



Southern Review

of Legislative & Regulatory Actions

The U.S. Army Regional Environmental & Energy Office

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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](#).

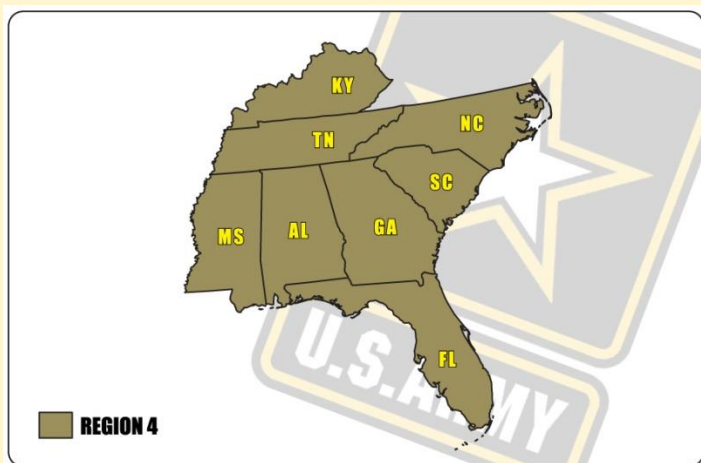


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FY 2018 NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

President Trump signed the [National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018](#) into law on 12 DEC 17.

The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) authorizes appropriations and sets forth policies for Department of Defense (DOD) programs and activities, including military personnel strengths. It does not provide budget authority, which is provided in subsequent appropriations legislation.

Several provisions in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 NDAA relate to environmental aspects of installations and operations within DOD. For example, Congress directs the Secretary of Defense (SECDEF) to report within 180 days on DOD's progress in developing a new military specification for safe and effective alternatives to aqueous film forming foam that do not contain perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) or perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). Congress also directs the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in coordination with DOD and other federal agencies, to conduct a study of the human health implications of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination in drinking water, ground water, and any other sources of water and relevant exposure pathways.

Within the FY 2018 NDAA, Congress also directs the SECDEF to submit a report within a year on "vulnerabilities to military installations and combatant commander requirements resulting from climate change over the next 20 years." The NDAA summarizes several findings on the effects of climate change on DOD, noting "... (DOD) must ensure it is prepared to conduct operations both today and in the future and that it is prepared to address the effects of a changing climate on threat assessments, resources, and readiness..."

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.



2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 9 JAN THROUGH 24 APR

Alabama has a one-year session. The Legislature convenes in regular annual sessions on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in February, except in the first year of the four-year term, when the session will begin on the first Tuesday in March, and in the last year of a four-year term, when the session will begin on the second Tuesday in January. The length of the regular session is limited to 30 meeting days within a period of 105 calendar days.

There are no significant legislative activities to report.

PROPOSED RULE

SOLID WASTE PROGRAM REVISIONS. The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) proposes to revise [Division 335-13](#) of the ADEM Administrative Code (Solid Waste Program). Revisions to the Division 13 Code are being proposed to adopt new rules published by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), to incorporate a statutory change to the Code of Alabama, and to make typographical and grammatical corrections. ADEM published a [notice of intended action](#) 31 OCT 17.

FINAL RULE

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS REGULATIONS. ADEM adopted [amendments](#) to [Volume 2, Division 6](#), of the ADEM administrative code to maintain the program's authorized status, to adopt new rules published by EPA, and to make typographical and grammatical corrections. ADEM published the [certified adopted rules](#) 30 NOV 17.



2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 8 JAN THROUGH 7 MAR

The Florida Legislature regular session begins on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March and continues for 60 consecutive days, which may be extended by a three-fifths vote of each house. Special sessions may be called by the governor or convened by joint proclamation of the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives. Special sessions may not exceed 20 days, unless extended by a three-fifths vote of each house. Florida has a one-year session, and the Legislature typically holds committee meetings in January and February.

FLORIDA HB 405 (FLORIDA SB 494), LINEAR FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT. The Florida Electrical Power Plant Siting Act (PPSA) and the Florida Electric Transmission Line Siting Act establish centrally coordinated review processes for state and local permitting of certain electrical power plants and transmission lines. Under the PPSA, an application for

certification of a site for a power plant and associated facilities must include a statement on the consistency of the site, and any associated facilities that constitute “development,” with existing land use plans and zoning ordinances. Certain activities are excluded from the definition of development, as found in the Florida Local Government Development Agreement Act ([section 163.3221, F.S.](#)) and the state statute on land and water management ([section 380.04, F.S.](#)). This bill extends the exclusion to include activities associated with the distribution or transmission of electricity on established rights-of-way and corridors and rights-of-way and corridors yet to be established. It also excludes the creation of distribution and transmission corridors, defined ([section 403.503, F.S.](#)) as the proposed area within which an associated linear facility right-of-way is to be located. The House Bill reported favorable by the Energy and Utilities Subcommittee 15 NOV 17; now in the Natural Resources and Public Lands Subcommittee. The Senate version reported favorable by Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities 15 NOV 17; now in Community Affairs.

FLORIDA HB 559, FLORIDA BLACK BEAR PROTECTION. This bill creates section 379.3018 within Florida Statutes, which is to be known as the Florida Black Bear Protection Act. This new section prohibits the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC) from issuing a permit to authorize hunting a Florida black bear mothering a cub that weighs less than 100 pounds. Also, the bill establishes that a person unlawfully harvesting saw palmetto berries, which are a critical food source for Florida black bears, on state lands commits petit theft of the second degree, punishable as provided in [section 812.014](#), Florida Statutes. Under section 379.3018, FWCC may designate and update Florida black bear habitats in which female bears are likely to be denning during the month of February and sensitive habitats containing critical food sources for the bears. Finally, the bill states that certified prescribed burning may not be conducted during the month of February in a black bear habitat designated by the FWCC under section 379.3018(5)(a). Filed 7 NOV 17, and referred to the Natural Resources and Public Lands Subcommittee 15 NOV 17.

FLORIDA HB 703, WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS SURPLUS LAND. The bill changes the procedures for a water management district (WMD) to sell its surplus lands. It amends [s. 373.089\(3\), F.S.](#), to require a WMD to publish notice of their intent to sell surplus property at least 30 days, but not more than 360 days, before the WMD approves the sale. The bill amends [s. 373.089\(8\)\(a\), F.S.](#), to authorize a WMD to sell land valued at \$25,000 or less to the adjacent property owner rather than giving such property owners the opportunity to purchase the property before the rest of the general public. It also requires a WMD to publish the notice of intention to offer to sell land valued at \$25,000 or less to adjacent property owners in the newspaper in the county where the land is located only one time. Lastly, the bill amends [s. 373.089\(8\)\(c\), F.S.](#), to remove the requirement that a WMD accept sealed bids and sell the property to the highest bidder or reject all offers 30 days after publication of notice, if the WMD does not sell the land to the adjacent property owner. Instead, it authorizes a WMD to sell the parcel valued at \$25,000 or less at any time to the general public for the highest price obtainable, if the WMD does not sell the parcel to the adjacent property owner. Filed 15 NOV 17, and referred to the Natural Resources and Public Lands Subcommittee 27 NOV 17.

FLORIDA HB 6039, LOCAL REGULATION OF SOLID WASTE. This bill removes state preemption on regulation of certain auxiliary containers, wrappings, and disposable plastic bags. Filed 28 NOV 17.

PROPOSED RULES

AIR POLLUTION REGULATIONS. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) proposes amendments to adopt by reference air pollution regulations promulgated by EPA at Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), to incorporate requirements of the federally approved and delegated air pollution programs. These rule amendments include deletion of unnecessary federal regulations the department had previously adopted by reference and streamlines the adoption by reference where appropriate. FDEP published a [notice of proposed rule](#) on 9 NOV 17.

DISCHARGES FROM PETROLEUM CONTAMINATED SITES. FDEP has given notice that it is developing amendments to [Chapter 62-621, F.A.C.](#), to update and clarify requirements applicable to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Generic Permit for Discharges from Petroleum Contaminated Sites. The proposed amendments would update screening criteria and monitoring requirements consistent with current surface water quality criteria as well as adopting

a user friendly Notice of Intent to use this generic permit and clarify reporting requirements. FDEP published a notice of proposed rule on 20 NOV 17.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF POLLUTION. FDEP proposes procedural rules to implement the Public Notice of Pollution Act, [Section 403.077, F.S.](#), which was passed by the Legislature and signed into law by the governor in 2017 ([SB 1018](#) and [Chapter 2017-95](#), Laws of Florida). The act requires owners and operators of installations to notify FDEP of reportable pollution releases within 24 hours of discovery. The rulemaking will include adopting a form and directions on how to electronically submit the notices to the department. FDEP published a [notice of development of rulemaking](#) 1 NOV 17.

FINAL RULE

CONSUMPTIVE WATER USE PERMITTING. The St. Johns River WMD adopted amendments or new rules, as needed, to clean up inadvertent glitches, clarify existing rules, create additional streamlining, and reduce regulatory burdens on the following subjects: (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) permit fees to address related changes to permit thresholds or permit types; and (13) other rules for which conforming amendments may be needed along with any rule changes made in the subject areas identified above. The WMD published a [notice of rule change](#) on 7 NOV 17.



2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 8 JAN THROUGH 2 MAR

The Georgia General Assembly meets in regular session on the second Monday in January for no longer than 40 legislative (rather than calendar) days each year. The governor may call the General Assembly into special session, and committees may meet even when the Legislature is not in session. Georgia has a two-year session (2017-2018) with 2017 bills carrying over for consideration in 2018. Adjournment dates are estimated and updated based on legislative activity.

There are no significant legislative activities to report.

PROPOSED RULES

WATER QUALITY STANDARDS. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has given notice of a stakeholder meeting to discuss rule changes for water quality control as part of the 2016 [Triennial Review](#). Items under consideration include: Clarify the Antidegradation Rule; clarify the use of Compliance Schedules in NPDES permits as part of the Water Quality Standards; include pH in the definition of Natural Conditions; define Primary Contact Recreation and Practicable Alternatives; adopt EPA recommended 2016 Aquatic Life Cadmium and Selenium Criteria; adopt bacteria criteria for the protection of secondary contact recreation uses; revise Chattahoochee River designated uses; and develop site-specific lake standards that include numeric chlorophyll and nutrient criteria for Lakes Oconee and Sinclair. EPD issued the meeting notice 17 NOV 17. Written comments may be sent to EPD.Comments@dnr.ga.gov.

ENHANCED INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE. EPD has [proposed amendments](#) to the rules for enhanced inspection and maintenance. EPD published the [proposed rule](#) 8 NOV 17, and the division will hold a public hearing 18 DEC 17. Written comments must be received no later than 22 DEC 17.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT. EPD has [proposed amendments](#) to the rules regarding solid waste management (Chapter 391-3-4. EPD filed the [notice of proposed](#) rule 9 NOV 17. Written comments must be received no later than 18 DEC 17.

FINAL RULE

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS. EPD has adopted amendments to the Georgia Rules for Underground Storage Tank Management, [Chapter 391-3-15](#). The [amendments](#) include adoption of EPA's 2015 Underground Storage Tank (UST) Regulation, which increases emphasis on properly operating and maintaining UST equipment and establishes federal requirements similar to key portions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The amended rules are effective 6 NOV 17.

OTHER FEDERAL ACTIVITY

GEORGIA EMISSION REDUCTION CREDITS REGULATION. Due to the receipt of an adverse comment, EPA is withdrawing the 25 SEP 17 direct final rule ([82 FR 44519](#)), which would have approved changes to the Georgia State Implementation Plan (SIP) to revise the Emission Reduction Credits regulation ([82 FR 55511](#)), effective 22 NOV 17. EPA will address the comment in a separate final action based upon the proposed rulemaking action ([82 FR 44543](#)), also published 25 SEP 17. EPA will not institute a second comment period on this action.



2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 2 JAN THROUGH 13 APR

Kentucky has a one-year session. Adjournment dates are estimated and updated based on legislative activity. The Legislature convenes in regular session on the first Tuesday in January for 60 days in even-numbered years and for 30 days in odd-numbered years. It convenes in special sessions at the call of the governor.

There are no significant legislative activities to report.

PROPOSED RULE

TITLE V AIR EMISSIONS FEES. The Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection (KDEP) has proposed Title V air emissions fees under Kentucky Administrative Regulations (KAR) Title 401, Chapter 50 ([401 KAR 50:038](#)), to cover all reasonable costs of administering the permit program. KDEP published a [notice of public hearing](#) 4 NOV 17.



2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 2 JAN THROUGH 2 APR

The Mississippi State Legislature convenes in regular session on the Tuesday following the first Monday in January of each year, and the length of regular sessions is limited to 90 calendar days, except for once every four years when the regular session can last up to 125 calendar days. The Legislature may extend its sessions for 30 days by a two-thirds vote of both legislative houses, and the governor may call the Legislature into an extraordinary session. Mississippi has a one-year session. Adjournment dates are estimated and updated based on legislative activity.

There are no significant legislative activities to report.

PROPOSED RULES

PRIMARY DRINKING WATER REGULATION. The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) has [proposed amendments](#) of drinking water regulations to be consistent with the CFR regarding the Safe Drinking Water Act's (SDWA)

Revised Total Coliform Rule. Modifications are necessary to ensure that the MSDH retains primacy to provide oversight of the SDWA in Mississippi. MSDH filed a [notice of amendment](#) to existing rules 9 NOV 17.

MUNICIPAL AND DOMESTIC WATER SYSTEM OPERATORS. MSDH has [proposed amendments](#) to current rules to reflect the current processes performed in association with the certification of municipal and domestic water system operators. MSDH filed the [public notice on the proposed rule](#) 9 NOV 17.



2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 10 JAN THROUGH 1 JUL

North Carolina has a two-year session (2017-2018) with 2017 bills carrying over for consideration in 2018. The regular session begins on the second Wednesday in January. Extra sessions may be convened by joint proclamation. Adjournment dates are estimated and updated based on legislative activity.

There are no significant legislative activities to report.

PROPOSED RULE

COASTAL STORMWATER RULE. North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) proposes to amend the [Coastal Stormwater Rule](#). The purpose of this rule is to protect surface waters in the 20 coastal counties from the impact of stormwater runoff from new development. NCDEQ [published](#) the proposed rule 1 NOV 17.

FINAL RULE

ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) has adopted changes to the state listing to include an additional three species to be listed as endangered, three species to be listed as threatened, and eight species to be listed as special concern. Overall, 37 changes are made to the 15A NCAC 10I – Endangered and Threatened Species Rules due to additions, removals, and shifting of species between lists. NCWRC published the [approved rule](#) 1 NOV 17; it became effective 1 OCT 17.



2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 9 JAN THROUGH 7 JUN

South Carolina has a two-year session (2017-2018), with 2017 bills carrying over for consideration in 2018. The legislative session begins on the second Tuesday of January of each year and has no limitation as to the length of the session; however, it must adjourn sine die no later than the first Thursday in June except when extended by two-thirds vote of both houses. Adjournment dates are estimated and updated based on legislative activity.

SOUTH CAROLINA HB 4421, ELECTRIC CONSUMER BILL OF RIGHTS ACT. This bill seeks to enable market-driven, private investment in distributed energy resources across the state by reducing regulatory and administrative burdens to customer installation and utilization of onsite distributed energy resources. It requires electrical utilities to adopt interconnection standards approved by the public service commission for interconnection of electric generation facilities and onsite distributed energy resources to the distribution grid; electrical utilities also must offer net metering service to customers with onsite distributed energy resources. It further requires electrical utilities to develop and implement incentive programs to encourage the installation of onsite solar-storage facilities to serve critical loads of the primary residence of a first responder and designated emergency shelters within the service territory of the

electrical utility. The bill provides that the owner of an onsite distributed energy resource facility contracting with the customer-generator using that facility through a power purchase agreement or other agreement providing for the ongoing operation and maintenance of the facility is not considered an electrical utility. With some exceptions, the bill makes void and unenforceable any deed restriction, covenant, homeowners' association document, or similar binding agreement that runs with the land, which would prohibit, or have the effect of prohibiting, the installation and utilization of an onsite distributed energy resource facility. Homeowners' associations may require reasonable design accommodations that do not have an adverse impact on the cost or generating efficiency of the onsite distributed energy resource. Filed 9 NOV 17, and referred to the Committee on Judiciary 9 NOV 17.

REGULATORY ACTIVITY

There are no significant regulatory activities to report.



2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: 9 JAN THROUGH 16 APR

Tennessee has a two-year session (2017-2018) with bills carrying over for consideration in 2018. The Legislature is limited to 90 legislative (rather than calendar) days per two-year term, plus up to 15 days for organizational purposes at the start of each term. The governor may call "extraordinary sessions," limited to the topic or topics outlined in the call and limited to another 20 days, and two-thirds of each house may initiate such a call. Adjournment dates are estimated and updated based on legislative activity.

There are no significant legislative activities to report.

PROPOSED RULES

DESIGN CRITERIA FOR REVIEW OF SEWAGE WORKS. The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Division of Water Resources proposes Draft Design Criteria for Review of Sewage Works. Comments may be submitted by the state engineering community and other interested parties on the proposed revision of Chapter 1 of the design criteria dealing with submittal requirement for plans, specification and engineering reports concerning sewage (wastewater) treatment and conveyance projects. The division issued [public notice](#) 12 OCT 17.

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK REGULATIONS. TDEC proposes to make changes to state UST rules to incorporate revisions made to federal UST regulations in 2015. TDEC filed a [notice of rulemaking hearing](#) 13 OCT 17.

FINAL RULE

EMISSIONS INVENTORY REQUIREMENTS. The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) has adopted rulemaking to amend [Chapter 1200-03-10](#) (Required Sampling, Recording, and Reporting) by adding a new Rule 1200-03-10-.05 (Emissions Inventory Requirements). This rule requires affected sources to submit emission inventory information consistent with the provisions of [40 CFR Part 51, Subpart A](#). This rule applies only to the pollutants listed 40 CFR §51.15(a)(1) (i.e., sulfur dioxide, volatile organic compounds, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, lead and lead compounds, primary PM_{2.5}, primary PM₁₀, and ammonia). Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated (TCA) 68-201-105(b)(2), Tennessee may request emissions estimates for additional pollutants (such as hazardous air pollutants), but those pollutants would not be subject to this rule. TDEC filed the [Rulemaking Hearing Rule](#) on 14 NOV 17.

Federal Activity

AIR

OZONE ATTAINMENT DESIGNATIONS. Indian country is defined at 18 U.S.C. § 1151. EPA established initial air quality designations for most areas of the U.S., including most areas of Indian country (defined at [18 U.S.C. § 1151](#)), for the 2015 primary and secondary National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone ([82 FR 54232](#)). In this action, EPA designated 2,646 counties, including Indian country located in those counties, two separate areas of Indian country, and five territories as Attainment/Unclassifiable and three counties as Unclassifiable. The final rule is effective 16 JAN 18.

EMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR TRUCK GLIDER VEHICLES. EPA is proposing to repeal application of emission standards and fuel efficiency standards for the truck glider industry ([82 FR 53442](#)). So-called “glider trucks” combine a new heavy-duty chassis with used engines. EPA is proposing to repeal Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Fuel Efficiency Standards for Medium- and Heavy-Duty Engines and Vehicles—Phase 2. The agency is now proposing that gliders should not be regulated as new motor vehicles or new motor vehicle engines. This action does not affect nor propose to affect EPA’s authority to address heavy-duty engine rebuilding practices. Comments are due 5 JAN 18. A press release about the rulemaking is available [here](#). In a related action, a recent EPA [report](#) indicates that pollution from a popular configuration of glider trucks can exceed emissions from new trucks.

OZONE TRANSPORT REGION PETITION DENIED. EPA denied a Clean Air Act petition, filed in December 2013, by the states of Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont ([82 FR 51238](#)). The petition requested that EPA expand the Ozone Transport Region (OTR) by adding the states of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, West Virginia, and the areas of Virginia not already in the OTR to address the interstate transport of air pollution with respect to the 2008 ozone NAAQS. As a result of the denial, the geographic scope and requirements of the OTR remain unchanged. However, EPA and states will continue to implement programs to address interstate transport of ozone pollution with respect to the 2008 ozone standard. The final action was effective 3 NOV 17.

CLIMATE CHANGE

NATIONAL CLIMATE ASSESSMENT REPORT. The U.S. Global Change Research Program released the [final Climate Science Special Report](#), which is also referred to as Volume I of the Fourth National Climate Assessment (NCA4). The special report is a stand-alone document on the state of science relating to climate change and its physical impacts. The report concludes that it is extremely likely that human activities, especially emissions of greenhouse gases, are the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20th century. According to the final report, for the warming over the last century, there is no convincing alternative explanation supported by the extent of the observational evidence. To read the report executive summary, click [here](#). In a related matter, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced the availability of the draft Volume II of the NCA4 report for public comment ([82 FR 51614](#)). The draft report summarizes the best-available science on observed and projected climate changes, as well as its impacts on human health, regions of the country, and tribal communities. Comments on the draft NCA4 Vol. II are due 31 JAN 18. After registering [here](#), a copy of the draft report is available for download. For more information about the draft report, click [here](#).

ANNUAL GREENHOUSE GAS AND SUSTAINABILITY REPORT. In November, the Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) [released](#) its updated [Annual Data Energy Report, version 8-1](#). The updated report replaces the September 2017 version. The data report is a tool for calculating and reporting comprehensive FY 2017 greenhouse gas data. The document is

to be used by federal departments and agencies when reporting their scope 1, 2, and 3 greenhouse gas emissions, in accordance with the National Energy Conservation Policy Act.

REPORT ON CARBON CAPTURE AND SEQUESTRATION. In November, the Congressional Research Service issued a [report to Congress](#) on carbon capture and sequestration (CCS). The report provides an overview of CCS; a description of ongoing U.S. pilot projects, including a failed project; and the rationale and history of federal research support for CCS.

TURNING EMISSIONS INTO FUEL. According to a news release from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), researchers have developed a system that could be used for converting power plant emissions of carbon dioxide into fuels for cars, trucks, and planes, as well as into chemical feedstocks. The new membrane-based system allows oxygen from a stream of carbon dioxide to migrate through to the other side, leaving carbon monoxide behind. Carbon monoxide produced during the process can be used as a fuel by itself or combined with hydrogen and/or water to make many other liquid hydrocarbon fuels as well as chemicals including methanol (used as an automotive fuel) and syngas. The process could become part of the suite of technologies known as carbon capture, utilization, and storage. To read MIT's full description of the research, click [here](#).

ENERGY

CLEAN POWER PLAN. In October, EPA announced its intention to repeal the Carbon Pollution Emission Guidelines for Existing Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units, commonly referred to as the Clean Power Plan. In this action, EPA is extended the public comment period to 16 JAN 18 and held two public hearings in November ([82 FR 51787](#)). To view the rulemaking website for the repeal, click [here](#).

DOE 2017 FEDERAL ENERGY AND WATER MANAGEMENT AWARDS. In November, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced the winners of the 2017 Federal Energy and Management Awards. The department recognized 27 winners in five categories for their outstanding contributions in the areas of energy efficiency, water conservation, and the use of advanced and renewable energy technologies at federal facilities. This year's winners included federal staff serving the U.S. Air Force, Army, Army Corps of Engineers, Defense Intelligence Agency, Defense Logistics Agency, Marine Corps, and Navy; the departments of Agriculture, Energy, Interior, and Transportation; the General Services Administration; and EPA. Among the Army winners:

- Fort Irwin National Training Center in California for its water conservation efforts;
- Army Central Command at Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina for its use of photovoltaic solar light carts;
- Army Reserve Installation Management Directorate, Fort Belvoir, Va., for its Net Zero Energy program;
- Fort Knox, Ky., for its data center energy efficiency upgrades;
- Army Installation Management Command, Washington D.C., Headquarters Energy and Utility team for reductions in energy consumption;
- U.S. Army Garrison, Fort A.P. Hill, Va., Directorate of Public Works for efforts to reduce consumption of energy and liquid fuels, and the removal of liquid fuel storage tanks;
- 9th Mission Support Command on Maui, Hawaii, for energy reductions, renewable energy use, and water conservation; and achievement of 100 percent net zero energy at the Reserve Center;
- Presidio of Monterey, Calif., for energy and water conservation.

An Army news release about Army winners is available [here](#). To view the DOE announcement, including details on the accomplishments of all winners, click [here](#).

DOE REGULATORY REFORM: DOMESTIC ENERGY RESOURCES. In accordance with [Executive Order \(EO\) 13783](#), Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth, DOE released a [final report](#) on its recommendations to reduce regulatory burdens on domestic energy resources ([82 FR 50491](#)). DOE is offering the following recommendations:

- Streamline Natural Gas Exports—On 1 SEP 17, DOE announced a proposed rule to provide faster approval of small-scale natural gas exports, including liquefied natural gas (LNG). DOE will also consider whether future rulemakings can allow for expedited processing of larger-scale exports of natural gas;
- Review National Laboratory Policies—DOE identified several areas for reform that would permit the National Laboratories to operate more efficiently, focusing more time and resources on their mission-critical work of conducting early-stage research and development of innovative energy technologies that advance American economic growth and energy security;
- Review National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations—DOE recommends reform of the NEPA process for permitting LNG operations, review of whether it should grant more categorical exclusions, and removal of regulatory language inconsistent with overarching Council on Environmental Quality regulations; and
- Review the DOE Appliance Standards Program—DOE will issue a request for information on how to amend or improve processes for establishing new or revising energy efficiency standards, and reconsider the existing six-year cycle for reviewing existing standards.

FERC REGULATORY REFORM: DOMESTIC ENERGY RESOURCES. In accordance with EO 13783, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) released a [final report](#) on its recommendations to reduce regulatory burdens on domestic energy resources ([82 FR 50517](#)). The final report focuses on agency actions in four jurisdictional areas:

- Hydropower licensing;
- LNG facility and natural gas pipeline and storage facility siting;
- Centralized electric capacity market policies in three regional transmission areas; and
- Electric generator interconnection policies.

The commission identified nine actions in these four jurisdictional areas that have the greatest potential to materially burden domestic energy resources as contemplated under the EO.

FOREST SERVICE REGULATORY REFORM: DOMESTIC ENERGY RESOURCES. In accordance with EO 13783, the U.S. Forest Service released a [final report](#) that recommends revising or rescinding parts of 15 agency actions to alleviate or eliminate burdens on the development or use of domestic energy sources. On National Forest System lands, the Forest Service assures that activities associated with federal and private energy mineral resources, renewable energy projects, and energy-related transmission and distribution facilities are conducted in a manner that minimizes adverse effects on federal surface resources while avoiding regulatory burdens that encumber energy production, constrain economic growth, and prevent job creation. For more information on specific energy sectors and ranked priorities, click [here](#).

DOI REGULATORY REFORM: DOMESTIC ENERGY RESOURCES. In accordance with EO 13783, the U.S. Department of Interior (DOI) released a final report describing its progress in meeting requirements to review agency actions that potentially burden the development or use of domestically produced energy resources, with particular attention to oil, natural gas, coal, and nuclear energy resources. A copy of the final report is available [here](#).

EPA REGULATORY REFORM: DOMESTIC ENERGY RESOURCES. In accordance with EO 13783, EPA released a [final report](#) on its recommendations to reduce regulatory burdens on domestic energy resources ([82 FR 51160](#)). EPA identified four key initiatives that it believes will further the goal of reducing unnecessary burdens on the development and use of domestic energy resources. These initiatives include: New Source Review reform, NAAQS reform, evaluations of the employment effects of EPA regulations, and a sector-based outreach program. For more information on EPA regulatory reform efforts, click [here](#).

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR SMALL MODULAR REACTORS. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) made available a regulatory basis document in support of a rulemaking that would develop new emergency preparedness requirements for small modular reactors (SMRs) and other new technologies, such as non-light-water reactors and medical isotope production facilities ([82 FR 52862](#)). The regulatory basis concludes that there is sufficient justification to proceed with

rulemaking to develop a clear set of rules and guidance for emergency preparedness for SMRs and other new technologies. The regulatory basis also concludes that the principle of using a dose-at-distance and consequence-oriented approach to determine the appropriate size of an emergency planning zone can be applied to SMRs and other new technologies. The regulatory basis was made available 15 NOV 17.

MISCELLANEOUS

REGULATORY ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES. The [Administrative Conference of the United States](#) (ACUS) met 14-15 DEC 17 to consider proposed recommendations to improve administration of federal programs ([82 FR 55799](#)). ACUS brings together the public and private sectors to recommend improvements to administrative and regulatory processes. At the meeting, ACUS considered five recommendations:

- Plain Language in Regulatory Drafting. This proposed recommendation identifies tools and techniques agencies have used successfully to write regulatory documents using plain language, proposes best practices for agencies in structuring their internal drafting processes, and suggests ways agencies can best use trainings and other informational resources.
- Marketable Permits. This proposed recommendation provides best practices for structuring, administering, and overseeing marketable permitting programs for any agency that has decided to implement such a program.
- Agency Guidance. This proposed recommendation provides best practices to agencies on the formulation and use of guidance documents.
- Regulatory Experimentation. This proposed recommendation offers advice to agencies on learning from different regulatory approaches. It encourages agencies to collect data, conduct analysis at all stages of the rulemaking lifecycle, and solicit public input at appropriate points in the process.
- Regulatory Waivers and Exemptions. This proposed recommendation provides best practices to agencies concerning their use of waivers and exemptions. It offers recommendations on how agencies should structure their waiver and exemption procedures to increase transparency and promote public input.

UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS INTEGRATION PILOT PROGRAM. In October, the president issued a memorandum announcing a new Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Integration Pilot Program ([82 FR 50301](#)). The program is intended to promote the safe operation of UAS and enable the development of UAS technologies for use in agriculture, commerce, emergency management, human transportation, and other sectors. The memorandum tasks the secretary of the Department of Transportation (DOT), with the administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), to develop the pilot program, in consultation with other federal agencies, including the Department of Defense. Subsequently, in November, DOT and FAA announced the new UAS integration pilot program and requested potential participants to apply ([82 FR 51903](#)). State, local, and tribal governments, and any partnered stakeholders, with guidance from FAA, will propose and define operational concepts and determine how to manage UAS at the local level under the safety oversight role of FAA. Interested state, local, or tribal governments were required to declare an intent to participate in the program no later than 28 NOV 17.

NATURAL RESOURCES

MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) approved the use of corrosion-inhibited copper shot for hunting waterfowl and coots ([82 FR 51358](#)). The service concluded that this type of shot left in terrestrial or aquatic environments is unlikely to adversely affect fish, wildlife, or their habitats. Approval of this shot formulation increases the nontoxic shot options for hunters. The final rule was effective 6 NOV 17.

NATIONAL OFFSHORE SAND INVENTORY. The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) [announced](#) it is creating a comprehensive national sand resource inventory to meet its mandate as stewards of all federal mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). Sediment resources on the OCS are leased to local communities or federal agencies to help them restore shorelines or wetlands in an effort to address chronic erosion, sea level rise, impacts from major

storms, or to protect valuable infrastructure and habitat. According to BOEM, sand resources are most critical along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, with an evolving interest in the Pacific.

SUSTAINABILITY

FEDERAL AGENCY SCORECARDS. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) [released](#) federal agency FY 2016 sustainability/energy scorecards. The information upon which the scorecards are based includes data, metrics, and scoring criteria that were developed in accordance with existing statutory and executive order requirements applicable in FY 2016. For the FY 2017 scorecard, OMB intends to implement changes to reflect current policies and priorities. As required in statute, OMB will continue to assess individual agencies' annual performance and issue scorecards to measure and report on agencies' energy management activities, energy and water savings, greenhouse gas emissions, and associated cost reductions. The DOD scorecard is available [here](#). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) scorecard is available [here](#).

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

CANDIDATE CONSERVATION AGREEMENTS WITH ASSURANCES. FWS announced its intention to review and potentially revise regulations concerning enhancement-of-survival permits issued under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), associated with Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances (CCAA) ([82 FR 55550](#)). In addition, in a related matter, FWS and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) jointly announced their intention to review and potentially revise the CCAA policy ([82 FR 55625](#)). Through the candidate conservation program, FWS encouraged the public to voluntarily develop and implement conservation agreements for declining species prior to listing under the ESA. The benefits of such conservation actions may contribute to not needing to list a species, to list a species as threatened instead of endangered, or to accelerate the species' recovery if it is listed. Participating private property owners receive assurances that they will not be required to undertake conservation measures beyond those agreed to, even if new information indicates that additional or revised conservation measures are needed for the species, and they will not be subject to additional resource use or land-use restrictions. The agencies are proposing to eliminate language that had caused confusion for property owners. Under the proposed language, to approve a CCAA, the agencies will require a net conservation benefit to the covered species, specifically on the property to be enrolled. Comments are due 22 JAN 18.

MITIGATION POLICIES. FWS is requesting public comment on portions of its existing Mitigation Policy and Endangered Species Act Compensatory Mitigation Policy (ESA-CMP) ([82 FR 51382](#)). FWS specifically requests comment on the policies' mitigation planning goals. The service's mitigation planning goal has been to improve (to secure a net gain) or, at minimum, to maintain (i.e., no net loss) the current status of affected resources. In response to EO 13783 and DOI's [Order 3349](#) on American Energy Independence, FWS is soliciting input regarding whether to retain or remove net conservation gain as a mitigation planning goal within FWS's mitigation policies. Comments are due 5 JAN 18.

TOXICS

TOXICOLOGICAL PROFILES. The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry released [toxicological and adverse health profiles](#) for six biocidal substances: 1-bromopropane (1-BP); DEET (N,N-diethyl-meta-toluamide); glutaraldehyde; nitrate, nitrite; and toluene. 1-Bromopropane is used as a solvent in the adhesives, dry cleaning, vapor degreasing and electronic and metal cleaning industries. Nitrate and nitrite are used in the production of munitions and explosives. Toluene is used in making paints, paint thinners, lacquers, adhesives and rubber, and in some printing processes. It is also added to gasoline, along with benzene and xylene, to improve octane ratings.

WITHDRAWN: NAICS CODES FOR TRI REPORTING. EPA withdrew an [August 2017 direct final rule](#) updating the list of North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes subject to reporting under the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) ([82 FR 52674](#)). The rulemaking was intended to align TRI reporting with OMB 2017 NAICS code revision. The direct final rule was withdrawn in response to adverse comment. EPA will proceed with a new final rule, after considering all public comments. The withdrawal was effective 14 NOV 17.

TRANSFORM TOXICITY TESTING CHALLENGE. In January 2016, EPA and its federal partners launched the [Transform Toxicity Testing Challenge](#) to develop techniques to improve the relevance and predictivity of data generated from automated chemical screening technology used for toxicity testing. EPA selected semi-finalists in May 2017, and in November, EPA and its partners announced the Transform Toxicity Challenge [Stage Two winners](#). The selected winners produced practical designs in an effort to turn existing, commonly used in vitro high-throughput chemical screening assays into tests that can evaluate both parent chemical and metabolite effects in the assay responses.

NEW CHEMICALS REVIEW PROGRAM. In December, EPA held meetings to discuss implementation activities under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), as amended in 2016 ([82 FR 51415](#)). The first meeting updated and engaged with the public on the agency's progress in implementing changes to the New Chemicals Review Program as a result of the 2016 TSCA amendments, including EPA's draft New Chemicals Decision-Making Framework. The second meeting focused on possible approaches for identifying potential candidate chemical substances for EPA's prioritization process under TSCA. The meetings were held 6 and 11 DEC 17. Click [here](#) to view information about the meeting agendas.

LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL. NRC extended the public comment period on the [October 2017](#) Draft Regulatory Analysis for Final Rule: Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal ([82 FR 55790](#)). The public comment period was extended an additional month, to 18 DEC 17.

WASTE

SW-846 UPDATE: LEAD IN SOIL. EPA's Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery (ORCR) [announced](#) the completion of SW-846 Update VI, Phase I, which incorporates final [Method 1340](#)—In Vitro Bioaccessibility Assay for Lead in Soil—into the SW-846 compendium. Method 1340 defines a procedure to analyze for bioavailable lead in soil under 50,000 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) in concentration. At this time, the method has only been validated for lead-contaminated soil under field conditions, and not for other matrices (e.g., water, air, amended soils, dust, food). Knowledge of lead bioavailability is important because the amount of lead that actually enters the blood and body tissues from an ingested medium can vary due to many field, chemical, and physical conditions of the exposure. This method uses a leaching procedure in a rotary extractor to extract lead from soil at a known temperature and time of exposure. For more information, click [here](#).

SW 846 UPDATE: LEACHING ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK. EPA's ORCR [released](#) SW-846 Update VI, Phase III for public comment. The update contains four tests (EPA Methods 1313, 1314, 1315, and 1316), known as the Leaching Environmental Assessment Framework (LEAF) tests, and technical implementation guidance ([LEAF How-To Guide](#)) that evaluate how waste constituent leaching changes with different environmental conditions. The LEAF tests are intended to be more accurate than other leaching tests by assessing constituent leaching potential under actual or plausible disposal conditions. Because the LEAF test methods represent a new approach to evaluating leaching potential, EPA is developing technical implementation guidance (LEAF How-To Guide) to help potential users understand the LEAF tests and how to use them. The guidance will also help users interpret the data generated by these tests, provide examples of how the test data can be used for assessing possible constituent release, and provide a source term for groundwater fate and transport models used in risk assessment. The SW-846 test methods and technical implementation guidance method will be published using EPA's [streamlined approval process](#) for public comment and for final posting on the [EPA Hazardous Waste Test Methods web page](#), rather than through the Federal Register. Comments on the LEAF tests and how-to guide are due 31 JAN 18. Additional information can be found on [regulations.gov](#), Docket# EPA-HQ-OLEM-2017-0210.

BENEFICIAL USE FOR WASTED LATEX PAINT. A landfill in Colorado has been using wasted latex paint, mixed with patented product, as an alternative landfill cover. The landfill has diverted 3,800 gallons of wasted latex paint, while extending its limited supply of soils used for cover. To read more, click [here](#).

WATER

WATERS OF THE U.S. RULE. EPA and USACE are proposing to amend the effective date of the 2015 Clean Water Rule to two years from the date of final action on this proposal ([82 FR 55542](#)). The delay will give the agencies more time to reconsider a key definition of the rule. The announcement notes that the 2015 rule is currently on hold as a result of the Sixth Circuit's nationwide stay of the rule, but that stay may be affected by a pending Supreme Court case. For more information, click [here](#). A memorandum for the record explaining the agencies' proposed actions is available [here](#).

PERCHLORATE IN DRINKING WATER. EPA announced a public peer review meeting and final list of panelists for external peer review of the agency's [Draft Report: Proposed Approaches to Inform the Derivation of a Maximum Contaminant Level Goal \(MCLG\) for Perchlorate in Drinking Water](#), referred to as the draft MCLG Approaches Report. The public peer review meeting is scheduled for 29-30 JAN 18. The public comment period for the draft MCLG Approaches Report ended in November. In addition, the public comment period on draft peer review charge questions ended in October. The peer review charge questions are available at [regulations.gov](#) (Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2016-0439).

NATIONWIDE PERMITS. USACE issued a [report](#) that examined actions it could take to modify existing regulations that potentially burden the development and use of domestically produced energy resources, such as oil, natural gas, coal, and nuclear energy, and renewable energy ([82 FR 56192](#)). The report identifies changes that could be made to several nationwide permits that authorize activities under section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and section 404 of the Clean Water Act that are associated with domestic energy production and use.

WATER POLLUTANT LOADING TOOL. EPA is [improving access](#) to the Water Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) Pollutant Loading Tool, accessible on the agency's [Enforcement and Compliance History Online \(ECHO\) website](#). The loading tool is designed to help users determine who is discharging, what pollutants they are discharging and how much, and where they are discharging. It calculates pollutant loadings from permit and DMR data and offers a variety of ways to customize searches. The modernized ECHO version of the loading tool, which offers some usability improvements, has a similar look and feel as the prior loading tool website. To learn how to navigate the modernized water pollutant loading tool, click [here](#).

STORMWATER RUNOFF TOOL: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE. EPA developed the [National Stormwater Calculator](#) to help support local, state, and national stormwater management objectives and regulatory efforts to reduce runoff through infiltration and retention using green infrastructure practices such as low impact development controls. The tool, designed to be used to reduce runoff from a property, is applicable for any location within the United States, including Puerto Rico. A free webinar, scheduled for 31 JAN 18, provides potential and example applications, and presents new cost module and mobile web application versions that can be used on mobile devices, such as smartphones and tablets. Register for the webinar [here](#).

REPORT TO CONGRESS: MISSISSIPPI RIVER, GULF OF MEXICO WATERSHED NUTRIENT TASK FORCE REPORT. EPA released the [Mississippi River, Gulf of Mexico Watershed Nutrient Task Force 2017 Report to Congress](#). The Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act of 2014 directs EPA, through the Hypoxia Task Force (HTF), to submit a progress report every two years to the appropriate congressional committees and the president. This report is the second biennial report to Congress. The report highlights specific examples of progress achieved by the HTF and its members and discusses strategies for meeting the HTF's goals, as well as key lessons learned. The HTF agreed to adopt quantitative measures to track progress in reducing point and nonpoint source inputs. To accelerate the reduction of nutrient pollution, the HTF will:

- Target vulnerable lands and quantify nutrient load reductions achieved through federal programs, subject to future appropriations;
- Implement state nutrient reduction strategies, including targeting vulnerable lands and quantifying nutrient reductions;

- Expand and build new partnerships and alliances with universities, the agricultural community, cities, and others; and
- Track progress toward the interim target and long-term goal, with intent to understand whether the current actions are appropriate to meet the goal.

ARSENIC IN PUBLIC DRINKING WATER DECLINES. A [study](#) funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences found that exposure to arsenic in drinking water was significantly reduced among Americans using public water systems after EPA lowered maximum levels of arsenic in 2006. The researchers found no improvements in arsenic exposure rates among users of wells that are not federally regulated. For additional information, click [here](#).

STREAM PROTECTION RULE NULLIFIED. In accordance with the Congressional Review Act, DOI's December 2016 [Stream Protection Rule](#) will be treated as if it had never taken effect ([82 FR 54924](#)). The rule, which became effective on 19 JAN 17, would have required mining operations to take certain actions to restore disturbed lands to pre-mining conditions and protect ground and surface waters. On 1 FEB 17, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a joint resolution of disapproval of the Stream Protection Rule and the Senate passed the joint resolution of disapproval the next day. The president then signed the resolution into law 16 FEB 17. Under the terms of the Congressional Review Act, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Stream Protection Rule must be treated as though the rule had never taken effect. Effective 17 NOV 17, the Stream Protection Rule is nullified and the regulation reverts to requirements in effect prior to the December 2016 rule.

Department of Defense Activity

DOD PROJECTS ADDRESSING PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES. According to a [DOD news release](#), projects addressing issues associated with per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are now getting underway. The projects are sponsored by DOD's Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (SERDP) and Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP). Five projects were initiated under SERDP to develop technologies for treatment of PFASs mixed with chlorinated solvents, and one ESTCP project is developing a treatment train approach.

- At Tufts University, researchers are trying to develop highly reactive materials capable of degrading and/or sequestering PFASs and chlorinated ethenes (e.g., PCE, TCE, cis-dichloroethene, vinyl chloride), followed by biological systems to treat chlorinated ethenes and PFAS reaction byproducts.
- At the University of California, Berkeley, researchers are combining persulfate-based in situ chemical oxidation and bioremediation to treat a mixture of chlorinated compounds, 1,4-dioxane, and PFASs in groundwater. By developing a better understanding of the fate of complex mixtures, research will lead to remediation approaches that decrease the time and cost required to treat contaminated soil and groundwater.
- At the University of Georgia, researchers initiated a proof-of-concept project in which they are developing a reactive electrochemical membrane system for treatment of PFASs and TCE. Results from this project are expected in 2018.
- At Colorado State University, researchers are developing electrolytic degradation with electrobiostimulation. This synergistic treatment will be used to treat a mixture of 1,4-dioxane and PFASs in a single treatment system.
- At the Colorado School of Mines, researchers are studying key fate and transport processes impacting the mass discharge, attenuation, and treatment of PFASs and comingled chlorinated solvents or aromatic hydrocarbons. This research will particularly focus on the release and transformation of polyfluorinated PFASs to the more problematic perfluoroalkyl acids in source zones as well as the impact of commonly employed remediation technologies for co-contaminants on PFAS fate.

- The Naval Facilities Engineering and Expeditionary Warfare Center aims to demonstrate a cost-effective in situ treatment train approach to destroy and capture PFASs, thereby reducing contaminant mass and the overall duration and cost of remediation.

Click [here](#) to read more about the projects and to link to the individual project websites.

REPI CHALLENGE: REQUEST FOR PRE-PROPOSALS. DOD's 2018 Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Challenge Request for Pre-Proposals and the downloadable PDF pre-proposal form are now available through the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities [website](#). The 2018 REPI Challenge seeks to leverage public and private funds for:

- Land conservation or management activities that leverage species crediting approaches to relieve current or anticipated environmental restrictions on military testing, training or operations;
- Targeted land conservation within watersheds important to the safe and adequate supply of water to DOD installations and ranges; or
- Water rights acquisition that directly sustains or enhances military mission activities as a key element of a land protection project that limits incompatible development or preserves habitat in accordance with 10 U.S.C. 2684a.

The REPI Challenge also seeks to engage the private sector to access and leverage unconventional sources of funding, attract additional philanthropic sources, and take advantage of market-based approaches to secure the most land at the least cost. Up to \$15 million will be made available for the 2018 REPI Challenge, and funds will be awarded in July 2018. The challenge is open to all eligible partners at any DOD installation. 2018 REPI Challenge pre-proposals are due 26 JAN 18. All pre-proposals will be coordinated with the military services, and those receiving approval will be invited to submit full proposals. Applicants will be notified of their pre-proposal status no later than Friday, 23 FEB 18.

FUTURE OF ARMY ENERGY. According to an [Army news release](#), the future of Army energy is focused on energy resilience and security because the ability to prepare for and recover rapidly from power disruptions is more critical to warfighting readiness than at any time in the nation's history. The news release describes Army policy requiring sustainment of base critical missions in the event of a disruption; actions the Army is taking to enhance energy savings and produce its own power; and how the Army Operational Energy program ensures the powering of Army vehicles, aircraft, and mission command systems is based on energy-informed decisions.

ROBOTIC AIRCRAFT SENSORS PROGRAM FOR MARITIME. The U.S. Coast Guard announced that it intends to enter into a cooperative research and development agreement with several companies to evaluate small unmanned aircraft systems (SUAS) sensors or payloads, to determine their potential use in a maritime environment by first responders and Department of Homeland Security operational components ([82 FR 55109](#)). The Coast Guard will conduct flight testing and evaluations of SUAS under a wide variety of simulated but realistic and relevant real-world maritime operational scenarios, such as law enforcement, search and rescue, and maritime environmental responses. This is a technology demonstration effort. Comments are due 20 DEC 17.

Professional Development

DOD TRAINING SOURCES

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PROSPECT TRAINING (CLASSROOM). USACE announces course availability for the FY 2018 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:

- CERCLA/RCRA Process (Course Control Number (CCN) [356](#))
- Environmental Laws and Regulations (CCN [170](#))
- Environmental Regulations Practical Application Course (CCN [398](#))
- Environmental Remediation Technologies (CCN [395](#))
- Hazardous Waste Manifesting/DOT Certification (CCN [223](#))
- Hazardous Waste Manifesting 16-Hour DOT Recertification Course (CCN [429](#))
- Hazardous/Toxic and Radioactive Waste Construction Inspection (CCN 141)
- Radioactive Waste Transport (CCN [441](#))
- The Complete RCRA Course (Hazardous Waste Generation, Management, and Corrective Action) (CCN [226](#))

NAVY CIVIL ENGINEER CORPS OFFICERS SCHOOL TRAINING. The [Navy Civil Engineer Corps Officers School](#) (CECOS) offers training on environmental management, pollution prevention, environmental compliance, environmental conservation and planning, and environmental restoration. Energy course offerings include Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, Energy Information Administration, and Energy Technology Information. Click [here](#) for information on course offerings and times. Courses offered by CECOS are available to all military and civilian employees of the U.S. government, free of charge. Travel costs are borne by the student.

AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEERING SCHOOL TRAINING. The [Air Force Civil Engineer 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.

READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION INTEGRATION WEBINAR SERIES (ONLINE). DOD's REPI program offers [webinars](#) on best practices, tutorials, and knowledge sharing on partnerships that support the military mission and accelerate the pace and rate of land conservation. Archived webinars are available [on demand](#). Upcoming webinars include:

- 31 JAN 18: [Can You Hear Me Now? Addressing Noise Impacts in Your REPI Partnership](#)

SERDP AND ESTCP WEBINAR SERIES (ONLINE). DOD's environmental research and development funding programs ([SERDP and ESTCP](#)) launched a [webinar series](#) 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. Recently archived webinars, available on demand [here](#), include:

- [Management of Novel Hawaiian Ecosystems](#)
- [Research and Development Needs for Management of DOD's PFAS Contaminated Sites](#)
- [New Resource Conservation Insights to Desert Environments](#)

FEDERAL TRAINING SOURCES

RESTORATION WEBINAR SERIES (ONLINE). This webinar series is produced by a partnership between the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and FWS. To receive an email notification when registration for each webinar opens, please send your email address to jennifer_ryan@fws.gov. Also, you may click [here](#) to access the Restoration Webinar Series recording archive. Upcoming webinars include:

- 25 JAN 18: Decision Support Tools and a Framework for Climate-smart Restoration.

FEDERAL FACILITIES ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE CENTER (ONLINE). [FedCenter.gov](https://www.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, such as:

- Program development (e.g., environmental management systems, green procurement program);
- Federal and state regulatory requirements for various facility activities;
- Access to [environmental assistance](#);
- Access to free, [FedCenter-sponsored courses](#)
- Applicable laws and Executive Orders; and
- [Partnerships](#).

FedCenter also provides member assistance services such as collaboration tools for workgroups, environmental reporting tools, and daily newsletter and subscription services.

BIOBASED PRODUCT TRAINING SERIES (ONLINE). The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) offers a series of [on-demand training modules](#) about biobased products and the BioPreferred® Program:

- [Fundamentals: Biobased Products and the BioPreferred® Program](#)
- [Sustainable Acquisition: Biobased Requirements in the New Executive Order 13693](#)
- [Contracting Officer Role in Contractor Reporting of Biobased Product Purchases](#)
- [BioPreferred® Training for USDA Acquisition Community](#)
- [From Awareness to Action: The BioPreferred® Federal Procurement Preference Program](#)
- [Products in Operations, Maintenance, and Cleaning](#)

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR SUSTAINABLE FEDERAL BUILDINGS (ONLINE). This training series from FEMP provides updated guidance for complying with the 2016 Guiding Principles for Sustainable Federal Buildings. The series consists of five on-demand courses:

- [2016 Guiding Principle I: Employ Integrated Design Principles and Introduction](#)
- [2016 Guiding Principle II: Optimize Energy Performance](#)
- [2016 Guiding Principle III: Protect and Conserve Water](#)
- [2016 Guiding Principle IV: Enhance Indoor Environmental Quality](#)
- [2016 Guiding Principle V: Reduce Environmental Impact of Materials and Guiding Principle VI - Assess and Consider Climate Change Risks](#)

EPA SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT ACADEMY (ONLINE). 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.

SUSTAINABLE ACQUISITION FOR FEDERAL AGENCIES (ONLINE). The 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 requirements and understand how sustainable acquisition benefits their agency, community, and the environment.

SUSTAINABLE ACQUISITION TRAINING RESOURCES (ONLINE). 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.

FEMP eTRAINING COURSES (ONLINE). FEMP offers interactive, [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 (ONLINE). EPA's [Energy Star program](#) helps identify and promote energy efficiency in products, homes, and buildings. EPA hosts a [webinar series](#) that covers a range of topics, from how to benchmark in Portfolio Manager to financing energy efficiency improvements to how to engage building occupants.

ITRC TRAINING (ONLINE). 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.

GENERAL CONFORMITY TRAINING MODULES (ONLINE). 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. EPA's [online training conformity training program](#) covers all aspects of the rule and is divided into four modules.

WATER MANAGEMENT BASICS (ONLINE). This FEMP [online 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

CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT WEBINAR SERIES (ONLINE). This U.S. Geological Survey [webinar series](#) was developed 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 United States. Video recordings with closed captioning are made available one to two weeks after each presentation.

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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 represented.

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

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