



U.S. ARMY

# Southern Review

## of Legislative & Regulatory Actions

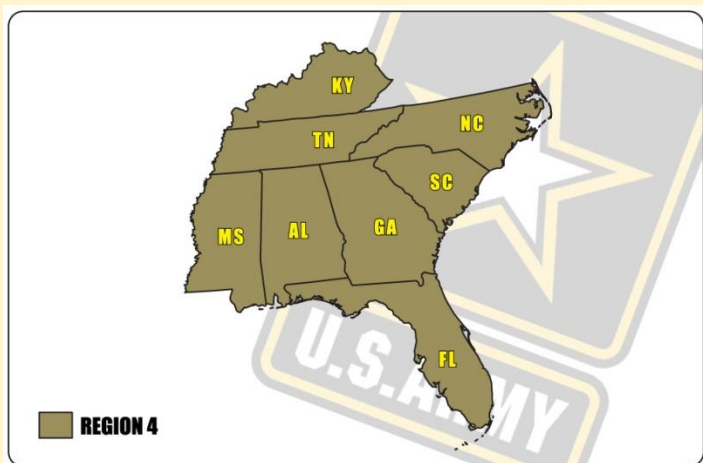


The U.S. Army Regional Environmental & Energy Office

November 2016

The *Southern Review* publishes environmental and energy related developments for DOD/Army leaders and installation staff. Covering the eight states in Federal Region 4, the *Southern Review* gives early notice of legislative and regulatory activities relevant to DOD interests. The *Southern Review* also helps installations meet ISO 14001 environmental management system requirements.

To read back issues of the *Southern Review* or other Army Regional Environmental and Energy Office *Reviews*, or to receive a monthly copy of this electronic publication, please [send an email request](#).



### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Alabama .....	2
Florida .....	2
Georgia .....	4
Kentucky .....	4
Mississippi .....	5
North Carolina.....	5
South Carolina .....	6
Tennessee .....	6
DOD Activity .....	6
Federal Activity .....	8
Professional Development .....	15
Staff Directory .....	19

## RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE

Department of Defense Instruction (DODI) [4715.23, Integrated Recycling and Solid Waste Management](#), establishes policy, assigns responsibility, and prescribes procedures to implement integrated solid waste management (ISWM) through waste prevention and recycling. The DODI, effective 24 OCT 16, also establishes the DOD ISWM Working Group.

Within the DOD, ISWM employs a hierarchy of approaches and technologies for managing materials to maximize resource conservation and protect the environment. Generally, the higher in the hierarchy the technology or process, the more benefits gained in efficiencies, retained economic value, and reduced long-term liability. From most to least preferred, the ISWM hierarchy is source reduction, sustainable procurement of goods and services, reuse of materials, donation, recycling, composting and mulching, waste to energy recovery, incineration, and landfilling.

In accordance with the DODI, each installation generating on average more than one ton of solid waste per day will develop, maintain, and annually review and update their ISWM plan. At a minimum, the ISWM plan must include:

- Identification of applicable DOD, executive, federal, state, and local requirements and Executive Orders (EOs);
- Results of a comprehensive solid waste characterization study;
- Installation-level ISWM goals;
- ISWM organizational structure with associated responsibilities;
- Economic feasibility study of potential diversion opportunities;
- Procedures to meet recordkeeping and reporting requirements;
- Outreach and education; and
- Practices to sustain compliance, facilitate improvement, and meet goals.

# Region 4

For more information or to comment on any state issue in Region 4, please contact [Dave Blalock](#), REEO-S Regional Counsel, (404) 545-5655.



## **LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 2 FEB 16 THROUGH 16 MAY 16**

Alabama has a one-year session. Adjournment dates are estimated and updated based on legislative activity. Alabama had a special session 15 AUG through 7 SEP 16.

### **PROPOSED RULES**

**HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT.** The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) [proposes](#) to amend the Hazardous Waste Management Regulations, Division 335-14, ADEM Administrative Code, to maintain the program's authorized status, to adopt new rules published by EPA, and to make typographical and grammatical corrections:

- [335-14-1](#), Hazardous Waste Management System: General
- [335-14-2](#), Identification and Listing of Hazardous Waste
- [335-14-3](#), Standards Applicable to Generators of Hazardous Waste
- [335-14-4](#), Standards Applicable to Transporters of Hazardous Waste
- [335-14-5](#), Standards for Owners and Operators of Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facilities
- [335-14-6](#), Interim Status Standards for Owners and Operators of Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities
- [335-14-7](#), Standards for the Management of Specific Hazardous Wastes and Specific Types of Hazardous Waste Management Facilities
- [335-14-11](#), Standards for Universal Waste Management

ADEM published the [notice of intended action](#) on 31 OCT 16, and the department set a hearing and deadline for comments on 7 DEC 16.



## **2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 12 JAN 16 THROUGH 11 MAR 16**

Florida has a one-year session. Adjournment dates are estimated and updated based on legislative activity.

## ***PROPOSED RULES***

**AQUACULTURE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES MANUAL.** The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FLDEP) [proposes](#) to amend Rule 5L-3.004, F.A.C., to reflect statutory changes related to mechanical harvesting, including construction restrictions adjacent to military installations, and clarify health requirements and other sections. FLDEP published a [notice of proposed rule](#) on 11 OCT 16.

**COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FEDERAL CONSISTENCY REVIEW.** FLDEP invited public comment on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) federal consistency determination for its Update of the Water Control Manual for the Apalachicola Chattahoochee-Flint River Basin in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia and a Water Supply Storage Assessment, as required by [Section 403.061\(42\), F.S.](#) USACE is proposing to update the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River Basin Master Water Control Manual, including a water supply storage assessment, to address potential reallocation of reservoir storage in Lake Sidney Lanier, Georgia, for water supply to Georgia. The USACE action is subject to review for consistency with the enforceable policies of the Florida Coastal Management Program. FLDEP issued a [public notice](#) on 31 OCT 16, with comments due by 15 NOV 16.

**WATER MANAGEMENT LANDS ACQUISITION PROCEDURES.** The Suwannee River Water Management District proposes to amend rules contained in [Chapter 40B-9, F.A.C.](#), for the purpose of removing unnecessary language and adding clarifying language. Amendments will include removing unused definitions; compiling definitions into one rule; clarifying and removing the requirement for professional engineering/ geologic services in the due diligence process for negotiated land acquisitions; removing references to Public Use Guide; addressing public safety and privacy by clarifying allowable and prohibited activities on district lands; and revising rule language to reflect changes to district organization and procedures. The water district published the [notice of development of rulemaking](#) on 28 OCT 16.

**PERMITTING CONSUMPTIVE USES OF WATER.** The St. Johns River Water Management District proposes to amend rules in [Chapter 40C-2, F.A.C.](#), to: (1) add the new rule language regarding "market conditions" for agriculture irrigation, as required by subsection 373.227(6), F.S. (2016); (2) clarify existing rules; (3) create additional streamlining; and (4) reduce regulatory burdens while protecting water resources. This rule development will cover (1) consumptive use permit criteria; (2) limiting conditions (permit conditions by rule); (3) permit thresholds; (4) permit types; (5) permit duration; (6) water conservation requirements; (7) annual allocation requirements and other rules needed to provide continuous reasonable assurance throughout the duration of a permit; (8) modification of permits; (9) 10-year compliance reports; (10) compliance monitoring and forms; (11) application forms; (12) secondary use permits; and (13) other rules for which conforming amendments may be needed, along with any rule changes made in the subject areas identified above. The water management district published [notice of development of rulemaking](#) on 12 OCT 16.

**BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES.** FLDEP proposes a rulemaking to implement the requirements of [Subparagraph 373.4595\(3\)\(b\)7.](#), F.S., [Paragraph 403.067\(7\)\(d\)](#), F.S., and [Subsection 373.813\(1\)](#), F.S., Florida Statutes. The rulemaking is intended to establish nonagricultural nonpoint source best management practices (BMPs), procedures to verify implementation of nonagricultural BMPs, procedures to verify implementation of water quality monitoring required in lieu of BMPs, and related enforcement procedures. [Chapter 62-307, F.A.C.](#), is being established as the rule chapter for these requirements. FLDEP published a [notice of development of rulemaking](#) on 25 OCT 16.

## ***FINAL RULES***

**EMISSION LIMITS DURING TRANSIENT MODES OF OPERATION.** FLDEP adopted a new rule section to [Chapter 62-210, F.A.C.](#), and revised specified provisions of [Rule 62-210.700, F.A.C.](#) The amendments address emission limits during transient operating conditions at regulated facilities, including periods of startup, shutdown, and malfunction (SSM). These changes are intended to meet the legal requirements of EPA's notice of final rule published in the Federal Register on 12 JUN 15 ([80 FR 33840](#)). EPA's final rule has been challenged in the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals by multiple states,

including the state of Florida, in *Walter Coke, Inc. v. U.S. EPA*, USCA Case No. 15-1166. FLDEP published a [notice of rule filing](#) on 11 OCT 16.



## ***2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 11 JAN 16 THROUGH 31 MAR 16***

Georgia has a two-year session (2015-2016) with 2015 bills carrying over for consideration in 2016. Adjournment dates are estimated and updated based on legislative activity.

### ***FINAL RULES***

**STARTUP, SHUTDOWN, AND MALFUNCTION EMISSIONS.** The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) amended the state's Rules for Air Quality Control, [Chapter 391-3-1](#). These amendments are required to comply with the EPA's call ([section 110\(k\)\(5\)](#) of the Federal Clean Air Act (CAA)) for Georgia to submit a State Implementation Plan (SIP) Revision to correct provisions inconsistent with section 302(k) of the CAA. The air rule amendments include the following changes:

- Rule 391-3-1-.02(2)(a)11., "Startup and Shutdown Emissions for SIP-Approved Rules," is being added to address process equipment and air pollution control equipment limits by including the option of complying with alternative work practice standards during periods of startup and shutdown.
- Rule 391-3-1-.02(2)(a)12., "Malfunction Emissions," is being added to allow compliance with source-specific alternative work practice standards during periods of malfunctions.
- Rule 391-3-1-.02(2)(a)13., "Startup, Shutdown, and Malfunction Emissions for Certain Rules," is being added to retain the language of the Excess Emission Rule. It describes requirements for minimizing excess emissions during periods of startup, shutdown, and malfunction for rules not adopted into the SIP.

Georgia EPD published the final rule on 7 OCT 16.



## ***2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 5 JAN 16 THROUGH 12 APR 16***

Kentucky has a one-year session. Adjournment dates are estimated and updated based on legislative activity.

### ***FINAL RULES***

**LIST OF HAZARDOUS WASTE.** The Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection (KYDEP) adopted an emergency regulation amending [401 KAR 31:040](#), which added hazardous waste codes for the treated wastes of nerve and blistering agents. This administrative regulation amendment references the changes to [40 C.F.R. 263.31](#) modifying the F019 listing to allow wastewater treatment sludge to be disposed of as a nonhazardous waste. Due to removal of 40 C.F.R. 263.38, the comparable syngas fuel exclusion, the reference was also removed from this administrative regulation. The emergency rules expired on 23 OCT 16.



## ***2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 5 JAN 16 THROUGH 8 MAY 16***

Mississippi has a one-year session. Adjournment dates are estimated and updated based on legislative activity.



## ***2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 25 APR 16 THROUGH 30 JUN 16***

North Carolina has a two-year session (2015-2016) with 2015 bills carrying over for consideration in 2016. Adjournment dates are estimated and updated based on legislative activity.

### ***PROPOSED RULES***

**ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION.** The North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources proposes amendments and new rules related to carrying out the functions of the Historic Preservation Office of State Archaeology. The department published the [proposed rule](#) on 3 OCT 16.

**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT - OFFSITE CONTAMINATION.** The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) proposes rules related to requirements for remedial action when contamination has migrated offsite. This modification does not change the legal requirements for remedial action or NCDEQ's implementation and enforcement of the statute. NCDEQ published the [proposed rule](#) on 3 OCT 16, with a comment deadline of 2 DEC 16.

**UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK CONTROL REGULATIONS.** The North Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (NCDHEC) proposes to amend R.61-92, Part 280: [Underground Storage Tank Control Regulations](#). This amendment focuses on adopting, with state-specific modifications, the federal underground storage tank requirements of 40 CFR part 280 effective 13 OCT 15, and revising portions of R.61-92, Part 280 pertaining to permitting and compliance requirements of the UST Control Regulations. NCDHEC proposes to reorganize the regulations for clarity and consistency with the format of the revised federal regulation effective 13 OCT 15. The department published the proposed regulation on 28 OCT 16.

### ***FINAL RULES***

**STARTUP, SHUTDOWN, AND MALFUNCTION SIP CALL RULE REVISIONS.** NCDEQ adopted [amendments](#) to 15A NCAC 02D .0535 and adopted 15A NCAC 02D .0545 relating to SSM operations. On 22 MAY 15, the EPA issued a final action to ensure states have plans in place that are fully consistent with the CAA and recent court decisions concerning SSM emission limit exemptions. EPA's final action responds to a Sierra Club petition, clarifies the EPA's SSM policy to assure consistency with the CAA and recent court decisions, and finalizes findings that the SSM provisions in the SIPs of 36 states that do not meet the requirements of the CAA, and accordingly issues a SIP call for each of those states. A SIP revision is required to be submitted by 22 NOV 16. Several states, including North Carolina, have entered into litigation over the validity of the EPA SIP call. Due to the uncertainty of the outcome of the litigation, North Carolina has chosen to move forward with rulemaking. The Rules Review Commission approved the rules on 20 OCT 16.

**STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.** NCDEQ adopted rules cited as 15A NCAC 02H .1018, .1019; .1021; .1031; .1040-.1045; .1050-.1062. NCDEQ readopted with substantive changes rules cited as 15A NCAC 02H .0150-.0154; 02H .1001-.1003; .1005-.1017; and .1020. The department readopted without substantive changes the rule cited as 15A NCAC 02H .0126. This package of rules was proposed by the Environmental Management Commission to meet the requirements of G.S. 150B-21.3A "Periodic Review and Expiration of Existing Rules" and Session Law 2013-82 "Fast-Track Permitting for Stormwater Management Systems." NCDEQ published the [approved rule](#) on 3 OCT 16.

**WORK PRACTICES FOR SOURCES OF VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS.** NCDEQ amended the rule, [15A NCAC 02D .0902](#), Applicability, to narrow the applicability of [15A NCAC 02D .0958](#), Work Practices for Sources of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC), from statewide to the maintenance area for the 1997 8-hour ozone standard. The amendments are intended to remove unnecessary burden associated with permitting and complying with the work practice standards in 15A NCAC 02D .0958. Provisions of the Clean Air Act require that the VOC requirements previously implemented in an ozone nonattainment area prior to redesignation of the area to attainment remain in place; however, facilities outside the maintenance area counties for the 1997 8-hour ozone standard would no longer be required to comply with the work practice standards in 15A NCAC 02D .0958. The Rules Review Commission approved the final rule on 20 OCT 16.



### ***2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 12 JAN 16 THROUGH 2 JUN 16***

South Carolina has a two-year session (2015-2016), with bills carrying over for consideration in 2016. Adjournment dates are estimated and updated based on legislative activity.



### ***2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 12 JAN 16 THROUGH 20 APR 16***

Tennessee has a two-year session (2015-2016) with bills carrying over for consideration in 2016. Adjournment dates are estimated and updated based on legislative activity.

## **Department of Defense Activity**

**UNIFORM NATIONAL DISCHARGE STANDARDS FOR VESSELS OF THE ARMED FORCES — PHASE II, BATCH TWO.** DOD and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are proposing discharge performance standards for 11 discharges incidental to the normal operation of a vessel of the Armed Forces into the navigable waters of the U.S., the territorial seas, and the contiguous zone ([81 FR 69793](#)). The 11 discharges addressed by the proposed rule are catapult water brake tank and post-launch retraction exhaust, controllable pitch propeller hydraulic fluid, deck runoff, firemain systems, graywater, hull coating leachate, motor gasoline and compensating discharge, sonar dome discharge, submarine bilgewater, surface vessel bilgewater/oil-water separator effluent, and underwater ship husbandry. EPA and DOD are also proposing to add definitions to the Uniform National Discharge Standards (UNDS). Within one year of finalization of the Phase II standards,

DOD will promulgate regulations governing the design, construction, installation, and use of marine pollution control devices necessary to meet the discharge performance standards. Comments are due 6 DEC 16.

**ACQUISITIONS.** DOD established an advisory panel on streamlining and codifying acquisition regulations ([81 FR 69052](#)). The panel will provide a final report to the Secretary of Defense and Congress in 2018. Additional information, including meeting agendas, is available [here](#).

**ARMY INSTALLATIONS 2025.** In October, the Army released [Army Installations 2025](#), a strategy to ensure its installations remain ready, resilient, and capable of meeting the demands placed upon them. Army Installations 2025 provides a holistic strategy for the future by incorporating the Army's Facility Investment Strategy and ASA (IE&E) [Strategy 2025](#). It aligns to overarching National, Department of Defense, and Army strategies and provides a strategic framework to guide and shape current and future program actions at all levels within the Army. Click [here](#) to read the full press release.

**GAO REPORT: BURN PITS.** In assessing the DOD's March 2016 report to Congress on the use of burn pits, the General Accountability Office (GAO) found that the DOD generally addressed burn pit reporting requirements ([GAO 16-16-781](#)). To complete the report to Congress, DOD tasked the military services, the Joint Staff, and the overseas combatant commands to provide information on the requirements in the mandate, including policies and procedures related to the disposal of covered waste (including certain types of hazardous waste, medical waste, and items such as tires, treated wood, and batteries) in burn pits during contingency operations. GAO found that DOD's report fully addressed four of the seven reporting requirements and partially addressed the remaining three. For example, the report addressed who is responsible for ensuring compliance with legislative requirements, but partially addressed whether the waste categories are appropriately and clearly distinguished in surveys and assessments.

Although DOD established guidance to meet applicable legislative requirements through the issuance of DODI 4715.19, U.S. Central Command is the only overseas geographic combatant command that has established complementary policies and procedures for implementing this guidance. The instruction applies to all the combatant commands, but it does not specify how combatant commanders will ensure compliance with requirements in the instruction. Officials from the other geographic combatant commands stated that their commands have not developed similar policies and procedures because they do not utilize burn pits and there is an absence of current contingency operations in their respective areas of responsibility. GAO noted that "while most of the overseas geographic commands may not currently be involved in contingency operations within their areas of responsibility, waste disposal would likely be required if such operations arise in the future, and the use of burn pits would be one option for disposing of waste. Establishing policies and procedures would better position these commands to implement DOD's instruction."

**NAVY AND CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION PARTNER ON RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS.** On 12 OCT 16, the California Energy Commission and the Department of the Navy signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that will help the state, Navy and Marine Corps pursue innovative renewable energy initiatives. The MOU helps implement some of the key [recommendations](#) made by the California Governor's Military Council in 2015. The recommendations aim to enhance the state's defense and national security mission and benefit California's economy and communities. Recent joint projects between the Department of the Navy and the Energy Commission include a demonstration of a waterless cleaning process for Kevlar vests, flame resistant garments and other ballistic gear at Naval Base Ventura County, Port Hueneme, and the installation of a solar microgrid system with battery storage to ensure mission readiness should the commercial power grid fail at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar.

Following the MOU signing, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations and Environment Dennis V. McGinn announced that the Navy and Marine Corps will lease 205 new electric vehicles for use at California installations, the largest integration of electric vehicles in the federal government. Secretary McGinn also announced that the Navy's [Renewable Energy Program Office](#) (REPO) signed agreements to develop solar energy and solar energy with battery storage projects at three Navy installations in California. The REPO agreements include the development of the largest solar photovoltaic (PV) facility on DOD land at Naval Air Station Lemoore; solar power and large-scale battery storage

system at Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach; and solar power combined with cutting-edge battery technology to supply energy to smaller critical loads indefinitely at Naval Base Ventura County. For more information, click [here](#).

# Federal Activity

## AIR

**PSD AND TITLE V GHG PERMITTING REGULATIONS.** EPA is proposing to revise provisions applicable to greenhouse gases (GHGs) in its Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) and Title V permitting regulations ([81 FR 68110](#)). The agency is taking this action in response to two court decisions, the June 2014 Supreme Court decision in *Utility Air Regulatory Group (UARG) v. EPA* and the April 2015 D.C. Circuit decision in *Coalition for Responsible Regulation v. EPA*. The proposed PSD and Title V revisions involve changes to several regulatory definitions in the PSD and Title V regulations, revisions to the PSD provisions on GHG Plantwide Applicability Limitations (PALs), and revisions to ensure that neither the PSD nor Title V rules require a source to obtain a permit solely because the source emits or has the potential to emit GHGs above the applicable thresholds. EPA is also proposing to establish an appropriate threshold level below which best available control technology (BACT) is not required for a source's GHG emissions. The level would be set at 75,000 tons per year (tpy) carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2e</sub>). Comments are due 2 DEC 16.

**EXPANDED LIST OF OZONE DEPLETING SUBSTANCE ALTERNATIVES.** EPA added four substances to the list of substitutes for ozone depleting substances under the Significant New Alternatives Program (SNAP) policy ([81 FR 70029](#)). The newly listed compounds are:

- R-448A, acceptable as a substitute for use in retail food refrigeration—refrigerated food processing and dispensing equipment (new and retrofit). R-448A, marketed under the trade name Solstice N-40, is a weighted blend of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).
- R-449A, acceptable as a substitute for use in retail food refrigeration—refrigerated food processing and dispensing equipment (new and retrofit). R-449A, marketed under the trade name Opteon XP 40, is a weighted blend of HFCs. EPA previously listed R-449A as an acceptable refrigerant substitute in a number of other uses.
- R-449B acceptable as a substitute for use in new and retrofit commercial ice machines, refrigerated transport, and retail food refrigeration (various equipment). R-449B, marketed under the trade name Forane 449B, is a weighted blend of HFCs.
- Trans-1-chloro-3,3,3-trifluoroprop-1-ene (Solstice FS) is acceptable as a substitute for use in total flooding uses in both normally occupied and unoccupied spaces. EPA previously listed trans-1-chloro-3,3,3-trifluoroprop-1-ene as a refrigerant for use in new equipment in centrifugal chillers and non-mechanical heat transfer, a foam blowing agent, a cleaning solvent, an aerosol solvent, and a carrier solvent in adhesives coatings and inks.

**CROSS-STATE AIR POLLUTION RULE: 2008 OZONE NAAQS.** EPA updated the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) to address interstate transport of ozone with respect to the 2008 ozone NAAQS ([81 FR 74504](#)). The final rule is intended to reduce ozone season emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>) in 22 eastern states that can be transported downwind as NO<sub>x</sub> or ozone. For the 22 states, EPA issued Federal Implementation Plans (FIPs) that generally provide updated CSAPR NO<sub>x</sub> ozone season emission budgets for the electric generating units (EGUs) within the states, and that implement the budgets via modifications to the CSAPR NO<sub>x</sub> ozone season allowance trading program. The final rule is effective 27 DEC 16.

**MATS ELECTRONIC REPORTING.** EPA extended the public comment period on its [29 SEP 16 proposed rule](#) on electronic reporting requirements for the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS) ([81 FR 75365](#)). The comment period was



extended an additional 15 days, to 15 NOV 16. The proposed rule would revise and streamline the electronic data reporting requirements of MATS for owners or operators of steam EGUs who use performance stack testing or continuous monitoring to demonstrate compliance.

**RESEARCH LINKS FINE PARTICLE POLLUTION BLOOD VESSEL DAMAGE IN YOUNG ADULTS.** According to new research published in the American Heart Association Journal, PM<sub>2.5</sub> may be associated with blood vessel damage and inflammation among young, healthy adults. Researchers found that periodic exposure to PM<sub>2.5</sub> was associated with several abnormal changes in the blood that are markers for cardiovascular disease. “These findings suggest that living in a polluted environment could promote the development of high blood pressure, heart disease, and stroke more pervasively and at an earlier stage than previously thought,” said Aruni Bhatnagar, Ph.D., study co-author and professor of cardiovascular medicine at the University of Louisville in Kentucky. An abstract of the article is available [here](#).

**NO REVISIONS FOR LEAD NAAQS.** USEPA has issued a final rule stating that based upon the agency’s review of the air quality criteria and the NAAQS for lead, the agency is retaining the current standards, without revision ([81 FR 71906](#)). The final rule becomes effective on 17 NOV 16.

## ***CLEANUP***

**GAO REPORT ON SUPERFUND SEDIMENT SITES.** GAO released a report reviewing issues related to Superfund sediment sites ([GAO-16-777](#)). The report examines EPA’s process for managing Superfund sediment sites more consistently nationwide, and looks at the challenges EPA faces in managing cleanups. To help ensure national consistency, EPA developed a framework of 11 risk management principles to consider in developing a site’s cleanup remedy, including assessing sources of contamination and ways to control them early in the cleanup process. The agency established a consultation process between its headquarters and 10 regions for two tiers of sediment sites—Tier 1 sites, those with proposed cleanups of 10,000 cubic yards or more of contaminated sediment, and Tier 2 sites, those that are large, complex, or controversial. EPA also established the Contaminated Sediments Technical Advisory Group to monitor the progress of and provide advice on sites throughout the cleanup process.

GAO recommends EPA clarify the Contaminated Sediments Technical Advisory Group’s operating procedures for the type of information and documentation, if any, that should be prepared in advance of update meetings. EPA agreed with GAO’s recommendation.

## ***CLIMATE CHANGE***

**HFC USE TO BE PHASED DOWN.** In October, at a summit in Kigali, Rwanda, representatives from nearly 200 member countries of the Montreal Protocol agreed to reduce emissions of HFCs, which are thousands of times more damaging to the climate than carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). Under the amendment to the Montreal Protocol, developed countries will start to phase down HFCs by 2019, continuing through 2036. Developing countries will follow with a freeze of HFCs consumption levels in 2024, with some countries freezing consumption in 2028. The current agreement states that by 2036 and thereafter a country’s HFC use will be approximately 15 to 20 percent of its 2011 to 2014 use. A statement by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), including links to the agreement text, is available [here](#).

**PARIS AGREEMENT RATIFIED.** The [Paris Agreement](#), which calls for zeroing-out of net carbon pollution by the end of the century, was ratified on 5 OCT 16 and will enter into force on 4 NOV 16. The Paris Agreement requires all parties to put forward their best efforts through “[nationally determined contributions](#)” and to strengthen these efforts in the years ahead. All parties must report regularly on their emissions and implementation efforts.

**CARBON SEQUESTRATION.** EPA [released](#) the final guidance document on the [Geologic Sequestration of CO<sub>2</sub>](#). The guidance supports Class VI permit applicants and owners or operators in complying with the reporting and recordkeeping requirements of the Class VI rule and the related submittal and management of information associated with Class VI geologic sequestration projects.

**EMISSIONS AND EFFICIENCY STANDARDS FOR MEDIUM- AND HEAVY-DUTY ENGINES AND VEHICLES.** EPA and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) issued final rules to reduce GHG emissions and fuel consumption from new on-road medium- and heavy-duty vehicles and engines ([81 FR 73478](#)). NHTSA's fuel consumption standards and EPA's CO<sub>2</sub> emission standards are tailored to each of four regulatory categories of heavy-duty vehicles: combination tractors; trailers used in combination with those tractors; heavy-duty pickup trucks and vans; and vocational vehicles. The rule includes separate standards for the engines that power combination tractors and vocational vehicles. EPA's program specifies HFC standards to control leakage from air conditioning systems in vocational vehicles and nitrous oxide and methane standards for heavy-duty engines. The rulemaking finalized emission standards for non-GHG emissions, relating to the use of diesel auxiliary power units installed in new tractors, clarified classification of natural gas and other gaseous-fueled heavy-duty engines, and made technical amendments to rules for emissions of non-GHG pollutants from light-duty motor vehicles, marine diesel engines, and other non-road engines and equipment. The final rule also addresses emissions from [glider vehicles](#). The final rule is effective 27 DEC 16.

**GHG EMISSIONS FROM LARGE FACILITIES.** EPA [released](#) its sixth year of [GHG Program Reporting](#) data, detailing GHG emissions broken down by industrial sector, geographic region and individual facilities. [In 2015](#), reported emissions from large industrial sources, representing approximately 50 percent of total U.S. GHG emissions, were 4.9 percent lower than 2014, and 8.2 percent lower than 2011. The program collects facility-level GHG data from major industrial sources across the U.S., including power plants, oil and gas production and refining facilities, iron and steel mills, and landfills. The program also collects data on the production and consumption of HFCs, predominantly used in refrigeration and air conditioning.

## ***CULTURAL RESOURCES***

**REESTABLISHING A FORMAL GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT RELATIONSHIP WITH THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY.** The Department of the Interior (DOI) issued a final rule establishing an administrative process for reestablishing a formal government-to-government relationship with the Native Hawaiian community ([81 FR 71278](#)). The rule establishes an administrative procedure and criteria that DOI would use if the Native Hawaiian community forms a unified government that then seeks a formal government-to-government relationship with the United States. Consistent with the federal policy of self-determination and self-governance for indigenous communities, the Native Hawaiian community itself would determine whether and how to reorganize its government. The final rule was effective 14 NOV 16.

## ***ENERGY***

**NEW CLEAN ENERGY GOAL FOR CIVILIAN FEDERAL AGENCIES.** On 14 OCT 16, President Obama [announced](#) a new goal for civilian agencies to procure and facilitate development of one gigawatt of new renewable electricity by 2021. The goal promotes installation of renewable energy on federal land, development of new solar through power purchase agreements, and procurement of bundled green energy to power federal facilities. The target will also incentivize projects on federal land where the government is not the sole user, such as enhanced use leases, and facilitate private development. The new goal builds on last year's goal that 30 percent of electricity used by the federal government will come from renewable sources by 2025.

## ***HAZARDOUS MATERIALS***

**AIR TRANSPORT PROHIBITION ON SAMSUNG GALAXY NOTE 7.** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) issued Emergency Restriction/Prohibition Order FAA-2016-9288 for Samsung Galaxy Note 7 users and air carriers ([81 FR 71983](#)). The emergency order prohibits persons from transporting via air any Samsung Galaxy Note 7 device on their person, in carry-on baggage, in checked baggage, or as cargo; requires individuals who inadvertently bring a Samsung Galaxy Note 7 device onto an aircraft immediately power off the device, not use or charge the device while aboard the aircraft, protect the device from accidental activation, including disabling any features that may turn on the device, such as alarm clocks, and keep the device on their person and not in the overhead compartment, seat back pocket, nor in any carry-on

baggage, for the duration of the flight. The emergency order also requires air carriers to inform passengers about the prohibition. The order was effective 15 OCT 16.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

**CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE REPORTS AVAILABLE ONLINE.** A new website, [EveryCRSReport.com](http://EveryCRSReport.com) is providing access to reports by the Congressional Research Service (CRS). The reports, created in the context of the overall mission of CRS to provide research support to Congress, are [intended](#) to clearly define issues in a legislative context. The website offers options to sign up to receive email notifications when a new report in a particular topic area is issued.

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE.** EPA [released](#) its environmental justice strategic plan for 2016 to 2020. The [Environmental Justice 2020 Action Agenda](#), referred to as EJ 2020, will further integrate environmental justice considerations in all of EPA's programs. The EJ 2020 Action Agenda has three overarching goals:

- Deepen environmental justice practice within EPA programs to improve the health and environment of overburdened communities.
- Work with partners to expand EPA's positive impact within overburdened communities.
- Demonstrate progress on critical national environmental justice challenges.

## **NATURAL RESOURCES**

**FEDERAL SUPPORT OF STATE MARINE COASTAL ECOSYSTEM RESILIENCE EFFORTS.** GAO conducted a review of efforts by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to support a variety of state-initiated actions to make their marine ecosystems more resilient and issued a report on its findings ([GAO-16-834](#)). GAO found that NOAA is taking a variety of actions to support states' efforts to make their marine coastal ecosystems more resilient to climate change, and that states generally view NOAA's actions as positive steps. The Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) provides a foundation for managing these ecosystems and partnering with states to work toward the agency's goals of achieving resilient coastal communities and healthy coastal ecosystems. Through the federal-state partnership established under the CZMA, GAO found that NOAA has taken actions, including providing financial incentives, through the use of competitive grants; provided technical assistance to help states better understand and address the potential impacts of climate change on marine coastal ecosystems; and supported the National Estuarine Research Reserve System. NOAA, in partnership with coastal states, manages 25 marine-based estuary reserves, in part, to study natural and man-made changes to estuaries.

**AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES TASK FORCE.** The Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force was scheduled to meet 9-10 NOV 16 ([81 FR 69843](#)). The purpose of the task force is to develop and implement a program for U.S. waters to prevent introduction and dispersal of aquatic invasive species; to monitor, control, and study such species; and to disseminate related information. The meeting agenda included discussions on new species occurrences and task force member reporting and strategic planning; updates on ballast water legislation and management technologies, policy and planning from the National Invasive Species Council, the [Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers!](#) and [Habitattitude](#) campaigns, and the Arctic Council; and sessions on developing effective outreach programs and on organisms in trade.

**OCEAN RESEARCH PLAN.** The Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology, under the National Science and Technology Council, is [requesting public input](#) on a plan it is developing to guide ocean research over the coming decade. The plan will provide the framework for specific actions federal agencies will take, both individually and in collaboration. The plan is intended to:

- Accelerate understanding of the ocean and its role in the Earth system through cutting edge scientific research;
- Promote effective translation and application of science to address ocean resource management and policy-making needs;

- Harness advances in technology and innovation in support of the ocean science and technology enterprise;
- Promote more efficient information sharing among ocean sectors;
- Inform the evolution of an innovative ocean science and technology research agenda and provide context and guidance for national ocean research priorities;
- Better align federal ocean science and technology activities with broader national and global efforts to address environmental and societal issues;
- Foster interdisciplinary collaboration, leveraging, and partnerships to advance ocean science and technology and anticipate and address societal challenges; and
- Inform allocation of federal and other ocean science and technology resources to support high priority research activities.

Comments are due 1 JAN 17. To view the plan prospectus, click [here](#).

**WORLD'S LARGEST MARINE RESERVE CREATED OFF ANTARCTICA.** The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources created a 598,000 square-mile marine protected area in the Ross Sea by a unanimous decision of the international body that oversees the waters around Antarctica. The commission comprises 24 countries, including the United States and the European Union. The marine protected area will help support vast numbers of fish, seals, penguins, and whales. Commercial fishing will not be allowed in 432,000 square miles of the new reserve, but 28 percent of it will be designated as research zones, where scientists can catch limited amounts of fish and krill. To learn more, click [here](#).

**NATIONAL HANDBOOK OF CONSERVATION PRACTICES.** The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is revising conservation practices standards in the National Handbook of Conservation Practices ([81 FR 69779](#)). NRCS is revising standards for Brush Management (Code 314); Herbaceous Weed Treatment (Code 315); Lined Waterway or Outlet (Code 468); Prescribed Grazing (Code 528); and Restoration of Rare or Declining Natural Communities (Code 643). State conservationists who choose to adopt the practices for use within their states will incorporate them into section IV of their respective electronic Field Office Technical Guides. The final changes were effective 7 OCT 16.

**REVISIONS TO PUBLIC NOTICE RULE PROVISIONS.** USEPA has issued a final rule revising the public notice rule provisions for the NSR, title V, and Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) permit programs, and corresponding onshore area (COA) determinations for implementation of the OCS air quality regulations ([81 FR 71613](#)). The final rule removes the mandatory requirement to provide public notice of a draft air permit through publication in a newspaper. Instead, the final rule requires electronic notice (e-notice) for USEPA actions (and actions by permitting authorities implementing the federal permitting rules) and allows for e-notice as an option for actions by permitting authorities implementing USEPA-approved programs. When e-notice is provided, the final rule requires, at a minimum, electronic access to the draft permit. The final rule became effective on 17 NOV 16.

## ***SUSTAINABILITY***

**WORKPLACE EV CHARGING GUIDANCE.** The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) issued guidance for federal agency implementation of workplace charging of electric vehicles (EVs) ([81 FR 72041](#)). The guidance outlines how federal agencies can take advantage of workplace charging opportunities in accordance with the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, and provides an approach for a uniform fee for the use of existing and new hard-wired electric vehicle supply equipment for the purposes of seeking reimbursement under the FAST Act. The guidance also describes how federal agency chief sustainability officers should coordinate with federal fleet managers to report annually on the implementation of workplace charging in the federal automotive statistical tool. The guidance is effective 19 OCT 16.

**FY16 STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE PLANS.** In their Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Sustainability Plans, agencies outline the actions they have taken and plans to continue their progress. For an overview of federal sustainability planning efforts and to view federal agency sustainability plans, click [here](#). DOD sustainability plans are available [here](#).

**PREPARING THE NATION FOR EXTREME SPACE WEATHER EVENTS.** In October, President Obama issued an EO establishing policy to prepare for space weather events. EO 13744, [Coordinating Efforts to Prepare the Nation for Space Weather Events](#), tasks federal agencies, including the DOD, to take specific actions to prepare for and respond to extreme space weather events. Space weather events, in the form of solar flares, solar energetic particles, and geomagnetic disturbances, occur regularly, some with measurable effects on critical infrastructure systems and technologies, such as the Global Positioning System (GPS), satellite operations and communication, aviation, and the electrical power grid. Extreme space weather events — those that could significantly degrade critical infrastructure — could disable large portions of the electrical power grid, resulting in cascading failures that would affect key services such as water supply, healthcare, and transportation.

## ***THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES***

**SPECIES LISTINGS CAN BE BASED ON CLIMATE PROJECTIONS.** In October, an appeals court [decided](#) that federal authorities may list a species as threatened based on climate models that show habitat loss in the coming decades. The state of Alaska, oil company groups, and Alaskan natives had challenged a decision by the federal government to list a sea ice seal subspecies as threatened and deserving of protection. The challengers maintained the subspecies' population was currently healthy and the climate projections were speculative. A three-judge panel of the San Francisco-based U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals disagreed. The panel decided unanimously that the National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) reasonably determined that loss of Arctic sea ice over shallow waters would "almost certainly" threaten the survival of a Pacific bearded seal subspecies by the end of the century. "The service need not wait until a species' habitat is destroyed to determine that habitat loss may facilitate extinction," Judge Richard A. Paez wrote for the court. To read a news report about the ruling, click [here](#).

**SUWANNEE MOCCASINSHELL.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) determined threatened species status for the [Suwannee moccasinshell](#) (*Medionidus walker*), a freshwater mussel species from the Suwannee River Basin in Florida and Georgia ([81 FR 69417](#)). The final rule is effective 7 NOV 16.

**WHITE-HAIRED GOLDENROD.** FWS delisted the [white-haired goldenrod](#) (*Solidago albopilosa*), effective 10 NOV 16 ([81 FR 70043](#)). The plant species is found in Kentucky.

**FOUR FLORIDA PLANT SPECIES.** FWS is proposing to list Everglades bully (*Sideroxylon reclinatum ssp. austrofloridense*); Florida pineland crabgrass (*Digitaria pauciflora*); and pineland sandmat (*Chamaesyce deltoidea ssp. pinetorum*) as threatened and Florida prairie-clover (*Dalea carthagenensis var. floridana*) as endangered ([81 FR 70282](#)). Comments are due 12 DEC 16.

**BLACK WARRIOR WATERDOG.** FWS is proposing to list the [Black Warrior waterdog](#) (*Necturus alabamensis*), an aquatic nocturnal salamander ([81 FR 69500](#)) as endangered and to designate 669 miles of river in Alabama as critical habitat ([81 FR 69475](#)). FWS also released a draft economic analysis of the proposed critical habitat designation for public comment. Comments are due 5 DEC 16.

**12-MONTH FINDINGS ON PETITIONS TO LIST 10 SPECIES.** FWS has determined that listing the following 10 species is not warranted at this time: Huachuca-Canelo population of the Arizona treefrog, the Arkansas darter, black mudalia, Highlands tiger beetle, Hirst Brothers' panic grass, two Kentucky cave beetles (Louisville cave beetle and Tatum Cave beetle), relict leopard frog, sicklefin redbone sucker, and Stephan's riffle beetle ([81 FR 69425](#)). The finding was made 6 OCT 16.

**KENTUCKY ARROW DARTER.** FWS determined threatened status for the [Kentucky arrow darter](#) (*Etheostoma spilotum*), a fish species from Kentucky ([81 FR 68963](#)). The service also adopted a rule under section 4(d) of the ESA to further provide for conservation of the species. In addition, the service designated approximately 248 stream miles of critical habitat in Kentucky for the species ([81 FR 69312](#)). The final rules were effective 4 NOV 16.

**MIAMI TIGER BEETLE.** FWS determined endangered status for the [Miami tiger beetle](#), found in Miami-Dade County, Fla. ([81 FR 68985](#)). The final rule was effective 4 NOV 16.

**RED WOLF.** FWS is initiating a five-year status review for the [red wolf](#) (*Canis rufus*) ([81 FR 75425](#)). The species is found in Florida, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Comments are due 30 DEC 16.

## ***TOXICS***

**BIOTECHNOLOGY REGULATED UNDER TSCA: ALGAE.** In October, EPA hosted a public meeting in Tempe, Ariz., to receive public input and comment on the agency's draft Algae Guidance for the Preparation of Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Biotechnology Submissions, referred to as the algae guidance. ([81 FR 70419](#)). The draft algae guidance describes EPA's data needs to support risk assessments of genetically engineered algae and cyanobacteria that are manufactured, imported, or processed, and are subject to regulation under section 5 of TSCA. Genetically engineered microorganisms subject to EPA oversight are used in a wide variety of applications, including, but not limited to, fuel production, biomass conversion, waste treatment, biofertilizers, bioremediation, biomining, biosensors, and production of enzymes or chemicals. Written comments on the draft guidance are due 30 NOV 16.

## ***WASTE***

**RETAIL SECTOR HAZARDOUS WASTE.** In September, EPA released its [strategy](#) for addressing hazardous waste generated by retail activities. EPA's so-called "retail strategy" lays out a plan to address the unique challenges the retail sector faces in complying with hazardous waste regulations. The retail strategy complements EPA's August 2016 [conceptual framework](#) for the flow of consumer goods and wastes in the retail sector. A webinar scheduled 10 NOV 16 provided an overview of the retail strategy and an opportunity for public input. For more information, click [here](#).

**HAZARDOUS WASTE EXPORT AND IMPORT.** In advance of formal publication EPA released the text of a [final rule](#) implementing changes to the export and import of hazardous wastes, including universal wastes and specific wastes such as lead-acid batteries, from and into the United States. The final rule:

- Establishes improved export and import shipment tracking;
- Establishes a single consolidated and streamlined set of requirements applying to all imports and exports;
- Requires electronic reporting to EPA; and
- Links the consent to export with the electronic export information submitted to U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

The final rule is effective 31 DEC 16.

**HAZARDOUS WASTE COMPLIANCE DOCKET.** EPA published the 30<sup>th</sup> update to the Federal Agency Hazardous Waste Compliance Docket ([81 FR 73096](#)). The revisions in this update include 13 additions, 28 corrections, and 21 deletions since the previous update in March 2016.

## ***WATER***

**LEAD AND COPPER RULE.** In October, EPA released a [white paper](#) on revisions to the federal Lead and Copper Rule (LCR). According to the white paper, EPA's goal for the LCR revisions is to strengthen corrosion control treatment in drinking water to further reduce exposure to lead and copper and to identify additional actions to equitably reduce public exposure to lead and copper, when corrosion control treatment alone is not effective. The white paper identifies five key principles to guide the agency as it develops proposed LCR revisions. EPA is currently considering an approach that incorporates both technologically based and health-based elements to ensure reductions of lead in drinking water at the water system level, while at the same time providing consumers with the information, tools, and protections to address remaining risks. The agency welcomes input and feedback on ideas presented in the white paper to support development of a

proposed rulemaking for publication in the Federal Register in 2017. To learn more, visit EPA's LCR long-term revisions [website](#).

**COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS FOR VOLUNTARY LONG-TERM STORMWATER PLANNING.** EPA [launched](#) a new stormwater planning initiative to help communities plan long-term strategies for managing stormwater pollution. The initiative includes a step-by-step [guide](#) to help communities develop long-term stormwater plans, a web-based toolkit for the planning process, and technical assistance for five communities to develop plans that will be used as national models.

**PERCHLORATE IN DRINKING WATER: PEER REVIEW OF BACKGROUND MATERIALS.** EPA extended the public comment period on its [September 2016 request for comment](#) on the draft biologically based dose response model for perchlorate in drinking water ([81 FR 73397](#)). The model will be used to predict the effects of perchlorate on the thyroid gland of certain populations. EPA will use the model results to develop maximum contaminant level goals (MCLGs) for drinking water. The public comment period was extended an additional 11 days, to 27 NOV 16.

# Professional Development

## *DOD TRAINING SOURCES*

**US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PROSPECT TRAINING.** USACE announces course availability for the FY17 PROSPECT (i.e., Proponent-Sponsored Engineer Corps Training) program. Courses are open to federal, state, county, and city employees and contractors. There are different registration processes for each entity. Please refer to the [course catalog](#) and list of classes and schedule for details. Environmental courses include, but are not limited to:

- Environmental Regulations Practical Application Course (Course Control Number (CCN) 398)
- CERCLA/RCRA Process (CCN 356)
- Hazardous Waste Manifesting & DOT Certification (CCN 223)
- Hazardous Waste Manifesting 16-Hour DOT Recertification Course (CCN 429)
- Radioactive Waste Transport (CCN 441)
- Hazardous/Toxic and Radioactive Waste Construction Inspection (CCN 141)
- Environmental Remediation Technologies (CCN 395)
- Environmental Laws and Regulations (CCN 170)

**NAVY AND ISEERB ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING.** The Navy and the Interservice Environmental Education Review Board (ISEERB) Environmental Training schedule is available. Course topics include environmental overview and management, law planning and sustainability, pollution prevention, restoration, conservation, supplemental and Internet/computer-based training, and more.

**AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEERING SCHOOL TRAINING.** The Air Force Civil Engineering School offers a variety of environmental management courses and seminars, including ISEERB offerings. Courses offered by the Civil Engineer School are available to all military and civilian employees of the U.S. government, free of charge. Travel costs are borne by the student.

**DEFENSE AND FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING/AWARENESS.** The Army offers numerous environmental training courses (classroom and online). Explore training opportunities on the U.S. Army Environmental Command [website](#), which has links to training provided by DOD organizations.

## ***FEDERAL TRAINING SOURCES***

**CLASSROOM TRAINING, MULTIPLE OFFERINGS, 2016 AND 2017:** [New Approaches in Remediation of Contaminated Sediments](#). In this two-day class, conventional and emerging technologies for remediating contaminated sediments will be addressed, including removal followed by treatment and disposal; in situ isolation of the sediments from the environment by covering the sediment with neutral materials (i.e., passive capping); active capping technologies, and monitored natural recovery, which involves monitoring processes that isolate, degrade, transform, and immobilize sediment contaminants under natural conditions. The course will address solutions to contaminants in both marine and freshwater sediments including the effects of remediation on the benthic environment. Emerging technologies that address contaminant toxicity, biogeochemistry, and transport mechanisms will also be highlighted. Classes are offered in December 2016 and February, April, June, August, and November 2017.

**CLASSROOM TRAINING, MULTIPLE OFFERINGS, 2017.** [Interagency Consultation for Endangered Species](#). Participants acquire basic information on conducting interagency consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. Key information needs and procedures are addressed, with a focus on the information needs related to biological assessments and biological opinions. Lecture and discussion emphasize interagency exchange of information and solutions to support species conservation. Action agency biologists and consultants are welcome to attend. The classroom training is offered in February, April, June, and July, 2017.

**FEDERAL FACILITIES ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE CENTER.** [FedCenter.gov](#) is the federal government's home for comprehensive environmental stewardship, compliance assistance, and professional development information. FedCenter.gov provides a wide variety of information in the following areas:

- Program development (e.g., environmental management systems, green procurement program);
- Federal and state regulatory requirements for various facility activities;
- Regulatory Watch for information on new or changed laws or regulations;
- Pollution prevention opportunities and best management practices;
- EPA enforcement notices;
- Links to state environmental programs;
- Access to [environmental assistance](#);
- Access to free, FedCenter-sponsored courses:
  - [Environmental Compliance for Federal Laboratories](#) (FedCenter membership required);
  - [Environmental Management Systems](#) (FedCenter membership required);
  - [Underground Storage Tanks](#) (FedCenter membership required);
- Environmental conferences, meetings, training, and workshop information;
- Applicable laws and Executive Orders; and
- Industry sector-specific newsletters.

FedCenter also provides member assistance services such as:

- Collaboration tools for workgroups,
- Environmental reporting tools, and
- Daily newsletter and subscription services.

**SUSTAINABLE ACQUISITION TRAINING RESOURCES.** The interagency federal Sustainable Acquisition & Materials Management Practices Workgroup compiled a [spreadsheet](#) of sustainable acquisition training resources developed or hosted by federal agencies that are available to government employees, businesses, and non-governmental organizations.



## ***SCHEDULED WEBINARS***

**REPI WEBINAR SERIES: 7 DEC.** [Environmental Law Institute Brief: Sentinel Landscapes Partnership Authorities and Opportunities](#). The Environmental Law Institute has analyzed ways to enhance Sentinel Landscape Partnership implementation and will brief on the opportunities and roadblocks presented by the various partner agencies' authorities and programs. For detailed webinar descriptions and connection instructions, including links to past webinars, visit [www.REPI.mil](http://www.REPI.mil).

**SERDP AND ESTCP WEBINAR SERIES.** The DOD environmental research and development funding programs [SERDP and ESTCP](#) offer webinars to promote the transfer of innovative, cost-effective and sustainable solutions developed using SERDP and ESTCP funding. Live webinars are offered every two weeks on Thursdays from 12:00 p.m. Eastern for 90 minutes. Most webinars feature two 30-minute presentations and interactive question and answer sessions on topics targeted for DOD and DOE audiences. Prior presentations are archived for viewing any time.

**FEMP eTRAINING COURSES.** FEMP offers interactive, online eTraining courses to help federal agencies develop core competencies and comply with energy-efficiency and renewable-energy water-management and sustainability requirements. FEMP is partnering with the National Institute of Building Sciences' Whole Building Design Guide to host these comprehensive, FEMP-developed eTraining courses. [Promotional materials](#) are available to help federal agencies encourage the completion of FEMP's eTraining courses.

**ENERGY STAR WEBCASTS.** Energy Star is a EPA voluntary program that helps businesses and individuals save money and protect our climate through superior energy efficiency.

**CLEAN AIR ACT GENERAL CONFORMITY TRAINING MODULES.** The General Conformity Rule ensures that the actions taken by federal agencies in nonattainment and maintenance areas do not interfere with a state's plans to meet national standards for air quality. The training from EPA covers all aspects of the rule and is divided into four modules:

- The Basics, for top agency managers and the general public: [Module I](#) provides an overview of the program purpose, regulation content, program design, legal requirements, and relationship to other environmental programs.
- The Key Concepts, for program managers and others who need a working knowledge of the program: [Module II](#) provides information on determining applicability of regulations to federal actions, requirements for determining conformity, and the review process for a determination.
- All The Details, for individuals responsible for preparing the determination: [Module III](#) contains detailed information on evaluating conformity including emission calculations, requirements for associated programs and special situations.
- State and tribal requirements and responsibilities, for state, tribal, and local air quality managers: [Module IV](#) provides information on state and tribal requirements and responsibilities in evaluation of conformity for federal actions.

**WATER MANAGEMENT BASICS.** This FEMP course provides a concise introduction to comprehensive water management, to include key topic areas of basic water management terminology, history of federal water mandates, current Executive Order 13693 provisions, best practices associated with comprehensive water management, and proven water conservation financing mechanisms and strategies. The three-module course offers a thorough overview of water management in the federal context:

- Module One: Introduction to Federal Water Management
- Module Two: Introduction to Comprehensive Water Management
- Module Three: Financing and Launching Water Management Projects

**USGS CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT WEBINAR SERIES.** U.S. Geological Survey webinars are designed to inform scientists, land managers, and the public about potential and predicted climate change impacts on fish and wildlife and to help guide resource management decisions across the U.S. Video recordings with closed captioning are made available one to two weeks after each presentation.

**EPA SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT ACADEMY.** Learn about key issues, successful projects, and a variety of best management practices for creating waste management programs, from the series of live and archived webinars. Building on the familiar concept of [reduce, reuse, recycle](#), sustainable materials management is a systemic approach that seeks to reduce materials use and their associated environmental impacts over their entire life cycle, starting with extraction of natural resources and product design and ending with decisions on recycling or final disposal. The format is a formal presentation followed by a question and answer session.

**ITRC INTERNET BASED TRAINING.** The Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC) is a state-led coalition working with federal partners, industry, academia, and stakeholders to achieve regulatory acceptance of environmental technologies. In conjunction with EPA's Technology Innovation and Field Services Division, ITRC delivers training courses to reach a geographically dispersed audience of regulators, consultants, and other members of the environmental community. The training sessions last approximately two hours, cover technical and regulatory information specific to environmental technologies and innovative approaches, and are supported by consensus-based ITRC guidance documents. Visit the site often to view upcoming Internet-based training events.

### ***ONLINE TRAINING: SCHEDULED AND ON-DEMAND EVENTS***

**SUSTAINABLE ACQUISITION FOR FEDERAL AGENCIES.** This two-hour [course](#) provides staff involved in specifying and purchasing with a thorough introduction to compliance requirements, processes, and tools for procuring sustainable products and services. Participants will receive specific guidance in how to meet executive order and Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) requirements and understand how sustainable acquisition benefits their agency, community, and the environment.

# Staff Directory

<a href="#">Director/DOD Region 4 REC</a>	(404) 562-5146
<a href="#">Regional Counsel</a>	(404) 562-5016
<a href="#">Region 4 Army REC</a>	(404) 562-5231
<a href="#">Regulatory Affairs Specialist</a>	(404) 562-5023

## How the Regional Offices Work for You

**The Army Regional Environmental and Energy Offices' close cooperation between the military and regional policymakers helps to resolve issues *before* they become laws and regulations.** The REEOs monitor proposed state environmental and energy laws and regulations for impacts to installation missions. When legislation or a regulation important to the Army or DOD is being developed, REEOs work with the other military Services to assure that DOD and Services' interests are protected.

To comment on an item in the *Southern Review*, please contact the Regional Environmental Coordinator listed at the top of page two.

To be added to the *Southern Review* distribution list, email the [Regulatory Affairs Specialist](#).