EPA Open Government Progress Report: FY2013 – 2nd/3rd/4th Quarters

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- Visit Challenge.gov to see the current status of EPA challenges including:
    - Campus RainWorks 2013
    - Real-Time Sensor to Monitor Sewer Overflows (Exit EPA)
    - Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Awards 2013
    - University Challenge to Find Innovative Uses for Toxics Data

Awards and Recognitions
- 'How's My Waterway?' application, which allows the public to learn the condition of U.S. water bodies, was one of 15 public-sector IT projects to win the 2013 GCN award for IT achievement (Exit EPA)
- EPA's David Smith recognized and ranked #13 (Exit EPA) in a list published by Boundlessgeo of top influencers on open source geospatial software. (View David's blog here) (Exit EPA)
- EPA and National Institute of Health (NIH) announced the winning team in the My Air, My Health Challenge; the winners developed a low cost, real time, personal digital device that measures health effects of harmful air pollution

Transparency, Participation and Collaboration Actions/Opportunities:
- EPA offered ways for the public to get informed and involved:
    - Initiated numerous blog conversations on Greenversations, authored by EPA employees and interns
    - Published speeches by the Administrator, including remarks on carbon pollution standards for new power plants
- 16 congressional testimonies posted on http://www.epa.gov/ocir/hearings/

Greater Transparency: Expanding and Improving Data.gov Inventories

Published 129 new datasets to Data.gov including:
- 121 Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) datasets:
    - 5 Additional supporting datasets including: TRI Pollution Prevention Search tool, My Right-To Know tool, TRI Widget, TRI list of Chemicals by Groupings, and current TRI Chemical List
- 3 datasets from Greenhouse Gas Reporting program, including non-confidential data reported by facilities that emit greenhouse gases (GHGs) and by suppliers of fossil fuels and industrial gases

Making Data More Accessible

Pollution Prevention: Second Year of GHG Emission Data Released
- Posted second year of data (Exit EPA) through Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program (GHGRP)
  - GHG information from facilities in 41 source categories--new data from 12 first-time categories
- Visit Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Data site for additional information on GHG data

Public Data Access Tools: Releases and Recognitions
- EPA launched new web tools, allowing the public to search for and view environmental data, including:
  - ECHO -(Enforcement and Compliance History On-line) now provides APIs for facility search and detailed enforcement and compliance histories
  - Chem view: designed to improve access to chemical-specific regulatory information developed by EPA and data submitted under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)
  - EIS Mapper: a tool that provides the public with access to Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) for major projects focused on federal lands
  - Green Sports Resource Directory: launched to help teams, venues, and sports leagues save money and reduce carbon pollution, waste, and environmental impact of their events
  - RE-Powering America's Land has updated its Mapper during FY2013 – a tool used to identify contaminated lands, landfills and mine sites and provide preliminary screening results for renewable energy development
  - Loading Tool v1.2: new enhancements to Facility Information (TRI) and Advanced Search, allowing users to better compare similar wastewater pollutant releases from industry
  - Updated 2011 U.S. Facts and Figures on Muncipal Solid Wast (Exit EPA) in Data.gov
- Published Environmental Data Gateway (EDG) Data Download Metrics intranet site, containing download statistics for EDG downloadable files, allowing data managers to track downloads by EPA and the public

OpenGov Plan 2.0 Flagships

Flagship Overview
- EPA was asked to select four new efforts that will span from 2012 – 2014 and selected projects that continue advancement in OpenGov and promote alignment with the OneEPA focus
- Highlights of our Flagship efforts, in varying stages of progress, include:

Expanding Public Participation in Developing Regulations:
- Leveraged social media and partnerships to provide more opportunities for public participation in rulemaking

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) FOIAonline (formerly known as FOIA Module):
- Continued to improve the public-facing and agency internal FOIAonline multi-agency tool

Science-Based Decision Support Tools:
- C-FERST and TRIBAL-FERST tools have been refined and are undergoing external peer review, with a targeted public website release date of September 2014

Data-Focused Efforts and the Strategic Data Action Plan (SDAP):
- SDAP will be updated to address the requirements of the Open Data Policy (Exit EPA) and reflect the EPA Enterprise Information Management Policy (EIMP) once completed

Reaching Out: Chemical Risk Assessment

Chemical Risk Assessment - Draft Review and Proposed Changes

- Released for public comment draft risk assessments, for particular uses, on five chemicals found in common household products (60 day comment period now closed)
- Draft risk assessments developed under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Work Plan, which identified common chemicals for review to assess impacts on people's health and the environment
- Following public comment, EPA sought a peer review of the assessments before finalizing
- On 07/31/2013, EPA announced changes to its Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) program to improve the scientific foundation of risk assessments and increase program and process transparency

Partnering Across Government/Industry

EPA and Ad Council Childhood Asthma Awareness Campaign

- EPA partnered with Ad Council to provide public service announcements featuring a band of puppets called the "Breathe Easies," to educate parents and children with asthma on basic preventative steps and environmental triggers

Making Fuel Economy and CO2 Estimates Accessible for Used Vehicles

- EPA worked with the U.S. Energy Department to release a new label that features EPA fuel economy estimates and CO2 estimates for used vehicles sold in the United States since 1984
- Consumers can create the label electronically at FuelEconomy.gov (Exit EPA) and post it to online Web advertisements or affix it to a vehicle window

America's Children and Environment Report

- EPA collaborated with other federal agencies, as well as outside academic and scientific institutions to produce third edition of a peer-reviewed report on children and the environment
- This report brings together quantitative information illustrating 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

Strengthening Internal Collaboration: Creation of Field Operations Group Guidelines

- The Field Operations Group (FOG) has instituted a reporting mechanism, *The FOG Guidelines* (April 23, 2013), which requires quarterly reporting on field activities on the basis of progress made in implementing a sustainable management system incorporating the 10 key FOG guidelines (e.g. records management, field documentation, internal audits).
- Results will be used by EPA Leadership to monitor progress and strengthen integrity of EPA's underlying scientific and technical work
- Goal is to get EPA data and data collection processes more streamlined and transparent

Collaboration and Participation: Examples of Opportunities

Participation Initiatives
- Encouraged public to comment on various environmental laws, actions, and programs, including:
  – [Proposed ban](#) on boat sewage dumping into Lake Erie
  – [Proposed coal ash cleanup settlement](#) with Rotary Drilling Supply in Jefferson County, MO
  – Proposed [safeguards for recycling](#) hazardous waste materials
- Invited communities to apply for [smart growth assistance](#)
- EPA and Caribbean Coral Reef Protection Group hosted [public listening session](#) on St. Thomas, U.S.V.I.
- [Recognized](#) Region 7 local emergency planning committees for chemical emergency planning achievements
- Sponsored [free training](#) on "Healthy Homes for Community Health Workers"
- [OP-ED: Earth Day 2013](#) - A Conversation on Climate
- EPA [held 11 public listening sessions](#) across the United States on reducing carbon pollution from power plants
- Held [2013 Community Involvement Training Conference](#) [(Exit EPA)](#)to model, experiment, and explore how to get the most out of Web-based gatherings but with real interaction and engagement
- Received multiple rulemaking [petitions](#) from stakeholders (to issue, amend or repeal a rule)

Examples of EPA Collaborations
- Conducted a [webinar](#) [(Exit EPA)](#) on how to use the Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO) State Comparative Maps as a way to review national enforcement trends and compare states and territories
- Teamed with local partners to promote the WaterSense program's fifth annual National [Fix a Leak Week](#)
- Recognized Oregon and Washington schools and businesses as top [2013 Energy Star Partners](#)
- [Provided technical assistance](#) to help 43 communities meet their sustainability goals
- EPA and the Department of Commerce linked environmental challenges to U.S. technology providers in [Environmental Solutions Toolkit](#) [(Exit EPA)](#)
- Joined with USDA to help Americans [reduce wasted food](#) and to release [new report](#) on honey bee health
- Began [summer monitoring](#) to protect area beaches, coastal waters and New York/New Jersey Harbor
- Partnered with the NFL and local communities to [protect Louisiana's wetlands](#)
- EPA [teamed with the Kansas City Chiefs](#) for a recycling drive
- [Selected eight university partners](#) for TRI University Challenge to improve public health data and research
- Worked with Port Arthur schools and Veolia ES Technical Solutions L.L.C. to [create healthier schools](#)

Leveraging Partnerships and Technology: FOIAonline

- Gathered and addressed partner feedback to improve [FOIAonline](#) via new enhancements and releases
- Enhanced Annual Report calculations based on DOJ recommendations
- Improved abilities for agencies to customize their FOIA request form
- Enhanced various reports and made additional reporting available to help agencies manage their backlog
- Implemented two new Agency Partners: U.S. Customs and Border Protection and Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation