Joan B. Rogers has been named the new Deputy Director of EPA’s Office of Small Business Programs (OSBP). Joan joined the Agency in 1991 and during her tenure with the Agency, has served in several capacities, all impacting the Agency’s policies with respect to rule development. As the Special Assistant to the Associate Administrator for the EPA’s Office of Policy, Joan provided substantive guidance on policy and rule development gained through years of experience as a program analyst, conducting analysis of Agency regulations and policies. Joan also served as the Agency’s team lead for the Regulatory Flexibility Act as amended by the Small Business Enforcement Fairness Act (RFA)/SBREFA) for five years. In that role, she worked with small entities, small business trade associations, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Small Business Administration (SBA), the General Accounting Office (GAO) and EPA program offices to ensure that small entity impacts and concerns were considered in the development of Agency rulemakings.

In October 2008, Joan joined OSBP as the Agency’s Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO), where she serves as the liaison between EPA and the small business community, working with internal and external customers and stakeholders to address small business environmental regulatory impacts and concerns. As the ASBO, the Agency has earned an “A” on the SBA Advocacy Scorecard throughout her tenure in this capacity. As the Deputy Director of OSBP, Joan will continue in her role as the Agency’s ASBO and continue to be a strong advocate for small business in all perspectives.

Please welcome Joan warmly to this new role!

***********************

DO YOU HAVE ARTICLES FOR THE SMALLBIZ@EPA NEWSLETTER?
FORWARD TO: LILLIAN HARRIS AT:
HARRIS.LILLIAN@EPA.GOV

EPA’S OMBUDSMAN:
JOAN B. ROGERS AT:
ROGERS.JOANB@EPA.GOV

EPA Proposes Additional Details on the Clean Energy Incentive Program

After extensive engagement with community groups and other stakeholders, EPA is proposing additional details for public comment about the optional Clean Energy Incentive Program (CEIP), which was included in the final Clean Power Plan. The CEIP was designed to help states and tribes meet their goals under the plan by encouraging early investments in zero-emitting renewable energy generation, and by removing barriers to investment in energy efficiency in low-income communities. The proposal provides a key opportunity for stakeholders to comment on several program design elements including: clarifications about project eligibility including expanding eligibility to solar energy project in low-income communities, providing states with the flexibility to choose one or more existing definitions of low-income community, and how CEIP incentives should be made available to eligible renewable energy and energy efficiency project providers. Read more at:

https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-additional-details-clean-energy-incentive-program
Virgin Islands Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP) Holds its First Small Business Award Ceremony

The U. S. Virgin Islands celebrated Small Business Week from June 6-10, 2016. The U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Planning & Natural Resources (DPNR), the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP) in collaboration with the Virgin Island Small Business Development Center (VI SBDC) and the U.S. Small Business Administration held Small Business Awards Ceremonies recognizing small businesses in the territory that have made significant contributions and have shown leadership in reducing environmental impacts.

These small businesses were recognized for their accomplishments in the areas of regulatory compliance, sustainability, advocacy and collaboration. The new VI SBDC State Director Dr. John Osoinach applauded the award recipients. “This year, the Virgin Islands Small Business Development Center took special pride in honoring business leaders, advocates and champions from across the territory who have worked to support economic development in the U.S. Virgin Islands,” he said. The SBEAP is presenting the Environmental Stewardship Award to three businesses:

- St. Croix - Mason Auto Body Repair – Ernest Auguste, Owner
- St. John - E-C Service Station – Josephus Williams, Jr., President
- St. Thomas - Budget Super Service Center – Alfonso Rogers, Owner

Commissioner Dawn L. Henry, Esq., was joined by the Honorable Acting Governor Osbert E. Potter, and Jasmine A. Blyden, Program Coordinator for the Virgin Island Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP). The SBEAP/SBDC joint Small Business Award Ceremonies were held June 9, 2016 in St. Croix, Virgin Islands and June 10, 2016 in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.
Muscantine, Iowa to Receive Tech Assistance for Sustainability through EPA’s Greening America’s Communities Program

The EPA announced that Muscatine, Iowa, is one of six communities selected to receive technical assistance with sustainable design strategies under EPA’s Greening America’s Communities (GAC) program for 2016. The other five communities chosen for GAC assistance are Columbia, SC, Brownsville, TX, Oklahoma City, OK, Honolulu, HI, and Multnomah County, OR. “EPA is excited to roll up our sleeves and start working with the next round of cities through Greening America’s Communities,” said EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. “This program is another example of EPA making a visible difference in communities – helping build healthy, vibrant neighborhoods and stronger local economies centered on environmental sustainability.” In the coming months, EPA will fund a team of designers to visit each selected city to create designs that will support a larger planning and implementation process for a pilot area. Read more on the program at: https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/muscatine-iowa-receive-tech-assistance-sustainability-through-epas-greening-americas

SUBJECT: Oil and Natural Gas Sector: Emission Standards for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources


Federal Register: Vol. 81, No. 107, Friday, June 3, 2016/Rules and Regulations
AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency
ACTION: Final Rule
SUMMARY: This action finalizes amendments to the current new source performance standards (NSPS) and establishes new standards. The new standards for the oil and natural gas source category set standards for both greenhouse gases (GHGs) and volatile organic compounds (VOC). Except for the implementation improvements, and the new standards for GHGs, these requirements do not change the requirements for operations covered by the current standards.
Giving Small Businesses the Big Picture on Regulatory Compliance (BARC)

The California Environmental Protection Agency and the Valley Green Team (Stockton Chamber of Commerce) teamed up to provide small businesses in the heart of California’s agricultural region a half-day of free training on environmental regulations and compliance. BARC training aims to provide information and details about which agencies are responsible for what and identifies available compliance assistance resources, including incentive funding, that can help businesses lower the cost of compliance. Other agencies included:

- California Air Resources Board Ombudsman
- San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
- Governor’s Office of Business & Economic Development
- Central Valley Regional Water Control Board

In response to requests from members of the public, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will allow an additional 90 days to comment on its proposal to add the Riverside Groundwater Contamination site in Indianapolis to the Superfund cleanup list. The public comment period now extends until Sept. 5, 2016. Superfund is the federal program that investigates and cleans up the most complex uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites in the country. EPA proposed adding the site to Superfund’s National Priorities List in April 2016. In 2012, a plume of chlorinated solvents was discovered at the site near the Riverside and White River municipal well fields. To date, only low levels of contaminants have been found in some municipal wells. The concentrations of chlorinated solvents detected were well within federal and state drinking water standards.

EPA Extends Public Comment Period to Add Indianapolis Site to SuperFund’s National Priorities List

Citizen's Energy Group is treating the drinking water and has been meeting all EPA requirements under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Written comments may be submitted and reviewed online at:

https://www.regulations.gov, docket number EPA-HQ-OLEM-2016-0153-0015 or link directly to:

https://www.regulations.gov/searchResults?rpp=25&po=0&s=EPA-HQ-OLEM-2016-0153-0015&fp=true&ns=true

Information about the Riverside Groundwater Contamination proposed site and other proposed and final NPL sites is available on EPA’s website:

https://www.epa.gov/superfund/current-npl-updates-new-proposed-npl-sites-and-new-npl-sites

At the BARC training event, attendees were provided with information and details about which agencies are responsible for what and how to access the available compliance assistance resources. View a copy of the program agenda at:

http://www.mymerced.com/e_valleygreen.pdf

2016 was the third year the program was offered and it remains popular. View a copy of the program agenda at:

http://www2.epa.gov/resources-small-businesses