



**United States
Environmental Protection Agency
Fiscal Year 2026**

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

Tab 14: Appendix

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**Environmental Protection Agency
FY 2026 Annual Performance Plan and Congressional Justification**

Table of Contents – Appendix

Acronyms For Statutory Authority.....	576
Coordination With Other Federal Agencies.....	581
FY 2026 Estimated Cybersecurity Resources	615
EPA User Fee Programs.....	617
Expected Benefits of E-Government Initiatives	621
FY 2026 Administrator’s Priorities.....	626
FY 2026 Environmental Justice Program Budget	628
FY 2026 STAG Categorical Program Grants	629
Environmental Protection Agency Response to OIG Top Management Challenges	638
Making Litigation Costs Transparent - Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA)	639
Nonrecurring Expenses Fund (NEF) Proposal	640
OECA Travel by Program Project FY 2020 - FY 2025¹	644
On-Site Inspections and Off-site Compliance Monitoring Compliance Activities from EPA’s Integrated Compliance Information System	645
Physicians’ Comparability Allowance (PCA) Plan.....	647
Program Projects by Program Area	652
Programs Proposed for Elimination	662
Proposed FY 2026 Administrative Provisions and Other Appropriations Bill Language Changes.....	664
Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act.....	666
Working Capital Fund	716

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.

ADA: Americans with Disabilities Act

ADEA: Age Discrimination in Employment Act

ADRA: Alternative Dispute Resolution Act

AE: Air and Energy

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

APPS: Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships

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)
CWPPRA: 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
EOIA: 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
GINA: Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act
GPRA: Government Performance and Results Act (1993)
GPRAMA: Government Performance and Results Modernization Act of 2010
HABHRCRA: Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998
HMTA: Hazardous Materials Transportation Act
HSWA: Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984, enacted as amendments to RCRA
IGA: Inspector General Act
IIJA: 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
ODBA: Ocean Dumping Ban Act of 1988
OPA: Oil Pollution Act of 1990
OPEN: Open, Public, Electronic, and Necessary Government Data Act
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
PKEMRA: Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006
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
SAFETEA-LU: Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users
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
UMTRCA: Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978
UMTRLWA: Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Land Withdrawal Act
USGGRA: U.S. Global Change Research 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
WRRRA: Water Resources Research 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, 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 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.

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) and 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.

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.

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.

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 the Department of Health and Human Services 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.

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 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

EPA coordinates with other federal and non-federal research partners on the benefits of protecting, restoring, and building coastal natural infrastructure. EPA, NOAA, USACE, the state of MD, and local universities are collaborating on coastal resilience capabilities and blue carbon sequestration potential of coastal natural infrastructure and applying results to help communities build resilience to flooding, storm surge, and erosion.

The Cyanobacteria Assessment Network (CyAN) is a multi-agency project to develop an early warning indicator system to detect algal blooms in U.S. freshwater systems. CyAN is an ongoing collaboration between EPA, NASA, NOAA, USGS, and USACE. The CyAN project supports the

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

environmental management and public use of lakes and estuaries by providing a useful and accessible approach to detecting and quantifying algal blooms and related water quality using satellite data records.

The North American Nutrient Budgets Working Group comprised of EPA, USGS, USDA, and academic and industry scientists is working together to inform watershed modeling and restoration efforts. This effort is important as it tracks major sources of atmospheric, urban, agricultural, and background/natural sources of nutrient input and outputs into watersheds/political jurisdictions using a variety of methodologies, while also characterizing the uncertainty across those estimates.

EPA has worked closely with a nationwide group of utilities and state/local public health agencies interested in ensuring safe, effective implementation of decentralized water reuse at building and district scales. This Blue Ribbon Commission on Onsite Water Systems develops documents for states and local communities to develop reuse programs, including a risk-based framework for developing public health guidance that draws directly from EPA research.

EPA is collaborating with USDA, USACE, USBR, NOAA, NASA, and non-federal partners (Ground Water Protection Council, Water Research Foundation, Hampton Roads Sanitation District, etc.) to develop a platform for understanding the roles and equities of the various federal agencies and non-federal partners, research gaps, and implementation successes and challenges to advance safe and cost-efficient aquifer storage, recharge, and recovery.

EPA has worked closely with FDA, USDA, and CDC to develop a pilot environmental monitoring effort within the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS). The pilot effort leverages on-going EPA water monitoring programs at the watershed and national scales to address the public health threat of harder to treat infections, spread of disease, and severe illness and death.

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.² 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.³ 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 America 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,⁴ 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 For more information, please visit: <https://www.usda.gov/farming-and-ranching/farm-bill>.

³ Data as of February 20, 2024.

⁴ For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/nps/coastal-zone-act-reauthorization-amendments-czara-ss6217>.

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

Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration

EPA's 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 America 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 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.

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.

National Aquatic Resource Surveys (NARS)

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. In March 2025, EPA released its annual National Water Reuse Action Plan update, highlighting recent accomplishments by action leaders and partners celebrating five years of advancing water use. 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

The Brownfields Program partners with the National Park Service'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. The Program participates with DOC's Economic Development Integration (EDI) team to identify opportunities for greater interagency collaboration for coordinated and effective investment of federal economic development resources.

Regional Brownfields Offices partner with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to perform targeted brownfield assessments (TBAs) and/or to serve as supplemental grantee project officers to help oversee Brownfields Cooperative Agreements.

Economically Distressed Communities

EPA provides expertise to HUD, DOT, DOC, DHHS, DHS, DOJ, SBA, DOL, and other agencies and departments on the importance of land revitalization, the use of green infrastructure strategies, green demolition, Opportunity Zone efforts, and sustainable development strategies so that the federal government can better assist economically distressed communities.

Superfund Remedial Program

The Superfund Remedial Program maintains ongoing coordination with the 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 (NPL), 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 to facilitate EPA 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 hardrock 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.

Superfund Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Program

The Superfund Federal Facilities Program will advance *Pillar 3: Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership* of EPA's *Powering the Great American Comeback* initiative by working with our partners at the state and federal levels to ensure projects are being approved to streamline processes that follow the necessary steps to safeguard the environment. EPA's Superfund Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Program coordinates with other federal agencies; state, tribal, territorial, 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. EPA partnerships include:

- The Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) and Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) forums present opportunities to partner with federal and state regulators, share information, and facilitate more efficient and effective management of DoD's cleanup program.
- Munitions Response Dialogue partners with DoD research and development programs on munitions management and environmental restoration.
- Intergovernmental Data Quality Task Force is cochaired by EPA, DoD, and DOE to ensure that environmental data are of known and documented quality and suitable for the intended use.
- National Cleanup Dialogue with the DOE supports special emphasis engagement for nuclear weapons sites, the largest and costliest portfolio of remaining federal facilities cleanup work.
- Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials, Federal Facilities Research Center Subcommittee promotes and enhances state and territory involvement in the cleanup and reuse of contaminated federal facilities.
- Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council is a state-led coalition working to reduce barriers to the use of innovative air, water, waste, and remediation environmental technologies and processes.
- Federal Remediation Technologies Roundtable works to build a collaborative atmosphere among federal agencies involved in hazardous waste cleanup.

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

The RCRA Hazardous Waste Cleanup (formerly Corrective Action) Program coordinates closely with OFAs, primarily DOD and DOE, which have many hazardous waste cleanup facilities. 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 pose to human health and the environment, ensuring every American has access to clean air, land, and water. EPA's leadership in federal preparedness begins with co-chairing the National Response Team (NRT) and the 13 Regional Response Teams with the USCG. These

teams have member participation from other key federal agencies and deliver federal assistance to state and local governments to plan for and respond to natural disasters and other major environmental incidents. This requires cooperative federalism and cross-agency partnerships with many federal, state, and local agencies to increase efficiency and effectiveness in every response. The Agency participates with other federal agencies to develop national planning and implementation policies at the operational level while remaining good stewards of tax dollars and ensuring resources continue to advance the mission.

The National Response Framework (NRF), under the direction of DHS, provides federal assistance resources to help states manage the consequences of terrorist events, acts of malfeasance, as well as natural and other significant disasters. This coordinated effort eliminates fraud, waste, and abuse of resource distribution. 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. These collective approaches follow the principles of the *Powering the Great American Comeback* Initiatives to achieve the Agency's mission while energizing the greatness of the American economy.

Oil Spills

Under the Oil Spill Program, EPA provides assistance to agencies such as FWS and the USCG and works in coordination to address oil spills nationwide. EPA also assists agencies with judicial referrals when enforcement of violations becomes necessary. Further, the U.S. Coast Guard has been a valuable partner in coordinating efforts that increase efficiency and effectiveness to address oil spills nationwide. Through cooperative federalism and cross-agency partnerships, the Agency ensures national safety and security for chemical and oil incidents by serving as first responders to oil spill notifications received from the National Response Center. This ensures every American has access to clean air, land, and water. It also sustains remaining good stewards of tax dollars and ensures resources continue to advance the mission while minimizing fraud, wastes and abuse of resources.

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. These include anything chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN). 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. Cooperative federalism and cross-agency partnerships are essential to keeping the American people safe from hazardous agents. Coordinating preparedness activities with DHS, FEMA, FBI, and other federal, state and local agencies will streamline business operations performed to safeguard the environment, boost infrastructure, and bring back American jobs that will allow the nation to thrive. It also will restore trust and support the needs of the American people.

Research to Support Homeland Security

EPA facilitates cooperative federalism and cross-agency partnerships to increase Homeland Security responsiveness and action plans that will leverage funding across multiple programs and produce synergistic results. This reduces time and cost to ensure clean air, land, and water for every American is safe and accessible. EPA's Homeland Security measures and action plans include coordinated efforts with DHS to support decisions made as a lead agency responsible for cleanup during a Stafford Act declaration, under ESF-10, as the lead agency for water infrastructure. EPA also coordinates with DOD and its sub-organizations to perform analysis and review of work related to biological and chemical warfare agents. Further, EPA participates in a tri-agency analytical incident response partnership (Technical Coordination Working Group [TCWG]) with DOD and DHS that focuses on assessing chemical and biological defense deficiencies and potential vulnerabilities. TCWG activities include but are not limited to: information sharing; multi-media refinement; and complementing policies. EPA also collaborates with CDC in conducting biological agent assessments and evaluations.

The Agency 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 analysis and evaluations with USDA and DOI to gather data and best approaches essential to address homeland security threats at the intersection of the environment/public health and agriculture/natural resources. EPA also partners with DOE to access and perform analysis at DOE's National Laboratories. These specialized facilities, facilitate establishing the Water Security Test Bed to develop analytical capabilities for biological and chemical agents in environmental matrices.

Research to Support Land and Emergency Management Programs

EPA utilized cooperative federalism and cross-agency partnerships to minimize duplication, maximize scope, and maintain a real-time information flow for land and emergency management issues. These partnerships include programs with the USFS, USGS, USDA, NOAA, BLM, and many others to protect human health and the environment. EPA coordinates its program office work initiatives to support a range of environmental priorities at other federal agencies, including work with DOD in the Environmental Security Technology Certification Program other areas that align with the *Powering the Great American Comeback* Initiatives to achieve EPA's mission to protect the human health and the environment while energizing the greatness of the American economy.

The Agency also conducts collaborative laboratory work efforts with DOD, DOE, DOI, and NASA to improve characterization and risk management options for dealing with subsurface contamination. EPA, USACE, and the U.S. Navy signed an MOU to increase collaboration and coordination in contaminated sediments. This initiative will improve efficiency and effectiveness

in analysis and site evaluations. EPA also works through the Interstate Technology Regulatory Council (ITRC) in defining continuing project needs through its teams on topics including permeable reactive barriers, radionuclides, and brownfields. These efforts ensure every American has access to clean air, land, and water while remaining good stewards of tax dollars and ensuring resources continue to advance the mission.

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, including communication and coordination on EPA's effort to develop occupational exposure limits under TSCA for chemicals regulated under TSCA 6 found to pose unreasonable risks to workers. In addition, EPA is continuing efforts to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with OSHA relating to development of risk evaluations and implementation of final TSCA section 6 rules to ensure that there is clear understanding between both agencies about actions affecting a shared regulated community.

EPA also engages in biannual meetings with the OMNE Committee,⁵ 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

⁵ The OMNE Committee is named for the first letter in each participating Agency's name.

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 13045,⁶ 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*⁷ and *Progress Report on the Federal Action Plan to Reduce Childhood Lead Exposures and Associated Health Impacts*.⁸ In FY 2026, 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 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

⁶ For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/children/executive-order-13045-protection-children-environmental-health-risks-and-safety-risks>.

⁷ For additional information, please visit: https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2019-04/documents/leadimplementationbooklet_april2019.pdf.

⁸ For additional information, please visit: https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2019-10/documents/lead_action_plan_booklet_v8_004.pdf.

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 pollutants, encourage nature-based solutions and other pollution prevention approaches, and support community resilience and 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 Party on Pesticides (WPP), 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.

EPA also is committed in a trilateral agreement with European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) and Health Canada to share data via the IUCLID software application and has made significant strides in this regard to develop a mutually agreeable legal agreement and identify records available for sharing. ECHA is further committed to supporting the US and other OECD member countries to adopt IUCLID as a chemical information management system. EPA is working in close collaboration with ECHA to support EPA's increasing use of IUCLID and to revise IUCLID and OECD Harmonized Templates to incorporate EPA's data needs.

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.^{9,10} Nearly all of this library includes data from EPA's Toxicity Forecaster (ToxCast™), 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 80 assays, resulting in more than 150 million data points which can inform decision making regarding the safety of chemicals. The full *Tox21* library comprises approximately equal sized contributions from 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 are being used to identify categories of PFAS chemicals having similar structural and toxicological properties that may inform the development and strength of predictive toxicological models.¹¹ EPA anticipates continued interagency collaboration on PFAS research and development efforts as required by the FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act.¹²

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 2023,¹³ 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.

⁹ Collins, F.S., Gray, G.M., and Bucher, J.R. (2008). Transforming environmental health protection. *Science*, 319, 906–907. doi: [10.1126/science.1154619](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1154619).

¹⁰ 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](https://doi.org/10.1289/ehp.1205784).

¹¹ Seminal paper on categorization of PFAS: [Development of chemical categories for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances \(PFAS\) and the proof-of-concept approach to the identification of potential candidates for tiered toxicological testing and human health assessment \(Patlewicz et al., 2024\)](#).

¹² For more information, please visit: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4049>.

¹³ For more information on the OECD guidance document, see: <https://www.oecd.org/en/topics/sub-issues/assessment-of-chemicals/integrated-approaches-to-testing-and-assessment.html>.

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, the European Joint Research Center, and the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) 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. 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 toward creating internationally harmonized methods and transparent data reporting requirements for industry, thereby reducing regulatory uncertainty and the economic burden of chemical safety testing for commercial entities.

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. 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., EFSA and Health Canada) 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 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:

- 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, OSHA, and ATSDR in preventing and responding to accidental releases and endangerment situations;
- DOI's Bureau of Indian Affairs, and DHHS's IHS on issues relative to compliance with environmental laws in Indian country;
- The DOC and SBA on the implementation of 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 IRS on cases that require defendants to pay civil penalties, thereby assisting the IRS in assuring compliance with tax laws;
- USACE on wetlands issues;
- DOT's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration on pipeline spills; and,
- 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.

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 pesticide imports and on hazardous waste and Cathode Ray Tube exports, as well as on a variety of other import/export issues under the various statutes (*e.g.*, imports of vehicles and engines).

Coordination on Issues Involving Shared Jurisdiction

EPA and 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. The Agency has entered into an agreement with the HUD concerning enforcement of the TSCA lead-based paint notification requirements. The Agency has coordinated with the 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 the 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 the CBP, FBI, DOI, DOD, DOJ, DOL, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, IRS-Criminal Investigations, USCG, U.S. Treasury, and international, state, tribal, and local law enforcement and regulatory organizations in the investigation and prosecution of environmental crimes. This work focuses criminal enforcement resources on the most impactful environmental challenges to achieve the highest degree of deterrence amongst the regulated community and to hold individuals and organizations to account for their wrongdoing. The Criminal Enforcement Program further coordinates extensively with inter-agency partners to investigate and disrupt organized crime elements that are involved in the illegal importation of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), unregistered pesticides, and other toxics. The misconduct by criminal elements and other violators not only disadvantages those companies following the rules but often has negative impacts on public health and the environment on which we depend. Criminal Enforcement further works extensively with our inter-agency law enforcement partners in responding to natural disasters and performing law enforcement support activities pursuant to Emergency Support Functions within the National Response Framework. Additionally, EPA 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

Executive Order 12088 on *Federal Compliance with Pollution Control Standards* directs EPA to monitor compliance by federal agencies with all environmental laws. 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 through the Federal Facilities Environmental Stewardship and Compliance Assistance Center (www.fedcenter.gov), which is governed by a board of more than a dozen contributing federal agencies. EPA also partners with other federal agencies to identify ways to expedite cleanup of Superfund sites and prevent and address regulatory compliance issues.

Superfund Enforcement

EPA (generally other agency jurisdiction). As required by Executive Order 13016, other departments and agencies must receive concurrence from EPA before use of CERCLA Section 106 authority. EPA coordinates with OFAs in their use of 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 13016, other departments and agencies must receive concurrence from EPA before use of CERCLA Section 106 authority. coordinates with OFAs in their use of 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 13016, other departments and agencies must receive concurrence from EPA before use of CERCLA Section 106 authority. coordinates with OFAs in their use of 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 13016, other departments and agencies must receive concurrence from EPA before use of CERCLA Section 106 authority.

In addition, EPA coordinates closely with Federal Land Management Agencies (FLMAs), such as BLM and 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 12580. EPA frequently enters into Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with FLMAs designed to provide a framework for agencies to coordinate response actions. EPA also 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.

Under Executive Order 12580, EPA's Superfund Federal Facilities Enforcement Program assists federal agencies in complying with CERCLA, and 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; (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 private entities. To enable the cleanup and reuse of such sites, the Federal Facilities Enforcement Program also has coordinated 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.

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.

Integrating Environmental Principles to Reduce Pollution

EPA works with international partners, such as foreign governments and international organizations, to deploy assistance that can strengthen on the ground action to 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 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). EPA also coordinates with the Department of State, the US Trade Representative and U.S. Trade partners to integrate environmental principles into domestic environmental governance cooperation within national jurisdictions.

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, DOS and USAID work together in Central America on Free-Trade Agreements and in Southeast Asia and parts of Africa.

EPA 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 Nationals 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.

EPA also serves as the co-lead (with DOI and the DOS) on the WHCNA International Indigenous Issues Committee. Within this Committee, EPA is the co-lead on two subcommittees, including Cross Border Issues. EPA also is an active member on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) Working Group. Additionally, EPA is involved as a participant on the WHCNA Health Committee, the Economic Development, Energy, and Infrastructure Committee, the soon-to-be-established Emergency Management and Disaster Response Working Group, the Sacred Sites Work Group, and the Critical Minerals Working Group.

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.
- Budget Formulation and Execution Lines of Business builds a "budget office of the future" by promoting information sharing across Federal government budget offices and building a budget "community of practice." Through this government-wide effort, the budget community is developing common tools and identifying best practices for all aspects of budget formulation and execution.
- Performance.gov allows the public to learn more about the President's Management Agenda (PMA), the federal performance management framework, and the federal goal-setting process to define success and drive progress in key management areas and priorities. The Federal Government uses the Framework to manage the organizational performance of federal agencies and achieve the vision set out in a President's Management Agenda. Performance.gov communicates the goals and objectives the federal government is working to accomplish, how it seeks to accomplish those goals, and why these efforts are important. All Agencies have pages on Performance.gov. Each page provides an overview of the Agency, mission, priority goals to be achieved, and links to its strategic and performance plans and reports.

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).

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 Interagency Chief Learning Officer Council is a central body comprised of Chief Learning Officers (CLO) or their equivalents that meet periodically to share best practices and create engaging learning opportunities for U.S. Government agencies and organizations. The CLO Council formally serves as an Advisory Committee and has generated measurable results to support the CHCOs and OPM on workforce 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 2026, 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.

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 2018.¹⁴ 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.

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

EPA and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) are coordinating on using the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) system. 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

¹⁴ For more information, please visit: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/4174>.

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.

The Administrator's Office

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Pursuant to NEPA and §309 of the CAA, EPA's NEPA Implementation Program coordinates and comments on the environmental review of major federal actions and ensures the §309 draft and final EIS comment letters are made publicly available. The Program guides EPA's compliance with NEPA, and other related statutes and executive orders. The NEPA Program staff manage the official Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) filing system for all federal EISs, in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). EPA uses e-NEPA, a web-based system, as the official EIS filing system for federal agencies and EIS clearinghouse to meet the CEQ MOU commitments. All §309 comment letters are publicly available on e-NEPA. The NEPA Implementation Program also operates, uses, and promotes NEPA Assist, a publicly available geographic information system to help users (EPA, other federal agencies, and the public) with environmental reviews under NEPA. The NEPA Program staff are also responsible for managing the review of Environmental Impact Assessments of non-governmental activities in Antarctica, in accordance with the Antarctic Science, Tourism, and Conservation Act.

Regulatory Management and Economic Analyses

EPA's Office of Policy (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, 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 (e.g., 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 Executive Order 14212, *Establishing the Make America Healthy Again Commission*, which identifies assessing and reversing the trend of childhood chronic disease as a priority, as well as the foundational Executive Order 13045, *Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks*, which ensures federal departments and agencies address impacts of federal actions on children.

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. To assist with the Agency's review of other federal agencies' EISs, EPA focuses on early engagement with other federal agencies to identify issues and potential solutions to reduce environmental impacts and

improve environmental outcomes. In addition, through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with CEQ,¹⁵ 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.

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.
- 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 Food Strategy IPC. These interagency efforts support improving community outcomes on a range of issues including economic transition, diversification, prosperity, and environmental protection. OP works collaboratively with national program offices and EPA regions to support their involvement in these interagency efforts. As an example, 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.

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. Both of these projects model the application of a community-driven approach to efficiently advance agencies' mission.

¹⁵ 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.

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 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 2026, 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 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 2026 Estimated Cybersecurity Resources

NIST Framework Function ¹⁶	NIST Capability ¹⁶	FY 2026 President's Budget (Dollars in Millions)
Identify	Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM)	\$14.70
	Non-CDM Information Security Continuous Monitoring	\$4.63
	Mobile Device Management	\$1.79
	Authorization and Policy	\$12.12
	Standards Development and Propagation	\$0.06
	Data Categorization and Classification	\$0.02
	Supply Chain Risk Management (SCRM) and Acquisitions Management	\$1.22
	Other Identify Capabilities	\$0.04
Identify Total		\$34.58
Protect	Trusted Internet Connections	\$0.55
	Credentialing and Access Management	\$0.24
	Insider Threat	\$0.10
	System Security Testing and Analysis	\$3.24
	Security Training	\$0.14
	Cloud Security	\$1.77
	Data Safeguarding	\$2.40
	Secure Data Transmission	\$2.19
	Research & Development	\$0.14
	Counterintelligence	\$0.23
	Zero Trust Network Architecture	\$1.75
	Security Log Management	\$2.16
	Secure Patch Management	\$2.97
	Other Protect Capabilities	\$1.34
Protect Total		\$19.22
Detect	Anti-Phishing and Malware Defense	\$0.09
	Data Loss Prevention	\$0.44
	Intrusion Prevention	\$0.68
	Endpoint Detection and Response	\$0.47
	Other Detect Capabilities	\$0.39
Detect Total		\$2.07

¹⁶ 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 Function¹⁶	NIST Capability¹⁶	FY 2026 President's Budget (Dollars in Millions)
Respond	Incident Management and Response	\$0.35
	Prosecution and Investigation of Cyber Intrusions	\$0.06
	Other Respond Capabilities	\$1.42
Respond Total		\$1.83
Recover	Disaster Recovery	\$1.20
	Incident Recovery	\$0.85
	Incident Notification	\$0.09
	Other Recover Capabilities	\$0.37
Recover Total		\$2.51
Cybersecurity Total		\$60.21

EPA User Fee Programs

In FY 2026, EPA will have several user fee programs in operation. These user fee programs and proposals are referenced below.

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 2026, 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.

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

Section 26 of TSCA authorizes EPA to collect fees to offset approximately but not more than 25 percent of the Agency’s costs for implementing TSCA sections 4, 5, 6, and relevant information management activities under section 14. The TSCA Fee program is administered by the Office of

Pollution Prevention and Toxics, including the issuance of the final amendments to the TSCA Fee Rule, *Fees for the Administration of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)* (89 FR 12961), in February 2024. Fees are charged for certain fee-triggering activities: 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.

The 2024 Fees Rule significantly increased the fees for both new and existing chemical reviews. While the recent updates to the EPA's cost estimate and associated fees are significantly higher than they were previously; they are still within the bounds provided by Congress and the increased fees will support the TSCA new chemical and existing chemical programs. EPA continues to identify ways to work more efficiently, aligning resources to support these regulatory programs, utilizing resources more effectively and driving to complete the reviews of new and existing chemicals within the timeframes allowed by TSCA. This means faster and better protection for Americans and the environment and a predictable regulatory process for industry. EPA updated its estimate of implementation costs in the 2024 final rulemaking to more accurately account for the full costs of administering TSCA, as directed by Congress. The final rule estimated fee collection of approximately \$36.7 million each year. In FY 2026, EPA's fee collection will include fees for the EPA-initiated risk evaluations for five High Priority Substances designated in December 2024.

TSCA fees collected from the start of FY 2019 through FY 2024 totaled \$49.6 million, or about \$8.3 million per year. 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). In FY 2023, EPA collected \$3.51 million (\$3.42 million in Section 5 submissions, \$0.09 million from Section 4 Test Order invoices). In FY 2024, EPA collected \$4.2 million (\$4.2 million in Section 5 submissions, \$35 thousand from section 4 Test Order invoices). In FY 2025, EPA estimates to collect \$4.8 million in Section 5 submissions. In FY 2026, EPA estimates to collect \$26.2 million (\$4.8 million in Section 5 submissions and \$21.4 million from the next round of Section 6 EPA-initiated chemical risk evaluations, possibly to be spread out over FY 2026 and FY 2027 per the revised Fee Rule schedule, plus a yet to be determined amount from the final cost calculations of the two MRREs submitted in FY 2020).

- **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 also are paid by manufacturers of heavy-duty and non-road 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 non-road engines. EPA intends to apply certification fees to additional industry sectors as new programs are developed. In FY 2026, EPA expects to collect approximately \$26.4 million from this fee program based upon a projection of the original rulemaking cost study adjusted for inflation. EPA is not currently authorized to expend these collected funds, but is proposing such authority.

- **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 2026, 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.

- **WIFIA Program Fees**

The FY 2026 Budget 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 (WIFIA) of 2014. These funds shall be deposited in the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Program Account and remain available until expended. WIFIA fee regulations were first promulgated in FY 2017. Fee revenue will be used to cover a portion of the costs of making secured loans, providing credit assistance, and servicing WIFIA credit instruments.

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.

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)
2024	020-99-99-99-99-3200-24	\$125.0
2025	020-99-99-99-99-3200-24	\$125.0
2026	020-99-99-99-99-3200-24	\$125.0

The Agency notes that FY 2025 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.

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)
2024	020-99-99-99-99-0060-24	\$1,145.0
2025	020-99-99-99-99-0060-24	\$1,470.0
2026	020-99-99-99-99-0060-24	\$1,380.0

The Agency notes that FY 2025 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.

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.¹⁷

Fiscal Year	Account Code	EPA Contribution (in thousands)
2024	020-99-99-99-99-1400-24	\$65.0
2025	020-99-99-99-99-1400-24	\$77.0
2026	020-99-99-99-99-1400-24	\$81.0

The Agency notes that FY 2025 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.

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)
2024	020-99-99-99-99-0090-24	\$55.0
2025	020-99-99-99-99-0090-24	\$60.0
2026	020-99-99-99-99-0090-24	\$50.0

The Agency notes that FY 2025 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.

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)
2024	020-00-01-01-04-1100-24	\$96.0
2025	020-00-01-01-04-1100-24	\$96.0
2026	020-00-01-01-04-1100-24	\$96.0

The Agency notes that FY 2025 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.

¹⁷ For additional information, please refer to: <https://facweb.census.gov/uploadpdf.aspx>.

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)
2024	020-99-99-99-99-0099-24	\$35.0
2025	020-99-99-99-99-0099-24	\$37.0
2026	020-99-99-99-99-0099-24	\$37.0

The Agency notes that FY 2025 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.

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 improves 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 2026. 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)
2024	020-99-99-99-99-3100-24	\$225.0
2025	020-99-99-99-99-3100-24	\$225.0
2026	020-99-99-99-99-3100-24	\$225.0

The Agency notes that FY 2025 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.

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)
2024	020-00-04-00-04-0160-24	\$259.0
2025	020-00-04-00-04-0160-24	\$276.0
2026	020-00-04-00-04-0160-24	\$336.0

The Agency notes that FY 2025 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.

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)
2024	020-00-01-16-04-1200-24	\$69.0
2025	020-00-01-16-04-1200-24	\$69.0
2026	020-00-01-16-04-1200-24	\$69.0

The Agency notes that FY 2025 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.

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)
2024	020-00-01-16-04-0230-24	\$650.0
2025	020-00-01-16-04-0230-24	\$520.0
2026	020-00-01-16-04-0230-24	\$531.0

The Agency notes that FY 2025 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.

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)
2024		
2025	020-00-01-16-04-0900-24	\$100.0
2026	020-00-01-16-04-0900-24	\$100.0

The Agency notes that FY 2025 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.

FY 2026 Administrator's Priorities

Funding for the Administrator's priorities are allocated by program project in the FY 2026 President's Budget with a total of \$2.189 million in the Environmental Programs and Management (EPM) Account and \$125 thousand in the Science and Technology Account (S&T).

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 2026 President's Budget Funding for Administrator's Priorities (Funds in Whole Dollars)

Appropriation	Program Project	FY 2026 Funding
EPM	Acquisition Management	\$75,000
EPM	Brownfields	\$88,000
EPM	Children and Other Sensitive Populations	\$25,000
EPM	Civil Enforcement	\$90,000
EPM	Civil Rights / Title VI Compliance	\$38,000
EPM	Clean Air Allowance Trading Programs	\$50,000
EPM	Atmospheric Protection*	\$0
EPM	Compliance Monitoring	\$100,000
EPM	Criminal Enforcement	\$73,000
EPM	Drinking Water Programs	\$50,000
EPM	Environmental Justice*	\$0
EPM	Exchange Network*	\$0
EPM	Federal Stationary Source Regulation	\$50,000
EPM	Federal Support for Air Quality Management	\$65,000
EPM	Financial Assistance Grants / IAG Management	\$75,000
EPM	Human Resources Management	\$75,000
EPM	Integrated Environmental Strategies	\$38,000
EPM	International Sources of Pollution	\$25,000
EPM	IT / Data Management	\$100,000
EPM	Legal Advice: Environmental Program	\$50,000
EPM	Legal Advice: Support Program	\$33,000
EPM	LUST / UST	\$50,000
EPM	Marine Pollution	\$50,000
EPM	NEPA Implementation	\$50,000
EPM	Pesticides: Protect Environmental from Pesticide Risk	\$75,000
EPM	Pesticides: Protect Human Health from Pesticide Risk	\$75,000
EPM	Pesticides: Realize Value of Pesticide Availability	\$50,000
EPM	Pollution Prevention Program*	\$0
EPM	RCRA: Corrective Action	\$50,000

Appropriation	Program Project	FY 2026 Funding
EPM	RCRA: Waste Management	\$85,000
EPM	RCRA: Waste Minimization & Recycling	\$25,000
EPM	Reduce Risks from Indoor Air	\$75,000
EPM	Regulatory/Economic-Management and Analysis	\$38,000
EPM	Science Advisory Board	\$50,000
EPM	State and Local Prevention and Preparedness	\$50,000
EPM	Surface Water Protection	\$150,000
EPM	Toxic Substances: Chemical Risk Review and Reduction	\$88,000
EPM	Toxic Substances: Lead Risk Reduction Program*	\$0
EPM	TRI / Right to Know	\$38,000
EPM	Tribal – Capacity Building	\$25,000
EPM	Wetlands	\$65,000
S&T	Federal Support for Air Quality Management	\$25,000
S&T	Research: Air and Energy	\$50,000
S&T	Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability	\$50,000
Total		\$2,314,000

*Programs proposed for elimination in the FY 2026 President's Budget.

FY 2026 Environmental Justice Program Budget

In FY 2026, the Environmental Justice (EJ) Program is proposed for elimination as the Agency returns to its core statutory requirements and *Pillar 1: Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American* of EPA's *Powering the Great American Comeback* initiative.

FY 2026 Proposed Resources and FTE for the EJ Program ¹			
Appropriation	Program Activities	FY 2026 PB Resources	FY 2026 PB FTE
EPM	Program Management, Coordination and Support	\$0.0	0.0
EPM	EJ Community Grant Program	\$0.0	
EPM	EJ Community Technical Assistance for Capacity Building	\$0.0	
EPM	EJ Government to Government (State, Tribes, and Local) Grants and Technical Assistance	\$0.0	
Superfund	Superfund EJ Program Coordination	\$0.0	
Total FY 2026		\$0.0	0.0
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 . This report fulfills this requirement.			

FY 2026 STAG Categorical Program Grants
Statutory Authority and Eligible Uses
(Dollars in Thousands)

Grant Title	Statutory Authorities	Eligible Recipients	Eligible Uses	FY 2024 Actual Dollars (X1000)	FY 2025 Enacted Dollars ¹⁸ (X1000)	FY 2026 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	\$0.0
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.	\$5,686.0	\$8,300.0	\$0.0
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.	\$4,511.0	\$4,970.0	\$0.0

¹⁸ The Agency notes that FY 2025 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.

Grant Title	Statutory Authorities	Eligible Recipients	Eligible Uses	FY 2024 Actual Dollars (X1000)	FY 2025 Enacted Dollars ¹⁸ (X1000)	FY 2026 President's Budget Dollars (X1000)
State and Local Air Quality Management	CAA, Sections 103, 105, 106	Air pollution control agencies as defined in Section 302(b) of the CAA; Multi-jurisdictional organizations (non-profit organizations whose boards of directors or membership is made up of CAA Section 302(b) agency officers and whose mission is to support the continuing environmental programs of the States); Interstate air quality control region designated pursuant to Section 107 of the CAA or of implementing Section 176A, or Section 184. NOTE: only the Ozone Transport Commission is eligible.	Carrying out the traditional prevention and control programs required by the CAA and associated program support costs, including all monitoring activities, including PM 2.5 monitoring and associated program costs (Section 103 and/or 105); Coordinating or facilitating a multi-jurisdictional approach to carrying out the traditional prevention and control programs required by the CAA (Sections 103 and 106); Supporting training for CAA Section 302(b) air pollution control agency staff (Sections 103 and 105); Supporting research, investigative, and demonstration projects (Section 103).	\$168,257.5 Section 105 grants	\$177,818.0 Section 105 grants	\$0.0 Section 105 grants
				\$639.0 Section 106 grants	\$639.0 Section 106 grants	\$0.0 Section 106 grants
				Total: \$222,968.5	Total: \$235,602.0	Total: \$0.0

Grant Title	Statutory Authorities	Eligible Recipients	Eligible Uses	FY 2024 Actual Dollars (X1000)	FY 2025 Enacted Dollars ¹⁸ (X1000)	FY 2026 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.	\$14,224.3 Section 103 grants \$4,000.0 Section 105 grants Total: \$18,224.3	\$12,278.0 Section 103 grants \$4,000.0 Section 105 grants Total: \$16,278.0	\$12,300.0 Section 103 grants \$4,000.0 Section 105 grants Total: \$16,300.0
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.	\$10,450.3	\$9,118.0	\$0.0

Grant Title	Statutory Authorities	Eligible Recipients	Eligible Uses	FY 2024 Actual Dollars (X1000)	FY 2025 Enacted Dollars¹⁸ (X1000)	FY 2026 President's Budget Dollars (X1000)
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.	\$205.8	\$0.0	\$0.0
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.	\$225,154.8	\$225,379.0	\$0.0
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.	\$175,311.2	\$174,263.0	\$0.0
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.	\$22,315.1	\$14,085.0	\$0.0
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.	\$113,478.8	\$115,833.0	\$0.0

Grant Title	Statutory Authorities	Eligible Recipients	Eligible Uses	FY 2024 Actual Dollars (X1000)	FY 2025 Enacted Dollars ¹⁸ (X1000)	FY 2026 President's Budget Dollars (X1000)
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.	\$13,059.1	\$12,277.0	\$12,294.0
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.	\$9,051.4	\$9,737.0	\$0.0
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.	\$98,036.1	\$101,362.0	\$0.0
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.	\$45,403.8	\$46,187.0	\$0.0

Grant Title	Statutory Authorities	Eligible Recipients	Eligible Uses	FY 2024 Actual Dollars (X1000)	FY 2025 Enacted Dollars ¹⁸ (X1000)	FY 2026 President's Budget Dollars (X1000)
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.	\$1,316.2	\$1,473.0	\$0.0

Grant Title	Statutory Authorities	Eligible Recipients	Eligible Uses	FY 2024 Actual Dollars (X1000)	FY 2025 Enacted Dollars ¹⁸ (X1000)	FY 2026 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.	\$11,954.3 – States formula \$1,888.0 HQ Programs: - Tribal: \$1,000.0 - PREP: \$444.0 - AAPCO: \$444.0 Total: \$13,842.3	\$11,094.0 – States formula \$1,888.0 HQ Programs: - Tribal: \$1,000.0 - PREP: \$444.0 - AAPCO: \$444.0 Total: \$12,982.0	\$0.0 – States formula \$0.0 HQ Programs: - Tribal: \$0.0 - PREP: \$0.0 - AAPCO: \$0.0 Total: \$0.0

Grant Title	Statutory Authorities	Eligible Recipients	Eligible Uses	FY 2024 Actual Dollars (X1000)	FY 2025 Enacted Dollars ¹⁸ (X1000)	FY 2026 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.	\$14,757.5 404(g) State/ Tribal Certification _____ \$1,750.0 404(g) Direct Implementation Total: \$16,507.5	\$13,280.0 404(g) State/ Tribal Certification _____ \$1,700.0 404(g) Direct Implementation Total: \$14,980.0	\$0.0 404(g) State/ Tribal Certification _____ \$0.0 404(g) Direct Implementation Total: \$0.0
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.	\$4,733.3	\$4,754.0	\$0.0
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.	\$24,397.1	\$24,217.0	\$0.0

Grant Title	Statutory Authorities	Eligible Recipients	Eligible Uses	FY 2024 Actual Dollars (X1000)	FY 2025 Enacted Dollars ¹⁸ (X1000)	FY 2026 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.	\$516.4	\$4,717.0	\$0.0
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.	\$76,823.1	\$72,102.0	\$72,200.0
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.	\$12,084.9	\$9,487.0	\$0.0

Environmental Protection Agency Response to OIG Top Management Challenges

EPA is re-evaluating processes to improve program oversight. During the FY 2024 Annual Financial Reporting period, the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of the Inspector General did not provide the Agency its report on the FY 2025 EPA's Management Challenges. However, the EPA will provide an appropriate response once we receive a copy of those challenges. Currently, the Agency will ensure it effectively and efficiently manages its resources as it aligns with the five pillars of EPA's *Powering the Great American Comeback* initiative and will re-evaluate its processes to allow for sufficient oversight for federal programs.

Making Litigation Costs Transparent - Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA)¹⁹
FY 2024

For the period from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, EPA has no data to report on the Equal Access for Justice Act fees.

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 Attorney²⁰	Hourly Rate of Expert Witness
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

¹⁹ 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). This report fulfills this requirement.

²⁰ 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.

Nonrecurring Expenses Fund (NEF) Proposal

The FY 2026 budget proposes to establish a Nonrecurring Expenses Fund (NEF) to modernize information technology (IT) software and applications.²¹ This fund would provide a strategic and fiscally responsible approach to managing significant, one-time expenditures without compromising the Agency's operational budget or long-term financial stability. This proposal aligns EPA with the authorities of many of its federal partners.²²

Establishing a NEF at EPA is a prudent financial strategy that will enable the Agency to address IT needs efficiently and effectively. This fund will not only safeguard EPA's financial health but also enhance its ability to fulfill its mission, in line with statutory obligations, ensuring that the Agency remains equipped to protect human health and the environment.

Up-to-date technology is essential for EPA to respond swiftly to environmental emergencies, conduct scientific research, enforce regulations, and ensure security in line with statutory obligations and Administration priorities. A NEF ensures that the Agency's ability to fulfill its mission is not compromised by inadequate or outdated technology.

Further, upgrading IT systems demonstrates the Agency's commitment to operational excellence and public accountability. It reassures stakeholders that EPA is effectively managing its resources to protect human health and the environment.

EPA's NEF proposal does not cost the taxpayer a dollar more and will be a reliable and sustainable source of revenue for IT needs. The proposed NEF statutory language also includes the requirement for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval on all projects.

EPA could use a NEF to conduct the following:²³

- Modernize IT Software and Applications to Enhance Operational Efficiency: EPA's ability to effectively manage and analyze environmental data is crucial to its mission. However, many of the Agency's current IT systems are outdated, leading to inefficiencies, cybersecurity vulnerabilities, and difficulties in data sharing and collaboration. Modernizing these systems is essential for improving operational efficiency, ensuring data security, and enhancing decision-making capabilities.
- Support Artificial Intelligence and Digital Transformation: As EPA continues to integrate more digital tools and data-driven approaches into its operations, a modern, reliable IT infrastructure is vital. A NEF would provide the necessary resources to implement these upgrades, without additional appropriations.

²¹ The NEF is a proposed fund that would be funded through transfers of expired appropriations to the fund and be made available indefinitely for the purposes of procuring large, one-time investments such as major system replacements.

²² Comparable funds and other information can be found examining: [Department of Homeland Security, 6 USC 103a](#), [Department of Agriculture, 7 USC 2250b](#), [Department of Commerce, 15 USC 1521a](#), [Forest Service, 16 USC 579f](#), [Department of Education, 20 USC 3483a](#), [Health and Human Services, 42 USC 3514a](#), [Housing and Urban Development, 42 USC 3539a](#), [Department of the Interior, 43 USC 1474g](#).

²³ Example projects are provided in Exhibit A.

The following proposed statutory language would allow EPA to establish and operate a NEF:

For fiscal year 2026 through fiscal year 2029, there is hereby established in the Treasury of the United States a fund to be known as the "Environmental Protection Agency Nonrecurring Expenses Fund" (the Fund): Provided, That unobligated balances of expired funds appropriated for this year, any prior year, or any succeeding fiscal year to the Environmental Protection Agency by this or any other Act may be transferred (not later than the end of the fifth fiscal year or seventh fiscal year after the last fiscal year for which such funds are available for the purposes for which they were appropriated, as appropriate)) into the Fund: Provided further, that amounts transferred into the Fund may not exceed \$50,000,000 per fiscal year; Provided further, That amounts deposited in the Fund shall be available through September 30 of the same fiscal year, in addition to such other funds as may be available for such purposes, for information technology expenses necessary for the operation of the Environmental Protection Agency, and associated administrative expenses, subject to approval by the Office of Management and Budget.

Establishing a NEF would allow the Agency to dedicate funds for these critical, non-recurring expenses, ensuring that routine operational budgets are not disrupted by unexpected large expenditures. This approach allows for more stable and predictable financial planning. EPA also can strategically plan for and prioritize non-recurring projects, aligning them with long-term goals and ensuring that critical needs are addressed without competing with ongoing operational demands.

Exhibit A: Example IT Systems considered for replacement under the NEF

System	Impacts	Estimated Costs²⁴
ETSNEXT travel	ETSNEXT travel This proposal requests resources to transition to the ETSNEXT system as required by GSA. With ETSNEXT, GSA will provide a single centralized governmentwide Travel and Expense (T&E) service that leverages the T&E business standards.	\$1.5M
HR Line of Business System Replacement	This investment would result in an enterprise comprehensive HR information system aimed at improving the experience of applicants, hiring managers, HR professionals, and agency employees involved in the hiring process. Finally, upgraded systems would ensure the effective use of human capital evaluation systems to document, measure, track, evaluate, and report progress on implementing the requirements of M-24-16 and 5 CFR Part 250.	\$5.0M
Next Generation Grants System (NGGS) Modernization	This investment will serve to consolidate and retire disparate IT systems into a standardized EPA Grants Management System. Utilizing the Grants QSMO may allow EPA program offices to elect to buy into certain discretionary services above the base services to provide services that align with common programmatic needs.	\$5.0M
EPA Acquisition System (EAS) Modernization	EPA proposes to utilize this funding to improve the user interface for a better customer experience; increase data tracking capability of the system to enable a greater capability to report out on contract activities; ensure greater compliance with Federal Acquisition Regulations; and improve the speed at which contracting actions are created, reviewed, and processed through the system. Resources would be used to investigate a modern contract writing system and move the Agency towards modernizing or buying into improved contracting system services.	\$3.0M
Interagency Agreement Award Management System (IAAMS) Replacement	The IAAMS system supports and documents the interagency agreements EPA has with other agencies. Proper management of these agreements is critical for EPA to provide payments on time, retain the services provided by these agreements, and maintain good relationships with EPA's partners. Resources made available by this investment is to modernize or buy into improved interagency award management system services. The current system does not allow for integration with Treasury's G-Invoicing Platform, nor does it fully integrate with the Agency's Compass core financial systems.	\$2.0M

²⁴ Note: All costs are estimates subject to change. Final costs and needs would be conveyed to OMB during the review and approval process for the use of NEF funds.

System	Impacts	Estimated Costs²⁴
Payment Tracking System (PTS)	This investment is to consolidate payment tracking systems with Compass, the Agency's financial system. The consolidation will allow the Agency to standardize data elements, reduce maintenance costs, and resources required to maintain multiple payment systems. It also will improve business processes and reduce redundancies while enhancing audit trail capabilities at the transactional level.	\$1.0M
Compass Data Warehouse (CDW)	This investment will advance the need for restructuring all data in the Compass Data Warehouse. This enhancement will ensure the Agency's financial data is accurate, reliable, and timely, to support agencywide reporting and data analysis needs in a standardized, documented and appropriately governed format. These changes will benefit both internal and external stakeholders.	\$1.5M
Transition to a New Time and Attendance System	Transition to a New Time and Attendance System. The Agency requires a \$2.0M investment to either upgrade or begin a transition to a new Time and Attendance System. EPA first implemented PeoplePlus in 2004 and in 2017 upgraded to its current version of 9.2 which is no longer supported by the vendor. If the current Time and Attendance System is upgraded, an investment would still be required for implementation and testing.	\$2.0M
Legal Case Management System	This investment will allow for improvements to this system, reducing the workload entailed in operating the system, redundancies in its functioning, while also improving the capability to extract useful information from it.	\$5.0M
Subtotal		\$26.0M

OECA Travel by Program Project FY 2020 - FY 2025¹

	FY 2020		FY 2021		FY 2022		FY 2023		FY 2024		FY 2025 ¹
Program Project	Enacted	Actuals**	Enacted	Actuals**	Enacted	Actuals**	Enacted*	Actuals**	Enacted*	Actuals**	Enacted
EPM											
43 - Brownfields	\$16.0	\$18.2	\$3.0	\$0.0	\$3.0	\$2.3	\$3.0	\$3.3	\$3.0	\$3.0	\$3.0
44 - Civil Enforcement	\$2,197.0	\$886.2	\$742.0	\$602.0	\$742.0	\$1,230.7	\$2,932.0	\$2,637.5	\$3,074.0	\$2,665.2	\$1571.0
50 - Compliance Monitoring	\$1,516.0	\$694.8	\$567.0	\$301.0	\$582.0	\$658.0	\$835.0	\$1,217.5	\$835.0	\$1,752.0	\$835.0
52 - Criminal Enforcement	\$1,522.0	\$748.4	\$548.0	\$467.0	\$548.0	\$606.0	\$1,518.0	\$1,381.8	\$1,518.0	\$1,999.1	\$868.0
57 - Environmental Justice	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$4.0	\$148.2	\$4.0	\$248.9	\$4.0	\$4.0	\$0.0
63 - Geographic Program: Chesapeake Bay	\$20.0	\$6.9	\$20.0	\$9.0	\$20.0	\$18.4	\$20.0	\$23.8	\$20.0	\$21.2	\$20.0
90 - NEPA Implementation	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
C4 – Stratospheric Ozone: Domestic Programs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3.4	\$0.0
F2 - Facilities Infrastructure and Operations	\$238.0	\$204.4	\$84.0	\$132.0	\$131.0	\$342.4	\$207.0	\$355.7	\$109.0	\$455.4	\$109.0
Total	\$5,509.0	\$2,558.9	\$1,964.0	\$1,511.0	\$2,030.0	\$3,006.0	\$5,519.0	\$5,868.5	\$5,563.0	\$6,903.3	\$3,406.0
S&T											
62 - Forensics Support	\$260.0	\$115.0	\$141.0	\$88.0	\$141.0	\$170.9	\$260.0	\$232.2	\$260.0	\$270.0	\$85.0
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
OIL											
44 - Civil Enforcement	\$14.0	\$3.1	\$14.0	\$6.0	\$12.0	\$13.4	\$12.0	\$9.3	\$12.0	\$7.9	\$12.0
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
Total	\$14.0	\$3.1	\$14.0	\$6.0	\$12.0	\$13.4	\$12.0	\$9.3	\$12.0	\$7.9	\$12.0
SUPERFUND											
50 - Compliance Monitoring	\$8.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
52 - Criminal Enforcement	\$468.0	\$125.8	\$468.0	\$399.0	\$468.0	\$547.3	\$468.0	\$579.7	\$79.0	\$478.9	\$79.0
62 - Forensics Support	\$50.0	\$17.2	\$50.0	\$48.0	\$50.0	\$65.3	\$50.0	\$85.9	\$50.0	\$46.8	\$50.0
C7 - Superfund: Enforcement ***	\$1,143.0	\$445.0	\$1,143.0	\$155.0	\$1,143.0	\$461.8	\$1,143.0	\$980.0	\$0.0	\$1,598.0	\$0.0
H2 - Superfund: Federal Facilities Enforcement	\$120.0	\$81.7	\$120.0	\$12.0	\$120.0	\$28.1	\$120.0	\$102.2	\$93.0	\$131.2	\$93.0
Total	\$1,789.0	\$669.7	\$1,781.0	\$614.0	\$1,781.0	\$1,102.5	\$1,781.0	\$1,747.8	\$222.0	\$2,254.9	\$222.0
Grand Total	\$7,572.0	\$3,346.7	\$3,900.0	\$2,219.0	\$3,964.0	\$4,292.7	\$7,572.0	\$7,857.7	\$6,057.0	\$9,436.1	\$3,725.0

¹The 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/congressional-report/116th-congress/house-report/448/1?outputFormat=pdf>. This report fulfills this requirement.

In addition, the Agency notes that FY 2025 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.

*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).

***In FY 2024, EPA transitioned the Superfund Enforcement Program solely to the Superfund Tax Receipts. As a result, EPA only provides Superfund Enforcement travel actual spending.

On-Site Inspections and Off-site Compliance Monitoring Compliance Activities from EPA's Integrated Compliance Information System²⁵

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) 2020 - 2026.

Fiscal Year	On-Site Inspections	Off-Site Compliance Monitoring Activities <i>(EPA does not set separate targets for this category)</i>	Total Completed
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 actual	Target: 6,050 Actual: 8,500	4,000	12,500
FY 2025 projection	Target: 6,200 Actual: TBD		Target: 10,000
FY 2026 projection	Target: TBD Actual: TBD		Target: 10,000

*Prior to FY 2019, EPA set one target for a combination of on-site inspections and off-site compliance monitoring activities. In FY 2019, EPA also began to set a target for on-site inspections.

**EPA did not set targets 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 receded.

Caveats:

1. **Definitions:** EPA did not have nationally consistent definitions of on-site inspections and off-site compliance monitoring activities for its Compliance Monitoring Program until OECA issued guidance on April 24, 2020 (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.
2. **Incomplete Data Entry:** Prior to the April 24, 2020 guidance, EPA did not require most types of off-site compliance monitoring activities to be entered into an EPA database, so prior years' data are likely incomplete. The guidance established expectations for national reporting of these activities.

²⁵ 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.

3. COVID-19: Restrictions on travel during the pandemic affected EPA's ability to conduct on-site inspections in FY 2020, FY 2021 and 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 on-site inspections are performed by authorized states. For example, states performed over 54,000 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) inspections in FY 2024.
5. Data Mining: With modern tools, EPA collects data from monitoring reports and manifests. EPA conducts this type of 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.
6. Totals More Reliable Than Subtotals: The sum of the two subtotals (on-site inspections + off-site compliance monitoring activities) is a more reliable value because it smooths out some of the variability in each subtotal.
7. Staffing Levels: The number of inspections the Agency completes each year generally correlates with our annual staffing levels.

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 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 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		Medical staff within the Office of Real Property, Safety, and Security, Safety, Occupational Health and Sustainability Division serves as a focal point for occupational medical surveillance, wellness,

Number of Physicians Receiving PCAs by Category (non-add)	Category of Physician Position	Covered by Agency (mark "x" if covered)	Basis for Category
			and 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. 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. 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.

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

	PY 2024 (Actual)	CY* 2025(Estimates)	BY** 2026 (Estimates)
3a) Number of Physicians Receiving PCAs	4	4	4
3b) Number of Physicians with One-Year PCA Agreements	0	0	0
3c) Number of Physicians with Multi-Year PCA Agreements	4	4	4
4a) Average Annual PCA Physician Pay (without PCA payment)	\$210,645	\$224,617	\$224,617
4b) Average Annual PCA Payment	\$23,253	\$23,253	\$28,871

*The Agency notes that FY 2025 and FY 2026 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.

**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; EPA 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 2026 Congressional Justification

Program Projects by Program Area (Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2024 Final Actuals	FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 President's Budget v. FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan
Science & Technology				
Clean Air				
Clean Air Allowance Trading Programs	\$6,456	\$6,162	\$5,739	-\$423
Atmospheric Protection	\$7,295	\$5,639	\$0	-\$5,639
Federal Support for Air Quality Management	\$15,762	\$10,608	\$10,727	\$119
Federal Vehicle and Fuels Standards and Certification	\$110,934	\$116,215	\$100,731	-\$15,484
Subtotal, Clean Air	\$140,448	\$138,624	\$117,197	-\$21,427
Enforcement				
Forensics Support	\$14,668	\$14,895	\$10,095	-\$4,800
Homeland Security				
Homeland Security: Critical Infrastructure Protection	\$11,253	\$10,427	\$10,214	-\$213
Homeland Security: Preparedness, Response, and Recovery	\$25,348	\$23,598	\$25,542	\$1,944
Homeland Security: Protection of EPA Personnel and Infrastructure	\$625	\$625	\$500	-\$125
Subtotal, Homeland Security	\$37,226	\$34,650	\$36,256	\$1,606
Indoor Air and Radiation				
Indoor Air: Radon Program	\$169	\$22	\$0	-\$22
Radiation: Protection	\$2,295	\$1,740	\$1,047	-\$693
Radiation: Response Preparedness	\$3,174	\$3,400	\$3,096	-\$304
Reduce Risks from Indoor Air	\$100	\$88	\$0	-\$88
Subtotal, Indoor Air and Radiation	\$5,737	\$5,250	\$4,143	-\$1,107
IT / Data Management / Security				
IT / Data Management	\$2,484	\$3,079	\$2,890	-\$189
Operations and Administration				
Facilities Infrastructure and Operations	\$67,394	\$64,733	\$55,023	-\$9,710
Workforce Reshaping	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000
Subtotal, Operations and Administration	\$67,394	\$64,733	\$57,023	-\$7,710
Pesticides Licensing				
Pesticides: Protect Human Health from Pesticide Risk	\$2,996	\$2,889	\$2,442	-\$447
Pesticides: Protect the Environment from Pesticide Risk	\$2,151	\$2,143	\$2,616	\$473
Pesticides: Realize the Value of Pesticide Availability	\$823	\$868	\$684	-\$184

	FY 2024 Final Actuals	FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 President's Budget v. FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan
Subtotal, Pesticides Licensing	\$5,969	\$5,900	\$5,742	-\$158
Research: Air and Energy				
Research: Air and Energy	\$94,764	\$96,000	\$33,543	-\$62,457
Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability				
Health and Environmental Risk Assessment	\$42,055	\$38,732	\$24,694	-\$14,038
Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability				
<i>Endocrine Disruptors</i>	<i>\$17,002</i>	<i>\$15,535</i>	<i>\$10,034</i>	<i>-\$5,501</i>
<i>Computational Toxicology</i>	<i>\$22,264</i>	<i>\$20,526</i>	<i>\$16,148</i>	<i>-\$4,378</i>
<i>Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability (other activities)</i>	<i>\$54,133</i>	<i>\$52,244</i>	<i>\$40,770</i>	<i>-\$11,474</i>
Subtotal, Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability	\$93,399	\$88,305	\$66,952	-\$21,353
Subtotal, Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability	\$135,454	\$127,037	\$91,646	-\$35,391
Research: Sustainable Communities				
Research: Sustainable and Healthy Communities	\$134,581	\$132,205	\$58,597	-\$73,608
Research: Safe and Sustainable Water Resources				
Research: Safe and Sustainable Water Resources	\$111,275	\$111,500	\$78,948	-\$32,552
Ensure Safe Water				
Drinking Water Programs	\$4,111	\$4,700	\$4,700	\$0
Congressional Priorities <i>(previously named Clean and Safe Water Technical Assistance Grants)</i>				
Congressional Priorities	\$28,536	\$17,500	\$0	-\$17,500
Total, Science & Technology	\$782,646	\$756,073	\$500,780	-\$255,293
Environmental Programs & Management				
Alaska Contaminated Lands				
Alaska Contaminated Lands	\$3,245	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0
Brownfields				
Brownfields	\$25,458	\$25,689	\$12,816	-\$12,873
Clean Air				
Clean Air Allowance Trading Programs	\$15,177	\$13,423	\$13,231	-\$192
Atmospheric Protection	\$99,198	\$53,615	\$0	-\$53,615
Federal Stationary Source Regulations	\$26,113	\$24,554	\$25,272	\$718
Federal Support for Air Quality Management	\$149,862	\$205,936	\$132,556	-\$73,380
Stratospheric Ozone: Domestic Programs	\$6,655	\$1,472	\$5,895	\$4,423
Stratospheric Ozone: Multilateral Fund	\$8,326	\$0	\$0	-\$0
Subtotal, Clean Air	\$305,331	\$299,000	\$176,954	-\$122,046

	FY 2024 Final Actuals	FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 President's Budget v. FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan
Compliance				
Compliance Monitoring	\$106,372	\$107,078	\$69,078	-\$38,000
Enforcement				
Civil Enforcement	\$218,907	\$201,305	\$140,191	-\$61,114
Criminal Enforcement	\$65,595	\$60,041	\$30,472	-\$29,569
Environmental Justice	\$109,910	\$94,124	\$0	-\$94,124
NEPA Implementation	\$21,664	\$19,898	\$21,061	\$1,163
Subtotal, Enforcement	\$416,079	\$375,368	\$191,724	-\$183,644
Geographic Programs				
Geographic Program: Chesapeake Bay	\$107,846	\$92,000	\$92,000	\$0
Geographic Program: Gulf of America	\$23,160	\$25,524	\$25,524	\$0
Geographic Program: Lake Champlain	\$25,041	\$25,000	\$15,590	-\$9,410
Geographic Program: Long Island Sound	\$42,108	\$40,002	\$40,002	\$0
Geographic Program: Other				
<i>Lake Pontchartrain</i>	<i>\$4,399</i>	<i>\$2,200</i>	<i>\$1,012</i>	<i>-\$1,188</i>
<i>S.New England Estuary (SNEE)</i>	<i>\$4,534</i>	<i>\$7,000</i>	<i>\$3,334</i>	<i>-\$3,666</i>
<i>Geographic Program: Other (other activities)</i>	<i>\$5,827</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>	<i>\$2,793</i>	<i>-\$2,207</i>
Subtotal, Geographic Program: Other	\$14,760	\$14,200	\$7,139	-\$7,061
Great Lakes Restoration	\$336,013	\$368,000	\$368,000	\$0
Geographic Program: South Florida	\$8,508	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$0
Geographic Program: San Francisco Bay	\$41,881	\$54,500	\$12,897	-\$41,603
Geographic Program: Puget Sound	\$55,217	\$54,000	\$28,767	-\$25,233
Subtotal, Geographic Programs	\$654,534	\$681,726	\$598,419	-\$83,307
Homeland Security				
Homeland Security: Communication and Information	\$4,018	\$4,792	\$3,677	-\$1,115
Homeland Security: Critical Infrastructure Protection	\$987	\$914	\$1,361	\$447
Homeland Security: Protection of EPA Personnel and Infrastructure	\$4,973	\$4,665	\$4,986	\$321
Subtotal, Homeland Security	\$9,979	\$10,371	\$10,024	-\$347
Indoor Air and Radiation				
Indoor Air: Radon Program	\$2,627	\$3,123	\$0	-\$3,123
Radiation: Protection	\$8,791	\$9,520	\$2,470	-\$7,050
Radiation: Response Preparedness	\$2,044	\$2,262	\$2,350	\$88
Reduce Risks from Indoor Air	\$14,343	\$12,495	\$11,642	-\$853
Subtotal, Indoor Air and Radiation	\$27,805	\$27,400	\$16,462	-\$10,938
Information Exchange / Outreach				
State and Local Prevention and Preparedness	\$15,308	\$14,940	\$10,862	-\$4,078

	FY 2024 Final Actuals	FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 President's Budget v. FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan
TRI / Right to Know	\$12,246	\$11,991	\$13,206	\$1,215
Tribal - Capacity Building	\$14,414	\$15,215	\$14,715	-\$500
Executive Management and Operations	\$61,072	\$56,574	\$38,984	-\$17,590
Environmental Education	\$9,705	\$9,500	\$0	-\$9,500
Exchange Network	\$15,359	\$10,098	\$0	-\$10,098
Small Minority Business Assistance	\$3,572	\$1,907	\$1,080	-\$827
Small Business Ombudsman	\$2,460	\$1,925	\$1,983	\$58
Children and Other Sensitive Populations: Agency Coordination	\$6,343	\$6,850	\$6,350	-\$500
Subtotal, Information Exchange / Outreach	\$140,479	\$129,000	\$87,180	-\$41,820
International Programs				
US Mexico Border	\$2,853	\$2,936	\$2,791	-\$145
International Sources of Pollution	\$7,748	\$7,683	\$5,339	-\$2,344
Trade and Governance	\$5,232	\$4,558	\$0	-\$4,558
Subtotal, International Programs	\$15,833	\$15,177	\$8,130	-\$7,047
IT / Data Management / Security				
Information Security	\$11,852	\$8,388	\$14,012	\$5,624
IT / Data Management	\$89,592	\$88,112	\$79,164	-\$8,948
Subtotal, IT / Data Management / Security	\$101,444	\$96,500	\$93,176	-\$3,324
Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review				
Integrated Environmental Strategies	\$12,897	\$10,435	\$8,000	-\$2,435
Administrative Law	\$5,437	\$6,106	\$5,104	-\$1,002
Alternative Dispute Resolution	\$439	\$579	\$0	-\$579
Civil Rights Program	\$12,219	\$11,248	\$9,780	-\$1,468
Legal Advice: Environmental Program	\$61,776	\$58,876	\$50,263	-\$8,613
Legal Advice: Support Program	\$18,906	\$18,541	\$18,082	-\$459
Regional Science and Technology	\$1,341	\$322	\$0	-\$322
Science Advisory Board	\$3,972	\$3,415	\$4,031	\$616
Regulatory/Economic-Management and Analysis	\$18,634	\$17,768	\$17,294	-\$474
Subtotal, Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review	\$135,622	\$127,290	\$112,554	-\$14,736
Underground Storage Tanks (LUST / UST)				
LUST / UST	\$12,333	\$11,500	\$6,863	-\$4,637
Operations and Administration				
Central Planning, Budgeting, and Finance	\$81,953	\$80,928	\$76,603	-\$4,325
Facilities Infrastructure and Operations	\$274,208	\$275,909	\$234,599	-\$41,310
Acquisition Management	\$34,401	\$32,223	\$32,247	\$24
Human Resources Management	\$62,477	\$51,813	\$40,000	-\$11,813
Financial Assistance Grants / IAG Management	\$28,386	\$28,202	\$27,147	-\$1,055

	FY 2024 Final Actuals	FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 President's Budget v. FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan
Workforce Reshaping	\$0	\$0	\$8,000	\$8,000
Subtotal, Operations and Administration	\$481,424	\$469,075	\$418,596	-\$50,479
Pesticides Licensing				
Science Policy and Biotechnology	\$1,613	\$1,379	\$0	-\$1,379
Pesticides: Protect Human Health from Pesticide Risk	\$62,897	\$61,704	\$60,224	-\$1,480
Pesticides: Protect the Environment from Pesticide Risk	\$46,586	\$45,511	\$45,832	\$321
Pesticides: Realize the Value of Pesticide Availability	\$8,047	\$6,781	\$6,014	-\$767
Subtotal, Pesticides Licensing	\$119,143	\$115,375	\$112,070	-\$3,305
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)				
RCRA: Corrective Action	\$39,061	\$38,423	\$25,126	-\$13,297
RCRA: Waste Management	\$74,277	\$71,879	\$40,399	-\$31,480
RCRA: Waste Minimization & Recycling	\$12,776	\$10,348	\$4,253	-\$6,095
Subtotal, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)	\$126,114	\$120,650	\$69,778	-\$50,872
Toxics Risk Review and Prevention				
Endocrine Disruptors	\$9,184	\$7,614	\$3,000	-\$4,614
Pollution Prevention Program	\$12,583	\$11,865	\$0	-\$11,865
Toxic Substances: Chemical Risk Review and Reduction	\$91,338	\$96,406	\$73,042	-\$23,364
Toxic Substances: Lead Risk Reduction Program	\$12,551	\$14,068	\$0	-\$14,068
Subtotal, Toxics Risk Review and Prevention	\$125,656	\$129,953	\$76,042	-\$53,911
Protecting Estuaries and Wetlands				
National Estuary Program / Coastal Waterways	\$35,648	\$40,000	\$32,000	-\$8,000
Wetlands	\$21,404	\$20,884	\$20,884	\$0
Subtotal, Protecting Estuaries and Wetlands	\$57,052	\$60,884	\$52,884	-\$8,000
Ensure Safe Water				
Beach / Fish Programs	\$1,696	\$1,571	\$1,819	\$248
Drinking Water Programs	\$123,122	\$115,429	\$124,181	\$8,752
Subtotal, Ensure Safe Water	\$124,818	\$117,000	\$126,000	\$9,000
Ensure Clean Water				
Marine Pollution	\$9,561	\$8,494	\$8,954	\$460
Surface Water Protection	\$224,493	\$216,798	\$214,000	-\$2,798
Subtotal, Ensure Clean Water	\$234,054	\$225,292	\$222,954	-\$2,338
Congressional Priorities <i>(previously named Clean and Safe Water Technical Assistance Grants)</i>				
Congressional Priorities	\$30,700	\$30,700	\$0	-\$30,700
Total, Environmental Programs & Management	\$3,253,475	\$3,195,028	\$2,481,704	-\$713,324

	FY 2024 Final Actuals	FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 President's Budget v. FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan
Inspector General				
Audits, Evaluations, and Investigations				
Audits, Evaluations, and Investigations	\$40,042	\$43,250	\$43,250	\$0
Total, Inspector General	\$40,042	\$43,250	\$43,250	\$0
Building and Facilities				
Homeland Security				
Homeland Security: Protection of EPA Personnel and Infrastructure	\$6,225	\$6,676	\$6,176	-\$500
Operations and Administration				
Facilities Infrastructure and Operations	\$26,604	\$34,000	\$28,900	-\$5,100
Total, Building and Facilities	\$32,830	\$40,676	\$35,076	-\$5,600
Hazardous Substance Superfund				
Audits, Evaluations, and Investigations				
Audits, Evaluations, and Investigations	\$12,470	\$11,328	\$11,328	\$0
Compliance				
Compliance Monitoring	\$863	\$1,017	\$817	-\$200
Enforcement				
Criminal Enforcement	\$9,890	\$7,944	\$3,999	-\$3,945
Environmental Justice	\$7,283	\$5,876	\$0	-\$5,876
Forensics Support	\$1,474	\$1,286	\$1,040	-\$246
Superfund: Enforcement	\$185,418	\$0	\$0	\$0
Superfund: Federal Facilities Enforcement	\$8,463	\$1,793	\$1,784	-\$9
Subtotal, Enforcement	\$212,528	\$16,899	\$6,823	-\$10,076
Homeland Security				
Homeland Security: Preparedness, Response, and Recovery	\$35,472	\$34,588	\$35,192	\$604
Homeland Security: Protection of EPA Personnel and Infrastructure	\$1,257	\$1,102	\$915	-\$187
Subtotal, Homeland Security	\$36,729	\$35,690	\$36,107	\$417
Indoor Air and Radiation				
Radiation: Protection	\$3,823	\$2,472	\$2,122	-\$350
Information Exchange / Outreach				
Exchange Network	\$1,037	\$1,328	\$0	-\$1,328
IT / Data Management / Security				
Information Security	\$2,123	\$1,040	\$5,082	\$4,042

	FY 2024 Final Actuals	FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 President's Budget v. FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan
IT / Data Management	\$19,372	\$19,786	\$13,874	-\$5,912
Subtotal, IT / Data Management / Security	\$21,495	\$20,826	\$18,956	-\$1,870
Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review				
Alternative Dispute Resolution	\$1,006	\$644	\$0	-\$644
Legal Advice: Environmental Program	\$1,804	\$713	\$608	-\$105
Subtotal, Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review	\$2,810	\$1,357	\$608	-\$749
Operations and Administration				
Central Planning, Budgeting, and Finance	\$35,335	\$31,378	\$22,462	-\$8,916
Facilities Infrastructure and Operations	\$74,984	\$67,080	\$57,373	-\$9,707
Acquisition Management	\$23,620	\$25,588	\$23,752	-\$1,836
Human Resources Management	\$10,904	\$7,424	\$5,704	-\$1,720
Financial Assistance Grants / IAG Management	\$5,012	\$4,170	\$2,903	-\$1,267
Subtotal, Operations and Administration	\$149,854	\$135,640	\$112,194	-\$23,446
Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability				
Health and Environmental Risk Assessment	\$5,208	\$5,238	\$5,714	\$476
Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability	\$8,457	\$7,723	\$0	-\$7,723
Subtotal, Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability	\$13,665	\$12,961	\$5,714	-\$7,247
Research: Sustainable Communities				
Research: Sustainable and Healthy Communities	\$20,147	\$16,937	\$11,448	-\$5,489
Superfund Cleanup				
Superfund: Emergency Response and Removal	\$277,004	\$59,181	\$47,311	-\$11,870
Superfund: EPA Emergency Preparedness	\$7,782	\$8,056	\$7,700	-\$356
Superfund: Federal Facilities	\$32,149	\$26,189	\$21,621	-\$4,568
Superfund: Remedial	\$686,559	\$187,819	\$0	-\$187,819
Subtotal, Superfund Cleanup	\$1,003,495	\$281,245	\$76,632	-\$204,613
Total, Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$1,478,917	\$537,700	\$282,749	-\$254,951
Leaking Underground Storage Tanks				
Enforcement				
Civil Enforcement	\$619	\$635	\$435	-\$200
Underground Storage Tanks (LUST / UST)				
LUST / UST	\$11,474	\$9,591	\$7,149	-\$2,442
LUST Cooperative Agreements	\$55,740	\$52,838	\$38,840	-\$13,998
LUST Prevention	\$26,301	\$24,491	\$0	-\$24,491
Subtotal, Underground Storage Tanks (LUST / UST)	\$93,515	\$86,920	\$45,989	-\$40,931
Operations and Administration				

	FY 2024 Final Actuals	FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 President's Budget v. FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan
Central Planning, Budgeting, and Finance	\$580	\$537	\$450	-\$87
Facilities Infrastructure and Operations	\$597	\$686	\$612	-\$74
Acquisition Management	\$113	\$109	\$132	\$23
Subtotal, Operations and Administration	\$1,290	\$1,332	\$1,194	-\$138
Research: Sustainable Communities				
Research: Sustainable and Healthy Communities	\$354	\$327	\$304	-\$23
Total, Leaking Underground Storage Tanks	\$95,778	\$89,214	\$47,922	-\$41,292
Inland Oil Spill Programs				
Compliance				
Compliance Monitoring	\$750	\$605	\$605	\$0
Enforcement				
Civil Enforcement	\$2,614	\$2,465	\$1,762	-\$703
Operations and Administration				
Facilities Infrastructure and Operations	\$625	\$637	\$541	-\$96
Oil				
Oil Spill: Prevention, Preparedness and Response	\$19,041	\$16,334	\$12,965	-\$3,369
Research: Sustainable Communities				
Research: Sustainable and Healthy Communities	\$681	\$670	\$522	-\$148
Total, Inland Oil Spill Programs	\$23,712	\$20,711	\$16,395	-\$4,316
State and Tribal Assistance Grants				
State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)				
Infrastructure Assistance: Alaska Native Villages	\$40,116	\$39,000	\$10,000	-\$29,000
Brownfields Projects	\$98,700	\$98,000	\$80,000	-\$18,000
Infrastructure Assistance: Clean Water SRF	\$922,125	\$1,638,861	\$155,000	-\$1,483,861
Infrastructure Assistance: Clean Water SRF Congressionally Directed Spending	\$214,719	\$0	\$0	\$0
Infrastructure Assistance: Drinking Water SRF	\$570,096	\$1,126,101	\$150,000	-\$976,101
Infrastructure Assistance: Drinking Water SRF Congressionally Directed Spending	\$139,857	\$0	\$0	\$0
Infrastructure Assistance: Mexico Border	\$17,830	\$35,000	\$10,000	-\$25,000
Diesel Emissions Reduction Grant Program	\$170,185	\$90,000	\$0	-\$90,000
Targeted Airshed Grants	\$27,258	\$67,800	\$67,800	\$0
San Juan Watershed Monitoring (Formerly - Gold King Mine Water Monitoring)	\$56	\$0	\$0	\$0
Safe Water for Small & Disadvantaged Communities	\$48,124	\$28,500	\$0	-\$28,500
Reducing Lead in Drinking Water	\$1,638	\$22,000	\$20,000	-\$2,000
Lead Testing in Schools	\$46,121	\$28,000	\$28,000	\$0

	FY 2024 Final Actuals	FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 President's Budget v. FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan
Drinking Water Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability	\$0	\$6,500	\$6,500	\$0
Technical Assistance for Wastewater Treatment Works (Formerly - Technical Assistance for Treatment Works)	\$580	\$25,500	\$10,000	-\$15,500
Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Grants (Formerly - Sewer Overflow Control Grants)	\$53,149	\$41,000	\$41,000	\$0
Water Infrastructure Workforce Investment (Formerly - Water Infrastructure and Workforce Investment)	\$16,078	\$5,400	\$5,000	-\$400
Recycling Infrastructure	\$10,612	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
Wildfire Smoke Preparedness	\$10,670	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0
Midsize and Large Drinking Water System Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability	\$0	\$2,250	\$2,250	\$0
Indian Reservation Drinking Water Program	\$0	\$4,000	\$31,000	\$27,000
Stormwater Infrastructure Technology	\$952	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
Enhanced Aquifer Use and Recharge	\$0	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0
Water Sector Cybersecurity	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000
Subtotal, State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)	\$2,388,866	\$3,275,412	\$644,050	-\$2,631,362
Categorical Grants				
Categorical Grant: Nonpoint Source (Sec. 319)	\$175,311	\$174,263	\$0	-\$174,263
Categorical Grant: Public Water System Supervision (PWSS)	\$113,479	\$115,833	\$0	-\$115,833
Categorical Grant: State and Local Air Quality Management	\$222,969	\$235,602	\$0	-\$235,602
Categorical Grant: Radon	\$10,450	\$9,118	\$0	-\$9,118
Categorical Grant: Pollution Control (Sec. 106)				
<i>Monitoring Grants</i>	\$16,765	\$18,487	\$0	-\$18,487
<i>Categorical Grant: Pollution Control (Sec. 106) (other activities)</i>	\$208,390	\$206,892	\$0	-\$206,892
Subtotal, Categorical Grant: Pollution Control (Sec. 106)	\$225,155	\$225,379	\$0	-\$225,379
Categorical Grant: Wetlands Program Development	\$22,315	\$14,085	\$0	-\$14,085
Categorical Grant: Underground Injection Control (UIC)	\$13,059	\$12,277	\$12,294	\$17
Categorical Grant: Pesticides Program Implementation	\$13,842	\$12,982	\$0	-\$12,982
Categorical Grant: Lead	\$16,507	\$14,980	\$0	-\$14,980
Resource Recovery and Hazardous Waste Grants (Formerly - Categorical Grant: Hazardous Waste Financial Assistance)	\$98,036	\$101,362	\$0	-\$101,362
Categorical Grant: Pesticides Enforcement	\$24,397	\$24,217	\$0	-\$24,217
Categorical Grant: Pollution Prevention	\$516	\$4,717	\$0	-\$4,717
Categorical Grant: Toxics Substances Compliance	\$4,733	\$4,754	\$0	-\$4,754
Categorical Grant: Tribal General Assistance Program	\$76,823	\$72,102	\$72,200	\$98
Categorical Grant: Underground Storage Tanks	\$1,316	\$1,473	\$0	-\$1,473
Categorical Grant: Tribal Air Quality Management	\$18,224	\$16,278	\$16,300	\$22
Categorical Grant: Multipurpose Grants	\$206	\$0	\$0	\$0
Categorical Grant: Environmental Information	\$12,085	\$9,487	\$0	-\$9,487
Categorical Grant: Beaches Protection	\$9,051	\$9,737	\$0	-\$9,737
Categorical Grant: Brownfields	\$45,404	\$46,187	\$0	-\$46,187

	FY 2024 Final Actuals	FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 President's Budget v. FY 2025 Enacted Operating Plan
Subtotal, Categorical Grants	\$1,103,880	\$1,104,833	\$100,794	-\$1,004,039
Congressional Priorities (previously named Clean and Safe Water Technical Assistance Grants)				
Congressionally Mandated Projects	\$6,538	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total, State and Tribal Assistance Grants	\$3,499,285	\$4,380,245	\$744,844	-\$3,635,401
Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Fund				
Ensure Clean Water				
Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation (No Year)	\$569,585	\$59,634	\$0	-\$59,634
Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation (Two Year)	\$7,905	\$7,640	\$8,000	\$360
Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation State	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	-\$5,000
Total, Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Fund	\$577,490	\$72,274	\$8,000	-\$64,274
TOTAL, EPA	\$9,784,176	\$9,135,171	\$4,160,720	-\$4,974,451

*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 expects to receive in FY 2025 and FY 2026 are not reflected here. These additional government revenues will be used to carry out the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980.

*** The Agency notes that FY 2025 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.

Programs Proposed for Elimination

The following programs are proposed for elimination to refocus agency resources on core statutory work and empower state and local government after years of federal investment. Total savings are \$1.46 billion.

Program Area / Program Project	FY 2025 Enacted* (\$K)	FY 2026 President's Budget (\$K)
Categorical Grants	\$1,004,176	\$0
Categorical Grant: Beaches Protection	\$9,737	\$0
Categorical Grant: Brownfields	\$46,187	\$0
Categorical Grant: Environmental Information	\$9,487	\$0
Categorical Grant: Lead	\$14,980	\$0
Categorical Grant: Nonpoint Source (Sec. 319)	\$174,263	\$0
Categorical Grant: Pesticides Enforcement	\$24,217	\$0
Categorical Grant: Pesticides Program	\$12,982	\$0
Categorical Grant: Pollution Control (Sec. 106)	\$225,379	\$0
Categorical Grant: Pollution Prevention	\$4,717	\$0
Categorical Grant: PWSS	\$115,833	\$0
Categorical Grant: Radon	\$9,118	\$0
Categorical Grant: Toxics Substances Compliance	\$4,754	\$0
Categorical Grant: Underground Storage Tanks	\$1,473	\$0
Categorical Grant: Wetlands Program Development	\$14,085	\$0
Categorical Grant: State & Local Air Quality Mgmt	\$235,602	\$0
Resource Recovery and Hazardous Waste Grants	\$101,362	\$0
Clean Air	\$59,254	\$0
Atmospheric Protection	\$59,254	\$0
Clean and Safe Water Technical Assistance Grants	\$48,200	\$0
Congressional Priorities	\$48,200	\$0
Enforcement	\$100,000	\$0
Environmental Justice	\$100,000	\$0
Indoor Air and Radiation	\$3,145	\$0
Indoor Air: Radon Program	\$3,145	\$0
Information Exchange / Outreach	\$20,926	\$0
Environmental Education	\$9,500	\$0
Exchange Network	\$11,426	\$0
International Programs	\$4,558	\$0
Trade and Governance	\$4,558	\$0
Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review	\$1,545	\$0
Alternative Dispute Resolution	\$1,223	\$0
Regional Science and Technology	\$322	\$0

Program Area / Program Project	FY 2025 Enacted* (\$K)	FY 2026 President's Budget (\$K)
Pesticides Licensing	\$1,379	\$0
Science Policy and Biotechnology	\$1,379	\$0
State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)	\$118,500	\$0
Diesel Emissions Reduction Grant Program	\$90,000	\$0
Safe Water for Small & Disadvantaged Communities	\$28,500	\$0
Toxics Risk Review and Prevention	\$25,933	\$0
Pollution Prevention Program	\$11,865	\$0
Toxic Substances: Lead Risk Reduction Program	\$14,068	\$0
Underground Storage Tanks (LUST / UST)	\$24,491	\$0
LUST Prevention	\$24,491	\$0
Eliminated Programs Total	\$1,460,307	\$0

*The Agency notes that FY 2025 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.

Proposed FY 2026 Administrative Provisions and Other Appropriations Bill Language Changes

To further clarify proposed Administrative Provisions and other Appropriations bill language changes 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.

Proposed Language to add to FY 2026 Budget:

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 2026.

Nonrecurring Expense Fund (NEF)

EPA proposes to establish a Non-Recurring Expenses Fund (NEF) to modernize information technology (IT) software and applications.²⁶ This Fund would provide a strategic and fiscally responsible approach to managing significant, one-time expenditures without compromising the Agency's operational budget or long-term financial stability. This proposal aligns EPA with the authorities of many of its federal partners.

Proposed Language to add to FY 2026 Budget:

For fiscal year 2026 through fiscal year 2029, there is hereby established in the Treasury of the United States a fund to be known as the "Environmental Protection Agency Nonrecurring Expenses Fund" (the Fund): Provided, that unobligated balances of expired funds appropriated for this year, any prior year, or any succeeding fiscal year to the Environmental Protection Agency by this or any other Act may be transferred (not later than the end of the fifth fiscal year or seventh fiscal year after the last fiscal year for which such funds are available for the purposes for which they were appropriated, as appropriate) into the Fund: Provided further, that amounts transferred into the Fund may not exceed \$50,000,000 per fiscal year; Provided further, That amounts deposited in the Fund shall be available through September 30 of the same fiscal year, in addition to such other funds as may be available for such purposes, for information technology expenses necessary for the operation of the Environmental Protection Agency, and associated administrative expenses, subject to approval by the Office of Management and Budget.

²⁶ For more information on the NEF proposal, including a current list of IT systems which would benefit from the establishment of an NEF, please see the Nonrecurring Expense Fund Proposal appendix item.

Student Services Contracting Authority

In the FY 2026 Budget, the Agency requests authorization for 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 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.

Proposed Language to add to FY 2026 Budget:

For fiscal years 2026 through 2030, 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. Section 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 Appropriations 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 add this authority within the Hazardous Substance Superfund bill language.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act 2024 (P.L. 118-42) 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 2026 within the Hazardous Substance Superfund bill language.

Proposed Language to add to FY 2026 Budget:

Provided further, that for fiscal year 2026, section 122(b)(3) of CERCLA (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"; Provided further, that for fiscal year 2026, the matter preceding the first proviso in section 443(b) of title IV of division G of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328) shall be applied by inserting before the colon " , including for the hire, maintenance, and operation of aircraft"; Provided further, that amounts in the preceding proviso shall continue to be treated as amounts specified in section 103(b) of division A of Public Law 118-5.

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 February 29, 2024, that remained unimplemented for one year or more from the planned FY 2026 budget justification submission date.

For the FY 2026 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:

- 77 open recommendations issued by the GAO between January 6, 2006, and February 29, 2024.
- 56 open recommendations issued by the EPA OIG between July 9, 2008, and February 29, 2024.

No recommendations were closed as 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, EPA Office of Inspector General Open Recommendations - As of February 29, 2025

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
The EPA Needs to Determine Whether Seresto Pet Collars Pose an Unreasonable Risk to Pet Health	24-E-0023	2/29/2024	2. Implement standard operating procedures on how to conduct domestic animal risk assessments for the active ingredients in pet products to support pesticide registration review decisions.	The Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP) agrees to develop standard operating procedures to evaluate risk to pets from the active ingredients in pet products. Status: On track.	12/12/2025
The EPA Needs to Determine Whether Seresto Pet Collars Pose an Unreasonable Risk to Pet Health	24-E-0023	2/29/2024	3. Implement a measurable standard to determine when a pet product poses unreasonable adverse effects in pets to support the pesticide registration review decision.	The OCSPP agrees to establish a methodology to determine when a pet product needs further investigation to ensure the product does not pose unreasonable adverse effects to pets and to include it in the SOP mentioned under Recommendation 2. Status: On track.	12/12/2025
The EPA Needs to Determine Whether Seresto Pet Collars Pose an Unreasonable Risk to Pet Health	24-E-0023	2/29/2024	5. Establish and implement an additional data requirement for the premarket clinical testing of pet products that is consistent with the Veterinary International Conference on Harmonization Guideline GL9, Good Clinical Practice.	The OCSPP will include steps in the SOP mentioned in Recommendation 2 to perform literature searches for pre-market clinical trials, which could include data generated for product registration in other countries. Status: On track.	12/12/2025
The EPA Needs to Determine Whether Seresto Pet Collars Pose an Unreasonable Risk to Pet Health	24-E-0023	2/29/2024	6. Assess what incident information is needed from registrants of pet products to determine when the EPA should take mitigation measures or other actions. Require pet product registrants to report that information to the EPA.	The OCSPP will develop a plan to require pet product registrants to report this incident information to the EPA. Status: On track.	12/12/2025

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
The EPA Needs to Determine Whether Seresto Pet Collars Pose an Unreasonable Risk to Pet Health	24-E-0023	2/29/2024	7 - Establish policies and procedures that result in consistent implementation of mitigation measures to address unreasonable adverse effects or conduct additional analysis to determine whether a pet product is causing unreasonable adverse effects.	The OCSPP agrees to establish policies and procedures that result in consistent implementation of mitigation measures, as appropriate, to address unreasonable adverse effects or conduct additional analysis to determine whether a pet product is causing unreasonable adverse effects, and to include this in the SOP mentioned under Recommendation 2. Status: On track.	12/12/2025
The EPA's Enhanced Personnel Security Program Is on Track, but Challenges to Full Implementation Remain	24-E-002-	2/8/2024	1. Develop a plan for how the Personnel Security Branch will achieve the capacity necessary to meet the requirements of full Trusted Workforce 2.0 implementation.	The Agency will develop a plan relative to updated Trusted Workforce 2.0 Implementation Strategy and associated guidance documents. Status: On track.	3/30/2025
Audit of the EPA's Fiscal Years 2023 and 2022 (Restated) Consolidated Financial Statements	24-F-0009	11/15/2023	4. Develop a plan to improve the Office of the Chief Financial Officer processes for headquarters program offices and regional offices to deobligate unneeded funds in a timely manner by the end of the fiscal year, as required.	The Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) will develop a plan to strengthen the unliquidated obligation reviews for the deobligations processes. This plan will enhance the current policies associated with the unliquidated obligation review and the subsequent deobligations of any unneeded funding. Status: Delayed due to external dependencies including other EPA offices.	4/1/2025

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
The EPA Should Improve Management of Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grants	23-P-0034	9/26/2023	1. Develop and implement guidance for the project officers in the Great Lakes National Program Office and the grant specialists in the Acquisition and Assistance Branch, within Region 5's Mission Support Division, that consists of: a. A review process to verify that the work plan and budget narrative include the required information to support that the award decision was made in full compliance of grant award requirements. b. A baseline-monitoring process, with an emphasis on the milestones and the accuracy of the baseline-monitoring report. c. An internal process for routinely selecting a representative group of Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grants to assess for adherence to requirements, such that grant agreements are sufficiently and properly supported by work plans and budget narratives and include all applicable terms and conditions and baseline-monitoring reports are completed accurately.	The Great Lakes National Program Office (GLNPO) will (1) review and update work plan templates; (2) update the GLNPO Project Officers Toolkit for Managing Grant Agreements so that baseline-monitoring questions are clear and demonstrate that the project officer reviewed project progress against grant work plan milestones; (3) begin performing periodic quality checks of a sample of baseline-monitoring reports; and (4) develop and implement an internal review protocol to ensure that work plans and budget narratives include all required elements, grant awards include all necessary terms and conditions, and baseline-monitoring reports are complete and accurate. The Acquisition and Assistance Branch will remind grants specialists of the obligation to follow EPA guidance and requirements on cost reviews, administrative-baseline monitoring, and post-award monitoring. The AAB will also update its current grant-management specialist peer review process. Status: Requested closure from the OIG.	6/30/2025
The EPA Should Improve Management of Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grants	23-P-0034	9/26/2023	2. Review the OIG-identified questioned costs for the assessed Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grants to determine whether the costs are allowable and allocable as set forth in 2 C.F.R. part 200 and initiate recovery of any funds that the EPA paid for unallowable costs, as appropriate.	GLNPO acknowledged that some funds may have been unallowable and conducted an initial review of the questioned costs findings. GLNPO will continue to investigate the questioned costs and decide if additional action is needed. Status: Requested closure from the OIG.	6/30/2025

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
The EPA Should Improve Management of Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grants	23-P-0034	9/26/2023	3. In consultation with the Acquisition and Assistance Branch, develop a records-management program for the Great Lakes National Program Office.	GLNPO will continue using the agencywide records-management process and the electronic filing solution embedded in Microsoft Teams. Beginning in FY 2024, GLNPO will include a grant file checklist in all existing and future grants and cooperative agreements to ensure that all critical components and supplemental information are accounted for in a single, organized electronic file. GLNPO will also develop grant-transfer and grant-closeout procedures that will include a review of the grant file checklist and that must be signed by the section supervisor or the supervisor's designee before closing or transferring a grant to another project officer. Finally, the supervisor will perform periodic routine audits of grant files to ensure completeness. Status: Requested closure from the OIG.	6/30/2025

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
The EPA Should Improve Management of Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grants	23-P-0034	9/26/2023	4. Require periodic training and provide learning resources on grants management to all project officers and grant specialists, with an emphasis on recordkeeping; cost reviews; timely, accurate, and comprehensive baseline monitoring reports; and other topics determined by the results of the routine internal review process established in Recommendation 1c.	Current GLNPO project officers will complete the new required trainings developed by the EPA's Office of Grants and Debarment; GLNPO will conduct ongoing professional development events, including best practices meetings and joint trainings on the elements identified in this audit; and GLNPO will implement monthly informational sessions to ensure that project officers are proficient in grant policies, procedures, rules, and regulations. Additionally, the AAB will require grant specialists to complete refresher training on recordkeeping, cost reviews, and baseline-monitoring reports. Status: Requested closure from the OIG.	6/30/2025
The EPA Needs to Address Increasing Air Pollution at Ports	23-E-0033	9/21/2023	1. Assess the air-monitoring network around ports and in near-port communities and create a plan to enhance the air-monitoring network where any gaps are identified.	EPA commits to assessing the relevance of the monitoring network for addressing OGV emissions in the context of other types of information EPA and others are collecting (e.g., air quality modeling, emissions data, and other relevant information or tools) and identify gaps that, if filled, could better inform efforts to reduce OGV emissions and improve air quality in port areas. EPA also commits to continue to identify ways to support monitoring at ports, including where it is within the general scope of competitive grant competitions funded through Congressional appropriations. Status: On track.	9/30/2025

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
The EPA Needs to Address Increasing Air Pollution at Ports	23-E-0033	9/21/2023	2. Set quantifiable performance measures for the Ports Initiative, including a plan for identifying the measures' baselines.	The program currently has two indicators to track the impact of EPA's Ports Initiative and will continue to develop additional measures in the future. Status: On track.	9/30/2025
The EPA Must Improve Controls and Integrate Its Information System to Manage Fraud Potential in the Renewable Fuel Standard Program	23-P-0032	9/19/2023	7. Integrate key applications to reduce staff burden and to allow better oversight of Renewable Identification Number and Renewable Fuel Standard program requirements and engage the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance in the integration process to ensure all inspection and enforcement data needs are addressed in the integrated system.	The OAR plans to continue integration of the key registration and reporting systems with the EPA Moderated Transaction System to reduce staff burden and improve oversight as resources permit. Status: On track.	9/30/2028
The EPA Must Improve Controls and Integrate Its Information System to Manage Fraud Potential in the Renewable Fuel Standard Program	23-P-0032	9/19/2023	8. Enhance or replace the Data Analysis and Reporting Tool to facilitate external information requests and Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance inspections.	OAR will enhance or replace the Data Analysis and Reporting Tool to facilitate information requests as resources permit. Status: On track.	12/31/2025
The EPA Should Enhance Oversight to Ensure that All Refineries Comply with the Benzene Fenceline Monitoring Regulations	23-P-0030	9/6/2023	1. Provide guidance to delegated authorities on what constitutes a violation of the benzene fenceline monitoring regulations to assist the delegated authorities in taking action when a violation may have occurred.	The Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) will develop an enforcement alert directed at both delegated authorities and the regulated industry. The alert will highlight common violations of the benzene fenceline monitoring regulations and address questions raised by delegated authorities and the regulated industry to date. Status: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	4/1/2025

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
The EPA's January 2021 PFBS Toxicity Assessment Did Not Uphold the Agency's Commitments to Scientific Integrity and Information Quality	23-E-0013	3/7/2023	1. Develop or update existing policies, procedures, or guidance to specify whether and under which applicable circumstances comments expressing scientific disagreement can be provided for a scientific product that has undergone all peer reviews and required developmental steps set forth in applicable actions or project plans.	Develop new outreach and training for EPA staff regarding political interference and understanding next steps needed for appropriate reporting. Status: On track.	5/30/2025
The EPA's January 2021 PFBS Toxicity Assessment Did Not Uphold the Agency's Commitments to Scientific Integrity and Information Quality	23-E-0013	3/7/2023	2. Develop or update existing policies, procedures, or technical documents to specify whether reference dose ranges are acceptable in toxicity assessments. If acceptable, specify circumstances under which reference dose ranges may be applied.	Developing new outreach and training for EPA staff regarding political interference and understanding next steps for appropriate reporting. Status: On track.	11/30/2027
The EPA's Residential Wood Heater Program Does Not Provide Reasonable Assurance that Heaters Are Properly Tested and Certified Before Reaching Consumers	23-E-0012	2/28/2023	4. Incorporate the EPA's certification test report expectations set forth in the April 2022 corrective action list into the 2023 revisions to the New Source Performance Standards for residential wood heaters.	These revisions will take place through rulemaking that involves a cross-agency workgroup. Status: On track.	11/30/2027
The EPA's Residential Wood Heater Program Does Not Provide Reasonable Assurance that Heaters Are Properly Tested and Certified Before Reaching Consumers	23-E-0012	2/28/2023	5. Develop and adopt an EPA cord wood test method that is supported by data to provide the public reasonable assurance that certified appliances meet emission standards.	The Agency agrees with this recommendation and is approaching the half-way mark of this effort. We must promulgate these through notice and comment rulemaking. Status: On track.	11/30/2027

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
The EPA's Residential Wood Heater Program Does Not Provide Reasonable Assurance that Heaters Are Properly Tested and Certified Before Reaching Consumers	23-E-0012	2/28/2023	6. Establish mechanisms to promote independence between emissions testing labs and third-party certifiers.	The Agency will incorporate changes to this paradigm in the rulemaking, per recommendation 4. In the interim we will continue our oversight of EPA Approved Test Laboratories and Third-Party Certifiers; sending letters requesting correction to processes and procedures, review of SOP's, and making sure to copy their ISO Accrediting body on the email. Status: On track.	11/30/2027
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: Delayed due to external dependencies.	7/15/2025
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: Delayed due to external dependencies.	12/31/2025

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
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
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

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
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: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	12/31/2025
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: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	12/31/2025

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
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: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	12/31/2025
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 will also 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: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	7/15/2026
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

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
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.	12/31/2025

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
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, record-keeping, 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. 	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: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	12/31/2026
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 monitoring, record-keeping and reporting requirements for enclosed combustion devices to assure continuous compliance with associated limits and revise the	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 monitoring, record-keeping and reporting requirements for enclosed combustion devices to assure continuous compliance with associated limits and revise the regulatory requirements as appropriate. Status: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	12/31/2026

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
			regulatory requirements as appropriate.		
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: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	12/31/2026

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
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.	12/31/2025
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
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: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	12/31/2025

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
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: Delayed due to implementation complexity.	12/31/2025
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.	3/31/2025

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
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.	1/30/2026
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.	10/1/2026

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
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.	11/30/2026
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.	11/30/2026
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.	4/1/2027

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
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.	5/31/2027
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.	12/1/2027

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
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 agencywide implementation of ORD's Scientific & Technical Information Clearance System to an agencywide 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.	6/30/2026
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.	6/30/2026
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.	6/30/2026

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
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 external dependencies..	9/30/2025
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 external dependencies.	9/30/2025

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
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 re- engineering 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.	OCSP'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.	12/31/2025

OIG Report Title	OIG Report Number	Report Issue Date	OIG Recommendation	EPA Corrective Action and Status	Target Completion Date
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.	7/15/2025
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 February 29, 2025

Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Critical Infrastructure Protection: EPA Urgently Needs a Strategy to Address Cybersecurity Risks to Water and Wastewater Systems	GAO-24-106744	8/1/2024	The Administrator of EPA should, as required by law, conduct a water sector risk assessment, considering physical security and cybersecurity threats, vulnerabilities, and consequences. (Recommendation 1)	The EPA is developing a water sector risk assessment and risk management plan that addresses physical security and cybersecurity in accordance with the National Security Memorandum on Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience. The water sector risk assessment and risk management plan will be completed in January 2025 and refreshed biannually thereafter.
Critical Infrastructure Protection: EPA Urgently Needs a Strategy to Address Cybersecurity Risks to Water and Wastewater Systems	GAO-24-106744	8/1/2024	The Administrator of EPA should develop and implement a risk-informed cybersecurity strategy, in coordination with other federal and sector stakeholders, to guide its water sector cybersecurity programs. Such a strategy should include information from a risk assessment and should identify objectives, activities, and performance measures; roles, responsibilities, and coordination; and needed resources and investments. (Recommendation 2)	The EPA is developing a water sector risk assessment and risk management plan that addresses cybersecurity in accordance with the National Security Memorandum on Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience.
Critical Infrastructure Protection: EPA Urgently Needs a Strategy to Address Cybersecurity Risks to Water and Wastewater Systems	GAO-24-106744	8/1/2024	The Administrator of EPA should evaluate its existing legal authorities for carrying out EPA's cybersecurity responsibilities and seek any needed enhancements to such authorities from the administration and Congress. (Recommendation 3)	The EPA has conducted a thorough examination of existing legal authorities with respect to our cybersecurity responsibility. In addition, the EPA will provide a detailed explanation of this examination as part of the water sector risk management plan.

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Critical Infrastructure Protection: EPA Urgently Needs a Strategy to Address Cybersecurity Risks to Water and Wastewater Systems	GAO-24-106744	8/1/2024	The Administrator of EPA should submit the Vulnerability Self-Assessment Tool (VSAT) for independent peer review and revise the tool as appropriate. (Recommendation 4)	The EPA will submit the Vulnerability Self-Assessment Tool for independent peer review and revise the tool as appropriate. The Agency estimates the peer review will begin in February 2025 and expects it to be completed in May 2025.
Sexual Harassment: Actions Needed to Improve Prevention Training for Federal Civilian Employees	GAO-24-106589	2/26/2024	The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency should develop and implement a plan to evaluate the Agency's required sexual harassment prevention training to identify needed improvements. The evaluation plan should include an assessment of training content and implementation to determine whether revisions are needed to better align with management practices to enhance the effectiveness of sexual harassment prevention training. (Recommendation 3)	The Agency undertook efforts to create two new mandatory trainings, one for managers and one for employees, which will cover the suggested items from GAO's report. This training will be a virtual training, to ensure consistency, availability, and accessibility. The training should be available in FY 25 and the plan is to make the training mandatory for FY 26.
Persistent Chemicals: Additional EPA Actions Could Help Public Water Systems Address PFAS in Drinking Water	GAO-24-106523	9/24/2024	The Administrator of EPA should publish a Small Entity Compliance Guide for the PFAS National Primary Drinking Water Regulation as soon as is feasible, to best support small public water systems preparing to comply with the PFAS maximum contaminant levels by April 2029. (Recommendation 1)	The EPA developed several factsheets and other materials to support small system implementation of the PFAS National Primary Drinking Water Regulation and intends to develop the Small Entity Compliance Guide by April 2027, facilitating small systems in complying with the per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) maximum contaminant levels by April 2029.

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Persistent Chemicals: Additional EPA Actions Could Help Public Water Systems Address PFAS in Drinking Water	GAO-24-106523	9/24/2024	The Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Water should, in consultation with partners from Tribes, states, regional offices, and outside organizations, identify barriers public water systems experience obtaining federal funding to address PFAS contamination and assess how best to disseminate information on such funding potentially available to these systems. (Recommendation 2)	The Agency is addressing this through its Water Technical Assistance program, and one of its primary purposes is to identify and address barriers public water systems may encounter when trying to access federal funding.
Persistent Chemicals: Additional EPA Actions Could Help Public Water Systems Address PFAS in Drinking Water	GAO-24-106523	9/24/2024	The Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Water should establish a time frame for issuing additional planned resources such as fact sheets and templates to help public water systems communicate with customers about PFAS health risks. (Recommendation 3)	The EPA developed extensive risk communication materials, including many fact sheets and a communication toolkit to help public water systems communicate with customers. Additionally, to support risk communication, the EPA also published health effects language that systems must use in public notifications and consumer confidence reports when the system has Maximum Contaminant Level violations.
Persistent Chemicals: Additional EPA Actions Could Help Public Water Systems Address PFAS in Drinking Water	GAO-24-106523	9/24/2024	The Assistant Administrators of EPA's Office of Water and Office of Land and Emergency Management should summarize and consolidate existing regulations, policy, and guidance relevant to the disposal of PFAS-contaminated waste into a straightforward resource for public water systems. (Recommendation 4)	The EPA developed extensive risk communication materials, including many fact sheets and a communication toolkit to help public water systems communicate with customers.

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Justice40: Additional Efforts Needed to Improve Tribal Applicants' Access to Federal Programs under Environmental Justice Initiative	GAO-24-106511	4/10/2024	The Administrator of EPA should ensure that the program offices of EPA Justice40 covered programs document previously identified statutory and regulatory barriers to access for tribal applicants informing their implementation of the Justice40 Initiative. As a part of this process, the Agency should with input from Tribes; identify any additional changes necessary to address remaining statutory and regulatory barriers, recommending legislative changes where the Agency determines appropriate. The Agency should make a summary of the results of this process publicly available. (Recommendation 1)	The EPA will reengage GAO due to changes required by 2025 executive orders.
Justice40: Additional Efforts Needed to Improve Tribal Applicants' Access to Federal Programs under Environmental Justice Initiative	GAO-24-106511	4/10/2024	The Administrator of EPA should ensure that program offices implementing Justice40 covered programs maintain records of related consultations with Tribes and consider; with tribal input and publicly sharing a high-level summary of consultation results, as appropriate, to improve tribal applicants' access to information about tribal input on federal programs and decrease the burden on Tribes and eligible Indigenous communities. (Recommendation 4)	The EPA will reengage GAO due to changes required by 2025 executive orders.

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Justice40: Additional Efforts Needed to Improve Tribal Applicants' Access to Federal Programs under Environmental Justice Initiative	GAO-24-106511	7/19/2024	The Administrator of EPA should ensure that program offices consult with federally recognized Tribes and conduct outreach to eligible Indigenous communities to ensure meaningful involvement when determining benefits for Justice40 covered programs in accordance with EOP guidance and determine how to incorporate the input into future Justice40 implementation efforts. (Recommendation 7)	The EPA will reengage GAO due to changes required by 2025 executive orders.
Clean Water: Revolving Fund Grant Formula Could Better Reflect Infrastructure Needs, and EPA Could Improve Needs Estimate	GAO-24-106251	7/19/2024	The Administrator of EPA should ensure that the Director of the Office of Wastewater Management directly collects data on centralized clean water infrastructure needs from a sample of small communities, using an approach that is consistent with Office of Management and Budget survey guidance. (Recommendation 1)	The EPA drafted a statistical sampling proposal and sent it to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) as part of the Information Collection Request renewal for the next Clean Watersheds Needs Survey. Once OMB responds the Agency will move forward with the statistical sampling proposal based on OMB feedback.
Clean Water: Revolving Fund Grant Formula Could Better Reflect Infrastructure Needs, and EPA Could Improve Needs Estimate	GAO-24-106251	7/19/2024	The Administrator of EPA should ensure that the Director of the Office of Wastewater Management provides guidance to states to submit estimates of large communities' centralized clean water infrastructure needs for a minimum time frame, such as 5 years. (Recommendation 2)	The EPA is working to develop new service level metrics and updates will be negotiated with the contractors and incorporated into existing contracts via modification of existing contracts or at contract establishment with implementation timeframes not to exceed one year. The EPA anticipates completing this milestone no later than the end of the calendar year 2025.

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Clean Water: Revolving Fund Grant Formula Could Better Reflect Infrastructure Needs, and EPA Could Improve Needs Estimate	GAO-24-106251	7/19/2024	The Administrator of EPA should ensure that the Director of the Office of Wastewater Management works with states that did not report any needs in one or more of the noncentralized clean water infrastructure need categories to use cost estimating tools and state-specific approaches to assess these needs for the next Clean Watersheds Needs Survey. (Recommendation 3)	The EPA is currently documenting and archiving all survey documents, including submitted and approved state-specific approaches, to allow them to be available for states to use in the next survey. From this library, state coordinators will be able to view and adapt those existing approaches based on the data available in their own state.
Cloud Computing: Agencies Need to Address Key OMB Procurement Requirements	GAO-24-106137	9/10/2024	The Administrator of EPA should ensure that the CIO of EPA updates guidance to put a cloud SLA in place with every vendor when a cloud solution is deployed. The guidance should include language that addresses OMB's required elements for SLAs, including continuous awareness of the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of its assets; a detailed description of roles and responsibilities; and remediation plans for non-compliance. (Recommendation 29)	The EPA is working to develop new service level metrics and updates will be negotiated with the contractors and incorporated into existing contracts via modification of existing contracts or at contract establishment with implementation timeframes not to exceed one year. The EPA anticipates completing this milestone no later than the end of the calendar year 2025.
Cloud Computing: Agencies Need to Address Key OMB Procurement Requirements	GAO-24-106137	9/10/2024	The Administrator of EPA should ensure that the CIO of EPA updates guidance regarding standardizing cloud SLAs. (Recommendation 30)	The EPA has established some language to standardize applicable cybersecurity tasks but needs to further develop guidance related to cloud service statements of work and standardize this guidance across cloud providers. Complexities associated with diverse environments, interoperability, and vendor-specific SLA terms must be addressed to ensure consistent quality of service and avoid vendor lock-in. The EPA anticipates completing this milestone no later than the end of the calendar year 2025.

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Artificial Intelligence: Agencies Have Begun Implementation but Need to Complete Key Requirements	GAO-24-105980	12/12/2023	The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency should ensure that the Agency fully completes and approves its plan to either achieve consistency with EO 13960 section 5 for each AI application or retires AI applications found to be developed or used in a manner that is not consistent with the order. (Recommendation 29)	The recommendation is fully implemented and the Agency submitted a closure request to GAO.
Artificial Intelligence: Agencies Have Begun Implementation but Need to Complete Key Requirements	GAO-24-105980	12/12/2023	The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency should ensure that the Agency updates its AI use case inventory to include all the required information, at minimum, and takes steps to ensure that the data in the inventory aligns with provided instructions. (Recommendation 30)	The recommendation is fully implemented and the Agency submitted a closure request to GAO.
Puget Sound: Further Actions Could Improve Efforts to Address Impaired Water Quality That Threatens Salmon	GAO-24-105687	11/8/2023	The Administrator of EPA should work with the Washington State Department of Ecology to develop a plan documenting the actions the agencies will take to meet the required submission and approval deadlines for the state's impaired waters lists. (Recommendation 1)	Key actions from the 2024 event will be documented in the next Performance Partnership Agreement between EPA and Ecology, which is expected to be completed in July 2025.
Cybersecurity: Federal Agencies Made Progress, but Need to Fully Implement Incident Response Requirements	GAO-24-105658	12/4/2023	The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency should ensure that the Agency fully implements all event logging requirements as directed by OMB guidance. (Recommendation 15)	The recommendation is fully implemented and the Agency submitted a closure request to GAO.

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Air Pollution: EPA Needs to Develop a Business Case for Replacing Legacy Air Quality Data Systems	GAO-23-105618	9/6/2023	The Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Mission Support should identify factors for evaluating whether EPA's IT systems may be ready for replacement or retirement. (Recommendation 1)	A five-year contract needed to begin modernizing systems was awarded in March 2024 and EPA integrated consultants into the project team to help adopt best business practices. Operational analysis will be completed through the data discovery and business process mapping steps outlined in the project plan. AQS and AirNow will be rebuilt, rather than adapted to be more modern.
Air Pollution: EPA Needs to Develop a Business Case for Replacing Legacy Air Quality Data Systems	GAO-23-105618	9/6/2023	The Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Air and Radiation should consider documenting an operational analysis for AQS and AirNow. (Recommendation 2)	A five-year contract needed to begin modernizing systems was awarded in March 2024 and EPA has integrated consultants into the project team to help adopt best business practices. The business case for a new Unified Platform is under development and will be delivered as part of the exploratory work that will be completed in 2025.
Air Pollution: EPA Needs to Develop a Business Case for Replacing Legacy Air Quality Data Systems	GAO-23-105618	9/6/2023	The Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Air and Radiation should develop and document a business case for a new IT system for air quality data based on considerations for how such a system could address the challenges currently posed by AQS and AirNow. The business case should consider an analysis of alternatives, if appropriate. (Recommendation 3)	The business case for a new Unified Platform is under development and will be delivered as part of the exploratory work that will be completed in 2025.

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EPA Chemical Reviews: Workforce Planning Gaps Contributed to Missed Deadlines	GAO-23-105728	2/23/2023	The Administrator of EPA should direct the Assistant Administrator of OCSPP to develop a process and timeline to fully align its workforce planning efforts for implementing EPA's TSCA chemical review responsibilities with workforce planning principles and incorporate the results, as appropriate, into EPA's annual plan for chemical risk evaluations under TSCA. (Recommendation 1)	OCSPP's Hiring Standard Operating Procedure was finalized on September 30, 2024. It will go into effect by the end of the second quarter of FY25.
Lake Pontchartrain Basin: Additional Transparency and Performance Management Could Improve EPA's Restoration Program	GAO-23-105547	5/12/2023	The EPA Administrator, in updating the comprehensive conservation and management plan, should collaborate with relevant stakeholders to ensure that the plan reflects the current state of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin and includes performance measures. (Recommendation 3)	The Agency issued an award to renew the Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CCMP). Work groups consisting of management conference members to identify priority issues within the Pontchartrain Basin identified proposed topics. These are the first steps of the CCMP renewal, as established in the awardee's proposal.
Clean Water Act: EPA Should Track Control of Combined Sewer Overflows and Water Quality Improvements	GAO-23-105285	1/25/2023	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. (Recommendation 1)	Full implementation of the Phase 2 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Electronic Reporting rule is expected by December 2025.
Clean Water Act: EPA Should Track Control of Combined Sewer Overflows and Water Quality Improvements	GAO-23-105285	1/25/2023	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. (Recommendation 2)	Full implementation of the Phase 2 NPDES Electronic Reporting rule is expected by December 2025.

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Clean Water Act: EPA Should Track Control of Combined Sewer Overflows and Water Quality Improvements	GAO-23-105285	1/25/2023	The Assistant Administrator of the Office of Water should report on nationwide progress and results of municipalities' efforts to control CSOs. (Recommendation 3)	Full implementation of the Phase 2 NPDES Electronic Reporting rule is expected by December 2025.
Wildfire Smoke: Opportunities to Strengthen Federal Efforts to Manage Growing Risks	GAO-23-104723	3/13/2023	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. (Recommendation 1)	EPA is initiating a cross-EPA team to develop an EPA-wide Wildland Fire Strategy, with a goal to have a draft document in summer of 2025.
Wildfire Smoke: Opportunities to Strengthen Federal Efforts to Manage Growing Risks	GAO-23-104723	3/13/2023	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. (Recommendation 5)	EPA is initiating a revision to EPA's web materials to streamline and curate available resources, identify gaps and develop resources as needed to fill these gaps.
Wildfire Smoke: Opportunities to Strengthen Federal Efforts to Manage Growing Risks	GAO-23-104723	3/13/2023	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. (Recommendation 6)	EPA continues with interagency cooperation efforts, including working with WFLC to develop and implement strategic priorities.

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Renewable Fuel Standard: Actions Needed to Improve Decision-Making in the Small Refinery Exemption Program	GAO-23-104273	11/3/2022	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. (Recommendation 1)	The recommendation is fully implemented and the Agency submitted a closure request to GAO.
Renewable Fuel Standard: Actions Needed to Improve Decision-Making in the Small Refinery Exemption Program	GAO-23-104273	11/3/2022	The Administrator of EPA should identify and communicate what information refineries would need to submit to demonstrate disproportionate economic hardship. (Recommendation 3)	The EPA continues to work toward implementation of this recommendation and associated complex issues.
Renewable Fuel Standard: Actions Needed to Improve Decision-Making in the Small Refinery Exemption Program	GAO-23-104273	11/3/2022	The Administrator of EPA should develop policies and procedures for making small refinery exemption decisions. (Recommendation 5)	The EPA continues to work toward implementation of this recommendation and associated complex issues.
Renewable Fuel Standard: Actions Needed to Improve Decision-Making in the Small Refinery Exemption Program	GAO-23-104273	11/3/2022	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. (Recommendation 6)	The EPA continues to work toward implementation of this recommendation and associated complex issues.
Renewable Fuel Standard: Actions Needed to Improve Decision-Making in the Small Refinery Exemption Program	GAO-23-104273	11/3/2022	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. (Recommendation 7)	The EPA continues to work toward implementation of this recommendation and associated complex issues.

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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	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. (Recommendation 1)	The recommendation is fully implemented and the Agency submitted a closure request to GAO.
Refined Coal Production Tax Credit: Coordinated Agency Review Could Help Ensure the Credit Achieves Its Intended Purpose	GAO-22-104637	12/15/2021	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. (Recommendation 3)	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 submitted a request for closure to GAO.
Chemical Accident Prevention: EPA Should Ensure Regulated Facilities Consider Risks from Climate Change	GAO-22-104494	2/28/2022	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. (Recommendation 1)	By summer 2025, EPA plans to update the current hazard evaluation guidance and initiate ways to share natural hazard resources with facility owners and operators to help them identify and evaluate potential natural hazard risks.

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Chemical Accident Prevention: EPA Should Ensure Regulated Facilities Consider Risks from Climate Change	GAO-22-104494	2/28/2022	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. (Recommendation 2)	EPA maintains that identifying common deficiencies and targeting compliance assistance is best done on an industry-sector basis as part of the Chemical Accident Risk Reduction National Enforcement and Compliance Initiative. The Agency submitted a request for closure to GAO.
Chemical Accident Prevention: EPA Should Ensure Regulated Facilities Consider Risks from Climate Change	GAO-22-104494	2/28/2022	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. (Recommendation 4)	The Agency is developing a proposal to revise the Risk Management Program regulations and expects to complete the revisions by July 2025.
Chemical Accident Prevention: EPA Should Ensure Regulated Facilities Consider Risks from Climate Change	GAO-22-104494	2/28/2022	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. (Recommendation 5)	The recommendation is fully implemented and the Agency submitted a closure request to GAO.

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Water Quality: Agencies Should Take More Actions to Manage Risks from Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia	GAO-22-104449	6/15/2022	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. (Recommendation 1)	EPA, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (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.
Water Quality: Agencies Should Take More Actions to Manage Risks from Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia	GAO-22-104449	6/15/2022	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. (Recommendation 2)	EPA, NOAA, and interagency working group members are working to develop performance measures to assess the working group's efforts.
Water Quality: Agencies Should Take More Actions to Manage Risks from Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia	GAO-22-104449	6/15/2022	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. (Recommendation 3)	The recommendation is fully implemented and the Agency submitted a closure request to GAO.
Water Quality: Agencies Should Take More Actions to Manage Risks from Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia	GAO-22-104449	6/15/2022	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. (Recommendation 4)	The recommendation is fully implemented and the Agency submitted a closure request to GAO.

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Water Quality: Agencies Should Take More Actions to Manage Risks from Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia	GAO-22-104449	6/15/2022	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. (Recommendation 5)	EPA and NOAA along with interagency working group members are developing a national harmful algal blooms program prevention goal.
Water Quality: Agencies Should Take More Actions to Manage Risks from Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia	GAO-22-104449	6/15/2022	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. (Recommendation 6)	EPA and NOAA are coordinating 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. The target completion date is December 2025.
Offshore Oil Spills: Additional Information Is Needed to Better Understand the Environmental Tradeoffs of Using Chemical Dispersants	GAO-22-104153	12/15/2021	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. (Recommendation 2)	The Agency is providing support to the Coast Guard and coordinate with NOAA and other agencies to identify assessment methodologies and examine potential effects of the subsurface use of dispersants on ocean ecosystems for select regions.

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Recycling: Building on Existing Federal Efforts Could Help Address Cross-Cutting Challenges	GAO-21-87	12/18/2020	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. (Recommendation 1)	The EPA is finalizing an implementation plan for completing both studies and developing recommendations for administrative or legislative action.
Recycling: Building on Existing Federal Efforts Could Help Address Cross-Cutting Challenges	GAO-21-87	12/18/2020	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. (Recommendation 2)	The EPA is finalizing an implementation plan for completing both studies and developing recommendations for administrative or legislative action.

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Recycling: Building on Existing Federal Efforts Could Help Address Cross-Cutting Challenges	GAO-21-87	12/18/2020	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. (Recommendation 3)	The EPA is finalizing an implementation plan for completing both studies and developing recommendations for administrative or legislative action.
Environmental Protection: Action Needed to Ensure EPA's Enforcement and Compliance Activities Support Its Strategic Goals	GAO-21-82	12/9/2020	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. (Recommendation 1)	In FY 24, EPA issued requests for information (RFI) seeking public feedback on the design of an HCP Training Program to train health care providers on pesticide-related illnesses and injuries, and a new National Farmworker Training and Education Program (NFTEP) on pesticide safety, which will support activities such as pesticide safety training, materials development, and outreach to farmworkers.
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION: Action Needed to Ensure EPA's Enforcement and Compliance Activities Support Its Strategic Goals	GAO-21-82	12/9/2020	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. (Recommendation 2)	EPA initiated 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.

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Drinking Water: EPA Could Use Available Data to Better Identify Neighborhoods at Risk of Lead Exposure	GAO-21-78	12/18/2020	EPA's 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. (Recommendation 1)	The Agency drafted 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	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. (Recommendation 2)	The EPA 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	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. (Recommendation 3)	The EPA drafted 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 web-based map applications. Implementation is ongoing.

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	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. (Recommendation 2)	Progress has been made and work is ongoing. The EPA expects complete implementation of this recommendation by December 2025.
Air Pollution: Opportunities to Better Sustain and Modernize the National Air Quality Monitoring System	GAO-21-38	11/12/2020	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. (Recommendation 2)	EPA will continue to work with stakeholders to establish an approach, goals, and priorities for an air quality monitoring modernization plan. Implementation is ongoing.

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. (Recommendation 1)	The modernized Safe Drinking Water Information System is expected to be available for states to begin transitioning to the system by early 2026. However, the length of transition period will depend on states and their available resources to transition. The 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	The 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. (Recommendation 2)	The Agency has initiated work to conduct another Community Water System Survey. EPA plans to initiate information collection review approval in FY 2025 and begin data collection in late FY 2025.
Clean Water Act: EPA Needs to Better Assess and Disclose Quality of Compliance and Enforcement Data	GAO-21-290	7/12/2021	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. (Recommendation 1)	The Agency met with GAO to provide an update on the revised methodology employed to implement this recommendation. Work is ongoing.
Clean Water Act: EPA Needs to Better Assess and Disclose Quality of Compliance and Enforcement Data	GAO-21-290	7/12/2021	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. (Recommendation 2)	The Agency proposes to provide a demonstration of the NPDES Data Sharing Dashboard and NPDES Data Accuracy Dashboard. The Agency and GAO are in contact to set up the demo for the two dashboards.

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Clean Water Act: EPA Needs to Better Assess and Disclose Quality of Compliance and Enforcement Data	GAO-21-290	7/12/2021	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. (Recommendation 3)	The Agency is focusing NPDES data accuracy and completeness efforts with states through NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule implementation, which is ongoing.
CHEMICAL SECURITY: Overlapping Programs Could Better Collaborate to Share Information and Identify Potential Security Gaps	GAO-21-12	1/21/2021	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. (Recommendation 7)	Implementation is complete. The Agency requested closure of this recommendation.

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	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. (Recommendation 4)	Implementation is complete. The Agency requested closure of this recommendation.
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	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. (Recommendation 21)	Implementation is complete. The Agency requested closure of this recommendation with GAO.
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	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. (Recommendation 22)	Implementation is complete. The Agency requested closure of this recommendation with GAO.

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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	The Administrator of EPA should develop guidance requiring that cloud service authorization letter be provided to the FedRAMP program management office. (Recommendation 23)	Implementation is complete. The Agency requested closure of this recommendation with GAO.
Cybersecurity: Agencies Need to Fully Establish Risk Management Programs and Address Challenges	GAO-19-384	7/25/2019	The Administrator of EPA should establish a process for conducting an organization-wide cybersecurity risk assessment. (Recommendation 40)	The EPA is using its existing Information Security and Privacy Program Support (ISPPS) contract in place to complete the work. Work is expected to be completed by July 2025.
Drinking Water: Additional Data and Statistical Analysis May Enhance EPA's Oversight of the Lead and Copper Rule	GAO-17-424	9/1/2017	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. (Recommendation 3)	Implementation is complete. The Agency requested closure of this recommendation with 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	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. (Recommendation 7)	The EPA recently finalized in a Risk Management Plan that is being reviewed by the sector in support of the National Security Memorandum tasks. The Water Sector Cybersecurity Task Force Recommendations were accepted by the Water Sector Coordinating Council/Government Coordinating Council and a workgroup is currently being formed to identify roles, responsibilities and measures of success.
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	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. (Recommendation 1)	The Agency believes the extensive actions taken to implement this recommendation are sufficient to merit closure as implemented. GAO does not agree. The Agency and GAO continue to periodically engage to work toward resolution.

Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Drinking Water: Unreliable State Data Limit EPA's Ability to Target Enforcement Priorities and Communicate Water Systems' Performance	GAO-11-381	6/17/2011	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. (Recommendation 1)	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	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. (Recommendation 2)	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.

Report Title	GAO Report Number	Report Issue Date	GAO Recommendation	EPA Implementation Status
Drinking Water: EPA Should Strengthen Ongoing Efforts to Ensure That Consumers Are Protected from Lead Contamination	GAO-06-148	1/4/2006	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. (Recommendation 1)	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 2026, the Agency will be in its 30th 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 Controller serving as the Board Chair and Director of the Office of Budget as a non-voting ex officio member.

In FY 2026, there will be 17 core agency activities provided under the WCF. These are the Agency's Information Technology (IT) services, agency postage, enterprise development, background investigations, enterprise human resources, facilities alterations, and the occupational health and safety software platform 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, language services, and agency servicing contracts managed by the Office of the Administrator.

The Agency's FY 2026 budget request includes resources for these 17 core activities, totaling approximately \$560 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 2026, 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 2026 due to several IT improvements, including increased cloud computing, improved network infrastructure, cybersecurity requirements, continuous diagnostic and mitigation program implementation, and discovery services.