EPA Open Government Progress Report: FY2011 – 3rd Quarter

Contents and Highlights

Highlights for this Quarter:
- Apps for the Environment Challenge
- Improving Regulations
- EPA Social Media Policy
- Plan to Improve Public Access to Regulatory Compliance Information
- Updates for Flagship Projects

Current Challenges
- Launched new Challenge: Apps for the Environment Challenge - See it on Challenge.gov
- Launched new Challenge: – State of the Environment "Locations" Photo Challenge -See it on Challenge.gov

Transparency, Participation and Collaboration Actions/Opportunities:
- Over the past quarter EPA offered many ways for the public to get informed and involved including:
  - Released searchable website for Drinking Water Violations; EPA to host webinar to show how to use the public health data
  - Published Map of 2009 Enforcement Actions where the public can view raw data in XML or HTML format
  - Published America's Children and the Environment, which brings together, in one place, quantitative information from a variety of sources to show trends in levels of environmental contaminants in air, water, food, and soil; concentrations of contaminants measured in the bodies of mothers and children; and childhood diseases that may be influenced by environmental factors
  - Removed Confidentiality Claims for More Than 150 Chemicals as part of continuing effort to protect Americans' health by increasing access to chemical information
  - Established National Tribal Toxics Committee to address risks from toxic chemicals
  - Launched Apps for the Environment challenge for software developers to create an application that puts environmental and public health information at citizens' fingertips
  - Launched Energy Star Video Challenge to show easy ways to save energy and money
  - Chaired the North America Commission for Environmental Cooperation - Joint partnership among U.S., Canada and Mexico to strengthen cooperation on health and environmental protection
  - Awarded grant to help reduce E-waste to further commitment to responsible electronic stewardship
  - Hosted 12 public listening sessions during National Ocean Month
  - Posted 13 transcripts from Administrator Jackson
  - Posted 7 testimonies from Congressional hearings
- Please visit our open site (http://www.epa.gov/open/) for upcoming events

Apps for the Environment Challenge

Opened Apps for the Environment Challenge to the Public:
- EPA is challenging application developers to look at EPA data and come up with the best, most useful, innovative way to use, show, or combine publically available EPA data in an app - See it on Challenge.gov
- Created Developer's website to facilitate participation in the challenge - See the EPA.gov Apps developer's page
- Compiled and shared developer-friendly datasets for optimal transparency
- Holding weekly webinars with subject matter experts engage and educate the public, enhancing their ability to participate in the challenge
- Seeking public comment on potential application ideas
- Promoting already created Apps that enhance transparency of the Agency
- Providing other support and resources to developers as can be seen on the website
- The winners will be honored at a recognition event in Washington, D.C. this fall, and the winning apps will be publicized on EPA's website

Improving Regulations

Improving Regulations within the Agency:
- Executive Order 13563 directs all federal agencies to develop plans for periodically reviewing existing regulations to determine whether any should be modified, streamlined, expanded, or repealed
- EPA has completed a preliminary version of our plan - View the plan
- EPA accepted comments on our preliminary plan from 02/18 - 04/04/2011 and again from 05/26 - 06/27/201
- The public comments that were submitted can be viewed by accessing the dockets related to this plan
- See the EPA.gov improving regulations website

EPA Social Media Policy

EPA Social Media Policy:
- EPA released an updated policy on use of social media on June 20, 2011
- This policy establishes the principles for the use of social media at EPA. For purposes of this policy, "social media" is a term for a wide-spectrum of user-driven content technologies - View the policy

Plan to Improve Public Access to Regulatory Compliance Information

Plan to Improve Public Access to Regulatory Compliance Information:
- The Presidential Memo of January 18, 2011 on Regulatory Compliance required regulatory departments and agencies to create a corresponding plan (link to memo)
- View EPA's plan

Updates for Flagship Projects

Approach
- Highlights of our Flagship efforts, in varying stages of progress, are provided below or via links
- To support sharing lessons learned, we captured benefits and other qualitative information for a number of the Flagship efforts below

Flagship Theme: Expanding the Environmental Conversation with Communities:
- Urban Waters (Ongoing)
- Improve Communication of Sampling and Testing Results (Ongoing)
- Improve Delivery of Information to Communities (Ongoing)
- Faces of the Grassroots (Completed)

Flagship Theme: Expanding Public Awareness & Involvement in Developing Rules and Regulations:
- Healthy Waters (New Project)
- Chesapeake Bay TMDL Webinar Series (Completed)
- NPDES Pre-proposal Involvement (Completed)
- Rulemaking Gateway (Completed)

Flagship Theme: EPA Mobile Apps to Empower Citizen's Environmental Decisions:
- Design for the Environment (DfE) Product Locator is now available on m.epa.gov. Smart phone users can now quickly access a list of DfE-certified cleaning products while shopping with more categories coming in future upgrades.
- Indoor airPLUS Mobile App allows Indoor airPLUS Program partners, such as new home builders to access Indoor airPLUS Constructions Specifications and complete and email Verification Checklists that document EPA's Indoor airPLUS Constructions Specifications have been met remotely from a mobile app. Also available from m.epa.gov.
- See EPA's Mobile web site for additional information
- Visit http://m.epa.gov/apps/index.html for the mobile apps currently available