Allegheny County Sportsmen's League

www.acslpa.org

Conservation Committee Report

Volume 27 Issue 1

Jack Walters—Conservation Chairman

January 2025

The Conservation Pledge

I give my pledge as an

American to save and faithfully defend from waste, the natural resources of my country; the soil, the water, the air, the minerals, the plant life and the wildlife.

This is my Pledge!

Inside this issue:

EPA Adds Nine Additional PFAS to the Toxics Release Inventory

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced the automatic addition of nine per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances to the list of chemicals covered by the Toxics Release Inventory.

TRI data is reported to EPA annually by facilities in designated industry sectors and federal facilities that manufacture, process, or otherwise use TRI-listed chemicals above set quantities. The data include quantities of such chemicals that were released into the environment or otherwise managed as waste. Information collected through TRI allows communities to learn how facilities in their area are managing listed chemicals. The data collected is available online and helps to support informed decision-making by companies,

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EPA Announces $2.4 million in Funding to 24 Small Businesses for the Development of Environmental Technologies

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced $2,400,000 for 24 small businesses to develop technologies to address public health and environmental challenges. These companies are using innovative approaches that include treating PFAS in biosolids, reducing the amount of greenhouse gas emissions from building materials, and developing chemical alternatives that are safer for our environment.

"Congratulations to these small businesses for their dedication to driving innovation and tackling today's environmental challenges," **said Maureen Gwinn, Acting Assistant Administrator**

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EPA Adds Nine Additional PFAS to the Toxics Release Inventory (continued)

government agencies, non-governmental organizations and the public. Adding new chemicals to the TRI advances the Biden-Harris Administration's environmental justice commitments by improving accountability and transparency for families, workers, and communities across the country.

"EPA continues to make strides in getting information on PFAS into the Toxics Release Inventory so the public can see if these chemicals are being released into their communities," **said Assistant Administrator for the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention Michal Freedhoff**. "People have a right to know when facilities in their backyards are releasing toxic chemicals into the environment and with today's action, we are providing important information about nine more."

These nine PFAS were added to the TRI list pursuant to the Fiscal Year 2020 National Defense Authorization Act, which provides the framework for the automatic addition of PFAS to TRI each year in response to specified EPA activities involving such PFAS. For TRI Reporting Year 2025 (reporting forms due by July 1, 2026), reporting is required for these nine additional PFAS, bringing the total PFAS subject to TRI reporting to 205.

Addition of PFAS with final toxicity values

The 2020 NDAA includes a provision that automatically adds PFAS to the TRI list upon the Agency's finalization of a toxicity value. The nine PFAS were automatically added for Reporting Year 2025 due to EPA having finalized a toxicity value during 2024 and whose identity is not claimed as confidential business information. These nine PFAS are:

- Ammonium perfluorodecanoate (PFDA NH4) (3108-42-7)
- Sodium perfluorodecanoate (PFDA-Na) (3830-45-3)
- Perfluoro-3-methoxypropanoic acid (377-73-1)
- 6:2 Fluorotelomer sulfonate acid (27619-97-2)
- 6:2 Fluorotelomer sulfonate anion (425670-75-3)
- 6:2 Fluorotelomer sulfonate potassium salt (59587-38-1)
- 6:2 Fluorotelomer sulfonate ammonium salt (59587-39-2)
- 6:2 Fluorotelomer sulfonate sodium salt (27619-94-9)
- Acetic acid, [(γ-ω-perfluoro-C8-10-alkyl)thio] derivs., Bu esters (3030471-22-5)

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EPA Adds Nine Additional PFAS to the Toxics Release Inventory (continued)

Addition of PFAS no longer claimed as confidential business information

Under NDAA section 7321(e), EPA must review CBI claims before adding a PFAS to the TRI list if the chemical identity is subject to a claim of protection from disclosure under 5 U.S.C. 552(a). EPA previously identified Acetic acid, [(γ-ω-perfluoro-C8-10-alkyl)thio] derivs., Bu esters for addition to the TRI list based on the NDAA's provision to include specific PFAS upon the NDAA's enactment. However, due to CBI claims related to its identity, this PFAS was not added to the TRI list at that time. The identity of this chemical was subsequently declassified in an update to the Toxic Substances Control Act Inventory in May 2024. Because its identity is no longer confidential, it was added to the TRI list.

As of Jan. 1, facilities that are subject to reporting requirements for these chemicals should begin tracking their activities involving these PFAS as required by Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act. Reporting forms will be due by July 1, 2026.

These nine newly added PFAS, along with the previous 196 TRI-listed PFAS, are also subject to EPA's action in October 2023 to classify all PFAS subject to TRI reporting as chemicals of special concern. Among other impacts, this removes the use of a reporting exemption that allowed facilities to avoid reporting information on PFAS when those chemicals were used in small concentrations.

Learn more about the addition of these PFAS to the Toxics Release Inventory

For further information: EPA Press Office (press@epa.gov)

Source: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

EPA Announces $2.4 million in Funding to 24 Small Businesses for the Development of Environmental Technologies (continued)

in EPA's Office of Research and Development. "Their groundbreaking ideas not only address critical needs but also pave the way for a healthier planet and a stronger, more sustainable economy."

These awards are part of EPA's Small Business Innovation Research program, an annual, two-phase competition for small businesses to develop and commercialize environmental technologies that help address the agency's mission of protecting human health and the environment. The 24 small businesses below are receiving $100,000 of Phase I funding for six months for "proof of concept" of their proposed technology. Companies that complete Phase I can then apply to receive Phase II funding of up to $400,000 to further develop and commercialize their technology.

SBIR Phase I winners and their proposed technologies are below:

Acadian Research & Development, **LLC**, Laramie, Wyoming, to create an innovative low-cost method to use strength enhancing biochar-derived graphene to lower embodied carbon in concrete.

- **Agtec Innovations Inc,** Los Altos, California, for a cost-effective, non-polluting phosphate fertilizer alternative that helps prevent runoff.
- **AxNano, LLC,** Greensboro, North Carolina, to create a novel, field deployable treatment process for removing PFAS from biosolids allowing beneficial reuse.
- **BetR-blok, LLC**, Tempe, Arizona, to produce a building block alternative made from waste biomass and recycled materials.
- **Bold Reuse,** Portland, Oregon, to create a novel inventory management system to transition to reusable packaging.
- **Circle Concrete Tech, Inc.,** Gilbert, Arizona, to design an engineered recycled steel fiber product that replaces rebar for concrete reinforcement with a significantly lower carbon footprint.
- **Design Interactive Inc.,** Orlando, Florida, for a comprehensive, AI-powered training simulation to enhance disaster response preparedness.
- **Dynamo.AI LLC,** Saratoga Springs, New York, to develop a technology that leverages biochar to extend the shelf life of fruits and vegetables to reduce food waste.
- **EcoaTEX, LLC.,** Hull, Georgia, to create a technology that converts agricultural waste into high-performance biodegradable fibers.

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EPA Announces $2.4 million in Funding to 24 Small Businesses for the Development of Environmental Technologies (continued)

- **ENF Products, LLC,** Edmond, Oklahoma, to design a filter kit to be used with existing air filters to improve indoor air quality.
- **Enzymatic Holdings Corporation,** Manati, Puerto Rico, to create an enzyme-based technology that enhances durability and self-healing properties of concrete.
- **Huma, Inc.,** Gilbert, Arizona, to create a novel urea/humate enhanced-efficiency fertilizer designed to optimize nitrogen uptake and reduce environmental impacts.
- **KLAW Industries LLC,** Binghamton, New York, to develop a new paving material utilizing waste glass to replace high-embodied carbon materials.
- **Mainstream Engineering Corporation,** Rockledge, Florida, to create a scalable point-of-use water treatment system to remove cyanobacteria and cyanotoxins.
- **Nativo Inc.,** Pompano Beach, Florida, to create a novel method to remove installed ceramic tiles without damaging them through vibration technology allowing for reuse of materials.
- **Pacific Reclaimed Lumber & Supply,** Sebastopol, California, to design a cutting-edge web-based platform that facilitates the reduction of embodied carbon through the purchase of reclaimed lumber and building materials.
- **PAGE Technologies, Inc.,** Boulder, Colorado, to develop low-cost, handheld printable sensors for real-time measurement of water quality parameters.
- **Phospholutions, Inc.,** State College, Pennsylvania, to create an activated metal oxide technology to mitigate the environmental impact of phosphorus runoff into water bodies and enhance crop productivity.
- **Prospect Growth, Inc.,** New Haven, Connecticut, to develop a novel nanoparticle-based phosphorous fertilizer with exceptional nutrient uptake efficiency.
- **Sustainable Water Infrastructure Group,** Seattle, Washington, to develop a nature-based absorbent technology to remove PFAS, pathogens and other contaminants from water.
- **Symmetry Wood, PBC,** Los Angeles, California, to create a method of upcycling food waste into high-performance wood.
- **Talon/LPE, Ltd.,** Amarillo, Texas, to develop a sustainable method to treat PFAS in biosolids using biochar.

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EPA Announces $2.4 million in Funding to 24 Small Businesses for the Development of Environmental Technologies (continued)

- **Tetramer Technologies LLC,** Pendleton, South Carolina, to create a bio-renewable high-performance tire rubber additive to replace the standard use of 6PPD and alleviate its associated ecotoxicity.
- **VerdeTerra LLC.,** Atlanta, Georgia, to develop an air purification system which uses microbes to reduce CO2 and other indoor pollutants.

Learn more about the winning companies.

Learn more about EPA's SBIR program.

Learn more about the government wide SBIR program.

For further information: EPA Press Office: press@epa.gov

Source: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

EPA Finalizes Cancellation of the Pesticide Dacthal

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is announcing the cancellation of all products containing the pesticide dimethyl tetrachloroterephthalate (DCPA or Dacthal) under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

In making this decision, EPA relied on the best available science, which included robust studies demonstrating thyroid toxicity. Unborn babies whose pregnant mothers are exposed to DCPA from handling, entering or working in areas where DCPA has already been applied, could experience changes to fetal thyroid hormone levels. These changes are generally linked to low birth weight, impaired brain development, decreased IQ, and impaired motor skills later in life, some of which may be irreversible.

“With the final cancellation of DCPA, we’re taking a definitive step to protect pregnant women and their unborn babies,” **said Assistant Administrator for the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention Michal Freedhoff**. “The science showing the potential for irreversible harm to unborn babies’ developing brains, in addition to other lifelong consequences from exposure, demands decisive action to remove this dangerous chemical from the marketplace.”

Background on DCPA and Biden-Harris Administration Efforts to Assess and Address Risks

DCPA is a pesticide that was registered to control weeds in both agricultural and non-agricultural settings, but was primarily used on crops such as broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage and onions.

In 2013, the agency issued a Data Call-In (DCI) to AMVAC Chemical Corporation (AMVAC), the sole manufacturer of DCPA, requiring it to submit more than 20 studies to support the then-existing registrations of DCPA. The required data, due in January 2016, included a comprehensive study of the effects of DCPA on thyroid development and function in adults and in developing young before and after birth. Several of the studies that AMVAC submitted from 2013-2021 were considered insufficient to address the DCI, while the thyroid study and other studies were not submitted at all.

In April 2022, EPA issued a very rarely used Notice of Intent to Suspend the DCPA technical-grade product (used to manufacture end-use products) based on AMVAC’s failure to submit the complete set of required data for almost 10 years, including the thyroid study. Although AMVAC submitted the required thyroid study in August 2022, EPA suspended the registration based solely on AMVAC’s continued failure to submit other outstanding data following an administrative hearing.

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EPA Finalizes Cancellation of the Pesticide Dacthal (continued)

In November 2023, EPA lifted the data submission suspension after AMVAC submitted sufficient data. Most DCPA use on turf was voluntarily canceled by AMVAC in December 2023, but unacceptable risks from other uses remained.

In May 2023, EPA released its assessment on the risks of occupational and residential exposure to products containing DCPA, following its analysis of the thyroid study submitted by AMVAC. The assessment found health risks associated with DCPA use and application, even when personal protective equipment and engineering controls are used. The most serious risks were to the unborn babies. EPA estimated that some pregnant mothers handling DCPA products could be subjected to exposures four to 20 times greater than what EPA had estimated is safe for unborn babies. Also of concern were risks to unborn babies of pregnant mothers entering or working in areas where DCPA had been applied or living near areas where DCPA was used. Levels of DCPA in a treated field could remain at unsafe levels for 25 days or more. In April 2024, EPA issued a public warning regarding the significant health risks to unborn babies of pregnant mothers exposed to DCPA and its intent to pursue action to address the health risks associated with the pesticide as quickly as possible.

The August 2024 emergency suspension issued by EPA was the first time in almost 40 years EPA has taken this type of emergency action. Following EPA's emergency suspension EPA received a letter from AMVAC stating its intent to voluntarily cancel the remaining pesticide products containing DCPA in the U.S. AMVAC subsequently announced that it intends to cancel all international registrations as well. On Aug. 29, 2024, EPA published a notice in the Federal Register requesting public comments on the voluntary cancellation. The comment period has concluded, and EPA is publishing the final cancellation order.

The final cancellation prohibits anyone from distributing, selling or carrying out other similar activities for the remaining pesticide products containing DCPA. It also means that no person can continue using existing stocks of those products. AMVAC has developed a voluntary return program for existing DCPA products. In advance of the cancellation order, AMVAC implemented a plan to identify existing stocks and coordinated a collection process. When the return program concludes in the fall of 2024, EPA will continue monitoring this process to ensure that the collected DCPA products are disposed in a manner in accordance with applicable laws. EPA plans to release additional information about any remaining stocks in the coming months.

Read the public inspection version of the Federal Register notice on the DCPA Final Cancellation Order for Pesticide Registrations. Upon publication of the Federal Register notice, the final order will be is available at docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0374 at the Regulations.gov page.

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EPA Finalizes Cancellation of the Pesticide Dacthal (continued)

For answers to frequently asked questions about DCPA, please see the DCPA Questions and Answers webpage. For additional background on the DCPA and EPA's efforts to assess and address risks, see the Aug. 6, 2024, or Aug. 28, 2024, press releases.

For further information: Contact: EPA Press Office (press@epa.gov)

Source: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

EPA Grants Waiver for California's Advanced Clean Cars II Regulations

Agency additionally grants waiver for low-NOx regulations for heavy-duty and off-road vehicles and engines

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is granting two requests from the California Air Resources Board (CARB) for waivers to implement and enforce its Advanced Clean Cars II (ACC II) regulations for light-duty vehicles, and its "Omnibus" low-NOx regulation for heavy-duty highway and off-road vehicles and engines. Under the Clean Air Act, California is afforded the ability to adopt emissions requirements independent from EPA's regulations to meet its significant air quality challenges. The state must seek a waiver from EPA for new motor vehicle emission standards.

After reviewing the information provided by California, reviewing comments submitted by the public, and applying the limited criteria for waiver review under the Clean Air Act, EPA determined in each case that it would be appropriate to grant both waiver requests. The records, included in the waiver decisions, contain public comments on the programs' feasibility, including costs to manufacturers and the lead time provided. EPA's review found that opponents of the waivers did not meet their burden to show how either program is inconsistent with the Clean Air Act.

"California has longstanding authority to request waivers from EPA to protect its residents from dangerous air pollution coming from mobile sources like cars and trucks," **said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan**. "Today's actions follow through on EPA's commitment to partner with states to reduce emissions and act on the threat of climate change."

The ACC II program is a single coordinated package of requirements for model year 2026 through 2035 and beyond for on-road light- and medium-duty engines and vehicles. The ACC II regulations include revisions to both California's Low Emission Vehicle (LEV) and Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) regulations.

CARB projects that the ACC II program will reduce smog and soot-causing pollutants – including fine particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$) as well as oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) and hydrocarbons (HC), which are precursors of ground-level ozone – as well as reduce greenhouse gases and toxic air pollutants.

CARB projects that its Low-NOx standards will protect communities from dangerous NOx pollution that mixes in the atmosphere to form ground-level ozone, commonly called "smog," which can lead to costly and harmful health impacts such as increased illnesses, asthma attacks, lost days of work or school, and hospitalizations.

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EPA Grants Waiver for California's Advanced Clean Cars II Regulations (continued)

EPA has taken public comment on both the ACC II and Low-NOx regulation waiver requests from state and local governments, health and environmental organizations, industry, and other stakeholders. These final decisions are based on those comments, as well as EPA's evaluation of CARB's requests according to Clean Air Act requirements and other information in the record, including that submitted by California. EPA maintains a webpage for information on California waivers and authorizations that sets out EPA's administrative process for California waivers and authorization.

EPA continues reviewing additional waiver requests from California and is working to ensure its decisions are durable and grounded by law.

For further information: EPA Press Office (press@epa.gov)

Source: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

New Report Celebrates EPA's Unprecedented Successes Under Biden-Harris Administration's Investing in America Agenda

Agency has awarded nearly $69 billion in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act funding to cut greenhouse gas emissions, create good-paying jobs, lower energy costs, save families money, and help communities overburdened by pollution

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released its Investing in America Report (pdf), detailing the agency's progress in implementing clean energy, pollution prevention, and environmental justice programs advanced by the Biden-Harris Administration's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act—two historic pieces of legislation reshaping the future of our nation's clean energy economy and the future of our planet. It has been over three years since President Biden signed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and last August marked two years since the President signed the Inflation Reduction Act. Since both historic pieces of legislation were signed into law, EPA has announced nearly $83 billion and awarded nearly $69 billion to cut greenhouse gas emissions, create good-paying jobs, lower energy costs, save families money, support clean energy manufacturing, and help communities overburdened by pollution. These investments and resources are already at work in communities across the country delivering benefits to millions of Americans.

"I am incredibly proud of how efficiently and effectively EPA has mobilized efforts to invest nearly $69 billion into communities across America," **said EPA Acting Administrator Jane Nishida**. "Because of President Biden's vision and leadership, these funds will be making people healthier and more productive for many years to come. At the same time, we're proving that investments in public health and the environment can create good-paying jobs, grow the nation's economy, and advance private investment in clean technologies so that America leads the transition to a clean energy economy."

All of EPA's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) programs are advancing the Biden-Harris Administration's Justice40 Initiative, which aims to ensure 40% of the overall benefits of certain federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized by underinvestment and overburdened by pollution.

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New Report Celebrates EPA's Unprecedented Successes Under Biden-Harris Administration's Investing in America Agenda (continued)

Additional information on where EPA's Investing in America funds are going, including location-specific project descriptions can be found on the Agency's newly updated interactive map. The figures below reflect progress as of Jan. 6, 2025, as the agency continues its important work to protect public health and the environment.

Select Highlights from EPA's Investing in America Programs

- EPA awarded $38.4 billion in funds appropriated by IRA—which represents 93% of grant funding made available by the law—including all $27 billion in Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund awards. Awardees are now implementing their projects to reduce pollution and mobilize public and private capital for clean energy projects around the country.
- EPA has awarded $30.3 billion (82%) in FY 2022, 2023, and 2024 BIL funding, including $20.4 billion in State Revolving Fund capitalization grants; $3.3 billion for Superfund cleanups; and $2.8 billion for clean school buses across hundreds of school districts nationwide.
- EPA continues to award billions in BIL State Revolving Funds to ensure America's water systems are safe, up-to-date, and more resilient to natural disasters, climate change impacts like drought, or cyber-attack threats. To date, the agency has awarded over $20 billion in funds to states, territories, and Tribes for water infrastructure projects. Since President Biden took office, nearly half a million lead pipes have been replaced nationwide, benefitting 1.2 million people.
- More than 8,700 clean school buses have been funded in nearly 1,300 school districts through EPA's $5 billion Clean School Bus program, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and protecting children from diesel exhaust and fumes.
- EPA has awarded 96% of its entire $5 billion Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Program, enabling states, Tribes and territories to implement community-driven solutions that dramatically cut climate pollution, create jobs in the transportation, energy, buildings, agriculture, and industrial sectors, and position communities to be more resilient and sustainable.

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New Report Celebrates EPA's Unprecedented Successes Under Biden-Harris Administration's Investing in America Agenda (continued)

- EPA has awarded over $2.5 billion in IRA Clean Ports Grants to fund zero-emission equipment, sustainable infrastructure, and climate and air quality planning at U.S. ports, improving air quality and creating jobs while improving port competitiveness.
- EPA has awarded more than $3 billion in BIL funding to completely eliminate the longstanding Superfund backlog by starting new Superfund cleanup construction projects and expediting ongoing cleanup work at sites across the country. The agency also continues to leverage BIL resources to assess 921 brownfield properties and make 182 sites ready for revitalization.
- BIL provided $1.7 billion through FY 2026 to support all 12 of EPA's Geographic Programs for critical watershed work. This includes more than $597 million of BIL funds to support environmental restoration projects around America's Great Lakes, as well as $59 million of BIL funding for projects to help protect and restore Long Island Sound and local watersheds and wetlands.
- EPA has awarded nearly $2 billion in environmental justice funding for financial grants and technical assistance to implement its historic Environmental Justice program. The agency is delivering funds through a number of grant programs, including Community Change Grants—the single largest investment in environmental and climate justice in history—that opened for application in November 2023 and will help disadvantaged communities tackle environmental and climate justice challenges through projects that reduce pollution, increase community climate resilience and build community capacity.

These unprecedented resources will continue to have a lasting impact across the country that will stand the test of time and benefit communities of all backgrounds. For example:

- **In Dalton, Georgia**, Dalton Utilities has historically treated much of the wastewater effluent of the area's carpet industry. That wastewater effluent has led to persistent concerns about chemicals in downstream portions of the watershed, including rivers that are no longer used for drinking water sources because of previous issues with PFAS. Dalton Utilities will receive over $1.5 million from BIL, through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), to conduct a series of pilot projects to test the effectiveness of various PFAS removal and destruction technologies.

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New Report Celebrates EPA's Unprecedented Successes Under Biden-Harris Administration's Investing in America Agenda (continued)

- **In Lansing, Michigan**, the Lansing Board of Water and Light is investing $20 million of forgivable BIL funding to ensure its customers can access safe, reliable drinking water. With construction already underway, this project will include water main replacements, upgrading the ammonia system, building a new elevated water storage tank, and extending service from a newly constructed well.

- **The Kootenai Tribe of Idaho** will use $1.9 million of BIL funding through the Columbia River Basin Restoration Program to restore the Kootenai River at Ambush Rock site for traditional, Treaty and cultural use by Tribal citizens. Past environmental injustice from industrial, governmental, and commercial decisions left the property at Ambush Rock littered with metal debris and surrounded by contaminated soils. This restoration will enable Tribal citizens to use Ambush Rock to exercise their Treaty rights and for traditional and cultural ceremonies without fear of toxic exposure. The revitalization of Ambush Rock will help heal the land and assist with environmental recovery, prevent more contamination from reaching the adjacent lands and river, reduce the human health risks associated with using this site, and mitigate past industrial pollution.

- **In Joppa, a community in South Dallas, Texas**, founded by formerly enslaved people after the Civil War, Brownfields Grant funding is being used to address contamination at the once segregated, now shuttered Melissa Pierce School to prepare for reuse of the facility as a vibrant community center.

- **In Baton Rouge, Louisiana, the Agricultural Research and Extension Center at Southern University,** a Historically Black University, will provide technical assistance to manufacturers in Baton Rouge and New Orleans, including on-site water quality assessments and workshops and offer practical solutions to reducing hazardous substances released to local aquifers.

These and other highlights from the last three years, as well as expected results for future investments, can be found in EPA's Investing in America Report (pdf).

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New Report Celebrates EPA's Unprecedented Successes Under Biden-Harris Administration's Investing in America Agenda (continued)

Additional Background:

Together, the BIL and IRA provided over $100 Billion in critical resources to EPA.

The IRA appropriation provided EPA with $41.5 billion at the end of FY 2022 for both external grants and internal federal spending.

The BIL statute stipulated that EPA would receive a BIL appropriation in each of the five fiscal years (FY 2022 through FY 2026) as shown below:

- FY 2022 - $14.1 billion
- FY 2023 - $11.2 billion
- FY 2024 - $11.6 billion
- FY 2025 - $12.0 billion
- FY 2026 - $12.0 billion

Funds awarded refers to any funding that has been obligated via grants or other programmatic demands (staffing, oversight, etc.).

Visit EPA's Investing in America webpage for more information.

For further information: EPA Press Office (press@epa.gov)

Source: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Prevent Lung Cancer by Testing Your Home for Radon

In January, the EPA recognizes National Radon Action Month and encourages Americans to test their homes for radon. Radon is an odorless, colorless, naturally occurring radioactive gas that, when left unaddressed, can build up inside a home. Over time, exposure to radon can cause lung cancer. The only way to know if your home has high levels of radon is to test for it.

“Radon is a serious public health risk that can be reduced using simple, proven techniques,” **said Acting Director of EPA’s Indoor Environments Division, Sharon White**. “During this year’s National Radon Action Month, we urge everyone to take the first but vital step of testing their home. This year’s theme of ‘Test Your Nest: Test, Fix, Save a Life,’ emphasizes that identifying and reducing radon exposure can decrease lung cancer risk and save lives. Together we can protect our families and communities from this invisible threat.”

Testing for radon is easy and inexpensive. Affordable do-it-yourself radon test kits are available for purchase online and at most home improvement and hardware stores. Some states and municipalities even provide at-home radon test kits for free. You can also hire a qualified radon professional to test your home. Contact your state or Tribal radon program to learn more about radon services in your area.

Millions of homes in the United States have elevated levels of radon. Radon is the number one cause of lung cancer among non-smokers and is responsible for about 21,000 lung cancer deaths every year, but many people don’t know about radon or the risks it can pose to their health.

If you haven’t tested your home for radon, National Radon Action Month is the perfect time to take this step to protect yourself and your loved ones. Tens of millions of homes have already been tested, and millions of homes with high radon levels have been fixed.

The EPA recommends taking action to fix your home if you discover radon levels above 4 picocuries per liter. If your home does have elevated levels of radon, a qualified professional can install a system to lower your indoor radon levels. For more guidance on how to address radon risks, see EPA’s radon website.

Test. Fix. Save a life.

Find a radon test kit.

Read frequent questions about radon.

For further information: EPA Press Office (press@epa.gov)

Source: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency