

Enforcement - Who's Sorry Now

*36th Annual Texas
Environmental Superconference
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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



National Enforcement Compliance Initiatives FY 2020-2023

Increasing Compliance
with Drinking Water
Standards

Chemical Accident
Risk Reduction

Creating Cleaner Air
for Communities

Reducing Hazardous
Air Emissions from
Hazardous Waste
Facilities

Stopping Aftermarket
Defeat Devices

Reducing Significant
Noncompliance with
National Pollutant
Discharge Elimination
System Permits



Summary of Accomplishments in FY20-23 Creating Clean Air for Communities (CCAC)

Inspections:

- 592 (3/4 in EJ areas)

Enforcement:

- 74 cases initiated, 71 concluded

Pollution reductions:

- 30 million lbs VOC/HAP
- 307 million lbs CO₂e (includes methane reductions)

Innovative use of advanced monitoring tools

- GMAP, DART, infrared flyovers, fence line emission monitors



Building the Foundation for Future Priority Work

CCAC helped set the stage for work we will conduct in FY24-27 on air toxics but also on climate change

- Developed national workgroups for oil & gas and landfill sectors
- Issued an enforcement alert for oil & gas and began development of enforcement alerts for landfills and benzene waste operations
- Developed inspector training and a Compliance Assistance Center resource for the oil and natural gas extraction industry (the “Energy Extraction Portal”)

Community Engagement

Administrator Regan began his administration by focusing on engaging with overburdened communities.

In November 2021, the Administrator's Journey to Justice Tour went through the Gulf Coast states, including Louisiana and Texas.

In Louisiana, Administrator Regan met with residents in New Orleans, St. John the Baptist Parish, St. James Parish, and Mossville, where he saw the impacts of pollution, climate change and crumbling water infrastructure.

National Enforcement Compliance Initiatives FY 2024-2027

Increasing
Compliance with
Drinking Water
Standards

Chemical
Accident Risk
Reduction

Reducing Air
Toxics in
Overburdened
Communities

Mitigating
Climate Change

Addressing
Exposure to
PFAS

Protecting
Communities
from Coal Ash
Contamination

Overview of FY24-27 Initiative Reducing Air Toxics in Overburdened Communities



IDENTIFY
OVERBURDENED
COMMUNITIES FOR
CONCENTRATED
ATTENTION



MAKE GREATER USE
OF ADVANCED
MONITORING TOOLS,
WITH NEIC SUPPORT



INCREASE
COORDINATION WITH
CID



REDUCE AIR TOXICS
EMITTED AS A RESULT
OF VIOLATIONS BY
TAKING
ENFORCEMENT
ACTIONS THAT
OBTAIN APPROPRIATE
INJUNCTIVE RELIEF
AND MITIGATION



INCREASE PUBLIC
AWARENESS OF EPA'S
ACTIONS

Accomplishments

- **All regions have identified one or more overburdened communities of focus.** Regions are directing resources to these communities to address air toxic emissions from non-compliant sources.
- To identify overburdened communities with multiple large sources of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs), regions considered: resources such as EJScreen, AirToxScreen, ECHO/ECATT (e.g., identify HAP ambient air monitors that measured concentrations resulting in cumulative risk greater than 100 in one million); citizen complaints; information from regional EJ targeting workgroups and community groups; state/local input.
- **As of July 12, 2024, regions conducted 120 inspections.** Regions are targeting/conducting Q4 inspections and many will exceed projected commitments. Also issuing CAA 114 requests information requests, ordering performance tests, conducting fence line monitoring and taking enforcement to reduce HAP emissions (e.g., [Best Petroleum Case](#)). The Regions also concluded 3 enforcement cases to date.
 - Inspectors are obtaining training to **enhance community engagement** and several activities are taking place to **increase transparency/information sharing** with communities.
 - **Off to strong first year and sending clear message that EPA is committed to achieve environmental and public health improvements in the most overburdened and underserved communities.**