federal agencies, supports OMB oversight and assessment of federal award audit requirements, and maintains a public database of completed audits.¹⁵

Fiscal Year	Account Code	EPA Contribution (in thousands)
2023		
2024	020-99-99-99-99-1400-24	\$65.0
2025	020-99-99-99-99-1400-24	\$77.0

Federal Human Resources Line of Business

OPM's Human Resources Line of Business (HR LoB) provides the federal government the infrastructure to support pay-for-performance systems, modernized HR systems, and the core functionality necessary for the strategic management of human capital. The HR LoB offers common solutions that enable federal departments and agencies to work more effectively, and to provide managers and executives across the federal government an improved means to meet strategic objectives. EPA will benefit by supporting an effective program management activity which evaluates provider performance, customer satisfaction, and compliance with program goals.

Fiscal Year	Account Code	EPA Contribution (in thousands)
2023	020-00-01-16-04-1200-24	\$69.0
2024	020-00-01-16-04-1200-24	\$69.0
2025	020-00-01-16-04-1200-24	\$69.0

Federal PKI Bridge

Federal Public Key Infrastructure (FPKI) provides the government with a common infrastructure to administer digital certificates and public-private key pairs, including the ability to issue, maintain, and revoke public key certificates. FPKI leverages a security technique called Public Key Cryptography to authenticate users and data, protect the integrity of transmitted data, and ensure non-repudiation and confidentiality.

Fiscal Year	Account Code	EPA Contribution (in thousands)
2023	020-99-99-99-99-0090-24	\$46.0
2024	020-99-99-99-99-0090-24	\$55.0
2025	020-99-99-99-99-0090-24	\$49.0

¹⁵ For additional information, please refer to: <https://facweb.census.gov/uploadpdf.aspx>.

Financial Management Line of Business

The Financial Management Line of Business (FM LoB) is a multi-agency effort whose goals include achieving process improvements and cost savings in the acquisition, development, implementation, and operation of financial management systems. By incorporating the same FM LoB-standard processes as those used by central agency systems, interfaces among financial systems are streamlined, and the quality of information available for decision-making is improved.

Fiscal Year	Account Code	EPA Contribution (in thousands)
2023	020-00-01-01-04-1100-24	\$96.0
2024	020-00-01-01-04-1100-24	\$96.0
2025	020-00-01-01-04-1100-24	\$96.0

Freedom of Information Act Portal

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Improvement Act of 2016 directed the Office of Management and Budget and Department of Justice to build a consolidated online request portal that allows a member of the public to submit a request for records to any agency from a single website. DOJ is managing the development and maintenance of this National FOIA Portal. EPA and other federal agencies were requested to contribute to this effort.

Fiscal Year	Account Code	EPA Contribution (in thousands)
2023	020-99-99-99-99-0099-24	\$36.0
2024	020-99-99-99-99-0099-24	\$35.0
2025	020-99-99-99-99-0099-24	\$37.0

Geospatial Line of Business

The Geospatial Line of Business, an intergovernmental project managed by the Department of the Interior, serves to improve the ability of the public and government to use geospatial information to support the business of government and facilitate decision-making. The intent of the initiative is to reduce costs and improve agency operations in several areas. This line of business is the mechanism for coordinating implementation of the Geospatial Data Act and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance on Coordination of Geographic Information and Related Spatial Data Activities and the National Geospatial Platform. The National Geospatial Platform incorporates many national geospatial data and analytical services for federal agencies, their partners, and stakeholders.

A primary benefit to EPA in participating in and contributing to the line of business is access to geospatial data sets known as National Geospatial Data Assets (NDGA) supported by multiple agencies. These datasets and services are easily accessible by federal agencies, their partners, and stakeholders. EPA uses the National Geospatial Platform to obtain data and services for internal

analytical purposes as well as to publish outward-facing geospatial capabilities to the public. EPA is expected to contribute to the operation of the National Geospatial Platform in FY 2025. The intent is to reduce base costs by providing an opportunity for EPA and other agencies to share approaches on procurement consolidation and include shared services for hosting geospatial data, services, and applications.

Fiscal Year	Account Code	EPA Contribution (in thousands)
2023	020-99-99-99-99-3100-24	\$225.0
2024	020-99-99-99-99-3100-24	\$225.0
2025	020-99-99-99-99-3100-24	\$225.0

Grants.gov

The Grants.gov initiative benefits EPA and its grant programs by providing a single location to publish grant opportunities and application packages, and by providing a single site for the grants community to apply for grants using common forms, processes, and systems. EPA believes that the central site raises the visibility of its grant opportunities to a wider diversity of applicants.

The grants community benefits from savings in postal costs, paper, and envelopes. Applicants save time in searching for agency grant opportunities and in learning the application systems of various agencies. In order to streamline the application process, EPA offers Grants.gov application packages for mandatory state grants (i.e., Continuing Environmental Program Grants).

Fiscal Year	Account Code	EPA Contribution (in thousands)
2023	020-00-04-00-04-0160-24	\$262.0
2024	020-00-04-00-04-0160-24	\$259.0
2025	020-00-04-00-04-0160-24	\$276.0

Integrated Award Environment

The Integrated Award Environment (IAE) is comprised of a number of government-wide automated applications and/or databases that streamline the acquisition business process across the government and support EPA’s contracting and grants programs. In FY 2012, GSA began the process of consolidating the systems into one central repository called the System for Award Management (SAM). Until the consolidation is complete, EPA leverages some IAE systems via electronic linkages to EPA’s Acquisition System (EAS); other IAE systems are not linked directly to EAS but benefit the Agency’s contracting staff and vendor community as stand-alone resources.

EAS uses SAM vendor data: contracting officers can download vendor-provided representation and certification information electronically via SAM, which allows vendors to submit this information once rather than separately for every contract proposal. Additionally, contracting officers access the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System, which contains records on contractor performance, including past performance evaluations, and suspensions and debarments.

Through the IAE, contracting officers also can review Wage Determinations to obtain information required under the Service Contract Act and the Davis-Bacon Act. EAS links to the Federal Procurement Data System (FPDS) and SAM.gov, which includes the Contract Opportunities platform, for submission of contract actions at the time of award. FPDS provides public access to government-wide contract information. The Electronic Subcontracting Reporting System supports vendor subcontracting data submission for contracts identified as requiring this information. EPA publishes notices of proposed contract actions expected to exceed \$25 thousand to the Contract Opportunities listing. Vendors use this publicly available information to identify business opportunities in federal contracting.

The IAE houses Assistance Listings (formerly called Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA), which provides a comprehensive description of all federal assistance including information on eligibility, how to apply, and matching requirements for public consumption. Further, EPA’s IAE fee supports use of services for standardized obligations and award-related information reporting for all Federal financial assistance and procurement awards as required by the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) and the DATA Act of 2014.

Fiscal Year	Account Code	EPA Contribution (in thousands)
2023	020-00-01-16-04-0230-24	\$720.0
2024	020-00-01-16-04-0230-24	\$650.0
2025	020-00-01-16-04-0230-24	\$520.0

Performance Management Line of Business

Beginning in FY 2025, EPA will contribute to the Performance Management LoB which provides government-wide performance management capabilities to help meet the transparency requirements of the Government Performance and Results Modernization Act of 2010 (GPRAMA). The Performance Management LoB also supports government-wide performance management efforts from data collection and governance to internal and external reporting.

Fiscal Year	Account Code	EPA Contribution (in thousands)
2023		
2024		
2025	020-00-01-16-04-0900-24	\$100.0

FY 2025 Administrator's Priorities

Funding for the Administrator's priorities are allocated by program project in the FY 2025 President's Budget with a total of \$2.375 million in the Environmental and Program Management Account and \$125 thousand in the Science and Technology Account.

These funds, which are set aside for the Administrator's priorities, are used to address unforeseen issues that may arise during the year. These funds are used by the Administrator to support critical unplanned issues and the amounts shown in the below table will be reallocated as needed, in accordance with reprogramming limits.

FY 2025 President's Budget Funding for Administrator's Priorities

Appropriation	Program Project	Dollars in Thousands
EPM	Acquisition Management	\$150
EPM	Brownfields	\$25
EPM	Civil Enforcement	\$150
EPM	Civil Rights / Title VI Compliance	\$75
EPM	Compliance Monitoring	\$100
EPM	Criminal Enforcement	\$145
EPM	Drinking Water Programs	\$100
EPM	Exchange Network	\$75
EPM	Federal Stationary Source Regulations	\$100
EPM	Federal Support for Air Quality Management	\$130
EPM	Human Resources Management	\$25
EPM	International Sources of Pollution	\$50
EPM	IT / Data Management	\$175
EPM	Legal Advice: Environmental Program	\$100
EPM	Legal Advice: Support Program	\$75
EPM	NEPA Implementation	\$100
EPM	Pesticides: Protect Human Health from Pesticide Risk	\$150
EPM	Pesticides: Protect the Environment from Pesticide Risk	\$150
EPM	Pesticides: Realize the Value of Pesticide Availability	\$100
EPM	RCRA: Waste Management	\$25
EPM	Science Advisory Board	\$100
EPM	State and Local Prevention and Preparedness	\$100
EPM	Surface Water Protection	\$50
EPM	TRI / Right to Know	\$75
EPM	Tribal - Capacity Building	\$50
S&T	Federal Support for Air Quality Management	\$25
S&T	Research: Air, Climate and Energy	\$50
S&T	Research: Chemical Safety and Sustainability	\$50
Total		\$2,500

EPA Consolidations, Reorganizations, Realignment, or Other Transfer of Resources

Office of the Administrator

In FY 2023, the Office of the Administrator (OA) submitted a reorganization proposal to strengthen internal operations and programs to enhance and streamline its mission support functions; improve products and services to its customers, partners, and stakeholders; and better align resources with Administration priorities. The reorganization also realigns functions to balance workload across OA, eliminate organizational layers, and consolidate similar or duplicative functions to better leverage personnel and resources. This reorganization does not affect any other EPA program office or regional office. OA anticipates completing the reorganization in FY 2024.

Office of Air and Radiation

In FY 2023, the Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) submitted a proposal to reorganize the Office of Atmospheric Protection and the Office of Transportation and Air Quality to better align with its workload and missions. The Office of Atmospheric Protection (OAP) reorganized three organizational units: the Climate Change Division (CCD), the Climate Protection Partnership Division (CPPD) and the Clean Air Markets Division (CAMD). The reorganization creates new units in these three divisions to distribute existing and new functions more efficiently. In addition, the title of CAMD is changing to the Clean Air and Power Division (CAPD). The Office of Transportation and Air Quality (OTAQ) reorganized three organizational units: the Assessment & Standards Division, the Compliance Division (CD), and the Transportation and Climate Division (TCD). The reorganization consolidates and realigns work across OTAQ to better distribute existing work and manage the increased programmatic and budget responsibilities under the Inflation Reduction Act. This reorganization does not affect any other EPA program office or regional office. OAR anticipates completing the reorganization in FY 2024.

Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

In FY 2023, the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP) submitted a proposal to reorganize the Risk Assessment Branch 8 (RAB 8) in the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP)'s Health Effects Division (HED). RAB 8, although technically housed in HED, is a dynamic branch that supports the science needs across the entire OPP, working on multiple high-level projects dealing with emerging science and risk assessment issues. The branch provides scientific support to all divisions in OPP for areas where they may currently lack expertise (e.g., data analytics, Structure-Activity Relationship and other predictive methods, physiologically-based pharmacokinetic modeling, New Approach Methods, etc.). To increase efficiency and maximize the FTE allocation, OCSPP plans to dissolve the structure of RAB 8 and move those staff under the direct supervision of the divisions under which they currently work. Divisions propose to receive staff to include the Environmental Fate and Effects Division (EFED), the Biological and Economic Analysis Division (BEAD), the Antimicrobials Division (AD), the Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division (BPPD), and the Registration Division (RD). This reorganization does not to affect any other EPA program office or regional office. OCSPP anticipates completing the reorganization in FY 2024.

Office of the Chief Financial Officer

In FY 2024, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) plans to submit a reorganization proposal to address important new legislation and mandates and formalize existing ones (Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018, updates to OMB Circulars A-11 and A-123, and others); improve efficiency by consolidating and aligning related functions; better explain the work of OCFO organizational units in the Agency's official functional statements; promote operational efficiency and balance workload by flattening and streamlining OCFO's organizational structure; and rename organizational units for greater clarity and to comply with requirements for agency Human Resources systems and reporting.

Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights

In September 2022, EPA established a new national program manager, the Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights (OEJECR) to: bolster the integration of EJ considerations, conflict mitigation and collaboration, and civil rights compliance across all EPA policies, programs, and activities; support the efforts of regulatory partners to similarly integrate EJ and fully comply with civil rights requirements; and enhance EPA's ability to meaningfully engage with and directly support communities with EJ and civil rights concerns. This change reflects and helps to bolster EPA efforts to fully achieve the many commitments in the *FY 2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan, Goal 2, Take Decisive Action to Advance Environmental Justice and Civil Rights*, which similarly elevates EJ and external civil rights compliance priorities.

In FY 2023, EPA submitted a reorganization proposal to ensure OEJECR can most effectively meet its commitments and critical mission functions in an efficient manner by establishing an Environmental Justice, Community Health, and Environmental Review Division (EJCHERD) in each regional office. The Regional EJCHERD is to manage regional implementation of the environmental justice program and coordination of the external civil rights program. Other core functions include managing regional National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), children's health, and environmental education programs. This alignment of national and regional program management functions supports effective and efficient delivery of new and expanded programs. It also supports more effective joint planning and coordination with tribal, state, and local partners in program delivery. This reorganization does not affect any other EPA program office or regional office.

In addition to the regional reorganizations, OEJECR plans to implement an additional minor reorganization in its Headquarter office in FY 2024. The primary impetus for this reorganization is to accommodate the additional structural and supervisory needs of the national program brought about by the introduction of numerous term-limited positions to implement the Environmental and Climate Justice Block Grants funded by the Inflation Reduction Act, as well as to make minor adjustments based upon the national program's first year of operations. This proposed reorganization does not affect any other EPA program office. OEJECR anticipates completing the reorganization in FY 2024.

FY 2025 Environmental Justice Estimated Program Budget¹
Dollars in Thousands

Appropriation	Program Activities	FY 2025 PB Resources²	FY 2025 PB FTE³
EPM	HQ Environmental Justice (EJ) Program Management and Coordination ⁴	\$108,500.0	107.8
EPM	EJSCREEN and Information Tools	\$10,900.0	
EPM	White House (WH) EJ Inter-Agency Council (formerly EJ IWG) Support and EJ coordination with Other Federal Agencies	\$3,000.0	
EPM	National EJ Advisory Council/WHEJ Advisory Council Support, and Climate EJ Advisory Council	\$4,000.0	
EPM	Environmental Justice Community Grant Program ^{5,6}	\$33,000.0	
EPM	Environmental Justice Government to Government Grant Program ⁷	\$31,500.0	
EPM	Community-based Participatory Research Grant Program	\$15,000.0	
EPM	Environmental Justice Training Program	\$3,000.0	
EPM	Environmental Justice Clearinghouse	\$5,000.0	
EPM	Environmental Justice Legal Support	\$3,837.0	
EPM	Thriving Community Technical Assistance Centers ⁸	\$69,715.0	
EPM	Regional Resources for Environmental Justice Program	\$30,260.0	
<i>Subtotal of EPM EJ Resources and FTE</i>		<i>\$317,712.0</i>	<i>259.1</i>
Superfund	Superfund Environmental Justice Program Coordination ⁹	\$5,901.0	5.5
<i>Subtotal of Superfund EJ Resources and FTE</i>		<i>\$5,901.0</i>	<i>5.5</i>
TOTAL		\$323,613.0	264.6
¹ The Explanatory Statement accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 instructs EPA to provide "allocations for each component of funding for environmental justice programs". Please see page 228: https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CREC-2020-12-21/pdf/CREC-2020-12-21-house-bk4.pdf .			
² Estimated program activity resources include both payroll and non-payroll resources.			
³ Estimated FTE per program activity.			
⁴ The former Agency Technical Assistance, Research, Training, Education, and Communication program activity has been incorporated into the HQ Environmental Justice (EJ) Program Management and Coordination program activity.			
⁵ In FY 2022, The Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Grants Program was renamed as the Environmental Justice Competitive Grant Program. The Environmental Justice Small Grants Program was renamed as the Environmental Justice Community Grant Program.			
⁶ In FY 2023, EPA combined the Environmental Justice Competitive Grant Program with the Environmental Justice Community Grant Program.			
⁷ In FY 2023, EPA renamed the State, Tribes, and Territories Environmental Justice Grants to the Environmental Justice Government to Government Grants.			
⁸ In FY 2023, EPA renamed the Regional Outreach Centers to the Thriving Community Technical Assistance Centers (TCTACs).			
⁹ The Superfund Environmental Justice Program Coordination includes resources in support of the Agency's Superfund Program and will include the following: coordination and support for HQ activities that align with or focus on Superfund issues such as: efforts of the NEJAC Superfund working group, collaboration with Superfund on data enhancements for EJScreen and other information tools, collaboration of EJ program staff with the Superfund Program on equity and justice efforts, and coordination of regional staff with Superfund staff and Community Involvement Coordinators on place-based EJ and Superfund issues of clean-up, risk communication, engagement, and revitalization.			

**FY 2025 STAG Categorical Program Grants
Statutory Authority and Eligible Uses
(Dollars in Thousands)**

Grant Title	Statutory Authorities	Eligible Recipients	Eligible Uses	FY 2023 Operating Plan Dollars (X1000)	FY 2024 Annualized CR Dollars (X1000)	FY 2025 President's Budget Dollars (X1000)
State and Local Air Quality Management	CAA, Section 103	Air pollution control agencies as defined in Section 302(b) of the CAA	S/L monitoring and data collection activities in support of the PM _{2.5} monitoring network and associated program costs.	\$43,875.0	\$43,875.0	\$75,000.0
State and Local Air Quality Management	CAA, Section 103	Air pollution control agencies as defined in Section 302(b) of the CAA	S/L monitoring and data collection activities in support of air toxics monitoring.	\$8,300.0	\$8,300.0	\$20,000.0
State and Local Air Quality Management	CAA, Section 103	Air pollution control agencies as defined in Section 302(b) of the CAA	S/L monitoring procurement activities in support of the NAAQS.	\$4,970.0	\$4,970.0	\$7,000.0

Grant Title	Statutory Authorities	Eligible Recipients	Eligible Uses	FY 2023 Operating Plan Dollars (X1000)	FY 2024 Annualized CR Dollars (X1000)	FY 2025 President's Budget Dollars (X1000)
Tribal Air Quality Management	CAA, Sections 103 and 105; Tribal Cooperative Agreements (TCA) in annual Appropriations Acts.	Tribes; Intertribal Consortia; State/Tribal College or University	Conducting air quality assessment activities to determine a tribe's need to develop a CAA program; Carrying out the traditional prevention and control programs required by the CAA and associated program costs; Supporting CAA training for federally- recognized tribes.	\$11,415.0	\$11,415.0	\$18,126.0
				Section 103 grants	Section 103 grants	Section 103 grants
				\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0
				Section 105 grants	Section 105 grants	Section 105 grants
				Total:	Total:	Total:
				\$16,415.0	\$16,415.0	\$23,126.0
Radon	TSCA, Sections 10 and 306.	State Agencies, Tribes, Intertribal Consortia	Assist in the development and implementation of programs for the assessment and mitigation of radon.	\$10,995.0	\$10,995.0	\$12,487.0
Multipurpose Grants	Annual Appropriations Acts; all other major environmental legislation including, but not limited to, CAA, CWA, SDWA, and CERCLA.	State Agencies, Tribes	Implementation of mandatory statutory duties delegated by EPA under pertinent environmental laws.	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$10,200.0

Grant Title	Statutory Authorities	Eligible Recipients	Eligible Uses	FY 2023 Operating Plan Dollars (X1000)	FY 2024 Annualized CR Dollars (X1000)	FY 2025 President's Budget Dollars (X1000)
Water Pollution Control (Section 106)	FWPCA, as amended, Section 106; TCA in annual Appropriations Acts.	States, Tribes, Intertribal Consortia, Interstate Agencies	Develop and carry out surface and ground water pollution control programs, including NPDES permits, TMDLs, WQ standards, monitoring, and NPS control activities.	\$237,000.0	\$237,000.0	\$288,720.0
Nonpoint Source (NPS – Section 319)	FWPCA, as amended, Section 319(h); TCA in annual Appropriations Acts.	States, Tribes, Intertribal Consortia	Implement EPA-approved state and tribal nonpoint source management programs and fund projects as selected by the state.	\$182,000.0	\$182,000.0	\$188,999.0
Wetlands Program Development	FWPCA, as amended, Section 104 (b)(3); TCA in annual Appropriations Acts.	States, Local Governments, Tribes, Interstate Organizations, Intertribal Consortia, Non-Profit Organizations	To develop new wetland programs or enhance and/or expand existing programs for the protection, management, and restoration of wetland resources.	\$14,692.0	\$14,692.0	\$22,000.0
Public Water System Supervision (PWSS)	SDWA, Section 1443(a); TCA in annual Appropriations Acts.	States, Tribes, Intertribal Consortia	Assistance to implement and enforce National Primary Drinking Water Regulations to ensure the safety of the Nation's drinking water resources and to protect public health.	\$121,500.0	\$121,500.0	\$132,566.0
Underground Injection Control (UIC)	SDWA, Section 1443(b); TCA in annual Appropriations Acts.	States, Tribes, Intertribal Consortia	Implement and enforce regulations that protect underground sources of drinking water by controlling Class I-V underground injection wells.	\$13,164.0	\$13,164.0	\$11,387.0
Beaches Protection	BEACH Act of 2000; TCA in annual Appropriations Acts.	States, Tribes, Intertribal Consortia, Local Governments	Develop and implement programs for monitoring and notification of conditions for coastal recreation waters adjacent to beaches or similar points of access that are used by the public.	\$10,619.0	\$10,619.0	\$9,811.0

Grant Title	Statutory Authorities	Eligible Recipients	Eligible Uses	FY 2023 Operating Plan Dollars (X1000)	FY 2024 Annualized CR Dollars (X1000)	FY 2025 President's Budget Dollars (X1000)
Resource Recovery and Hazardous Waste Grants	Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act § 3011; Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141).	States, Tribes, Intertribal Consortia	Develop and implement solid and hazardous waste programs.	\$105,000.0	\$105,000.0	\$108,247.0
Brownfields	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA § 128(a)).	States, Tribes, Intertribal Consortia	Establish and enhance state and tribal response programs which will survey and inventory brownfields sites; develop oversight and enforcement authorities to ensure response actions are protective of human health and the environment; develop ways for communities to provide meaningful opportunities for public participation; and develop mechanisms for approval of a cleanup plan and verification and certification that cleanup is complete.	\$47,195.0	\$47,195.0	\$53,954.0
Underground Storage Tanks (UST)	Solid Waste Disposal Act of 1976, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, § 2007(f); Energy Policy Act, § 9011.	States	Provide funding for States' underground storage tanks and to support direct UST implementation programs.	\$1,505.0	\$1,505.0	\$1,505.0

Grant Title	Statutory Authorities	Eligible Recipients	Eligible Uses	FY 2023 Operating Plan Dollars (X1000)	FY 2024 Annualized CR Dollars (X1000)	FY 2025 President's Budget Dollars (X1000)
Pesticides Program Implementation	FIFRA, Sections 23(a)(1); Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA); Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA); Endangered Species Act (ESA).	States, Tribes, Intertribal Consortia	Implement the following programs through grants to States, tribes, partners, and supporters for implementation of pesticide programs, including: Certification and Training (C&T); Worker Protection; Endangered Species Protection Program (ESPP) Field Activities; Pesticides in Water; and Tribal Programs.	\$12,683.0 – States formula <hr/> \$1,344.0 HQ Programs: - Tribal: \$865.0 - PREP: \$285.0 - AAPCO: \$165.0 -Regions: \$29.0 <hr/> Total: \$14,027.0	\$12,759.0 – States formula <hr/> \$1,268.0 HQ Programs: - Tribal: \$818.0 - PREP: \$285.0 - AAPCO: \$165.0 <hr/> Total: \$14,027.0	\$12,759.0 – States formula <hr/> \$1,268.0 HQ Programs: - Tribal: \$818.0 - PREP: \$285.0 - AAPCO: \$165.0 <hr/> Total: \$14,027.0

Grant Title	Statutory Authorities	Eligible Recipients	Eligible Uses	FY 2023 Operating Plan Dollars (X1000)	FY 2024 Annualized CR Dollars (X1000)	FY 2025 President's Budget Dollars (X1000)
Lead	TSCA, Sections 401-412.	States, Tribes, Intertribal Consortia	Aid states, territories, the District of Columbia, and tribes to develop and implement authorized lead-based paint abatement programs and authorized Renovation, Repair, and Painting (RRP) programs. EPA directly implements these programs in all areas of the country that are not authorized to do so and will continue to operate the Federal Lead-based Paint Program Database (FLPP) of trained and certified lead-based paint professionals.	<p>\$12,301.0</p> <p>404(g) State/Tribal Certification</p> <hr/> <p>\$4,025.0</p> <p>404(g) Direct Implementation</p> <p>Total: \$16,326.0</p>	<p>\$12,301.0</p> <p>404(g) State/Tribal Certification</p> <hr/> <p>\$4,025.0</p> <p>404(g) Direct Implementation</p> <p>Total: \$16,326.0</p>	<p>\$22,653.0</p> <p>404(g) State/Tribal Certification</p> <hr/> <p>\$1,986.0</p> <p>404(g) Direct Implementation</p> <p>Total: \$24,639.0</p>
Toxics Substances Compliance	Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) § 28(a) and 404(g); TCA in annual Appropriations Acts.	States, Federally Recognized Indian Tribes, Intertribal Consortia, and Territories of the U.S.	Assist in developing, maintaining, and implementing compliance monitoring programs for PCBs, asbestos, and Lead Based Paint. In addition, enforcement actions by 1) the Lead Based Paint program and 2) States that obtained a "waiver" under the Asbestos program.	\$5,010.0	\$5,010.0	\$6,877.0
Pesticides Enforcement	FIFRA § 23(a)(1); TCA in annual Appropriations Acts.	States, Federally Recognized Indian Tribes, Intertribal Consortia, and Territories of the U.S.	Assist with implementation of cooperative pesticide enforcement programs.	\$25,580.0	\$25,580.0	\$25,580.0

Grant Title	Statutory Authorities	Eligible Recipients	Eligible Uses	FY 2023 Operating Plan Dollars (X1000)	FY 2024 Annualized CR Dollars (X1000)	FY 2025 President's Budget Dollars (X1000)
Pollution Prevention	Pollution Prevention Act of 1990, Section 6605; TSCA Section 10; FY 2000 Appropriations Act (P.L. 106-74); TCA in annual Appropriations Acts.	States, Tribes, Intertribal Consortia	Provides assistance to States and State entities (<i>i.e.</i> , colleges and universities) and federally-recognized tribes and intertribal consortia to deliver pollution prevention technical assistance to small and medium-sized businesses. A goal of the Program is to assist businesses and industries with identifying improved environmental strategies and solutions for reducing waste at the source.	\$4,973.0	\$4,973.0	\$5,755.0
Tribal General Assistance Program	Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Act (42 U.S.C. § 4368b); TCA in annual Appropriations Acts.	Tribal Governments, Intertribal Consortia	Plan and develop tribal environmental protection programs.	\$74,750.0	\$85,009.0	\$85,009.0
Direct Implementation Tribal Cooperative Agreements (DITCA)	DITCAs were initially authorized in the FY 2001 Appropriations Act (Pub. L. No. 107-73, 115 Stat. 686 (2001)) and have been authorized on an annual basis every fiscal year since then.	Tribal Governments participation in EPA direct implementation activities that respect tribes' interest in determining the scope of tribal involvement and provide tribes the opportunity to undertake these activities to support for future delegations, authorizations, and approvals of EPA authorities.	Respects tribes' interest in determining the scope and pace of tribal involvement. Provides tribes the opportunity to "test" their capacity to undertake these activities for potential applications for delegation, authorization, or approval of EPA authorities in the future. Of the total amount, \$13 million will be available to address/focus on climate-related concerns.	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$25,000.0

Grant Title	Statutory Authorities	Eligible Recipients	Eligible Uses	FY 2023 Operating Plan Dollars (X1000)	FY 2024 Annualized CR Dollars (X1000)	FY 2025 President's Budget Dollars (X1000)
National Environmental Information Exchange Network (NEIEN, aka "the Exchange Network")	Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1970, 84 Stat. 2086, as amended by Pub. L. 98-80, 97 Stat. 485 (codified at Title 5, App.) (EPA's organic statute).	States, U.S. Territories, Federally Recognized Tribes and Native Villages, Interstate Agencies, Tribal Consortia, Other Agencies with Related Environmental Information Activities.	Helps States, U.S. Territories, tribes, and intertribal consortia develop the information management and technology (IM/IT) capabilities they need to participate in the Exchange Network, to continue and expand data-sharing programs, and to improve access to environmental information.	\$10,836.0	\$10,836.0	\$15,000.0

**Making Litigation Costs Transparent – Equal Access for Justice Act (EAJA)¹⁶
FY 2023**

Date of final fee agreement or court disposition	Case Name	Court	Case Number	Judge	Amount of Fees and/or Costs Paid	Source of Funds	Was amount negotiated or court ordered?	Recipients	Nature of Case and Findings Basis	Hourly Rate of Attorney¹⁷	Hourly Rate of Expert Witness
11/14/2022	<i>Earth Island Institute, et al. v. Wheeler, et al.</i>	<i>United States District Court for the Northern District of California San Francisco Division</i>	3:20-cv-00670-WHO (N.D. Cal.)	William H. Orrick	\$92,934	EPA Appropriations	Negotiated	Center for Biological Diversity; Environmental Law Clinic, UC Berkeley School of Law	CWA 505 claim for failure to perform non-discretionary duty under CWA 311(d) to update National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan; APA claim for unreasonable delay in taking action on petition for rulemaking and proposed rule regarding revisions to the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan.	N/A	None
12/21/2022	<i>Center for Food Safety v. EPA</i>	<i>United States District Court for the Northern District of California San Francisco Division</i>	3:21-cv-9640-JSC (N.D. Cal.)	Jacqueline Scott Corley	\$12,539	EPA Appropriations	Negotiated	Center for Food Safety	APA claim of unreasonable delay in responding to petition filed in 2017 requesting amendment to treated article exemption for treated seeds.	N/A	None
03/28/2023	<i>National Family Farm Coalition, et al. v. EPA, et al.</i>	<i>United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit</i>	19-70115 (9th Cir.)	Michael Daly Hawkins, M. Margaret McKeown, William A. Fletcher	\$675,000	EPA Appropriations	Negotiated	Center for Food Safety	Challenge under FIFRA and the Endangered Species Act to EPA's 2018 amendment of registration for use in 34 states of the herbicide dicamba on cotton and soybean that have been genetically engineered to resist dicamba.	N/A	None

¹⁶ In the FY 2019 Explanatory Statement accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (P.L. 116-6), the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations requested Department of Interior, EPA, and the Forest Service make publicly available the EAJA fee information as specified in the explanatory statement accompanying Division G of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (P.L. 115-31).

¹⁷ In prior reports EPA had erroneously included hourly rates used in the plaintiff's fee requests. Upon further review, as the final Equal Access to Justice Act settlements are negotiated, it is not possible to provide the hourly rates reflected in the actual amounts paid.

Date of final fee agreement or court disposition	Case Name	Court	Case Number	Judge	Amount of Fees and/or Costs Paid	Source of Funds	Was amount negotiated or court ordered?	Recipients	Nature of Case and Findings Basis	Hourly Rate of Attorney¹⁷	Hourly Rate of Expert Witness
03/10/2023	<i>Center for Biological Diversity, et al. v. EPA, et al.</i>	<i>United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit</i>	20-73146 (9th Cir.)	Ryan Nelson, Kenneth Lee, Jed Rakoff	\$175,000	EPA Appropriations	Negotiated	Center for Biological Diversity; Center for Food Safety	Challenge under FIFRA and the Endangered Species Act to EPA's 2020 approval of registrations for products contain the new active ingredient inpyrfluxam.	N/A	None
11/14/2022	<i>Northwest Environmental Advocates v. EPA</i>	<i>United States District Court for the Western District of Washington Seattle Division</i>	2:20-cv-1362-MJP (W.D. Wash.)	Marsha J. Pechman	\$193,320	EPA Appropriations	Negotiated	Earthrise Law Center	APA claims alleging EPA's denial of a rulemaking petition to promulgate aquatic life criteria for the state of Washington was arbitrary and capricious.	N/A	None
03/10/2023	<i>Rural Coalition, et al. v. EPA, et al.</i>	<i>United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit</i>	20-70787 & 20-70801 (9th Cir.)	J. Clifford Wallace, Danny J. Boggs, Michelle T. Friedland	\$260,000	EPA Appropriations	Negotiated	Center for Food Safety	Challenge under FIFRA and the Endangered Species Act to EPA's 2020 Interim Registration Review Decision for glyphosate.	N/A	None

**Office of Enforcement Compliance Assurance Travel by Program Project
FY 2019 – FY 2025***

Appr.	Program Project	FY 2019		FY 2020		FY 2021		FY 2022		FY 2023		FY 2024	FY 2025
		Enacted	Actuals **	Enacted*	Actuals **	Annualized CR***	Pres Bud****						
EPM													
	43 - Brownfields	\$16.0	\$4.2	\$16.0	\$18.2	\$3.0	\$0.0	\$3.0	\$2.3	\$3.0	\$3.3	\$3.0	\$12.0
	44 - Civil Enforcement	\$2,216.0	\$1,942.2	\$2,197.0	\$886.2	\$742.0	\$602.0	\$742.0	\$1,230.7	\$2,932.0	\$2,637.5	\$2,932.0	\$3,236.0
	50 - Compliance Monitoring	\$1,529.0	\$1,397.2	\$1,516.0	\$694.8	\$567.0	\$301.0	\$582.0	\$658.0	\$835.0	\$1,217.5	\$835.0	\$2,336.0
	52 - Criminal Enforcement	\$1,522.0	\$1,458.1	\$1,522.0	\$748.4	\$548.0	\$467.0	\$548.0	\$606.0	\$1,518.0	\$1,381.8	\$1,518.0	\$1,690.0
	57 - Environmental Justice	\$0.0	\$5.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$4.0	\$148.2	\$4.0	\$248.9	\$4.0	\$0.0
	63 - Geographic Program: Chesapeake Bay	\$20.0	\$24.0	\$20.0	\$6.9	\$20.0	\$9.0	\$20.0	\$18.4	\$20.0	\$23.8	\$20.0	\$20.0
	90 - NEPA Implementation	\$0.0	\$70.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
	F2 - Facilities Infrastructure and Operations	\$238.0	\$234.5	\$238.0	\$204.4	\$84.0	\$132.0	\$131.0	\$342.4	\$207.0	\$355.7	\$207.0	\$238.0
Total		\$5,541.0	\$5,136.0	\$5,509.0	\$2,558.9	\$1,964.0	\$1,511.0	\$2,030.0	\$3,006.0	\$5,519.0	\$5,868.5	\$5,519.0	\$7,532.0
S&T													
	62 - Forensics Support	\$260.0	\$193.1	\$260.0	\$115.0	\$141.0	\$88.0	\$141.0	\$170.9	\$260.0	\$232.2	\$260.0	\$478.0
LUST													
	44 - Civil Enforcement	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
OIL													
	44 - Civil Enforcement	\$14.0	\$8.1	\$14.0	\$3.1	\$14.0	\$6.0	\$12.0	\$13.4	\$12.0	\$9.3	\$12.0	\$14.0
	50 - Compliance Monitoring	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Total		\$14.0	\$8.1	\$14.0	\$3.1	\$14.0	\$6.0	\$12.0	\$13.4	\$12.0	\$9.3	\$12.0	\$14.0
SUPERFUND													
	50 - Compliance Monitoring	\$8.0	\$0.0	\$8.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$8.0
	52 - Criminal Enforcement	\$468.0	\$236.7	\$468.0	\$125.8	\$468.0	\$399.0	\$468.0	\$547.3	\$468.0	\$579.7	\$468.0	\$500.0
	62 - Forensics Support	\$50.0	\$32.9	\$50.0	\$17.2	\$50.0	\$48.0	\$50.0	\$65.3	\$50.0	\$85.9	\$50.0	\$57.0
	C7 - Superfund: Enforcement ****	\$1,145.0	\$995.7	\$1,143.0	\$445.0	\$1,143.0	\$155.0	\$1,143.0	\$461.8	\$1,143.0	\$980.0	\$1,143.0	\$0.0
	H2 - Superfund: Federal Facilities Enf	\$120.0	\$65.1	\$120.0	\$81.7	\$120.0	\$12.0	\$120.0	\$28.1	\$120.0	\$102.2	\$120.0	\$120.0
Total		\$1,791.0	\$1,330.4	\$1,789.0	\$669.7	\$1,781.0	\$614.0	\$1,781.0	\$1,102.5	\$1,781.0	\$1,747.8	\$1,781.0	\$685.0
Grand Total		\$7,606.0	\$6,667.6	\$7,572.0	\$3,346.7	\$3,900.0	\$2,219.0	\$3,964.0	\$4,292.7	\$7,572.0	\$7,857.7	\$7,572.0	\$8,709.0

The Explanatory Statement accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 instructs EPA to follow guidance as set forth in House Report 116-448. House Report 116-448 directs EPA to provide "requested enforcement travel budget, and budgeted and actual enforcement travel spending for the previous five fiscal years". Please see page 80: <https://www.congress.gov/116/crpt/hrpt448/CRPT-116hrpt448.pdf>. This report fulfills this requirement.

*In FY 2020 and FY 2021, OECA's travel resources decreased due to the COVID Pandemic travel restrictions. In FY 2023 and FY 2024, the travel resources were brought back to pre-COVID levels to resume in-person travel and inspections.

**Actuals include final obligations of New Obligation Authority (NOA) and Carryover for the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA).

***EPA will re-evaluate travel as part of the Agency's FY 2024 Operating Plan activities in preparation for the FY 2024 Enacted Budget.

**** In FY 2025, the Budget proposed to transition the Superfund Enforcement program to the Superfund Tax Receipts. As a result, the Superfund Enforcement travel is proposed to be transitioned to the Superfund tax receipts and estimates will be evaluated in FY 2025.

**On-Site Inspections and Off-site Compliance Monitoring Compliance Activities from
EPA’s Integrated Compliance Information System¹⁸**

The table below provides the numbers in EPA’s Integrated Compliance Information (ICIS) data system for on-site inspection and off-site compliance monitoring activities from fiscal years (FY) 2018-2023.

Fiscal Year	On-Site Inspections	Off-Site Compliance Monitoring Activities <i>(EPA has not set separate targets for this category)</i>	Total Completed
FY 2018 actual	7,900	2,900	10,800
FY 2019* actual	Target:7,400 Actual: 8,100	2,200	10,329
FY 2020 actual	Target: not set** Actual: 3,600	4,900	8,500
FY 2021 actual	Target: not set** Actual: 3,200	7,600	10,800
FY 2022 actual	Target: not set** Actual: 5,900	8,000	13,900
FY 2023 actual	Target: not set** Actual: 7,750	5,350	13,100
FY 2024 projection	Target: 6,050 Actual: TBD		Target: 11,000
FY 2025 projection	Target: TBD Actual: TBD		Target: 12,000

*In 2019, EPA set targets for on-site inspections only. Previous targets were a combination of on-site inspections and off-site compliance monitoring activities.

**Targets were not set for on-site inspections in FY 2020 through FY 2023 due to travel restrictions, uncertainty resulting from COVID-19, and rebuilding capacity as the pandemic ends.

Caveats:

1. **Definitions:** Nationally consistent definitions of on-site inspections and off-site compliance monitoring activities did not exist for our compliance monitoring program until we issued guidance on April 24, 2020 (and updated in November 2020). As a result, earlier data may include mis-categorized activities. EPA’s April 24, 2020, memorandum provided definitions for both on-site and off-site compliance monitoring activities, which creates more consistency in each of the categories.

¹⁸ The Explanatory Statement accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 instructs EPA to follow guidance as set forth in *House Report 116-448*. *House Report 116-448* directs EPA to provide “separate targets for onsite inspections and offsite compliance monitoring activities, and separate target and actuals data for onsite and offsite compliance monitoring activities for the previous five fiscal years”. Please see page 80: <https://www.congress.gov/116/crpt/hrpt448/CRPT-116hrpt448.pdf>. This report fulfills this requirement.

2. Incomplete Data Entry: Given that EPA has not historically required most types of off-site compliance monitoring activities to be entered into an EPA database, these numbers are likely incomplete. EPA's April 24, 2020, guidance for reporting key off-site compliance monitoring activities establishes expectations for national reporting of these activities, subsequent years' numbers are therefore more reflective of actual activities.
3. COVID-19: Restrictions on travel during the pandemic affected EPA's ability to conduct on-site inspections in FY 2020, FY 2021 and continued partially in FY 2022. While on-site inspection numbers dropped substantially during this time, EPA was able to increase its off-site compliance monitoring activities. In FY 2022, as the pandemic eased, EPA was able to begin increasing the number of on-site inspections again, and on-site inspection numbers have continued to rise through FY 2023.
4. States Conduct Majority of Inspections: Most inspections are performed by authorized states. For example, states performed over 35,000 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) inspections.
5. Data Mining: With modern tools, EPA collects data from monitoring reports and manifests. EPA conducts off-site compliance monitoring to try to detect violations, including possible violations of emission and discharge limitations. EPA uses this information to target facilities for on-site inspections. The FY 2020 guidance will help the Agency nationally focus and track this important off-site compliance monitoring work.
6. Totals More Reliable Than Subtotals: The sum of the two subtotals (on-site inspections + offsite compliance monitoring activities) is a more reliable value because it smooths out some of the variability in each subtotal. EPA believes definitions of on-site inspections and off-site compliance monitoring activities will help make the subtotal data more reliable going forward.
7. Staffing Levels: The number of inspections the Agency completes each year generally correlates with our annual staffing levels. During the time period reported in the table, OECA's number of full-time equivalents (FTEs) has decreased from 2,684 in FY 2018 to 2,551 in FY 2023.

Physicians' Comparability Allowance (PCA) Plan

Department and component:

Environmental Protection Agency

Purpose: The purpose of this document is to describe the Agency's plan for implementing the Physicians' Comparability Allowance (PCA) Program. Per 5 CFR 595.107, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) must approve this plan prior to the Agency entering into any PCA service agreement. Changes to this plan must be reviewed and approved by OMB in accordance with 5 CFR 595.107.

Reporting: In addition to the plan, each year, components utilizing PCA will include their PCA worksheet in the OMB Justification (OMBJ), typically in September. OMB and OPM will use this data for Budget development and congressional reporting.

Plan for Implementing the PCA Program:

- 1a) Identify the categories of physician positions the Agency has established are covered by PCA under § 595.103. Please include the basis for each category. If applicable, list and explain the necessity of any additional physician categories designated by your agency (for categories other than I through IV-B). List Any Additional Physician Categories Designated by Your Agency: Pursuant to 5 CFR 595.107, any additional category of physician receiving a PCA, not covered by categories I through IV-B, should be listed and accompanied by an explanation as to why these categories are necessary.

Number of Physicians Receiving PCAs by Category (non-add)	Category of Physician Position	Covered by Agency (mark "x" if covered)	Basis for Category
2	Category I Clinical Position	X	EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) clinical physicians oversee the medical care of study subjects. These studies are conducted on the health effects of a variety of common environmental pollutants in many different human subjects. Our primary emphasis is on cardio-pulmonary responses, with recent interest in behavioral responses. The Medical Officer is responsible for the health and well-being of research participants before, during, and after research. Prior to research, the Medical Officer is responsible for clinically evaluating individuals. During research, they are responsible for instituting preventative measures to ensure that any procedure entails the least risk possible. After the research, it is

Number of Physicians Receiving PCAs by Category (non-add)	Category of Physician Position	Covered by Agency (mark "x" if covered)	Basis for Category
			the Medical Officer's responsibility to evaluate an individual's health to determine any clinical changes.
	Category II Research Position		n/a
1	Category III Occupational Health		EPA is establishing a medical staff within the Office of Administration, Safety and Sustainability Division that will serve as a focal point for pandemic planning, occupational medical surveillance, wellness, and will provide medical consultative services supporting the Agency's safety and health, disease response/outbreak, fitness for duty, diver, automated external defibrillator, emergency response, nerve agent antidote, medical countermeasures, lactation, maternal wellness, and other national programs.
	Category IV-A Disability Evaluation		n/a
1	Category IV-B Health and Medical Admin.	X	This position serves as the principal medical officer and environmental health scientist for EPA's ORD. The position is responsible for providing leadership, direction, and technical expertise in support of organizational-wide health and environmental planning, policy development and implementation, and oversight of scientific initiatives and research efforts for ORD's Assistant Administrator (AA) or their designee. This includes: Strategic Research Action Plan oversight; prioritization of environmental health research; and counsel and oversight on legislation, regulations and health impact assessments related to Executive Branch agencies on human health, air quality, ecosystem services, toxics and risks, environmental social sciences, and most notably, COVID-19.

Physicians' Comparability Allowance (PCA) Plan (continued)

- 2) Explain the recruitment and retention problem(s) for each category of physician in your agency (this should demonstrate that a current need continues to persist). § 595 of 5 CFR Ch. 1 requires that an agency may determine that a significant recruitment and retention problem exists only if all of the following conditions apply:
- Evidence indicates that the Agency is unable to recruit and retain physicians for the category;
 - The qualification requirements being sought do not exceed the qualifications necessary for successful performance of the work;
 - The Agency has made efforts to recruit and retain candidates in the category; and
 - There are not a sufficient number of qualified candidates available if no comparability allowance is paid.

Number of Physicians Receiving PCAs by Category (non-add)	Category of Physician Position	Recruitment and retention problem
2	Category I Clinical Position	The small population of EPA Clinical Physician positions experiences modest turnover. The value of the physicians' comparability allowance to EPA is used as a retention tool. The Agency is told regularly that absent the allowance some EPA physicians would seek employment at federal agencies that provide the allowance.
	Category II Research Position	n/a
1	Category III Occupational Health	The value of the physicians' comparability allowance to EPA is to be used as a recruitment and retention tool. The Agency is told regularly that absent the allowance some EPA physicians would seek employment at federal agencies that provide the allowance.
	Category IV-A Disability Evaluation	n/a
1	Category IV-B Health and Medical Admin.	The small population of EPA Health and Medical Administrative Physician position(s) experiences modest turnover. The value of the physicians' comparability allowance to EPA is used as a retention tool. The Agency is told regularly that absent the allowance some EPA physicians would seek employment at federal agencies that provide the allowance.

3) Explain how the Agency determines the amounts to be used for each category of physicians.

Number of Physicians Receiving PCAs by Category (non-add)	Category of Physician Position	Basis of comparability allowance amount
2	Category I Clinical Position	EPA reviews the experience and technical expertise of the candidates. Combined with other salary ranges in the private sector and in review of other federal agencies, the Agency tries to be within a range that allows the Agency to retain the employees.
	Category II Research Position	n/a
1	Category III Occupational Health	EPA reviews the experience and technical expertise of the candidates. Combined with other salary ranges in the private sector and in review of other federal agencies, the Agency tries to be within a range that allows the Agency to retain the employees.
	Category IV-A Disability Evaluation	n/a
1	Category IV-B Health and Medical Admin.	EPA reviews the experience and technical expertise of the candidates. Combined with other salary ranges in the private sector and in review of other federal agencies, the Agency tries to be within a range that allows the Agency to retain the employees.

4) Does the Agency affirm that the PCA plan is consistent with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 5948 and the requirements of § 595 of 5 CFR Ch. 1?

Yes

Physicians' Comparability Allowance (PCA) Worksheet

1) Department and component:

Environmental Protection Agency

2) Explain the recruitment and retention problem(s) justifying the need for the PCA pay authority.

(Please include any staffing data to support your explanation, such as number and duration of unfilled positions and number of accessions and separations per fiscal year.)
 Historically, the number of EPA Research Physicians is between three and seven positions. This small population experiences modest turnover. The value of the physicians' comparability allowance to EPA is used as a retention tool. EPA continues to use the PCA to recruit qualified candidates to fill vacancies and to retain these employees. Additionally, EPA will use the PCA in FY 2024 to recruit and retain a physician for the newly formed national health and safety medical staff.

3-4) Please complete the table below with details of the PCA agreement for the following years:

	PY 2023 (Actual)	CY 2024 (Estimates)	BY* 2025 (Estimates)
3a) Number of Physicians Receiving PCAs	3	4	4
3b) Number of Physicians with One-Year PCA Agreements	0	0	0
3c) Number of Physicians with Multi-Year PCA Agreements	3	4	4
4a) Average Annual PCA Physician Pay (without PCA payment)	\$189,670	\$199,154	\$203,137
4b) Average Annual PCA Payment	\$23,256	\$23,256	\$23,256

*BY data will be approved during the BY Budget cycle. Please ensure each column is completed.

5) Explain the degree to which recruitment and retention problems were alleviated in your agency through the use of PCAs in the prior fiscal year.

(Please include any staffing data to support your explanation, such as number and duration of unfilled positions and number of accessions and separations per fiscal year.)
 The Agency is told regularly that absent the allowance; some EPA research physicians would seek employment at federal agencies that provide the allowance.

6) Provide any additional information that may be useful in planning PCA staffing levels and amounts in your agency.

An agency with a very small number of physician positions and a low turn-over rate among them still needs the allowance authority to maintain the stability of the small population. Those who opt for federal employment in opposition to private sector employment still want the maximum pay available in the federal sector. Were it not for the PCA, EPA would regularly lose some of its physicians to other federal agencies that offer the allowance, both requiring EPA to refill vacant positions and making it more difficult for EPA to fill those positions. Turn-over statistics should be viewed in this light.

**Environmental Protection Agency
FY 2025 Annual Performance Plan and Congressional Justification**

**Program Projects by Program Area
(Dollars in Thousands)**

	FY 2023 Final Actuals	FY 2024 Annualized CR	FY 2025 President's Budget	FY 2025 President's Budget v. FY 2024 Annualized CR
Science & Technology				
Clean Air and Climate				
Clean Air Allowance Trading Programs	\$6,578	\$7,117	\$19,987	\$12,870
Climate Protection	\$9,968	\$8,750	\$10,800	\$2,050
Federal Support for Air Quality Management	\$8,950	\$11,343	\$10,754	-\$589
Federal Vehicle and Fuels Standards and Certification	\$122,243	\$117,341	\$185,873	\$68,532
Subtotal, Clean Air and Climate	\$147,738	\$144,551	\$227,414	\$82,863
Enforcement				
Forensics Support	\$14,152	\$15,532	\$19,337	\$3,805
Homeland Security				
Homeland Security: Critical Infrastructure Protection	\$12,249	\$10,852	\$34,351	\$23,499
Homeland Security: Preparedness, Response, and Recovery	\$26,376	\$25,347	\$40,802	\$15,455
Homeland Security: Protection of EPA Personnel and Infrastructure	\$625	\$625	\$501	-\$124
Subtotal, Homeland Security	\$39,250	\$36,824	\$75,654	\$38,830
Indoor Air and Radiation				
Indoor Air: Radon Program	\$70	\$199	\$173	-\$26
Radiation: Protection	\$2,321	\$1,683	\$2,416	\$733
Radiation: Response Preparedness	\$3,200	\$3,596	\$4,802	\$1,206
Reduce Risks from Indoor Air	\$27	\$278	\$185	-\$93
Subtotal, Indoor Air and Radiation	\$5,618	\$5,756	\$7,576	\$1,820
IT / Data Management / Security				
IT / Data Management	\$3,489	\$3,197	\$3,346	\$149
Operations and Administration				
Facilities Infrastructure and Operations	\$65,328	\$67,500	\$72,906	\$5,406

Pesticides Licensing

Pesticides: Protect Human Health from Pesticide Risk	\$3,034	\$2,894	\$5,902	\$3,008
Pesticides: Protect the Environment from Pesticide Risk	\$2,468	\$2,334	\$4,239	\$1,905
Pesticides: Realize the Value of Pesticide Availability	\$963	\$925	\$1,040	\$115
Subtotal, Pesticides Licensing	\$6,466	\$6,153	\$11,181	\$5,028

Research: Air, Climate and Energy

Research: Air, Climate and Energy	\$114,659	\$100,448	\$140,297	\$39,849
-----------------------------------	-----------	-----------	-----------	----------

Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability

Health and Environmental Risk Assessment	\$40,119	\$39,918	\$45,746	\$5,828
Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability				
<i>Endocrine Disruptors</i>	\$17,222	\$16,353	\$18,017	\$1,664
<i>Computational Toxicology</i>	\$23,500	\$21,606	\$23,646	\$2,040
<i>Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability (other activities)</i>	\$56,107	\$54,591	\$64,554	\$9,963
Subtotal, Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability	\$96,828	\$92,550	\$106,217	\$13,667
Subtotal, Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability	\$136,947	\$132,468	\$151,963	\$19,495

Research: Sustainable Communities

Research: Sustainable and Healthy Communities	\$147,279	\$137,857	\$149,498	\$11,641
-----------------------------------------------	-----------	-----------	-----------	----------

Research: Safe and Sustainable Water Resources

Research: Safe and Sustainable Water Resources	\$125,346	\$116,141	\$143,745	\$27,604
------------------------------------------------	-----------	-----------	-----------	----------

Ensure Safe Water

Drinking Water Programs	\$5,474	\$5,098	\$7,043	\$1,945
-------------------------	---------	---------	---------	---------

Congressional Priorities (previously named Clean and Safe Water Technical Assistance Grants)

Congressional Priorities	\$23,283	\$30,751	\$0	-\$30,751
--------------------------	----------	----------	-----	-----------

Total, Science & Technology	\$835,028	\$802,276	\$1,009,960	\$207,684
----------------------------------------	------------------	------------------	--------------------	------------------

Environmental Programs & Management**Alaska Contaminated Lands**

Alaska Contaminated Lands	\$3,215	\$20,000	\$20,012	\$12
---------------------------	---------	----------	----------	------

Brownfields

Brownfields	\$22,582	\$26,189	\$39,084	\$12,895
-------------	----------	----------	----------	----------

Clean Air and Climate

Clean Air Allowance Trading Programs	\$17,268	\$16,554	\$30,743	\$14,189
Climate Protection	\$99,292	\$101,000	\$176,485	\$75,485
Federal Stationary Source Regulations	\$29,768	\$30,344	\$47,888	\$17,544
Federal Support for Air Quality Management	\$134,931	\$147,704	\$258,663	\$110,959

Stratospheric Ozone: Domestic Programs	\$6,358	\$6,951	\$72,282	\$65,331
Stratospheric Ozone: Multilateral Fund	\$8,326	\$9,244	\$18,000	\$8,756
Subtotal, Clean Air and Climate	\$295,943	\$311,797	\$604,061	\$292,264
Compliance				
Compliance Monitoring	\$104,593	\$112,730	\$168,474	\$55,744
Environmental Justice				
Environmental Justice	\$109,345	\$102,159	\$317,712	\$215,553
Enforcement				
Civil Enforcement	\$177,875	\$205,942	\$256,252	\$50,310
Criminal Enforcement	\$57,374	\$62,704	\$67,829	\$5,125
NEPA Implementation	\$15,171	\$20,611	\$26,049	\$5,438
Subtotal, Enforcement	\$250,422	\$289,257	\$350,130	\$60,873
Geographic Programs				
Geographic Program: Chesapeake Bay	\$74,640	\$92,000	\$92,000	\$0
Geographic Program: Gulf of Mexico	\$22,550	\$25,524	\$25,600	\$76
Geographic Program: Lake Champlain	\$25,823	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0
Geographic Program: Long Island Sound	\$36,429	\$40,002	\$40,000	-\$2
Geographic Program: Other				
<i>Lake Pontchartrain</i>	\$1,899	\$2,200	\$2,200	\$0
<i>S.New England Estuary (SNEE)</i>	\$6,546	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0
<i>Geographic Program: Other (other activities)</i>	\$2,041	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
Subtotal, Geographic Program: Other	\$10,486	\$14,200	\$14,200	\$0
Great Lakes Restoration	\$361,607	\$368,000	\$368,000	\$0
Geographic Program: South Florida	\$6,806	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$0
Geographic Program: San Francisco Bay	\$45,061	\$54,500	\$54,500	\$0
Geographic Program: Puget Sound	\$48,317	\$54,000	\$54,000	\$0
Subtotal, Geographic Programs	\$631,720	\$681,726	\$681,800	\$74
Homeland Security				
Homeland Security: Communication and Information	\$4,592	\$4,692	\$6,119	\$1,427
Homeland Security: Critical Infrastructure Protection	\$249	\$923	\$1,025	\$102
Homeland Security: Protection of EPA Personnel and Infrastructure	\$6,059	\$5,188	\$5,158	-\$30
Subtotal, Homeland Security	\$10,899	\$10,803	\$12,302	\$1,499
Indoor Air and Radiation				
Indoor Air: Radon Program	\$2,844	\$3,364	\$5,147	\$1,783
Radiation: Protection	\$8,390	\$9,088	\$11,748	\$2,660
Radiation: Response Preparedness	\$2,111	\$2,650	\$3,185	\$535
Reduce Risks from Indoor Air	\$13,281	\$13,593	\$47,570	\$33,977

Subtotal, Indoor Air and Radiation	\$26,627	\$28,695	\$67,650	\$38,955
Cross Agency Coordination, Outreach and Education <i>(previously named Information Exchange / Outreach)</i>				
State and Local Prevention and Preparedness	\$14,124	\$15,446	\$24,106	\$8,660
TRI / Right to Know	\$11,987	\$15,052	\$14,123	-\$929
Tribal - Capacity Building	\$12,619	\$14,715	\$35,088	\$20,373
Executive Management and Operations	\$53,653	\$56,160	\$73,269	\$17,109
Environmental Education	\$8,752	\$9,500	\$8,759	-\$741
Exchange Network	\$12,165	\$14,995	\$14,769	-\$226
Small Minority Business Assistance	\$2,225	\$2,056	\$2,018	-\$38
Small Business Ombudsman	\$1,379	\$2,250	\$2,242	-\$8
Children and Other Sensitive Populations: Agency Coordination	\$6,526	\$6,362	\$7,749	\$1,387
Subtotal, Cross Agency Coordination, Outreach and Education	\$123,431	\$136,536	\$182,123	\$45,587
International Programs				
US Mexico Border	\$2,512	\$2,993	\$5,132	\$2,139
International Sources of Pollution	\$7,214	\$7,323	\$26,183	\$18,860
Trade and Governance	\$7,390	\$5,510	\$7,201	\$1,691
Subtotal, International Programs	\$17,116	\$15,826	\$38,516	\$22,690
IT / Data Management / Security				
Information Security	\$8,188	\$9,142	\$23,937	\$14,795
IT / Data Management	\$95,631	\$91,821	\$108,601	\$16,780
Subtotal, IT / Data Management / Security	\$103,819	\$100,963	\$132,538	\$31,575
Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review				
Integrated Environmental Strategies	\$9,702	\$11,297	\$40,197	\$28,900
Administrative Law	\$5,223	\$5,395	\$6,195	\$800
Alternative Dispute Resolution	\$845	\$972	\$2,820	\$1,848
Civil Rights Program	\$10,146	\$12,866	\$32,227	\$19,361
Legal Advice: Environmental Program	\$60,207	\$60,061	\$86,615	\$26,554
Legal Advice: Support Program	\$15,922	\$18,957	\$20,584	\$1,627
Regional Science and Technology <i>(proposed to be moved to Operations and Administration)</i>	\$1,879	\$1,554	\$0	-\$1,554
Science Advisory Board	\$4,219	\$4,155	\$4,671	\$516
Regulatory/Economic-Management and Analysis	\$16,032	\$17,475	\$19,526	\$2,051
Subtotal, Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review	\$124,175	\$132,732	\$212,835	\$80,103

Underground Storage Tanks (LUST / UST)

LUST / UST	\$11,034	\$12,021	\$14,604	\$2,583
------------	----------	----------	----------	---------

Operations and Administration

Central Planning, Budgeting, and Finance	\$85,840	\$87,099	\$100,595	\$13,496
Facilities Infrastructure and Operations	\$275,614	\$283,330	\$308,134	\$24,804
Acquisition Management	\$33,034	\$37,251	\$42,085	\$4,834
Human Resources Management	\$51,882	\$51,261	\$68,124	\$16,863
Financial Assistance Grants / IAG Management	\$28,225	\$30,188	\$34,745	\$4,557
Regional Science and Technology (<i>proposed to be moved from LSRE</i>)	\$0	\$0	\$7,287	\$7,287

Subtotal, Operations and Administration	\$281,517	\$489,129	\$560,970	\$71,841
------------------------------------------------	------------------	------------------	------------------	-----------------

Pesticides Licensing

Science Policy and Biotechnology	\$1,628	\$1,811	\$1,642	-\$169
Pesticides: Protect Human Health from Pesticide Risk	\$59,740	\$62,125	\$66,281	\$4,156
Pesticides: Protect the Environment from Pesticide Risk	\$45,217	\$48,704	\$75,963	\$27,259
Pesticides: Realize the Value of Pesticide Availability	\$5,774	\$7,637	\$8,316	\$679

Subtotal, Pesticides Licensing	\$112,359	\$120,277	\$152,202	\$31,925
---------------------------------------	------------------	------------------	------------------	-----------------

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)

RCRA: Corrective Action	\$37,176	\$40,512	\$42,105	\$1,593
RCRA: Waste Management	\$70,129	\$75,958	\$91,500	\$15,542
RCRA: Waste Minimization & Recycling	\$9,375	\$10,252	\$15,799	\$5,547

Subtotal, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)	\$116,681	\$126,722	\$149,404	\$22,682
----------------------------------------------------------------	------------------	------------------	------------------	-----------------

Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability

Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability	\$153	\$0	\$0	\$0
----------------------------------------------	-------	-----	-----	-----

Toxics Risk Review and Prevention

Endocrine Disruptors	\$6,010	\$7,614	\$7,701	\$87
Pollution Prevention Program	\$12,568	\$12,987	\$29,193	\$16,206
Toxic Substances: Chemical Risk Review and Reduction	\$91,214	\$82,822	\$131,900	\$49,078
Toxic Substances: Lead Risk Reduction Program	\$11,777	\$14,359	\$14,597	\$238

Subtotal, Toxics Risk Review and Prevention	\$121,568	\$117,782	\$183,391	\$65,609
----------------------------------------------------	------------------	------------------	------------------	-----------------

Protecting Estuaries and Wetlands

National Estuary Program / Coastal Waterways	\$38,790	\$40,000	\$32,611	-\$7,389
Wetlands	\$19,656	\$21,754	\$26,995	\$5,241

Subtotal, Protecting Estuaries and Wetlands	\$58,446	\$61,754	\$59,606	-\$2,148
----------------------------------------------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------

Ensure Safe Water

Beach / Fish Programs	\$1,673	\$2,246	\$2,391	\$145
Drinking Water Programs	\$109,958	\$121,607	\$143,886	\$22,279
Subtotal, Ensure Safe Water	\$111,631	\$123,853	\$146,277	\$22,424

Ensure Clean Water

Preparation for Water Emergencies	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	\$30,000
Marine Pollution	\$8,081	\$10,187	\$12,724	\$2,537
Surface Water Protection	\$213,320	\$224,492	\$270,573	\$46,081
Subtotal, Ensure Clean Water	\$221,402	\$234,679	\$313,297	\$78,618

Congressional Priorities *(previously named Clean and Safe Water Technical Assistance Grants)*

Congressional Priorities	\$25,700	\$30,700	\$0	-\$30,700
Total, Environmental Programs & Management	\$3,077,455	\$3,286,330	\$4,406,988	\$1,120,658

Inspector General**Audits, Evaluations, and Investigations**

Audits, Evaluations, and Investigations	\$41,521	\$44,030	\$65,257	\$21,227
Total, Inspector General	\$41,521	\$44,030	\$65,257	\$21,227

Building and Facilities**Homeland Security**

Homeland Security: Protection of EPA Personnel and Infrastructure	\$3,944	\$6,676	\$6,676	\$0
-------------------------------------------------------------------	---------	---------	---------	-----

Operations and Administration

Facilities Infrastructure and Operations	\$17,502	\$42,076	\$98,893	\$56,817
Total, Building and Facilities	\$21,446	\$48,752	\$105,569	\$56,817

Hazardous Substance Superfund**Audits, Evaluations, and Investigations**

Audits, Evaluations, and Investigations	\$13,244	\$11,800	\$13,979	\$2,179
-----------------------------------------	----------	----------	----------	---------

Compliance

Compliance Monitoring	\$1,377	\$1,017	\$1,036	\$19
-----------------------	---------	---------	---------	------

Environmental Justice

Environmental Justice	\$890	\$5,876	\$5,901	\$25
-----------------------	-------	---------	---------	------

Enforcement

Criminal Enforcement	\$6,766	\$7,999	\$8,876	\$877
Forensics Support	\$1,597	\$1,240	\$1,720	\$480

Superfund: Enforcement	\$173,076	\$171,347	\$0	-\$171,347
Superfund: Federal Facilities Enforcement	\$7,725	\$8,192	\$10,481	\$2,289
Subtotal, Enforcement	\$189,163	\$188,778	\$21,077	-\$167,701
Homeland Security				
Homeland Security: Preparedness, Response, and Recovery	\$36,249	\$34,661	\$57,358	\$22,697
Homeland Security: Protection of EPA Personnel and Infrastructure	\$1,167	\$1,029	\$1,530	\$501
Subtotal, Homeland Security	\$37,415	\$35,690	\$58,888	\$23,198
Indoor Air and Radiation				
Radiation: Protection	\$2,081	\$2,472	\$3,144	\$672
Information Exchange / Outreach				
Exchange Network	\$1,018	\$1,328	\$1,328	\$0
IT / Data Management / Security				
Information Security	\$1,494	\$1,062	\$6,012	\$4,950
IT / Data Management	\$22,040	\$19,764	\$19,645	-\$119
Subtotal, IT / Data Management / Security	\$23,535	\$20,826	\$25,657	\$4,831
Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review				
Alternative Dispute Resolution	\$758	\$791	\$1,841	\$1,050
Legal Advice: Environmental Program	\$844	\$599	\$482	-\$117
Subtotal, Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review	\$1,602	\$1,390	\$2,323	\$933
Operations and Administration				
Central Planning, Budgeting, and Finance	\$32,914	\$31,338	\$30,512	-\$826
Facilities Infrastructure and Operations	\$74,115	\$65,634	\$72,349	\$6,715
Acquisition Management	\$22,835	\$27,247	\$34,172	\$6,925
Human Resources Management	\$7,382	\$7,419	\$9,303	\$1,884
Financial Assistance Grants / IAG Management	\$4,855	\$4,002	\$4,660	\$658
Subtotal, Operations and Administration	\$142,100	\$135,640	\$150,996	\$15,356
Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability				
Health and Environmental Risk Assessment	\$9,225	\$4,901	\$5,040	\$139
Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability	\$5,476	\$8,060	\$8,060	\$0
Subtotal, Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability	\$14,701	\$12,961	\$13,100	\$139
Research: Sustainable Communities				
Research: Sustainable and Healthy Communities	\$18,525	\$16,937	\$17,517	\$580

Superfund Cleanup

Superfund: Emergency Response and Removal	\$256,354	\$195,000	\$0	-\$195,000
Superfund: EPA Emergency Preparedness	\$7,696	\$8,056	\$8,541	\$485
Superfund: Federal Facilities	\$26,167	\$26,189	\$37,680	\$11,491
Superfund: Remedial	\$612,890	\$618,740	\$300,000	-\$318,740
Subtotal, Superfund Cleanup	\$903,107	\$847,985	\$346,221	-\$501,764
Total, Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$1,348,759	\$1,282,700	\$661,167	-\$621,533

Leaking Underground Storage Tanks**Enforcement**

Civil Enforcement	\$594	\$661	\$690	\$29
-------------------	-------	-------	-------	------

Underground Storage Tanks (LUST / UST)

LUST / UST	\$8,426	\$9,991	\$14,776	\$4,785
LUST Cooperative Agreements	\$59,328	\$55,040	\$65,040	\$10,000
LUST Prevention	\$26,326	\$25,780	\$26,669	\$889
Subtotal, Underground Storage Tanks (LUST / UST)	\$94,081	\$90,811	\$106,485	\$15,674

Operations and Administration

Central Planning, Budgeting, and Finance	\$373	\$457	\$474	\$17
Facilities Infrastructure and Operations	\$803	\$754	\$729	-\$25
Acquisition Management	\$173	\$181	\$136	-\$45
Subtotal, Operations and Administration	\$1,350	\$1,392	\$1,339	-\$53

Research: Sustainable Communities

Research: Sustainable and Healthy Communities	\$292	\$341	\$356	\$15
-----------------------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	------

Total, Leaking Underground Storage Tanks	\$96,317	\$93,205	\$108,870	\$15,665
-------------------------------------------------	-----------------	-----------------	------------------	-----------------

Inland Oil Spill Programs**Compliance**

Compliance Monitoring	-\$5	\$649	\$2,154	\$1,505
-----------------------	------	-------	---------	---------

Enforcement

Civil Enforcement	\$2,580	\$2,565	\$2,699	\$134
-------------------	---------	---------	---------	-------

Operations and Administration

Facilities Infrastructure and Operations	\$692	\$682	\$643	-\$39
------------------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-------

Oil

Oil Spill: Prevention, Preparedness and Response	\$17,111	\$17,501	\$21,624	\$4,123
--------------------------------------------------	----------	----------	----------	---------

Research: Sustainable Communities

Research: Sustainable and Healthy Communities	\$785	\$675	\$683	\$8
-----------------------------------------------	-------	-------	-------	-----

Total, Inland Oil Spill Programs	\$21,164	\$22,072	\$27,803	\$5,731
-----------------------------------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	----------------

State and Tribal Assistance Grants

State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)

Infrastructure Assistance: Alaska Native Villages	\$41,810	\$39,686	\$41,000	\$1,314
Brownfields Projects	\$87,833	\$100,000	\$114,482	\$14,482
Infrastructure Assistance: Clean Water SRF	\$735,951	\$775,752	\$1,239,895	\$464,143
Infrastructure Assistance: Clean Water Congressionally Directed Spending	\$80,622	\$863,109	\$0	-\$863,109
Infrastructure Assistance: Drinking Water SRF	\$504,799	\$516,845	\$1,126,105	\$609,260
Infrastructure Assistance: Drinking Water Congressionally Directed Spending	\$142,276	\$609,256	\$0	-\$609,256
Infrastructure Assistance: Mexico Border	\$33,698	\$36,386	\$36,386	\$0
Diesel Emissions Reduction Grant Program	\$7,239	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0
Targeted Airshed Grants	\$34,669	\$69,927	\$69,927	\$0
San Juan Watershed Monitoring <i>(This program is proposed for elimination in FY 2024 and FY 2025)</i>	\$585	\$0	\$0	\$0
Safe Water for Small & Disadvantaged Communities	\$22,887	\$30,158	\$30,173	\$15
Reducing Lead in Drinking Water	\$32,301	\$25,011	\$64,479	\$39,468
Lead Testing in Schools	\$5,417	\$30,500	\$36,500	\$6,000
Drinking Water Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability	\$0	\$7,000	\$25,000	\$18,000
Technical Assistance for Wastewater Treatment Works	\$40,617	\$27,000	\$18,000	-\$9,000
Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Grants	\$48,486	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0
Water Infrastructure Workforce Investment	\$0	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$0
Recycling Infrastructure	\$2,136	\$6,500	\$10,005	\$3,505
Wildfire Smoke Preparedness	\$330	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0
Technical Assistance and Grants for Emergencies (SDWA)	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000
Midsize and Large Drinking Water System Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
Indian Reservation Drinking Water Program	\$0	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$1,000
Clean Water Infrastructure Resiliency and Sustainability Program	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000
Small and Medium Publicly Owned Treatment Works Circuit Rider Program	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000
Grants for Low and Moderate income Household Decentralized Wastewater Systems	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000
Connection to Publicly Owned Treatment Works	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000
Stormwater Infrastructure Technology	\$0	\$3,000	\$5,000	\$2,000
Alternative Water Sources Grants Pilot Program	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000
Enhanced Aquifer Use and Recharge	\$0	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$1,000
Water Sector Cybersecurity	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000
Subtotal, State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)	\$1,821,656	\$3,316,130	\$3,062,952	-\$253,178

Categorical Grants

Categorical Grant: Nonpoint Source (Sec. 319)	\$176,686	\$182,000	\$188,999	\$6,999
Categorical Grant: Public Water System Supervision (PWSS)	\$123,137	\$121,500	\$132,566	\$11,066
Categorical Grant: State and Local Air Quality Management	\$246,130	\$249,038	\$400,198	\$151,160
Categorical Grant: Radon	\$8,958	\$10,995	\$12,487	\$1,492
Categorical Grant: Pollution Control (Sec. 106)				
<i>Monitoring Grants</i>	\$20,842	\$18,512	\$28,915	\$10,403
<i>Categorical Grant: Pollution Control (Sec. 106) (other activities)</i>	\$221,431	\$218,488	\$259,805	\$41,317
Subtotal, Categorical Grant: Pollution Control (Sec. 106)	\$242,272	\$237,000	\$288,720	\$51,720
Categorical Grant: Wetlands Program Development	\$6,122	\$14,692	\$22,000	\$7,308
Categorical Grant: Underground Injection Control (UIC)	\$12,661	\$13,164	\$11,387	-\$1,777
Categorical Grant: Pesticides Program Implementation	\$13,958	\$14,027	\$14,027	\$0
Categorical Grant: Lead	\$15,501	\$16,326	\$24,639	\$8,313
Resource Recovery and Hazardous Waste Grants	\$105,369	\$105,000	\$108,247	\$3,247
Categorical Grant: Pesticides Enforcement	\$24,703	\$25,580	\$25,580	\$0
Categorical Grant: Pollution Prevention	\$6,804	\$4,973	\$5,755	\$782
Categorical Grant: Toxics Substances Compliance	\$5,005	\$5,010	\$6,877	\$1,867
Categorical Grant: Tribal General Assistance Program	\$82,649	\$74,750	\$85,009	\$10,259
Categorical Grant: Underground Storage Tanks	\$1,503	\$1,505	\$1,505	\$0
Categorical Grant: Tribal Air Quality Management	\$16,620	\$16,415	\$23,126	\$6,711
Categorical Grants: Direct Implementation Tribal Cooperative Agreements	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000
Categorical Grant: Multipurpose Grants	\$195	\$0	\$10,200	\$10,200
Categorical Grant: Environmental Information	\$7,400	\$10,836	\$15,000	\$4,164
Categorical Grant: Beaches Protection	\$9,583	\$10,619	\$9,811	-\$808
Categorical Grant: Brownfields	\$44,730	\$47,195	\$53,954	\$6,759
Subtotal, Categorical Grants	\$1,149,986	\$1,160,625	\$1,465,087	\$304,462
Congressional Priorities (previously named Clean and Safe Water Technical Assistance Grants)				
Congressionally Mandated Projects	\$17,309	\$16,973	\$0	-\$16,973
Total, State and Tribal Assistance Grants	\$2,988,952	\$4,493,728	\$4,528,039	34,311

Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Fund**Ensure Clean Water**

Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation	\$322,118	\$75,640	\$80,000	\$4,360
Total, Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Fund	\$322,118	\$75,640	\$80,000	\$4,360

Subtotal, EPA	\$8,752,759	\$10,148,733	\$10,993,653	\$844,920
Cancellation of Funds	\$0	-\$13,300	\$0	\$13,300
TOTAL, EPA	\$8,752,759	\$10,135,433	\$10,993,653	\$858,220

*For ease of comparison, Superfund transfer resources for the audit and research functions are shown in the Superfund account.

**In addition to annual appropriated resources, the Superfund tax revenues the Agency received in FY 2023 and expects to receive in FY 2024 and FY 2025 are not reflected here. These additional government revenues will support continued Superfund cleanup and enforcement.

***Note that the Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest Program is funded from fee collections.

****The FY 2023 annual appropriation for EPA included \$13.3 million in rescissions. This value is maintained in the FY 2024 annualized CR column for display purposes. The actual rescission taken under the partial year FY 2024 CR at the time of publication was \$1.5 M based on available balances.

Proposed FY 2025 Administrative Provisions

To further clarify proposed Administrative Provisions that involve more than a simple annual extension or propose a modification to an existing provision, the following information is provided.

Pesticide Licensing Fees

The following proposed statutory language, which is an annual extension of existing language, would allow PRIA registration service fees to be assessed and to remain available until expended.

PRIA registration service fees:

The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency is authorized to collect and obligate pesticide registration service fees in accordance with section 33 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. § 136w-8): Provided, that such fees collected shall remain available until expended.

Notwithstanding section 33(d)(2) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) (7 U.S.C. § 136w-8(d)(2)), the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency may assess fees under section 33 of FIFRA (7 U.S.C. § 136w-8) for fiscal year 2025.

Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest

The Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest Establishment Act (Public Law 112-195) provides EPA with the authority to establish a program to finance, develop, and operate a system for the electronic submission of hazardous waste manifests supported by user fees. In FY 2025, EPA will operate the e-Manifest system and the Agency anticipates collecting and depositing approximately \$20 million in e-Manifest user fees into the Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest System Fund. Based upon authority to collect and spend e-Manifest fees provided by Congress in annual appropriations bills, the fees will be utilized for the operation of the system and necessary program expenses. Fees will fully support the e-Manifest program, including future development costs. The language to authorize collection and spending of the fees is provided below. Language specifying that e-Manifest fees collected in FY 2025 will remain available until expended would simplify aspects of budget execution.

The proposed language below updates the existing provision:

The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency is authorized to collect and obligate fees in accordance with section 3024 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6939g) for fiscal year 2025, to remain available until expended.

Change to Buildings and Facilities Per Project Threshold

The Building and Facilities threshold was last increased from \$150,000 to \$300,000 in FY 2023. Since 2013, costs for construction, material, and labor have increased significantly. EPA is proposing to reflect these cost increases by raising the per project threshold from \$300,000 to

\$350,000. The purpose of this proposed increase is to adjust the threshold to keep it in line with construction and labor costs for smaller-scale construction and repair and improvement projects. The \$350,000 threshold will apply to the S&T, EPM, OIG, Superfund, and LUST appropriations and will allow the programs to proceed effectively and efficiently to address immediate, urgent, and smaller-scale facility improvements and will enable the Agency to maintain adequate operations, further mission-critical activities and implement climate sustainability and resiliency enhancements.

The proposed language below updates the existing provision:

The Science and Technology, Environmental Programs and Management, Office of Inspector General, Hazardous Substance Superfund, and Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program Accounts, are available for the construction, alteration, repair, rehabilitation, and renovation of facilities provided that the cost does not exceed \$350,000 per project.

Student Services Contracting Authority

In the FY 2025 Budget, the Agency requests authorization for the Office of Research and Development (ORD), the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP), and the Office of Water (OW) to hire pre-baccalaureate and post-baccalaureate students in science and engineering fields. This authority would provide ORD, OCSPP, and OW with the flexibility to hire qualified students that work on projects that support current priorities, programmatic functions, and the Agency's environmental goals.

The proposed language below updates the existing provision:

For fiscal years 2025 through 2029, the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention and the Office of Water may, using funds appropriated under the headings "Environmental Programs and Management" and "Science and Technology," contract directly with individuals or indirectly with institutions or nonprofit organizations, without regard to 41 U.S.C. 5, for the temporary or intermittent personal services of students or recent graduates, who shall be considered employees for the purposes of chapters 57 and 81 of title 5, United States Code, relating to compensation for travel and work injuries, and chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code, relating to tort claims, but shall not be considered to be Federal employees for any other purpose: Provided, that amounts used for this purpose by the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention and the Office of Water collectively may not exceed \$2,000,000 per year.

Special Accounts and Superfund Tax Receipts for Aircraft to Support Superfund Response Actions

31 U.S.C. 1343(d) generally states that appropriated funds are not available for aircraft unless "the appropriation specifically authorizes" its use for such purpose.

The FY 2022 Consolidated Appropriation Act (P.L. 117-103) provided that "Section 122(b)(3) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9622(b)(3)), shall be applied by inserting before the period: " , including for the hire, maintenance,

and operation of aircraft.” In the absence of any indicia of permanency, this provision has been interpreted to only be in effect for fiscal year 2022. Accordingly, EPA proposes to extend this authority.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act 2023 (P.L. 117-328) did not provide a provision for Superfund tax receipts available to carry out CERCLA to be used for the hire, maintenance, and operation of aircraft. EPA proposes to add this authority for FY 2025.

Proposed Language to add to FY 2025 Budget:

For fiscal year 2025, section 122(b)(3) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9622(b)(3)) shall be applied by inserting before the period at the end: ", including for the hire, maintenance, and operation of aircraft".

For fiscal year 2025, amounts appropriated in section 443(b) of title IV of division G of Public Law 117-328 shall be applied by inserting ", including for the hire, maintenance, and operation of aircraft" after "to be used to carry out the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.)".

Title 42 Hiring Authority

EPA is requesting continuance of its Title 42 Authority through FY 2030. This also would include a cap of 25 hires for OCSPP and 75 Hires for ORD. ORD currently uses this authority to fill highly competitive, PhD-level positions where recruiting through the GS system is not appropriate. ORD has a robust process for managing the program, including an Operations Manual that provides requirements on recruiting, compensation, ethics, and term renewals. OCSPP faces similar challenges in hiring specialized talent. OCSPP is actively building the infrastructure and taking steps to use its new Title 42 hiring authority. The EPA Title 42 delegation was amended to include OCSPP, and it was approved by the EPA Administrator on October 17, 2022. In accordance with Public Law 117-103, the agency must also consult with the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) before using its Title 42 hiring authority. EPA is currently undergoing consultation with OPM on Title 42. Once EPA works through this process, it can finalize the Title 42 Order and OCSPP can then utilize its hiring authority.

Proposed Language to add to FY 2025 Budget:

The Administrator may, after consultation with the Office of Personnel Management, employ up to 75 persons at any one time in the Office of Research and Development and 25 persons at any one time in the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention under the authority provided in 42 U.S.C. 209 through fiscal year 2030.

Working Capital Fund Authority

On December 12, 2017, the Modernizing Government Technology (MGT Act)¹⁹ was signed into law, authorizing CFO-Act agencies to set up information technology (IT) specific WCFs, which allows them to fund IT modernization projects and reinvest savings for additional modernization projects in the future. In the FY 2025 Budget, the Agency requests language be added to clarify and ensure that EPA has the ability to utilize funds deposited into EPA's WCF to modernize and develop the Agency's IT systems. The Agency has a well-established WCF where nearly 80 percent of the current service offerings are IT related. Establishing a separate IT WCF would be duplicative and more costly than to utilize the Agency's existing WCF. EPA continues to seek the authorizing language change. EPA will clarify its existing authority and harmonize it with the intent of what Congress envisioned in the passage of the MGT Act.

Proposed Language to add to FY 2025 Budget:

The Environmental Protection Agency Working Capital Fund, 42 U.S.C. 4370e, is available for expenses and equipment necessary for modernization and development of information technology of, or for use by, the Environmental Protection Agency.

Other

In order to address the high administrative costs of administering potential congressionally directed spending, EPA is requesting a general provision applicable to all community projects in FY 2025:

For fiscal year 2025, the Administrator may reserve up to 7 percent of the total amount of funds made available for Community Project Funding Items/Congressionally Directed Spending Items in this title in this Act for salaries, expenses, and administration.

¹⁹ For more information on the MGT Act, please refer to Section G of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115-91): <https://www.congress.gov/115/plaws/publ91/PLAW-115publ91.pdf>.

Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act
Public Law No: 115-414, January 3, 2019

In accordance with the reporting requirements of the Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act, Agencies are to submit reports on outstanding recommendations in the annual budget submitted to Congress. This report includes Government Accountability Office (GAO) and EPA Office of Inspector General (OIG) recommendations issued up through 01/31/2023 that remained unimplemented for one year or more from the planned FY 2025 budget justification submission date.

For the FY 2025 budget justification, the EPA developed a report listing each open public recommendation for corrective action from the OIG and GAO, along with the implementation status of each recommendation.

The Act also requires a reconciliation between the agency records of unimplemented recommendations and each OIG Semiannual Report to Congress (SAR). In cooperation with the EPA OIG, the agency performs a reconciliation and validation process prior to publication of each SAR. The process ensures that agency's Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act reporting aligns with the SAR.

The agency is reporting on:

- 71 open recommendations issued by the GAO between January 6, 2006, and January 31, 2023.
- 69 open recommendations issued by the EPA OIG between July 9, 2008, and January 31, 2023.

No recommendations were closed due to being unimplemented.

The information used to create this report is based on information retained the EPA's Enterprise Audit Management System and the GAO's recommendations database available on www.gao.gov.

GAO-IG Act, Office of Inspector General Open Recommendations - As of January 31, 2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
The EPA Is Not on Track to Reach Its National Compliance Initiative Goals to Stop Aftermarket Defeat Devices and Tampered Vehicles	23-E-0006	1/25/2023	2. Update the EPA’s Stopping Aftermarket Defeat Devices for Vehicles and Engines National Compliance Initiative strategic plan so that the National Compliance Initiative goals can be achieved in the event of a pandemic or other challenge.	The Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) will review the lessons learned related to conducting enforcement during the COVID-19 pandemic and will identify and incorporate appropriate changes into the FY 2024-2027 NECI template documents so that NECI goals can be achieved – to the extent practicable – in the event of a global pandemic or other challenge, such as a long duration natural disaster. Status: On track	3/29/2024
The EPA Is Not on Track to Reach Its National Compliance Initiative Goals to Stop Aftermarket Defeat Devices and Tampered Vehicles	23-E-0006	1/25/2023	3. In collaboration with EPA regions, revise and reissue the strategic plan for the Stopping Aftermarket Defeat Devices for Vehicles and Engines National Compliance Initiative. In addition, ensure the strategic plan includes quantifiable deliverables that are linked to known compliance rate baselines that promote the success of the initiative, as well as a mechanism to acquire and implement post-training feedback from regions and states.	OECA will compare the pounds of pollution prevented in each year of the NECI against the number from the preceding fiscal year. Status: On track	11/29/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
The EPA Is Not on Track to Reach Its National Compliance Initiative Goals to Stop Aftermarket Defeat Devices and Tampered Vehicles	23-E-0006	1/25/2023	5. Use the OIG's state questionnaire results, as well as feedback from regions and states, to identify and implement a strategy to overcome barriers and incentivize voluntary complementary work by the states to stop aftermarket defeat devices and tampering.	5.c. OECA will provide the Office of Transportation and Air Quality (OTAQ) with the end-of-year enforcement data for this NECI and will encourage OTAQ to update their emission models to account for tampering. Status: On track.	11/29/2024
The EPA Needs to Improve the Transparency of Its Cancer Assessment Process for Pesticides	22-E-0053	7/20/2022	1. Issue guidance on when and how to conduct the kinetically derived maximum dose approach in cancer risk assessments for pesticides.	The Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP) will update the Office of Pesticide Programs public website to state that EPA will rely upon the kinetic guidance currently being developed by the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) as EPA's guidance on when and how to apply the kinetically derived maximum dose approach in cancer risk assessments for pesticides. Status: On track.	6/30/2024
The EPA Needs to Improve the Transparency of Its Cancer Assessment Process for Pesticides	22-E-0053	7/20/2022	9. Issue specific criteria requiring external peer review of Office of Pesticide Programs' risk assessments that use scientifically or technically novel approaches or that are likely to have precedent setting influence on future risk assessments, in accordance with the Office of Management and Budget's Final Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review.	OCSPP will develop a Standard Operating Procedure to determine when an external peer review is required for assessments using scientifically or technically novel approaches or likely to have precedent-setting influence. This guidance will be used to ensure consistency in the external peer review process across OSCPP. Status: On track.	6/30/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
Additional Internal Controls Would Improve the EPA's System for Electronic Disclosure of Environmental Violations	22-E-0051	6/30/2022	1. Develop national guidance that includes a process for screening eDisclosure submissions for significant concerns, such as criminal conduct and potential imminent hazards.	The Agency will develop national guidance that includes a process for screening eDisclosure submissions for significant concerns, such as criminal conduct and potential imminent hazards. Status: On track.	3/29/2024
Additional Internal Controls Would Improve the EPA's System for Electronic Disclosure of Environmental Violations	22-E-0051	6/30/2022	3. Develop performance measures for the eDisclosure system and a monitoring plan to track its effectiveness.	The Agency will develop performance measures for the eDisclosure system and a monitoring plan to track its effectiveness. Status: On track.	3/29/2024
Additional Internal Controls Would Improve the EPA's System for Electronic Disclosure of Environmental Violations	22-E-0051	6/30/2022	4. In coordination with EPA regions, assess eDisclosure system functionality to identify and implement improvements.	The Agency will assess eDisclosure system functionality to identify potential updates to the eDisclosure system and will seek to implement improvements, including potential updates to the eDisclosure system, dependent upon available resources Status: On track.	3/29/2024
The EPA Continues to Fail to Meet Inspection Requirements for Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities	22-E-0047	6/8/2022	1. As previously recommended in our 2016 report, we again recommend that the assistant administrator for Enforcement and Compliance Assurance: 1. Implement management controls to complete the required treatment, storage, and disposal facility inspections.	OECA will work with the regions to monitor TSDF inspection frequency, develop and implement a plan to identify TSDFs not yet inspected near the end of the required inspection cycle, and conduct inspections to the extent possible within the compliance period or the following fiscal year. Status: Delayed to due implementation complexity.	3/29/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
Brownfields Program-Income Monitoring Deficiencies Persist Because the EPA Did Not Complete All Certified Corrective Actions	22-P-0033	3/31/2022	1. Develop a policy and implement procedures to reduce the balances of available program income and establish a time frame for recipients to use or return the funds to the EPA.	The EPA will work to maximize the number of older closeout agreements with consistent national closeout terms and conditions, as their workload allows. The Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization (OBLR) will request that the regions attempt initial contact with Revolving Land Fund recipients of older closeout agreements who do not have an open Revolving Land Fund grant by the provided completion date in order to begin the renegotiation process. However, EPA cannot unilaterally modify older closeout agreements and will need to work with these recipients on bilateral agreements to incorporate the FY 2022 closeout agreements. Status: On track.	9/30/2027

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
Brownfields Program-Income Monitoring Deficiencies Persist Because the EPA Did Not Complete All Certified Corrective Actions	22-P-0033	3/31/2022	5. Expand existing guidance to include a deadline for post-closeout annual report submission.	This action has been completed for closeout agreements executed after June 2021. For Revolving Land Fund recipients of older closeout agreements, OBLR will request that the regions attempt initial contact by the provided completion date to begin the renegotiation process. However, EPA cannot unilaterally modify older closeout agreements and will need to work with these recipients on bilateral agreements to incorporate the FY 2022 Closeout Agreement. Status: On track.	9/30/2027
Brownfields Program-Income Monitoring Deficiencies Persist Because the EPA Did Not Complete All Certified Corrective Actions	22-P-0033	3/31/2022	6. Assess whether any of the \$46.6 million of program income under closeout agreements should be returned to the government.	Since the FY 2022 Closeout Agreement Template requires that post-closeout reports be submitted by October 31st with program income balances reported as of September 30th, POs will begin conducting annual reviews of post closeout program income every November for Revolving Land Fund grants in post-closeout status with this closeout agreement requirement. For those who do not have this closeout agreement requirement, project officers will review post closeout program income information every November as it becomes available. Status: On track.	9/30/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
Overdue Residual Risk and Technology Reviews	22-E-0026	3/30/2022	2. Develop and implement a strategy to conduct (a) residual risk and technology reviews and recurring technology reviews by the applicable statutory deadlines and (b) any overdue residual risk and technology reviews and recurring technology reviews in as timely a manner as practicable. The strategy should take into account the Agency's environmental justice responsibilities under Executive Order 12898 and other applicable EPA and executive branch policies, procedures, and directives.	The Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) will develop and implement a strategy to timely meet statutory deadlines for RTRs and TRs and complete all overdue RTRs and TRs. OAR fully supports developing a strategy that integrates the high-level analysis with the Administration's priorities, legal deadlines (e.g., court ordered deadlines, settlement agreements), risk prioritization, and other factors in an effort to protect human health and the environment. We anticipate much of the strategy development would be reliant on the high-level analysis (e.g., assessment of current operations, prediction of future operations, and evaluation of impact of organizational change based on experience and historical data). Status: On track.	3/31/2024
EPA's Fiscal Years 2021 and 2020 (Restated) Consolidated Financial Statements	22-F-0007	11/15/2021	5. Implement a system that tracks the dates when accounts receivable source documents need to be submitted and are submitted by the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance to the Cincinnati Finance Center.	Implement a system that tracks the dates when accounts receivable source documents need to be submitted and are submitted by the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance to the Cincinnati Finance Center. Status: Delayed due to external dependencies including other EPA offices.	11/30/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA's Fiscal Year 2020 Fourth-Quarter Compliance with the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014	22-P-0001	11/8/2021	3. Update EPA's grants management system to align with the DATA Act data standards, including all parts of data elements reported therein, and to allow input only of the acceptable values outlined for each data element in DATA Act Information Model Schema, Reporting Submission Specification.	OMS-OGD will update Next Generation Grants System to align with the DATA Act data standards including all parts of data elements reported therein and allow input only of the acceptable values outlined for each data element in DATA Act Information Model Schema, Reporting Submission Specification. Status: Delayed due to implementation complexity	4/30/2024
EPA Needs an Agencywide Strategic Action Plan to Address Harmful Algal Blooms	21-E-0264	9/29/2021	4. Assess and evaluate the available information on human health risks from exposure to cyanotoxins in drinking water and recreational waters to determine whether actions under the Safe Drinking Water Act are warranted.	EPA will continue evaluating the risks to human health from exposure to cyanotoxins and will develop Health Effects Support Documents (HESDs) for new toxins (e.g., saxitoxins and nodularin). EPA intends to develop health advisories and recreational criteria for these toxins when sufficient health data are available. EPA will re-evaluate the human health risks to previously evaluated toxins as new toxicological exposure studies and systematic reviews of peer-reviewed scientific literature are completed. EPA will determine whether additional regulatory or nonregulatory actions are appropriate under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), using the above health effects information, Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 4 and other cyanotoxins occurrence data, and additional information. Status: On track.	12/31/2025

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA's Implementation of the Endocrine Disruption Screening Program	21-E-0186	7/28/2021	1. Issue Tier 1 test orders for each List 2 chemical or publish an explanation for public comment on why Tier 1 data are no longer needed to characterize a List 2 chemical's endocrine-disruption activity.	OCSPP, with input from the Office of Research and Development and the Office of Water will publish for comment a List 2 Action Plan, which may include a combination of test orders, explanations as to why test orders are not needed, or a reprioritization of the order of Endocrine Disruption Screening Program (EDSP) evaluations. Following notice and comment, OCSPP will initiate the process to issue test orders for List 2 substances, as appropriate. Status: On track.	9/30/2025
EPA's Implementation of the Endocrine Disruption Screening Program	21-E-0186	7/28/2021	2. Determine whether the EPA should incorporate the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program Tier 1 tests (or approved new approach methodologies) into the pesticide registration process as mandatory data requirements under 40 C.F.R. § 158 for all pesticide use patterns.	OCSPP will make a determination on the inclusion of the EDSP Tier 1 tests into the pesticide registration process as mandatory data requirement under 40 C.F.R. part 158 for all pesticide use patterns. Status: On track.	9/30/2024
EPA's Implementation of the Endocrine Disruption Screening Program	21-E-0186	7/28/2021	3. Issue List 1–Tier 2 test orders for the 18 pesticides in which additional Tier 2 testing was recommended or publish an explanation for public comment on why this Tier 2 data are no longer needed to characterize the endocrine-disruption activity for each of these 18 pesticides.	OCSPP will make a determination on the need for List 1-Tier 2 data. OCSPP also will provide an explanation, which will be published for public comment, for any of the 18 pesticides for which it is determined that Tier 2 data is no longer needed. Following publication and comment, OCSPP will initiate the process to issue any Tier 2 test orders for List 1 determined to be needed. Status: On track.	9/30/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA's Implementation of the Endocrine Disruption Screening Program	21-E-0186	7/28/2021	4. Issue for public review and comment both the Environmental Fate and Effects Division's approach for the reevaluation of List 1-Tier 1 data and the revised List 1-Tier 2 wildlife recommendations.	OCSPP will issue for public review and comment any reevaluation of List 1-Tier 1 data and any revisions to the List 1-Tier 2 wildlife recommendations. Status: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	12/31/2025
EPA's Implementation of the Endocrine Disruption Screening Program	21-E-0186	7/28/2021	6. Develop performance measures, with reasonable time frames, to document progress toward and achievement of milestones or targets. Specifically, the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program should consider at least one performance measure that tracks progress in testing pesticides for human endocrine disruptor activity.	OCSPP will develop short-term performance measures, such as scientific publications, number/type of accepted new approach methods, and exemptions granted. Short-term performance measures will be developed and tracked. OCSPP will develop longer-term performance measures, including at least one measure to track progress in testing pesticides for human endocrine disruptor activity. Long-term performance measures including at least one that tracks progress in the evaluation and testing of pesticides for human endocrine disruptor activity will be developed and tracked by October 1, 2024. Status: On track.	10/1/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA's Implementation of the Endocrine Disruption Screening Program	21-E-0186	7/28/2021	7. Conduct annual internal program reviews of the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program.	OCSPP will conduct the first annual internal program review of the EDSP and provide a briefing and report out to the OCSPP Assistant Administrator on EDSP progress, especially as it relates to the Corrective Actions in this Report and progress developing the EDSP Strategic Plan. Status: Delayed due to leadership change.	3/31/2024
EPA Oversight of Synthetic Minor Sources	21-P-0175	7/8/2021	1. Update Agency guidance on practical enforceability to more clearly describe how the technical accuracy of a permit limit should be supported and documented. In updating such guidance, the Office of Air and Radiation should consult and collaborate with the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, the Office of General Counsel, and the EPA regions.	OAR will update Agency guidance on the practical enforceability of limitations, including but not limited to EPA's June 13, 1989, Guidance on Limiting Potential to Emit in New Source Permitting, to describe how the technical accuracy of a permit limit should be supported and documented. Specifically, the updated guidance will address the practical enforceability of limitations on potential to emit. In updating our guidance, we will consult and collaborate with the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, the Office of General Counsel, and the EPA regions. Status: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	10/31/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA Oversight of Synthetic Minor Sources	21-P-0175	7/8/2021	<p>2. In consultation with the EPA regions, develop and implement an oversight plan to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An initial review of a sample of synthetic-minor-source permits in different industries that are issued by state, local, and tribal agencies to assess whether the permits adhere to EPA guidance on practical enforceability, including limits that are technically accurate; have appropriate time periods; and include sufficient monitoring, recordkeeping, and reporting requirements. • A periodic review of a sample of synthetic-minor-source permits to occur, at a minimum, once every five years. • Procedures to resolve any permitting deficiencies identified during the initial and periodic reviews. 	<p>In consultation with EPA Regional offices, OAR will develop and implement an oversight plan in accordance with current statutory and EPA regulatory requirements and, as appropriate, including the specific elements identified. Status: On track.</p>	10/31/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA Oversight of Synthetic Minor Sources	21-P-0175	7/8/2021	3. Assess recent EPA studies of enclosed combustion device performance and compliance monitoring and other relevant information during the next statutorily required review of 40 C.F.R Part 60 Subparts OOOO and OOOOa to determine whether revisions are needed to monitor, recordkeeping and reporting requirements for enclosed combustion devices to assure continuous compliance with associated limits and revise the regulatory requirements as appropriate.	OAR will assess EPA studies of enclosed combustion device performance and compliance monitoring and other relevant information during the next statutorily required review of 40 C.F.R part 60 subparts OOOO and OOOOa and determine whether revisions are needed to monitor, recordkeeping and reporting requirements for enclosed combustion devices to assure continuous compliance with associated limits and revise the regulatory requirements as appropriate. Status: On track.	12/31/2024
EPA Oversight of Synthetic Minor Sources	21-P-0175	7/8/2021	4. Revise the Agency's guidance to communicate its key expectations for synthetic-minor-source permitting to state and local agencies.	The agency will revise its guidance to communicate its key expectations for synthetic-minor-source permitting to state and local agencies. This will include an expectation that synthetic minor permit terms and conditions ensure that the potential to emit of the source is less than the applicable major source threshold by meeting legal and practical enforceability criteria. Our work related to this recommendation may, at least in part, be integrated with the updated guidance on practical enforceability in response to OIG Recommendation 1. Status: On track.	10/31/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA Oversight of Synthetic Minor Sources	21-P-0175	7/8/2021	5. Identify all state, local, and tribal agencies in which Clean Air Act permit program implementation fails to adhere to the public participation requirements for synthetic-minor source permit issuance and take appropriate steps to assure the identified states adhere to the public participation requirements.	With EPA Regional office support, OAR will identify state, local and tribal agencies whose program regulations, including but not limited to minor new source review and federally enforceable state operating permit program regulations and corresponding practices, do not meet the public participation requirements contained in the applicable EPA regulations, e.g., 40 CFR 51.161, and guidance with respect to synthetic minor source permitting. For the identified agencies, OAR will take appropriate corrective steps, which may include constructive, informal engagement. Status: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	10/31/2024
EPA Deviated from Typical Procedures in its 2018 Dicamba Pesticide Registration Decision	21-E-0146	5/24/2021	3. Annually conduct and document training for all staff and senior managers and policy makers to affirm the office's commitment to the Scientific Integrity Policy and principles and to promote a culture of scientific integrity	Complete the fifth annual Scientific integrity training by March 31, 2026. Status: On track.	3/31/2026
Resource Constraints, Leadership Decisions, and Workforce Culture Led to a Decline in Federal Enforcement	21-P-0132	5/13/2021	2. Integrate the results of the workforce analysis into the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance's annual and strategic planning processes.	The OECA-wide succession management plan will include all components required by the Agency.	4/1/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
Staffing Constraints, Safety and Health Concerns at EPA's National Enforcement Investigations Center May Compromise Ability to Achieve Mission	21-P-0131	5/12/2021	9. Develop and incorporate metrics on the National Enforcement Investigations Center work environment and culture into Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics, and Training senior management performance standards, such as results from the annual Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey, periodic culture audits, or other methods to measure progress.	Measuring this baseline and subsequent quarterly data will continue until the completion of the organizational assessment that will evaluate the veracity of actual issues or concerns while also determining root causes of any concerns identified. Once that data is available, the Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics, and Training will evaluate appropriate measures and/or next steps. Status: On track.	6/28/2024
Staffing Constraints, Safety and Health Concerns at EPA's National Enforcement Investigations Center May Compromise Ability to Achieve Mission	21-P-0131	5/12/2021	10. Develop and incorporate metrics that address work environment and culture into National Enforcement Investigations Center senior management performance standards.	Measuring this baseline and subsequent quarterly data will continue until the completion of the organizational assessment that will evaluate the veracity of actual issues or concerns while also determining root causes of any concerns identified. Once that data is available, the Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics, and Training will evaluate appropriate measures and/or next steps. Status: On track.	6/28/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA Helps States Reduce Trash, Including Plastic, in U.S. Waterways but Needs to Identify Obstacles and Develop Strategies for Further Progress	21-P-0130	5/11/2021	1. Evaluate the obstacles to implementing the Clean Water Act to control trash in U.S. waterways and provide a public report describing those obstacles.	To evaluate the obstacles to implementing the Clean Water Act to control trash in U.S. waterways, EPA will engage in discussion with states, and will address this recommendation through the development of the “water management” component of the Federal Strategy required under Section 301 of Save Our Seas 2.0. This Strategy will be a public document addressing both the waste and water components related to plastic pollution and will evaluate the requirements and hurdles posed by the Clean Water Act, as well as other regulatory requirements and nonregulatory actions. Status: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	4/22/2024
EPA Should Conduct New Residual Risk and Technology Reviews for Chloroprene- and Ethylene Oxide Emitting Source Categories to Protect Human Health	21-P-0129	5/6/2021	2. Conduct new residual risk reviews for Group I polymers and resins that cover neoprene production, synthetic organic chemical manufacturing industry, polyether polyols production, commercial sterilizers, and hospital sterilizers using the new risk values for chloroprene and ethylene oxide and revise the corresponding National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants, as needed.	OAR commits to conduct appropriate reviews to ensure that the standards for neoprene production, synthetic organic chemical manufacturing industry, polyether polyols production, and commercial sterilizers continue to provide an ample margin of safety to protect public health and that the standards for hospital sterilizers provide an ample margin of safety to protect public health. Status: On track.	9/30/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA Should Conduct New Residual Risk and Technology Reviews for Chloroprene- and Ethylene Oxide Emitting Source Categories to Protect Human Health	21-P-0129	5/6/2021	3. Revise National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for chemical manufacturing area sources to regulate ethylene oxide and conduct a residual risk review to ensure that the public is not exposed to unacceptable risks.	Technology-based standards for ethylene oxide have not yet been established for the Chemical Manufacturing Area Sources source category. Therefore, we plan to first evaluate ethylene oxide emissions from the source category, and if ethylene oxide emissions present a public health concern (i.e., by considering risk information), we will regulate ethylene oxide in the Chemical Manufacturing Area Sources rule. Regulation would involve the establishment of technology-based ethylene oxide standards pursuant to either Clean Air Act section 112(d)(5) standards or sections 112(d)(2) and 112(d)(3) standards. Within four years of promulgation, EPA would assess the risks from ethylene oxide emissions from Chemical Manufacturing Area Sources to inform us on whether an earlier review date is appropriate. Status: On track.	9/30/2028

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA Should Conduct New Residual Risk and Technology Reviews for Chloroprene- and Ethylene Oxide Emitting Source Categories to Protect Human Health	21-P-0129	5/6/2021	4. Conduct overdue technology reviews for Group I polymers and resins that cover neoprene production, synthetic organic chemical manufacturing industry, commercial sterilizers, hospital sterilizers, and chemical manufacturing area sources, which are required to be completed at least every eight years by the Clean Air Act.	OAR plans to conduct overdue technology reviews for commercial sterilizers, hospital sterilizers, Group I polymers and resins, synthetic organic chemical manufacturing, and chemical plant area sources. Status: On track.	9/30/2024
Improved Review Processes Could Advance EPA Regions 3 and 5 Oversight of State-Issued National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits.	21-P-0122	4/21/2021	2. Review the modified National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System mining permits issued by West Virginia based on the 2019 revisions to its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System program to determine whether the permits contain effluent limits for ionic pollution and other pollutants that are or may be discharged at a level that causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion above any applicable water quality standard, as required by Clean Water Act regulations. If a permit lacks required effluent limits, take appropriate action to address such deficiencies.	Develop scope of work for the project. Review data generated from permits with conditions applied as a result of the guidance to determine permits' impact on water quality and whether the assumptions underlying that guidance are supported. Where the data shows implementation of guidance is not effective in protecting water quality, provide recommendations to WVDEP and work with WVDEP to modify guidance as appropriate. Using information from data and process analysis, we will take this information into account as we review draft permits that apply WVDEP guidance and provide comment as appropriate. Status: On track.	1/31/2025

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
Improved Review Processes Could Advance EPA Regions 3 and 5 Oversight of State-Issued National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits.	21-P-0122	4/21/2021	4. Review and provide written input on any National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit prepared for reissuance by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for the PolyMet Mining Inc. NorthMet project, if applicable, as appropriate pursuant to the requirements of the Clean Water Act, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System regulations, the Region 5 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit review standard operating procedure, and the memorandum of agreement between EPA Region 5 and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.	The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has not transmitted the PolyMet National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit to EPA for review, so the status of the recommendation remains unchanged. Status: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	11/30/2024
EPA Does Not Consistently Monitor Hazardous Waste Units Closed with Waste in Place or Track and Report on Facilities That Fall Under the Two Responsible Programs	21-P-0114	3/29/2021	2. Establish mechanisms to ensure that all required inspections are completed within the required time frame of two years for operating treatment, storage, or disposal facilities and three years for nonoperating treatment, storage, or disposal facilities.	Work with the regions to develop and implement a plan to use the RCRAInfo Closed with Waste in Place Report for monitoring the inspection status of operating treatment, storage, and disposal facilities (TSDFs) with units closed with waste in place. At TSDFs for which required inspections have not been completed and are near the end of their compliance period, conduct inspections to the extent possible within the compliance period, or the following fiscal year. Status: On track.	3/29/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA Needs to Substantially Improve Oversight of Its Military Leave Processes to Prevent Improper Payments	21-P-0042	12/28/2020	2. Provide resources for supervisors, timekeepers, and reservists on their roles and responsibilities related to military leave under the law and Agency policies.	The OMS will update policy and finalize procedures to comply with statutory requirements, and OCFO will provide PeoplePlus training to support roles and responsibilities related to military leave and pay policy. Status: Delayed due to external dependencies.	10/15/2024
EPA Needs to Substantially Improve Oversight of Its Military Leave Processes to Prevent Improper Payments	21-P-0042	12/28/2020	3. Establish and implement internal controls that will allow the Agency to monitor compliance with applicable laws, federal guidance, and Agency policies, including periodic internal audits of all military leave, to verify that (a) charges by reservists are correct and supported and (b) appropriate reservist differential and military offset payroll audit calculations are being requested and performed.	The OMS will conduct periodic human capital audits to ensure compliance with the updated military leave policy, and the OCFO will work with the Interior Business Center, the EPA's payroll provider, to ensure the necessary timecard corrections identified by the OMS periodic audit were made by the employee and approved by the supervisor in accordance with agency policy. The OCFO will provide a report to the OMS confirming timecard corrections identified by the OMS periodic audit were made by the employee and approved by the supervisor for the OMS to distribute to the appropriate offices. Status: Delayed due to external dependencies.	10/1/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA Needs to Substantially Improve Oversight of Its Military Leave Processes to Prevent Improper Payments	21-P-0042	12/28/2020	4. Require reservists to correct, and supervisors to approve, military leave time charging errors in PeoplePlus that have been identified during the audit or as part of the Agency's actions related to Recommendations 5 and 6.	The OCFO will work with the Agency's payroll provider to confirm the necessary time charging errors identified in the audit were corrected by the employee and approved by the supervisor; and the OCFO will then provide a report to the OMS confirming the necessary time charging errors identified in the audit were corrected by the employee and approved by the supervisor for the OMS to distribute to the appropriate offices. Status: Delayed due to external dependencies.	9/30/2026
EPA Needs to Substantially Improve Oversight of Its Military Leave Processes to Prevent Improper Payments	21-P-0042	12/28/2020	5. Recover the approximately \$11,000 in military pay related to unsupported 5 U.S.C. § 6323(a) military leave charges, unless the Agency can obtain documentation to substantiate the validity of the reservists' military leave.	For any unsupported leave charges, the OMS will coordinate with the Interior Business Center (IBC), the Agency's payroll provider, to initiate the process to recover the military pay, and where applicable, the OCFO will recover any unsupported leave charges for out-of-service debt. Status: Delayed due to external dependencies.	8/31/2026

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA Needs to Substantially Improve Oversight of Its Military Leave Processes to Prevent Improper Payments	21-P-0042	12/28/2020	6. Submit documentation for the reservists' military leave related to the approximately \$118,000 charged under 5 U.S.C. § 6323(b) to the EPA's payroll provider so that it may perform payroll audit calculations and recover any military offsets that may be due.	The OMS will work with the EPA's programs and regions to collect documentation related to the identified military leave charges. For any unsupported leave charges, the OMS will coordinate with the IBC to initiate the process to recover any military offsets. The OCFO will recover any unsupported leave charges for out-of-service debt. Status: Delayed due to external dependencies.	8/31/2026
EPA Needs to Substantially Improve Oversight of Its Military Leave Processes to Prevent Improper Payments	21-P-0042	12/28/2020	7. Identify the population of reservists who took unpaid military leave pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 5538 and determine whether those reservists are entitled to receive a reservist differential. Based on the results of this determination, take appropriate steps to request that the EPA's payroll provider perform payroll audit calculations to identify and pay the amounts that may be due to reservists.	The OCFO will provide the OMS with the population of reservists charging military leave. The OMS will conduct a review of this population to determine which items need to be provided to the IBC for audit calculation of whether military offsets were paid accurately. For amounts due to reservists who are no longer EPA employees, the OCFO will coordinate with the IBC on the amounts due. Status: Delayed due to external dependencies.	12/31/2026

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA Needs to Substantially Improve Oversight of Its Military Leave Processes to Prevent Improper Payments	21-P-0042	12/28/2020	8. For the time periods outside of the scope of our audit (pre-January 2017 and post-June 2019), identify the population of reservists who charged military leave under 5 U.S.C. § 6323(b) or 6323(c), and determine whether military offset was paid by the reservists. If not, review reservists' military documentation to determine whether payroll audit calculations are required. If required, request that the EPA's payroll provider perform payroll audit calculations to identify and recover military offsets that may be due from the reservists under 5 U.S.C. §§ 6323 and 5519.	The OCFO will provide the OMS with the population of reservists charging military leave. The OMS will conduct a review of this population to determine which items need to be provided to the IBC for audit calculation of whether military offsets were paid accurately. For any unsupported leave charges, the OMS will coordinate with the IBC to initiate the process to recover any military offsets. The OCFO will recover any unsupported leave charges for out-of service debt. Status: Delayed due to external dependencies.	2/28/2027
EPA Needs to Substantially Improve Oversight of Its Military Leave Processes to Prevent Improper Payments	21-P-0042	12/28/2020	9. Report all amounts of improper payments resulting from paid military leave for inclusion in the annual Agency Financial Report, as required by the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019.	The OCFO will report any paid military leave amounts identified as an improper payment(s) within the annual Agency Financial Report for the applicable fiscal year; and the OCFO also will perform an internal control review on military leave pay during the FY 2021 A-123 Internal Review period and report any identified improper payment amounts in the FY 2021 Annual Financial Report. Status: Delayed due to external dependencies.	12/1/2025

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
Region 2's Hurricanes Irma and Maria Response Efforts in Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands Show the Need for Improved Planning, Communications, and Assistance for Small Drinking Water Systems	21-P-0032	12/3/2020	<p>3. In coordination with the Office of Water, implement America's Water Infrastructure Act in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands by:</p> <p>a. Developing and implementing a strategy to provide training, guidance, and assistance to small drinking water systems as they improve their resilience.</p> <p>b. Establishing a process for small drinking water systems to apply for America's Water Infrastructure Act grants. This process should include (1) implementing the EPA's May 2020 guidance provided to small drinking water systems regarding resilience assessments and (2) establishing a public information campaign to inform small drinking water systems of the America's Water Infrastructure Act grant opportunity, qualifying requirements, and application deadlines.</p>	EPA Office of Water will be promoting and conducting a series of America's Water Infrastructure Act section 2013 virtual workshops aimed at systems serving 3,301- 49,999 people, including a workshop focused on Region 2 water systems, to include Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands. Small water systems and technical assistance providers in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are welcome to attend these workshops to assist them in developing risk and resilience assessments and emergency response plans. EPA plans to publish guidance for systems serving less than 3,300 people. EPA also plans to publish a Spanish version of this guidance to make it more accessible to small systems and technical assistance providers in Puerto Rico. Status: Delayed due to external dependencies.	6/30/2024
EPA's External Civil Rights Compliance Office's Response to Title VI Air Complaints	20-E-0333	9/28/2020	<p>1. Develop and implement a plan to coordinate relevant agency program, regional, and administrative offices with the External Civil Rights Compliance Office to develop guidance on permitting and cumulative impacts related to Title VI.</p>	The External Civil Rights Compliance Office (ECRCO) will issue guidance to clarify the Agency's interpretations of legal requirements and expectations to stakeholders. Status: Delayed due to staffing constraints.	10/1/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA's External Civil Rights Compliance Office's Response to Title VI Air Complaints	20-E-0333	9/28/2020	5. Determine how to use existing or new data to identify and target funding recipients for proactive compliance reviews, and develop or update policy, guidance, and standard operating procedures for collecting and using those data.	ECRCO will be determining how to use data to identify and target funding recipients for proactive compliance reviews, as discussed in response to Recommendation 2, and, also, will develop or update policy, guidance, and SOPs, as appropriate, for the collection and use of data by recipients. ERCO will develop and release Foundational nondiscrimination Program Guidance, which includes section on data collection and reporting; release technical assistance video, and release data analytics guidance. Status: Delayed due to staffing constraints.	10/1/2024
EPA's External Civil Rights Compliance Office's Response to Title VI Air Complaints	20-E-0333	9/28/2020	6. Develop and deliver training for the deputy civil rights officials and EPA regional staff that focuses on their respective roles and responsibilities within the EPA's Title VI program.	ECRCO will provide training to all EPA staff involved in the form review process and will release a technical assistance video. ECRCO will provide additional training courses to EPA staff on civil rights topics and issues on a regular basis. For example, in addition to training in FY22 on the Form review process, ECRCO will offer training in FY23 as ECRCO issues guidance and works with national media programs and regional offices to ensure Title VI compliance is integrated into agency-wide oversight activities. Status: Delayed due to staffing constraints.	3/31/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
Further Efforts Needed to Uphold Scientific Integrity Policy at EPA	20-P-0173	5/20/2020	6. In coordination with the assistant administrator for Mission Support, complete the development and implementation of the electronic clearance system for scientific products across the Agency.	OMS, ORD Office of Scientific Information Management (OSIM), and the Scientific Integrity Committee will coordinate to complete modification and Agency-wide implementation of ORD's Scientific & Technical Information Clearance System to an agency-wide electronic clearance system for scientific products across the Agency. The system will be consistent with the Scientific Integrity Policy and our Best Practices document and with the Agency's Plan to Increase Access to the Results of EPA-Funded Scientific Research. Status: Delayed due to external dependencies.	6/30/2024
Further Efforts Needed to Uphold Scientific Integrity Policy at EPA	20-P-0173	5/20/2020	7. With the assistance of the Scientific Integrity Committee, finalize and release the procedures for addressing and resolving allegations of a violation of the Scientific Integrity Policy, and incorporate the procedures into scientific integrity outreach and training materials.	The Agency will release the Procedures document. It will be posted on the Agency's website. The Scientific Integrity Program will create and release appropriate outreach materials to ensure EPA employees and their managers understand these procedures. Status: Delayed due to external dependencies.	6/30/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
Further Efforts Needed to Uphold Scientific Integrity Policy at EPA	20-P-0173	5/20/2020	8. With the assistance of the Scientific Integrity Committee, develop and implement a process specifically to address and resolve allegations of Scientific Integrity Policy violations involving high-profile issues or senior officials, and specify when this process should be used.	EPA will amend the procedures document referenced in recommendation 7, to include a process to adjudicate allegations of Scientific Integrity Policy violations involving high-profile issues or senior officials in the Agency for which the Scientific Integrity Official or Scientific Integrity Committee does not feel it can adequately adjudicate via existing procedures and include an indicator for when the process should be used. Status: Delayed due to external dependencies.	6/30/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA's Processing Times for New Source Air Permits in Indian Country Have Improved, but Many Still Exceed Regulatory Time Frames	20-P-0146	4/22/2020	1. Implement a system that is accessible to both the EPA and the applicants to track the processing of all tribal-New-Source-Review permits and key permit dates including application received, application completed, draft permit issued, public comment period (if applicable), and final permit issuance.	OAR's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards has already begun work on the Electronic Permit System (EPS), which will include a module to receive and process applications for the EPA-issued tribal new source review permits. Specifically, this module will allow sources to submit electronic applications for tribal minor NSR permits and then allow the EPA staff to process those applications in EPS. The system will allow the EPA staff to update the status of the application and permit to reflect when the application is complete, the draft permit is issued, the beginning and ending of the public comment period, and the issuance of the final permit and response to public comments document. Status: Delayed due to resource constraints.	9/30/2024
EPA's Processing Times for New Source Air Permits in Indian Country Have Improved, but Many Still Exceed Regulatory Time Frames	20-P-0146	4/22/2020	2. Establish and implement an oversight process to verify that the regions update the permit tracking system on a periodic basis with the correct and required information.	Upon completion of the EPS, the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards will work with the regional offices to establish an oversight process to ensure complete, consistent, and timely entry of data into the EPS. Status: Delayed due to resource constraints.	9/30/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA Effectively Screens Air Emissions Data from Continuous Monitoring Systems but Could Enhance Verification of System Performance	19-P-0207	6/27/2019	1. Develop and implement electronic checks in the EPA's Emissions Collection and Monitoring Plan System or through an alternative mechanism to retroactively evaluate emissions and quality assurance data in instances where monitoring plan changes are submitted after the emissions and quality assurance data have already been accepted by the EPA.	The Clean Air Markets Division (CAMD) has implemented a post submission data check that is run at the end of each reporting period. In the long term, the CAMD will implement an additional check in the Emissions Collection and Monitoring Plan (ECMPS) forcing retroactive span record changes to require the reevaluation and resubmission of any affected quality assurance tests and hourly emissions records. CAMD has initiated the process of reengineering ECMPS. In order to minimize additional expenditures on the current version of ECMPS, CAMD will focus on adding the check to the new version of ECMPS. Status: On track.	3/31/2025
Pesticide Registration Fee, Vulnerability Mitigation and Database Security Controls for EPA's FIFRA and PRIA Systems Need Improvement	19-P-0195	6/21/2019	2. Complete the actions and milestones identified in the Office of Pesticide Programs' PRIA Maintenance Fee Risk Assessment document and associated plan regarding the fee payment and refund posting processes.	OCSPP's Office of Pesticide Programs will complete the actions and milestones identified in the Office of Pesticide Programs' Pesticide Registration Improvement Act Maintenance Fee Risk Assessment document and associated plan regarding the fee payment and refund posting processes. Status: Delayed due to external dependencies.	1/31/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA Needs a Comprehensive Vision and Strategy for Citizen Science that Aligns with Its Strategic Objectives on Public Participation	18-P-0240	9/5/2018	2. Through appropriate EPA offices, direct completion of an assessment to identify the data management requirements for using citizen science data and an action plan for addressing those requirements, including those on sharing and using data, data format/standards, and data testing/validation.	The Agency concurs with this recommendation and will complete an assessment and action plan to identify and address data management requirements for citizen science. Status: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	6/30/2024
EPA Needs to Evaluate the Impact of the Revised Agricultural Worker Protection Standard on Pesticide Exposure Incidents	18-P-0080	2/15/2018	1. The Assistant Administrator for Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention, in coordination with the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, shall develop and implement a methodology to evaluate the impact of the revised Agricultural Worker Protection Standard on pesticide exposure incidents among target populations.	OCSPP will: (1) collect and review data related to the extent to which agricultural workers obtain knowledge through trainings; (2) collect and review incident data; and (3) after reviewing training and incident data, analyze the need to collect additional information to help evaluate the impact of the revised Worker Protection Standard. Status: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	6/28/2024
Improved Management of the Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Program Is Required to Maximize Cleanups	17-P-0368	8/23/2017	14. Develop and implement a method for the Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization to track closed cooperative agreements with pre- and post-program income.	OBLR will work with the regions to develop and implement a method such as a tool, a spreadsheet, or a database, to track pre- and post-close out program income until termination of the closed out cooperative agreements in accordance with the reporting requirements listed under the closeout agreement. Status: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	9/30/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
Additional Measures Can Be Taken to Prevent Deaths and Serious Injuries From Residential Fumigations	17-P-0053	12/12/2016	3. Conduct an assessment of clearance devices to validate their effectiveness in detecting required clearance levels, as part of the Office of Pesticide Programs ongoing reevaluation of structural fumigants. The program will implement this corrective action in two phases: 3a.OCSPP anticipates that phase one will consist of revised mitigation measures to be reflected in a Final Interim Re-entry Mitigation Measures Memorandum. 3b. In phase 2, OCSPP will revise sulfuryl labels.	Based on the comment content and the time needed to review the new data, the timeframe for responding and publishing a revised document outlining required sulfuryl fluoride label changes will be delayed from OCSPP's original plan and will likely involve phased implementation (label requirements) for some of the measures. OCSPP anticipates that revised mitigation measures will be reflected in a Final Interim Re-entry Mitigation Measures Memorandum to be issued by 3/31/23. OCSPP anticipates that the mitigation measures will be reflected in revised and accepted sulfuryl fluoride labels by 9/30/23. Status: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	2/15/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA Has Not Met Certain Statutory Requirements to Identify Environmental Impacts of Renewable Fuel Standard	16-P-0275	8/18/2016	2. Complete the anti-backsliding study on the air quality impacts of the Renewable Fuel Standard as required by the Energy Independence and Security Act.	EPA has already taken a number of steps that are important prerequisites for the anti-backsliding study. There are multiple intermediate research steps that still need to be completed before OAR can plan, fund, and conduct a comprehensive anti-backsliding study. These steps include development of baseline, current, and projected scenarios for how renewable fuels have and might be produced, distributed, and used to fulfill the Renewable Fuel Standard requirements, generation of emissions inventories, and air quality modeling, all of which are time consuming and resource intensive. Status: On track.	9/30/2024
EPA Has Not Met Certain Statutory Requirements to Identify Environmental Impacts of Renewable Fuel Standard	16-P-0275	8/18/2016	3. Determine whether additional action is needed to mitigate any adverse air quality impacts of the Renewable Fuel Standard as required by the Energy Independence and Security Act.	OAR acknowledges the statute's requirement to determine whether additional action is needed to mitigate any adverse air quality impacts in light of the anti-backsliding study. That study, discussed in Corrective Action 2, would need to be completed prior to any such determination taking place. Status: On track.	9/30/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA Has Not Met Statutory Requirements for Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facility Inspections, but Inspection Rates Are High	16-P-0104	3/11/2016	1. Implement management controls to complete the required TSDF inspections.	OECA will work with the regions to monitor TSDF inspection frequency, develop and implement a plan to identify TSDFs not yet inspected near the end of the required inspection cycle, and conduct inspections to the extent possible within the compliance period or the following fiscal year. Status: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	3/29/2024
Internal Controls Needed to Control Costs of Emergency and Rapid Response Services Contracts, as Exemplified in Region 6	14-P-0109	2/4/2014	3. Direct COs to require that the contractor adjust all its billings to reflect the application of the correct rate to team subcontract ODCs.	Region 6 agrees to require the contractor to adjust all of its past billings to reflect the application of the composite rate to team subcontractor other direct costs that were arranged for and paid for by the team-subcontractor. We intend to implement the corrective action when final indirect cost rates are established. Therefore, the contract officer will be directed to defer past billing adjustments until the DCAA audits the indirect cost rates and the EPA Financial Administrative Contracting Officer negotiates, approves, and issues a Final Indirect Cost Agreement for the past billing periods (i.e., Years 2007 to 2013). Status: On track.	9/30/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA's Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program Should Establish Management Controls to Ensure More Timely Results	11-P-0215	5/3/2011	<p>4. Develop short-term, intermediate, and long-term outcome performance measures, and additional output performance measures, with appropriate targets and timeframes, to measure the progress and results of the program.</p> <p>Rec. 4a: Short term performance measures will be developed and tracked.</p> <p>Rec. 4b: Long term performance measures, including testing for EDSP activities in pesticides will be developed and tracked.</p>	<p>Short term performance measures will be developed by and tracked. Long term performance measures, including at least one measure that tracks progress in the evaluation and testing of pesticides for human endocrine disruptor activity, will be developed and tracked by October 1, 2024.</p> <p>Status: On track.</p>	10/1/2024
EPA's Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program Should Establish Management Controls to Ensure More Timely Results	11-P-0215	5/3/2011	<p>6. Annually review the EDSP program results, progress toward milestones, and achievement of performance measures, including explanations for any missed milestones or targets.</p>	<p>OCSPP will conduct the first annual internal program review of the EDSP and provide a briefing and report out to the OCSPP Assistant Administrator on EDSP progress, especially as it relates to the Corrective Actions in this Report and progress developing the EDSP Strategic Plan. Status: Delayed due to leadership change.</p>	3/31/2024

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target
EPA Should Revise Outdated or Inconsistent EPA-State Clean Water Act Memoranda of Agreement	10-P-0224	9/14/2010	2-2. Develop a systematic approach to identify which States have outdated or inconsistent MOAs, renegotiate and update those MOAs using the MOA template, and secure the active involvement and final, documented concurrence of Headquarters to ensure national consistency.	EPA has completed the review of all the EPA-State Memorandums of Agreement (MOAs). Ten authorized National pollutant discharge elimination system states were identified as being problematic. EPA Regions and States have completed actions to update MOAs to satisfy concerns identified in the corrective action plan for three states: Iowa, Missouri, and Virginia. At this time, seven MOAs are still in the process of being corrected. Status: Delayed due to external dependencies.	4/30/2025
Making Better Use of Stringfellow Superfund Special Accounts	08-P-0196	7/9/2008	2. Reclassify or transfer to the Trust Fund, as appropriate, \$27.8 million (plus any earned interest less oversight costs) of the Stringfellow special accounts in annual reviews, and at other milestones including the end of fiscal year 2010, when the record of decision is signed, and the final settlement is achieved	The EPA retains the funds in reserve because final clean-up figures have not been established. Status: Delayed due to external dependencies.	9/30/2026

GAO-IG Act, Government Accountability Office Open Recommendations - As of January 31, 2024

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Clean Water Act: EPA Should Track Control of Combined Sewer Overflows and Water Quality Improvements	GAO-23-105285	1/25/2023	1. The Assistant Administrator of the Office of Water should develop a performance goal and measure(s) to track and assess the status of long-term control plans or other control plans for municipalities with CSOs.	OECA is leading the development of the Phase 2 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Electronic Reporting Rule and they have shared that they expect to release the data by December 2025.
Clean Water Act: EPA Should Track Control of Combined Sewer Overflows and Water Quality Improvements	GAO-23-105285	1/25/2023	2. The Assistant Administrator of the Office of Water should develop a performance goal and measures to track and assess the improvements to water quality resulting from CSO controls implemented by municipalities with CSOs.	OECA is leading the development of the Phase 2 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Electronic Reporting Rule and they have shared that they expect to release the data by December 2025.
Clean Water Act: EPA Should Track Control of Combined Sewer Overflows and Water Quality Improvements	GAO-23-105285	1/25/2023	3. The Assistant Administrator of the Office of Water should report on nationwide progress and results of municipalities' efforts to control CSOs.	OECA is leading the development of the Phase 2 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Electronic Reporting Rule and they have shared that they expect to release the data by December 2025.
Wildfire Smoke: Opportunities to Strengthen Federal Efforts to Manage Growing Risks	GAO-23-104723	3/13/2023	1. The Administrator of EPA should develop and document a coordinated approach for EPA's actions to help communities prepare for and respond to the air quality and public health risks of wildfire smoke. The approach should align with leading practices for collaboration, including establishing goals, identifying and leveraging resources, and clarifying key stakeholder roles and responsibilities.	On November 9, 2023, EPA, USDA, DOI, and CDC signed a memorandum of understanding to address wildfire risk and protect communities from smoke. The four agencies also released a joint plan outlining wildland fire-related priorities the agencies will focus on over the next two years.
Wildfire Smoke: Opportunities to Strengthen Federal Efforts to Manage Growing Risks	GAO-23-104723	3/13/2023	2. The Administrator of EPA should work with the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior to better align air quality and land management goals for wildfire risk mitigation and establish joint strategies for achieving those goals.	On November 9, 2023, EPA, USDA, DOI, and CDC signed a memorandum of understanding to address wildfire risk and protect communities from smoke. The four agencies also released a joint plan outlining wildland fire-related priorities the agencies will focus on over the next two years.
Wildfire Smoke: Opportunities to Strengthen Federal Efforts to Manage Growing Risks	GAO-23-104723	3/13/2023	5. The Administrator of EPA should, in consultation with federal land management agencies, identify and develop additional information on reducing risks from wildfire smoke to air quality and public health through wildfire risk mitigation.	On November 9, 2023, EPA, USDA, DOI, and CDC signed a memorandum of understanding to address wildfire risk and protect communities from smoke. The four agencies also released a joint plan outlining wildland fire-related priorities the agencies will focus on over the next two years.

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Wildfire Smoke: Opportunities to Strengthen Federal Efforts to Manage Growing Risks	GAO-23-104723	3/13/2023	6. The Director of EPA's Office of Air and Radiation should work with EPA's tribal, state, and local partners to evaluate options for providing incentives for and supporting wildfire risk mitigation and establish a plan for implementing appropriate options, seeking additional authority from Congress if needed.	On November 9, 2023, EPA, USDA, DOI, and CDC signed a memorandum of understanding to address wildfire risk and protect communities from smoke. The four agencies also released a joint plan outlining wildland fire-related priorities the agencies will focus on over the next two years.
Renewable Fuel Standard: Actions Needed to Improve Decision-Making in the Small Refinery Exemption Program	GAO-23-104273	11/3/2022	1. The Administrator of EPA should reassess EPA's conclusion that all small refineries recover their RFS compliance costs in the price of the gasoline and diesel they sell, including by fully examining and documenting RIN market performance and RIN pass-through in all relevant fuel markets.	While EPA disagreed with this recommendation, the EPA did complete the analysis GAO recommended and posted the results on EPA's website in December 2022. EPA considers this recommendation to be fully implemented and requested closure in December 2023.
Renewable Fuel Standard: Actions Needed to Improve Decision-Making in the Small Refinery Exemption Program	GAO-23-104273	11/3/2022	2. The Administrator of EPA should identify and communicate what information refineries would need to submit to demonstrate disproportionate economic hardship.	EPA intends to satisfy this recommendation before the end FY 2024 Quarter 2.
Renewable Fuel Standard: Actions Needed to Improve Decision-Making in the Small Refinery Exemption Program	GAO-23-104273	11/3/2022	3. The Administrator of EPA should develop policies and procedures for making small refinery exemption decisions.	Among other things, the EPA intends to continue to update the guidance it provides for future SRE exemptions. The Agency continues to work on this recommendation and will respond to GAO once complete.
Renewable Fuel Standard: Actions Needed to Improve Decision-Making in the Small Refinery Exemption Program	GAO-23-104273	11/3/2022	4. The Administrator of EPA should develop policies and procedures to ensure that EPA meets statutory deadlines to issue decisions, including tracking when petitions are considered complete.	The Agency intends to better document its internal processes for receiving petitions, the processes for checking the petitions for completeness and more completely tracking the internal decision making and review steps, including coordination with DOE. continues to work on this recommendation and will respond to GAO once complete.
Renewable Fuel Standard: Actions Needed to Improve Decision-Making in the Small Refinery Exemption Program	GAO-23-104273	11/3/2022	5. The Administrator of EPA should assess the effect of small refinery exemption decision timing on the benefit provided to small refineries, as well as the effect on fuel markets, and reconsider petition requirements, such as that of three quarters of current year financial information.	The EPA continues to work toward implementation of this recommendation and will respond to GAO once complete.

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Persistent Chemicals: EPA Should Use New Data to Analyze the Demographics of Communities with PFAS in Their Drinking Water	GAO-22-105135	9/30/2022	1. The EPA Administrator should conduct a nationwide analysis using comprehensive data such as the forthcoming fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule data to determine the demographic characteristics of communities with PFAS in their drinking water.	EPA will be requesting to close out this recommendation as EPA continues to collect data. In November 2023 EPA released the second set of preliminary Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule results and will continue to update results approximately quarterly through completion of the occurrence data collection.
Privacy: Dedicated Leadership Can Improve Programs and Address Challenges	GAO-22-105065	9/22/2022	44. The Administrator of EPA should fully develop and document a privacy continuous monitoring strategy.	EPA considers this recommendation to be fully implemented and thus requests its closure.
Oil and Gas: Federal Actions Needed to Address Methane Emissions from Oil and Gas Development	GAO-22-104759	5/20/2022	1. The EPA Administrator should provide greater flexibility to operators for using alternative technologies to detect methane emissions.	On December 2, 2023, EPA announced a final rule that will sharply reduce emissions of methane and other harmful air pollution from oil and natural gas operations including, for the first time, from existing sources nationwide. The final rule includes provisions that allows owners and operators greater flexibility in the use of advanced methane detection technologies including combinations of different technologies to identify leaks at well sites, centralized production facilities, and compressor stations. The rule also creates a streamlined pathway for owners and operators to demonstrate that new technologies meet the performance requirements in the rule, helping ensure that the rule keeps up with the pace of innovation in this sector.
Small Business Research Programs: Agencies Should Further Improve Award Timeliness	GAO-22-104677	10/14/2021	14. The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency should evaluate the effectiveness of steps taken to improve SBIR award timeliness and take any necessary additional steps in order to consistently meet SBA award timeliness guidelines.	Agency actions are complete. However, GAO requires outyear data to confirm consistent implementation. Closure is anticipated after an additional cycle.

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Refined Coal Production Tax Credit: Coordinated Agency Review Could Help Ensure the Credit Achieves Its Intended Purpose	GAO-22-104637	12/15/2021	3. If Congress extends the refined coal production tax credit, the Administrator of the EPA should coordinate with Treasury, IRS, and DOE to review the performance of the credit in achieving its intended purpose and identify and implement, as appropriate, any improvements towards achieving that intended purpose, such as adjustments to allowable emissions testing methods.	Congress elected not to include the refined coal tax credit when renewing similar energy tax credits in the Inflation Reduction Act - a precondition of the recommendation. The Agency requested closure of the recommendation in December 2023.
Chemical Accident Prevention: EPA Should Ensure Regulated Facilities Consider Risks from Climate Change	GAO-22-104494	2/28/2022	3. The Assistant Administrator of the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance and Director of the Office of Emergency Management, together with EPA officials at regional offices, should provide additional compliance assistance to RMP facilities related to risks from natural hazards and climate change.	The Agency is working on a final rule, which is expected to be complete by December 2023. After the final rule is published, the Agency still intends to incorporate methods and/or materials related to assessing the sufficiency of Risk Management Program facilities' incorporation of risks from natural hazards and climate change into the Risk Management Program Inspector Training course.
Chemical Accident Prevention: EPA Should Ensure Regulated Facilities Consider Risks from Climate Change	GAO-22-104494	2/28/2022	4. The Assistant Administrator of the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance should design an information system to track common deficiencies found during inspections, including any related to natural hazards and climate change, and use this information to target compliance assistance.	The EPA agrees with the goal of this recommendation. In Spring 2023, the Agency reported that it had completed the written business process for identifying common deficiencies and had begun the implementation. EPA requested closure of this recommendation in December 2023.
Chemical Accident Prevention: EPA Should Ensure Regulated Facilities Consider Risks from Climate Change	GAO-22-104494	2/28/2022	5. The Director of the Office of Emergency Management should issue regulations, guidance, or both, as appropriate, to clarify requirements and provide direction for RMP facilities on how to incorporate risks from natural hazards and climate change into their risk management programs.	EPA agreed with this recommendation. The Agency published a proposed rule in August 2022, which includes amendments that would explicitly require Risk Management Program facilities to consider the risks of external events such as natural hazards, including those caused by climate change. EPA expects to publish the final rule by the end of FY 2024 Quarter 2.

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Chemical Accident Prevention: EPA Should Ensure Regulated Facilities Consider Risks from Climate Change	GAO-22-104494	2/28/2022	1. The Assistant Administrator of the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance and Director of the Office of Emergency Management should develop a method for inspectors to assess the sufficiency of RMP facilities' incorporation of risks from natural hazards and climate change into risk management programs and provide related guidance and training to inspectors.	EPA agreed with this recommendation. The Agency is working on a proposal to revise the Risk Management Program regulations and expects to complete the revisions by December 2023. After the final rule is published, the Agency stated that it intends to incorporate methods and/or materials related to assessing the sufficiency of Risk Management Program facilities' incorporation of risks from natural hazards and climate change into the Risk Management Program Inspector Training course.
Chemical Accident Prevention: EPA Should Ensure Regulated Facilities Consider Risks from Climate Change	GAO-22-104494	2/28/2022	2. The Assistant Administrator of the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, working with officials at regional offices, should incorporate vulnerability of RMP facilities to natural hazards and climate change as criteria when selecting facilities for inspection.	In the prior National Enforcement and Compliance Initiatives cycle, national workgroups focused on identifying ways to incorporate climate data and associated risks into targeting and inspection activities. These were incorporated into workgroup deliverables and are being implemented by inspectors.
Water Quality: Agencies Should Take More Actions to Manage Risks from Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia	GAO-22-104449	6/15/2022	1. The Administrator of NOAA and the Administrator of EPA, in collaboration with the members of the working group, should document and define what a national HAB and hypoxia program would entail, including identifying the program's resource needs.	EPA, NOAA, and interagency working group members are continuing to work to define what a national program would entail, including identifying the program's goals, objectives, milestones, and resource needs. This information will be incorporated into the 2024 Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control National Assessment.
Water Quality: Agencies Should Take More Actions to Manage Risks from Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia	GAO-22-104449	6/15/2022	2. The Administrator of NOAA and the Administrator of EPA, in collaboration with the members of the working group, should develop performance measures to assess the working group's efforts, including the extent to which the recommended goals from the Research Plan and Action Strategy have been achieved.	EPA, NOAA, and interagency working group members are working to develop performance measures to assess the working group's efforts. This information will be incorporated into the 2024 Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control National Assessment.
Water Quality: Agencies Should Take More Actions to Manage Risks from Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia	GAO-22-104449	6/15/2022	3. The Administrator of EPA, working with the other members of the working group, should develop an interagency framework, including prioritizing water bodies and identifying resource needs, to expand monitoring of freshwater HABs and hypoxia.	EPA and NOAA are working to develop an interagency framework, including prioritizing water bodies, and identifying resource needs to expand monitoring of freshwater harmful algal blooms and hypoxia.

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Water Quality: Agencies Should Take More Actions to Manage Risks from Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia	GAO-22-104449	6/15/2022	4. The Administrator of EPA, working with the other members of the working group, should develop an interagency framework, including prioritizing water bodies and identifying resource needs, to expand forecasting of freshwater HABs and hypoxia.	EPA and NOAA along with interagency working group members are working to develop an interagency framework, including prioritizing water bodies, and identifying resource needs to expand forecasting of freshwater harmful algal blooms and hypoxia.
Water Quality: Agencies Should Take More Actions to Manage Risks from Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia	GAO-22-104449	6/15/2022	5. The Administrator of NOAA and the Administrator of EPA, in collaboration with the members of the working group, should develop a national goal for the group focused on efforts to prevent HABs and hypoxia.	EPA and NOAA along with interagency working group members continue to work to develop a national harmful algal blooms program prevention goal. This new goal, that is delayed to March 2024, will be incorporated into the "Interagency Working Group One-pager" which will serve as an up-to-date summary of the working group's structure and function.
Water Quality: Agencies Should Take More Actions to Manage Risks from Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia	GAO-22-104449	6/15/2022	6. The Administrator of NOAA and the Administrator of EPA, in collaboration with the members of the working group, should coordinate the development of a more comprehensive body of information on the costs and benefits of mitigation, control, and prevention actions for use by state, local, and tribal governments.	EPA and NOAA are working to coordinate the development of a more comprehensive body of information on the costs and benefits of mitigation, control, and prevention actions for use by state, local, and tribal governments. This information will be incorporated into the 2024 Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control National Assessment.
Offshore Oil Spills: Additional Information is Needed to Better Understand the Environmental Tradeoffs of Using Chemical Dispersants	GAO-22-104153	12/15/2021	2. The Administrator of EPA should work with the Coast Guard and other agencies to conduct assessments, such as biological assessments or ecological risk assessments, and examining the potential effects of the subsurface use of dispersants on ocean ecosystems in regions where this is considered a viable response option.	The Agency plans to provide support to the Coast Guard and coordinate with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and other agencies to identify assessment methodologies and examine potential effects of the subsurface use of dispersants on ocean ecosystems for select regions. Implementation has external dependencies, so a firm estimate for completion is not yet available.

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Recycling: Building on Existing Federal Efforts Could Help Address Cross-Cutting Challenges	GAO-21-87	12/18/2020	1. The Director of EPA's Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery should develop an implementation plan for conducting a study and developing recommendations for administrative or legislative action regarding the effect of existing public policies, and the likely effect of modifying or eliminating such incentives and disincentives, upon the reuse, recycling, and conservation of materials, as required by RCRA.	The EPA initiated an analysis that examines the impacts of different policies, incentives, and disincentives on driving a circular economy. This analysis includes a literature review of existing domestic and international policies related to recycling. The final report will include recommendations on effective policies or administrative actions. EPA completed drafts of the final report and anticipates releasing the report by June 30, 2023.
Recycling: Building on Existing Federal Efforts Could Help Address Cross-Cutting Challenges	GAO-21-87	12/18/2020	2. The Director of EPA's Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery should develop an implementation plan for conducting a study and developing recommendations for administrative or legislative action regarding the necessity and method of imposing disposal or other charges on packaging, containers, vehicles, and other manufactured goods to reflect the cost of final disposal, the value of recoverable components of the item, and any social costs associated with nonrecycling or uncontrolled disposal, as required by RCRA.	On November 15, 2021, EPA released its final National Recycling Strategy. This strategy committed EPA to conducting a study on reflecting environmental and social costs in product prices. Per the strategy, the Agency will develop an implementation plan with more specificity about this action and the organizational lead. The EPA completed a draft of the study, and it is currently undergoing review. Release of the study is anticipated by June 30, 2023.
Recycling: Building on Existing Federal Efforts Could Help Address Cross-Cutting Challenges	GAO-21-87	12/18/2020	3. The Director of EPA's Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery should, while EPA finalizes and implements its national recycling strategy, incorporate desirable characteristics for effective national strategies, including (1) identifying the resources and investments needed, and balancing the risk reductions with costs; (2) clarifying the roles and responsibilities of participating entities; and (3) articulating how it will implement the strategy and integrate new activities into existing programs and activities.	EPA released the National Recycling Strategy on November 15, 2021. EPA completed the implementation plan online platform. Since then, EPA has undertaken several efforts to implement the Strategy. GAO is reviewing the implementation plan.
Environmental Protection: Action Needed to Ensure EPA's Enforcement and Compliance Activities Support Its Strategic Goals	GAO-21-82	12/9/2020	1. The Assistant Administrator for EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance should communicate final guidance for future national initiative cycles to all states before the effective date of the national initiatives.	EPA has begun the FY24 – FY27 National Enforcement and Compliance Initiatives selection process and recently engaged the Environmental Council of States prior to release of the public Federal Register Notice.

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Environmental Protection: Action Needed to Ensure EPA's Enforcement and Compliance Activities Support Its Strategic Goals	GAO-21-82	12/9/2020	2. The Assistant Administrator for EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance should incorporate lessons learned from the initial effort to engage earlier and more continuously with states when developing the office's plan for how EPA will work with states on future national initiatives.	EPA has begun the FY24 – FY27 National Enforcement and Compliance Initiatives selection process and recently engaged the Environmental Council of States prior to release of the public Federal Register Notice.
Drinking Water: EPA Could Use Available Data to Better Identify Neighborhoods at Risk of Lead Exposure	GAO-21-78	12/18/2020	1. Assistant Administrator for Water should develop guidance for water systems that outlines methods to use ACS data and, where available, geospatial lead or other data to identify high-risk locations in which to focus lead reduction efforts, including tap sampling and lead service line replacement efforts.	The Agency developed Guidance for Developing and Maintaining a Service Line Inventory. The document includes factors for when a system may want to prioritize investigations at locations served by unknown service lines. Implementation is ongoing.
Drinking Water: EPA Could Use Available Data to Better Identify Neighborhoods at Risk of Lead Exposure	GAO-21-78	12/18/2020	3. EPA's Assistant Administrator for Water should develop a strategic plan that meets the WIIN Act requirement for providing targeted outreach, education, technical assistance, and risk communication to populations affected by the concentration of lead in public water systems, and that is fully consistent with leading practices for strategic plans.	EPA continues to disagree with the recommendation and believe that the Agency met the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act requirement. Furthermore, EPA developed a strategic plan for targeted outreach to populations affected by lead. The plan outlines the new Water Infrastructure Improvements requirements and identifies the roles and responsibilities for EPA, states, and Public Water Systems.
Drinking Water: EPA Could Use Available Data to Better Identify Neighborhoods at Risk of Lead Exposure	GAO-21-78	12/18/2020	2. EPA's Assistant Administrator for Water should incorporate use of (1) ACS data on neighborhood characteristics potentially associated with the presence of lead service lines and (2) geospatial lead data, when available, into EPA's efforts to address the Federal Action Plan to Reduce Childhood Lead Exposures and Associated Health Impacts.	The Agency has developed Guidance for Developing and Maintaining a Service Line Inventory. In the document there is a section on "Inventory Planning" that discusses various approaches that can be used to establish lead service line inventories. While the Lead and Copper Rule does not require a specific format for the service line inventory, the guidance includes a section titled "How to Make the Data Publicly Available" including recommendations on webbased map applications. Implementation is ongoing.

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Farmworkers: Additional Information Needed to Better Protect Workers from Pesticide Exposure	GAO-21-63	1/15/2021	2. The Director for EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs should, in the Agency's guidance, on its website, or through another mechanism, explain EPA's expectations about the appropriate use of the pesticide information obtained by a designated representative, including describing potential misuse of such information.	In December 2021, the Agency completed an assessment to determine whether the designated representative provision is fulfilling its intended purpose and how EPA can support understanding and compliance with the provision. The EPA now expects to implement this recommendation by the end of Quarter 2, FY 2024.
Air Pollution: Opportunities to Better Sustain and Modernize the National Air Quality Monitoring System	GAO-21-38	11/12/2020	2. The Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Air and Radiation, in consultation with state and local agencies, should develop, make public, and implement an asset management framework for consistently sustaining the national ambient air quality monitoring system. Such a framework could be designed for success by considering the key characteristics of effective asset management described in our report, such as identifying the resources needed to sustain the monitoring system, using quality data to manage infrastructure risks, and targeting resources toward assets that provide the greatest value.	The Agency continues to work with state, local, and tribal partners. Implementation is ongoing.
Air Pollution: Opportunities to Better Sustain and Modernize the National Air Quality Monitoring System	GAO-21-38	11/12/2020	1. The Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Air and Radiation, in consultation with state and local agencies and other relevant federal agencies, should develop and make public an air quality monitoring modernization plan to better meet the additional information needs of air quality managers, researchers, and the public. Such a plan could address the ongoing challenges in modernizing the national ambient air quality monitoring system by considering leading practices, including establishing priorities and roles, assessing risks to success, identifying the resources needed to achieve goals, and measuring and evaluating progress.	EPA will continue to work with stakeholders to establish an approach, goals, and priorities for an air quality monitoring modernization plan. Implementation is ongoing.

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Private Water Utilities: Actions Needed to Enhance Ownership Data	GAO-21-291	3/26/2021	The Assistant Administrator for EPA's Office of Water should develop definitions for all utility ownership types for regional offices and states to use when entering data on ownership type in EPA's Safe Drinking Water Information System and should verify and correct the data as needed.	The modernized Safe Drinking Water Information System is expected to be available for states to begin transitioning to the system by end of 2024 and the length of transition period will depend on states and their available resources to transition. EPA expects the definition development will be in the later part of the Safe Drinking Water Information System development when additional fields will be added.
Private Water Utilities: Actions Needed to Enhance Ownership Data	GAO-21-291	3/26/2021	1. Assistant Administrator for EPA's Office of Water should conduct another Community Water System Survey to establish an updated, accurate baseline of drinking water utility information for rulemaking and other purposes.	The Agency has initiated work to conduct another Community Water System Survey. Implementation is ongoing.
Clean Water Act: EPA Needs to Better Assess and Disclose Quality of Compliance and Enforcement Data	GAO-21-290	7/12/2021	1. The Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance should revise its guidance to select files for its State Review Framework assessments of state-reported data to incorporate statistically valid probability sampling.	Based on recommendations from EPA's National Center for Environmental Economics on statistical methods, the Agency will research randomization tools to pilot for all Clean Water Act Direct Implementation State Revolving Fund File Selection lists during State Review Framework. Full implementation is planned for FY23.
Clean Water Act: EPA Needs to Better Assess and Disclose Quality of Compliance and Enforcement Data	GAO-21-290	7/12/2021	2. The Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance should ensure that consolidated, complete, and updated information on all data limitations is disclosed on the State Water Dashboard.	The Agency held discussions with stakeholders to identify and map what website content requires modification and how best to implement them. Implementation includes but is not limited to consolidation and editing of website content and editing to improve clarity. Full implementation is planned for FY23.

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Clean Water Act: EPA Needs to Better Assess and Disclose Quality of Compliance and Enforcement Data	GAO-21-290	7/12/2021	3. The Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance should develop a plan to determine the overall accuracy and completeness of the permit limit and discharge monitoring report data recorded in its national database.	The Agency will continue to work with states to identify and correct problems that prevent proper transfer of discharge monitoring report data to the Integrated Compliance Information System National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. Additionally, the Agency will work to maximize the amount of discharge monitoring report data and all necessary permit limit data in the system. The EPA will develop a methodology to examine the accuracy of the discharge monitoring report and permit limit data received by the Integrated Compliance Information System National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System from authorized states. Full implementation is planned for completion by the end of FY25.
Clean Water Act: EPA Needs to Better Assess and Disclose Quality of Compliance and Enforcement Data	GAO-21-290	7/12/2021	4. The Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance should develop a performance measure to track the reduction in pollutant discharges resulting from enforcement actions for facilities in significant noncompliance and disclose any limitations.	The EPA will identify trends in this measure over time to assess whether agency and state compliance work is positively impacting the average pollutant load over limit per permit. The Agency will continue to report annually the Estimated Water Pollutants to be reduced resulting from enforcement actions (Estimated Water Pollutants Reduced, Treated or Eliminated for the Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program). The page also will identify data limitations. Additionally, the EPA will develop a methodology and outcome measure for tracking the extent to which the significant noncompliance national compliance initiative achieves reductions in illegal pollutant discharges. Actions are ongoing.
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY: Federal Agencies Need to Take Urgent Action to Manage Supply Chain Risks	GAO-21-164SU	10/27/2020	Restricted Report: Recommendation language not publicly available.	Restricted Report - Not Publicly Available.

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Chemical Assessments: Annual EPA Survey Inconsistent with Leading Practices in Program Management	GAO-21-156	12/18/2020	The Administrator should direct the Assistant Administrators of program offices and Regional Administrators to develop and make available guidance for chemical assessment nominations. Such guidance could include information such as how to select chemicals for IRIS assessment nomination or for high priority needs, criteria explaining how Assistant and Regional Administrators determine which nominations to support and which they may choose not to support, and how to document these decisions.	The EPA and GAO continue to discuss avenues to close out this recommendation. The Agency's Office of Research and Development is discussing how to assist other EPA program and regional offices in determining which chemicals are best suited for evaluation by the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) Program.
Chemical Assessments: Annual EPA Survey Inconsistent with Leading Practices in Program Management	GAO-21-156	12/18/2020	5. The Administrator of EPA should include in ORD's strategic plan (or subsidiary strategic plans) identification of EPA's universe of chemical assessment needs; how the IRIS Program is being resourced to meet user needs; and specific implementation steps that indicate how IRIS will achieve the plan's objectives, such as specific metrics to define progress in meeting user needs.	The Agency met with GAO in November 2023 and January 2024 to discuss corrective actions taken. The Agency anticipates requesting closure in March 2024.
EPA Grants to Tribes: Additional Actions Needed to Effectively Address Tribal Environmental Concerns	GAO-21-150	10/20/2020	5. The Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Air and Radiation, the Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Water, and the Director of EPA's American Indian Environmental Office should update and nationally distribute guidance for project officers and tribes that clarifies documentation requirements and eligibility definitions for quality assurance project plans and the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program.	The Agency submitted an update with request for closure to GAO in December 2023.
Chemical Security: Overlapping Programs Could Better Collaborate to Share Information and Identify Potential Security Gaps	GAO-21-12	1/21/2021	7. The EPA should collaborate with the DHS's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to assess the extent to which potential security gaps exist at water and wastewater facilities and, if gaps exist, develop a legislative proposal for how best to address them and submit it to the Secretary of Homeland Security and Administrator of EPA, and Congress, as appropriate.	The EPA and Department of Homeland Security, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency requested closure of this recommendation in December 2023.

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Child Care Facilities: Federal Agencies Need to Enhance Monitoring and Collaboration to Help Assure Drinking Water is Safe from Lead	GAO-20-597	9/28/2020	4. The Assistant Administrator of the Office of Water should direct the Office of Water to specify how it will track progress toward the outcomes of the Memorandum of Understanding on Reducing Lead Levels in Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities and determine how it will regularly monitor and update the MOU. For example, the Office of Water could develop performance measures for each of the MOU's outcomes. In addition, the Office of Water could submit annual reports on progress toward achieving the MOU's outcomes or it could plan to update the agreement at specific intervals.	EPA continues to partner with the US Department of Health and Human Services, including a jointly signed Letter to Governors on funding to test for and address lead in water in early care and education settings. The Agency requested closure of the recommendation in December 2023.
Water Infrastructure: Technical Assistance and Climate Resilience Planning Could Help Utilities Prepare for Potential Climate Change Impacts	GAO-20-24	1/16/2020	1. The Director of Water Security of EPA, as Chair of the Water Sector Government Coordinating Council, should work with the council to identify existing technical assistance providers and engage these providers in a network to help drinking water and wastewater utilities incorporate climate resilience into their projects and planning on an ongoing basis.	Creating Resilient Water Utilities is now part of EPA's national Water Technical Assistance programs. This program includes a network of technical assistance providers and engage them to help water systems to address infrastructure issues including climate resilience. The EPA requested closure of this recommendation in December 2024.
Cloud Computing Security: Agencies Increased Their Use of the Federal Authorization Program, but Improved Oversight and Implementation Are Needed	GAO-20-126	12/12/2019	21. The Administrator of EPA should update the list of corrective actions for the selected operational system to identify the specific weakness, estimated funding and anticipated source of funding, key remediation milestones with completion dates, changes to milestones and completion dates, and source of the weaknesses.	Implementation is complete. The EPA requested closure of this recommendation in December 2023.
Cloud Computing Security: Agencies Increased Their Use of the Federal Authorization Program, but Improved Oversight and Implementation Are Needed	GAO-20-126	12/12/2019	22. The Administrator of EPA should prepare the letter authorizing the use of cloud service for the selected operational system and submit the letter to the FedRAMP Program management office.	Implementation is complete. The EPA requested closure of this recommendation in December 2023.
Cloud Computing Security: Agencies Increased Their Use of the Federal Authorization Program, but Improved Oversight and Implementation Are Needed	GAO-20-126	12/12/2019	23. The Administrator of EPA should develop guidance requiring that cloud service authorization letter be provided to the FedRAMP Program management office.	Implementation is complete. In November 2023 GAO stated this recommendation is in review for closure.

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Environmental Justice: Federal Efforts Need Better Planning, Coordination, and Methods to Assess Progress	GAO-19-543	9/16/2019	21. The Administrator of EPA, as chair of the working group, should develop guidance for agencies on what they should include in their environmental justice strategic plans.	Executive Order 14096, Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All, issued in April 2023, requires all Federal agencies to develop Environmental Justice Strategic Plans by October 21, 2024. The EPA is responding to GAO's recommendation by fulfilling the requirements of Executive Order 14096. EPA is in the process of developing a draft Executive Order 14096 EPA 2024 Environmental Justice Strategic Plan, which builds on the considerable and historic EPA 2022-2026 Strategic Plan Goal 2: Take Decisive Action to Advance Environmental Justice and Civil Rights. The 2024 Environmental Justice Strategic Plan currently under development incorporates the language, goals, objectives, metrics, and actions developed through Goal 2 and builds on these to fully address the requirements of Executive Order 14096. By March 1, 2024, EPA is required to submit to Council on environmental quality draft 2024 Environmental Justice Strategic Plan. EPA expects to meet this deadline as well as the October 2024 deadline for a final EPA 2024 Environmental Justice Strategic Plan.
Cybersecurity: Agencies Need to Fully Establish Risk Management Programs and Address Challenges	GAO-19-384	7/25/2019	40. The Administrator of EPA should establish a process for conducting an organization-wide cybersecurity risk assessment.	The EPA is leveraging the Enterprise Risk Management Process and the Internal Control Review Process to better integrate cybersecurity risk into the Enterprise Risk Management Process. The Agency will clarify how end users (Regions and Program Offices) can register cybersecurity risks in the current risk tools, modify the process to clarify how cybersecurity risk can be captured and develop a series of deliverables.
Cybersecurity: Agencies Need to Fully Establish Risk Management Programs and Address Challenges	GAO-19-384	7/25/2019	41. The Administrator of EPA should fully establish and document a process for coordination between cybersecurity risk management and enterprise risk management functions.	This recommendation is fully implemented, and the Agency requested closure in January 2024.

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Federal Chief Information Officers: Critical Actions Needed to Address Shortcomings and Challenges in Implementing Responsibilities	GAO-18-93	8/2/2018	19. The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency should ensure that the Agency's IT management policies address the role of the CIO for key responsibilities in the six areas we identified.	The publication of the EPA's Capital Planning and Investment Control Program Policy update represents implementation of 7 additional GAO criteria. The Agency continues to engage GAO regarding implementation on the remaining criteria.
Puget Sound Restoration: Additional Actions Could Improve Assessments of Progress	GAO-18-453	7/19/2018	1. The EPA Region 10 Administrator should work with the management conference on future updates to the CCMP to help prioritize among the indicators that currently lack measurable targets and ensure that such targets are developed for the highest priority indicators where possible.	EPA and the Puget Sound Partnership consider that this recommendation has been fully implemented and requested closure in December 2023.
Drinking Water: Additional Data and Statistical Analysis May Enhance EPA's Oversight of the Lead and Copper Rule	GAO-17-424	9/1/2017	3. The Assistant Administrator for Water of EPA's Office of Water and the Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance should develop a statistical analysis that incorporates multiple factors-including those currently in SDWIS/Fed and others such as the presence of lead pipes and the use of corrosion control-to identify water systems that might pose a higher likelihood for violating the LCR once complete violations data are obtained, such as through SDWIS Prime.	The Agency continues to work toward a March 2024 promulgation date for the final Consumer Confidence Report Rule.

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Critical Infrastructure Protection: Sector-Specific Agencies Need to Better Measure Cybersecurity Progress	GAO-16-79	11/19/2015	7. To better monitor and provide a basis for improving the effectiveness of cybersecurity risk mitigation activities, informed by the sectors' updated plans and in collaboration with sector stakeholders, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency should direct responsible officials to develop performance metrics to provide data and determine how to overcome challenges to monitoring the water and wastewater systems sector's cybersecurity progress.	This effort is hampered by litigation and opposition by water sector associations and owners/operators of utilities to providing cybersecurity metrics under a voluntary approach. To meet the intent of the recommendation, the EPA plans to continue its Technical Assistance Provider program and has in fact expanded it via the Water TA initiative. The technical assistance effort will continue to generate additional data on Framework adoption by water systems. The EPA harnessed the aggregated and anonymized data from its Cybersecurity Evaluation Program (whereby an EPA contractor conducts cyber assessments at individual utilities) to understand the progress achieved by those utilities which have enrolled in the program. This information combined with cyber incident data from the sector provide a degree of insight into the sector's adoption of cybersecurity practices.
Clean Water Act: Changes Needed If Key EPA Program Is to Help Fulfill the Nation's Water Quality Goals	GAO-14-80	12/5/2013	1. To enhance the likelihood that TMDLs support the nation's waters' attainment of water quality standards and to strengthen water quality management, the Administrator of EPA should develop and issue new regulations requiring that TMDLs include additional elements--and consider requiring the elements that are now optional--specifically, elements reflecting key features identified by NRC as necessary for attaining water quality standards, such as comprehensive identification of impairment and plans to monitor water bodies to verify that water quality is improving.	The Agency and GAO have engaged on this topic. The Agency believes the extensive actions taken to implement this recommendation are sufficient to merit closure as implemented.
Federal Software Licenses: Better Management Needed to Achieve Significant Savings Government-Wide	GAO-14-413	5/22/2014	88. To ensure the effective management of software licenses, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency should employ a centralized software license management approach that is coordinated and integrated with key personnel for the majority of agency software license spending and/or enterprise-wide licenses.	Implementation is complete. The Agency requested closure of this recommendation in 2023.

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Pesticides: EPA Should Take Steps to Improve Its Oversight of Conditional Registrations	GAO-13-145	8/8/2013	1. To improve EPA's management of the conditional registration process, the Administrator of EPA should direct the Director of the Office of Pesticide Programs to complete plans to automate data related to conditional registrations to more readily track the status of these registrations and related registrant and agency actions and identify potential problems requiring management attention.	GAO is working closely with EPA on this recommendation and analyzing recent documentation from the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. The Agency anticipates closure of the recommendation.
Drinking Water: Unreliable State Data Limit EPA's Ability to Target Enforcement Priorities and Communicate Water Systems' Performance	GAO-11-381	6/17/2011	1. To improve EPA's ability to oversee the states' implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act and provide Congress and the public with more complete and accurate information on compliance, the Administrator of EPA should resume data verification audits to routinely evaluate the quality of selected drinking water data on health-based and monitoring violations that the states provide to EPA. These audits should also evaluate the quality of data on the enforcement actions that states, and other primacy agencies have taken to correct violations.	The agency continues to work on modernizing the Safe Drinking Water Information System and made significant progress towards its schedule. The system is expected to be available for states to begin transitioning by early 2026. The length of transition period will depend on states and their available resources to transition. In establishing data quality goals for monitoring violation and other information, the Agency plans to engage the primacy agencies.
Drinking Water: Unreliable State Data Limit EPA's Ability to Target Enforcement Priorities and Communicate Water Systems' Performance	GAO-11-381	6/17/2011	2. To improve EPA's ability to oversee the states' implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act and provide Congress and the public with more complete and accurate information on compliance, the Administrator of EPA should work with the states to establish a goal, or goals, for the completeness and accuracy of data on monitoring violations. In setting these goals, EPA may want to consider whether certain types of monitoring violations merit specific targets. For example, the agency may decide that a goal for the states to completely and accurately report when required monitoring was not done should differ from a goal for reporting when monitoring was done but not reported on time.	The Agency continues to work on modernizing the Safe Drinking Water Information System and made significant progress towards its schedule. The system is expected to be available for states to begin transitioning by early 2026. The length of transition period will depend on states and their available resources to transition. In establishing data quality goals for monitoring violation and other information, the EPA plans to engage the primacy agencies.

GAO Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Chemical Assessments: Low Productivity and New Interagency Review Process Limit the Usefulness and Credibility of EPA's Integrated Risk Information System	GAO-08-440	3/7/2008	5. To develop timely chemical risk information that EPA needs to effectively conduct its mission, the Administrator, EPA, should require the Office of Research and Development to re-evaluate its draft proposed changes to the IRIS assessment process in light of the issues raised in this report and ensure that any revised process periodically assesses the level of resources that should be dedicated to this significant program to meet user needs and maintain a viable IRIS database.	EPA met with the GAO in November 2023 and January 2024 to discuss the status of this recommendation. EPA is updating the Health and Environmental Risk Assessment resource analysis to address comments provided by GAO in 2023 and anticipates requesting closure in early 2024.
Drinking Water: EPA Should Strengthen Ongoing Efforts to Ensure That Consumers Are Protected from Lead Contamination	GAO-06-148	1/4/2006	1. The Administrator, EPA, should take a number of steps to further protect the American public from elevated lead levels in drinking water. Specifically, to improve EPA's ability to oversee implementation of the lead rule and assess compliance and enforcement activities, EPA should ensure that data on water systems' test results, corrective action milestones, and violations are current, accurate, and complete.	The Agency continues to work on modernizing the Safe Drinking Water Information System and made significant progress towards its schedule. The system is expected to be available for states to begin transitioning by early 2026. The length of transition period will depend on states and their available resources to transition. In establishing data quality goals for monitoring violation and other information, the Agency plans to engage the primacy agencies.

Working Capital Fund

In FY 2025, the Agency will be in its 29th year of operation of the Working Capital Fund (WCF). The WCF is a revolving fund authorized by law to finance a cycle of operations in which the costs for goods or services provided are charged to the users. The WCF operates like a commercial business within EPA where customers pay for services received, thus generating revenue. Customers include EPA programs, regional offices, and other federal agencies. The WCF mechanism provides an efficient method for a full cost approach to agency programs. EPA's WCF was implemented under the authority of Section 403 of the Government Management Reform Act of 1994 and the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act of 1997. EPA received permanent WCF authority in the Department of Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1998.

EPA's Chief Financial Officer (CFO) initiated the WCF in FY 1997 as part of an effort to: 1) be accountable to agency offices, the Office of Management and Budget, and Congress; 2) increase the efficiency of the administrative services provided to program offices; and 3) increase customer service and responsiveness. The Agency has a WCF Board which provides policy and planning oversight and advises the CFO regarding the WCF financial position. The Board, chaired by the Controller within the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, is comprised of 23 voting members from programs and regional offices. Board membership also includes the Director of the Office of Budget as a non-voting ex officio member.

In FY 2025, there will be 16 core agency activities provided under the WCF. These are the Agency's Information Technology (IT) services, agency postage, Cincinnati voice services, background investigations, enterprise human resources, and facilities alterations managed by the Office of Mission Support; financial and administrative systems, employee relocations, and a budget formulation system managed by the Office of the Chief Financial Officer; the Agency's Continuity of Operations site managed by the Office of Land and Emergency Management; regional information technology service and support managed by EPA Region 8; legal services managed by the Office of General Counsel; multimedia services, EPA Action Management System and agency servicing contracts managed by the Office of the Administrator; and language access services managed by the Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights.

The Agency's FY 2025 budget request includes resources for these 16 core activities in each National Program Manager's submission, totaling approximately \$540 million. These estimated resources may be adjusted during the year to incorporate any program office's additional service needs during the operating year. To the extent these increases are subject to Congressional reprogramming notifications, the Agency will comply with all applicable requirements. In FY 2025, the Agency will continue to perform relocation services for other federal agencies, delivering high quality services external to EPA.

The Agency anticipates that there may be minor increases and decreases in FY 2025 due to several IT improvements, including increased cloud computing, improved network infrastructure, cybersecurity requirements, continuous diagnostic and mitigation program implementation, and discovery services. Other funding shifts have been included in the FY 2025 WCF plan that relate to the necessary telecommunications and computer support needed by every employee. As part of an overall review and rebalancing of these costs, funds have been shifted across programs to reflect FTE changes as well.