



**United States
Environmental Protection Agency**

FISCAL YEAR 2027

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

Tab 04: Environmental Programs and Management

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**Environmental Protection Agency
 FY 2027 Annual Performance Plan and Congressional Justification**

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**Environmental Protection Agency
FY 2027 Annual Performance Plan and Congressional Justification**

**APPROPRIATION: Environmental Programs & Management
Resource Summary Table
(Dollars in Thousands)**

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
Environmental Programs & Management				
Budget Authority	\$3,094,304	\$3,114,671	\$2,504,386	-\$610,285
Total Workyears	9,192.7	8,150.3	7,612.6	-537.7

Bill Language: Environmental Programs and Management

For environmental programs and management, including necessary expenses not otherwise provided for, for personnel and related costs and travel expenses; hire of passenger motor vehicles; hire, maintenance, and operation of aircraft; purchase of reprints; library memberships in societies or associations which issue publications to members only or at a price to members lower than to subscribers who are not members; administrative costs of the brownfields program under the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act of 2002; implementation of a coal combustion residual permit program under section 2301 of the Water and Waste Act of 2016; and not to exceed \$40,000 for official reception and representation expenses, \$2,504,386,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028: Provided, That of the funds included under this heading—

(1) \$584,904,000 shall be for Geographic Programs as specified in the Environmental Protection Agency's budget justification materials submitted to the Congress in support of the President's Budget for fiscal year 2027;

(2) \$20,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for grants, including grants that may be awarded on a non-competitive basis, interagency agreements, and associated program support costs to establish and implement a program to assist Alaska Native Regional Corporations, Alaskan Native Village Corporations, federally-recognized tribes in Alaska, Alaska Native Non-Profit Organizations and Alaska Native Nonprofit Associations, and intertribal consortia comprised of Alaskan tribal entities to address contamination on lands conveyed under or pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) that were or are contaminated at the time of conveyance and are on an inventory of such lands developed and maintained by the Environmental Protection Agency: Provided further, That grants awarded using funds made available in this para-graph may be used by a recipient to supplement other funds provided by the Environmental Protection Agency through individual media or multi-media grants or cooperative agreements: Provided further, That of the amounts made available in this paragraph, in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes, the Environmental Protection Agency may reserve up to \$2,000,000 for salaries, expenses, and administration of the

program and for grants related to such program that address contamination on lands conveyed under or pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) that were or are contaminated at the time of conveyance and are on the EPA inventory of such lands; and

(3) In addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes, not to exceed \$9,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available for addressing water emergencies, as determined by the Administrator, under the authorities in the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.) or the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.).

Program Projects in EPM
(Dollars in Thousands)

Program Project	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
Alaska Contaminated Lands				
Alaska Contaminated Lands	\$17,977	\$20,000	\$19,978	-\$22
Brownfields				
Brownfields	\$24,495	\$25,689	\$12,514	-\$13,175
Clean Air				
Atmospheric Protection	\$79,492	\$0	\$0	\$0
Clean Air Allowance Trading Programs	\$12,593	\$8,433	\$12,947	\$4,514
Federal Stationary Source Regulations	\$26,170	\$29,955	\$24,768	-\$5,187
Federal Support for Air Quality Management	\$163,216	\$239,030	\$138,190	-\$100,840
Stratospheric Ozone: Domestic Programs	\$6,117	\$9,099	\$5,772	-\$3,327
Stratospheric Ozone: Multilateral Fund	\$21	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal, Clean Air	\$287,609	\$286,517	\$181,677	-\$104,840
Congressional Priorities <i>(Formerly - Clean and Safe Water Technical Assistance Grants)</i>				
Congressional Priorities	\$30,688	\$30,700	\$0	-\$30,700
Compliance				
Compliance Monitoring	\$114,685	\$106,498	\$68,469	-\$38,029
Enforcement				
Civil Enforcement	\$197,884	\$231,101	\$137,018	-\$94,083
Criminal Enforcement	\$61,791	\$82,995	\$29,789	-\$53,206
Environmental Justice	\$44,771	\$0	\$0	\$0
NEPA Implementation	\$21,048	\$24,207	\$33,647	\$9,440
New Grant Program	\$0	\$30,000	\$0	-\$30,000
Subtotal, Enforcement	\$325,494	\$368,303	\$200,454	-\$167,849

Program Project	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
Ensure Clean Water				
Marine Pollution	\$8,413	\$6,670	\$8,820	\$2,150
Surface Water Protection	\$222,370	\$211,463	\$209,775	-\$1,688
Subtotal, Ensure Clean Water	\$230,783	\$218,133	\$218,595	\$462
Ensure Safe Water				
Beach / Fish Programs	\$1,761	\$1,613	\$1,809	\$196
Drinking Water Programs	\$122,018	\$115,387	\$122,776	\$7,389
Subtotal, Ensure Safe Water	\$123,779	\$117,000	\$124,585	\$7,585
Geographic Programs				
Geographic Program: Chesapeake Bay	\$86,906	\$93,000	\$91,825	-\$1,175
Geographic Program: Gulf of America	\$25,161	\$26,000	\$25,449	-\$551
Geographic Program: Lake Champlain	\$15,754	\$25,500	\$15,590	-\$9,910
Geographic Program: Long Island Sound	\$40,884	\$40,502	\$39,976	-\$526
Geographic Program: Other				
<i>Lake Pontchartrain</i>	\$2,199	\$2,700	\$1,012	-\$1,688
<i>S. New England Estuary (SNEE)</i>	\$10,230	\$7,500	\$3,295	-\$4,205
<i>Geographic Program: Other (other activities)</i>	\$3,911	\$6,000	\$2,772	-\$3,228
Subtotal, Geographic Program: Other	\$16,340	\$16,200	\$7,079	-\$9,121
Geographic Program: Puget Sound	\$22,307	\$56,000	\$28,772	-\$27,228
Geographic Program: San Francisco Bay	\$69,945	\$55,000	\$0	-\$55,000
Geographic Program: South Florida	\$8,622	\$9,000	\$8,489	-\$511
Great Lakes Restoration	\$329,819	\$369,000	\$367,724	-\$1,276
Subtotal, Geographic Programs	\$615,738	\$690,202	\$584,904	-\$105,298
Homeland Security				
Homeland Security: Communication and Information	\$4,206	\$4,699	\$4,626	-\$73
Homeland Security: Critical Infrastructure Protection	\$901	\$3,033	\$1,352	-\$1,681
Homeland Security: Protection of EPA Personnel and Infrastructure	\$5,124	\$2,639	\$4,986	\$2,347
Subtotal, Homeland Security	\$10,231	\$10,371	\$10,964	\$593
Indoor Air and Radiation				
Indoor Air: Radon Program	\$3,291	\$2,540	\$0	-\$2,540
Radiation: Protection	\$9,893	\$9,530	\$2,415	-\$7,115
Radiation: Response Preparedness	\$1,868	\$2,875	\$2,302	-\$573

Program Project	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
Reduce Risks from Indoor Air	\$14,274	\$11,907	\$11,984	\$77
Subtotal, Indoor Air and Radiation	\$29,326	\$26,852	\$16,701	-\$10,151
Information Exchange / Outreach				
Children and Other Sensitive Populations: Agency Coordination	\$6,925	\$6,350	\$6,753	\$403
Environmental Education	\$8,685	\$9,500	\$0	-\$9,500
Exchange Network	\$11,554	\$6,378	\$9,017	\$2,639
Executive Management and Operations	\$60,878	\$63,867	\$38,111	-\$25,756
Small Business Ombudsman	\$1,340	\$986	\$1,948	\$962
Small Minority Business Assistance	\$2,498	\$2,458	\$1,058	-\$1,400
State and Local Prevention and Preparedness	\$14,811	\$12,046	\$10,657	-\$1,389
TRI / Right to Know	\$12,172	\$7,039	\$13,075	\$6,036
Tribal - Capacity Building	\$15,173	\$14,715	\$14,847	\$132
Subtotal, Information Exchange / Outreach	\$134,036	\$123,339	\$95,466	-\$27,873
International Programs				
International Sources of Pollution	\$8,002	\$6,812	\$5,724	-\$1,088
Trade and Governance	\$4,682	\$4,108	\$0	-\$4,108
US Mexico Border	\$2,623	\$2,640	\$3,234	\$594
Subtotal, International Programs	\$15,307	\$13,560	\$8,958	-\$4,602
IT / Data Management / Security				
Information Security	\$8,624	\$8,584	\$13,974	\$5,390
IT / Data Management	\$84,894	\$85,590	\$79,854	-\$5,736
Subtotal, IT / Data Management / Security	\$93,518	\$94,174	\$93,828	-\$346
Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review				
Administrative Law	\$5,366	\$5,905	\$4,988	-\$917
Alternative Dispute Resolution	\$474	\$0	\$0	\$0
Civil Rights Program	\$10,772	\$10,449	\$9,557	-\$892
Integrated Environmental Strategies	\$14,752	\$6,763	\$7,821	\$1,058
Legal Advice: Environmental Program	\$60,697	\$54,477	\$52,554	-\$1,923
Legal Advice: Support Program	\$17,677	\$15,286	\$17,665	\$2,379
Regional Science and Technology	\$798	\$0	\$0	\$0
Regulatory/Economic-Management and Analysis	\$17,475	\$16,482	\$16,887	\$405
Science Advisory Board	\$3,186	\$3,192	\$3,935	\$743
Subtotal, Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review	\$131,197	\$112,554	\$113,407	\$853
Operations and Administration				

Program Project	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
Acquisition Management	\$32,376	\$30,077	\$31,551	\$1,474
Central Planning, Budgeting, and Finance	\$86,699	\$88,792	\$80,475	-\$8,317
Facilities Infrastructure and Operations	\$281,585	\$258,274	\$252,262	-\$6,012
Financial Assistance Grants / IAG Management	\$32,274	\$30,263	\$26,596	-\$3,667
Human Resources Management	\$54,584	\$50,137	\$41,820	-\$8,317
Workforce Reshaping	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000
Subtotal, Operations and Administration	\$487,519	\$457,543	\$434,704	-\$22,839
Pesticides Licensing				
Pesticides: Protect the Environment from Pesticide Risk	\$46,685	\$49,337	\$44,844	-\$4,493
Pesticides: Protect Human Health from Pesticide Risk	\$63,622	\$60,220	\$62,383	\$2,163
Pesticides: Realize the Value of Pesticide Availability	\$5,987	\$5,215	\$5,885	\$670
Science Policy and Biotechnology	\$1,249	\$603	\$0	-\$603
Subtotal, Pesticides Licensing	\$117,542	\$115,375	\$113,112	-\$2,263
Protecting Estuaries and Wetlands				
National Estuary Program / Coastal Waterways	\$35,930	\$40,000	\$31,855	-\$8,145
Wetlands	\$19,996	\$20,884	\$20,415	-\$469
Subtotal, Protecting Estuaries and Wetlands	\$55,926	\$60,884	\$52,270	-\$8,614
Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability				
Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability	\$179	\$0	\$0	\$0
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)				
RCRA: Corrective Action	\$37,342	\$35,695	\$24,531	-\$11,164
RCRA: Waste Management	\$66,714	\$67,571	\$39,510	-\$28,061
RCRA: Waste Minimization & Recycling	\$10,642	\$9,632	\$4,193	-\$5,439
Subtotal, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)	\$114,698	\$112,898	\$68,234	-\$44,664
Toxics Risk Review and Prevention				
Endocrine Disruptors	\$6,658	\$7,614	\$4,715	-\$2,899
Pollution Prevention Program	\$12,768	\$5,351	\$0	-\$5,351
Toxic Substances: Lead Risk Reduction Program	\$12,815	\$12,512	\$0	-\$12,512
Toxic Substances: Chemical Risk Review and Reduction	\$89,826	\$87,476	\$74,141	-\$13,335
Subtotal, Toxics Risk Review and Prevention	\$122,067	\$112,953	\$78,856	-\$34,097
Underground Storage Tanks (LUST / UST)				

Program Project	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
LUST / UST	\$11,507	\$11,126	\$6,710	-\$4,416
TOTAL EPM	\$3,094,304	\$3,114,671	\$2,504,386	-\$610,285

Alaska Contaminated Lands

Alaska Contaminated Lands

Program Area: Alaska Contaminated Lands

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Revitalized Land and Contamination Prevention

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$17,977</i>	<i>\$20,000</i>	<i>\$19,978</i>	<i>-\$22</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$17,977	\$20,000	\$19,978	-\$22
Total Workyears	3.7	0.3	6.1	5.8

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

Program Project Description:

The Alaska Contaminated Lands Program seeks to address the legacy contamination on areas and sites within the 44 million acres conveyed from federal ownership to Alaska Native corporations as part of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA).¹ Many of these lands were contaminated not under Alaska Native ownership. The contaminants on some of these lands – arsenic, asbestos, lead, mercury, pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls, petroleum products, and other hazardous and toxic wastes – pose health concerns to Alaska Native communities, negatively impact subsistence resources, and stifle economic development.

EPA has initiated a cooperative federalism and cross-agency partnership approach to advance the cleanup of contaminated ANCSA lands. Through a Memorandum of Understanding, coordination and work continue with the Department of Defense, the Department of the Interior, other federal agencies, the State of Alaska, and Alaska Native entities.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.3, *Revitalized Land and Contamination Prevention*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the program will:

- Continue to engage with the State of Alaska, Alaska Native Corporations, Alaska Native Tribes, Alaska Native Organizations, and other federal agencies to further develop, modify, and implement the comprehensive approach to advancing cleanup efforts.
- Further refine the inventory of contaminated sites on ANCSA lands through outreach, cross-agency coordination, and site visits to assist the Alaska Native entities in the verification of sites to advance cleanup and ensure data quality objectives are met.

¹ For additional information, please refer to: <https://www.epa.gov/r10-tribal/contamination-ancsa-conveyed-lands#background>.

- Maintain and continuously update the public-facing Common Operating Picture and Contaminated ANCSA Lands Inventory to provide comprehensive site information,² cleanup status, and transparency for the progress of the Contaminated ANCSA Lands Grant Program.
- Manage the Contaminated ANCSA Lands Assistance Program to facilitate assessment and cleanup work on contaminated ANCSA lands.
- Oversee and manage grants, interagency agreements, and contracts awarded under the Contaminated ANCSA Lands Program.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$22.0 / +5.8 FTE) This net program change will allow EPA to maintain the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act sites inventory and dashboard, engage with stakeholders to advance cleanup efforts, and manage the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act Lands Grant Program.

Statutory Authority:

Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026, Pub. L. 119-74.

² For additional information, please refer to: <https://www.epa.gov/r10-tribal/contamination-ancsa-conveyed-lands#cop>.

Brownfields

Brownfields

Program Area: Brownfields

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Revitalized Land and Contamination Prevention

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$24,495</i>	<i>\$25,689</i>	<i>\$12,514</i>	<i>-\$13,175</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$24,495	\$25,689	\$12,514	-\$13,175
Total Workyears	114.9	95.9	74.7	-21.2

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

Program Project Description:

Brownfields sites are real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. This program supports efforts to revitalize these sites by providing support and technical assistance to states, Tribes, local communities, and other stakeholders to work together to plan, inventory, assess, safely clean up, and reuse brownfields sites.

The Brownfields Program is proposed for reduction to increase the effectiveness of agency operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work. This change focuses resources on EPA's core mission and advances core statutory work.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.3, *Revitalized Land and Contamination Prevention* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the Brownfields Program will continue to manage approximately 1,300 assessments, cleanup, Revolving Loan Fund (RLF), multi-purpose, and Job Training (JT) cooperative agreements; as well as state and Tribal assistance agreements; training, research, and technical assistance agreements; Targeted Brownfields Assessments (TBAs); and land revitalization projects.

In FY 2027, the program will support the following activities:

- Review, select, and award an estimated 135 new cooperative agreements which will lead to approximately \$1.33 billion and 7,000 jobs leveraged in future years.
- Manage and oversee TBAs in up to 100 communities without access to other assessment resources or those that lack the capacity to manage a brownfields assessment grant, leading to approximately \$98 million and 500 jobs leveraged.

- Continue federal fiduciary responsibility to manage approximately 1,300 existing brownfields cooperative agreements, while ensuring the terms and conditions of the agreements are met and providing limited technical assistance. The program also will provide targeted environmental oversight support to grantees (e.g., site eligibility determinations, review of environmental site assessment, and cleanup reports).
- Provide technical assistance to states, Tribes, and local communities in the form of research, training, analysis, and support for community-led planning workshops. This can lead to cost effective implementation of brownfields redevelopment projects by providing communities with the knowledge necessary to understand market conditions, potential environmental cleanup liabilities, economic development, and other community revitalization strategies, and how cleanup and reuse can be catalyzed by small businesses.
- Work collaboratively with EPA’s partners at the state, Tribal, and local level on innovative approaches to help achieve land reuse.
- Support the baseline maintenance of the Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES) online grantee reporting tool. This enables grantees to track accomplishments and report on the number of sites assessed and cleaned up, and the amount of dollars and jobs leveraged with brownfields funding.
- Provide support for communities as part of EPA’s Land Revitalization Program. The Land Revitalization Program supports communities in their efforts to restore contaminated lands, advance economic growth, and create sustainable community assets.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$4,611.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$8,564.0 / -21.2 FTE) This program change is a decrease to align program funding with core statutory requirements, recognizes needed efficiencies, and empowers EPA’s partners at the state, Tribal, and local level through cooperative federalism. These adjustments are necessary to enable EPA to fulfill its federal responsibilities in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.

Statutory Authority:

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), §§ 101(39), 104(k), 128(a); Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, § 8001.

Clean Air

Atmospheric Protection

Program Area: Clean Air

Goal: Restore American Energy Dominance

Objective(s): Accessible Energy

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$79,492</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>
Science & Technology	\$7,350	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Budget Authority	\$86,842	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Workyears	224.9	0.0	0.0	0.0

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

Program Project Description:

The Atmospheric Protection Program develops and delivers data, analysis, and technical information and assistance to identify technologies and strategies for industries, states, Tribes, and communities to meet Clean Air Act (CAA) obligations and other statutory requirements.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

This program has been discontinued in the FY 2026 Enacted Budget, and no resources are proposed for this program in FY 2027. All applicable statutory work (e.g., Clean Air Act, Energy Policy Act of 2005, Pollution Prevention Act, American Innovation and Manufacturing Act, etc.) will be accomplished in other programs within the Clean Air Program Area, including Federal Stationary Source Regulations, Federal Support for Air Quality Management and Stratospheric Ozone: Domestic Programs.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- There is no change in program funding.

Statutory Authority:

Clean Air Act; Global Change Research Act of 1990; Global Climate Protections Act; Energy Policy Act of 2005 § 756; Pollution Prevention Act §§ 6602-6605; National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) § 102; Clean Water Act § 104; Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) § 8001; American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act.

Clean Air Allowance Trading Programs

Program Area: Clean Air

Goal: Restore American Energy Dominance

Objective(s): Accessible Energy

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$12,593</i>	<i>\$8,433</i>	<i>\$12,947</i>	<i>\$4,514</i>
Science & Technology	\$6,518	\$6,356	\$6,739	\$383
Total Budget Authority	\$19,111	\$14,789	\$19,686	\$4,897
Total Workyears	58.5	39.3	59.4	20.1

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

Program Project Description:

The Clean Air Allowance Trading Programs are nationwide and multi-state programs that address air pollutants that are transported across state, regional, and international boundaries. The programs are designed to control emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and include Title IV (the Acid Rain Program (ARP)) of the Clean Air Act (CAA), the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR), the CSAPR Update, and the Revised CSAPR Update. SO₂ and NO_x are precursors of fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), while NO_x also is a precursor of ground-level ozone. Researchers have associated PM_{2.5} and ozone (O₃) exposure with adverse health effects in toxicological, clinical, and epidemiological studies.

The Clean Air Allowance Trading Programs establish a total emission limit across affected emission sources, which must hold allowances as authorizations to emit one ton of the regulated pollutant(s) in a specific emission control period. The owners and operators of affected emission sources may select among different methods of compliance—installing pollution control equipment, switching fuel types, purchasing allowances, or other strategies. By offering the flexibility to determine how the sources comply, the programs lower the overall cost, making it feasible to pursue greater emission reductions and promote energy dominance. These programs are managed through a centralized database system operated by EPA.³

The Part 75 monitoring program requires almost 4,100 affected sources to monitor and report emission and operation data.⁴ The Part 75 monitoring program requires high degrees of accuracy and reliability from continuous emission monitoring systems (CEMS) or approved alternative methods at the affected sources. EPA provides the affected emission sources with technical assistance to facilitate compliance with the monitoring requirements and software — the Emissions Collection and Monitoring Plan System (ECMPS) — to process, quality assure, and report data to EPA.

³ Clean Air Act § 403(d).

⁴ Clean Air Act § 412; Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. P.L. 101-549 § 821.

EPA's centralized market operation system (the allowance tracking system) manages accounts and records allowance allocations and transfers.⁵ At the end of each compliance period, working directly with and supporting stakeholders, EPA reconciles allowances against reported emissions to determine compliance for every facility with affected emission sources.

The Clean Air Act § 110(a)(2)(D)⁶ requires states or, in some circumstances, the Agency to reduce interstate pollution that significantly contributes to nonattainment or interferes with maintenance of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Under this statutory authority, EPA issued CSAPR, which requires 27 states in the eastern U.S. to limit their state-wide emissions of SO₂ and/or NO_x to reduce or eliminate the states' contributions to PM_{2.5} and/or ground-level ozone non-attainment of the NAAQS in downwind states. In addition, EPA is supporting state efforts to address regional haze including best available retrofit technology (BART) and reasonable progress, as well as interstate air pollution transport contributing to downwind nonattainment of NAAQS as those obligations relate to emissions from electricity generating units.⁷

EPA manages the Clean Air Status and Trends Network (CASTNET), a rural multipollutant air quality monitoring program supporting NAAQS determinations, model validation, and health and ecological impacts research. CASTNET measures ambient ozone nitrogen and sulfur particles and gases to evaluate air quality effects on human health and environmental loadings. In addition, EPA participates in the National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP), which monitors wet deposition of sulfur, nitrogen, and mercury, as well as ambient concentrations of mercury and ammonia.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.1, *Healthy Air Quality* and Goal 2/Objective 2.1, *Accessible Energy* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to operate the Clean Air Allowance Trading Programs and the systems to assess compliance with the programs' regulatory requirements and the programs' progress toward the clean air goals required by the CAA. EPA will work to meet requirements and requests for modeling in support of the power sector emission control programs and for legal defense of regulatory actions. The programs will continue to support emission reporting for other state and federal programs, including the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS).

EPA will allocate SO₂ and NO_x allowances to affected emission sources and other account holders as established in the CAA⁸ and state and federal CSAPR implementation plans. These allowance holdings and subsequent allowance transfers will be maintained in an allowance tracking system (i.e., central database).⁹ EPA will annually reconcile each facility's allowance holdings against its emissions to ensure compliance for all affected sources.¹⁰

⁵ Clean Air Act § 403(d).

⁶ Also known as the Good Neighbor Provision, also refer to Clean Air Act § 110(c).

⁷ Clean Air Act § 110 and § 169A; refer to 40 CFR 52.2312.

⁸ Clean Air Act §§ 110 and 403.

⁹ Clean Air Act §§ 110 and 403.

¹⁰ Clean Air Act §§ 110 and 404-405 and state CSAPR implementation plans.

EPA will operate the Part 75 emission measurement program to collect, verify, and track emissions of air pollutants and air toxics from approximately 4,100 fossil-fuel-fired electric generating units.

EPA will continue to: monitor ambient air, deposition, and other environmental indicators through the CASTNET Program; contribute to the NADP; publish the power sector progress reports required by Congress; and produce additional information to communicate the extent of the progress made by the Clean Air Allowance Trading Programs.¹¹ CASTNET will continue to support states in meeting their minimum monitoring requirements and assist with developing exceptional event demonstrations, as needed. Additionally, CASTNET will continue to provide data that can be used for permitting and ecological assessments within state boundaries (e.g., Colorado).

EPA will complete the redesign and rollout of its markets operation system and ECMPS software. These mission critical systems support the trading programs as well as other emissions reporting programs operated by the states and EPA. Reengineering these decade-old systems will enable EPA to enhance the user experience, comply with EPA security and technology requirements, consolidate software systems, and reduce long-term operation and maintenance costs.

EPA will work with states to develop and/or implement emission reduction programs including evaluation and approvals of State Implementation Plans to comply with the CAA Good Neighbor Provision and Regional Haze Program requirements.¹² EPA recently announced reconsiderations to both the Good Neighbor Plan and the Regional Haze.¹³ Work in FY 2027 will continue in a manner consistent with Administration direction.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (+\$1,382.0) This change to fixed and other costs is an increase due to the estimated calculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$3,132.0 / +20.1 FTE) This program change is an increase in the Clean Air Allowance Trading Program to advance statutory work and focus on the Agency being more efficient.

Statutory Authority:

Clean Air Act.

¹¹ Government Performance and Results Act § 1115.

¹² Clean Air Act § 110(a)(2)(D).

¹³ For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-launches-biggest-deregulatory-action-us-history>.

Federal Stationary Source Regulations

Program Area: Clean Air

Goal: Restore American Energy Dominance

Objective(s): Accessible Energy

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$26,170</i>	<i>\$29,955</i>	<i>\$24,768</i>	<i>-\$5,187</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$26,170	\$29,955	\$24,768	-\$5,187
Total Workyears	122.6	128.5	119.9	-8.6

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

Program Project Description:

The Clean Air Act (CAA) requires EPA to take action to manage air quality and limit emissions of harmful air pollutants from a variety of sources. The CAA directs EPA to set National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for six “criteria” pollutants considered harmful to public health and the environment. The criteria pollutants are particulate matter (PM), ozone (O₃), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), and lead (Pb). The CAA requires EPA to review the science upon which the NAAQS are based and the standards themselves every five years. These national standards form the foundation for air quality management and establish goals that protect public health and the environment. Section 109 of the CAA Amendments of 1990 established two types of NAAQS. Primary standards are set at a level requisite to protect public health with an adequate margin of safety. Secondary standards are set at a level requisite to protect public welfare from any known or anticipated adverse effects. Various CAA sections in Parts A, C, and D of Subchapter I of the CAA pertain to implementation of the NAAQS. This includes work to designate areas of the country through the initial area designations process, as well as attainment and maintenance work for all NAAQS, as well as implementation of the regional haze program.

Sections 111, 112, and 129 of the CAA statutory program direct EPA to undertake activities targeted at air emissions of toxic, criteria, and other pollutants from stationary sources. Specifically, to address air toxics, this program provides for the development of National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for major sources and area sources; the assessment and, as necessary, regulation of risks remaining after implementation of NESHAP that are based on Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT); the periodic review and revision of the NESHAP to reflect developments in practices, processes, and control technologies; and associated national guidance and outreach. In addition, EPA must periodically review, and, where appropriate, revise both the list of air toxics subject to regulation and the list of source categories for which standards must be developed. The statutory program also includes issuing, reviewing, and periodically revising, as necessary, New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) for criteria and a subset of listed pollutants from certain new, modified, or reconstructed sources of air emissions; issuing emissions guidelines for states to use in developing state plans to limit

pollutant emissions from certain existing sources; and providing guidance on Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) through issuance and periodic review and revision of control technique guidelines. The CAA further requires EPA to develop and periodically review standards of performance and emissions guidelines covering air emissions from waste combustion sources.

Sections 169A and 169B of the CAA implement a program to manage impairment of visibility in specifically identified 156 Class I areas as well as other aspects of visibility related programs. The Regional Haze Rule implements these provisions, as directed by the CAA, and establishes requirements that state plans must satisfy to make reasonable progress towards meeting this national goal, as well as meet the best available retrofit technology (BART) obligations. EPA also has additional obligations in any State Implementation Plan (SIP)-based program to implement Federal Implementation Plans (FIPs), depending on statutory and court-enforceable obligations. In March 2025, the Administration announced intentions to restructure the regional haze program. This work began in FY 2025 and will continue into FY 2027.

Section 183(e) of the CAA requires EPA to control volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from certain categories of consumer and commercial products for purposes of reducing VOC emissions that contribute to ozone formation and nonattainment of the ozone NAAQS and periodically review control technology guidelines and regulations to ensure ongoing effectiveness.

CAA Title VI requires the phaseout of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) in the United States. Among other activities, the CAA requires review of potential substitutes for ozone-depleting substances (ODS) under a comparative risk framework, including potential impacts on local air quality. EPA issues regulations and collects data under those regulations. The Agency publishes this data, where appropriate, and information on its website and through rulemakings to inform the public.

EPA implements the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act, enacted to address hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) by phasing down its production and consumption; maximizing reclamation and minimizing releases of HFCs and their substitutes from equipment; and facilitating the transition to next-generation technologies through sector-based restrictions. This phasedown will decrease the production and import of HFCs in the United States by at least 85 percent by 2036. EPA issues regulations and collects data under those regulations. The Agency publishes this data, where appropriate, and information on its website and through rulemakings to inform the public.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.1, *Healthy Air Quality* and Goal 2/Objective 2.1, *Accessible Energy* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the Agency will continue to implement priorities and efficiencies called for in Executive Order 14154: *Unleashing American Energy*. EPA will continue to evaluate recommendations, and, where appropriate, act to repeal, replace, or modify existing regulations to make them less burdensome and provide greater certainty to regulated entities.

NAAQS

In FY 2027, EPA will continue reviewing the NAAQS and retain or revise, as appropriate. EPA will continue reviewing the primary nitrogen oxides NAAQS under a consent decree schedule and make progress on several other NAAQS reviews, as appropriate. Each review involves a comprehensive reexamination, synthesis, and evaluation of the scientific information, design, and conduct of complex air quality and risk and exposure analyses; and the development of a comprehensive policy assessment providing analysis of the scientific basis for alternative policy options.

In FY 2027, EPA will perform any implementation work associated with recently revised NAAQS, and existing NAAQS, including, but not limited to, supporting stationary source permitting-related air quality analyses, initial area designations, and reviewing/taking action on SIPs. Initial area designations activities specifically apply to the 2024 PM_{2.5} NAAQS and the 2024 Secondary SO₂ NAAQS. In FY 2025, EPA announced intentions to revisit the 2024 PM_{2.5} standard; however, so long as that standard is effective, EPA will continue to support appropriate and relevant implementation obligations. EPA also may have obligations in any SIP-based program to implement FIPs, depending on statutory and court-enforceable obligations.

Additionally, EPA will work to support areas in attainment and maintenance of existing NAAQS. These include: the ozone standards established in 2015, 2008, 1997, and 1979; the 1997 PM₁₀ standards; the 2012, 2006, and 1997 PM_{2.5} standards; the 2008 lead standard; the 2010 NO₂ standard; the 1971 CO standard; and the 2010 SO₂ standard. EPA, in close collaboration with states and Tribes, will work to reduce the number of areas not in attainment with the NAAQS, including assisting states and Tribes in developing plans to attain and maintain the NAAQS. This work will be done in a manner consistent with Administration direction and the March 2025 regulatory announcements. Various work to implement the NAAQS and the regional haze program are subject to statutory and court-enforceable obligations. This work will continue, as necessary and appropriate, throughout FY 2026 and FY 2027.

Air Toxics

CAA Section 112(d)(6) requires EPA to review and revise, as necessary, all NESHAP (for both major and area sources) at least every eight years. These reviews include: compiling information and data already available to the Agency; collecting new information and emissions data from industry; reviewing emission control technologies; and conducting economic analyses for the affected industries needed for developing regulations. Similarly, CAA Section 112(f) requires EPA to review the risk that remains after the implementation of MACT standards within eight years of promulgation. CAA Section 129 requires a similar approach to review regulations applicable to solid waste incinerators, including standards for emissions of certain air toxics.

In FY 2027, EPA will undertake multiple CAA reviews and associated rulemakings. The Air Toxics program will prioritize conducting reviews and reconsiderations of NESHAP and CAA Section 129 rules that either are subject to court-enforceable deadlines or are Administration priority actions. EPA expects to propose or promulgate more than 25 air toxics rules in FY 2027.

These actions include reconsiderations of NESHAPs affecting a variety of industrial sectors.

NSPS

CAA Section 111 requires EPA to set NSPS for new, modified, or reconstructed stationary sources of air emissions in categories that have been determined to cause, or significantly contribute to, air pollution that may endanger public health or welfare. CAA Section 111 also requires EPA to, at least every eight years, review and, if appropriate, revise NSPS for each source category for which such standards have been established. Under CAA Section 111, EPA must establish emission guidelines for existing sources for which air quality criteria have not been issued, are not included in the list published under CAA Section 108(a), or are emitted from a source category that is regulated under CAA Section 112 but to which a standard of performance would apply if such an existing source were a new source.

In FY 2027, EPA will work to address NSPS actions, consistent with the requirements of the CAA, for sources of air pollutants for multiple source categories, including those in the power plant and oil and natural gas sectors. EPA expects to propose or promulgate at least four NSPS actions in FY 2027. These actions include reconsiderations of NSPS for power plants and for the oil and natural gas industry.

Consumer and Commercial Products

EPA will review control technology guidelines and existing regulatory requirements to ensure ongoing effectiveness. Where appropriate, EPA will revise these guidelines and regulatory requirements.

ODS and HFCs

In FY 2027, resources are included to implement CAA Title VI and the AIM Act. In FY 2027, EPA will release data, trends, and analysis to support regulatory development and provide transparency on program outcomes, such as through the HFC Data Hub. EPA regularly updates projected use and emissions of ODS and HFCs based on market trends to support rulemakings and will continue to do so in FY 2027. EPA also expects to propose updated confidentiality determinations and revise relevant reporting tools to ensure adequate protection and collection of data reported under CAA and AIM Act requirements.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (+\$3,072.0) This change to fixed and other costs is an increase due to the estimated calculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.

- (-\$8,259.0 / -8.6 FTE) This program change is a decrease in the Federal Stationary Source Regulations Program to focus on the Agency being more efficient.

Statutory Authority:

Clean Air Act (CAA) and the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act.

Federal Support for Air Quality Management

Program Area: Clean Air

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Healthy Air Quality

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$163,216</i>	<i>\$239,030</i>	<i>\$138,190</i>	<i>-\$100,840</i>
Science & Technology	\$17,416	\$22,516	\$10,615	-\$11,901
Total Budget Authority	\$180,633	\$261,546	\$148,805	-\$112,741
Total Workyears	880.3	955.8	715.4	-240.4

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

Program Project Description:

The Federal Support for Air Quality Management Program assists states, Tribes, and local air pollution control agencies in the development, implementation, and evaluation of programs for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS); establishes standards for reducing air toxics; and sustains visibility protection.

The Clean Air Act (CAA) requires EPA to take action to manage air quality and limit emissions of harmful air pollutants from a variety of sources. The CAA directs EPA to set NAAQS for six “criteria” pollutants considered harmful to public health and the environment. The criteria pollutants are: particulate matter (PM), ozone (O₃), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), and lead (Pb). The CAA requires EPA to review the science upon which the NAAQS are based and the standards themselves every five years. For each of the six criteria pollutants, under CAA Section 110, EPA tracks two kinds of air pollution information: air pollutant concentrations based on actual measurements in the ambient (outside) air at monitoring sites throughout the country; and pollutant emissions based on engineering estimates or measurements of the total tons of pollutants released into the air each year. EPA works with state and local governments to ensure the technical integrity of emission source controls in State Implementation Plans (SIPs) and with Tribes on Tribal Implementation Plans (TIPs). EPA also reviews SIPs to ensure they are consistent with applicable requirements of the CAA and takes regulatory action on SIP submissions consistent with CAA responsibilities.

The New Source Review (NSR) preconstruction permit program in Title I of the CAA is a component of state plans to attain and maintain the NAAQS. The two primary aspects of this program are the Prevention of Significant Deterioration program, described in CAA Section 165 and the Nonattainment NSR program, described in various parts of the CAA, including Sections 173 and 182.

CAA Sections 169A and 169B require protection of visibility for 156 national parks and wilderness areas, known as Class I areas. EPA’s implementing regulations, the Regional Haze

Rule, sets forth the requirements that state plans must make reasonable progress towards meeting the national goal, as well as any best available retrofit technology (BART).

Toxic air pollutants are known to cause or are suspected of causing increased risk of cancer and other serious health effects. The CAA requires issuing National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for major sources and area sources; the assessment and, as necessary, regulation of risks remaining after implementation of NESHAP that are based on Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT); the periodic review and revision of all NESHAP to reflect developments in practices, processes, and control technologies; and associated national guidance and outreach. In addition to its regulatory work, EPA also provides determinations to states and industry seeking information about source-specific applicability of these regulations.

Among other activities, CAA Title VI requires review of potential substitutes for ozone-depleting substances (ODS) under a comparative risk framework, including potential impacts on local air quality.

EPA implements the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act, enacted to address hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) by phasing down their production and consumption; maximizing reclamation and minimizing releases of HFCs and their substitutes from equipment; and facilitating the transition to next-generation technologies through sector-based restrictions. This phasedown will decrease the production and import of HFCs in the U.S. by at least 85 percent by 2036.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.1, *Healthy Air Quality* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

Air quality has improved significantly for communities across the country since passage of the CAA in 1970 (with amendments in 1977 and 1990). Between 1990 and 2023, national average levels have decreased by 18 percent for O₃, 29 percent for coarse PM, 92 percent for SO₂; and, since 2010, national average levels for lead have decreased 87 percent.¹⁴ In FY 2027, EPA will continue to prioritize key activities in support of attainment and maintenance of the NAAQS, implementation of stationary source regulations by state, Tribal, and local air agencies, and implementation of the Regional Haze Program. Additionally, EPA will continue to develop, evaluate, and demonstrate nonregulatory strategies and technologies for air pollution prevention as authorized under CAA Section 103, as appropriate. In March 2025, the Administrator announced EPA's plans regarding priority actions involving rule revisions to the Exceptional Events Rule, the Good Neighbor Plan, and the Regional Haze Rule, among multiple others.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue reviewing the NAAQS and retain or revise, as appropriate. EPA will continue reviewing the primary nitrogen oxides NAAQS under a consent decree schedule and make progress on several other NAAQS reviews, as appropriate. EPA also will continue its CAA mandated responsibilities to implement the NAAQS by completing any applicable designations

¹⁴ For additional information on air quality trends, please see the Air Quality -National Summary at: <https://www.epa.gov/air-trends/air-quality-national-summary> and at *Our Nation's Air: Status and Trends Through 2023*.

processes, supporting permitting related reviews, and reviewing/taking action on state implementation plans consistent with statutory obligations. In addition, EPA will continue to engage in appropriate federal oversight activities and continue developing regulations, guidance, and policies to ensure appropriate transition between existing and new standards.

The FY 2027 President's Budget requests funding to address and resolve the backlog of SIPs. EPA, in close collaboration with states and Tribes, will work to reduce the number of areas not in attainment with the NAAQS. EPA will look for ways to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the SIP process, including its own review process, with a goal of maximizing timely processing of SIP actions and reducing the backlog. EPA will act on designation or re-designation of nonattainment areas to attainment in a timely manner.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to review and take appropriate action on SIPs for regional haze first and second planning periods to be consistent with statutory obligations and Administration policy direction. In FY 2027, EPA also will continue to work on updates to the Regional Haze Rule that were started in FY 2025. Additional SIPs for the third planning period are due in July 2028; however, EPA has proposed extending that deadline and published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking taking comments on restructuring of the Regional Haze Program overall.

The CAA sets deadlines for EPA to review and update, as necessary, all NESHAP every eight years, accounting for developments in practices, processes, and technologies related to those standards. CAA Section 112(f) requires EPA to review the risk that remains after the implementation of MACT standards within eight years of promulgation. In FY 2027, EPA will prioritize conducting reviews of air toxic-related actions for eight source categories for which the statutory deadlines passed and now are subject to court-ordered dates. EPA also has statutory and court-enforceable obligations to take action on SIPs and other types of actions, under the CAA, to support implementation of the NAAQS and the Regional Haze Program.

In FY 2027, EPA will provide assistance to state, Tribal, and local air agencies for both NSR and Title V (operating) permits. Also, as part of EPA's FY 2026-2030 Learning Agenda – which sets out the Agency's strategy and plans for evaluation and evidence-building activities – a cross-office workgroup will examine innovative permitting strategies, initiatives, partnerships, and reforms to identify those most likely to be effective in reducing the time, uncertainty, and costs involved in issuing a permit. The results from this effort will enable the Agency to advance the strategic objective of achieving operational efficiencies while upholding its mission to protect human health and the environment.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to operate and maintain the Air Quality System (AQS) which houses the nation's air quality data. The Agency's national real-time ambient air quality data system (AirNow) will maintain baseline operations. EPA will continue to operate and maintain the Emissions Inventory System (EIS), a system used to quality assure and store current and historical emissions inventory data, and to support development of the National Emissions Inventory (NEI). The NEI is used by EPA, states, and others to support state and local air agency SIP development. EPA will continue developing a Unified Platform that will replace these systems and reduce costs and improve data availability. EPA will continue to implement previously identified lean strategies

to streamline NEI development and reduce burden for industry to meet their emissions data reporting requirements through the Combined Air Emissions Reporting System (CAERS).

Finally, in FY 2027, EPA will support the Energy Star program as administered by the Department of Energy. One FTE is allocated in this program project to support that work.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$34,443.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$5,905.0) This change is an increase to replace outdated applications with a single integrated Unified Platform to meet current and future Clean Air Act requirements.
- (+\$2,900.0) This change is an increase to strengthen federal capacity to improve assistance and communication of information on wildfires with state, Tribal, and local partners.
- (-\$75,202.0 / -222.6 FTE) This program change is a reduction in the Federal Support for Air Quality Management Program reflecting implementation of fewer grants to refocus resources on EPA's core mission.

Statutory Authority:

Clean Air Act (CAA).

Stratospheric Ozone: Domestic Programs

Program Area: Clean Air

Goal: Restore American Energy Dominance

Objective(s): American Innovation

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	\$6,117	\$9,099	\$5,772	-\$3,327
Total Budget Authority	\$6,117	\$9,099	\$5,772	-\$3,327
Total Workyears	27.3	25.3	27.1	1.8

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

Program Project Description:

EPA implements provisions of the Clean Air Act (CAA) to complete the U.S. phaseout of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) by 2030; the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act to phase down hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs); and the *Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer* (Montreal Protocol) to protect the stratospheric ozone layer.

The AIM Act addresses the impact of HFCs by phasing down their production and consumption, maximizing reclamation and minimizing releases of HFCs and their substitutes from equipment, and facilitating the transition to next-generation technologies through sector-based standards. EPA has established an allowance allocation program to implement the phasedown, as well as robust compliance assurance and enforcement mechanisms to provide a level playing field for producers and importers and ensure the program delivers the intended clean air benefits.

In 2007, with U.S. leadership, the Parties to the Montreal Protocol agreed to a more aggressive phaseout for ozone-depleting hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) equaling a 47 percent reduction in overall emissions during the period 2010 – 2040. The adjustment in 2007 also called on Parties to the Montreal Protocol to promote the selection of alternatives to HCFCs that minimize environmental impacts, in particular impacts on clean air.¹⁵ The CAA provides the necessary authority to ensure EPA can collect and validate data and, where appropriate, report data on production and consumption of ODS on behalf of the United States. The Parties to the Montreal Protocol also agreed to the Kigali Amendment in 2016,¹⁶ (ratified by the United States after receiving Senate Advice and Consent) which seeks to globally phase down the production and consumption of HFCs consistent with the AIM Act.

¹⁵ *Montreal Protocol Decision XIX/6: Adjustments to the Montreal Protocol with regard to Annex C, Group I, substances (hydrochlorofluorocarbons).*

¹⁶ Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, Kigali, 15 October 2016, found at: <https://treaties.un.org/doc/Publication/CN/2016/CN.872.2016-Eng.pdf>.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.1, *Healthy Air Quality* and Goal 2/Objective 2.2, *American Innovation* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to meet its ODS consumption caps and work toward the required gradual reduction in production and consumption of ODS. To meet lower consumption of HCFCs to 76.2 tons per year of ozone depletion potential,¹⁷ EPA will issue allowances for HCFC production and import in accordance with the requirements established under CAA Sections 605 and 606; review petitions to import used ODS under Sections 604 and 605; manage information that industry identifies as confidential under CAA Section 603; and implement regulations concerning the production, import, and export of ODS and maintenance of the tracking system used to collect the information. In FY 2027, EPA anticipates proposing a rule on feedstock use of ODS. EPA also will prepare and submit the annual report under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol on U.S. consumption and production of ODS and HFCs consistent with the treaty.¹⁸

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to implement the CAA Sections 608 and 609 refrigerant management requirements related to the use and emissions of ODS, HFCs, and other substitutes. Regulations issued under CAA Section 608 include, among other things, the venting prohibition and sales restrictions for refrigerants; safe disposal of appliances; proper practices for the evacuation of refrigerant from appliances; required practices for appliance maintenance and leak repair; standards for recovery and/or recycling equipment; technician and reclaimer certification requirements; and reporting and recordkeeping requirements. CAA Section 609 directs EPA to issue regulations establishing standards and requirements for the servicing of motor vehicle air conditioners (MVACs). In FY 2027, EPA intends to update Sections 608 and 609 program materials to reflect changes in the servicing practices and use of newer cooling fluids including for retrofitting certain legacy appliances.

CAA Section 612 requires continuous review of alternatives for ODS through EPA's Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) program to find those that both pose less overall risk to human health and the environment and ensure a smooth transition to safer alternatives.¹⁹ Through these evaluations, SNAP generates lists of acceptable and unacceptable substitutes for approximately 50 end-uses across eight industrial sectors. In FY 2027, EPA expects to list substitutes through notice and/or a notice-and-comment rulemaking that would expand the list of acceptable alternatives, particularly for end-uses where there is an urgent need for more options. EPA also will consider revising listings for substitutes based on new safety data, such as adding use conditions or narrowed use limits where the new data indicates revisions are warranted. EPA also will explore more efficient means for aligning program requirements with industry standards and application of the criteria with AIM Act requirements related to HFC substitutes.

With the decline in allowable ODS production, a significant stock of equipment that continues to use ODS will need access to recovered and recycled/reclaimed ODS to allow for proper servicing.

¹⁷ The HCFC consumption cap of 15,240 ODP-weighted metric tons for the U.S. was effective January 1, 1996, and became the U.S. consumption baseline for HCFCs.

¹⁸ The Article 7 report prepared by EPA on behalf of the United States contains chemical-specific production, import, and export data. The data included in the report is aggregated and available at: <https://ozone.unep.org/countries/profile/usa>.

¹⁹ For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/snap>.

EPA will continue to review available market and reported data to monitor availability of recycled and reclaimed ODS where production and import of new material is phased out or in the process of being phased out to support this need. In addition, EPA will take action, where appropriate, to ensure long-term availability of recycled halon for fire suppression, particularly for uses where alternatives are not available. EPA will continue to implement a petition process to allow for the import of used ODS, primarily halon and HCFC-123 for fire suppression.

In FY 2027, resources are included to implement the AIM Act through an allowance allocation program, requirements for the management of HFCs and their substitutes in equipment, and recently reconsidered requirements facilitating the transition to next-generation technologies through sector-based standards, as well as to provide program support for and coordination of implementation efforts within EPA and with other federal agencies.

EPA will continue to implement, administer, and improve an electronic HFC reporting system, which began collecting new reports required by regulations finalized in FY 2024 and FY 2025, and also will develop additional tracking, review, and data tools to better ensure compliance with the phasedown regulations and work with other agencies to prevent illegal imports. In FY 2027, resources are included to implement innovative IT solutions, such as additional database integration across EPA and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) databases. EPA will continue to implement a regulation to establish requirements for the management of HFCs and their substitutes in equipment servicing, repair, disposal, or installation, as appropriate, support enforcement by EPA and across the government by continuing to lead interagency HFC activity to address illegal trade, and stand up new protocols for rules addressing products containing HFCs. EPA will continue to implement a regulation to issue allowances for HFC production and consumption for calendar years 2024 through 2028 and propose the next HFC allocation rule implementing the 70% stepdown in allowed production and consumption for 2029 and later years. EPA will continue to implement a rulemaking reauthorizing the issuance of application-specific allowances for uses of HFCs identified in Subsection (e)(4)(B) that have been renewed beyond 2025.

In FY 2027, EPA will exchange data with U.S. CBP and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security on ODS and HFC importers and exporters to determine admissibility and target illegal shipments entering the United States as well as review and approve imports flagged in the Automated Commercial Environment.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (+\$353.0) This change to fixed and other costs is an increase due to the estimated calculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.

- (-\$3,680.0 / +1.8 FTE) This net program change aligns program funding with core CAA and AIM Act requirements and priority work.

Statutory Authority:

Title VI of the Clean Air Act; American Innovation and Manufacturing Act.

Stratospheric Ozone: Multilateral Fund

Program Area: Clean Air

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	\$21	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Budget Authority	\$21	\$0	\$0	\$0

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

Program Project Description:

The *Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer* (Montreal Protocol) is the international treaty designed to protect the stratospheric ozone layer by facilitating a global phaseout of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) and since 2016, phasing down climate-damaging hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) under its Kigali Amendment. The *Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol* (Multilateral Fund) was created by the Parties to the Montreal Protocol to provide funds that enable developing countries to comply with their obligations following agreed upon schedules.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

This program has been discontinued in the FY 2026 Enacted Budget, and no resources are proposed for this program in FY 2027. All applicable statutory work, under the Clean Air Act, will be accomplished in other programs within the Clean Air Program Area.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- There is no change in program funding.

Statutory Authority:

Title VI of the Clean Air Act.

Compliance

Compliance Monitoring

Program Area: Compliance

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Compliance and Enforcement

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$114,685</i>	<i>\$106,498</i>	<i>\$68,469</i>	<i>-\$38,029</i>
Inland Oil Spill Programs	\$1,116	\$755	\$605	-\$150
Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$1,427	\$817	\$817	\$0
Total Budget Authority	\$117,228	\$108,070	\$69,891	-\$38,179
Total Workyears	476.3	431.7	371.4	-60.3

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

Program Project Description:

The Compliance Monitoring Program promotes compliance with environmental laws through inspections and training, analysis and publication of data, and assisting states and regulated entities. Compliance monitoring activities such as inspections, investigations, data analysis, and compliance assistance activities are conducted collaboratively by EPA and co-regulators (states, federally recognized Tribes, and local and territorial governments) to determine if regulated entities are complying with environmental statutes, regulations, and permits and help ensure that those that are not can come into compliance.

The program aims to increase the effectiveness of agency operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work. This change focuses resources on EPA's core mission and advances federal responsibilities in a cost-efficient manner.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.5, *Compliance and Enforcement* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

Compliance Monitoring and Training for EPA, State, and Tribal Inspectors. In FY 2027, the program will enable federal, state, and Tribal inspectors to monitor and ensure compliance with environmental laws through the issuance of credentials, training, and guidance documents. EPA's National Enforcement Training Institute will deliver mission-critical courses to ensure the integrity of the Compliance Monitoring Program. To advance cooperative federalism, in FY 2027, the program will focus its compliance monitoring activities on programs not delegated to the states and where EPA has a unique role or expertise, such as revising the National Enforcement Compliance Initiatives (NECIs) and managing other issues of national significance like

cybersecurity and emergency situations.²⁰ In FY 2025, EPA conducted over 14,000 compliance monitoring activities (on-site inspections plus off-site compliance monitoring activities). The program also will explore and evaluate the effectiveness of various types of off-site compliance monitoring and allocate resources more effectively.

More specifically, in FY 2025, EPA either led or accompanied states and Tribes on inspections at over 210 community water systems (more than 170 included an evaluation of cybersecurity risks) and performed off-site compliance monitoring activities at about 340 systems in support of the Increasing Compliance with Drinking Water Standards NECI. In addition, the program conducted over 70 on-site inspections, in many instances utilizing advanced monitoring tools, to efficiently identify sources of toxic air emissions, supporting the Reducing Air Toxics NECI. In FY 2025, the Compliance Monitoring Program provided trainings to participants, including EPA and external professionals, supporting all of the NECIs.

Collection and Publication of Compliance Data. In FY 2027, the program will continue to operate, maintain, develop, and modernize its IT systems to collect and display Compliance Monitoring Program and permitting data, thereby enabling co-regulators, the public, and the regulated community to efficiently address noncompliance with environmental laws. In addition, the program will continue working with EPA’s Chief Information Officer (CIO) and technical experts in the Office of Finance and Administration (OFA) to develop and modernize the Integrated Compliance and Information System (ICIS). This database is used to report and track compliance and enforcement activities by EPA, as well as state, local, and Tribal partners. In FY 2027, the Agency is requesting an increase of \$1.0 million to support modernization efforts to replace the antiquated legacy ICIS environmental regulatory program data modules so the system can continue performing its basic functions. In FY 2027, the program will launch the first phase of a modernized ICIS that includes modules for the Federal Enforcement and Compliance System and the Clean Water Act. This modernization effort will support states and other users in transitioning from the legacy to the new modernized ICIS.

In FY 2025, the program provided over 100 trainings on Compliance Monitoring Programs’ data systems and tools to over 6,300 participants from EPA, states, and Tribes, enabling them to efficiently use data to mitigate environmental harm, in support of all the NECIs.²¹

Work in this program supports the performance goal to send EPA inspection reports to facilities within 70 days of inspections. In FY 2025, EPA, on average, sent 86 percent of inspection reports to facilities within 70 days of inspection, exceeding the target of 75 percent. This result is the highest achievement for this measure since its establishment.

Compliance Assistance to the Regulated Community and Co-Regulators. In FY 2027, the program will collaborate with state, local, federal, Tribal, industry, and third-party partners through technical and other assistance. This assistance enables EPA and its partners to cost-effectively advance compliance with environmental laws. Specific compliance assistance programs include: (1) Compliance Advisors for Sustainable Water Systems – technical assistance to reduce noncompliance at small public water systems and small wastewater treatment facilities and support

²⁰ For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/national-enforcement-and-compliance-initiatives>.

²¹ For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/compliance/training-epa-and-its-partners>.

EPA's Increasing Compliance with the Drinking Water Standards NECI; and (2) Compliance Assistance Centers – web-based centers that help businesses, local governments, and federal facilities understand their sector-specific and multi-media regulatory requirements.

In FY 2025, through the Compliance Advisors for Sustainable Water Systems, the program assisted 125 drinking water systems and 59 wastewater treatment facilities in 23 states and Puerto Rico, and 30 Tribes in returning to compliance. Through the Compliance Assistance Centers, EPA supported over three million user sessions to help the regulated communities comply with environmental laws.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$11,873.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$1,000.0) This program change supports modernization efforts of the Integrated Compliance and Information System (ICIS) with support from the CIO.
- (-\$27,156.0 / -61.1 FTE) This program change aligns resources with core statutory requirements, recognizes needed efficiencies, and returns to core compliance assistance work. Resources in this program are proposed for reduction to decrease unnecessary burden on EPA partners and the regulated community, unleash American energy, increase economic growth, and refocus EPA on its mission.

Statutory Authority:

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); Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (MARPOL Annex VI); American Innovation and Manufacturing Act; Clean Air Act; Clean Water Act; Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act; Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act; Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act; Oil Pollution Act; Resource Conservation and Recovery Act; Rivers and Harbors Act; Safe Drinking Water Act; Toxic Substances Control Act.

Congressional Priorities

Congressional Priorities

Program Area: Congressional Priorities
(Formerly - Clean and Safe Water Technical Assistance Grants)

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$30,688</i>	<i>\$30,700</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>-\$30,700</i>
Science & Technology	\$7,338	\$27,253	\$0	-\$27,253
Total Budget Authority	\$38,026	\$57,953	\$0	-\$57,953

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

Program Project Description:

EPA's Water Quality Research and Support Grants Program is proposed for elimination to increase the effectiveness of Agency operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work. This change focuses on EPA's core mission and supports Goal 1/Objective 1.2, *Clean and Safe Water*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Resources for this program are proposed for elimination in FY 2027.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$30,700.0) The Water Quality Competitive Grant Program is proposed for elimination to refocus EPA on its core mission. These adjustments are necessary to enable EPA to fulfill its responsibilities in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.

Statutory Authority:

Safe Drinking Water Act § 1442(e); Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act; Food Quality Protection Act; Endangered Species Act; CWA § 104(b)(3).

Enforcement

Civil Enforcement

Program Area: Enforcement

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Compliance and Enforcement

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$197,884</i>	<i>\$231,101</i>	<i>\$137,018</i>	<i>-\$94,083</i>
Leaking Underground Storage Tanks	\$608	\$583	\$427	-\$156
Inland Oil Spill Programs	\$2,964	\$2,289	\$1,724	-\$565
Total Budget Authority	\$201,456	\$233,973	\$139,169	-\$94,804
Total Workyears	970.3	884.1	759.9	-124.2

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

Program Project Description:

The Civil Enforcement Program investigates, develops, litigates, and settles administrative and judicial cases against serious violators of federal environmental laws. The program conducts enforcement activities on behalf of EPA to ensure clean air, land, and water for every American. EPA advances cooperative federalism by working in partnership with co-regulators, including the U.S. Department of Justice, states, local agencies, and Tribal governments.

Proposed resource changes for the Civil Enforcement Program aim to increase the effectiveness of EPA's operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work, and bring focus to EPA's core mission and Administration priorities in a cost-efficient manner.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.5, *Compliance and Enforcement* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2025, civil case settlements reduced, treated, or eliminated over 116 million pounds of pollutants (air, water, hazardous and non-hazardous waste, and toxics/pesticides).

National Enforcement and Compliance Initiatives. In FY 2027, EPA will focus enforcement actions to address non-compliance that has the most substantial impacts to human health and the environment consistent with the rule of law and EPA's proper role in the federal system. By FY 2027, EPA expects to release the revised *FY 2024-FY 2027 National Enforcement Compliance Initiatives* (NECIs)²² to be even more consistent with the Administrator's objectives to ensure access to clean air, land, and water for every American; stop illegal imports that poison Americans (such as illegal Chinese pesticides) and put American companies that comply with the law at a

²² For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/national-enforcement-and-compliance-initiatives>.

competitive disadvantage; and improve compliance with our Nation’s environmental laws while enhancing cooperative federalism through shared accountability between EPA, states, and Tribes with authorized environmental programs. EPA also will focus on other Agency priorities, including its lead priority.²³

Direct Implementation. Recognizing the importance of cooperative federalism and the role of states and Tribes authorized by EPA as the primary implementers of federal environmental statutes, EPA will focus civil enforcement resources largely on direct implementation responsibilities. EPA is responsible for direct implementation of programs that are not delegable or where a state or Tribe has not sought or obtained the authority to implement a particular program (or program component). Examples of programs that are not delegable to states include the Clean Air Act (CAA) mobile source program, pesticide labeling and registration under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) (including for imports), and enforcement of some federal environmental laws in Indian Country. Examples of programs for which most states have not sought authority include the CAA Risk Management Program and the Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting Program. The Agency will carry out its statutory oversight responsibilities and address significant violations that a state has not timely or appropriately addressed and that impact other states or the federal government. This includes matters affecting multiple states to ensure consistency and a level playing field and EPA will assist in instances when a state or Tribe lacks adequate equipment, resources, or expertise, or in the event of an emergency situation, to address an environmental enforcement problem. The program will prioritize providing enforcement assistance as requested by a state or may take the lead in an action at the state’s request.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$30,670.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$63,413.0 / -123.9 FTE) This program change aligns funding with core statutory requirements, recognizes needed efficiencies, and refocuses enforcement efforts. Resources in this program are proposed for reduction to decrease unnecessary burden on EPA partners and the regulated community, unleash American energy, increase economic growth, and refocus EPA on its mission.

²³ For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/lead/final-strategy-reduce-lead-exposures-and-disparities-us-communities>.

Statutory Authority:

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); Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (MARPOL Annex VI); American Innovation and Manufacturing Act; Clean Air Act; Clean Water Act; Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act; Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act; Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act; Oil Pollution Act; Resource Conservation and Recovery Act; Safe Drinking Water Act; Toxic Substances Control Act.

Criminal Enforcement

Program Area: Enforcement

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Compliance and Enforcement

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	\$61,791	\$82,995	\$29,789	-\$53,206
Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$8,878	\$5,483	\$4,100	-\$1,383
Total Budget Authority	\$70,669	\$88,478	\$33,889	-\$54,589
Total Workyears	273.7	258.9	183.7	-75.2

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

Program Project Description:

EPA's Criminal Enforcement Program enforces the Nation's environmental laws through targeted investigation of criminal conduct, committed by individual and corporate defendants, that threatens public health and the environment. EPA's criminal enforcement agents (Special Agents) investigate violations of environmental statutes and associated violations of Title 18 of the U.S. Code such as fraud, conspiracy, false statements, and obstruction of justice.

The Criminal Enforcement Program is proposed for reduction to increase the effectiveness of EPA's operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work. This change focuses resources on EPA's core mission and advances federal responsibilities in a cost-efficient manner.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.5, *Compliance and Enforcement* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the program will focus its resources on the most egregious cases (those involving the most significant and direct human health and environmental harms) that also implicate core federal interests. Prosecutions will focus on knowing violations of the environmental laws by those who seek to profit from those violations (including transnational organized crime) and those who seek to cause malicious harm (including foreign hacking groups). The Criminal Enforcement Program will carefully coordinate with the Civil Enforcement Program and state partners to ensure the program uses the most appropriate enforcement tool effectively in the most egregious cases.

In FY 2027, EPA will perform targeted investigations of violations of environmental statutes and associated violations of Title 18 of the U.S. Code to protect human health and the environment with a specific emphasis in the following areas: 1) the interdiction, distribution, and use of imported unregistered and toxic pesticides; 2) the investigation of conduct that threatens immediate harm, including sabotage to critical drinking water and wastewater infrastructure, and

large-scale air and toxics releases; 3) responding to and preventing fraudulent lead-based paint and asbestos remediation and other severe environmental violations or fraud affecting federal programs and military readiness; and 4) addressing other violations that undermine American business interests and competitiveness, and allow foreign interests to profit off of polluting America, including the importation of non-compliant engines and vehicles.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$18,850.0) This net change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$34,356.0 / -81.2 FTE) This program change aligns program funding with the Administration's policies to refocus enforcement efforts and realize efficiencies. Resources in this program are proposed for reduction to decrease unnecessary burden on EPA partners and the regulated community, unleash American energy, increase economic growth, and refocus EPA on its mission.

Statutory Authority:

Title 18 of the U.S.C.; 18 U.S.C. § 3063; 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); Resource Conservation and Recovery Act; Clean Water Act; Safe Drinking Water Act; Clean Air Act; Toxic Substances Control Act; Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act; Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act; Ocean Dumping Act; Rivers and Harbors Act; Pollution Prosecution Act of 1990; American Innovation and Manufacturing Act.

Environmental Justice
Program Area: Enforcement

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$44,771</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>
Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$6,447	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Budget Authority	\$51,219	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Workyears	173.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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

Program Project Description:

The Environmental Justice (EJ) Program is proposed for elimination to increase the effectiveness of Agency operations and focuses resources on EPA’s core mission. This change advances Presidential Executive Order 14151 *Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing* and Executive Order 14173, *Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity*.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

In FY 2027, the EJ Program is proposed for elimination as the Agency returns to its core statutory requirements. All statutory work will be accomplished in enforcement programs or other applicable programs.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- There is no change in program funding.

Statutory Authority:

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); American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. 117-2).

NEPA Implementation

Program Area: Enforcement

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Incentivized Investment

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$21,048</i>	<i>\$24,207</i>	<i>\$33,647</i>	<i>\$9,440</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$21,048	\$24,207	\$33,647	\$9,440
Total Workyears	90.9	84.2	102.9	18.7

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

Program Project Description:

EPA implements its statutory authority through various permitting and environmental review programs. EPA's Office of Policy and Regulatory Management's (OPRM) Federal Activities Division's (FAD) primary statutory responsibilities include the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), §309 of the Clean Air Act (CAA), and Title 41 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST-41). FAD serves as EPA's central point of contact for permitting and environmental review improvements and reform. These program efforts include coordinating agencywide, across 13 other federal agencies, and with the Permitting Council, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), and the Office of Management and Budget. This program supports EPA's efforts across program and regional offices and with state and Tribal co-regulators to implement permitting and environmental review best practices, coordination, streamlining efficiencies, national oversight, and automation.²⁴ EPA works with its federal partners to ensure projects are authorized and/or approved, while safeguarding the environment.

The program's implementation goals include:

- Protecting the environment and human health by ensuring quality permitting and environmental reviews;
- Streamlining, synchronizing, and preparing permitting and environmental review processes for technology applications and alignment;
- Educating and empowering permit writers, applicants, and environmental review practitioners to complete permitting and environmental review processes better, faster, and/or more cost effectively;
- Enhancing and synchronizing coordination among program/sector permitting and environmental review elements;
- Building capacity, continuity, and institutionalization of improved and reformed permitting and environmental review processes; and
- Promoting and testing innovations in permitting and environmental reviews.

²⁴ Per the Presidential Memoranda on Updating Technology for the 21st Century, EPA will maximize the use of technology in permitting and environmental reviews for infrastructure projects of all kinds.

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 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) comment letters are made publicly available. The program guides EPA's compliance with NEPA, and other related statutes and executive orders. The program manages the official EIS filing system for all federal EISs, in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with CEQ.²⁵ 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 program also operates, uses, and promotes NEPAassist, a publicly available geographic information system to help users (EPA, other federal agencies, and the public) with environmental reviews under NEPA. The program also is 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.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.2, *Cooperative Federalism* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, EPA will focus its reviews on areas where EPA has statutory authority and subject matter expertise. EPA will utilize essential funds to update and maintain existing NEPA IT platforms which support and provide the foundation to advance Artificial Intelligence (AI) progress. This includes eNEPA, NEPADS, and NEPAassist per the MOU with CEQ. The annual operation and maintenance costs for these IT platforms have increased by \$1.2 million due to upgrades and CEQ-requested improvements in features.

EPA plans to invest \$14 million to fund a multi-year effort to modernize its IT applications to adhere to the new CEQ IT permitting platform standards. This investment will develop permits to provide: common functionality across all permits; early 'out-the-gate' capabilities to address critical permitting gaps; State/Tribal-to-EPA data exchange to enable EPA oversight of these delegated programs; and a permit hub to enable the discovery of all EPA permitting information in one location. In addition, this investment will support the stabilization of existing ePermitting capabilities. These upgrades will meet CEQ's Permitting Technology Action Plan's four service delivery standards: business process modernization, workflow automation, digital-first documents, and minimizing timeline uncertainty. These standards streamline the NEPA and permitting processes as well as reduce the time burdens of these processes.

EPA supports efforts to ensure transparency, efficiency, and accountability in accordance with the FAST-41.²⁶ This program will partner with federal agencies on proposed projects throughout the

²⁵ Memorandum of Agreement No. 1 Between the Council on Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency, October 1977.

²⁶ For additional information, please refer to: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-114publ94/html/PLAW-114publ94.htm>.

NEPA process to provide expertise and recommendations and focus efforts on early engagement prior to the publication of the draft EIS. Early engagement by stakeholders in the NEPA process can support efficiencies and improved project outcomes. EPA will develop internal guidance and training on the new NEPA procedures to promote a streamlined approach to quality environmental review processes across federal agencies.

Permitting Best Practices and Reform

EPA's FY 2027 Permitting Best Practices and Reform Activities and Performance Plan includes the following:

- Support FAST-41 *Covered* and *Transparency* projects, including national priority sectors through permitting best practices that ensure project certainty and transparency;²⁷
- Enhance EPA's tracking tools for permit and environmental reviews across priority sectors;
- Prepare and support transition of EPA's major permitting programs into 21st Century automation and AI-ready form;
- Strengthen engagement and coordination with co-regulating partners to use AI/automation, which enhances permit quality, timelines, and integrity;
- Continuing development and accessibility of best practices resource libraries, standard operating procedures, and training to support crosscutting permitting topics (e.g., Endangered Species Act and National Historic Preservation Act coordination) as well as expand crosscutting topical and regional advisory support (e.g., mining, energy, and permit innovation/pilots); and
- Pilot and evaluate new permitting approaches (e.g., such as new permitting under the Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act, permit by rule, etc.).

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (+\$9,440.0 / +18.7 FTE) This program change will build core capacity for the NEPA Implementation Program to streamline and accelerate permitting to unleash American energy.

Statutory Authority:

NEPA; CAA § 309; Antarctic Science, Tourism, and Conservation Act; Clean Water Act § 511(c); Endangered Species Act; National Historic Preservation Act; Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act; Fishery Conservation and Management Act; Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act; and Title 41 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act.

²⁷ For additional information on the FAST-41 Program and projects, please refer to: <https://www.permitting.gov/projects/title-41-fixing-americas-surface-transportation-act-fast-41>.

New Grant Program
Program Area: Enforcement

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	\$0	\$30,000	\$0	-\$30,000
Total Budget Authority	\$0	\$30,000	\$0	-\$30,000

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

Program Project Description:

The Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026 (*P.L. 119-74*)²⁸ included \$30 million for grants for community projects and implementation, and training. At least 10 percent of the funds provided are to go to any county that has had 20 percent or more of its population living in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by the 1993 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, the 2000 decennial census, and the most recent Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates,²⁹ or any United States territory or possession.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

The budget does not propose resources for this program in FY 2027.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$30,000.0) No funding is proposed for this program.

Statutory Authority:

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); Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026 (Public Law 119-74).

²⁸ For additional information, please see: <https://www.congress.gov/119/plaws/publ74/PLAW-119publ74.pdf>.

²⁹ For additional information, please see: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe.html>.

Ensure Safe Water

Marine Pollution

Program Area: Ensure Clean Water

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Clean and Safe Water

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$8,413</i>	<i>\$6,670</i>	<i>\$8,820</i>	<i>\$2,150</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$8,413	\$6,670	\$8,820	\$2,150
Total Workyears	27.6	27.1	28.7	1.6

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

Program Project Description:

Marine pollutants, including sewage, trash, and other harmful materials, threaten the health and prosperity of our Nation’s beautiful oceans and waterways. EPA’s Marine Pollution Program aims to address this problem in three key ways: 1) to protect human health and the marine environment from pollution through implementation of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA) permitting, site designation, and site management and monitoring program; 2) to address incidental discharges from vessels, including sewage, under the Clean Water Act Section 312; and 3) to reduce marine litter in the Nation’s waterways and oceans, and improve trash capture and source reduction activities across the country, through the Trash Free Waters Program. Through these interrelated initiatives, EPA will strive to make America’s coastal waters and oceans clean and safe for life, recreation, and economic growth for decades to come.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.2, *Clean and Safe Water*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

MPRSA Program

The MPRSA regulates the transportation and disposition of any material in the ocean unless expressly excluded under MPRSA. The MPRSA implements the treaty requirements of the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter of 1972 (London Convention). EPA evaluates MPRSA permitting inquiries and requests for the transportation and disposition or release of all materials except dredged materials and, as appropriate, issues MPRSA emergency, research, general, and special permits for all materials other than dredged material. In addition, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers uses EPA’s environmental criteria when evaluating requests for MPRSA permits and MPRSA federal project authorizations for the ocean dumping of dredged material (e.g., to support the expansion of ports and harbors or maintenance of navigation channels). All dredged material MPRSA permits and

federal project authorizations are subject to EPA review and written concurrence and EPA will continue to work expeditiously and collaboratively with the Corps on these actions.

In FY 2027, EPA will manage approximately one hundred EPA-designated MPRSA ocean sites for the ocean dumping (disposition) of dredged material (sediment) removed from the bottoms of the navigable waters to maintain the navigation channels and coastal ports of the U.S. marine transportation system. As part of EPA's statutorily and regulatory required ocean site management, the Agency conducts oceanographic monitoring of MPRSA ocean sites and the surrounding areas to verify that unanticipated adverse effects are not occurring from past or continued use of the site and to ensure MPRSA permit conditions are met (33 U.S.C. 1412 and 40 U.S.C. 227.4). EPA will continue to evaluate lessons learned from each survey, and review and update necessary MPRSA-required site management and monitoring plans established for each EPA-designated site (33 U.S.C. 1412(4)). EPA also will perform its MPRSA responsibilities to support new port, navigation infrastructure, and energy projects.

In FY 2027, EPA will evaluate additional requests for permits and designate new MPRSA sites and/or modify (i.e., expand the capacity of) existing EPA-designated MPRSA sites and efficiently take regulatory action. EPA will continue to work to develop technical/regulatory tools to improve MPRSA permitting efficiency, ocean site designation, site management and monitoring, and national program capacity. EPA also will provide technical support for new Chief Scientist candidates and existing Chief Scientists who are responsible for designing and implementing ocean monitoring surveys to meet MPRSA requirements. EPA will continue to support United States delegations at London Convention/London Protocol meetings at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and, with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will submit the annual United States permit and ocean monitoring report to meet treaty obligations.

Vessels Program

EPA is responsible for developing regulations, under the Clean Water Act, to address vessel incidental discharges. The vessel regulations help protect the environment from harmful pollutants such as sewage, metals, and aquatic nuisance species. In FY 2027, EPA will continue to work with states on the designation of vessel sewage no-discharge zones, as needed. EPA also will continue to work with the U.S. Coast Guard as they finalize implementation regulations for the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act (VIDA), including EPA guidance for no-discharge zones and emergency orders. Additionally, in FY 2027, EPA will continue working on the development of ballast water discharge regulations for vessels of the Armed Forces with the Navy. EPA will work to maintain national program capacity by providing technical support to EPA staff and developing additional technical/regulatory support tools to improve implementation. Lastly, in FY 2027, EPA will assess the need for additional research on the management of ballast water in the Great Lakes, consistent with congressional direction and VIDA.

Trash Free Waters Program

This program provides technical support to states, Tribes, municipalities, and other organizations across the country to achieve trash prevention, capture, and removal goals, with a special focus on EPA-designated place-based program locations. In FY 2027, the program will support regional,

state, and local strategies and plans that articulate an array of initiatives and projects to track and address the trash problem in that geographical area; support targeted interventions in particular locations that focus on the specific nature of the trash problem in the local area; and encourage replication of the most effective approaches to improving water quality.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (+\$902.0) This change to fixed and other costs is an increase due to the estimated calculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$1,248.0 / +1.6 FTE) This increase of resources and FTEs builds program capacity, particularly in areas related to pollution mitigation, water infrastructure support, and permitting.

Statutory Authority:

Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (Ocean Dumping Act); Clean Water Act; Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act of 2006; Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act of 1987; Save Our Seas 2.0 Act.

Surface Water Protection

Program Area: Ensure Clean Water

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Clean and Safe Water

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$222,370</i>	<i>\$211,463</i>	<i>\$209,775</i>	<i>-\$1,688</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$222,370	\$211,463	\$209,775	-\$1,688
Total Workyears	985.7	914.1	953.1	39.0

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

Program Project Description:

The Surface Water Protection Program, under the Clean Water Act (CWA), directly supports efforts to protect, improve, and restore the quality of the Nation’s oceans, rivers, lakes, wetlands, and streams. EPA works with states and Tribes to make continued progress toward clean water goals. This program also supports effluent limitations guidelines, impaired waters listings, water quality monitoring and assessments, water quality certifications, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting, and management and oversight of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF).

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.2, *Clean and Safe Water*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

Water Quality Criteria and Standards (WQS). Water quality criteria and standards provide the scientific and regulatory foundation for water quality protection programs under the CWA.^{30,31} EPA will provide new and revised national recommended ambient water quality criteria as required by CWA Section 304. EPA will work expeditiously to review and act on state and Tribal submitted WQS within the CWA Section 303(c) mandated timeframes of 60 and 90 days.

Effluent Limitations Guidelines (ELGs). As required under the CWA, EPA will continue to annually review industrial sources of pollution. In FY 2027, EPA will seek to finalize a deregulatory rulemaking to reconsider the supplemental steam electric 2024 final rule and is considering several other ELGs. EPA also will begin work on other deregulatory actions in the ELG Program per Executive Order 14219.³²

³⁰ For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/wqc/basic-information-water-quality-criteria>.

³¹ For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/wqs-tech/what-are-water-quality-standards>.

³² For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/eg>.

Biosolids. EPA will continue to implement the Biosolids Program as required under CWA Section 405, including reviewing the biosolids regulations at least every two years, conducting risk assessments for high-priority chemicals, and considering the management of risks. EPA also will continue to develop tools to conduct risk assessments for chemicals and pathogens found in biosolids. In FY 2027, EPA also will continue the process of reevaluating the Draft Risk Assessment for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in biosolids.

Impaired Waters Listings and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs). EPA will work with states, territories, Tribes, and other partners to identify impaired waters. EPA also will support partners to develop TMDLs for listed impaired waterbodies under CWA Section 303(d). In FY 2027, the Agency will continue to support states, Tribes, and territories in electronically reporting CWA Section 303(d) and Section 305(b) assessment conclusions into ATTAINS to track improvements in impaired waters.³³

Monitoring and National Aquatic Resource Surveys (NARS). EPA staff and extramural resources will be deployed to help states, territories, and Tribes develop and implement national and state-scale statistically representative monitoring of the condition of the Nation’s waters and fish, which supports CWA Section 305(b). EPA will continue to provide oversight and technical assistance to states, territories, and Tribes on the implementation of monitoring, assessment, and reporting programs in support of CWA and Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) statutory requirements.

Managing Nonpoint Sources of Pollution. EPA will continue to support and provide oversight for states, Tribes, and territories as they implement Nonpoint Source Management Program Plans under CWA Section 319(b). This includes providing technical assistance for states and forging and strengthening strategic partnerships with private industry groups, federal agency programs, and other EPA programs to reduce nonpoint source pollution and promote other benefits.³⁴

Waters of the United States. EPA and the Department of the Army signed a memorandum in March 2025 to provide clarity on the definition of “waters of the United States” post-*Sackett*, started early engagement for rulemaking, and proposed a rule to fully implement the *Sackett* decision in November 2025/FY 2026 and spanning into FY 2027 and beyond and implementation of the rule will occur in FY 2026 to protect water resources and to accelerate growth and economic opportunity. EPA is requesting resources in FY 2027 to further support efficient field implementation practices.

Water Quality Certification. EPA started early engagement for a potential rulemaking in FY 2025, will propose a new rule in FY 2026 consistent with the statute, and take final action in FY 2026 to address stakeholder feedback. In FY 2027, EPA will continue to support the development of tools and resources for efficient implementation with the federal licensing and permitting agencies, as well as the certifying states, territories, Tribes, and EPA when certifying on behalf of Tribes.³⁵

³³ For more information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/tmdl>.

³⁴ For more information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/nps>

³⁵ For more information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/cwa-401>.

Water Quality Portal (WQP). In FY 2027, EPA will support the WQP, the largest water quality data warehouse in the United States, containing over 400 million water quality records from over two million locations nationally sourced from over 1,600 water quality data providers, including EPA, U.S. Geological Survey, states, and Tribes. The information served by the Water Quality Portal is used to make CWA decisions and inform state and federal actions such as compliance monitoring, the establishment of permits, water quality assessment, and water quality standards. Demand for the platform has exponentially grown, and the architecture supporting the original implementation must be updated and modernized to effectively support these growing data needs.

Water Quality Programs. The NPDES Program protects human health and the environment by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants into waters of the United States. In FY 2027, EPA will continue to implement the NPDES Program, which helps control point source discharges through permitting and pretreatment programs. NPDES permits allow EPA and the states to set appropriate requirements for wastewater and stormwater discharges to protect water quality and public health. Most states have primacy over this program and EPA serves in an oversight capacity for those states.³⁶

Water Reuse. To ensure that communities have safe, reliable sources of water that are resilient to drought, flooding, and population and economic growth, EPA is collaborating with a broad group of stakeholders, including states, local governments, and non-governmental organizations, to advance water reuse and the importance of fit-for-purpose water use and reuse nationwide. In FY 2027, EPA will continue to support the National Water Reuse Action Plan and the Federal Water Reuse Interagency Working Group.³⁷

Infrastructure. EPA will continue to support and assist communities across the Nation that have water infrastructure challenges in FY 2027. These efforts support the policy and fiduciary oversight of the CWSRF Program. The CWSRFs have been capitalized for decades, with \$59 billion in federal funding supporting over \$194 billion moving through the CWSRF since its creation in low-interest loans and additional subsidization to help finance wastewater treatment facilities and other water quality projects.³⁸

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$18,288.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.

³⁶ For more information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes>.

³⁷ For more information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/waterreuse>.

³⁸ For more information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf>.

- (+\$16,600.0 / +39.0 FTE) This program change supports the advancement of clean water infrastructure programs, with an emphasis on conducting Clean Water Act regulatory and permit reviews, focusing on core statutory authorities, and assisting states to implement the Clean Water Act.

Statutory Authority:

Clean Water Act; Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act; Marine Debris, Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act of 2006; Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act of 1987; Save Our Seas 2.0 Act.

Ensure Safe Water

Beach/Fish Programs

Program Area: Ensure Safe Water

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Clean and Safe Water

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$1,761</i>	<i>\$1,613</i>	<i>\$1,809</i>	<i>\$196</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$1,761	\$1,613	\$1,809	\$196
Total Workyears	1.1	2.6	2.6	0.0

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

Program Project Description:

The Beach/Fish Program provides up-to-date science, guidance, technical assistance, and nationwide information to state, Tribal, and federal agencies to protect the human health of beachgoers from contaminated recreation waters as well as recreational and subsistence fishers from consumption of contaminated fish.

The Agency implements the following activities under this program:

- Develop and disseminate methodologies and guidance that states and Tribes use to sample, analyze, and assess fish tissue in support of waterbody-specific or regional consumption advisories.
- Develop and disseminate guidance that states and Tribes can use to communicate the risks of consuming contaminated fish.
- Gather, analyze, and disseminate information to the public and health professionals that informs states and Tribal decisions on when and where to fish, and how to prepare fish caught by recreational and subsistence fishers.
- Provide best practices on public notification of beach closures and advisories.
- Develop tools, such as the sanitary survey app, predictive modeling, and improved analytical methods.
- Maintain the E-Beaches IT system to collect data required by the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health (BEACH) Act.

In addition to providing technical support to states and Tribes on beach monitoring and data reporting, these programs are part of EPA's ongoing effort to increase public awareness of the risks to human health associated with contact with recreational water contaminated with pathogens or harmful algal blooms, and with eating locally caught fish that contain pollutants such as mercury, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), or per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) at levels of concern. These efforts are directly linked to the Agency's mission to protect human health and the environment.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.2, *Clean and Safe Water*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to:

- Update science and public policy to assess and manage the risks and benefits of fish consumption.
- Provide analytical tools and collect data associated with beach monitoring.
- Provide technical support to states in the operation of their fish consumption advisories and beach monitoring programs.
- Build program capacity, particularly in areas related to water infrastructure support, resilience to national security threats, and regulatory reviews.
- Continue National Aquatic Resource Surveys (NARS) analysis of fish tissue for contaminants including PFAS.
- Continue reporting PFAS levels in fish collected nationwide.

In FY 2027, EPA also will make investments in providing up-to-date science, guidance, and technical assistance so states and Tribes have beach and fish advisory programs that effectively protect public health. This information allows Americans to make informed choices about recreational activities in local waters and eating locally caught fish. EPA will maintain the E-Beaches IT system and make updates if needed.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$157.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated recalculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$353.0) This program change builds program capacity, particularly in areas related to environmental monitoring, public health protection, and regulatory reviews.

Statutory Authority:

Clean Water Act, § 101, 104, and 303.

Drinking Water Programs

Program Area: Ensure Safe Water

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Clean and Safe Water

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$122,018</i>	<i>\$115,387</i>	<i>\$122,776</i>	<i>\$7,389</i>
Science & Technology	\$5,632	\$4,700	\$4,600	-\$100
Total Budget Authority	\$127,650	\$120,087	\$127,376	\$7,289
Total Workyears	540.3	473.1	519.3	46.2

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

Program Project Description:

Safe drinking water is critical for protecting human health and the economic vitality of the Nation. Approximately 320 million Americans rely on public water systems to deliver safe tap water that complies with national drinking water standards.³⁹ EPA’s Drinking Water Program is based on a multiple-barrier and source-to-tap approach to protect public health from contaminants in drinking water.⁴⁰ EPA protects public health through: Underground Injection Control (UIC) programs; evaluation of contaminants and promulgation of new or revised National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWRs); capacity building, technical assistance, and financial assistance programs to enhance public water system capacity; source water assessment and protection; resources for states and Tribes to support water infrastructure financing; addressing drinking water contaminants; and ensuring water systems are more resilient to threats.⁴¹

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.2: *Clean and Safe Water*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the program will continue to support the Agency’s national drinking water priorities, including: addressing lead and emerging contaminants such as per- and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS); improving resilience in drinking water systems to address natural hazards and human threats, enhancing cybersecurity; and improving drinking water access and water quality across the Nation. Funding for this program will directly contribute to EPA’s ability to bring the number of community water systems in noncompliance with health-based standards from 3,511 as of March 31, 2025, down to 2,443 in FY 2027.

³⁹ For more information on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS/FED), please see: <http://water.epa.gov/scitech/datait/databases/drink/sdwisfed/index.cfm>.

⁴⁰ For more information, please see: https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-10/documents/guide_swppocket_2002_updated.pdf.

⁴¹ For more information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water>.

Water Emergencies. In FY 2027, EPA will continue to work to integrate preparation for emergencies and natural disasters into water programs and policies, and consult and partner with states, Tribes, territories, local governments, community groups, businesses, and other federal agencies to strengthen the adaptive capacity and increase the resilience of the water sector. The Agency is requesting resources and no year funding to support policy analysis, development, and capacity building, as well as technical assistance for state, Tribal, and local communities to address drinking water emergencies, which includes addressing contaminants such as lead and PFAS. In FY 2027, EPA is requesting an additional \$9 million of no-year funding for water emergencies to ensure that the Agency has resources available to respond to emergencies in a timely manner and are not limited by fiscal year restrictions.

Public Water System Supervision (PWSS). EPA oversees state drinking water programs by completing the annual PWSS Program review for each primacy agency as required under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The annual program reviews directly support the work of the states and the Agency to reduce the number of community water systems in noncompliance with health-based standards. The Agency is continuing to work with states on completing the development of the Drinking Water State-Federal-Tribal Information Exchange System (DW-SFTIES) as the long-term replacement for the Safe Drinking Water Information System for states (SDWIS-State) in FY 2027, which will reduce EPA's data management costs and eliminate states' data management costs.

Water Infrastructure. In FY 2027, EPA will continue to support improvements to the Nation's drinking water infrastructure, including through technical assistance for systems to identify infrastructure needs and access funding. Every four years, EPA is required to conduct the Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment (DWINSA) by working with states and community water systems to estimate the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) eligible needs of systems by state over the next 20 years.⁴² By law, EPA uses this information as part of the formula for state allotments of the DWSRF. In FY 2027, the Agency will conclude data analyses and develop the Report to Congress.

Drinking Water Program Implementation. In FY 2027, the Agency will support continued work with states to implement requirements for all NPDWRs to ensure that systems install, operate, and maintain appropriate levels of treatment and effectively manage their drinking water plants and distribution systems. The program activities include developing guidance, tools, and trainings on rulemaking, work with water utilities to minimize exposure to lead, and focus on the reduction of the number of community water systems with health-based violations. To ensure access to safe drinking water for the approximately 50,000 active community water systems across the country, FY 2027 funding will support returning approximately 350 community water systems that were in non-compliance with health-based standards back to compliance. In addition, requested funding will support EPA's direct technical assistance provided to over 1,700 communities in FY 2027, which will help improve compliance and implementation of infrastructure needs.

⁴² For more information, please see: https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-09/Seventh%20DWINSA_September2023_Final.pdf.

Drinking Water Standards. To assure the American people that their water is safe to drink, EPA’s drinking water regulatory program monitors for a broad array of contaminants, evaluates whether contaminants are a public health concern, and regulates contaminants when there is a meaningful opportunity for health risk reduction for persons served by public water systems. In FY 2027, the Agency will review and update regulations, conduct human health effect assessments for water contaminants, evaluate drinking water regulated and unregulated contaminant occurrence, and provide technical assistance to states and Tribes.⁴³

Source Water Protection. Protecting source water from contamination helps reduce treatment costs and may avoid or defer the need for complex treatment and/or costly capital improvements. In FY 2027, EPA will continue to partner with states, federal counterparts, drinking water utilities, and other stakeholders to identify and address current and potential threats to sources of drinking water.⁴⁴

Underground Injection Control (UIC). To safeguard current and future underground sources of drinking water from contamination, the UIC Program regulates the use of injection wells that place fluids underground for storage, disposal, enhance recovery of oil and gas, and minerals recovery. Protecting groundwater requires proper permitting, construction, operation, and closure of injection wells.⁴⁵

Water Reuse. To ensure a safe and reliable source of water that is resilient to drought, flooding, and population and economic growth, EPA is working to advance water reuse nationwide. This work is being done in collaboration with a broad group of stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations, states, Tribes, and local governments. In FY 2027, EPA will continue to support the National Water Reuse Action Plan and the Federal Water Reuse Interagency Working Group.⁴⁶

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$18,398.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$9,000.0) This program change will advance water emergency preparedness. The additional funding will help response efforts through building internal capacity and external capacity of state and local governments, as well as water and wastewater systems, to respond to water emergencies.

⁴³ For more information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/drinking-water-regulations>.

⁴⁴ For more information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/sourcewaterprotection>.

⁴⁵ For more information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/uic>.

⁴⁶ For more information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/waterreuse>.

- (+\$16,787.0 / +44.0 FTE) This program change is an increase in resources and FTE that support regulatory analysis, development, training, permit review, and technical assistance for state, Tribal, and local communities to address drinking water contaminants (including Lead and PFAS) in their efforts to ensure safe and affordable drinking water.

Statutory Authority:

Safe Drinking Water Act; Clean Water Act.

Geographic Programs

Geographic Program: Chesapeake Bay

Program Area: Geographic Programs

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Clean and Safe Water

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$86,906</i>	<i>\$93,000</i>	<i>\$91,825</i>	<i>-\$1,175</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$86,906	\$93,000	\$91,825	-\$1,175
Total Workyears	41.7	39.5	39.7	0.2

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

Program Project Description:

The Chesapeake Bay (the Bay) is the largest estuary in the United States, with a drainage area that covers six states and the District of Columbia in the Mid-Atlantic and is home to a growing population of over 18 million people. The Bay serves as a vital resource for economic activity and ecological services in the region and is treasured for its vast assortment of recreational and educational experiences. The Chesapeake Bay Program (the Program) is a unique, regional partnership which operates under the authority of the Clean Water Act Section 117 and includes the seven Chesapeake Bay watershed jurisdictions (Delaware, Maryland, the District of Columbia, New York, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia), the Chesapeake Bay Commission, and EPA (representing the federal agencies). It is led by the Chesapeake Executive Council (Executive Council) made up by the six states' governors, DC mayor, EPA Administrator, and Chesapeake Bay Commission chair.

The Program's priorities include enhancing water quality, restoring wetlands and riparian forest buffers, ensuring sustainable fisheries such as the blue crab, and protecting habitats for regional ecological and economic security. At its December 2025 meeting, the Executive Council revised the *Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement (Agreement)* and directed the Program to develop and implement a simplified, streamlined structure and management strategies.⁴⁷

Another critical element of the Program's activities is driven by the landmark Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (Bay TMDL) that was established in 2010 to satisfy a requirement of the Clean Water Act and EPA commitments under court-approved consent decrees for Virginia and the District of Columbia dating to the late 1990s.⁴⁸ The Bay TMDL recognized the Program's goal to have all nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment pollution control practices in place needed to restore the water quality standards of the Bay and its tidal rivers.

⁴⁷ The Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement (2014) as amended in 2025, available at: <https://www.chesapeakebay.net/files/documents/CBWA-2025-IV-Final-Facing.pdf>.

⁴⁸ The Chesapeake Bay TMDL, available at: <http://www.epa.gov/chesapeake-bay-tmdl/>.

EPA directs more than three-fourths of the appropriated funding to grants and cooperative agreements to fulfill the requirements of the Program under Section 117 of the Clean Water Act. The seven signatory jurisdictions are supported through grant programs that are designed to help them meet the goals of the Agreement and the Bay TMDL by expanding each jurisdiction's implementation, monitoring, regulatory, accountability, and enforcement capabilities, with particular emphasis on activities to reduce nutrient and sediment loads to the Bay. Additional grant programs are targeted to local governments and non-governmental organizations to protect, restore, and enhance ecological resources, and to reduce nutrient and sediment loads through key sectors like land development and agriculture. Lastly, EPA awards grants and cooperative agreements to support implementation of best management practices, coordinate the activities of the partnership, monitor water quality, coordinate data collection, scientific research, and modeling, and fulfill other partnership priorities as emerging needs arise. Combined with these grants, interagency agreements and contracts ensure the Program's restoration efforts incorporate expertise from throughout the watershed and the executive branch.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this Program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.2, *Clean and Safe Water* in the *FY 2026-2030 Strategic Plan*.

Throughout FY 2025 and early in FY 2026, in response to a 2024 Executive Council charge, the Program successfully revised the vision, principles, preamble, goals, and outcomes of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. The December 2025 update was the completion of cooperative, strategic planning by the Program. Many of the Agreement's outcomes established target milestone dates of 2025. To address this, in 2022, the Executive Council charged the Program with recommending a critical path forward that prioritizes and outlines the next steps for meeting the goals and outcomes of the Agreement leading up to and beyond 2025.⁴⁹ A broad program evaluation was conducted between FY 2023 and FY 2024 and determined that three interrelated areas of Program activity are necessary to critically assess further. Recommendations for the updated structure and process will be incorporated into the Program's governance framework in 2026. It is anticipated that these activities will maintain a strong partnership committed to the *Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement*.

While updating the Agreement, EPA continued supporting implementation of the Agreement's *Clean and Safe Water* and other goals through the principle of cooperative federalism by collaborating with fellow federal agencies, jurisdictional signatories, local governments, and interested parties. As of September 2025, 19 outcomes in the Agreement were considered to be on course or have been completed, 11 were considered off course, and one was uncertain.⁵⁰ The seven Chesapeake Bay jurisdictions have reported that, as of 2024, best management practices (BMPs) are in place to achieve 59 percent of the nitrogen reductions, 92 percent of the phosphorus reductions, and 100 percent of the sediment reductions needed to attain applicable water quality standards when compared to the 2009 baseline established in the Bay TMDL.

⁴⁹ For more information, please see: <https://www.chesapeakebay.net/who/how-we-are-organized>.

⁵⁰ For details on progress of individual outcomes, please review: <https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/publications/charting-a-course-to-2025> and <https://www.chesapeakeprogress.com/>.

The Program and its engaged network of jurisdictional, federal, academic, and non-governmental organizations will continue to implement the Agreement, also while seeking improvements in efficiency and effectiveness. Funds will be invested in monitoring, increased engagement with the agricultural community through the newly created Agricultural Advisory Committee and increasing actions to reduce all sources of nonpoint source pollution.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$566.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$609.0) This reduction represents a rebalancing with State and local entities for intergovernmental efforts supporting the protection and restoration of this nationally valued watershed. These adjustments enable EPA to fulfill its responsibilities in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.
- (+0.2 FTE) This increase in FTE will focus on supporting ecosystem restoration efforts.

Statutory Authority:

Clean Water Act, Section 117; Estuary Restoration Act of 2000; Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act of 2014; Clean Air Act.

Geographic Program: Gulf of America

Program Area: Geographic Programs

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Clean and Safe Water

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$25,161</i>	<i>\$26,000</i>	<i>\$25,449</i>	<i>-\$551</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$25,161	\$26,000	\$25,449	-\$551
Total Workyears	19.5	18.5	21.9	3.4

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

Program Project Description:

The Gulf of America is an iconic body of water with great national significance, providing ecological, economic, cultural, and recreational opportunities for millions of residents and visitors to the region. This body of water is one of the most abundant oil and gas regions in the world, providing roughly 14 percent of America’s crude-oil production and a wealth of natural gas. EPA is committed to protecting the 1,630 miles of coastline on this watershed, comprised of a vibrant marine ecosystem made from 33 rivers draining from 31 U.S. states. Through the Gulf of America Division (GAD), EPA is committed to improving water and habitat quality, benefiting approximately 16 million Americans.⁵¹

EPA fulfills its statutory obligations of safeguarding human health and the environment to ensure cleaner, safer, and healthier air, land, and water for every American in ways consistent with the economic and ecological well-being of the region. GAD accomplishes its mission through cooperative federalism, utilizing interagency agreements, strategic partnerships, and competitively funded projects. All GAD projects and partnership work are linked to one or more of the following performance areas: 1) improve and/or restore water quality; 2) protect, enhance, or restore coastal and upland habitats; 3) promote and support environmental awareness to inhabitants of the Gulf watershed; and 4) support the demonstration of programs, projects, and tools which strengthen comprehensive planning for storm events. GAD provides significant leadership and coordination amongst state and local governments, the private sector, Tribes, and public stakeholders to align efforts that address the challenges facing the communities and ecosystems of the Gulf Coast.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.2, *Clean and Safe Water*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

⁵¹ For more information, please see: <https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/visualizations/2019/demo/coastline-america-print.pdf>.

In FY 2027, the Agency will continue supporting specific actions and solutions designed to improve the environmental and economic health of the Gulf of America region through cooperative efforts and partnerships. Specifically, the Agency will address nutrient reduction on working lands with targeted habitats. Additionally, GAD will collaborate with partners for improving water quality and reducing nutrients impacting the Gulf of America. For example, GAD's Farmer-to-Farmer Program has been impactfully working directly with farmers on sustainable agricultural practices and resilience. Through infrastructure practices such as artificial reefs, riparian buffers, prairies, and living shorelines, GAD will continue to build the adaptive capacity of ecosystems and communities. The GAD projects are competitively funded and coordinated with and complement ongoing Resource and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, Revived Economies (RESTORE), and Natural Resource Damages Assessment (NRDA) activities related to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

The GAD directly funds assistance agreements, interagency agreements, and partnerships that support the following activities:

Water Quality

The Clean Water Act provides authority and resources to protect and improve the water quality in the Gulf of America and all waters of the United States. GAD supports projects and works with partners, such as the Hypoxia Task Force, to improve water and habitat quality throughout the Gulf of America watershed. In FY 2027, GAD will fund projects that improve water quality on a watershed basis through nutrient monitoring, analyzing data, and assessing changes.

GAD will evaluate the success of this work by tracking the number of water segments/bodies with improved understanding of water quality conditions and/or water quality parameters through competitively funded projects and partnerships with stakeholders. Recipients of competitively funded projects are required to report on this data quarterly and personnel must input direct engagement efforts into the GAD's quarterly metrics tracking database.

Enhance, Protect, or Restore Coastal Habitats

Managing critical ecosystems is widely recognized as a fundamental environmental priority throughout the Gulf Coast region. Critical issues include, but are not limited to, sediment management, marsh/habitat loss due to subsidence, and the continued reduction of freshwater inflow. For decades, the Gulf Coast has endured extensive natural and man-made damage to key habitats such as coastal wetlands, estuaries, barrier islands, upland habitats, seagrass vegetation, oyster reefs, coral reefs, and offshore habitats. In FY 2027, GAD will continue to fund projects and work with partners to enhance coastal ecosystems, improve sediment movement management, restore acreage that improves ecosystem health and benefits water quality where feasible and cost-effective, and reverse the effects of long-term habitat degradation.

GAD will evaluate the success of this work by tracking the number of habitats restored, improved, or enhanced through competitively funded projects and partnerships with stakeholders. Recipients of competitively funded projects are required to report on this data quarterly and personnel must input direct engagement efforts into the GAD's quarterly metrics tracking database.

Comprehensive Planning for Storm Events

Coastal and inland communities continuously face a range of natural and man-made challenges, including storm risk, land and habitat loss, depletion of natural resources, compromised water quality, and resulting economic instability. In FY 2027, GAD will continue to emphasize robust partnerships and extensive community engagement to strengthen coastal and near-shore community preparedness. GAD funds research and demonstration projects under Clean Water Act, §104(b)(3) to assess, prevent, reduce, and eliminate pollution. Through §104(b)(3), GAD is able to fund projects that support communities and their ability to avoid storm-related pollution during these events. Through these actions, activities, partnerships, and projects, communities throughout the Gulf will be better prepared for natural disasters or other emergencies.

GAD will evaluate the success of this work by tracking the number of communities informed on vulnerabilities and risks and those with programs, projects, and tools developed and/or demonstrated to identify vulnerabilities and to manage risks as a way of improving the economy, and/or the environment. Recipients of competitively funded projects are required to report on this data quarterly, and personnel must input direct engagement efforts into the GAD's quarterly metrics tracking database.

Environmental Awareness

Environmental Awareness efforts are vital to accomplishing the Agency's mission to protect human health and the environment and to meet the GAD-specific goals of promoting healthy and resilient coastal communities. In FY 2027, GAD will continue to develop programs, establish partnerships, and competitively fund projects that increase environmental literacy. GAD will enhance experiential learning opportunities for Gulf residents and visitors alike. GAD will evaluate the success of this work by tracking the number of participants involved in environmental literacy and stewardship activities. Recipients of competitively funded projects are required to report on this data quarterly and personnel must input direct engagement efforts into the GAD's quarterly metrics tracking database.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$376.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$175.0) This program reduction represents a rebalancing with State and local entities for intergovernmental efforts supporting the protection and restoration of this nationally valued watershed. These adjustments enable EPA to fulfill its responsibilities in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.

- (+3.4 FTE) This increase will provide additional FTE to focus on supporting ecosystem restorations.

Statutory Authority:

Clean Water Act and Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026, Pub. L. 119-74.

Geographic Program: Lake Champlain

Program Area: Geographic Programs

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Clean and Safe Water

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$15,754</i>	<i>\$25,500</i>	<i>\$15,590</i>	<i>-\$9,910</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$15,754	\$25,500	\$15,590	-\$9,910
Total Workyears	0.5	0.5	1.0	0.5

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

Program Project Description:

The Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP) supports implementation in Vermont and New York of a comprehensive pollution prevention, control, and restoration plan for protecting the future of the Lake Champlain Basin. Through the LCBP, EPA has taken significant actions to fulfill its statutory obligations of safeguarding human health and the environment to ensure cleaner, safer, and healthier air, land, and water for every American. Priorities include addressing various threats to Lake Champlain’s water quality, including phosphorus loadings, invasive species, and toxic substances.⁵²

The LCBP is making a measurable impact on water quality and phosphorus loading in the basin through nonpoint source implementation, including assistance to Basin farmers to help achieve effective agricultural conservation practices on more than 207,000 acres in Vermont. The trans-boundary region of Lake Champlain is a resource of national significance and home to nearly 600,000 people in Vermont, New York, and the Canadian Province of Quebec, 35 percent of whom rely on the lake for drinking water.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.2, *Clean and Safe Water* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

Through cooperative federalism, EPA’s FY 2027 budget request will empower EPA’s implementing partners to take ownership of their environmental programs by implementing priority actions identified in the Lake Champlain management plan.⁵³ The 2016 Vermont TMDL for Phosphorus for Lake Champlain, and the 2002 New York TMDL and *Lake Champlain Watershed Implementation Plan* of 2024 identifies priority projects for restoration.⁵⁴ The LCBP

⁵² For additional information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/tmdl/lake-champlain-phosphorus-tmdl-commitment-clean-water> and <http://www.lcbp.org>.

⁵³ For additional information, please see: https://www.lcbp.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/OFA_2022_Full-Plan.pdf.

⁵⁴ For additional information, please see: <https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-03/Lake%20Champlain%20WIP.pdf>.

leads efforts to better understand the causes of, and methods to address, harmful algal blooms (HABs), prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species to minimize their impacts, and restore aquatic connectivity to support ecosystem restoration and minimize disastrous flooding impacts.

In FY 2027, EPA and LCBP will focus on the following activities:

- Reduce phosphorous pollution from agricultural nonpoint sources to meet reductions specified in the Vermont and New York TMDLs by providing technical assistance and financial support to agricultural producers to reduce runoff and improve the efficiency of best management practices.
- Plan and implement flood prevention and mitigation efforts in flood-prone waterways to improve riparian and floodplain resilience. Projects will include improved aquatic connectivity and culvert widening, protection of river corridors, and research to better understand the implications of sediment transport.
- Provide compliance assistance for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) communities and Vermont’s regulated “three-acre” community.
- Prevent spread of invasive species that harm the environment, economy, or human health, by taking actions identified in the Congressional report *Great Lakes and Lake Champlain Invasive Species Program Report*.⁵⁵
- Collect cyanobacteria data to increase public awareness of blooms, the effects of excessive phosphorus in the Lake, and document where algal blooms are prevalent.
- Support watershed groups and partners across the Lake Champlain Basin that will increase technical expertise and workforce development to support clean water project implementation and funding initiatives.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$59.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$9,851.0) This program reduction represents a rebalancing with State and local entities for intergovernmental efforts supporting the protection and restoration of this nationally valued watershed. These adjustments are necessary to enable EPA to fulfill its responsibilities in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.
- (+0.5 FTE) This increase will provide additional FTE to focus on supporting ecosystem restorations.

⁵⁵ For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/greatlakes/great-lakes-and-lake-champlain-invasive-species-program-report>.

Statutory Authority:

Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909; Clean Water Act §120.

Geographic Program: Long Island Sound

Program Area: Geographic Programs

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Clean and Safe Water

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$40,884</i>	<i>\$40,502</i>	<i>\$39,976</i>	<i>-\$526</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$40,884	\$40,502	\$39,976	-\$526
Total Workyears	6.9	4.9	7.7	2.8

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

Program Project Description:

The Long Island Sound (LIS) Partnership protects wildlife habitats and water quality in one of the most densely populated areas of the United States. It provides recreation for millions of people annually and is one of America's most critical transportation corridors for goods and people. The Long Island Sound watershed's natural capital provides between \$17 and \$37 billion in ecosystem goods and services every year, making it a prime example of the inextricable link between environmental protection and economic growth.⁵⁶

EPA has taken significant actions to fulfill its statutory obligations of safeguarding human health and the environment to ensure cleaner, safer, and healthier air, land, and water for every American while working to Power the Great American Comeback. The Long Island Sound Partnership is making measurable differences in improving water quality and reducing nitrogen through upgrades to wastewater infrastructure. In 2000, EPA approved Connecticut's and New York's plan, called a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), for achieving the 58.5 percent nitrogen reduction to reduce nitrogen loads from human sources. By 2016, the states attained the goal. By 2025, upgrades to wastewater treatment plants have resulted in an annual reduction of more than 47 million pounds of nitrogen to the Sound from peak years in the early 1990s. EPA recognizes that more work must be done to reduce nitrogen levels, further improve dissolved oxygen (DO) conditions and address other nutrient-related impacts on LIS.

The program also is focused on habitat protection and restoration. Program partners have restored 681 acres of coastal habitat between 2014 - 2024, well ahead of the pace needed to achieve the goal of restoring 1,000 coastal acres by 2035. The program also is exceeding its *Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan* (CCMP) target of reopening 200 miles of river migratory corridors by 2035 for fish passage to Long Island Sound.⁵⁷ To meet the 2035 target, an average of 5.4 stream miles per year from 2015-2034 need to be reconnected to restore 200 stream miles for

⁵⁶ For more information, please see: Kocian, M., Fletcher, A., Schundler, G., Batker, D., Schwartz, A., Briceno, T. 2015. The Trillion Dollar Asset: The Economic Value of the Long Island Sound Basin. Earth Economics, Tacoma, WA.

⁵⁷ For more information, please visit: <https://longislandsoundstudy.net/2015/09/2015-comprehensive-conservation-and-management-plan/>.

fish passage to Long Island Sound. The initiative has so far reconnected 140.1 river miles and is 70.1 percent of the way toward meeting the target.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.2, *Clean and Safe Water* in the *FY 2026-2030 Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the Program will continue to oversee implementation of the Long Island Sound CCMP by coordinating the cleanup and restoration actions of Program partners. The CCMP, revised in 2025, is organized in four goal areas: 1) clean waters and healthy watersheds; 2) thriving habitats and abundant wildlife; 3) sustainable and resilient communities; and 4) an informed and engaged public.

In FY 2027, EPA will focus on the following:

- Implement the new five-year action plan for the period 2025 – 2029 contained in the revised 2025 CCMP.
- Continue to reduce point and nonpoint sources of nitrogen pollution and coordinate priority watershed protection programs. EPA will work cooperatively with Connecticut and New York to apply modeling and monitoring to develop numeric nitrogen targets that are protective of designated uses and set local nitrogen reduction targets, where necessary.
- Coordinate the protection and restoration of critical coastal habitats to improve the productivity of tidal wetlands, inter-tidal zones, and other key habitats that have been adversely affected by unplanned development, overuse, and land use-related pollution effects.
- Continue implementing leading practices of performance reporting that were developed to close out GAO recommendations outlined in *GAO-Report 18-410 Long Island Sound Restoration: Improved Reporting and Cost Estimates Could Help Guide Future Efforts*.⁵⁸ The purpose of the evaluation was to assess progress made toward meeting the goals, actions, and schedules of the Long Island Sound CCMP, including quantifiable targets of ecosystem condition.
- Continue coordinating water quality monitoring, modeling, and research.
- Support community sustainability and resiliency through the Sustainable and Resilient Communities Work Group, which provides technical and financial assistance to plan for environmental impacts while strengthening ecological health and protecting communities.
- Support community partnerships to reduce pollution, protect and restore habitats, and increase sustainability and resiliency through the Long Island Sound Futures Fund.
- Provide technical and financial assistance to communities to improve environmental conditions in Long Island Sound through the Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund.
- Conduct focused scientific research into the causes and effects of pollution on the Sound's living marine resources, ecosystems, water quality, and human uses to assist managers and public decision-makers in developing policies and strategies to address environmental and human health impacts.

⁵⁸ To read the report, visit: <https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-18-410>.

- Support the 33 Stewardship Areas, designated by Congress through the 2005 Long Island Sound Stewardship Act, to strengthen partnerships and to better protect and restore the Long Island Sound.
- Provide technical and financial support to establish a long-term seed-based eelgrass restoration program and to enhance ecosystem services and economic benefits to coastal communities of Long Island Sound.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$551.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$25.0 / +2.8 FTE) This program change is an increase to restore the Long Island Sound and to oversee implementation of the Long Island Sound Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan by coordinating the cleanup and restoration actions of Program partners.

Statutory Authority:

Clean Water Act § 119.

Geographic Program: Other

Program Area: Geographic Programs

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Clean and Safe Water

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$16,340</i>	<i>\$16,200</i>	<i>\$7,079</i>	<i>-\$9,121</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$16,340	\$16,200	\$7,079	-\$9,121
Total Workyears	5.2	4.5	6.5	2.0

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

Program Project Description:

EPA targets efforts to protect and restore many of the unique communities and ecosystems across the United States through the Northwest Forest, Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration, Southeast New England Program (SNEP), and Columbia River Basin geographic programs. To protect and restore these resources, the Agency develops and implements approaches to mitigate sources of pollution and risks posed by a variety of geographically distinct environmental stressors. These approaches improve water quality in ecosystems and the health and economic vitality of residents who rely on them.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.2, *Clean and Safe Water* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

Northwest Forest Program

The Northwest Forest Program encompasses 24.5 million acres across western Oregon, Washington, and northern California, covering 17 National Forests, 6 National Parks, and other federally managed lands, including for the Department of Defense. It includes numerous watersheds with immense commercial and recreational value, as well as providing water for drinking, agriculture, and fishing. In FY 2027, the Program will support the following activities: monitoring and assessment of aquatic and riparian management measures on water quality and wildfire impacts to water quality; riparian and in-stream restoration to improve water quality; and coordination with federal, state and Tribal, land management, water quality and air quality experts to address barriers to effective forest management.

Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program (PRP)

Lake Pontchartrain is a historic body of water with a basin that covers 10 thousand square miles, is home to 1.5 million Louisianans, and is a vital resource for the state’s agriculture, forestry,

fishing, and energy production sectors. In FY 2027, the Program will help restore the ecological health of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin by developing and funding restoration projects and related scientific and public education projects. Projects selected under the Program will address challenges identified in the Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan, including agricultural runoff, sewage, stormwater (urban) runoff, and habitat management.

Southeast New England Program (SNEP)

The Southeast New England Program covers the whole of Rhode Island and part of Massachusetts, including 134 municipalities and 3 Tribal nations and covers watersheds crucial for fishing and tourism which generate billions of dollars in economic value for the region. In FY 2027, the Program will support technical assistance, grants, interagency agreements, and contracts to spur investment in regionally significant and/or landscape-scale restoration opportunities, more fully integrate restoration actions, promote innovation, and meet other regional needs and goals commonly shared by the subregions (Narragansett Bay, Buzzards Bay, Cape Cod, and the Islands). Specific activities include: investing in on-the-ground environmental restoration/protection projects; promoting the use of next-generation watershed management tools; collaborating amongst stakeholders to identify, test, promote, and implement approaches that can be replicated across Southeastern New England, with a focus on the nexus between habitat, nutrients, and community prosperity and longevity; and funding pilot projects and research to introduce innovations that accelerate ecosystem restoration and avoid or reduce nutrient pollution impacts.

Columbia River Basin

The Columbia River Basin is one of America's largest watersheds, covering over 260 thousand square miles across seven U.S. states and part of Canada. This river system supports extensive agriculture, energy production, industry including mining (e.g., basalt and gravel), manufacturing (e.g., aerospace manufacturing, food and beverage processing facilities for crops grown in the Basin such as potato, wine, and beer), as well as timber production, fisheries and barge transportation, and provides drinking water for over 8 million Americans. The Columbia River Basin Restoration Program is a catalyst for broad toxics reduction efforts and basin-wide collaboration to achieve a healthy ecosystem with significantly reduced toxic pollution levels in fish, wildlife, and water to enable communities to access unimpaired watersheds with healthy fish and wildlife habitat.⁵⁹ Key actions for FY 2027 and in accordance with Clean Water Act Section 123 include: administering a toxics reduction competitive grant program; providing technical assistance to and communication products for the Working Group and public; and continuing to update EPA's Columbia River Basin Restoration Program website, which serves as a source of

⁵⁹ For more information on toxic contaminant concentrations in the Columbia River Basin, see: Herger, L., L. Edmond, and G. Hayslip. 2017. [Mid Columbia River Fish Toxics Assessment](#): EPA Region 10 Report. EPA-910-R-17-002. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10, Seattle, Washington. U.S. EPA. 2009. [Columbia River Basin: State of the River Report for Toxics](#). EPA 910-R-08 004. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10. Seattle, Washington. Columbia River Basin Fish Contaminant Survey 1996-1998. <https://www.epa.gov/columbiariver/columbia-river-basin-fish-contaminant-survey-1996-1998>. USGS: Biomonitoring of Environmental Status and Trends (BEST) Program: Environmental Contaminants and their Effects on Fish in the Columbia River Basin <https://doi.org/10.3133/sir20045154>.

technical references and other information on understanding and reducing toxic pollution across the Basin.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$375.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$8,746.0) This program reduction represents a rebalancing with State and local entities for intergovernmental efforts supporting the protection and restoration of these nationally valued watersheds. These adjustments are to enable EPA to fulfill its responsibilities.
- (+2.0 FTE) This increase will provide additional FTE to focus on supporting water quality and ecosystems.

Statutory Authority:

Clean Water Act.

Geographic Program: Puget Sound

Program Area: Geographic Programs

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Clean and Safe Water

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$22,307</i>	<i>\$56,000</i>	<i>\$28,772</i>	<i>-\$27,228</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$22,307	\$56,000	\$28,772	-\$27,228
Total Workyears	7.4	6.3	9.0	2.7

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

Program Project Description:

The Puget Sound watershed covers 16,555 square miles, including Washington state’s most populous and economically productive regions. This ecosystem represents billions of dollars per year of economic activity, including fishing and shellfish aquaculture, tourism, agriculture, cargo shipping, and technology, in addition to providing over 5 million Americans with drinking water. In December 2022, the Clean Water Act (CWA) was amended to add Section 126, Puget Sound Coordinated Recovery. This Section established the Puget Sound Recovery National Program Office within EPA Region 10. The Puget Sound Recovery National Program Office coordinates Puget Sound restoration and protection activities across EPA and implements activities with other Federal agencies that have responsibilities involving the restoration and protection of the Puget Sound. The Office also coordinates and manages the Puget Sound Federal Leadership Task Force and aligns priorities to accomplish visible and measurable outcomes.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.2, *Clean and Safe Water* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

Key FY 2027 activities for EPA’s Puget Sound Recovery National Program Office include the following:

- EPA will continue to support efforts to prevent pollution from urban stormwater, protect and recover harvestable shellfish beds, protect and restore habitat and improve marine conditions across Puget Sound. These activities will be achieved through the Strategic Implementation Lead cooperative agreements and funding projects that result in direct water quality improvements.
- EPA will fund assistance agreements with the 19 federally recognized Tribes in Puget Sound, three Tribal consortia and the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission. EPA will provide funding to Tribes for implementing priority Tribal water quality improvements and habitat restoration projects in the Puget Sound basin.

- EPA will continue to support voluntary riparian plantings and riparian restoration work to reduce nonpoint source pollution along salmon bearing streams, in partnership with Puget Sound’s agricultural community.
- The program will continue to implement actions under the Puget Sound Recovery National Program Office and the Puget Sound Federal Leadership Task Force as outlined in CWA Section 126, Puget Sound Coordinated Recovery.
- The FY 2027 budget request will help fulfill National Estuary Program responsibilities, including support for the development and implementation of the updated Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP, the Action Agenda) to accelerate Puget Sound recovery and strengthen implementation, accountability, and tracking of the Action Agenda’s strategies and actions in accordance with CWA Section 320.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$275.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$26,953.0) This program change is a decrease to focus on core statutory requirements and recognize program efficiencies that empower EPA’s implementing partners through cooperative federalism.
- (+2.7 FTE) This increase will provide additional FTE to oversee this geographic program.

Statutory Authority:

Clean Water Act, Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026, Pub. L. 119-74.

Geographic Program: San Francisco Bay

Program Area: Geographic Programs

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$69,945</i>	<i>\$55,000</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>-\$55,000</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$69,945	\$55,000	\$0	-\$55,000
Total Workyears	4.2	5.1	0.0	-5.1

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

Program Project Description:

The San Francisco Bay Program Office, authorized in Section 125 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1276a (CWA Section 125), is proposed for elimination to recognize that substantial progress has been made to clean up the Bay and to provide the opportunity for more state and local support. This change focuses on EPA’s core mission and supports Goal 1/Objective 1.2, *Clean and Safe Water*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Resources and FTEs are being proposed for elimination for this program in FY 2027.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$55,000.0 / -5.1 FTE) This program change proposes to eliminate this program recognizing the substantial progress that has been made to clean up the San Francisco Bay and the opportunity for more state support.

Statutory Authority:

Clean Water Act; Section 125 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1276a; and Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026, Pub. L. 119-74.

Geographic Program: South Florida

Program Area: Geographic Programs

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Clean and Safe Water

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	\$8,622	\$9,000	\$8,489	-\$511
Total Budget Authority	\$8,622	\$9,000	\$8,489	-\$511
Total Workyears	2.5	2.7	2.9	0.2

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

Program Project Description:

The South Florida ecosystem extends from the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes near Orlando through the full extent of the Florida Keys including the Dry Tortugas over 250 miles to the south. Over nine million people, two federally recognized Native American Tribes: Seminole and Miccosukee, three national parks, 15 national wildlife refuges, Big Cypress National Preserve, the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, the Everglades, and unique coastal resources: the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Estuaries, Indian River Lagoon, Biscayne Bay, Florida Bay, Florida Keys, and Florida’s Coral Reef make up this unique and sensitive ecosystem. Together, these ecological resources support a multi-billion dollar economy through outdoor tourism, boating, recreational and commercial fishing, coral reef diving, and world-class beaches.

Challenges faced include: the long-term sustainability of sensitive natural areas, agriculture, and an expanding human population; balancing the region’s often conflicting flood control, water supply, and water quality needs; and mitigating and adapting to the impacts of periodic hurricanes and sea-level rise.

EPA’s South Florida Program (SFP) coordinates research and restoration activities in south Florida where water quality and essential habitat are impacted by development and pollution. EPA implements, coordinates, and facilitates activities through a variety of programs in the region including: the Clean Water Act (CWA); the Everglades Water Quality Restoration Strategies Program; the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Water Quality Protection Program; the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Water Quality Monitoring Program; the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force; the Coral Reef Environmental Monitoring Program; the Benthic Habitat Monitoring Program; the Everglades Regional Monitoring and Assessment Program; the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative, as directed by the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force; and other programs.^{60, 61}

⁶⁰ For more information, please see: <http://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-epa-region-4-southeast>.

⁶¹ For more information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/southflorida>.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.2, *Clean and Safe Water*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

The SFP supports efforts to protect and restore ecosystems impacted by environmental challenges. In FY 2027, EPA will focus on the Florida Keys Water Quality Protection Program, Florida's Coral Reef, the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force including impacts of Everglades Restoration, and CWA implementation.

- EPA will continue CWA and National Environmental Policy Act coordination with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, South Florida Water Management District, and Tribes for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) and Western Everglades Restoration Plan planning and implementation. CERP is a \$20 billion federal-state restoration effort with over 60 projects that affect aquatic resources throughout south Florida.
- The SFP will continue implementation of the Florida Keys Wastewater Master Plan to provide wastewater treatment or technology services to all homes and businesses in the Florida Keys. The goal is to remove from service all non-functioning septic tanks, cesspits, and non-compliant wastewater facilities. The SFP also will consider the impacts of wastewater discharges on State and Federal waters.
- The SFP will continue support for protection, restoration, and monitoring of ecology within St. Lucie Estuary, the Caloosahatchee Estuary, Indian River Lagoon, Biscayne Bay, Florida Bay, and Florida Keys to address loss of local resources.
- EPA will continue work with state and local governments and universities to implement on-the-ground practical programs for the Florida Keys, Biscayne Bay, St. Lucie Estuary, Florida Bay, and Caloosahatchee Estuary. EPA has provided more than \$7 million to support water quality that includes water quality monitoring, harmful algal bloom detection, nutrient source identification and tracking; bacterial tracking for healthy beaches, and groundwater discharge to evaluate groundwater as a potential pollutant source.
- The FY 2027 budget request continues support for coral, oyster, seagrass, mangrove, and sponge restoration efforts that reestablish and rehabilitate these natural systems; identify and map habitat areas for protection, restoration, and active management; and develop conservation/restoration plans for these ecosystems that provide habitat, food, nutrient removal, water filtration, storm attenuation, and shoreline stabilization in South Florida.
- EPA will develop an annual Notice of Funding Opportunity for FY 2027 funds and continue management of more than \$25 million in prior-year projects focused on enhancing water quality.
- EPA will continue to work with the State of Florida on Everglades Water Quality Restoration Strategies to address pollution. Part of this work will be tracking progress on the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits and consent orders within the Everglades, including discharge limits for phosphorus and corrective actions that are consistent with state and federal law and federal court consent decree requirements.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (+\$34.0) This change to fixed and other costs is an increase due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$545.0) This program change is a decrease to recognize State and local entities for intergovernmental efforts supporting the protection and restoration of this nationally valued watershed. These adjustments enable EPA to fulfill its responsibilities in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.
- (+0.2 FTE) This increase will provide additional FTE to focus on supporting ecosystem restorations.

Statutory Authority:

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and Protection Act of 1990; National Marine Sanctuaries Program Amendments Act of 1992; Clean Water Act; Water Resources Development Act of 1996; Water Resources Development Act of 2000; National Environmental Policy Act.

Great Lakes Restoration

Program Area: Geographic Programs

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Clean and Safe Water

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$329,819</i>	<i>\$369,000</i>	<i>\$367,724</i>	<i>-\$1,276</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$329,819	\$369,000	\$367,724	-\$1,276
Total Workyears	77.1	61.5	74.1	12.6

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

Program Project Description:

The Great Lakes are the largest system of surface freshwater on Earth, containing 20 percent of the world’s surface freshwater, 95 percent of the United States’ surface freshwater, spanning eight states and 35 Tribes. The ecological restoration efforts in the Great Lakes are important to keep communities safe from environmental threats, such as those recognized by the May 9th Presidential memorandum *Protecting the Great Lakes from Invasive Carp*. EPA will effectively serve the taxpayers and protect the Great Lakes by focusing on greater value and real results for all communities. EPA will partner with the other federal agencies, states, and Tribes to ensure a thoughtful approach is used to maximize every Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) investment to restore and protect the Great Lakes. A key component of the GLRI’s success depends on strong collaboration among all levels of government and private and non-governmental partners.

This restoration effort provides direct environmental, public health, and economic benefits to the region’s twenty million Americans who rely on the Great Lakes for drinking water, recreation, and fishing. The restoration and protection of the Great Lakes also fuels local and regional economies and community revitalization efforts across the basin. An independent study from the University of Michigan showed that every dollar of federal spending on GLRI projects between 2010 and 2016 will produce \$3.35 in additional economic activity in the Great Lakes region through 2036.

This interagency collaboration accelerates progress, promotes leveraging, avoids potential duplication of effort, and saves money. EPA and GLRI federal agencies select the best combination of programs and projects for Great Lakes protection and restoration in accordance with the statutory obligation in Section 118(c)(7)(C)(i) of the Clean Water Act to “achieve strategic and measurable environmental outcomes” identified in the GLRI Action Plan. EPA and the GLRI federal agencies directly implement projects and fund projects performed by other entities such as states, Tribes, and municipalities. GLRI funding supplements each agency’s base funding.

EPA and its partners have achieved significant results since the GLRI started in 2010, including:⁶²

- Seven Areas of Concerns (AOCs) delisted. Prior to GLRI, only one AOC was delisted. Nine other AOCs have completed all actions necessary for ultimate delisting; and
- 123 Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs) at 29 AOCs in eight Great Lakes states have been removed, over twelve times the total number of BUIs removed in the preceding 22 years.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.2, *Clean and Safe Water* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the GLRI will continue to support activities that target the most significant environmental problems in the Great Lakes. Emphasis will continue to be placed on: 1) cleaning up and delisting AOCs; 2) reducing phosphorus contributions that contribute to harmful algal blooms and other water quality impairments; and 3) invasive species prevention. The GLRI Action Plan IV targets actions within the following focus areas and objectives.

Toxic Substances and Areas of Concern Objectives:

- Remediate, restore, and delist AOCs: EPA and GLRI federal agencies will work with and fund partners to implement management actions necessary to remove BUIs (indicators of poor environmental health) that will ultimately lead to the delisting of AOCs. EPA will continue to remediate contaminated sediments under the cost-sharing provisions of Section 118(c)(11) of the Clean Water Act (Great Lakes Legacy Act).
- Engage communities to share information on the risks and benefits of consuming Great Lakes fish, wildlife, and harvested plant resources with the people who consume them.
- Increase knowledge about contaminants that have impacted or pose the potential to impact the ecological health of the Great Lakes and their natural resources and/or pose a public health risk: EPA and GLRI federal agencies will coordinate with appropriate state and Tribal partners to monitor priority contaminants and assess their impact on Great Lakes ecosystems.

Invasive Species Objectives:

- Protect native species and communities by preventing introductions of new non-native species: EPA and GLRI federal agencies, with their partners, will implement a prioritized plan to significantly reduce pathways by which non-native species may still enter the Great Lakes Basin.
- Reduce economic, ecological, and human health impacts by limiting range expansion, including lake-to-lake transfers, of non-native species: EPA and GLRI federal agencies will maintain and enhance surveillance programs to detect non-native species, and support rapid response, eradication, or containment efforts.

⁶² For more information, please see: <https://glri.us/>.

- Provide ecosystem and human benefits through prioritized and collaborative invasive species control efforts: EPA and GLRI federal agencies with states, Tribes, and other partners will prioritize maintaining the benefits of previously completed aquatic and terrestrial invasive species control projects.

Nonpoint Source Pollution Objectives:

- Reduce nutrient loads from agricultural watersheds to prevent harmful and nuisance algal blooms: EPA and GLRI federal agencies, with their partners, will continue to support direct farmer assistance and outreach to reduce nutrient losses in agricultural watersheds.
- Reduce or prevent stormwater runoff to improve and sustain water quality: EPA and GLRI federal agencies with their partners will continue to accelerate implementation of projects to reduce or prevent stormwater runoff.
- Improve effectiveness of nonpoint source control efforts to prevent harmful and nuisance algal blooms: EPA and GLRI federal agencies will continue to test new ways to achieve nutrient reductions; assess the potential for wetlands to act as sinks for nutrients; and monitor nutrient levels in the major tributaries and nearshore areas experiencing algal blooms.

Habitats and Species Objectives:

- Protect, enhance, and increase resilience of habitats necessary for sustaining native aquatic and terrestrial species important to the Great Lakes ecosystem.
- Increase resilience and representation of native species: EPA and GLRI federal agencies will continue to provide funding to stock, enhance, and reach significant population milestones for native species.

Foundations for Future Restoration Actions Objectives:

- Educate the next generations about the Great Lakes ecosystem: EPA and GLRI federal agencies will continue to promote Great Lakes-based ecosystem education and stewardship for K-12 school students and community members and teach people the skills needed to enter the environmental restoration and protection workforce that supports GLRI projects.
- Conduct targeted science to inform and assess Great Lakes restoration: EPA and GLRI federal agencies and their partners will continue to support targeted science projects and implement programs that will help track progress and inform future restoration actions. EPA will continue to “monitor the water quality of the Great Lakes” in accordance with the statutory obligation in Section 118(C)(1)(B) of the Clean Water Act.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$4,860.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$3,584.0 / +12.6 FTE) This program change is an increase to advance the restoration and protection of the Great Lakes through activities and projects safeguarding the largest system of surface freshwater in the world.

Statutory Authority:

Clean Water Act, Section 118.

Homeland Security

Homeland Security: Communication and Information

Program Area: Homeland Security

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Cooperative Federalism

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$4,206</i>	<i>\$4,699</i>	<i>\$4,626</i>	<i>-\$73</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$4,206	\$4,699	\$4,626	-\$73
Total Workyears	10.1	17.9	10.9	-7.0

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

Program Project Description:

A reduction to the Homeland Security: Communication and Information Program is proposed to streamline activities for homeland security efforts across the Agency. The Office of National Security and Operations Coordination (ONSOC) provide leadership, support, and coordination for homeland security programs to ensure an informed and resilient EPA is prepared to protect human health and the environment. ONSOC informs White House level homeland and national security decisions, policymaking efforts, and shares sensitive information throughout the Agency to support preparedness efforts and counter threats to EPA equities and interests.

As the Agency’s Federal Intelligence Coordinating Office (FICO), ONSOC serves as the primary liaison with the Intelligence Community (IC) representing Agency equities. In turn, ONSOC provides intelligence support to all programs and regions regarding threats to and mitigation strategies for key national infrastructure and critical resources with a focus on water sector cyber threat intelligence advisories, biodefense, supply chain resilience, national preparedness, response, recovery, and emerging threats.

ONSOC’s National Security Threat Mitigation Program (NSTMP) supports the following programs within the Agency: Insider Threat, Operational Security (OPSEC), Defensive Counterintelligence, International Visitors (IV), and Research Security. The NSTMP promotes information sharing to prevent, detect, and mitigate risks to EPA’s employees, programs, facilities, research, and data.

National and homeland security information technology (IT) efforts are closely aligned with agencywide information security and infrastructure activities. The Agency's IT support programs facilitate communication among localities, EPA program and regional offices, and laboratories during emergencies, primarily through the Enterprise Security Operations Branch (ESOB). ESOB offers a centralized cybersecurity incident response capability, preventing and responding to unauthorized network activities. ESOB provides situational awareness, cyber defense infrastructure, vulnerability assessments, and threat intelligence.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.2, *Cooperative Federalism*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the program will:

- Continue to develop the Agency’s cybersecurity intelligence capabilities to anticipate and address specific threats, mitigate attacks, assess evolving water sector cyber intelligence requirements, and support states, locals, and water sector operators.
- Continue to develop collaborative methods, with the IC, to enhance the cybersecurity of the water and wastewater sector, along with other critical sectors, to address increasingly sophisticated and complex threat actor tactics and techniques.
- Increase coordination with NSC, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and water sector entities regarding cyber-attacks on the water sector’s IT and Operational Technology (OT) systems.
- Promote coordinated approaches to communicate classified information to EPA programs, laboratories, and regional offices via secure systems to support timely intelligence and information sharing.
- Enhance support for the regional disaster recovery coordinators, increasing national disaster mitigation and recovery capacity. Support regional mitigation coordinators to increase mitigation planning and advance policy to increase resilience in support of Executive Order 14239: *Achieving Efficiency Through State and Local Preparedness*.⁶³
- Assist local communities recovering from disasters, and reduce direct Federal assistance by EPA personnel, by developing necessary guidance and trainings for state and local communities based on successful practices used by other communities impacted by disasters.
- Support federal, state, Tribal, and local efforts to prevent, protect, mitigate, respond to, and recover from the impacts of natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other emergencies by providing leadership and coordination across EPA’s program offices and regions.
- Provide technical, policy, and intelligence advice to senior Agency leadership related to biodefense and pandemic preparedness.
- Ensure appropriate Agency representation in White House, federal, and national homeland security policy activities.
- Expand EPA’s secure video telecommunications (SVTC) capabilities.
- Fill critical policy, knowledge, and technology gaps essential for an effective EPA emergency response - working with interagency partners to support state and local water sector resilience.
- Provide EPA personnel with relevant, accurate, reliable, objective, and timely intelligence bearing on Agency issues.

⁶³ For more information, please see: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/03/21/2025-04973/achieving-efficiency-through-state-and-local-preparedness>.

In FY 2027, EPA also will continue to protect the Agency's information and networks by monitoring the Agency's IT infrastructure to detect, remediate, and eradicate malicious activity/software from EPA's computer and data networks. Specific activities include:

- Enhancing internal Computer Security Incident Response Capability to ensure rapid identification and reporting of suspicious activity through increased training and awareness of cybersecurity threats.
- Continuing to support proactive detection of cybersecurity incidents within EPA, supporting active cyber threat hunting, containment, remediation, and incident response.
- Supporting the implementation of the Agency's Zero Trust Architecture roadmap to enable increased visibility and use of analytics to help strengthen Information Security and Privacy governance.
- Strengthening vulnerability management activities by improving scanning capabilities for web applications and databases as well as by using the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS') Vulnerability Disclosure Program (VDP) and paid bug bounty programs.
- Refining Agency operational network vulnerability evaluations and providing mitigation techniques to customers who have a need for an independent technical review of their network security posture.
- Continuing to mature the Agency penetration testing capabilities to identify, remediate, and reduce vulnerabilities in the cybersecurity environment and work with Agency staff to reduce risk.
- Supporting EPA's Mobile Application Vetting capability to ensure mobile devices operate safely.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$198.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$1,302.0 / -0.1 FTE) This net program change will modernize IT infrastructure for homeland security systems.
- (+\$257.0) This program change is an increase to enhance disaster recovery support and to develop the necessary guidance and trainings to increase national disaster mitigation and recovery capacity.
- (-\$1,434.0 / -6.9 FTE) This program change represents a decrease in non-payroll contracting resources and FTE for the Agency's Homeland Security: Communication and Information Program.

Statutory Authority:

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, §§ 1001, 2001, 3001, 3005; Safe Drinking Water Act; Clean Water Act, §§ 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 107; Clean Air Act, §§ 102, 103, 104, 108; Toxic Substances Control Act, §§ 201, 301, 401; Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, §§ 136a-136y; Bio Terrorism Act of 2002, §§ 303, 305, 306, 307; Homeland Security Act of 2002; Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act; Defense Against Weapons of Mass Destruction Act; Food Safety Modernization Act, § 208.

Homeland Security: Critical Infrastructure Protection

Program Area: Homeland Security

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Cooperative Federalism

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$901</i>	<i>\$3,033</i>	<i>\$1,352</i>	<i>-\$1,681</i>
Science & Technology	\$10,558	\$9,307	\$10,588	\$1,281
Total Budget Authority	\$11,459	\$12,340	\$11,940	-\$400
Total Workyears	29.6	25.5	27.7	2.2

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

Program Project Description:

The Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Program supports EPA’s efforts to coordinate and provide technical expertise to enhance the protection of the Nation’s critical water infrastructure through risk-based assessments and effective information sharing. This program provides water systems with current information on methods and strategies to build preparedness and resilience for threats.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.2, *Cooperative Federalism*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, EPA will enhance the capacity of the Nation’s water systems to better identify and respond to threats to critical national water infrastructure by:

- Providing timely information on cybersecurity threats, contaminant properties, water treatment effectiveness, detection technologies, analytical protocols, and laboratory capabilities;
- Protecting the United States from foreign, domestic, and other national security threats by mitigating the risks of cyberattacks against the water sector and enhancing the Agency’s capacity to respond to water emergencies;
- Supporting effective communication conduits to disseminate physical and cyber threat and incident information and to serve as a clearinghouse for sensitive information;
- Encouraging information sharing between the water sector and environmental professionals, scientists, emergency services personnel, law enforcement, public health agencies, the Intelligence Community, and technical assistance providers. Through this exchange, water systems can obtain up-to-date information on current technologies in water security, accurately assess their vulnerabilities to terror acts, and work cooperatively

with public health officials, first responders, and law enforcement officials to respond effectively in the event of an emergency;

- Providing water utilities, of all sizes, with access to a comprehensive range of important materials, including the most current information, tools, training, and protocols designed to enhance the security (including cybersecurity), preparedness, and resiliency of the water sector (including addressing natural hazards); and
- Ensuring that water utilities receive timely and informative alerts about changes in the homeland security advisory level and regional and national trends in certain types of water-related incidents.

Providing this information, coupled with effective information sharing processes, allows the water sector to improve its understanding of the latest water security and resiliency protocols and threats. These protocols reduce risk by enhancing the water sector's ability to prepare for an emergency.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$2,537.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$856.0 / +2.2 FTE) This program change increases resources and FTEs to support the Administration's priorities of protecting the United States from foreign, domestic, and other national security and public safety threats by mitigating the risks of cyberattacks in the water sector and enhancing the Agency's ability to respond to such incidents.

Statutory Authority:

Safe Drinking Water Act, §§ 1431-1435; Clean Water Act; Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Emergency and Response Act of 2002; Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, §§ 301-305.

Homeland Security: Protection of EPA Personnel and Infrastructure

Program Area: Homeland Security

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Cooperative Federalism

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	\$5,124	\$2,639	\$4,986	\$2,347
Science & Technology	\$436	\$735	\$500	-\$235
Building and Facilities	\$1,492	\$6,676	\$6,176	-\$500
Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$698	\$1,126	\$915	-\$211
Total Budget Authority	\$7,750	\$11,176	\$12,577	\$1,401
Total Workyears	13.0	13.3	13.3	0.0

The Agency notes that FY 2026 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities. Total workyears in FY 2027 include 13.3 FTE to support Homeland Security Working Capital Fund (WCF) services.

Program Project Description:

Environmental Programs and Management (EPM) resources for the Homeland Security: Protection of EPA Personnel and Infrastructure Program ensure that EPA maintains a robust physical security and preparedness infrastructure, ensuring that its numerous facilities are secured and protected in accordance with federally mandated Interagency Security Committee (ISC) facility security standards.

In order to secure and protect EPA’s personnel and physical infrastructure, the Agency operates a federally mandated Personal Identity Verification (PIV) Program, which adheres to the requirements as set forth in Homeland Security Presidential Directive-12 (HSPD-12).⁶⁴ This program ensures the Agency complies with government-wide standards for the issuance of secure and reliable forms of identification to federal employees and contractors who require access to federally controlled facilities and networks.

The National Security Information (NSI) Program manages and safeguards classified national security information that is processed, maintained, and stored throughout EPA by its federal workforce and contractors. The program ensures federal programmatic and protection mandates are established, implemented, and adhered to. The mandates include providing training and conducting inspections and audits.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.2, *Cooperative Federalism*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

⁶⁴ For additional information, please refer to: <https://www.dhs.gov/homeland-security-presidential-directive-12>.

As part of the nationwide protection of buildings and critical infrastructure, EPA performs vulnerability assessments on facilities each year. Through this program, the Agency also recommends and tracks the implementation of security risk mitigations, oversees access control measures, determines physical security measures for new construction and leases, and manages the lifecycle of security equipment.

As a part of the Classified National Security Information (CNSI) program management responsibility to safeguard EPA's CNSI, EPA will conduct CNSI inspections of its secure work areas, provide mandatory training, and track the implementation of corrective actions identified in inspections.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to partner with the General Services Administration (GSA) on issuing a PIV credential to all EPA federal personnel and contractors for physical and logical access in federal facilities. The PIV credentials are used in the Enterprise Physical Access Control System (ePACS). ePACS supports the Agency's modernization of its security infrastructure in compliance with HSPD-12 and ensures that the Agency is undertaking every effort to enhance safety, security, and efficiency by effectively controlling access into all EPA-controlled physical space and networks. In addition, the Agency will continue to utilize GSA's Managed Service Office Program, USAccess, for PIV card enrollment and issuance. USAccess is a GSA managed, shared services solution that provides EPA with the ability to produce and maintain secure and reliable forms of identification, as required per HSPD-12, for all EPA employees and contractors.

The Agency will continue to implement Trusted Workforce 2.0 (TW 2.0). TW 2.0 is a whole-of-government background investigation reform effort overhauling the personnel vetting process by creating one government-wide system that allows reciprocity across organizations. This effort includes moving from periodic reinvestigations, every five to ten years, towards a continuous vetting program, which protects the trusted workforce in real-time. Transitioning from periodic reinvestigations to continuous vetting requires a higher frequency of adjudicative actions that must be addressed in a more rapid fashion due to the stream of information delivered by the continuous vetting program. An element of TW 2.0 is the enrollment of Agency personnel into Federal Bureau of Investigation Rap Back and the subsequent adjudication of Rap Back notifications. Rap Back identifies additional personnel risks to the Agency which must be addressed to ensure that the workforce remains trusted and in compliance with TW 2.0 requirements.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue the implementation and transition to TW 2.0 including: agencywide review of personnel position and background investigation information to meet pre-requisite elements for continuous vetting enrollment; initiation and review of requisite investigative forms to meet enrollment requirements; administration of enrollment statuses of EPA personnel within the continuous evaluation program managed by the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency; and integration of EPA processes with National Background Investigation Services (NBIS), continuing to implement a new personnel vetting system for the background investigation process to deliver stronger security, faster processing, and better information sharing. EPA projects full TW 2.0 implementation in FY 2028 with the achievement of low-risk population milestones.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (+\$2,347.0) This program change is an increase in resources to reflect additional measures taken to protect EPA personnel and private information as well as to ensure accountability in the federal workforce.

Statutory Authority:

5 U.S. Code § 11001 - Enhanced Personnel Security Programs; Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004; Privacy Act of 1974; REAL ID Act of 2005; Homeland Security Act of 2002; Americans with Disabilities Act; 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).

Indoor Air and Radiation

Indoor Air: Radon Program
Program Area: Indoor Air and Radiation

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	\$3,291	\$2,540	\$0	-\$2,540
Science & Technology	\$26	\$335	\$0	-\$335
Total Budget Authority	\$3,317	\$2,875	\$0	-\$2,875
Total Workyears	8.0	6.3	0.0	-6.3

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

Program Project Description:

The Indoor Air: Radon Program is proposed for elimination in FY 2027 and all applicable statutory work (e.g., Toxic Substances Control Act, Clean Air Act, etc.) will be accomplished in other programs within the Indoor Air and Radiation Program Area. Title III of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) authorizes EPA to take a variety of actions to address the public health risk posed by exposure to indoor radon. Under the statute, EPA studies the health effects of radon; assesses exposure levels; sets an action level; provides technical assistance to states, industry, and the public; advises the public of steps they can take to reduce exposure; and promotes the availability of reliable radon services and service providers to the public.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Resources and FTE are proposed for elimination for this program in FY 2027.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$2,540.0 / -6.3 FTE) This funding change proposes to eliminate the Indoor Air: Radon Program, in the EPM appropriation, to advance cooperative federalism by returning the responsibility for funding local indoor radon reduction programs to state and local entities.

Statutory Authority:

Title III of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA); Title IV of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA); Clean Air Act (CAA).

Radiation: Protection

Program Area: Indoor Air and Radiation

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Healthy Air Quality

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	\$9,893	\$9,530	\$2,415	-\$7,115
Science & Technology	\$1,625	\$781	\$1,020	\$239
Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$2,828	\$2,122	\$2,420	\$298
Total Budget Authority	\$14,346	\$12,433	\$5,855	-\$6,578
Total Workyears	52.0	43.3	24.0	-19.3

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

Program Project Description:

EPA has general and specific duties to protect human health and the environment from harmful and avoidable exposure to ionizing radiation under multiple statutes. EPA’s Radiation Protection Program carries out these responsibilities through its federal guidance and standard-setting activities, including: regulatory oversight and implementation of radioactive waste disposal standards for the Department of Energy’s (DOE) Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP); the regulation of airborne radioactive emissions; general standards for operations of the nuclear power fuel cycle; general disposal standards for nuclear waste repositories; and the development and determination of appropriate methods to measure and to model radioactive releases and exposures under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act (CAA).⁶⁵ The program also supports EPA, state, local, and Tribal authorities by providing radiation protection scientific analyses and recommendations needed to inform risk management policies, and provides support on the use of advanced and emerging nuclear technologies to ensure American energy dominance while safeguarding public health and the environment.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.1, *Healthy Air Quality* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

EPA will meet its statutory obligation to implement its regulatory oversight responsibilities for DOE activities at the WIPP facility as mandated by Congress in the WIPP Land Withdrawal Act of 1992, thereby facilitating the cleanup of the Nation’s legacy nuclear weapons complex. To implement the Administration’s priorities, EPA will review regulations and guidance, including a review of standards regarding the operation of the nuclear power fuel cycle, as well as review the

⁶⁵ For more information on EPA’s radiation protection program, please see: <http://www.epa.gov/radiation>.

disposal of spent nuclear fuel, which is crucial for the adoption of new nuclear energy technologies critical to restoring American energy dominance and meeting increased energy needs.

EPA will support stakeholders by providing technical assistance and maintaining radiation dose assessment tools needed to demonstrate compliance with radionuclide provisions of the Clean Air Act. EPA also will provide members of the public as well as decision-makers at federal, state, local, and Tribal levels with educational materials, needed communication tools, training, and assistance to develop programs and enhance understanding prior to a radiological/nuclear incident.

EPA will provide support for radiation protection activities using the best available science. Notably, EPA will develop and support radiogenic risk assessment tools specifically developed for the U.S. population. Those tools will guide radiation protection practices across a range of sectors including federal and state partners, industry, academia, the military, and the medical community.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$562.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$6,553.0 / -22.8 FTE) This program change reduces support to activities in the Radiation Protection Program to focus Agency resources on priority activities, including implementation of waste disposal standards at the WIPP.

Statutory Authority:

Atomic Energy Act of 1954; Clean Air Act; Energy Policy Act of 1992; Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982; Public Health Service Act; Safe Drinking Water Act; Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act (UMTRCA) of 1978; Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Land Withdrawal Act of 1992; Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act; Clean Water Act.

Radiation: Response Preparedness

Program Area: Indoor Air and Radiation

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Healthy Air Quality

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$1,868</i>	<i>\$2,875</i>	<i>\$2,302</i>	<i>-\$573</i>
Science & Technology	\$3,670	\$3,961	\$4,023	\$62
Total Budget Authority	\$5,538	\$6,836	\$6,325	-\$511
Total Workyears	28.3	19.8	31.0	11.2

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

Program Project Description:

EPA’s radiological emergency preparedness and response activities are based on legal requirements and Agency obligations in numerous statutes, regulations, executive orders, presidential directives, and national plans. The Radiation Protection Division plays a leading role in preparing the Agency for, and responding to, a nuclear or radiological disaster. Work within this program includes conducting essential national and regional radiological response planning and training, as well as developing response plans for radiological incidents or accidents. Furthermore, EPA conducts assessments and preparedness for response to incidents involving foreign and domestic nuclear technology used in space nuclear systems and advanced reactor technologies. EPA generates policy guidance and procedures for the Agency’s radiological emergency response under the National Response Framework (NRF) and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). The Agency maintains its own Radiological Emergency Response Team (RERT), is a member of the Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee (FRPCC) and the Interagency Nuclear Safety Review Board, and leads the Federal Advisory Team for Environment, Food, and Health (the “A-Team”). The A-Team includes radiation protection experts from EPA, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA); and their function is to advise federal, state, local, and Tribal authorities during radiological/nuclear emergencies on public safety issues including evacuation, sheltering, and contamination concerns for food, drinking water, and other resources.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.1, *Healthy Air Quality* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

EPA will conduct essential emergency preparedness work across the Agency's radiological emergency response activities. The RERT will maintain essential readiness to support federal radiological emergency response and recovery operations under the NRF and NCP, and EPA will support the federal response during radiological emergencies. EPA also will participate in interagency training and exercises to maintain the RERT's ability to fulfill EPA's responsibilities.

Refinement of Response Plans

In FY 2027, EPA will work with interagency partners, under the FRPCC, to revise federal radiation emergency response plans and radiological and nuclear incident communications guides. EPA will develop and revise radiological emergency response protocols and standards, as needed, to keep pace with emerging technologies and threats and changing response capabilities. The Agency will implement the Protective Action Guides and Planning Guidance for Radiological Incidents Manual⁶⁶ and address lessons learned from incidents and exercises to ensure the effective delivery of EPA support in coordination with other federal and state response agencies.

Coordinating Preparedness Efforts

EPA will conduct essential planning and participate in interagency table-top and field exercises, including radiological accident and incident response and anti-terrorism activities with the Advisory Team for Environment, Food and Health, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), the Department of Energy (DOE), the Department of Defense (DOD), the Department of State (DOS), and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The Agency also will provide communications and technical support on priority issues to federal, state, Tribal, and local radiation, emergency management, solid waste, and health programs responsible for implementing radiological emergency response and preparedness programs.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$1,586.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$1,013.0 / +5.1 FTE) This program change is an increase in the Radiation: Response Preparedness Program to ensure that sufficient resources and FTE are available to respond to radiological emergencies.

⁶⁶ For additional information, please see: https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-01/documents/epa_pag_manual_final_revisions_01-11-2017_cover_disclaimer_8.pdf.

Statutory Authority:

Homeland Security Act of 2002; Atomic Energy Act of 1954; Clean Air Act; Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 (PKEMRA); Public Health Service Act (PHSA); Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act; Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA).

Reduce Risks from Indoor Air

Program Area: Indoor Air and Radiation

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Healthy Air Quality

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$14,274</i>	<i>\$11,907</i>	<i>\$11,984</i>	<i>\$77</i>
Science & Technology	\$0	\$296	\$0	-\$296
Total Budget Authority	\$14,274	\$12,203	\$11,984	-\$219
Total Workyears	38.8	34.4	34.5	0.1

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

Program Project Description:

Title IV of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA) authorizes EPA to conduct and coordinate research on indoor air quality, develop and disseminate information, and coordinate risk reduction efforts at the federal, state, and local levels. Poor indoor air quality represents one of the most significant public health risks within EPA's responsibility.⁶⁷ EPA uses a range of strategies to reduce health risks from poor indoor air quality in homes, schools, and other buildings through partnerships with non-governmental, professional, federal, state, and local organizations. Through these partnerships, EPA provides information, guidance, and technical assistance that equips industry, the health care community, the residential, school, and commercial building sectors, and the public to take action. As technical experts working at the intersection of the built environment and health, EPA is focused on guidance to improve building conditions, reduce indoor air risk, and achieve improvements in environmental and health outcomes.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.1, *Healthy Air Quality* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, EPA will promote actions and interventions to make improvements in public health. The program will include a particular focus on opportunities to accelerate the adoption of best indoor air quality practices including ventilation, filtration, and air cleaning to help suppress the transmission of airborne infectious disease and indoor exposure to wildfire smoke. EPA will continue to lead on these issues by providing technical assistance and guidance for residential, commercial, and public buildings, emphasizing that building improvements will be beneficial to preparedness and disaster resilience, as well as improved public health in the long-term.

⁶⁷ For additional information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/iaq>.

Through the Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools Program, EPA will continue to equip school leaders and the school sector to put in place comprehensive indoor air quality management programs that implement sustainable ventilation, filtration, and other indoor air quality improvements to promote healthy school environments for students and staff. EPA will provide and promote technical assistance, training, outreach, and other support to improve indoor air in schools nationwide.

Additionally, EPA will collaborate with public and private sector organizations to provide clear and verifiable protocols and specifications for promoting good indoor air quality and support adoption of these protocols and specifications into existing healthy, energy efficient, and green building programs and initiatives. EPA also will equip the housing sector with guidance to promote the adoption of these best practices with the aim of creating healthier homes.

In FY 2027, EPA will work to reduce a range of lung diseases caused by poor indoor air quality, including cancer, asthma, and other respiratory illnesses. Poor indoor air quality also can make symptoms worse for individuals who already have lung diseases such as cystic fibrosis. This work includes collaboration with other federal agencies, state-based and local partnerships, managing indoor environmental asthma triggers, and reducing radon exposure in homes and schools. EPA will continue to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all. EPA also will continue to work with partners to increase the use of clean fuels and stoves to address premature deaths attributed to cookstove emissions.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$1,374.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$500.0) This change is an increase to strengthen EPA's internal capacity to provide assistance and effectively communicate information on wildfires, including better coordination with state, local, and Tribal partners.
- (+\$951.0 / +0.6 FTE) This program change is an increase in the Reduce Risks from Indoor Air Program to align program funding with core statutory requirements and priority work.

Statutory Authority:

Title IV of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA); Title III Toxic Substances Control Act; Clean Air Act.

Information Exchange/Outreach

Children and Other Sensitive Populations: Agency Coordination

Program Area: Information Exchange / Outreach

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Cooperative Federalism

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$6,925</i>	<i>\$6,350</i>	<i>\$6,753</i>	<i>\$403</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$6,925	\$6,350	\$6,753	\$403
Total Workyears	20.9	15.3	18.7	3.4

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

Program Project Description:

The Children’s Health Program coordinates and advances the protection of children’s environmental health across EPA. Protecting children’s environmental health is foundational to EPA’s mission to protect human health and the environment, as reducing environmental exposures in children at all developmental life stages improves lifelong health for all Americans. Major environmental statutes recognize children’s unique sensitivity to contaminants and include provisions to protect them. The program provides scientific expertise into Agency actions to ensure consistency with these laws. Further, Executive Order 14212, *Establishing the President’s Make America Healthy Again Commission*, directs agencies to understand and end childhood chronic disease from multiple causes, including exposure to toxic material and environmental factors. Program activities aim to reduce risk of chronic illness caused by exposure to pollution and ensure children are protected from the impacts of natural disasters and emergencies.

Ensuring America’s children have clean air, water, land, and are safe from harmful chemicals during their development sets Americans up for a lifetime of health benefits, resulting in a stronger economy and society. The program uses science to inform solutions that strengthen protections for children throughout all stages of their development and tracks and communicates trends on indicators of progress on children’s health. Program activities also protect children’s environmental health and promote resiliency in the face of natural disasters, helping them get back on their feet quickly and safely where they live, learn, and play.

The program works collaboratively with partners at the federal, state, and local levels, and with Tribal governments. The program supports the President’s Task Force on Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Children, co-chaired by EPA and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and works with state and local partners to communicate solutions that empower parents/caregivers, school officials, and others to take actions to protect children. The program also leads agencywide facilitation on lead (Pb) activities to streamline coordination and provides consistency in messaging and reporting of cross-agency progress.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.2, *Cooperative Federalism*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*. Leveraging cross-agency partnerships, the Program will:

- Continue to ensure that EPA consistently and explicitly considers early life exposures and lifelong health in human health decisions. In FY 2025, EPA completed a total of 170 actions that considered children’s health data and information, for a total of 774 actions over the past three years of reporting. As part of these activities and in support of Executive Order 14212, *Establishing the President’s Make America Healthy Again Commission*,⁶⁸ the program will contribute to government-wide efforts to reduce or prevent childhood chronic disease.
- Enhance America’s Children and the Environment online tool by adding and expanding indicators and developing communication tools to monitor trends in children’s health and inform the public. This effort will support the White House’s Make America’s Children Healthy Again Strategy and further EPA’s ability to measure progress in support of statutory authorities by quantifying the impact on children of EPA’s actions.
- Improve EPA’s ability to monetize the economic benefits to children’s health of environmental rules by quantifying children-related health endpoints that are not currently included in EPA benefit-cost analyses. This work will improve substantially EPA’s ability to communicate to the public the impact of its regulations.
- Continue to serve as co-lead for the interagency efforts of the President’s Task Force on Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Children alongside the Department of Health and Human Services. This effort will focus on co-chairing the Senior Steering Committee and coordinating cross-federal activities related to topics such as emergencies and disasters, asthma, lead exposure, and chemical exposure. The program also will continue to build on partnerships with key stakeholders and leverage resources and work for durable, nationally relevant improvements in children’s health protection.
- Support health care professionals via the Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units (PEHSU) to better address risks from childhood exposures, in collaboration with the Agency for Toxic and Disease Registry. In FY 2025, the PEHSUs conducted 837 consultations to health professionals and 669 consultations for community members; educated 36,173 health professionals and 6,700 community members; and developed 707 educational materials.
- Host a variety of activities to foster awareness at the regional, state, and community levels. For example, the program marks Children’s Health Month in October to educate parents, caregivers, teachers, and others, on how to better protect children from adverse environmental exposure and continue to modernize its social media presence to improve outreach to affected communities.
- Mitigate lead exposure by: 1) streamlining actionable risk communication, 2) supporting state, local, and Tribal action through cooperative federalism, and 3) unleashing private sector innovation through public-private collaboration.

⁶⁸ For more information, please visit: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/02/establishing-the-presidents-make-america-healthy-again-commission/>.

- The program also will coordinate meetings of the Children’s Health Protection Advisory Committee (CHPAC), with delivery of expert responses to charge questions related to high priority children’s environmental health issues.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$945.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE due to annual payroll increases, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$1,348.0 / +3.4 FTE) This program change is an increase to provide support for existing programs and workforce in the Children’s Health Program. This includes reducing potential health risks to children, implementing regionally selected community-based projects addressing local children’s environmental health issues, expanding indicators and developing communication tools to monitor trends in children’s health, and inform the public.

Statutory Authority:

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); Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA); Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA); Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA); Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA); Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA).

Environmental Education

Program Area: Information Exchange / Outreach

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	\$8,685	\$9,500	\$0	-\$9,500
Total Budget Authority	\$8,685	\$9,500	\$0	-\$9,500
Total Workyears	10.3	9.9	0.0	-9.9

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

Program Project Description:

The Environmental Education (EE) Program provides guidance and financial support to nonprofit organizations, local educational institutions, universities, community colleges, and state and local environmental agencies. Financial support is via the competitive grants process and cooperative agreements. This change focuses resources on EPA’s core mission. The EE Program is proposed for elimination to increase the effectiveness of Agency operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

The Environmental Education Program is proposed for elimination. EPA will continue to find ways to streamline education activities and leverage funding outside the Agency for environmental stewardship activities via existing cooperative agreements and at the state and local level.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$9,500.0 / -9.9 FTE) This funding change proposes to eliminate the Environmental Education Program to focus Agency resources on its highest national priorities and core statutory work. This program is proposed for elimination to deconstruct wasteful spending and enable EPA to fulfill its responsibilities in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.

Statutory Authority:

National Environmental Education Act (NEEA); Clean Air Act (CAA), § 103; Clean Water Act (CWA), § 104; Solid Waste Disposal Act (SWDA), § 8001; Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), § 1442; Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), § 10; Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), § 20.

Exchange Network

Program Area: Information Exchange/Outreach

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Cooperative Federalism

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$11,554</i>	<i>\$6,378</i>	<i>\$9,017</i>	<i>\$2,639</i>
Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$1,411	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Budget Authority	\$12,965	\$6,378	\$9,017	\$2,639
Total Workyears	18.8	15.1	22.1	7.0

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

Program Project Description:

The Central Data Exchange (CDX) and EPA's System of Registries enable faster and more efficient transactions for internal and external EPA clients, resulting in reduced burden and cost efficiencies. CDX provides a set of core shared services that promote a leaner and more cost-effective service framework for the Agency by avoiding the creation of duplicative applications. EPA's System of Registries is a system of shared data services that work in concert with the CDX to enhance efficiency, reduce burden on the regulated community, and improve environmental outcomes. EPA and Exchange Network (EN) partners routinely reference these shared data registries, which include regulated facilities and substances, the current list of federally recognized Tribes, and other common terminologies that enable data interoperability.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.2, *Cooperative Federalism* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the Exchange Network Program will continue to be a pivotal component of EPA's Digital Strategy that supports business process change agencywide. Under this strategy and the 21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act,⁶⁹ the Agency is streamlining business processes and systems to reduce reporting burden on states and regulated facilities and to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of environmental programs for EPA, states, and Tribes. In line with the Presidential Memorandum *Updating Permitting Technology for the 21st Century*,⁷⁰ CDX will play a pivotal role in EPA's permit automation efforts by providing a standard platform and suite of services to further enable permit automation. CDX already supports several permitting

⁶⁹ For more information on the 21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act, please refer to: <https://www.congress.gov/115/plaws/publ336/PLAW-115publ336.pdf>.

⁷⁰ For more information on the Presidential Memorandum, please see: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/04/updating-permitting-technology-for-the-21st-century/>.

processes, including several National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permits.

EPA also will continue to promote a full data lifecycle approach for managing and sharing data through the EN. This includes supporting activities ranging from data collection to data management, curation, and analytics through data dissemination. EPA aims to reduce burden and avoid costs while improving information technology services and systems. CDX will continue to carry out baseline support for data exchange services leveraged by states and Tribal partners.

The Agency also administers and implements the Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Regulation (CROMERR) that removes regulatory obstacles for e-reporting to EPA programs under Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). This includes providing a technology framework–shared CROMERR services–which reduces the burden on programs and external reporters by providing CROMERR compliant solutions. For example, the shared electronic identity proofing and signature services for CROMERR supports 31 partner regulatory reporting programs to date. EPA estimates that partners adopting shared CROMERR services save \$120 thousand in development and at least \$30 thousand in operations each year, which results in a cost avoidance of greater than \$2.5 million for EN partners.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue implementing a solution related to shared facility identification information. Centralized facility management also is fundamental to better environmental management by bringing together EPA data across programmatic silos. Like facility data, substance information also is regulated across EPA programs, with many EPA programs relying on the Substance Registry Service (SRS) to improve data quality and reduce burden. The Agency will continue to expand the number of EPA and partner systems that integrate registry services into their online reports and systems, reducing burden and improving data quality, interoperability, and discoverability in accordance with the Evidence Act.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to work with the Department of Homeland Security’s Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to maintain, utilize, and improve systems to facilitate the import and export of legitimate goods and leverage big data and artificial intelligence tools to identify and prevent or stop illegal goods from entering or leaving the United States. EPA supports over 16 data exchange types within EPA and with CBP to automate and streamline over eight million annual import and export filings. This automation is essential for managing a significantly increasing number of imports and exports (due to e-Commerce), as well as allowing coordinators/officers to focus on compliance monitoring and high value targeting activities for non-compliant imports and exports, and to better coordinate with CBP.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (+\$1,290.0) This change to fixed and other costs is an increase due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$1,349.0 / +7.0 FTE) This program change is an increase to maintain the critical Central Data Exchange while achieving efficiencies and limiting federal investment in activities that go beyond EPA's core statutory requirements.

Statutory Authority:

Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA); Clean Air Act (CAA); Clean Water Act (CWA); Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA); Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA); Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA); Government Management Reform Act (GMRA); Clinger-Cohen Act (CCA).

Executive Management and Operations

Program Area: Information Exchange/Outreach

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Cooperative Federalism

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$60,878</i>	<i>\$63,867</i>	<i>\$38,111</i>	<i>-\$25,756</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$60,878	\$63,867	\$38,111	-\$25,756
Total Workyears	277.3	247.2	210.5	-36.7

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

Total workyears in FY 2027 include 8.3 FTE to support Executive Management and Operations working capital fund (WCF) services, an increase of 7.0 FTE.

Program Project Description:

The Executive Management and Operations Program is proposed for reduction in order to increase the effectiveness of Agency operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work. This program supports various offices that provide direct executive and logistical support to EPA’s Administrator. In addition to the Administrator’s Immediate Office (IO), the program supports the Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations (OCIR), Office of External Affairs (OEA), and Office of Administrative Services and Performance Management (OASPM). This change focuses resources on EPA’s core mission and advances federal responsibilities in a cost-efficient manner.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.2, *Cooperative Federalism*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the program will continue providing management, leadership, and direction to all of EPA's programs and activities and develop the guidance necessary to ensure achievement of the Agency’s core statutory responsibilities. In FY 2027, resources of the program will primarily support critical needs for staff, including essential travel and workforce support.

OCIR serves as EPA's principal point of contact for Congress, regions, and local governments and as coordination points for engagement amongst the regions and senior leadership. In FY 2027, OCIR will continue to: prepare EPA officials for hearings and briefings; respond to Congressional inquiries and oversight requests; engage state and local governments on regulatory and other EPA activities; advance cooperative federalism and cross-agency partnerships; enhance engagement data collection and reporting; and evaluate its processes for responding to congressional and gubernatorial correspondence.

OEA serves as the external voice of the Agency through the development of core Agency messaging, creation of press releases, response to media inquiries, and conducting media engagements and press conferences. In addition, OEA creates and disseminates audiovisual productions, livestreams/broadcasts, graphics productions, audio clips, as well as stock image and event photographs. The office is the primary developer and manager of content and information on the internet, including www.epa.gov and on EPA's social media accounts. In addition, the office facilitates communications with EPA employees nationwide through oversight and management of the EPA@Work intranet environment along with production of internal mass mailers and two weekly e-newsletters - This Week @ EPA and EPA's Call it a Comeback. Finally, OEA coordinates and manages public responses using the Quill application. OEA will continue to inform the public and media of Agency initiatives and deliver timely, accurate information.

In FY 2027, OEA will continue providing advice on activities surrounding EPA stakeholder groups, including generating and distributing outreach plans for most regulatory actions. Such plans often include: meeting regularly with stakeholder groups to communicate the Administration's agenda at EPA, providing advance notification communications to relevant stakeholder groups on upcoming regulatory actions, facilitating in-state visits by the Administrator and/or senior staff to collect regulatory feedback, communicating key dates to stakeholders pertaining to opportunities to comment on EPA rulemakings, and organizing conference calls on regulatory topics with impacted stakeholders.

In FY 2027, OEA will continue efforts to improve coordination between rural and agricultural stakeholders, relevant federal and state partners, and EPA. OEA will continue to support the Farm, Ranch and Rural Communities Federal Advisory Committee by providing independent policy recommendations on environmental issues.

In FY 2027, OEA will continue to provide critical administrative support to the Administrator, Deputy Administrator, senior agency officials, and staff to comply with the statutory and regulatory requirements under the Federal Records Act, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), Plain Writing Act, Privacy Act, related statutes, and regulations. OEA will continue to manage the AO records management and privacy programs, the Administrator's and Deputy Administrator's executive correspondence, and an enterprise information technology platform that supports administrative functions, including correspondence processing, federal advisory committee management, public comment management, engagement activities, media contacts, and violation reporting. OEA will continue to ensure that these programs are managed in an agile way, leverage best practices and technological solutions and support EPA's dialogue with the public, stakeholders, state, Tribal, territorial, and local governments.

Other OEA responsibilities include processing correspondence for the Administrator and Deputy Administrator; reviewing and preparing documents for their signature, managing the Administrator's email account; serving as custodian of the Administrator's, Deputy Administrator's and IO and Deputy Administrator's Office senior officials' records; overseeing the records management program for all AO staff offices; and reviewing and issuing ethics determinations for gifts received by the Administrator and Deputy Administrator. OEA also manages the privacy program for the AO and monitors, reviews and audits AO systems of records. Finally, OEA manages the AO FOIA Program and responds to all requests for records held by any

of the AO's associate administrator offices, staff offices, and the immediate office of the Administrator.

As the central administrative management component of the Administrator's Office (AO), OASPM provides advice, tools, and assistance to the AO's programmatic operations. In FY 2027, OASPM will continue to conduct the following activities: human resources management, budget and financial management, information technology and security, and audit management.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$15,205.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$10,551.0 / -43.7 FTE) This program change reflects EPA's efforts to focus on carrying out the Agency's core mission and shared responsibilities with states, localities, and Tribal nations, recognizing the need for efficiencies and operating more effectively. These adjustments are necessary to enable EPA to fulfill its federal responsibilities and to unleash American energy and economic growth.

Statutory Authority:

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); Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Authorization Act (ERDDAA).

Small Business Ombudsman

Program Area: Information Exchange / Outreach

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Cooperative Federalism

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$1,340</i>	<i>\$986</i>	<i>\$1,948</i>	<i>\$962</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$1,340	\$986	\$1,948	\$962
Total Workyears	3.6	5.3	4.4	-0.9

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

Program Project Description:

The Small Business Ombudsman Program includes the Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO),⁷¹ and the Small Business Advocacy Chair (among other small business-related activities) located within the Office of Policy and Regulatory Management's (OPRM) Regulatory Policy and Management Division. OPRM's Small Business Advocacy Chair is the lead on EPA's implementation of the Regulatory Flexibility Act 5 U.S.C. §§ 601, as amended by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act, Pub Law No. 104-121,^{72,73} while the ASBO serves the public and small business community informally through its hotline and conflict resolution services. This program is proposed for reduction to increase the effectiveness of Agency operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work. This change focuses resources on EPA's core mission and advances federal responsibilities in the most cost-efficient manner.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.2, *Cooperative Federalism* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the program will:

- Host, manage, and respond to questions, complaints and requests for assistance through the EPA Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman Hotline. The hotline takes live calls during regular business hours, as well as receiving questions and complaints through its program email box. Additionally, the ASBO manages several online resources, including ombuds FAQs, contact lists, resource guides and more.

⁷¹ For more information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/resources-small-businesses/asbestos-small-business-ombudsman>.

⁷² For more information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-office-policy-op#ORPM>.

⁷³ The Regulatory Flexibility Act was amended by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-121), [PLAW-104pub1121.pdf](#).

- Continue to improve access for small businesses to stay up to date on the regulatory and environmental information necessary to improve environmental compliance and outcomes. In FY 2027, the ASBO will continue to leverage and expand readership of its monthly *SmallBiz@EPA* newsletter, using its subscription management and data analytic tools to improve awareness and familiarity to improve our content and outreach of EPA regulatory and environmental topics of interest to the small business community.
- Assist the public and small business community by collecting data which will be used in periodic reporting to help guide the Agency on issues related to asbestos, small business regulatory compliance questions, and adherence to the 507 Program requirements. The 1986 Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (15 U.S.C. §2641-2656) and the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments' Small Business Stationary Source Technical and Environmental Compliance Assistance Program (42 U.S.C. § 7661f), provide for ASBO monitoring and reporting on the effectiveness of EPA's asbestos resources and small business environmental compliance assistance programs.
- Continue to strengthen and support collaboration between the federal and state environmental organizations on compliance assistance. ASBO continues to maintain strong cooperative federalism activities with the state Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs. ASBO will continue to fund a cooperative agreement with the states in support of the small business compliance assistance resources, training, and web engagement across all U.S. states and territories.
- Under OPRM's Small Business Advocacy Chair, work with the SBA Office of Advocacy and OMB to convene and manage Small Business Advocacy Review Panels. These Panels develop recommendations to reduce the cost of EPA rules that may have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities.
- Continue to provide analytical support for assessing the impacts of EPA rules on small entities and the business community on environmental compliance.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (+\$962.0 / -0.9 FTE) This net program change aligns funding with core statutory requirements while recognizing the need for efficiencies. EPA will prioritize activities mandated by statute.

Statutory Authority:

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), 1986 (adding Title II to the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)) (15 U.S.C. §2641-2656); Clean Air Act, Title 5, Section 507; Small Business Stationary Source Technical and Environmental Compliance Assistance Program (42 U.S.C. §7661f); Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, Pub. L. 104-121, as amended by Pub. L. 110-28; Small Business Paperwork Relief Act, 44 U.S.C. 35; 42 U.S.C. § 7661f; and 15 U.S.C. §§ 2641-2656.

Small Minority Business Assistance

Program Area: Information Exchange / Outreach

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Cooperative Federalism

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	\$2,498	\$2,458	\$1,058	-\$1,400
Total Budget Authority	\$2,498	\$2,458	\$1,058	-\$1,400
Total Workyears	9.7	8.6	5.8	-2.8

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

Program Project Description:

The Agency’s Small Business Contracting Program is mandated under Section 15(k) of the Small Business Act, 15 U.S.C. § 644(k). As prescribed under that section, the program provides expertise in ensuring small business prime and subcontracting opportunities to expand EPA’s competitive supplier base in furthering the Agency’s mission. This program is proposed for reduction to increase the effectiveness of Agency operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work. This change focuses resources on EPA’s core mission and advances federal responsibilities in the most cost-efficient manner.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3, Objective 3.2, *Cooperative Federalism* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the program will:

- Expand EPA’s electronic tools and mechanisms for identifying the projected contract spending of individual offices to more effectively align small business contracting opportunities and structure agencywide small business vehicles to achieve greater efficiencies, cost savings, and value consistent with Cooperative Federalism and Cross-Agency Partnership for Category Management. The Office of Civil Rights and Adjudication’s Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization Division (SDBUD) crafted a strategy for ensuring the maximum practicable utilization of small businesses in Agency acquisitions of common goods and services within the Category Management framework. Building on that strategy, in FY 2027, SDBUD will continue efforts to support the implementation of the government-wide Category Management initiative by training EPA’s Small Business Specialists to serve as designated experts in each of EPA’s primary categories of common contracting spend.

- Strengthen EPA’s small business subcontracting program by providing contracting officer training on maximizing small business subcontracting opportunities and by developing a monitoring program to ensure large business compliance with their required small business subcontracting plans. EPA fully implemented the newly enacted provisions of Section 15(k)(20), which require each agency to review all subcontracting plans to “ensure that the plan provides the maximum practicable opportunity for small business concerns.” In addition to dedicating resources to conducting the reviews, SDBUD has standardized the review procedures. The training and compliance monitoring program planned for FY 2027 will further assist in expanding the utilization of small businesses on the subcontracting level.
- Issue a comprehensive small business contracting manual that will streamline, standardize, and simplify EPA’s small business contracting processes and procedures to strengthen operational efficiency, effectiveness, and compliance with governing statutory requirements. The manual will serve as a centralized and authoritative repository of internal EPA small business contracting requirements, guidance, processes, and procedures. It will be accessible electronically agencywide.
- Leverage existing and emerging collaborative tools, resources, and technology to provide important small business technical assistance required under Section 15(k) of the Small Business Act, including releasing a new small business resource guide and electronic information to educate a broad and diverse spectrum of small businesses. In addition to supporting small businesses seeking to do business with the federal government, the planned access to additional information also will assist EPA in maintaining a qualified small business industrial base to help meet the Agency’s mission needs.
- Continue to build on the successes of SDBUD’s Small Business Contracting Dashboard by leveraging available Artificial Intelligence and other technological tools with a developer to enhance the automated process in reporting granular real-time small business goal accomplishments designed to enlighten the Agency’s acquisition team with small business planning and strategies.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$623.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$777.0 / -2.8 FTE) This program change aligns funding with core statutory requirements, while recognizing the need for efficiencies. EPA will prioritize activities to maintain compliance with its statutory obligations under the Small Business Act. This proposed reduction endeavors to deconstruct wasteful spending, reduce unnecessary burden on EPA partners and the regulated community in order to unleash American energy and economic growth, and refocus EPA on its mission.

Statutory Authority:

15 U.S.C § 644(k).

State and Local Prevention and Preparedness

Program Area: Information Exchange / Outreach

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Cooperative Federalism

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$14,811</i>	<i>\$12,046</i>	<i>\$10,657</i>	<i>-\$1,389</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$14,811	\$12,046	\$10,657	-\$1,389
Total Workyears	56.5	45.3	45.2	-0.1

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

Program Project Description:

The State and Local Prevention and Preparedness Program provides the framework to protect air, land, and water from the impact of chemical releases through planning, preparedness, and response. Additionally, it equips emergency responders and facility workers with resources to plan for and prevent accidents, distribute emergency response messaging to the public, and enhance preventative safety mechanisms.

The program is proposed for reduction to increase the effectiveness of Agency operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work. This change focuses resources on EPA's core mission and advances core statutory work.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.2, *Cooperative Federalism*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the program will:

- Provide enhanced Risk Management Plan and Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act compliance assistance and resources to protect human health and the environment for the American people.^{74,75} Efforts will be focused on emergency response planning and preparedness to foster economic growth while remaining good stewards of tax dollars and ensuring resources continue to advance the mission.
- Strengthen partnerships at local, state, and federal levels to leverage resources and eliminate inefficiencies while partnering with industry and external groups to ensure the highest standards are maintained. These actions will incorporate best practices and ensure enhanced emergency response planning and preparedness while ensuring the safety of the

⁷⁴ For additional information about EPA's Risk Management Program, please refer to: <https://www.epa.gov/rmp>.

⁷⁵ For additional information about EPCRA, please refer to: <https://www.epa.gov/epcra>.

American people. It also will safeguard the environment, boost infrastructure, and bring back American jobs that will allow the Nation to thrive.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$2,326.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$937.0 / -0.1 FTE) This net program change aligns resources with core statutory requirements and strategic goals, recognizes the need for efficiencies, and empowers EPA implementing partners through cooperative federalism. These adjustments are necessary to enable EPA to fulfill its federal responsibilities in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.

Statutory Authority:

The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA); the Clean Air Act (CAA) § 112(r); the Clean Water Act (CWA) § 311(j)(5).

TRI / Right to Know

Program Area: Information Exchange / Outreach

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Cooperative Federalism

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$12,172</i>	<i>\$7,039</i>	<i>\$13,075</i>	<i>\$6,036</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$12,172	\$7,039	\$13,075	\$6,036
Total Workyears	32.3	24.0	27.0	3.0

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

Program Project Description:

The Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Program⁷⁶ supports EPA's mission by annually publishing for the public: release, pollution prevention (P2), and other waste management (e.g., recycling) data on more than 800 toxic chemicals and chemical categories, including approximately 200 per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS),⁷⁷ from approximately 21,000 industrial and federal facilities. The Program collaborates with other EPA programs on data analyses to describe relevant trends in pollutant releases, waste management, and pollution prevention practices with respect to toxic chemicals and to support innovative approaches by industry and other partners to reduce pollution. The TRI lends itself to comparative analyses with other program-specific data managed by the Agency, providing insights that may not be apparent when viewing the datasets independently. The TRI Program empowers local decision making by collecting and providing timely, accurate, and relevant cross-media toxic chemical release data for communities, non-governmental organizations, industrial facilities, academia, and government agencies. The TRI Program's data and analyses support EPA's Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Program, helping to identify conditions of use and to evaluate and estimate potential exposure for those chemicals undergoing risk evaluation.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.2, *Cooperative Federalism* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to focus on the collection and distribution of chemical release and other waste management data and making the data available to governments and the public. As part of this effort, the TRI program will continue to update toxic chemical reporting requirements, as appropriate, pursue additional chemical listings, extend program participation to additional

⁷⁶ For additional information, please visit: <http://www.epa.gov/tri/>.

⁷⁷ Many per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) were added to the TRI chemical list as a component of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (NDAA) when the Act was signed into law on December 20, 2019. The first year of TRI reporting these PFAS was calendar year 2020.

industry sectors (as applicable), respond to petitions, improve the reporting experience, optimize the quality of TRI data, improve analytical functions, identify opportunities to mitigate the release of toxic chemicals, and engage with industry stakeholders.

EPA will continue to improve its online application for the reporting community, *TRI-MEweb*, to facilitate electronic preparation and submission of TRI reports through EPA's Central Data Exchange (CDX).⁷⁸ EPA will continue to support and maintain the TRI Data Exchange (TDX) with state and Tribal partners to streamline submissions from facilities. The Agency also will continue to support the TRI Processing System (TRIPS) database, which is the repository for TRI data. Maintaining these data includes data quality activities and transmitting the data to EPA's public access site.

EPA also will focus on the operations and maintenance of *TRI-MEweb*, TRIPS, and processes that contribute to quality control in the development of the annual TRI National Analysis. By leveraging cloud services, the TRI systems will improve system performance, reliability, efficiency, portability, and administrative services (e.g. security, upgrades, patches, etc.). These activities also will improve integration/consistency with other cloud-based systems and applications, provide quicker data processing, and enhance the capabilities of EPA's public-facing TRI analytical tools.

In FY 2027, the Program will conduct at least 650 data quality checks to help optimize the accuracy and completeness of the reported data and thereby improve the Program's analyses and the utility of the data. The Program will continue to publish the TRI National Analysis. The TRI Program also will continue to make the preliminary data available to the public shortly after the reporting deadline as downloadable data files and through online analytical tools such as Envirofacts. The TRI program will continue to support EPA's Enforcement and Compliance Assurance programs by using data comparisons across programs to highlight facilities for potential engagement or further review.

The TRI Program will continue collaborating with stakeholders to improve the reporting experience, the analysis and use of TRI data and enhancing the capabilities of EPA's public-facing TRI analytical tools. Engagement is expected to include targeted webinars and conferences.

Section 7321 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of 2020 requires EPA to assess certain per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) to determine whether they meet Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) Section 313 chemical listing criteria. Such automatic additions of PFAS to the TRI list have occurred annually and EPA anticipates this trend to continue.

In FY 2025, EPA proposed a rule to add 16 individual PFAS and 15 PFAS categories to the TRI and to designate them as chemicals of special concern. EPA anticipates finalizing this proposal in FY 2026 and implementing it in FY 2027 in a manner consistent with the Administration's priorities and policies. The TRI Program will additionally pursue chemical listings important to the Agency.

⁷⁸ To access the CDX, please visit: <https://cdx.epa.gov/>.

As required by EPCRA, the Agency also will continue to respond to any TRI chemical petitions received during FY 2027 within 180 days after receipt.⁷⁹ The quantity and complexity of petitions are unknown until submitted to EPA.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (+\$851.0) This net change to fixed and other costs is an increase due to the recalculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE due to annual payroll increases, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$5,185.0 / +3.0 FTE) This program change is an increase associated with TRI chemical data collection and for contract resources to support IT analytical tools.

Statutory Authority:

Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) § 313; Pollution Prevention Act of 1990 (PPA) § 6607.

⁷⁹ Additional information on current petitions may be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/toxics-release-inventory-laws-and-regulatory-activities>.

Tribal - Capacity Building

Program Area: Information Exchange / Outreach

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Cooperative Federalism

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$15,173</i>	<i>\$14,715</i>	<i>\$14,847</i>	<i>\$132</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$15,173	\$14,715	\$14,847	\$132
Total Workyears	74.7	60.7	75.7	15.0

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

Program Project Description:

EPA protects human health and the environment in Indian Country under federal environmental statutes. Where Tribes do not have EPA-approved programs for a particular statutory authority, the Agency retains direct implementation authority. Under the EPA Indian Policy,⁸⁰ EPA engages with federally recognized Tribes on a government-to-government basis to build the legal and technical capacity necessary for Tribes to assume delegated authority to implement federal environmental programs. This approach reflects cooperative federalism, as outlined in the EPA Indian Policy: “EPA recognizes Tribes as the primary parties for setting standards, making environmental policy decisions, and managing programs for reservations consistent with agency [federal] standards and regulations.” This program also supports the Categorical Grant: Tribal General Assistance Program (Tribal GAP).

EPA works Agency-wide to fulfill this statutory responsibility.⁸¹

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.2, *Cooperative Federalism*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

EPA will continue to build Tribal partnerships and capacity through targeted technical and financial assistance to strengthen human health and environmental protection on Tribal lands in FY 2027. In addition, the Agency will continue the direct implementation assessment effort to better administer EPA’s direct implementation responsibilities and activities on a program-by-program basis in Indian Country.

Capacity Building: EPA remains committed to equipping Tribal governments with the tools and targeted resources needed to exercise environmental stewardship and assume delegated authority

⁸⁰ EPA Policy for the Administration of Environmental Programs on Indian Reservations, available at: <https://www.epa.gov/tribal/epa-policy-administration-environmental-programs-indian-reservations-1984-indian-policy>.

⁸¹ More information is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/tribal>.

under federal law. Through the “treatment in a similar manner as a state” (TAS) process and Direct Implementation Tribal Cooperative Agreement (DITCA) authority, Tribes are empowered to take on regulatory responsibilities that reduce the federal footprint and reinforce local control. The Agency will continue to provide disciplined technical and financial assistance to ensure Tribal governments can build the capacity required to participate directly in environmental program implementation. To date, EPA has approved 108 TAS eligibility determinations to Tribes, including 21 related to compliance and enforcement. Currently, there are 12 tribes with DITCAs.

Indian Environmental General Assistance Program (GAP) Capacity Building Support: GAP grants to Tribal governments and intertribal consortia serve as a targeted investment in building the foundational infrastructure of Tribal environmental programs. The Agency administers GAP grants in strict accordance with its *GAP Guidance on Financial Assistance Agreements*.⁸² In FY 2027, EPA will continue to prioritize GAP financial assistance to strengthen Tribal capacity and address environmental challenges in Indian Country, without expanding federal bureaucracy. This work advances EPA’s commitment to cooperative federalism by supporting the development and implementation of EPA-Tribal Environmental Plans (ETEPs), which track measurable progress. EPA will continue to encourage Tribes to use GAP resources to assess potential lead exposure risks on their reservations, particularly in high-impact areas such as children’s health, reinforcing the Administration’s focus on protecting vulnerable populations through locally driven solutions.

GAP Performance Management: EPA will continue leveraging the GAP Hub performance management system to ensure that funding decisions are grounded in measurable outcomes and aligned with GAP Guidance. This technology-driven platform enables the Agency to track progress, optimize resource allocation, and uphold program accountability. The information technology-based performance application provides a data-driven basis for supporting funding decisions and priorities, which contributes to program accountability. Increased GAP performance will complement Tribal capacity in media programs, including efforts for Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act State Revolving Funds Tribal set-asides. GAP also can work with and complement other STAG programs, including the Indian Reservation Drinking Water Program

Tribal Consultation: EPA conducts Tribal consultation following the *EPA Policy on Consultation with Indian Tribes*,⁸³ which establishes clear standards for consistency, coordination, and accountability across the Agency. This policy builds upon EPA’s longstanding recognition of Tribal sovereignty. It reinforces the principle of cooperative federalism, ensuring that Tribes are able to provide direct input in environmental decision-making and are not merely stakeholders.

Since 2011, EPA has completed approximately 1,300 Tribal consultations, a milestone that reflects disciplined engagement and respect for government-to-government relationships. In FY 2027, EPA will continue to support the Tribal Consultation Opportunities Tracking System. This publicly accessible platform promotes transparency and oversight by communicating upcoming consultation opportunities directly to Tribal governments. This system ensures that consultation is not just procedural, but is strategic, accountable, and aligned with the Agency’s statutory obligations.

⁸² Please refer to: <https://www.epa.gov/general-assistance-program-gap/gap-guidance-financial-assistance-agreements> for further information.

⁸³ Please refer to: <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2025-04/epa-policy-on-consultation-with-indian-tribes.pdf>.

Direct Implementation: EPA retains direct implementation authority where no approved Tribal, state, or territorial program exists. This responsibility is grounded in federal law and reflects EPA’s responsibility to ensure environmental protections are upheld across all jurisdictions. EPA leads this work, ensuring that federal environmental statutes are implemented in Indian Country with precision and consistency. In FY 2027, EPA will continue evaluating its direct implementation responsibilities in Indian Country on a program-by-program basis. This includes:

- Identifying best practices;
- Centralizing facility data for improved oversight; and
- Conducting national performance reviews to ensure statutory compliance.

EPA will make relevant data and program information publicly available through its information systems, reinforcing the Administration’s commitment to transparency, efficiency, and results-driven governance. This approach ensures that environmental protections in Indian Country are consistent with federal law.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$2,456.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$500.0) This program change provides direct implementation program support in carrying out EPA’s responsibilities for environmental and human health programs under federal law. This includes the collection of a national inventory of each program’s relevant direct implementation activities, and subsequent analysis to highlight successes and improvements, sharing cross-program best practices, and identifying program gaps for continuous improvement. EPA’s goal is to ensure that environmental programs implemented inside Indian Country are as robust and protective as those same programs implemented outside of Indian Country.
- (+\$2,088.0 / +15.0 FTE) This provides additional resources and FTE that will support EPA’s Tribal capacity development program, including administering grants and providing technical assistance to Tribes under the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program (GAP) Act, and coordinating Tribal consultation on EPA actions. This will increase the ability of Tribes to implement federal environmental programs under several statutes, including the Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), and Clean Air Act, while recognizing Tribal sovereignty. This aligns with the objective of advancing cooperative federalism.

Statutory Authority:

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).

International Programs

International Sources of Pollution

Program Area: International Programs

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Cooperative Federalism

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$8,002</i>	<i>\$6,812</i>	<i>\$5,724</i>	<i>-\$1,088</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$8,002	\$6,812	\$5,724	-\$1,088
Total Workyears	34.6	25.5	13.7	-11.8

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

Project Description:

The United States engages with international partners to address global sources of pollution that directly impact American air, water, land, oceans, food crops, and supply chains. This engagement is not about expanding global bureaucracy; it is about protecting American communities and industries from foreign pollution that undermines our environmental standards and economic competitiveness. Just as the U.S. holds itself to high environmental standards, other nations must do the same to prevent unfair trade practices and environmental harms that spill across borders and to ensure a level playing field for U.S. businesses. Healthy ecosystems and clean environments are the foundation for strong public health, economic growth, and job creation. By promoting U.S. environmental leadership abroad, we safeguard American interests, support innovation, and ensure that global environmental policy does not come at the expense of U.S. workers or sovereignty.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.2, *Cooperative Federalism*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue targeted bilateral and multilateral engagement to prevent transboundary pollution that directly affects U.S. air, water, and soil quality. This includes:

- Promoting the adoption of U.S. performance standards internationally.
- Providing technical expertise to reduce foreign pollution that impacts U.S. communities.
- Reinforcing the Administration’s policy agenda via strategic international partnerships.
- Advancing U.S. interests, positions, and policies in multilateral and regional environmental fora and international trade and governance initiatives.

Critical Minerals

The United States is dependent upon strategic adversaries, most notably, the People’s Republic of China (PRC), for many of its critical minerals and materials. Mineral deposits in the United States

and allied countries are increasingly vulnerable to unstable commodity prices, fueled by PRC facilities in countries with lower environmental and human health standards. There are United States government efforts to ensure the United States can maintain sufficient production of, and reliable, enhanced access to critical minerals that are essential to our defense industrial base, energy security, and advanced technologies/manufacturing.

EPA and other agencies will lead U.S. government efforts to advance international alignment to U.S. standards on critical minerals and promote the recovery of critical minerals through environmentally sound recycling.

Chemicals and Waste Cooperation

EPA will continue to advance U.S. interests by reducing global contaminants that threaten American citizens. Since seventy percent of the mercury deposited in the U.S. comes from global sources,⁸⁴ both domestic efforts and international cooperation are important to address mercury pollution. EPA will continue to work with international partners and key countries to fully implement obligations under the Minamata Convention on Mercury to protect the U.S. population from mercury emissions originating in other countries, including from artisanal and small-scale gold mining. In FY 2027, EPA will play a pivotal role for the United States in advancing international agreement among the countries that are party to the Convention by advancing U.S. practices that reduce or eliminate the use of mercury and encourage the uptake of effective standards by other countries.

Since 2022, nations have been engaged in negotiations for a new global agreement on plastic pollution. The most significant issue in negotiations is the scope of the agreement. Specifically, whether it should include commitments on “upstream” aspects of plastic production, such as production caps, banning certain chemicals, additives, and polymers, or only “downstream” aspects, such as waste management, recycling, and product design to facilitate downstream measures. Given the potential scope of the agreement and the continued negotiations on the agreement, EPA has significant equities and provides leading technical and negotiating expertise to the policy development on international plastic pollution. EPA will continue to support Administration engagement through the close of the negotiation process.

EPA also will continue to lead work with other Arctic nations to reduce pollution in the U.S. Arctic. Areas of cooperation in FY 2027 include: sharing proven strategies on U.S. alternatives to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS)-based firefighting foams in commercial and military Arctic airports and firefighting facilities, as well as natural gas and oil sectors. Not only are the alternatives effective, but they also reduce environmental contamination in Alaska and other Arctic communities and are more protective of human health, providing safer and effective alternatives to firefighters and first responders. Cooperative efforts to advance sound management of solid waste and best practices for our Alaskan Arctic communities will continue through demonstration, pilot action, and training. EPA will work with interagency partners to develop additional interventions to reduce other sources of pollution in our native and local Arctic villages.

⁸⁴ For more information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/international-cooperation/minamata-convention-mercury> and www.mercuryconvention.org.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (+\$1,362.0) This change to fixed and other costs is an increase due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$2,950.0 / -11.8 FTE) This reduction aligns program funding with core statutory requirements, recognizes efficiencies, empowers EPA implementing partners through cooperative federalism, and deprioritizes international actions that do not align with Administration priorities.
- (+\$500.0) This increase will create a U.S.-led public-private partnership network to advance critical mineral recovery and recycling. This work could expand the use of AI and digital tools, promote circular economy practices, and reduce pollution from critical mineral recycling operations. This work will both protect U.S. communities from international sources of pollution and help secure U.S. critical mineral supply chains.

Statutory Authority:

In conjunction with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) § 102(2)(F); Clean Air Act § 103(a); Clean Water Act § 104(a)(1)-(2); Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) § 1442(a)(1); Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) § 8001(a)(1); Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) §§ 17(d), 20(a); Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) §10(a); Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA) § 203(a)(1); E.O. 13547; E.O. 13689.

Trade and Governance

Program Area: International Programs

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$4,682</i>	<i>\$4,108</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>-\$4,108</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$4,682	\$4,108	\$0	-\$4,108
Total Workyears	15.0	9.7	0.0	-9.7

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

Program Project Description:

EPA's Trade and Governance Program is proposed for elimination to increase the effectiveness of Agency operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work. This change focuses on EPA's core mission and advances Goal 3/Objective 3.2, *Cooperative Federalism*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Resources and FTE are proposed for elimination for this program in FY 2027.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$4,108.0 / -9.7 FTE) This program is proposed for elimination to deconstruct wasteful spending, reduce unnecessary burden on EPA partners and the regulated community in order to unleash American energy and economic growth, and refocus EPA on its mission.

Statutory Authority:

EPA has some statutory obligations under U.S. free trade agreements, including the US-Canada-Mexico Agreement. These obligations would shift to the EPM International Sources of Pollution Program.

In conjunction with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) § 102(2)(F); Clean Air Act § 103(a); Clean Water Act § 104(a)(1)-(2); Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) § 1442(a)(1); Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) § 8001(a)(1); Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) §§ 17(d), 20(a); Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) §10(a); Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA) § 203(a)(1); E.O. 12915; E.O. 13141; E.O. 13277.

US Mexico Border

Program Area: International Programs

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Cooperative Federalism

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$2,623</i>	<i>\$2,640</i>	<i>\$3,234</i>	<i>\$594</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$2,623	\$2,640	\$3,234	\$594
Total Workyears	11.3	8.2	11.9	3.7

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

Program Project Description:

EPA's U.S.-Mexico Border Program reflects the Administration's commitment to protecting American communities from transboundary pollution originating in Mexico. EPA's leadership advances environmental accountability by pressing Mexico to address longstanding pollution issues that directly impact U.S. citizens. This work reinforces the Administration's priorities of safeguarding public health, defending national interests, and ensuring that foreign governments uphold their responsibilities under bilateral agreements. It complements efforts under the water infrastructure program of the San Diego/Tijuana River watershed, Imperial Valley/Mexicali region, Nogales, Arizona, and the Rio Grande in Texas.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.2, *Cooperative Federalism*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

EPA and Mexico's Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) will implement the Border 2035 framework to continue addressing environmental threats along the southern border. The proposed increase to the grants portion of this program will ensure EPA and our regional, state, local, and Tribal partners are well-positioned to tackle transboundary pollution at the border effectively, since waste, smog, and contaminated water do not recognize international boundaries. The International and Tribal Affairs Program, Region 6, and Region 9 will champion cooperative federalism by working with local and state governments, U.S. Tribes, and border communities to ensure projects reflect local priorities, streamline permitting processes, and deliver measurable results. Border Program projects leverage partnerships, jobs, and infrastructure that benefit American communities first to keep our side of the border safe, clean, and healthy.

FY 2027 Planned Activities to provide clean air, land, and water for every U.S. citizen in the southern border:

Air Pollution

In FY 2027, EPA will continue its commitment to reducing air pollution in the U.S.-Mexico Border region. Building on the success of Border 2020 and 2025, EPA will:

- Improve emissions inventories to better characterize international transport.
- Support air monitoring networks.
- Increase public awareness of health impacts.
- Strengthen coordination among governments for binational air quality planning.
- Press Mexican authorities to improve environmental compliance.

These efforts directly support American public health and uphold the Clean Air Act's standards in border communities.

Water Management

In FY 2027, EPA will prioritize efforts to improve wastewater management in Mexico, primarily in the Tijuana River Watershed. Under Chapter 24 of the United States-Mexico-Canada Trade Agreement (USMCA), EPA coordinates with Mexico and federal, state, and local entities to cooperate to address matters of mutual interest, including high-priority infrastructure projects that reduce transboundary pollution. Projects will focus on:

- Preventing marine litter at the source.
- Improving solid waste systems and public education.
- Capturing litter with river booms in known hotspots.
- Enhancing spill notification protocols and water quality transparency.

These actions ensure that American communities are not burdened by foreign waste and that U.S. watersheds remain safe and clean.

Sustainable Materials Management

In FY 2027, EPA will advance sustainable materials management demonstration projects to prevent waste and recover materials, such as plastic, e-waste, and scrap tires. Through public-private partnership programs and infrastructure investments, EPA will:

- Reduce illegal dumping and landfill fires.
- Maximize material recovery.
- Promote environmentally sound disposal practices.
- Build institutional capacity for resource efficiency.

These efforts mitigate costly cleanups and support economic growth through responsible waste management.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

EPA and Mexico will continue joint efforts to strengthen environmental emergency preparedness. FY 2027 activities include:

- Training emergency responders.
- Improving binational notifications.
- Updating Sister City contingency plans.
- Conducting tabletop exercises to test and refine local emergency protocols.
- Updating the U.S.-Mexico Joint Contingency Plan in both Spanish and English.

This work ensures that American communities are prepared, protected, and equipped to respond to environmental emergencies originating across the border.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$794.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$888.0 / +3.7 FTE) This program change increases EPA's capacity to address environmental threats along the U.S.-Mexico Border as required under the statutes enumerated in this document. This aligns with the objectives of advancing cooperative federalism and ensuring clean air, water and land for every American.
- (+\$500.0) This proposed grant funding increase will allow EPA to increase the number of border program activities by approximately 50 percent annually compared to what was accomplished in the Border 2025 program. It also will allow the scope and size of projects to expand to meet current needs, especially as it relates to water infrastructure.

Statutory Authority:

In conjunction with the 1983 Agreement between the United States of America and the Mexican United States on Cooperation for the Protection and Improvement of the Environment in the Border Area (La Paz Agreement) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) §102(2)(I); Clean Air Act §103; Clean Water Act §104; Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) §1442; Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) § 8001(a)(1); Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) §20(a) & Appropriations Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-74)17(d); Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) § 10(a) & P.L. 106-74; Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA) § 203; Solid Waste Disposal Act: Sec. 8001.

IT/ Data Management/ Security

Information Security

Program Area: IT / Data Management / Security
 Goal: Make America the AI Capital of the World
 Objective(s): Efficient Systems

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	\$8,624	\$8,584	\$13,974	\$5,390
Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$1,430	\$921	\$5,082	\$4,161
Total Budget Authority	\$10,054	\$9,505	\$19,056	\$9,551
Total Workyears	10.5	10.8	12.3	1.5

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

Program Project Description:

EPA’s Information Security and Privacy Program protects agency assets and personnel from cybersecurity threats. Digital information is a valuable national resource and a strategic asset that enables EPA to fulfill its mission to protect human health and the environment. Information protection is accomplished by strengthening the Agency’s information security and privacy posture, elevating EPA staff knowledge of information security and privacy awareness, maintaining agency information security and privacy directives, increasing adoption of information security and privacy practices, and optimizing processes to reduce the burden of compliance.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 4/Objective 4.2, *Efficient Systems* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, this program and Information Technology Security Governance will be maturing continuous monitoring functions which include the Continuous Authorization to Operate (c-ATO) or “Ongoing Authorization,” a foundational activity supporting Enterprise Risk Management. The capabilities are designed to continuously monitor systems to address real-time threats. System controls are constantly evaluated and tested to identify vulnerabilities which allow the Agency to make risk-based decisions quickly and confidently engage in remediation efforts to minimize ongoing exposures. A component of this effort includes investment in the Enterprise Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC) tool with machine-readable authorization capabilities. The Agency will continue to strengthen Personally Identifiable Information (PII) protection via the National Privacy Program, automate workflows, and enhance data labeling with Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) collaboration.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to leverage the Agency’s Zero Trust Architecture (ZTA) Roadmap and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency’s (CISA) Zero Trust Maturity model.

Work includes tracking and prioritizing maturity in High Value Asset Systems, maintaining full visibility over agency assets, implementing zero trust capabilities, addressing identified security gaps, and evolving centralized data analytic environments. Proper permissions for a given user's needs are a critical component of ZTA, and coding for more granular control over the network environment is an information security priority. The Agency also will remain focused on ensuring that all devices in EPA's environment are compliant with information security requirements prior to accessing network resources. EPA will continue to leverage capabilities through the Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM) Program. In addition to protecting EPA information assets, CDM will help the Agency identify and respond to federal-wide cybersecurity threats and incidents more quickly and efficiently.

Enterprise Security Operations - Incident Response Capability

EPA will continue to invest in providing a centralized, integrated, and coordinated cybersecurity incident response through its Computer Security Incident Response Capability, defending against unauthorized activity within agency computer networks. This includes providing threat awareness, cyber network defense infrastructure, cybersecurity tool engineering, vulnerability and risk assessments, threat intelligence processing, threat hunting, and penetration testing capabilities. EPA will continue leveraging the Department of Homeland Security's Vulnerability Disclosure Program (VDP) and the "Bug Bounty" Program, which provides vetted cybersecurity researchers to identify vulnerabilities and awards bounties for high-risk findings.

Human Capital

Agency staff are the first line of defense in protecting the information environment, and EPA will continue to make investments to elevate staff knowledge and enhance Cybersecurity and Privacy Awareness through communications, training, tabletop exercises, and phishing simulations, which enable EPA personnel to make good risk-based decisions in their daily work activities. The Agency also has prioritized enhancing agency-specific role-based training to ensure personnel in key cybersecurity roles have a comprehensive understanding of modern and secure IT and cybersecurity requirements, with the skills, knowledge, and capabilities to effectively support EPA's cybersecurity posture.

Artificial Intelligence

The Agency will augment investments in securing mission activities from risks posed by leading edge technologies such as Generative AI, Robotic Process Automation (RPA), and Quantum Computing. These investments in the implementation of the necessary controls to allow use of leading-edge technologies within the environment and prevent malicious actors from leveraging these technologies to disrupt business operations will help to ensure that agency personnel can perform their core mission activities efficiently and securely.

Technology Ecosystems

EPA is continuing efforts to mature the Agency's Cybersecurity Supply Chain Risk Management Controls. This work includes coordinating across the Agency with personnel from information technology, information security, and procurement functional areas to maintain policies and obtain the necessary tools to address these critical security requirements. EPA will update standards, procedures, and criteria to harden and secure software development environments and investigate the addition of automated tools to secure the development environment.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in thousands)

- (-\$1,304.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$6,694.0 / +1.5 FTE) This program change increases EPA's capacity to implement critical cybersecurity solutions, including the ability to ingest machine readable authorization artifacts, increasing the speed of implementing cloud solutions and minimizing burden in leveraging security capabilities related to information systems.

Statutory Authority:

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); Cybersecurity Act of 2015; Federal Information Security Modernization Act (FISMA); Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA); Government Management Reform Act (GMRA); Clinger-Cohen Act (CCA).

IT / Data Management

Program Area: IT / Data Management / Security
 Goal: Make America the AI Capital of the World
 Objective(s): Efficient Systems

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$84,894</i>	<i>\$85,590</i>	<i>\$79,854</i>	<i>-\$5,736</i>
Science & Technology	\$3,018	\$2,890	\$2,841	-\$49
Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$18,646	\$18,035	\$19,078	\$1,043
Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Budget Authority	\$106,558	\$106,515	\$101,773	-\$4,742
Total Workyears	448.9	428.2	458.8	30.6

The Agency notes that FY 2026 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities. Total workyears in FY 2027 include 172.0 FTE to support IT/Data Management working capital fund (WCF) services, an increase of 7.2 FTE.

Program Project Description:

EPA’s IT/Data Management (IT/DM) Program supports the maintenance of EPA’s Information Technology (IT) and Information Management (IT/IM) services that enable citizens, regulated facilities, states, and other entities to interact with EPA electronically to access, analyze and understand, and share environmental data on-demand. This program is proposed for reduction as a result of increased effectiveness of agency operations and reduced duplicative and unnecessary work. This change focuses resources on EPA’s core mission and advances core statutory work.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 4/Objective 4.2, *Efficient Systems* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the Agency will fund a Centralized Target Architecture to consolidate decentralized systems to help reduce IT expenditures, enhance data quality, and improve interoperability while streamlining interactions with states, Tribes, and localities.

In line with Executive Order (EO) 14320: *Promoting the Export of the American AI Technology Stack*,⁸⁵ EPA is developing robust AI capabilities that propel the United States to the forefront of global AI leadership, while ensuring operational efficiency. Activities in this program will focus on transforming EPA's internal operations through automation and the integration of AI technologies, in support of EO 14179: *Removing Barriers to American Leadership in Artificial*

⁸⁵ For more information, see: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/07/promoting-the-export-of-the-american-ai-technology-stack/>.

Intelligence.⁸⁶ EPA will continue modernizing its workflows, transitioning from paper-based systems to agile digital solutions. In support of EO 14318: *Accelerating Federal Permitting of Data Center Infrastructure*,⁸⁷ EPA will prioritize the rapid and efficient buildout of AI data centers and infrastructure via the development of two national digitization centers which will streamline electronic records scheduling. These efforts will build upon continual development and refinement of AI use cases and initiatives which have high operational impact and improve the accuracy and speed of environmental assessments, optimize resource allocation, and develop modern solutions to environmental issues. Efforts to evaluate the implementation and outcomes of automation and AI initiatives will support EPA's Learning Agenda and will enable the Agency to monitor and report on the extent to which these efforts are being strategically leveraged to improve EPA processes and capabilities.

The FY 2027 Budget includes resources for Agency contributions to the General Services Administration (GSA) in support of the Technology Transformation Services (TTS) reimbursable program. Adoption of GSA's Technology Transformation services apply modern methodologies and technologies to improve services, making them more accessible, efficient, and effective as required by statute and OMB policy.

In FY 2027, EPA will further strengthen its IT acquisition review process as part of the implementation of Federal Common Baseline Controls for the Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) and in support of EO 14240: *Eliminating Waste and Saving Taxpayer Dollars by Consolidating Procurement*.⁸⁸ FITARA ensures Agency IT plans are cost-effective and well-designed, drive EPA long-term performance goals, and follow best practices.

The Agency also will continue implementing the 21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act (P.L. 115-336),⁸⁹ which includes modernization of internal and public-facing websites, as well as digitization of paper forms and non-digital services. In FY 2027, EPA will continue to maintain and manage its core IT/DM services, including the Geospatial Information Program, Information Collection Requests, the National Library Program, EPA's Docket Center, and the National Records Program.

Other key initiatives include:

- Continuing to implement EPA's Controlled Unclassified Information Program, standardizing, simplifying, and improving information management and IT practices to facilitate the sharing of important sensitive data internally, with key external stakeholders, and with the public, meeting federal standards.
- Increasing the use of registries and improving registry quality by modernizing from custom built solutions to cost-efficient commercial off-the-shelf tools with expanded capabilities. Registries are shared data services in which common data is managed centrally but shared

⁸⁶ For more information, see: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/01/31/2025-02172/removing-barriers-to-american-leadership-in-artificial-intelligence>.

⁸⁷ For more information, see: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/07/accelerating-federal-permitting-of-data-center-infrastructure/>.

⁸⁸ For more information, see: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/03/25/2025-05197/eliminating-waste-and-saving-taxpayer-dollars-by-consolidating-procurement>.

⁸⁹ For additional information, see: <https://www.congress.gov/115/plaws/publ336/PLAW-115publ336.pdf>.

broadly to improve data quality, enable integration and interoperability of data across program silos, and facilitate discovery of EPA information.

- Continuing to upgrade web infrastructure to meet statutory and security requirements.
- Continuing to support the capabilities of GeoPlatform, a shared enterprise technology for geospatial information and analysis, allowing EPA to support environmental decisions and share information with state, Tribal, and local partners during emergency response operations.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$6,682.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$946.0 / +17.0 FTE) This program change is a net increase due to a reduction in contracting resources and an increase in FTE to enhance transparency, oversight, and accountability by bringing critical AI expertise, records digitization efforts, and registry quality improvement functions back in-house. The program change also includes an investment to fund a Centralized Target Architecture to consolidate decentralized systems to help reduce IT expenditures, enhance data quality, and improve interoperability while streamlining interactions with states, Tribes, and localities.

Statutory Authority:

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); Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act; Federal Information Security Modernization Act (FISMA); Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA); Government Management Reform Act (GMRA); Clinger-Cohen Act (CCA); Rehabilitation Act of 1973 § 508; Geospatial Data Act of 2018; 21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act (P.L. 115-336); Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018 (PL 115-435); 44 USC §3507; Open, Public, Electronic, and Necessary Government Data Act.

Legal/ Science/ Regulatory/ Economic Review

Administrative Law

Program Area: Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Incentivized Investment

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	\$5,366	\$5,905	\$4,988	-\$917
Total Budget Authority	\$5,366	\$5,905	\$4,988	-\$917
Total Workyears	22.4	20.7	23.1	2.4

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

Program Project Description:

This program supports the Administrative Law Judges (ALJ) Division and the Environmental Appeals Board (EAB) Division, independent divisions housed within EPA’s Office of Civil Rights and Adjudication.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.1, *Incentivized Investment*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the ALJ will continue to convene formal adjudication hearings as required by many of the below statutes. As the Agency reviews Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) registrations and makes determinations on certain claims against the Superfund under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) into FY 2027, the ALJ also will support adjudication of these time-sensitive matters. In FY 2027, the EAB will continue to efficiently and fairly adjudicate enforcement and permit appeals under all statutes as well as petitions for reimbursement under CERCLA, and time sensitive FIFRA proceedings.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$1,410.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$493.0 / +2.4 FTE) This program change is an increase to align with the Administration’s priority to guarantee the regulated community the right to due process of the law.

Statutory Authority:

Administrative Procedure Act (APA); 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); Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA); Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA); Clean Water Act (CWA); Clean Air Act (CAA); Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA); Solid Waste Disposal Act (SWDA); Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA); Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA); Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA); Mercury-Containing and Rechargeable Battery Management Act (MCRBMA); the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (APPS); Oil Pollution Act (OPA); American Innovation and Manufacturing Act (AIM Act); Alternative Dispute Resolution Act (ADRA); Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA); Magnusen-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA).

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Program Area: Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$474</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>
Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$585	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Budget Authority	\$1,059	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Workyears	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0

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

Program Project Description:

The Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Program provides facilitation, mediation, public involvement, training, and consensus building advice and support for the Agency.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

In FY 2027, the ADR Program is proposed for elimination as the Agency returns to its core statutory requirements. All statutory work will be accomplished in Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review programs or other applicable programs.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- There is no change in program funding.

Statutory Authority:

Administrative Dispute Resolution Act (ADRA) of 1996; Negotiated Rulemaking Act of 1996; 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).

Civil Rights Program

Program Area: Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Compliance and Enforcement

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$10,772</i>	<i>\$10,449</i>	<i>\$9,557</i>	<i>-\$892</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$10,772	\$10,449	\$9,557	-\$892
Total Workyears	55.4	47.1	46.5	-0.6

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

Total workyears in FY 2027 include 0.0 FTE in Civil Rights working capital fund (WCF) services, a decrease of 0.2 FTE.

Program Project Description:

The Civil Rights Program enforces federal civil rights laws that require equal employment opportunity for EPA employees and applicants seeking employment at EPA as well as laws that prohibit discrimination by recipients of federal financial assistance. The Civil Rights Program is proposed for reduction to reduce inefficiencies. This change focuses resources on EPA’s core mission and advances federal responsibilities in a more cost-efficient manner.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.5, *Compliance and Enforcement*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

The Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Program ensures merit system principles are followed, so no employee or applicant is discriminated against thereby providing the EPA with the most qualified staff to contribute to EPA’s mission. The EEO Program seeks to avoid disruptions to the workplace that result from discrimination, harassment, and retaliation complaints by proactively addressing these issues.

The EEO Program is responsible for addressing informal complaints; providing counseling or alternative dispute resolution to resolve complaints; accepting/dismissing complaints; investigating complaints; providing employees and the Agency with a report of investigation; issuing Final Agency Decisions or forwarding materials to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) should the complainant elect a hearing before an EEOC Administrative Judge instead of a Final Agency Decision; monitoring settlement agreements and decisions finding discrimination; and processing accommodation requests based on disability, pregnancy, and sincerely held religious beliefs. Continued funding, training, and compliance with EEO regulations allows EPA to assert an affirmative defense against EEO complaints filed against it.

The External Civil Rights (ECR) Program helps to ensure clean air, water and land for all Americans. The ECR Program plans to improve efficiencies and streamline compliance with applicable federal nondiscrimination laws by recipients of and applicants for EPA financial assistance.

Office of Civil Rights and Adjudication

OCRA strategic plans include specific goals, implementation steps, and benchmarks that will serve as internal performance measures to ensure accountabilities for all its functions. In FY 2025, OCRA made improvements in the timeliness of completing Final Agency Decisions. It also innovated the processing of reasonable accommodation requests for people with disabilities due to the unprecedented number of requests it received following changes to federal policies. In FY 2027, OCRA will continue to advance its emphasis on process improvement, technology resources, and strategic human capital planning, and employee accountability through performance appraisals, awards, and other employment actions.

In FY 2027, the Civil Rights Program will dedicate most of its financial resources to the processing of discrimination complaints, to ensure prompt, effective, and efficient development of critical and required reports, and to enhance the accommodations process. It will do so by continuing to ensure compliance through development of strategic policy and training, and by engaging with critical EPA partners.

In FY 2027, the EEO Program will focus its work supporting core EEO statutory and regulatory requirements as follows:

- Enhance the efficiency of collateral-duty EEO counselors through training.
- Evaluate methods implemented to improve the timeliness of Final Agency Decisions, with a goal of reducing the time it takes to complete Final Agency Decisions.
- Transition and support the statutory requirements of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Program to provide facilitation, mediation, and conflict resolution services to efficiently reach final agreements throughout EPA Regions and Program Offices, as applicable.
- Work with EEO Officers, Program Management Officers, and the Office of Finance and Administration and other EPA stakeholders to improve the process for developing the annual Management Directive 715 report.
- Oversee EPA's proactive programs to combat discrimination consistent with EPA's legal obligations under EEO laws and regulations.
- Provide effective training and tools for managers in carrying out their EEO responsibilities.
- Evaluate and revise, as necessary accommodation processes and templates to improve the timeliness, efficiency, and consistency of communications and to continue to ensure EPA does not release sensitive personally identifiable information.
- Deliver disability, pregnancy, and religious accommodations training for employees and supervisors.
- Enhance customer service and communication through feedback and engagement with users.

In FY 2027, the ECR program will focus its work supporting core statutory and regulatory requirements as follows:

- Advance cooperative federalism and cross-agency partnership, by providing guidance, training, and technical assistance to EPA applicants and recipients and other internal and external stakeholders.
- Conduct pre-and post-award reviews to ensure applicant and recipient compliance through review of regulatory requirements and the provision of technical assistance.
- Undertake timely and effective complaint investigations and/or resolutions to ensure compliance with applicable federal nondiscrimination laws.
- Update and refine processes and guidance, such as the case resolution manual, to ensure alignment with EPA priorities.
- Collaborate with EPA offices to ensure EPA complies with access policies and procedures consistent with federal law, Executive Orders, and EPA policies.
- Provide transparency by affirmatively delivering information and case-related documents to the public through an online complaint docket.
- Engage in federal interagency collaboration and coordination on complaints, compliance reviews, and policy guidance to enforce federal civil rights laws consistent with law, Executive Orders, and EPA policies and priorities.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$803.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$89.0 / -0.4 FTE) This program is proposed for reduction to align with Administration priorities, to unleash American energy and economic growth. These adjustments will enable EPA to fulfill its responsibilities in a more cost-efficient manner.

Statutory Authority:

The Equal Pay Act of 1963; Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA) of 1967; Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; § 13 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972; §§ 501, 504, 505, and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) of 2008; the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (PWFA) of 2022. Administrative Dispute Resolution Act (ADRA) of 1996; Negotiated Rulemaking Act of 1996; 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); Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

Integrated Environmental Strategies

Program Area: Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Incentivized Investment

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$14,752</i>	<i>\$6,763</i>	<i>\$7,821</i>	<i>\$1,058</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$14,752	\$6,763	\$7,821	\$1,058
Total Workyears	59.1	20.8	14.4	-6.4

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

Program Project Description:

The Integrated Environmental Strategies (IES) Program advances the Agency’s mission of protecting human health and the environment while promoting economic growth from the national level to the community level.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.1, *Incentivized Investment*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

Permit Streamlining

This program demonstrates new approaches to streamline and reduce unnecessary burdens and to help communities meet their environmental and economic needs. As part of EPA’s *FY 2026 – FY 2030 Learning Agenda*, EPA will examine the extent to which EPA grant programs achieve their intended environmental and human health outcomes while being good stewards of tax dollars. Findings will inform the Agency’s ability to monitor, report, and improve on those outcomes. In FY 2027, this program will focus on permit streamlining, with the goal of developing permitting technology standards.

Updating Permitting Technology for the 21st Century

On April 15, 2025, President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum (PM) on Updating Permitting Technology for the 21st Century.⁹⁰ The memorandum directed the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) to establish and lead an interagency Permitting Innovation Center that will design and test prototype tools that could be implemented pursuant to the Permitting Technology Action Plan for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) reviews and other environmental permits and authorizations. On April 30, 2025, CEQ announced the establishment of a Permitting Innovation Center that will coordinate implementation of the PM, develop the Permitting Technology Action Plan (PTAP) and oversee agency implementation of

⁹⁰ For additional information, please visit: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/04/updating-permitting-technology-for-the-21st-century/>.

the PTAP.⁹¹ The Center's work will support the Agency's ability to maximize the use of technology in environmental review and permitting processes for infrastructure projects. The objective of the Center is to develop a software system capable of tracking the permitting process including case management systems, application submission and tracking portals, automation of application and review processes, data exchange between agency systems, and acceleration of complex reviews. EPA plays a crucial role in the NEPA process as it is responsible for reviewing and filing all agency environmental impact studies for compliance with NEPA. EPA will play a critical part in advancing the latest cutting-edge permitting software.

In addition, in FY 2027, the IES Program will focus its resources to accelerate permitting activities compatible with 21st Century technology (i.e., AI/automation). The IES Program will maximize the use of technology in environmental reviews for infrastructure projects. EPA will prepare and support the transition of EPA's major permitting programs into the 21st Century with automation and AI while strengthening engagement and coordination with coregulating partners to use AI/automation to enhance permit quality, timelines, and integrity.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (+\$1,058.0 / -6.4 FTE) This net program change refocuses resources to advance permit automation and energy activities to drive economic growth in tandem with environmental protection. This change endeavors to deconstruct wasteful spending, reduce unnecessary burden on EPA partners and the regulated community in order to unleash American energy and economic growth, and refocus EPA on its mission.

Statutory Authority:

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).

⁹¹ For additional information, please visit: https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Memorandum-CEO-Establishment-of-Permitting-Innovation-Center_4.30.2025.pdf.

Legal Advice: Environmental Program

Program Area: Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Organizational Excellence

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$60,697</i>	<i>\$54,477</i>	<i>\$52,554</i>	<i>-\$1,923</i>
Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$4,140	\$608	\$593	-\$15
Total Budget Authority	\$64,837	\$55,085	\$53,147	-\$1,938
Total Workyears	269.2	215.8	269.4	53.6

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

Total workyears in FY 2027 include 5.5 FTE funded by TSCA fees and 22.0 FTE to support Legal Advice working capital fund (WCF) services, an increase of 16.2 FTE.

Program Project Description:

The Legal Advice: Environmental Program provides legal counseling and litigation support for core environmental programs. This program provides legal representation, legal counseling, and legal support for all Agency activities directed at achieving EPA's core mission to protect human health and the environment.

The program provides legal counsel on nearly every major action the Agency takes. This includes playing a central role in all statutory and regulatory interpretation, advice, creation, and implementation for new and existing rules, petitions and emergency responses, and policies under EPA's environmental authority. When an agency action is challenged in court, the program, in coordination with the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), defends the action or provides support and legal counsel and ensures adherence to court orders and mandates.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.3, *Organizational Excellence*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

The program plays a central role in supporting the Administrator's top priorities by providing a legal framework to enable EPA's initiatives to move forward effectively, lawfully, and sustainably. In FY 2027, the program will continue to provide legal support to ensure implementation of environmental laws in line with the Administration's goals. Additionally, in FY 2027, the program will continue to manage voluminous federal court litigation. The program has managed hundreds of litigation matters in federal court, including over 120 new cases filed in FY 2025 alone. These cases involve, among other things, challenges to major rulemaking decisions, permitting decisions, and pesticide registration actions.

The program provides legal counsel on Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) new and existing chemical risk determinations, designing effective legal strategies for defending these decisions or reconsidering them, as appropriate, including challenges to the TSCA section 6 risk management rules for asbestos, methylene chloride, trichloroethylene, carbon tetrachloride, and the Framework rule for TSCA section 6 risk evaluations. In FY 2027, the program will continue to provide legal counseling for these different rulemakings or other decisions under TSCA, as well as providing counseling in support of decisions arising under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), the Federal Food Drug and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), and the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Program.

In FY 2027, the program will provide legal support to DOJ in high profile litigation. For reference, the program advised on three Clean Air Act (CAA) cases argued before the Supreme Court. These cases presented questions pertaining to proper venue in the context of good neighboring State Implementation Plans (*Oklahoma v. EPA*); small refinery exemptions from the Renewable Fuel Standards (*EPA v. Calumet*); and Article III standing in the context of waivers of preemption for California’s motor vehicle standards (*Diamond Alternative Energy v. EPA*). The program also provides and will continue to provide legal support and counseling on: EPA rulemakings to revise regulations affecting the oil, gas, and power plant sectors to promote energy production; actions to approve State Implementation Plans that promote cooperative federalism; actions making New Source Review (NSR) permitting requirements more efficient; and actions revising greenhouse gas standards for the automotive sector, providing greater flexibility to auto manufacturers and supporting American auto jobs.

In FY 2027, the program will continue to provide counseling on deregulatory actions, including the development of expedited “good cause” rulemakings consistent with Executive Order (EO) 14219: *Ensuring Lawful Governance and Implementing The President's "Department Of Government Efficiency" Deregulatory Initiative*.⁹² The program counsels on other transition-related administrative matters, including: EO 14192: *Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation* and EO 14270: *Zero-Based Regulatory Budgeting to Unleash American Energy*;⁹³ delay of effective dates, or administrative stays of published EPA rules; extension of public comment periods for regulations pursuant to the Presidential Memorandum “*Regulatory Freeze Pending Review*”;⁹⁴ and “sunsetting” of multiple Federal Advisory Committees consistent with Agency and Administration priorities. The program also co-leads efforts to leverage and integrate Artificial Intelligence into Agency rulemaking efforts. The program advises on Agency-specific implications and considerations related to the America First Trade Policy and advises on the Agency’s complementary efforts to restore American energy dominance.

In FY 2027, the program, together with DOJ, will represent EPA in court challenges to Agency actions and inactions. The program’s work supports EPA priorities, including cooperative federalism and cross-agency partnerships with agencies such as DOJ, the Department of the Army, and the Army Corps of Engineers.

⁹² For additional information, please see: [EO 14219](#).

⁹³ For additional information, please see: [EO 14192](#).

⁹⁴ For additional information, please see: [Federal Register: Regulatory Freeze Pending Review](#).

The Agency requests an investment of \$7.8 million and 36.4 FTE to support the program's rise in statutory and regulatory work, ensuring and maintaining the highest level of service and effectively meeting growing challenges and advancing the Administration's priorities. This increased workload is expected in FY 2027 in several areas including: a new program under the recently enacted "Good Samaritan" legislation; major changes to flagship solid waste rules; a new federal permitting apparatus for Coal Combustion Residuals; fuel and mobile source matters under the CAA; a backlog of pending FIFRA registration decisions and TSCA new chemical approvals; TSCA risk evaluations and risk management rules for existing chemicals; and numerous Endangered Species Act biological evaluations supporting FIFRA pesticide registration review decisions. In addition, the proposed increase may permit the program to reengage on issues which it no longer has the capability to cover due to decreased staffing resources such as legal counseling related to state implementation plans (SIPs) and air permits.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$9,799.0) This net change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$7,876.0 / +36.4 FTE) This program change is an increase which aligns resources to focus on counseling and legal advice on the highest Agency priorities and on litigation support to help ensure that human health and the environment are protected.

Statutory Authority:

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).

Legal Advice: Support Program

Program Area: Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Organizational Excellence

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$17,677</i>	<i>\$15,286</i>	<i>\$17,665</i>	<i>\$2,379</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$17,677	\$15,286	\$17,665	\$2,379
Total Workyears	75.6	58.7	77.1	18.4

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

Total workyears in FY 2027 include 3.5 FTE funded by TSCA fees and 0.2 FTE to support Legal Advice working capital fund (WCF) services, an increase of 0.6 FTE.

Program Project Description:

The Legal Advice: Support Program provides legal support for EPA's highest operational priorities. This program provides legal counsel to ensure the Agency complies with laws and policies governing its operations. The program provides legal representational services, legal counseling, and legal support for a wide variety of essential operations, including providing legal counseling and support on employment, appropriations, intellectual property, national security, grants, contracts, and information law-related matters.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.3, *Organizational Excellence*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the program will continue to provide legal counsel to reinforce EPA's commitment to efficient, accountable, and transparent government principles that align directly with the Administrator's priorities. The program also will defend the Agency in complex litigations, many involving large sums of appropriated funds. These cases require expert legal counsel and representation to safeguard taxpayer dollars, uphold the law, and ensure fair outcomes that withstand judicial scrutiny. The program will continue to experience increased demand for legal counsel and litigation support in FY 2027. In particular, counsel on contracts, grants, appropriations, information, and employment matters is anticipated to increase. In FY 2027, the program also will continue to work closely with the Department of Justice (DOJ) on cases in these program areas, including litigation relating to the Agency's termination or pause in hundreds of grants worth billions of taxpayer dollars. The program's counsel empowers EPA to operate more efficiently, reduce bureaucratic delays, and coordinate more effectively with federal, state, and local partners.

In FY 2027, the program will continue to provide legal counsel to assist the Agency to provide technical assistance to Congress on appropriations in response to emergencies, such as hurricanes,

wildfires, and other natural and environmental disasters. The program also will work collaboratively with EPA programs, EPA regions, and DOJ in all aspects of its work, including litigation and administrative claims processes.

Additionally, in FY 2027, the program will provide legal counsel to the Agency regarding artificial intelligence (AI), including appropriate use of AI systems by federal employees, AI use case inventory reporting, and development of Agency guidance and policies consistent with AI executive orders and OMB memoranda. This will include legal counsel on the rollout of Agency AI tools like Chat Tool and a pilot project using AI tools in Agency rulemaking. Additionally, the program will provide critical counseling on litigation hold management, including a major project to reduce Agency litigation risk by ensuring non-responsive custodians acknowledge pending litigation holds. The program also will continue to review and process Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, FOIA appeals, and Touhy requests; fee waiver applications; and applications for expedited processing. Through application of lean management techniques and methods and by applying new technologies, including AI as appropriate, EPA will continue to improve FOIA processing efficiency. The Agency will continue to reduce the backlog of overdue FOIA requests that has built up over many years due to the increased complexity and volume of electronic records required to be searched, collected, and reviewed.

Finally, in FY 2027, the program will continue to provide legal counsel on the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Confidential Business Information (CBI) issues. The program will continue to develop streamlining measures to more quickly process a large influx of periodic reports than previously possible and keep its backlog of TSCA CBI reviews to a minimum. Additionally, the program will review technology transfer agreements related to research with external partners, respond to patent actions, and review employee reports of inventions. This work furthers the Agency's mission, aids in cross-agency partnerships, and generates licensing revenue for the Agency's research centers.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$1,848.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$4,227.0 / +17.8 FTE) This program change is an increase to align resources to focus on high priority FOIA cases and provide legal counseling and support for EPA's operations.

Statutory Authority:

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).

Regional Science and Technology

Program Area: Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	\$798	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Budget Authority	\$798	\$0	\$0	\$0

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

Program Project Description:

EPA’s Regional Science and Technology (RS&T) program provides regional support to Agency programs, including the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA); Clean Water Act (CWA); Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA); Clean Air Act (CAA); and Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) programs. The RS&T Program supports laboratory analysis and mobile laboratory services to provide scientific data on environmental pollutants and conditions for Agency decision-makers.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

This program has been discontinued in the FY 2026 Enacted Budget, and no resources are proposed for this program in FY 2027. All applicable statutory work under the Clean Air Act will be accomplished in other programs within the Legal/Science/Regulatory/Economic Review Program Area.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- There is no change in program funding.

Statutory Authority:

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA); Clean Water Act (CWA); Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA); Clean Air Act (CAA); Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA); Pollution Prevention Act (PPA); Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

Regulatory/Economic-Management and Analysis

Program Area: Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review

Goal: Bring Back and Protect American Auto Jobs

Objective(s): Smart Regulations

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$17,475</i>	<i>\$16,482</i>	<i>\$16,887</i>	<i>\$405</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$17,475	\$16,482	\$16,887	\$405
Total Workyears	74.2	65.7	71.2	5.5

The Agency notes that FY 2026 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities. Total work years in FY 2027 include 0.0 FTE in Regulatory/Economic, Management and Analysis working capital fund (WCF) services, a decrease of 0.3 FTE.

Program Project Description:

The Regulatory/Economic, Management and Analysis Program is responsible for reviewing the Agency’s regulations to ensure that they are developed in accordance with the governing statutes, executive orders, and Agency commitments and are based on sound technical, economic, and policy assumptions. Further, the program ensures consistent and appropriate economic analysis of regulatory actions, conducts analyses of regulatory and non-regulatory approaches, and considers interactions between regulations across different environmental media.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 5/Objective 5.2, *Smart Regulations*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

This program assists the Administrator and senior agency staff in implementing new regulatory policy priorities, including Executive Order (EO) 14154, *Unleashing American Energy*,⁹⁵ EO 14192, *Unleashing Prosperity through Deregulation*, EO 14219, *Ensuring Lawful Governance and Implementing the President’s “Department of Government Efficiency” Deregulatory Initiative*,⁹⁶ and the President’s memorandum on Delivering Emergency Price Relief for American Families and Defeating the Cost-of-Living Crisis.⁹⁷ This program also assists the Administrator and other senior agency leaders in implementing regulatory policy priorities.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue its efforts to assess and review the costs and benefits to businesses, jobs, communities, government entities, and the broader economy associated with economically significant regulatory action to maximize the net benefits of policies protecting human health and

⁹⁵ For more information, please see: <https://public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2025-01956.pdf>.

⁹⁶ For more information, please see: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/02/25/2025-03138/ensuring-lawful-governance-and-implementing-the-presidents-department-of-government-efficiency>.

⁹⁷ For more information, please see: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/delivering-emergency-price-relief-for-american-families-and-defeating-the-cost-of-living-crisis/>.

the environment. EPA will collect data and build models to assess regulatory proposals and their impact on costs, benefits, and economic performance. On March 12, 2025, the Administrator announced the Agency would undertake 31 deregulatory actions to advance the President's executive orders and *Powering the Great American Comeback Initiative*. Activities include:

- Continue to develop and deploy EPA's economy-wide model for analyzing the economic, distributional, and macroeconomic impacts of environmental regulatory actions as the costs savings or costs ripple through the broader economy. EPA will continue to update the model consistently with recommendations from EPA's Science Advisory Board, deploy the model in regulatory analysis where appropriate, and advance the development of open-source data resources to support transparent analysis.
- Continue to manage EPA's implementation of EOs, including development and management of the annual regulatory budget, analyzing potential areas of cost savings, ensuring EPA continues to meet or exceed the goal of repealing 10 regulations for each new regulation issued, pursuant to EO 14192.
- Provide analysis, technical assistance, and review for economic analyses prepared by EPA to ensure compliance with statutory and related requirements, such as OMB Circular A-4 on Regulatory Analysis and EO 12866. Provide the Administrator and the public with high-quality analyses of the costs, benefits, and impacts on jobs, businesses, and communities to inform decision-making and ensure transparency about the consequences of regulation.⁹⁸
- Provide updates to EPA's *Guidelines for Preparing Economic Analyses* including a companion handbook, model, and data for analyzing regulatory impacts on domestic competitiveness and the costs of shifting production and jobs overseas. The guidelines help ensure EPA's analyses provide a complete and consistent accounting of the economic benefits, costs, and impacts of regulatory actions consistent with best economic methods.
- Assess the effect of environmental regulations or deregulation on the cost of living for American households. Develop open-source data, economic models, and guidance to support EPA analyses that provide decision makers with evidence on household budget impacts.
- Conduct more detailed employment analysis of regulatory actions (both the direct and indirect employment impacts) to identify options consistent with current policy goals, including developing data and models to help evaluate the impacts of regulatory job displacement and the benefits of avoiding those effects.
- Continuing development and reach deployment of a modeling platform capable of assessing the benefits of national regulations that affect water quality. This effort will allow EPA to conduct required regulatory analysis consistent with the best available data and evidence in a more consistent, transparent, and cost-effective manner.
- Continue to develop EPA's semiannual unified Regulatory Agenda, while ensuring EPA complies with requirements under EO 14192, and manage EPA's compliance with the Congressional Review Act.⁹⁹
- Manage EPA's internal Action Development Process and expand and upgrade regulatory planning and tracking tools to facilitate timely decisions and coordination across programs.

⁹⁸ For more information, please see: [Guidelines for Preparing Economic Analyses, 3rd Edition | US EPA](#).

⁹⁹ For more information on the Congressional Review Act, please see: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-104publ121/pdf/PLAW-104publ121.pdf>.

- Serve as EPA’s liaison with the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs within OMB.
- Serve as EPA’s liaison with the Office of the Federal Register by reviewing, editing, and submitting documents for publication so that the public, states, other agencies, and Congress are informed about EPA’s regulatory activities in a timely manner.
- Support EPA’s Chief Statistical Officer, who will provide technical support for projects under EPA’s statutorily required Learning Agenda, evaluation plan, and capacity assessment; design statistically-sound policy analyses and evaluations; and provide technical assistance for EPA’s statistical activities.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$1,002.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$1,407.0 / +5.8 FTE) This program increases resources to implement deregulatory policy priorities and to assess, review, and improve the Agency's regulations and underlying economic tools.

Statutory Authority:

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).

Science Advisory Board

Program Area: Legal / Science / Regulatory / Economic Review

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Cooperative Federalism

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	\$3,186	\$3,192	\$3,935	\$743
Total Budget Authority	\$3,186	\$3,192	\$3,935	\$743
Total Workyears	13.8	13.5	17.3	3.8

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

Program Project Description:

Congress established EPA’s Science Advisory Board (SAB) in 1978, under the Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Act, to advise the Administrator on a wide range of highly visible and important scientific matters. The Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) was established in 1977, under the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1977, to provide independent advice to the EPA Administrator on the technical bases for EPA’s National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The SAB and the CASAC, both statutorily mandated Federal Advisory Committees, draw from a balanced range of non-EPA scientists and technical specialists from academia, state and Tribal agencies, independent research institutions, and industry. The program provides management and technical support to these advisory committees. The Committees provide EPA’s Administrator independent advice and objective scientific peer review on the technical aspects of environmental issues as well as the science used to establish criteria, standards, regulations, and research planning, as requested.¹⁰⁰

On March 12, 2025, the Administrator announced the EPA would be reconstituting the SAB and (CASAC). The SAB and CASAC are critical to ensuring that the Agency receives scientific advice consistent with its legal obligations to advance EPA’s core mission of protecting human health and the environment. Membership on the SAB and CASAC typically includes experts from Tribal and state government, academia, and industry. The scientific advice provided by the SAB and CASAC also may benefit and/or impact state government and other federal agency partners.

Maintaining a public facing website allows the Agency to receive nominations, a vehicle to ensure public transparency, share peer review topics for CASAC and SAB which include a review of assessments, Agency decisions, scientific data, and various National Ambient Air Quality Standards under the Science Assessment and Integrated Review Plans and receive public comments. In FY 2025, the Science Advisory Board Staff Office (SABSO) organized an officewide initiative to improve Special Government Employee (SGE) efficiency and effectiveness through standardized training materials for its peer reviewers. These actions are

¹⁰⁰ For more information, please see: <http://www.epa.gov/sab/> and <http://www.epa.gov/casac/>.

intended to reduce bottlenecks, promote efficiency, and improve the timeliness, and overall effectiveness of the SGEs and will be put in place in FY 2026 with the reinstatement of the new Board and Committee.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.2, *Cooperative Federalism* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

FY 2027 resource levels are an opportunity for EPA’s SAB to reprioritize activities after resetting the Board and focus on meeting peer review needs which meet minimum standards for a successful independent review. In FY 2027, the program will continue federally mandated CASAC reviews of assessments, health and ecological criteria for primary National Ambient Air Quality Standards, and other programmatic requests from the Administrator. The CASAC expects to conduct two such NAAQS reviews in FY 2027. The SAB also anticipates six reviews of supporting science associated with Agency’s intentions for proposed rulemakings in FY 2026, completing the reviews for final decisions as made by EPA’s Administrator or program in FY 2027. For FY 2027, the SAB and CASAC will continue focusing on efficiency, increasing transparency and public participation, and expects to complete nine advisory reports.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$193.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$936.0 / +3.8 FTE) This program increases the Science Advisory Board Program to support conducting peer reviews, and the logistical and website support provided to help the SAB and CASAC adhere to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

Statutory Authority:

Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Authorization Act (ERDDAA); Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA); Clean Air Act (CAA); Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA); Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).

Operations and Administration

Acquisition Management

Program Area: Operations and Administration

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Organizational Excellence

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$32,376</i>	<i>\$30,077</i>	<i>\$31,551</i>	<i>\$1,474</i>
Leaking Underground Storage Tanks	\$200	\$161	\$132	-\$29
Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$27,810	\$15,207	\$23,285	\$8,078
Total Budget Authority	\$60,386	\$45,445	\$54,968	\$9,523
Total Workyears	285.0	245.7	281.8	36.1

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

Program Project Description:

EPA’s Acquisition Management Program supports the Agency’s contract activities, which cover planning, awarding, and administering contracts for the Agency. This program will realize savings as EPA forecasts improvements in acquisition management which will allow EPA to maintain existing program services while focusing resources on core mission and statutory work.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.3, *Organizational Excellence*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

The Acquisition Management Program plays a critical role in advancing the Agency’s mission while aligning operations with Executive Orders (EO) 14240: *Eliminating Waste and Saving Taxpayer Dollars by Consolidating Procurement*¹⁰¹ and EO 14222: *Implementing the President’s “Department of Government Efficiency” Cost Efficiency Initiative*.¹⁰² Operations will focus on improving acquisition lifecycle management, promoting fiscal responsibility, and increasing operational efficiencies across all procurement activities. The program supports cost-efficient procurement activity to advance core agency mission priorities.

In FY 2027, EPA will prioritize implementation of the President’s Made in America (MIA) agenda¹⁰³ and laws, including full deployment of its enhanced Market Research Services Application. The Market Research Services Application (also called the Market Research Application) will become the Agency’s central market research repository and Buy American

¹⁰¹ For more information, see <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/03/25/2025-05197/eliminating-waste-and-saving-taxpayer-dollars-by-consolidating-procurement>.

¹⁰² For more information, see <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/03/03/2025-03527/implementing-the-presidents-department-of-government-efficiency-cost-efficiency-initiative>.

¹⁰³ For more information, see <https://www.madeinamerica.gov/>.

Act/Build America Buy American (BAA and BABA) waiver tracking system. The application supports EPA Made in America (MIA) requirements and EPA's focus on increased efficiency, as well as improves EPA's alignment with the federal MIA Office (MIAO) goal to introduce a federal MIA research and waiver tracking system. The application has not been implemented but is currently being developed with an anticipated agency-wide availability by end of 3rd Quarter FY 2026. This market intelligence driving platform, supported by real-time data entry will automate market research documentation processes; create EPA market intelligence readily available to the Agency acquisition and Build America, Buy America (BABA) financial assistance agreements workforce; help procurement teams identify American-made goods that meet domestic content thresholds to support American economy-building and minimize waiver use; and provide consistent demand signals to industry for critical items.

Acquisition Modernization Initiatives

In FY 2027, EPA will leverage available expanded functionalities to the Agency's contract writing system to help develop requirements, streamline solicitations, manage vendor evaluation, conduct best value assessment, promote data integrity and reporting. Additionally, EPA will explore the potential of artificial intelligence to strengthen the following initiatives:

Policy Reformation and Simplification

In line with EO 14275: "*Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement*,"¹⁰⁴ EPA will reform acquisition policies to streamline internal procedures, eliminate outdated guidance and promote plain language usage. These policy reforms will help staff and stakeholders better understand acquisition requirements, ensure compliance with evolving federal procurement directives, and support the President's call for common sense in federal procurement.

Strengthening Acquisition Planning

EPA will enhance acquisition planning, emphasizing early engagement with program offices using modern visualization tools. In addition, EPA will ensure procurement requirements align with mission critical priorities, are cost-effective and reduce redundancy. Moreover, the program will advance acquisition planning, resulting in reduced procurement lead-times, more competitive and compliant awards, and greater support of initiatives outlined in current Executive Orders.

Contract Closeout Unliquidated Obligation Reduction Initiative

EPA will prioritize the timely closeout of expired contracts by centralizing contract closeout to support financial stewardship of taxpayer resources. Proper closeout procedures ensure that all obligations under the contract and relevant regulations have been met, minimizing the risk of legal disputes. EPA will implement timely closeout procedures for each contract period resulting in the release of unused funds prior to funds expiration.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

¹⁰⁴ For more information, see: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/04/18/2025-06839/restoring-common-sense-to-federal-procurement>.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$1,472.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the recalculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE due to annual payroll increases, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$2,946.0 / +16.5 FTE) This program change is a increase to reflect efficiencies gained through adoption of common-sense improvements to the federal acquisition process and contract consolidation efforts. This program is proposed for reduction in alignment with Administration priorities to use taxpayer dollars efficiently and to eliminate the use of wasteful spending.

Statutory Authority:

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).

Central Planning, Budgeting, and Finance

Program Area: Operations and Administration

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Organizational Excellence

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$86,699</i>	<i>\$88,792</i>	<i>\$80,475</i>	<i>-\$8,317</i>
Leaking Underground Storage Tanks	\$593	\$464	\$439	-\$25
Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$32,084	\$20,724	\$21,993	\$1,269
Total Budget Authority	\$119,376	\$109,980	\$102,907	-\$7,073
Total Workyears	456.4	423.0	379.6	-43.4

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

Total workyears in FY 2027 include 0.0 FTE in Central Planning, Budgeting, and Finance working capital fund (WCF) services, a decrease of 41.6 FTE.

Program Project Description:

This program directly contributes to the efficiency and effectiveness of EPA's operations and strengthens the integrity of these operations. The Central Planning, Budgeting, and Finance Program supports integrated planning, budgeting, financial management, performance measurement, operational process improvement, evidence-building, risk assessments, reporting, and financial systems to ensure effective stewardship of resources. Functions include financial payment and support services; general and specialized fiscal and accounting services; strategic planning and accountability for environmental, fiscal, and managerial results; executing an Enterprise Risk Management Program to support effective and efficient mission delivery and decision-making; providing policy, systems, training, reports, and oversight essential for EPA's financial operations; managing the agencywide Working Capital Fund; and managing the Agency's annual budget and performance process.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.3, *Organizational Excellence*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

The program will ensure that all EPA programs are fiscally responsible and reflect a high level of management integrity. This program provides support for EPA's financial services and will efficiently and consistently deliver nationwide results. EPA will maintain key planning, budgeting, performance measurement, risk assessment, and financial management activities. The program will sustain operations and maintenance of core Agency financial management systems: Compass, PeoplePlus (Time and Attendance), Budget Formulation System (including Performance Module), and related financial reporting systems. The program will modernize, standardize, and streamline internal business processes and use additional federal and/or internal shared services to support the Administrator's priorities.

During FY 2027, the program will implement the draft *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan* which serves as a blueprint to implement EPA's *Powering the Great American Comeback* initiative emphasizing both cross-agency partnerships and work with state and federal partners. EPA will develop and implement quantitative performance goals as well as a focused program of evidence-building and evaluation to improve results. As part of EPA's *FY 2026-2030 Learning Agenda*,¹⁰⁵ EPA will examine the extent to which EPA grant programs achieve environmental and human health outcomes while being good stewards of tax dollars. Findings will inform the Agency's ability to monitor, report, and improve on those outcomes.

In FY 2027, EPA will set policies and procedures to support offices and regions to develop process improvements for problem-solving. As part of this work, the program will provide leadership in data tracking, analysis, and problem-solving to support EPA's permitting reforms. For example, the program facilitated a continuous improvement project to reduce the time it takes for the Agency to issue Class VI well permits and standardize EPA's Class VI permitting process across regions and is continuing to support ongoing efforts.

In FY 2027, the program will leverage the Agency financial data to further align with the Administration's priority under Executive Order 14179, *Removing Barriers to American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence*;¹⁰⁶ and the Office of Management and Budget Memorandums M-25-21 Accelerating Federal Use of AI through Innovation, Governance, and Public Trust and M-25-22 Driving Efficient Acquisition of Artificial Intelligence in Government.^{107,108} The Agency, through responsible and effective use of artificial intelligence (AI) in financial management, will ensure strong stewardship of taxpayer dollars as it increases data transparency and accountability. The program will continue implementing its Data Strategy that builds on the foundation necessary for successful AI adoption across Agency partners. Within the Data Strategy, the Metadata Management Plan will enable AI to effectively locate and utilize data. The program will continue to leverage Agency tools to connect EPA's financial system with the Enterprise Data Catalog, providing the data foundation needed for AI.

In FY 2027, the program will carefully build on its AI and automation strategy to guide the use of AI and automation in a responsible and effective manner as it incorporates AI and Automation in daily operations. The effort includes increasing data literacy for all program staff, enhancing technical skills, and leveraging best practices by partnering with other Federal agencies. The effort includes piloting AI in key financial areas to ensure resources are utilized appropriately. By improving financial data quality, accessibility, and governance, the program is creating a foundation where AI can thrive and provide essential data to support the mission.

¹⁰⁵ For more information please see: [FY 2026-2030 Learning Agenda](#).

¹⁰⁶ For more information please see: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/removing-barriers-to-american-leadership-in-artificial-intelligence/>.

¹⁰⁷ For more information please see: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/M-25-21-Accelerating-Federal-Use-of-AI-through-Innovation-Governance-and-Public-Trust.pdf>.

¹⁰⁸ For more information please see: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/M-25-22-Driving-Efficient-Acquisition-of-Artificial-Intelligence-in-Government.pdf>.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to support Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) requirements in accordance with EPA's Implementation Plan.¹⁰⁹ The Chief Information Officer will continue to be engaged throughout the budget planning process to ensure that IT needs are properly planned and resourced.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$11,163.0) This net change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefit costs.
- (+\$2,846.0 / -7.0 FTE) This net program change reflects an investment to expand and improve the functionality of essential core financial, budget and payroll systems at EPA, move existing applications into the cloud, and advance AI and machine learning to further efficiencies. This investment is offset by a decrease, to balance work efficiencies across the Agency and to use taxpayer dollars responsibly.

Statutory Authority:

Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1970, 84 Stat. 2086, as amended by Pub. L. 98-80, 97 Stat. 485 (codified as Title 5 App.) (EPA's organic statute).

¹⁰⁹ For more information please see: <http://www.epa.gov/open/fitara-implementation-plan-and-chief-information-officer-assignment-plan>.

Facilities Infrastructure and Operations

Program Area: Operations and Administration

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Organizational Excellence

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$281,585</i>	<i>\$258,274</i>	<i>\$252,262</i>	<i>-\$6,012</i>
Science & Technology	\$68,981	\$64,714	\$60,311	-\$4,403
Building and Facilities	\$7,147	\$34,000	\$28,900	-\$5,100
Leaking Underground Storage Tanks	\$457	\$764	\$627	-\$137
Inland Oil Spill Programs	\$275	\$676	\$555	-\$121
Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$65,886	\$66,713	\$61,868	-\$4,845
Total Budget Authority	\$424,331	\$425,141	\$404,523	-\$20,618
Total Workyears	295.1	256.2	308.0	51.8

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

Total workyears in FY 2027 include 3.1 FTE in Facilities Infrastructure and Operations working capital fund (WCF) services, an increase of 2.7 FTE.

Program Project Description:

This program will realize savings as EPA anticipates improvements in workforce efficiency and facilities consolidation, allowing for a reduction in resources needed to maintain agency facilities. Environmental Programs and Management (EPM) resources in the Facilities Infrastructure and Operations Program fund the Agency’s rent, utilities, and security.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.3, *Organizational Excellence*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to invest in the reconfiguration of EPA’s workspaces, enabling the Agency to release office space and avoid long-term rent costs, consistent with Public Law 114-287, the *Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016*. In compliance with Executive Order (EO) 14274: *Restoring Common Sense to Federal Office Space Management*,¹¹⁰ as well as EO 14210: *Implementing the President’s “Department of Government Efficiency” Workforce Optimization Initiative*.¹¹¹

¹¹⁰ For more information, see <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/04/18/2025-06838/restoring-common-sense-to-federal-office-space-management>.

¹¹¹ For more information, see <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/02/14/2025-02762/implementing-the-presidents-department-of-government-efficiency-workforce-optimization-initiative>.

EPA is working to reduce office, laboratory and warehouse space. This has the potential to provide an avoidance of approximately \$19 million in rent, utilities, and security across all appropriations in FY 2027. This will help offset EPA's escalating rent and security costs and reduce taxpayer burden. The Agency is working to vacate its Houston regional laboratory and consolidate into the Ada, OK facility for an annual rent savings of \$3.5 million and space reduction of 41,126 square feet. EPA employees will remain in the current region. The Agency also is aggressively pursuing footprint reductions in its most expensive leased facilities. Due to persistent issues with the current Region 4 Headquarters and insufficient space at the Los Angeles facility, the Agency has begun the process to secure new leases in both locations. For FY 2027, the Agency is estimating \$140 million for rent, \$8.6 million for utilities, and \$30.7 million for security in the EPM appropriation. EPA uses a standard methodology to ensure that rent charging appropriately reflects planned and enacted resources at the appropriation level.

In FY 2027, the Agency will support optimization of office and laboratory space to right-size the Agency's footprint while supporting activities necessary for lab consolidation, retrofitting of laboratories with technologies and AI automation, and releasing of excess office space in high-cost areas. These investments along with ongoing activities will decrease the growth of long-term rent costs, reduce its footprint, and create a more efficient, collaborative, and technologically sophisticated workplace. As an approved example, the Agency will relinquish space in Region 2 (New York) to reduce occupancy in a high-cost market while maintaining mission delivery. This approach also will be applied in other high-cost leasing areas, aligned to lease cycles and contingent on Agency leadership decisions. In FY 2025, the percentage of space utilized at the GSA goal of 150 square feet per person at EPA owned and leased facilities was 38 percent. Investments in space optimization will advance EPA's goal of a higher space utilization rate and improve the use of EPA's workspaces.

EPA will continue to manage lease and occupancy agreements with GSA, maintain EPA facilities, fleet, and equipment, and fund costs associated with utilities and building security needs. EPA also will track capital equipment and meet Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and applicable environmental regulatory obligations and provide safety, health and environmental management (SHEM) support training to headquarters and field staff (e.g., SHEM managers, industrial hygienists, radiation safety officers, and on-Scene Coordinators). In addition, the Agency will continue to utilize GSA's Managed Service Office, *USAccess*, and Enterprise Physical Access Control System (ePACS) programs. *USAccess* provides standardized HSPD-12 approved Personal Identity Verification (PIV) cards and ePACS provides centralized access control of EPA facilities, including restricted and secure areas.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$3,348.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.

- (-\$14,251.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the recalculation of transit subsidy, rent, utilities, and security.
- (+\$11,587.0 / +45.4 FTE) This program change is an investment to enhance transparency, oversight and public accountability by bringing critical facility management and operations activities back in-house. This program change also supports optimization of office and laboratory space.

Statutory Authority:

Federal Property and Administration Services Act (FPAS); 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).

Financial Assistance Grants / IAG Management

Program Area: Operations and Administration

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Organizational Excellence

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$32,274</i>	<i>\$30,263</i>	<i>\$26,596</i>	<i>-\$3,667</i>
Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$4,880	\$2,730	\$2,834	\$104
Total Budget Authority	\$37,154	\$32,993	\$29,430	-\$3,563
Total Workyears	161.1	140.6	145.4	4.8

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

Program Project Description:

Environmental Program and Management (EPM) resources in the Financial Assistance Grants and Interagency Agreement (IA) Management Program support the management of grants and IAs, and suspension and debarment activities. This program reflects proposed savings as EPA increases efficiencies of Agency operations.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.3, *Organizational Excellence*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to implement activities to achieve efficiencies while enhancing quality and accountability. EPA will continue implementing the indirect cost requirements in 2 CFR Part 200,¹¹² *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, to close loopholes, decrease complexity, and increase transparency. In addition, the Agency will prioritize implementation of the President's Made in America agenda and Made in America laws.¹¹³ EPA will use all tools available, consistent with law, to maximize the use of goods, products, and materials produced in the United States, minimize the use of waivers, and provide clear and consistent demand signals to industry on federal demand for critical items.

EPA will continue to focus on reducing the administrative burden on EPA and grants recipients and on improving grants management procedures by: 1) streamlining EPA's grants management policies through a new comprehensive framework to guide policy development, implementation, compliance, and review; 2) developing the FY 2026-2030 Grants Management Plan that aligns with Administration priorities; and 3) using a risk-based method of pre- and post-award monitoring for grants to more effectively ensure compliance with financial and administrative management

¹¹² For more information, see <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-II/part-200>.

¹¹³ For more information, see <https://www.madeinamerica.gov/>.

requirements. All efforts to improve the grant making process will be completed in accordance with Executive Order (EO) 14332: *Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking* and other future executive orders on grants management.¹¹⁴

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to implement EO 14240: *Eliminating Waste and Saving Taxpayer Dollars by Consolidating Procurement* including the potential transfer of common spend procurements, such as Information Technology contracts, to the General Services Administration (GSA) through interagency assisted acquisition agreements.¹¹⁵ Leveraging GSA-managed assisted acquisition for common goods and services will enable the Agency to focus more effectively on its core mission.

The Agency will continue to make use of discretionary debarments and suspensions as well as statutory disqualifications under the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act to protect the government's business interests. In FY 2027, EPA will focus suspension and debarment activity on the most egregious violations. Congress and federal courts have long recognized federal agencies' inherent authority and obligation to exclude non-responsible parties from eligibility to receive government contracts and non-procurement awards (for example: grants, cooperative agreements, loans, and loan guarantees). Several recent federal statutes, GAO reports, and OMB directives require that federal agencies administer effective suspension and debarment programs to protect the public's interest and the integrity of federal programs.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$5,732.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the recalculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE due to annual payroll increases, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$2,065.0 / +8.2 FTE) This program change is an increase to implement Executive Order 14240: *Eliminating Waste and Saving Taxpayer Dollars by Consolidating Procurement* and to transitioning many Agency contracts to interagency assisted acquisition actions. Resources will be used strategically to supplement grants and Interagency Agreement oversight and policy expertise of federal FTE.

Statutory Authority:

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); Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act; Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act § 2455.

¹¹⁴ For more information, see <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/08/12/2025-15344/improving-oversight-of-federal-grantmaking>.

¹¹⁵ Executive Order 14240: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/03/eliminating-waste-and-saving-taxpayer-dollars-by-consolidating-procurement/>.

Human Resources Management

Program Area: Operations and Administration

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Organizational Excellence

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$54,584</i>	<i>\$50,137</i>	<i>\$41,820</i>	<i>-\$8,317</i>
Hazardous Substance Superfund	\$8,238	\$6,820	\$6,230	-\$590
Total Budget Authority	\$62,821	\$56,957	\$48,050	-\$8,907
Total Workyears	272.0	210.4	214.7	4.3

The Agency notes that FY 2026 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities. Total workyears in FY 2027 include 2.0 FTE to support Human Resources Management working capital fund (WCF) services, a decrease of 0.5 FTE.

Program Project Description:

This program will realize savings as EPA anticipates improvements in workforce planning, accountability, and efficiency while promoting fiscal responsibility and focusing on essential agency functions. Environmental Programs and Management (EPM) resources for the Human Resources (HR) Management Program support Human Capital (HC) activities throughout EPA.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.3, *Organizational Excellence*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

The activities supported by EPA's HR Management Program contribute to effective workforce planning and management. EPA continues to ensure employees have the right skills to successfully achieve the Agency's core mission today and in the future, as well as to ensure efficiency and accountability of the federal workforce. This program promotes government efficiency and collaboration between our federal, state, and local partners.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue implementing workforce restructuring efforts in line with Executive Order (EO) 14217: *Commencing the Reduction of the Federal Bureaucracy*¹¹⁶ and EO 14210: *Implementing the President's Department of Government Efficiency Workforce Optimization Initiative*¹¹⁷ by eliminating non-essential functions and implementing hiring restrictions. Following on initiatives carried out in FY 2025, such as eliminating the centrally funded paid internship program, EPA will continue implementing workforce reshaping initiatives in FY 2027 to align organizational structure with statutory, regulatory, mission critical functions.

¹¹⁶ For more information see <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/02/25/2025-03133/commencing-the-reduction-of-the-federal-bureaucracy>.

¹¹⁷ For more information see <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/02/14/2025-02762/implementing-the-presidents-department-of-government-efficiency-workforce-optimization-initiative>.

In addition, to support efforts to increase federal accountability and efficiency, EPA also will continue implementing EO 14171: *Restoring Accountability to Policy-Influencing Positions within the Federal Workforce*¹¹⁸ by evaluating all its policy-influencing positions and revamping performance standards for the entirety of the workforce to align with the Agency’s core mission. EPA also will seek to eliminate preferences based on immutable characteristics, reinforcing civil rights laws to promote merit-based opportunities and individual achievement by enforcing EO 14173: *Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity*.¹¹⁹ In addition, in order to enforce management decisions for the labor force, EPA will continue implementing EO 14251: *Exclusions from Federal Labor-Management Relations Programs*.¹²⁰ The Agency will enhance the federal hiring process by focusing on merit, efficiency, and dedication to constitutional values, while eliminating factors such as race, sex, or religion in hiring decisions by implementing EO 14148: *Reforming the Federal Hiring Process and Restoring Merit to Government Service*.¹²¹

In accordance with OMB/OPM Memo, RE: Creating “Federal HR 2.0” by consolidating Core Human Capital Management (HCM) Across the Federal Government, dated December 10, 2025, the federal government will migrate to a single, modern Core HCM system. EPA will migrate to OPM’s HCM by FY 2027 as part of the initial phase. EPA will continue to maintain and operate critical HR systems and data analytics related to Mission Critical Occupations, attrition, and other important human capital data. These tools are critical and provide data visualizations and easy-to-understand information about the current workforce, assisting EPA with OPM reporting, workforce planning, succession management by identifying workforce gaps due to anticipated retirements and attrition trends, and the development of strategic staffing plans.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (dollars in thousands)

- (-\$6,341.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the recalculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE due to annual payroll increases, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$418.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the recalculation of agencywide programs, such as workers compensation and childcare subsidy.
- (+\$3,495.0) This program change is an investment to migrate to a single, modern core human capital management system across the federal government. This investment will

¹¹⁸ For more information see <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/02/25/2025-03133/commencing-the-reduction-of-the-federal-bureaucracy>.

¹¹⁹ For more information, see <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/01/31/2025-02097/ending-illegal-discrimination-and-restoring-merit-based-opportunity>.

¹²⁰ For more information, see <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/04/03/2025-05836/exclusions-from-federal-labor-management-relations-programs>.

¹²¹ For more information, see <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/01/30/2025-02094/reforming-the-federal-hiring-process-and-restoring-merit-to-government-service>.

consolidate and coordinate human resource services to create efficiencies, enhance quality, and reduce redundancies.

- (-\$5,053.0 / -0.1 FTE) This program change is a decrease to reflect a reduced need for human resource management activity resulting from efficiency gains agencywide. This program is proposed for reduction in alignment with Administration priorities to use taxpayer dollars efficiently and to eliminate the use of wasteful spending.

Statutory Authority:

Title 5 of the U.S.C.; 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).

Workforce Reshaping

Program Area: Operations and Administration

Goal: Advance Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership

Objective(s): Organizational Excellence

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000
Science & Technology	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000
Total Budget Authority	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000

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

Program Project Description:

This program provides resources to support organizational restructuring efforts throughout the Agency. To help achieve its mission, EPA will develop, review, and analyze mission requirements and implement options to effectively align and redistribute the Agency’s workforce based on program priorities, resource reallocation, and technological advances.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.3, *Organizational Excellence*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, EPA will examine its statutory functions and processes to eliminate inefficiencies and streamline the Agency’s processes. Primary criteria will include effectiveness and accountability, as EPA is focused on greater value and real results. These analyses may create a need to continue to reshape the workforce, including reducing FTE and restructuring EPA’s office locations. The Agency might need to offer voluntary early retirement authority (VERA), and potentially relocation expenses, as part of the workforce reshaping effort. This program will directly support efforts directed by Executive Order (EO) 14210: *Implementing the President's "Department of Government Efficiency" Workforce Optimization Initiative*¹²² and supports achievement of all five pillars of EPA’s *Powering the Great American Comeback* initiative.

In FY 2025, EPA executed seven mission critical reorganizations, improving scientific and administrative capacity. In FY 2025, EPA also implemented Presidential memorandum *Return to In-Person Work*. In FY 2026, EPA will continue workforce restructuring consistent with EO 14217: *Commencing the Reduction of the Federal Bureaucracy* and EO 14210: *Implementing the President’s Department of Government Efficiency Workforce Optimization Initiative*, eliminating non-essential functions, instituting hiring restrictions, and further aligning scientific capabilities with national programs. In FY 2027, EPA will assess opportunities to relocate work to maximize

¹²² For more information, see <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/02/implementing-the-presidents-department-of-government-efficiency-workforce-optimization-initiative/>.

efficiency and mission effectiveness. This comprehensive realignment will be implemented through a multi-year plan.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (+\$2,000.0) This program change is an increase to implement the Workforce Reshaping Program to align the Agency's organizational structure with core statutory requirements and strategic goals, while recognizing needed efficiencies.

Statutory Authority:

Title 5 of the U.S.C.; 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).

Pesticides Licensing

Pesticides: Protect Human Health from Pesticide Risk

Program Area: Pesticides Licensing

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Chemicals in the Environment

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$63,622</i>	<i>\$60,220</i>	<i>\$62,383</i>	<i>\$2,163</i>
Science & Technology	\$2,969	\$2,712	\$2,422	-\$290
Total Budget Authority	\$66,591	\$62,932	\$64,805	\$1,873
Total Workyears	380.6	373.9	405.7	31.8

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

Total program work years in FY 2027 include 126.0 FTE funded by the Reregistration and Expedited Processing Revolving Fund.

Program Project Description:

Under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)¹²³ and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), as amended by the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 (FQPA) and the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act of 2022 (PRIA-5),¹²⁴ EPA is charged with protecting people from the health risks that pesticide use can pose. FIFRA requires EPA to register pesticide products before they are marketed for use in the United States.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.4, *Chemicals in the Environment*, and Goal 3/Objective 3.1, *Incentivized Investment*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

Pesticide Review and Registration

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to review and register new pesticides, new uses for existing pesticides, and other registration requests in accordance with statutory requirements, making sure exposure to infants and children is reflected in the human health risk assessments supporting these regulatory determinations. Many assessments also address potential exposure to pregnant women. In addition, EPA will evaluate pesticides that already are in the market against current scientific standards for human health. Under the FQPA, EPA is statutorily required to ensure that its regulatory decisions are protective of children's health and other vulnerable subpopulations. EPA, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture (USDA), also will work to ensure that minor use registrations receive appropriate support and that needs are met for reduced risk pesticides for minor use crops. EPA also will assist farmers and other pesticide users in learning about new, safer products and methods of using existing products through workshops, demonstrations, small grants,

¹²³ For additional information on FIFRA, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/summary-federal-insecticide-fungicide-and-rodenticide-act>.

¹²⁴ On December 29, 2022, Pesticide Registration Improvement Extension Act of 2022 (PRIA-5) was signed into law, which reauthorizes PRIA for 5 years through fiscal year 2027 and updates the fee collection provisions of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.

and materials on websites and in print. In FY 2027, EPA also will continue to emphasize the registration of reduced risk pesticides, including biopesticides, to provide farmers and other pesticide users with new, safer alternatives.

As mandated by statute, the goal of the registration review process is to review pesticide registrations every 15 years to determine whether they continue to meet the FIFRA standard for registration.¹²⁵ For pesticides registered before October 1, 2007, EPA is required to make registration review decisions by October 1, 2026. EPA will focus its FY 2027 resources on completing decisions for cases with 15-year due dates in FY 2027 and beyond.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue the IT data transformation of the pesticide programs management systems. Expanding the capabilities of the existing systems will streamline processes and increase transparency by converting paper-based processes into electronic processes and corresponding workflows for the Pesticide Program's regulated entities. EPA would improve permit efficiency by automating manual workflow processes and utilizing artificial intelligence (AI) to put data into the hands of EPA scientists, growers, and states. Increased funding for automating manual works processes will support the Agency's goal of reducing PRIA actions from the backlog. In FY 2025, EPA completed 54% of actions in the backlog. In FY 2027, EPA has a target of completing 60% of actions in the backlog.

Protecting Workers from On-the-Job Pesticide Risks

Protecting pesticide applicators, handlers, and agricultural workers from the potential effects of pesticides is an important role of the Pesticide Program. Pesticide handlers in a number of sectors may be exposed to pesticides when they prepare pesticides for use, such as by mixing a concentration with water or loading and applying the pesticide. In FY 2027, EPA will continue to support the implementation of the Agricultural Worker Protection Standard (WPS)¹²⁶ and the Certification of Pesticide Applicators (CPA)¹²⁷ rules through guidance development, education and outreach, and grant programs.

As outlined in PRIA-5, EPA selected grantees in FY 2025. In FY 2027, EPA will manage the grant program to further support the implementation of the WPS, protect farm workers and their families from pesticide exposure, and support healthcare providers in the recognition and management of pesticide-related illnesses.

PRIA-5 also amended FIFRA to require bilingual labeling on end-use pesticide products for those parts of the label where translation exists in EPA's Spanish Translation Guide¹²⁸ and provides a schedule for incremental implementation by registrants based on pesticide type and acute toxicity categories. In FY 2027, EPA will continue the implementation of these bilingual labeling requirements.

¹²⁵ For additional information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration>.

¹²⁶ For additional information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/agricultural-worker-protection-standard-wps>.

¹²⁷ For additional information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/revised-certification-standards-pesticide-applicators>.

¹²⁸ For additional information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-labels/spanish-translation-guide-pesticide-labeling>.

Public Health Antimicrobials and Pandemic Preparedness

In FY 2027, the Pesticide Program will continue to maintain EPA's registered disinfectant lists. There are currently 13 disinfectant lists, lists A, B, G, H, J - Q & S, with different target public health microorganisms. In FY 2025, OCSPP completed participation as a co-lead for the PPDC (Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee) Emerging Pathogens Implementation Committee. The committee provided recommendations and proposed revisions to EPA's Emerging Viral Pathogen's guidance. In FY 2026, EPA may implement appropriate recommendations from the Committee.

In FY 2027, the Pesticide Program will continue to work on policy and method updates that will expand the range of public health antimicrobial products available.

Reducing Animal Testing

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to use its guiding principles on data needs¹²⁹ to ensure that it has sufficient information to support strong regulatory decisions to protect human health, while reducing and, in some cases, eliminating unnecessary animal testing. EPA's Hazard and Science Policy Council (HASPOC) plays an important role in the implementation of the vision of the 2007 National Academy of Sciences (NAS) report on toxicity testing in the 21st Century—which recommended moving toward smarter testing strategies by waiving human health toxicity studies that do not provide useful information. Since its inception, HASPOC has waived hundreds of studies resulting in the saving of tens of thousands of animals and tens of millions of dollars without compromising the integrity of science supporting EPA's regulatory decision-making for pesticides. There are additional efforts to waive and reduce required animal testing through the Chemistry and Acute Toxicology Science Advisory Council (CATSAC), guidance for selection of number of treatments for fish bioconcentration data requirements, and additional retrospective analyses of fish acute and reproductive avian studies.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (+\$1,935.0) This net change to fixed and other costs is an increase due to the recalculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, due to annual payroll increases, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$228.0) This net program change focuses on the modernization of the pesticides incident database and IT data transformation.
- (-13.2 FTE) The FTE reduction is for adjustments that are necessary to enable EPA to fulfill its responsibilities in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.

¹²⁹ Additional information on reducing animal testing may be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/new-epa-guidance-testing-pesticides-will-reduce-animal-testing>.

Statutory Authority:

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA); Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA) § 408.

Pesticides: Protect the Environment from Pesticide Risk

Program Area: Pesticides Licensing

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Chemicals in the Environment

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$46,685</i>	<i>\$49,337</i>	<i>\$44,844</i>	<i>-\$4,493</i>
Science & Technology	\$1,960	\$2,395	\$2,599	\$204
Total Budget Authority	\$48,645	\$51,732	\$47,443	-\$4,289
Total Workyears	296.6	246.7	261.5	14.8

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

Total program work years in FY 2027 includes 85.0 FTE funded by the Reregistration and Expedited Processing Revolving Fund.

Program Project Description:

The goal of this program, authorized under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), as amended by the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 (FQPA) and the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act of 2022 (PRIA-5), as well as the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA), is to protect human health and the environment from the potential of unreasonable adverse effects posed by pesticide use. To achieve this goal, EPA evaluates risks and benefits before the initial registration of each pesticide and for each new use for registered pesticides.¹³⁰ PRIA established specific decision review periods for EPA to review and make decisions on various pesticide actions with the intent of ensuring timely review of these actions. EPA also re-evaluates each pesticide every 15 years through EPA's Pesticide Registration Review Program. In addition to FIFRA responsibilities, the Agency has distinct obligations under the Endangered Species Act (ESA),¹³¹ which include ensuring that pesticide regulatory decisions will not destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat or jeopardize the continued existence of species listed as threatened or endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) (jointly, "the Services").

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.4, *Chemicals in the Environment* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

Protection of Endangered Species

EPA is responsible for complying with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and for ensuring that federally endangered and threatened species are not jeopardized or their designated critical habitat

¹³⁰ FIFRA requires EPA to register a pesticide if, among other things, the product "also will not generally cause unreasonable adverse effects on the environment" when used in accordance with labeling and common practices.

¹³¹ For additional information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/endangered-species>.

destroyed or adversely modified from exposure when it registers pesticides. This presents a great challenge given that there are approximately 1,200 active ingredients in more than 17,000 pesticide products. Endangered species evaluations are complex, national in scope, and involve comprehensive evaluations that consider risk to over 1,700 listed species and 800 designated critical habitats in the U.S. with diverse biological attributes, habitat requirements, and geographic ranges.

EPA has been developing strategies that will make the ESA consultation process more efficient when EPA consults with the Services on FIFRA actions. One such strategy is the ‘insecticide strategy’ released in April 2025.¹³² The insecticide strategy describes a framework for FIFRA actions to reduce pesticide exposure to federally listed invertebrates (e.g., insects, mussels) and listed species that depend on invertebrates for food or pollination. EPA finalized a similar strategy for herbicides (herbicide strategy) and rodenticides (pesticides intended to control rodents such as rats and mice). EPA anticipates it will be incorporating these strategies into relevant pesticide evaluations (i.e., herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, and rodenticides) in FY 2027 and develop tools to help facilitate efficiencies when incorporating the strategies into its actions.

EPA also plans to continue working with stakeholders to improve transparency and to obtain additional feedback on its ESA-related activities. EPA released a process, that can be used by EPA as well as non-governmental organizations, to create pesticide use limitation areas (PULAs) that are included in the Bulletins Live! Two (BLT)¹³³ system that EPA uses to communicate where pesticide mitigations apply. EPA is planning to only use refined maps to create PULAs.

Pesticides Registration and Pesticide Registration Review

Through digital transformation, including moving from individual servers to the cloud, updating apps and data across multiple systems, utilizing automation and AI to improve workflow and digital labels will assist with reducing the pesticide backlog. The backlog includes any actions not completed from the previous fiscal year(s) and its review exceeds the statutory timeframe. There are 226 different PRIA categories¹³⁴ that relate to new active ingredients, uses, products, and other actions with statutory time frames ranging from 1-36 months. PRIA action completions include favorable (e.g., approval) and unfavorable (e.g., rejection) actions. In FY 2025, EPA completed 54% of PRIA actions (687 of 1,274) completed from the backlog at the beginning of the fiscal year. In FY 2027, EPA will complete 60% PRIA actions from the backlog at the beginning of the fiscal year. Some of the continuous improvement and process improvement projects that will assist with reducing the backlog are continuing to work with Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to improve timing of ESA reviews, and implement items identified in PRIA-5 required 3rd party audit of work processes.

Through the Pesticide Registration Review Program, EPA reviews each registered pesticide at least every 15 years to determine whether it still meets the FIFRA standard for registration and to ensure that pesticides already in the marketplace do not pose unreasonable adverse health effects on people or the environment based on current science standards. As part of registration review, EPA also ensures that each registered pesticide meets the requirements as outlined in the

¹³² For more information, please see: https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2025-04/insecticide-strategy-final_0.pdf.

¹³³ <https://www.epa.gov/endangered-species/bulletins-live-two-blt-tutorial>.

¹³⁴ <https://www.epa.gov/pria-fees/fy-2025-2026-fee-schedule-registration-applications>.

Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA). The mitigation strategies to protect non-target taxa, including endangered species, were implemented in registration review in FY 2025. EPA completed four final decisions for conventional pesticides, and all four final decisions met the FIFRA, ESA, and FFDCA requirements for registration review. For pesticides registered before October 1, 2007, EPA is required to make registration review decisions by October 1, 2026. EPA will focus its FY 2027 resources on completing decisions for cases with 15-year due dates in FY 2026 and beyond. Regarding the 799 registration review cases due by October 1, 2026, through FY 2025 Q4, there were 733 cases for which draft risk assessments were completed or not needed, and 639 final or interim decisions completed.

Assessing the Risks Pesticides Pose to the Environment

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to conduct ecological risk assessments¹³⁵ to determine what risks are posed by each pesticide to plants, animals, and ecosystems that are not the targets of the pesticide and whether changes are necessary to protect these resources.¹³⁶ In FY 2027, EPA will continue to examine all toxicity and environmental fate data submitted with each new pesticide registration application to determine what potential risks the new active ingredient may pose to the environment.

Ensuring Proper Pesticide Use through Labeling

In FY 2027, as part of its FIFRA obligations, EPA will continue to review and approve, as appropriate, pesticide labeling to indicate what uses are approved for use and to ensure that the pesticide is used at the specified application rates and according to the methods and timing approved.

Reducing Animal Testing

In FY 2027, EPA will continue its efforts to promote the use of alternative methods to animal toxicity testing for characterizing the effects of pesticide active ingredients on terrestrial and aquatic vertebrates. Additionally, through stakeholder discussions and participation in intergovernmental working groups, the Agency will work to identify opportunities to reduce the use of animals in ecological hazard testing.

Pollinator Protection

Bees and other pollinators play a critical role in ensuring the production of food. USDA is leading the federal government's effort to understand the causes of declining pollinator health and identify actions that will improve pollinator health. In FY 2027, EPA will continue to apply the best available science and risk management methods to reduce potential exposures to pollinators from pesticides.¹³⁷

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

¹³⁵ For additional information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-science-and-assessing-pesticide-risks/factsheet-ecological-risk-assessment-pesticides>.

¹³⁶ Additional information may be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-science-and-assessing-pesticide-risks/overview-risk-assessment-pesticide-program>.

¹³⁷ Additional actions EPA is taking to protect pollinators from pesticides can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/pollinator-protection>.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (+\$86.0) This net change to fixed and other costs is an increase due to the recalculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE due to annual payroll increases, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$4,579.0 / -18.7 FTE) This program change is a reduction for decreased capacity reflecting the workload associated with protecting the environment from pesticide risks.

Statutory Authority:

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA); Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA); Endangered Species Act (ESA).

Pesticides: Realize the Value of Pesticide Availability

Program Area: Pesticides Licensing

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Chemicals in the Environment

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	\$5,987	\$5,215	\$5,885	\$670
Science & Technology	\$647	\$993	\$671	-\$322
Total Budget Authority	\$6,634	\$6,208	\$6,556	\$348
Total Workyears	26.9	27.0	45.0	18.0

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

Total program work years in FY 2027 include 10.5 FTE funded by the Reregistration and Expedited Processing Revolving Fund.

Program Project Description:

Under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA); Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA) § 408 statutory authorities, this program seeks to realize the value of pesticides that can be used safely to yield many benefits, such as killing viruses and bacteria in America’s hospitals. These benefits also include guarding the Nation’s abundant food supply, protecting the public from disease-carrying pests, and protecting the environment from the introduction of invasive species from other parts of the world.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 3/Objective 3.1, *Incentivized Investment* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

Meeting Agriculture’s Need for Safe, Effective Pest Control Products

With the passage of the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA), Congress acknowledged the importance of and need for “reduced-risk pesticides” and supported expedited agency review to help these pesticides reach the market sooner and replace other pesticides of higher risk.¹³⁸ In FY 2027, EPA will continue to support and develop procedures and guidelines for expedited review of applications for registration or amendments for reduced risk pesticides. EPA incentivizes this project area by reducing the review service fee and decision time periods for evaluating these actions. EPA expects to receive and review approximately five to seven reduced risk pesticide applications in FY 2027.

¹³⁸ The law defines a reduced risk pesticide as one that “may reasonably be expected to accomplish one or more of the following: (1) reduces pesticide risks to human health; (2) reduces pesticide risks to non-target organisms; (3) reduces the potential for contamination of valued, environmental resources, or (4) broadens adoption of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) or makes it more effective.”

Registration of Generic Pesticides

FIFRA authorizes EPA to register products that are identical to or substantially similar to already registered products (also known as “me too products”). Applicants for these products may rely on, or cite, data already submitted by another registrant. The introduction of these new products into the market can cause price reductions resulting from new competition and broader access to products, benefitting farmers and consumers. EPA is focused on reducing the backlog of actions through improved business processes.

Review and Registration

During FY 2027, EPA will continue to review and register new pesticides and new uses for existing pesticides and act on other registration requests in accordance with FIFRA and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act standards, and track these completions with respect to Pesticide Registration Improvement Act timeframes. Some of these actions will be for reduced-risk conventional pesticides and biopesticides, which, once registered and used by consumers, will increase societal benefits, including for infants and children as well as susceptible subpopulations. Working together with the affected communities, through IPM and related activities, the Agency plans to accelerate the adoption of lower-risk products.

During FY 2027, the Agency will continue to make progress on meeting its Endangered Species Act (ESA) obligations for registration and registration review. EPA will continue to only register new conventional active ingredients under conditions that are compliant with ESA. EPA will continue to improve protections to non-target species, including federally threatened and endangered (listed) species, earlier in the process through pesticide registration and registration review activities and other FIFRA actions. The Agency also will include protections for listed species impacted by use of conventional herbicides, insecticides, and rodenticides and ensure protections across conventional outdoor pesticides for some of the most vulnerable listed species as it implements its final mitigation strategies for herbicides, insecticides, and rodenticides and its vulnerable species action plan into applicable registration and registration review actions.

The Agency’s work to harmonize pesticide tolerance levels with its top trade partners will reduce international trade barriers. For FY 2027, EPA will undertake regulatory decisions on several new chemicals with food uses. For each of these evaluations, EPA will consider whether there are existing Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) set by trade partners and whether tolerance harmonization will be a component of a portion of these decisions. Also, during FY 2027, EPA will continue rulemaking and implementation efforts to improve its crop group system which provides the regulatory definitions for crops which are in inter-state and international commerce. Phase VI of this rulemaking project was completed in September 2022. The next steps for additional crop group expansion will continue in 2026 and 2027 and will include a focus on harmonizing with Codex crop groups to further facilitate international trade.

Emergency, Quarantine, and Crisis Exemptions

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to prioritize emergency exemptions under FIFRA Section 18, which authorizes EPA to allow an unregistered use of a pesticide for a limited time in the event of an emergency, such as a severe pest infestation, public health emergency, or invasive pest species quarantine. The economic benefit of the Section 18 Program to growers is the avoidance of losses incurred in the absence of pesticides exempted under FIFRA’s emergency exemption provisions.

In addition, exemptions serve as important public health controls to avert pests that may cause significant risk to human health. In FY 2023, 2024, and 2025, the Agency received 39, 43, and 34 requests for emergency uses, respectively. Although the number of emergency exemption submissions EPA receives each year cannot be precisely predicted, EPA estimates it may receive approximately 45 requests in FY 2027.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$457.0) This net change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the recalculation of base workforce costs due to annual payroll increases, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$1,127.0 / +7.4 FTE) This program change increases capacity to the workload associated with supporting the enhancement of pesticides registration processes for the program. Additional FTE will support the Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention Program's continued efforts to protect human health and the environment.

Statutory Authority:

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA); Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA) § 408.

Science Policy and Biotechnology

Program Area: Pesticides Licensing

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$1,249</i>	<i>\$603</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>-\$603</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$1,249	\$603	\$0	-\$603
Total Workyears	4.6	4.6	0.0	-4.6

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

Program Project Description:

The Science Policy and Biotechnology Program is proposed for elimination in FY 2027 to increase the effectiveness of Agency operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work. The Science Policy and Biotechnology Program provided scientific and policy expertise supporting independent, external scientific peer review of matters related to pesticides and toxic substances, including biotechnology. The Program primarily supported two federal advisory committees: the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act Scientific Advisory Panel (FIFRA SAP) and the Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals (SACC). This change focuses on EPA's core mission and advances core statutory work.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Resources and FTE are proposed for elimination for this program in FY 2027.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$603.0 / -4.6 FTE) This program is proposed for elimination to decrease wasteful spending and refocus EPA on its mission. These adjustments are necessary to enable EPA to fulfill its responsibilities in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.

Statutory Authority:

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA); Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetics Act (FFDCA), §408; Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA); Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA).

Protecting Estuaries and Wetlands

National Estuary Program / Coastal Waterways

Program Area: Protecting Estuaries and Wetlands

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Clean and Safe Water

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$35,930</i>	<i>\$40,000</i>	<i>\$31,855</i>	<i>-\$8,145</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$35,930	\$40,000	\$31,855	-\$8,145
Total Workyears	35.3	30.5	30.8	0.3

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

Program Project Description:

The local National Estuary Programs (NEPs) work to restore the physical, chemical, and biological integrity of estuaries of national significance and coastal watersheds by protecting and restoring water quality, habitat, and living resources.¹³⁹ The NEP marks its 40th anniversary in 2027. The NEP/Coastal Waterways Programs leverage and collaborate with other Clean Water Act (CWA) programs to efficiently work toward achieving CWA goals. The Nonpoint Source Program provides technical assistance and oversight to states, Tribes, and territories to implement their Section 319 grant projects and support projects to reduce nonpoint source pollution that impacts water quality in estuaries and coastal waterways.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.2, *Clean and Safe Water*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, EPA will:

- Provide Clean Water Act Section 320 grants for the 28 NEPs. This is a highly leveraged program with projects that address coastal, estuarine, and inland freshwater ecosystem needs. In 2024, the NEPs leveraged an average of \$15 dollars for every dollar received from the EPA. Non-grant funding for this program will enable EPA to support and manage core programmatic activities, including providing technical support for the implementation of each NEP's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan, conducting regular program evaluations of individual NEPs and addressing findings, collecting and analyzing annual data from the NEPs, sharing lessons learned among the 28 NEPs, performing oversight of the NEPs and the CWA Section 320 grant funds, and designating new NEPs dependent on appropriations. The NEPs have restored or protected over two million acres since 2006.

¹³⁹ For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/nep>.

- Provide technical assistance to support local NEPs to address priority issues such as nutrient management, habitat protection and restoration, water quality, infrastructure, and marine litter reduction. Local NEPs engage and educate stakeholders and students and implement collaborative projects with regional, state, Tribal, and local partners. These projects include, but are not limited to, the restoration and recovery of submerged aquatic vegetation, dunes, shellfish, and fish, as well as the protection of wetlands and the reduction of nutrient and harmful algal blooms.
- Provide technical assistance and oversight to state, Tribal, and territorial efforts as they meet the requirements of the CWA Section 319. EPA will provide technical assistance and oversight for ongoing CWA Section 319(h) grants.
- Implemented \$1.0 million for the competitive NEP Coastal Watersheds Grant Program (CWA Section 320 (g)(4)) to address urgent and challenging environmental issues.

EPA continues to work with states, Tribes, trust territories, local NEPs, and federal agencies to implement the National Aquatic Resource Survey (NARS) and assess the condition of coastal/estuarine waters. In FY 2025, EPA, states, Tribes, and trust territories completed the field sampling work for the 2025 National Coastal Condition Assessment. Laboratory processing and quality assurance will be completed in FY 2026. EPA will share data with its partners and the public, conduct data analysis, and develop an updated National Coastal Condition Assessment web report and data dashboard in FY 2027.

EPA, as the federal chair of the Gulf Hypoxia Task Force, will work with other Task Force member federal agencies and twelve member states to continue the implementation of the 2008 Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan. This activity complements other coordination and implementation resources in the Geographic Program: Gulf of America and Surface Water Protection Program. 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.

EPA will continue to work with states, territories, Tribes, and other partners to identify impaired waters in coastal watersheds and support states and territories to develop and implement total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for listed impaired waterbodies, as required by CWA Section 303(d). TMDLs focus on clearly defined environmental goals and establish a pollutant budget, which is then implemented through local, state, and federal watershed plans and programs to restore waters. Further, EPA will support states, territories, and Tribes to develop other restoration approaches and plans for the protection of unimpaired or high-quality waters in coastal watersheds. In addition, EPA will continue to support tools and applications (e.g., the Watershed Academy, How's My Waterway, and Restoration and Protection Screening (RPS)) that educate the public and help states, territories, Tribes, and others efficiently prioritize coastal waters for restoration and protection.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$1,683.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$6,462.0) This net program change aligns program funding with core statutory requirements, recognizes needed efficiencies, and empowers EPA implementing partners through cooperative federalism. These adjustments are necessary to enable EPA to fulfill its responsibilities in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.
- (+0.3 FTE) This increase will provide additional FTE to focus on supporting national estuaries across the country.

Statutory Authority:

2021 Protect and Restore America's Estuaries Act; 1990 Great Lakes Critical Programs Act of the Clean Water Act; Great Lakes Legacy Reauthorization Act of 2008; Clean Water Act; Estuaries and Clean Waters Act of 2000; Protection and Restoration Act of 1990; North American Wetlands Conservation Act; Water Resources Development Act; 2012 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement; 1987 Montreal Protocol on Ozone Depleting Substances; 1909 Boundary Waters Treaty; Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act of 2006; Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act of 1987, Save our Seas 2.0 Act, and the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 1451 note).

Wetlands

Program Area: Protecting Estuaries and Wetlands
 Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American
 Objective(s): Clean and Safe Water

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$19,996</i>	<i>\$20,884</i>	<i>\$20,415</i>	<i>-\$469</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$19,996	\$20,884	\$20,415	-\$469
Total Workyears	107.4	102.7	114.0	11.3

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

Program Project Description:

America's wetlands are a precious resource. They not only act as natural filtration systems, but they also protect homeowners and businesses from flood damage and erosion. Additionally, wetlands support local economic and recreational activities, such as hunting, fisheries, and tourism.

EPA's Wetlands Protection Program works to protect these natural services through two primary mechanisms: 1) the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 regulatory program and 2) the state and Tribal wetland programs. Major activities of the Wetlands Protection Program include timely and efficient review of CWA Section 404 permit applications submitted to the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) or authorized states; engaging and partnering with USACE, states, and other stakeholders to develop stream and wetland assessment tools, and improve compensatory mitigation effectiveness and availability of credits for improved permit decision timeframes; providing technical assistance to state and Tribal wetlands and other aquatic resource protection and restoration programs, including CWA Section 404 Program assumption and Section 401 water quality certification; and providing technical assistance to the public on wetlands management and legal requirements.

Working with federal, Tribal, state, and local partners, EPA will strive to ensure an efficient and effective approach to wetlands and other aquatic resource protection, restoration, and permitting. To achieve this goal, the Agency will continue its collaborative relationship with USACE in the CWA Section 404 permitting program and Civil Works Program.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.2, *Clean and Safe Water*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

CWA Section 404

Section 404 of the CWA is an established program to regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands. The USACE is responsible for managing the day-to-day permit processes nationwide under CWA Section 404.¹⁴⁰ EPA engages in the CWA Section 404 permit process to ensure compliance with the CWA Section 404(b)(1) guidelines as the permitting authority formulates their proposed permits. EPA will efficiently perform its CWA permitting responsibilities to support new infrastructure and energy projects to ensure that companies can invest in this Nation. Through efficient permitting practices, EPA will ensure it does not become an unnecessary hindrance to economic development also while ensuring environmental protection.

In 2008, EPA and USACE issued a final rule governing compensatory mitigation for activities authorized by the CWA Section 404 and associated losses of aquatic resources. The regulation prescribes a review and approval process for the consistent and transparent establishment and management of mitigation banks and an in-lieu of fees program to provide more efficient permit delivery. EPA and USACE will continue to work together to evaluate the effectiveness of the compensatory mitigation program, provide training and technical resources to regulators and the public, and consider further enhancements to the program in preparation for the 20th anniversary of the Compensatory Mitigation Rule in 2028.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to support stream and wetland assessment methods, regional crediting protocols for compensatory mitigation, and provide technical assistance to regulators to improve the efficiency and environmental outcomes of federal and state agency review to enhance cooperative federalism. In addition, EPA will continue to improve efficiencies in federal CWA Section 404 permitting to help with reducing potential costs and delays; increasing consistency and predictability; reducing uncertainty for landowners; and improving protection of public health and the environment.

EPA also will advance cooperative federalism by continuing to carry out its responsibilities as a member of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council authorized under the Resources and Ecosystem Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States (RESTORE) Act, and as a Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) Trustee for the Deepwater Horizon oil spill under the Oil Pollution Act (OPA). Under CWA Section 404, the RESTORE Act, and OPA, EPA's responsibilities include timely, environmentally sound, and compliant implementation of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review and associated permitting. Under NRDA, EPA is a cooperating or leading federal agency for NEPA on all Deepwater Horizon Trustee Implementation Group restoration plans and ensures the appropriate level of NEPA analysis is integrated into those referenced restoration plans. EPA's RESTORE responsibilities include NEPA analysis for projects that the Council assigns to EPA. As an NRDA Trustee, EPA undertakes mandatory independent third-party financial audits every three years to ensure accountability regarding the use of funds provided under a 2016 consent decree.¹⁴¹ EPA

¹⁴⁰ Currently, two states, Michigan and New Jersey, are actively implementing assumed CWA Section 404 permit programs. CWA Section 404(g) gives states and Tribes the option of assuming, or taking over, the permitting responsibility and administration of the CWA Section 404 permit program for certain waters.

¹⁴¹ For more information, please see: <https://www.epa.gov/deepwaterhorizon>.

has completed three audits with no significant findings. The most recent audit was initiated in FY 2024 and concluded in FY 2025.¹⁴²

Assisting State and Tribal Wetlands and Aquatic Resource Programs

EPA will continue to aid states and Tribes interested in assuming the administration of the CWA Section 404 Program. In addition, EPA will advance cooperative federalism by continuing its technical assistance to support states and Tribes as they build their wetlands and aquatic resource programs to monitor, protect, and restore wetlands and other aquatic resources.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$2,215.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the recalculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE due to annual payroll increases, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and changes to benefits costs.
- (+\$1,746.0 / +11.3 FTE) This increase of resources and FTE supports the implementation of the Clean Water Act to protect and restore wetlands and other aquatic resources.

Statutory Authority:

Clean Water Act § 404, § 104(b)(3).

¹⁴² For more information, please see: <https://www.fws.gov/doiddata/dwh-ar-documents/1703/DWH-ARZ013259.pdf>.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)

RCRA: Corrective Action

Program Area: Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)
 Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American
 Objective(s): Revitalized Land and Contamination Prevention

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$37,342</i>	<i>\$35,695</i>	<i>\$24,531</i>	<i>-\$11,164</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$37,342	\$35,695	\$24,531	-\$11,164
Total Workyears	163.3	144.4	136.7	-7.7

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

Program Project Description:

Under EPA's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Hazardous Waste Cleanup (Corrective Action) Program, EPA and authorized states oversee the cleanup of contaminated facilities subject to RCRA requirements by the responsible parties.^{143,144} In areas where states and territories do not have authorization for the Hazardous Waste Cleanup Program, EPA directly implements the program.

The program is proposed for reduction to increase the effectiveness of Agency operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work. This change focuses resources on EPA's core mission and advances core statutory work.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.3, *Revitalized Land and Contamination Prevention*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the program will focus its resources on working with states to return the responsibility for funding local environmental efforts and programs to state and local entities. EPA will focus on core statutory requirements, recognizing needed efficiencies, and empowering states as EPA's implementing partners through cooperative federalism. Emphasis will be placed on ensuring that resources are accomplishing direct environmental remediation or impacts. EPA will work with states to continue the cleanup of 3,977 priority contaminated facilities on the current Corrective Action Progress Track, which includes highly contaminated and technically challenging sites. In FY 2025, EPA approved 74 RCRA facilities as ready for anticipated use, bringing the total number of RCRA facilities ready for anticipated use to 2,127 out of 3,977 on the FY 2025 Corrective Action Progress Track. As of the end of FY 2025, 45 percent of these facilities have completed

¹⁴³ Additional information about EPA's RCRA Hazardous Waste Cleanup Program is available at: <https://www.epa.gov/hw/hazardous-waste-cleanups>.

¹⁴⁴ State implementation of the Hazardous Waste Cleanup Program is currently funded through the STAG Resource Recovery and Hazardous Waste Grants Program, which the FY 2026 President's Budget proposes to eliminate, and matching state contributions.

final and permanent cleanups, leaving approximately 2,000 facilities still needing oversight and technical support to reach final facility-wide cleanup objectives. Additionally, the Corrective Action Progress Track is a subset of a larger group of facilities with potential corrective action obligations under RCRA. The program's goals are to control human exposures, control migration of contaminated groundwater, complete final cleanups for the Corrective Action Progress Track facilities, and continue to identify, assess, and clean up additional priority facilities.

In FY 2027, EPA will:

- Focus on implementing the program in states that are not authorized for the RCRA Hazardous Waste Cleanup Program, as well as in Tribal lands.
- Support states in the areas of site characterization, sampling, remedy selection, remedy construction, reaching final cleanup goals, long-term stewardship for cleanups with contamination remaining in place, cleanup optimization tools, and other techniques to speed up and improve cleanups.
- Coordinate with states to develop their own RCRA data management system as EPA transitions efforts to state and local programs and shifts from a national RCRA Info system.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$4,807.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$6,357.0 / -7.7 FTE) This program change aligns resources with core statutory requirements and strategic goals, recognizes the need for efficiencies, and empowers EPA implementing partners through cooperative federalism by prioritizing resources for those facilities that present the highest risk to human health and the environment. These adjustments are necessary to enable EPA to fulfill its federal responsibilities in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.

Statutory Authority:

Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) §§ 3004, 3005, 8001.

RCRA: Waste Management

Program Area: Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)
 Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American
 Objective(s): Revitalized Land and Contamination Prevention

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$66,714</i>	<i>\$67,571</i>	<i>\$39,510</i>	<i>-\$28,061</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$66,714	\$67,571	\$39,510	-\$28,061
Total Workyears	285.5	245.8	196.2	-49.6

The Agency notes that FY 2026 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.
 Total workyears in FY 2027 include 15.0 FTE funded by e-Manifest fees.

Program Project Description:

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Waste Management Program plays a role in establishing and updating standards for analytical test methods, maintaining updated permits, and assuring proper closure and post-closure controls for hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities. The program oversees the management of hazardous waste under RCRA Subtitle C and Subtitle D. The program also conducts work pertaining to marine litter and the international movement of hazardous waste.

The program is proposed for reduction to increase the effectiveness of EPA’s operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work. This change focuses resources on EPA’s core mission and advances core statutory work.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.3, *Revitalized Land and Contamination Prevention*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2025, EPA and authorized state permitting programs issued RCRA initial hazardous waste permits and permit renewals to 121 facilities. In FY 2027, the RCRA Waste Management Program will work with states to return the responsibility for funding local environmental efforts and programs to state and local entities. EPA will focus on core statutory requirements, recognize needed efficiencies, and empower states as EPA’s implementing partners through cooperative federalism. Emphasis will be placed on ensuring that resources are accomplishing direct environmental remediation or impact. In FY 2027, the RCRA Waste Management Program will:

- Perform statutorily mandated work to review and approve Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) cleanup, storage, and disposal activities to reduce exposures, particularly in sensitive areas like schools and public spaces.
- Directly implement the RCRA program in unauthorized states and on Tribal lands, as well as other unauthorized portions of state RCRA programs, issue and update permits,

including the continuation to improve permitting processes, and provide technical hazardous waste management assistance to Tribes to encourage sustainable practices and reduce exposure to toxins.

- Provide technical assistance to EPA regions, states, and Tribes regarding the development and implementation of solid waste programs [e.g., the RCRA hazardous waste generator, transporter, treatment, storage, and disposal regulations and implementing guidance; the Waste Import Export Tracking System (WIETS)].
- Manage the hazardous waste import/export notice and consent process. EPA will continue to implement the WIETS improvements and upgrades in order to make shipping hazardous waste across borders more efficient. Managing hazardous waste imports and exports is a federal responsibility, non-delegable to states.
- Provide technical and implementation assistance, oversight, and support to facilities that generate, treat, store, recycle, and dispose of hazardous waste.
- Provide technical assistance to states in issuing permits more quickly.
- Take action, as necessary, to ensure protective management of coal combustion residuals (CCR). EPA promulgated regulations specifying management and disposal practices to ensure people and ecosystems are protected and will continue to work with stakeholders as it develops and implements regulations through technical assistance and guidance.
- Implement applicable provisions of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act,¹⁴⁵ which enables states to submit for EPA approval state CCR permit programs. EPA will work with state partners to review and make determinations on state programs. EPA will implement a permit program for CCR disposal facilities on Tribal lands as well as participating states.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$5,412.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$22,649.0 / -49.6 FTE) EPA will prioritize resources for those facilities that present the highest risk to human health and the environment and align the Program with core statutory requirements and goals and objectives in the draft *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*. This program change recognizes the need for efficiencies and will empower EPA's implementing partners through cooperative federalism (i.e., Strategic Goal 3). These adjustments are necessary to enable EPA to fulfill its federal responsibilities in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.

¹⁴⁵ For more information, please refer to: <https://www.epa.gov/dwcapacity/water-infrastructure-improvements-nation-act-wiin-act-grant-programs>.

Statutory Authority:

Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) §§ 3002, 3004, 3005, 3017; Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) § 6. Save our Seas 2.0, 2020, Pub. L. 116-224; Good Samaritan Remediation of Hardrock Mines Act of 2024, Pub. L. 118-155.

RCRA: Waste Minimization & Recycling

Program Area: Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Revitalized Land and Contamination Prevention

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$10,642</i>	<i>\$9,632</i>	<i>\$4,193</i>	<i>-\$5,439</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$10,642	\$9,632	\$4,193	-\$5,439
Total Workyears	41.9	32.6	4.8	-27.8

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

Program Project Description:

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Waste Minimization and Recycling Program provides national leadership on direction and approaches to recycling and food waste management, partners with the United States Department of Agriculture and the United States Food and Drug Administration to prevent food waste. The program also works with international organizations to manage recycling and reduce waste associated with large sporting events, works with stakeholders to implement solutions to help protect human health and the environment through improved materials management, and gathers and provides scientific information and data.

The program is proposed for reduction to increase the effectiveness of Agency operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work. This change focuses resources on EPA’s core mission and advances core statutory work.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.3, *Revitalized Land and Contamination Prevention*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, EPA will work with states to return the responsibility for funding local environmental efforts and programs to state and local entities. The Agency will focus on core statutory requirements, recognize needed efficiencies, and empower states as EPA’s implementing partners through cooperative federalism. Emphasis will be placed on ensuring that resources are accomplishing direct environmental impacts. EPA will work to improve the U.S. recycling system and prevent food loss and food waste by implementing the following actions:

- Administer two grant programs:
 - Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling grant program for state, local, and Tribal governments to build or enhance recycling capacity and infrastructure around the country. The grant program will support pilot programs and infrastructure in communities seeking to enhance their capacity to recover and recycle materials.

- Recycling Education and Outreach grant program to support local governments and/or non-governmental organizations in developing, implementing, and evaluating effective informational campaigns that educate the public about food waste and organics management. This grant program will fund research that provides a framework for effective food waste reduction methods and support composting markets.
- Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling and Recycling Education and Outreach grants will continue to be supported by Agency staff; EPA anticipates Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funding to be fully obligated by the end of FY 2026.
- Finalize a new methodology for measuring solid waste through various management pathways, including recycling, composting, and anaerobic digestion.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (+\$1,094.0) This change to fixed and other costs is an increase due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$6,533.0 / -27.8 FTE) This program change aligns resources with core statutory requirements and strategic goals, recognizes the need for efficiencies, and empowers EPA implementing partners through cooperative federalism. These adjustments are necessary to enable EPA to fulfill its federal responsibilities in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.

Statutory Authority:

Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Pub. L. 117-58; Save our Seas 2.0, 2020, Pub. L. 116-224.

Toxics Risk Review and Prevention

Endocrine Disruptors

Program Area: Toxics Risk Review and Prevention
 Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American
 Objective(s): Chemicals in the Environment

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	\$6,658	\$7,614	\$4,715	-\$2,899
Total Budget Authority	\$6,658	\$7,614	\$4,715	-\$2,899
Total Workyears	7.9	7.6	4.8	-2.8

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

Program Project Description:

The Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program (EDSP) was established to screen pesticide chemicals for effects in humans like those produced by a naturally occurring estrogen. As described in the FFDCAs (as amended by the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA)) and the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), EPA also has authority to screen for endocrine effects beyond estrogen and to screen chemicals beyond pesticides, in humans and wildlife. This program will increase the effectiveness and efficiency of Agency operations by investing to more expeditiously screen pesticide chemicals for potential endocrine effects; incorporating screening within existing pesticide regulatory processes (rather than as a separate step); developing guidance for other types of pesticide chemicals, for which the law requires screening; and integrating critical EPA research efforts on endocrine disruptors into the screening program. This change focuses resources on EPA's core mission of protecting human health and the environment: it advances efficiencies for core statutory work, consistent with the law and EPA's legal settlement obligations, to identify and protect against endocrine disrupting effects which can alter brain development, reduce fertility, and cause a wide range of other adverse health outcomes.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program supports Goal 1/Objective 1.4, *Chemicals in the Environment*, and Goal 3/Objective 3.1, *Incentivized Investment*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

The EDSP is committed to providing sound science to support efficient and robust regulatory decisions that meet EPA's legal obligations under FFDCAs, FIFRA, and other statutory authorities.

In FY 2027, consistent with the implementation strategies announced in the EDSP Near-Term Strategies for Implementation in October 2023,¹⁴⁶ EPA will continue to ensure that new, conventional pesticide active ingredients have adequate data to address endocrine effects in humans and will phase any additional human endocrine data needs for existing chemicals into the registration review process. The EDSP screening and testing framework explicitly includes

¹⁴⁶ For more information, please see: <https://www.regulations.gov/document/EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0474-0005>.

evaluations on vulnerable subpopulations such as differences among life stages including pregnancy, infancy, and early childhood.

Secure and predictable funding is necessary to support staff and contractor time for endocrine data reviews and chemical decisions; develop and improve outdated information technology systems; develop guidance and strategies to screen other types of chemicals, consistent with EPA's legal mandate and discretionary authorities; conduct high-throughput screening of large groups of chemicals to support prioritization and targeted testing; and ensure that EPA is using the best available science to support its decisions.

While continuing to meet statutory obligations, EPA is actively developing and implementing efficiencies for this program. For example, imposing the full EDSP Tier 1 battery for all 10,000+ substances in the EDSP Universe of Chemicals would cost the regulated community more than \$10 billion, in addition to EPA resources for staff to manage the regulatory infrastructure to order and review the tests.¹⁴⁷ Given the current national and international laboratory testing capacity, it would take many years to complete and involve the sacrifice of many millions of animals if approaches are not improved. To address these issues, in FY 2027, the Agency will:

- Continue implementing a multi-year plan for the EDSP for pesticide active ingredients and inserts, focusing first on conventional pesticide active ingredients;
- Make chemical-specific decisions on whether the Agency has enough data through Tier 2 testing or other scientifically relevant information to issue FFDCA decisions for potential human endocrine effects such that Tier 1 data are not required, consistent with the policy that EPA announced in October 2023;
- Provide expert peer review to evaluate pesticide chemicals for potential exemption from endocrine data requirements, as authorized under FFDCA § 408(p)(4);
- Integrate and advance critical projects within EPA's research programs that will optimize available endocrine screening and testing methods and increase scientific confidence in HT approaches, which will support a more efficient, refined, and integrated approach to EDSP chemical screening and assessment;
- Build upon achievements in EPA's research programs to develop and validate new models to continue HT screening on pesticide substances that were not part of the *ToxCast* chemical sets, considering the priority groupings that were announced in October 2023; and
- Continue research to develop and refine methods to evaluate endocrine effects in wildlife.

To achieve and amplify scientific advances necessary to accomplish Administration priorities, the EDSP will continue to collaborate with relevant bodies and international partners, such as the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and bilateral partners. These partnerships maximize the efficiency of EPA's resources and promote adoption of internationally harmonized test methods, particularly high throughput, or computational approaches, for evaluating the potential endocrine effects of chemicals. EPA represents the U.S. as either the lead or a participant in OECD and other international projects involving pesticide regulation and the

¹⁴⁷ <https://www.epa.gov/endocrine-disruption/universe-chemicals-potential-endocrine-disruptor-screening-and-testing>.

improvement of assay systems, including the development of both animal and non-animal screening and testing methods.

Consistent with recommendations in the 2021 OIG report,¹⁴⁸ the October 2023 release of the EDSP Near-Term Strategies for Implementation represents the new strategic plan for the program. EPA has established both short-term and long-term performance measures in support of this strategic plan. As a short-term measure, EPA will track and communicate the status of EDSP-related DCIs. As a long-term measure, EPA is tracking and will report the completion of FFDCA Section 408(p) human health decisions (both completions and exemptions) for both new active ingredients and Registration Review cases. EPA intends to regularly update the public on implementation progress, including these measures, via the EPA website and other outreach.

The FY 2027 budget request supports more efficient screening of pesticide chemicals for endocrine effects and helps the EDSP program focus on statutory obligations.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$85.0) This net change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the recalculation of base workforce costs for existing FTE due to annual payroll increases, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and changes to benefits cost.
- (-\$2,814.0 / -2.8 FTE) This program is proposed for reduction to decrease wasteful spending and refocus EPA on its mission. These adjustments are necessary to enable EPA to fulfill its responsibilities in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.

Statutory Authority:

Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), § 408(p); Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), §1457.

¹⁴⁸ <https://www.epa.gov/office-inspector-general/report-epas-endocrine-disruptor-screening-program-has-made-limited>.

Pollution Prevention Program

Program Area: Toxics Risk Review and Prevention

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$12,768</i>	<i>\$5,351</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>-\$5,351</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$12,768	\$5,351	\$0	-\$5,351
Total Workyears	51.5	40.9	0.0	-40.9

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

Program Project Description:

The Pollution Prevention (P2) Program is proposed for elimination in FY 2027 to increase the effectiveness of Agency operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work. The P2 Program seeks to help businesses and others with developing and implementing source reduction practices before pollution is created. The program includes a counterpart P2 Categorical Grants Program in the State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) account that also is proposed for elimination.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Resources and FTE are proposed for elimination for this program in FY 2027.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$5,351.0 / -40.9 FTE) This program is proposed for elimination to decrease wasteful spending and refocus EPA on its mission. These adjustments are necessary to enable EPA to fulfill its responsibilities in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.

Statutory Authority:

Pollution Prevention Act of 1990 (PPA); Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).

Toxic Substances: Chemical Risk Review and Reduction

Program Area: Toxics Risk Review and Prevention

Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American

Objective(s): Chemicals in the Environment

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$89,826</i>	<i>\$87,476</i>	<i>\$74,141</i>	<i>-\$13,335</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$89,826	\$87,476	\$74,141	-\$13,335
Total Workyears	305.2	371.0	340.7	-30.3

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

Total program workyears in FY 2027 include 51.6 FTE funded by TSCA fees. TSCA Service Fees and associated FTE are not included in the budget formulation nor in the Explanations of Change. TSCA fee collections are dependent on full funding of the program.

Program Project Description:

This program is proposed for reduction to increase the efficiency of EPA operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work. With significant responsibilities under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), the Chemical Risk Review and Reduction program ensures the safety of chemicals in or entering commerce and addresses unreasonable risks posed by chemicals to human health and the environment.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.4, *Chemicals in the Environment*, and Goal 3/Objective 3.1, *Incentivized Investment*, in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, EPA will continue to emphasize adherence to statutory requirements and deadlines, including pre-market review of new chemicals, evaluation and management of the risks posed by existing chemicals, chemical data development and collection, review of Confidential Business Information (CBI) claims, and other statutory requirements. In FY 2027, work in this program includes:

New Chemical Reviews

- Conducting risk assessments for approximately 400 new chemical notices and exemption submissions and managing the unreasonable risks associated with these chemicals which helps to spur innovation and allow for the manufacture of newer chemical substances while ensuring protection of human health and the environment.
- Reducing the new chemical backlogs for Premanufacture Notices (PMNs) and Exemption Submissions by ensuring more timely case discussion meetings on newly submitted PMNs. EPA is reducing the number of days from receipt of a valid submission to case discussion meeting—a critical milestone in the risk assessment process for PMNs—demonstrating progress towards meeting the 90-day statutory deadline for a complete PMN review. In FY

2024, 167 valid PMNs were submitted and 165 of those progressed to the case discussion meeting by September 30, 2025, at an average of 196 calendar days. In FY 2025, 152 valid PMNs were submitted. At the end of FY 2025, there were 442 notices and 121 applications for exemptions from the full PMN review process. In FY 2027, EPA is planning for an additional 10% reduction in the number of days to the case discussion meeting. Resources will be used to support new models and tools and IT infrastructure improvements and maintenance to achieve this goal.

- Reducing the time to publish proposed and final significant new use rulemakings by an additional 10% compared to FY 2026 to ensure timely downstream distribution in the value chain for new chemicals.
- Increasing transparency by making information generated in the review of TSCA Section 5 notices available to the public and ensuring maintenance and timely release of updates to the TSCA Inventory of chemical substances which identifies chemicals in U.S. commerce.
- Supporting the development and application of new approach methodology (NAM) to reduce the use of animals for testing requirements.

Information Technology and Data Tools Infrastructure Improvements

- Enhancing the TSCA Chemical Information System to reduce manual handling of data, to increase internal EPA access to data relevant to chemical assessments, and to expedite review of chemicals.
- Aligning EPA with the international regulatory community's standard approaches to capture, store, maintain, and exchange data on chemical substances. In concert with other efforts to modernize EPA's chemical data management infrastructure, to deliver more efficient searching, collating, managing, and integrating chemical data, resulting in significant time and cost savings for industry and other stakeholders.
- Expanding the use of artificial intelligence in EPA's systematic review process for existing chemical risk evaluations, which will reduce costs while increasing the speed of review and the consistency of results from this foundational work.
- Maintaining the functionality of ChemView, continuing to increase transparency, and expanding the information ChemView makes available to the public, including newly completed chemical assessments, worker protection information, and other new data reported to EPA under TSCA.
- Continuing TSCA CBI LAN network, Central Data Exchange (CDX), and Chemical Information System stabilization and modernization efforts.
- Establishing systems and information technology (IT) capabilities to begin implementation of the TSCA CBI Sunset Program starting in June 2026.

Existing Chemical Prioritization, Risk Evaluation, and Risk Management

- Implementing statutory requirements to prioritize, evaluate, and address the unreasonable risks of existing chemicals; and maintaining the pipeline of chemicals to be prioritized for future risk evaluation, consistent with TSCA's requirement.
- Completing existing chemical risk evaluations – both EPA-initiated and those requested by manufacturers consistent with statutory deadlines.
- Promulgating risk management actions under TSCA Section 6(a) to address unreasonable risks and engaging in implementation activities associated with these final actions, including development of compliance guides and outreach to impacted entities.

- Completing chemical risk evaluations for the remaining High Priority Substances; and TSCA existing chemical risk evaluations currently under the consent decree through February 12, 2027. EPA is under a consent decree to complete by December 2026 all 20 existing chemical risk evaluations that were designated as high priority in December 2019.

Collection/Development of Chemical Information

- Implementing, as appropriate, data gathering requirements to obtain data needed for chemicals undergoing TSCA Section 6 prioritization and risk evaluations or other chemicals of concern.
- Utilizing test orders and data collection to fill critical data needs for existing chemical risk evaluation and risk management activities.
- Systematically collecting, reviewing, and synthesizing data for existing chemical risk evaluations in a transparent manner that leverages new technology to improve the efficiency and quality of this process.
- In FY 2027, EPA will conduct activities to help stakeholders prepare for the 2028 Chemical Data Reporting (CDR) cycle with reporting occurring every four years.
- Improving the transparency and efficiency of EPA's chemical data collection efforts, such as those for TSCA Section 8(e) data, CDR data, and TSCA Section 4 test data.
- Maintaining and updating the statutorily required TSCA Inventory under Section 8(b).

Confidential Business Information (CBI)

- Reviewing and making determinations on CBI claims contained in TSCA submissions; making certain non-CBI information available to stakeholders; and publishing identifiers for each chemical substance for which a confidentiality claim for specific chemical identity is approved.
- Continuing efforts to provide notice and collect extension requests for expiring CBI claims as required per TSCA Section 14(e).

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Support

- Continuing to support EPA priorities on reducing PFAS contamination, including implementing a PFAS testing strategy to seek scientific information informed by hazard characteristics and exposure pathways; and prioritizing risk-based reviews of new and existing PFAS.
- Making use of PFAS information submitted pursuant to EPA TSCA Section 8(a)(7) PFAS Data Reporting rule expected to be published in FY 2026.

Other Activities

- *TSCA Citizen Petitions*. Continuing to meet the requirements of TSCA Section 21 to grant or deny citizen petitions for the issuance, amendment, or repeal of certain actions (rules and orders) promulgated under specific components of TSCA Sections 4, 5, 6, and 8.
- *Formaldehyde Standards for Composite Wood Products*. Continuing to implement regulations under the TSCA Title VI Formaldehyde Standards for Composite Wood Products Act (Public Law 111-199), which established national emission standards for formaldehyde in new composite wood products.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$7,149.0) This net change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$6,186.0 / -61.2 FTE) This reduction recognizes the need to reduce spending and achieve TSCA program efficiencies.

Statutory Authority:

Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).

Toxic Substances: Lead Risk Reduction Program

Program Area: Toxics Risk Review and Prevention

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$12,815</i>	<i>\$12,512</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>-\$12,512</i>
Total Budget Authority	\$12,815	\$12,512	\$0	-\$12,512
Total Workyears	53.1	49.5	0.0	-49.5

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

Program Project Description:

The Lead Risk Reduction Program is proposed for elimination in FY 2027 to increase the effectiveness of Agency operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work. The Lead Risk Reduction Program contributes to the goal of reducing lead exposure. This change focuses resources on EPA’s core mission and work.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Resources and FTE are proposed for elimination for this program in FY 2027.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$12,512.0 / -49.5 FTE) This program change proposes to eliminate the Lead Risk Reduction Program to deconstruct wasteful spending, reduce unnecessary burden on EPA partners and the regulated community in order to unleash American energy and economic growth, and refocus EPA on its mission. These adjustments are necessary to enable EPA to fulfill its responsibilities in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.

Statutory Authority:

Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), 15 U.S.C. 2601 *et seq.* – Sections 401-412.

Underground Storage Tanks (LUST/UST)

LUST / UST

Program Area: Underground Storage Tanks (LUST / UST)
Goal: Provide Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American
Objective(s): Revitalized Land and Contamination Prevention

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Final Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan	FY 2027 President's Budget	FY 2027 President's Budget v. FY 2026 Enacted Operating Plan
<i>Environmental Programs & Management</i>	<i>\$11,507</i>	<i>\$11,126</i>	<i>\$6,710</i>	<i>-\$4,416</i>
Leaking Underground Storage Tanks	\$10,104	\$9,591	\$12,500	\$2,909
Total Budget Authority	\$21,611	\$20,717	\$19,210	-\$1,507
Total Workyears	90.7	78.0	66.2	-11.8

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

Program Project Description:

Environmental Programs and Management (EPM) resources in the Leaking Underground Storage Tanks / Underground Storage Tanks (LUST / UST) Program help prevent releases of petroleum from USTs by providing states and Tribes with technical assistance and guidance and by funding work that assists states and Tribes.¹⁴⁹ This funding supports direct implementation of UST programs in Tribal lands.

The program is proposed for reduction to increase the effectiveness of Agency operations and reduce duplicative, voluntary, and unnecessary work. This change focuses resources on EPA's core mission and advances core statutory work.

FY 2027 Activities and Performance Plan:

Work in this program directly supports Goal 1/Objective 1.3, *Revitalized Land and Contamination Prevention* in the *FY 2026-2030 EPA Strategic Plan*.

In FY 2027, the program will:

- Implement a targeted UST Tribal program, including inspections, enforcement, compliance assistance, and data management.
- Continue to coordinate with and support state UST prevention programs, fostering cooperative federalism and cross-agency partnerships.
- Provide technical assistance, compliance help, and expert consultation to state, Tribal, and other stakeholders on both policy and technical matters. This support strives to strengthen EPA's network of federal, state, Tribal, and local partners (specifically communities and people living and working near UST sites) and assists with implementation of the UST regulations.

¹⁴⁹ States as referenced here also include the District of Columbia and five territories as described in the definition of state in the Solid Waste Disposal Act.

Performance Measure Targets:

FY 2027 performance goals and targets are located in the FY 2027 Performance Goals tab.

FY 2027 Change from FY 2026 Enacted Budget (Dollars in Thousands):

- (-\$1,722.0) This change to fixed and other costs is a decrease due to the estimated calculation of base payroll costs for existing FTE, adjustments to provide essential workforce support, and estimated changes to benefits costs.
- (-\$2,694.0 / -10.8 FTE) This program change reflects a decreased need for state grant oversight due to the proposed elimination of the LUST Prevention and the Categorical Grant: Underground Storage Tanks programs. Additionally, this change aligns program funding with core statutory requirements and strategic goals, while empowering EPA's partners at the state, Tribal, and local level through cooperative federalism.

Statutory Authority:

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act §§ 8001, 9001-9011, and 9013.