



FY 2024 – 2027 National Enforcement & Compliance Initiatives

Larry Lamberth
Senior Advisor, OECA, U.S. EPA

National Enforcement Compliance Initiatives

- **Focus enforcement and compliance assurance resources on the most serious environmental violations**
- **Value of National Initiatives:**
 - Focuses resources
 - Advances EJ goals
 - Prompts action on tough problems
 - Drives compliance
 - Provides transparency and certainty

New selection criteria

Serious and widespread
environmental violations impacting
human health and the environment

Federal enforcement can make a
difference

Alignment with EPA's Strategic Plan
goals



FY 2024-2027

Mitigating Climate
Change

Addressing
Exposure to PFAS

Protecting
Communities from
Coal Ash
Contamination

Reducing Air Toxics
in Overburdened
Communities

Increasing
Compliance with
Drinking Water
Standards

Chemical Accident
Risk Reduction

Mitigating Climate Change (New)

- EPA will use all enforcement authorities to address three significant contributors to climate change:
 - Methane emissions from oil and gas facilities
 - Methane emissions from landfills
 - The use, importation, and production of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)

Addressing Exposure to PFAS (New)

- Chosen due to the toxicity and persistence of PFAS chemicals, the scope of contamination and exposure throughout the country.
- Focus on implementing EPA's PFAS Strategic Roadmap and holding responsible those who significantly contributed to the release of PFAS into the environment.
- We are developing a CERCLA enforcement discretion policy that will reflect the agency's enforcement policy. EPA does not intend to pursue entities where equitable factors do not support assigning CERCLA responsibility, such as farmers, water utilities, airports, or local fire departments.

Protecting Communities from Coal Ash Contamination

- Will focus on conducting investigations at coal ash facilities impacting vulnerable or overburdened communities.
- Taking enforcement, as appropriate, at facilities not in compliance with the law and protecting and cleaning up contaminated groundwater, surface water, and drinking water resources.

Reducing Air Toxics in Overburdened Communities (Modified)

- Originally called “Creating Cleaner Air for Communities” (2020)
- Recognized the need to address communities that suffer impacts from multiple sources of toxic air pollution from Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs).

Increasing Compliance with Drinking Water Standards at Community Water Systems (Continued)

- Originally started in 2020, the next phase will ramp up field presence, pursue strategic enforcement to reduce non-compliance, and offer more compliance assistance to prevent and address public health risks.

Chemical Accident Risk Reduction (Continued)

- Beginning in 2017, this initiative seeks to reduce risks to human health and the environment by decreasing the likelihood of chemical accidents.
- Under this NECI, we will focus on inspecting and addressing non-compliance at facilities using anhydrous ammonia and hydrogen fluoride.

Return to Core

Reducing Hazardous
Air Emissions from
Hazardous Waste
Facilities

Stopping
Aftermarket Defeat
Devices for Vehicles
and Engines

Reducing Significant
Noncompliance
with NPDES

Reducing Toxic Air Emissions from Hazardous Waste Facilities

- Began in 2017 – concluded over 100 cases, built state capacity and improved compliance with the regulated community.
- OECA will continue to efforts to develop training materials for both industry and regulators.
- EPA compliance inspections will continue.

Stopping Aftermarket Defeat Devices

- OECA and the Regions will continue to investigate and pursue enforcement against upstream manufacturers and distributors of defeat devices to leverage the greatest benefits for human health and the environment.
- OECA will continue to provide training and coordinate with the states to maintain outreach and compliance assistance to industry groups.

Reducing Significant Noncompliance with NPDES

- Under this initiative, in partnership with the states, EPA exceeded the NECI goal and achieved over a 50% reduction in SNC.
- Much of the success was attributed to improving the completeness and accuracy of the NPDES compliance data. This means that EPA and the states can now see clearly which facilities are in violation of their permit and can prioritize those facilities for enforcement or technical assistance.

Questions