



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Funding Highlights:

- Provides \$7.9 billion for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to protect human health and the environment. This includes:
 - Supporting the President's Climate Action Plan to reduce carbon pollution from power plants, vehicles and other sources and prepare the Nation for the unavoidable impacts of climate change;
 - Improving coordination with other Federal agencies and State, local, and tribal emergency planning and response organizations in assessing and managing chemical facility safety and security; and
 - Increasing support for State and tribal environmental protection by \$76 million for implementation of delegated authorities, including support for air and water quality management and building tribal program capacity.

Opportunity, Growth, and Security Initiative:

- Through the Opportunity, Growth, and Security Initiative, supports:
 - A Nation that is better prepared for the impacts of climate change by protecting and enhancing coastal wetlands and supporting urban forest enhancement and protection.

Reforms:

- Reforms processes to increase program effectiveness by implementing the E-Enterprise Initiative, which includes transitioning from paper-based to electronic reporting, and using strategic sourcing for EPA's contract needs.
- Redesigns how EPA does business through realigning its workforce while ensuring staff have the skills they need to address today's environmental protection challenges in partnership with States.

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) mission is to protect human health and the environment. EPA was formed in 1970 in order to implement major pollution control

programs, which were carried out primarily by EPA employees at the Federal level. In the decades that followed, new environmental statutes were enacted that expanded EPA's mandate and

workload. Federal environmental programs were designed by the Congress to support strong collaboration with State, tribal, and local partners wherever possible, and most major environmental statutes have since been delegated to, and are largely administered by, States and Tribes. As a result of the successful efforts of these collaborations, environmental quality has improved substantially during this time. In recognition of evolving responsibilities, EPA has strategically evaluated its workforce and facility needs and will undertake a comprehensive effort to modernize its workforce in 2015. By implementing creative, flexible, cost-effective, and sustainable strategies to protect public health and safeguard the environment, EPA will target resources toward development of a workforce and structure that can address current challenges and priorities.

Meets the Climate Change Challenge

Supports the President's Climate Action Plan. EPA will continue to address climate change through careful, cost-effective rulemakings that focus on the largest pollution sources and voluntary programs that encourage businesses to cut carbon pollution. The President's Climate Action Plan focuses on three areas: cutting carbon pollution; preparing the Nation for the impacts of climate change that cannot be avoided; and leading international efforts to address climate change. EPA plays an important role in the plan by setting carbon dioxide (CO₂) standards for power plants and heavy duty trucks, and in partnership with other agencies, taking other actions to address hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and methane. The Budget supports implementation of greenhouse gas standards by the States, who will be close partners in successful reduction of carbon pollution from power plants. EPA also has a role in preparing the Nation for the unavoidable impacts of climate change, including through technical assistance to communities and by integrating considerations of climate change impacts and adaptive measures into existing programs.

Builds a High Performing Environmental Protection Enterprise

Redesigns how EPA does Business. Strengthening the partnership with States and increasing the efficiency of EPA's core functions are both key to building a high performing environmental protection enterprise. EPA will redesign its business processes, including contracts and grants management, the regulation development process, and records management, and implement approaches such as strategic sourcing in order to increase EPA's effectiveness in an environment of constrained resources. This redesign effort has been largely developed through an EPA-State workgroup.

At the center of EPA's redesign effort is E-Enterprise. Through E-Enterprise, EPA will modernize business processes and systems to reduce reporting burden on States and regulated facilities and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of regulatory programs for EPA, States, and Tribes. The Budget includes an additional \$7 million to support the e-Manifest program to provide information on hazardous waste shipments electronically, rather than the current cumbersome, paper-based approach. When fully implemented, the e-Manifest program will result in annual savings of \$75 million for over 146,000 waste handlers.

Modernizes EPA's Workforce. In 2015, EPA will undertake a focused examination of its workforce needs in conjunction with efforts to modernize its processes through the use of innovative tools and approaches. The restructuring effort will focus on implementing best management practices and identifying needed skills for the streamlined EPA. Some positions will be consolidated and reconfigured to reflect the current era of data driven analysis.

Strengthens Partnerships to Protect the Environment

Supports State and Tribal Governments.

The Budget increases support for EPA's partnership with States and Tribes. Under the Clean Water Act (CWA), the Clean Air Act and other Federal environmental laws, EPA sets standards and enforceable pollution limits and establishes best practices to ensure human health and the environment are protected. States and localities implement the rules while taking into account each State's specific needs, and address the public health and environmental standards and requirements. Categorical grants to States and Tribes to implement their delegated authorities are funded at \$1.1 billion, \$76 million above the 2014 enacted level. Within these totals, funding is increased in priority areas including \$20 million for State implementation of the President's Climate Action Plan, \$31 million to build tribal capacity and assist Tribes in leveraging other EPA and Federal funding, and \$18 million for activities including water permitting and improving nutrient management.

Invests in Accident Prevention. EPA's responsibilities include working to prevent and prepare for catastrophic accidental chemical releases at industrial facilities through a combination of regulation, technical assistance, outreach, and inspections. Following the explosion of an ammonium nitrate facility in West, Texas last year, the President signed an Executive Order directing EPA and other Federal agencies to, among other things, review and appropriately modernize their operating practices and regulations and seek improvements in coordination with other Federal, State, and local regulators and first responders. To assist in this effort, the Budget includes \$13 million above the 2014 enacted level to support upgrades and enhancements to the CAMEO (Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations) IT system. This funding also provides for additional technical assistance and inspection support, as well as the establishment of a pilot program for local responders to develop tools for emergency notification systems and planning.

Enhances Efforts to Improve Water Quality.

The Budget builds on existing collaboration between EPA and its partners to improve water quality across the United States while utilizing new approaches. In 2015, EPA will work to develop tools to improve measurement of water quality and expand technical assistance efforts for communities to develop effective stormwater plans. Through its water quality programs and through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, EPA will promote green infrastructure approaches such as green roofs, rain gardens, and wetlands and forest buffers, all of which can help to effectively meet CWA requirements and protect and restore the Nation's resources for safe drinking water, recreation, and economic development—now and into the future.

Supports Interagency Partnerships in Local Watersheds.

The Budget maintains strong support for interagency efforts in key ecosystems of economic importance and in watersheds throughout the Nation. The Budget includes \$275 million to continue the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative under a new Action Plan beginning in 2015. While continuing efforts to address high priority pollution problems in the Great Lakes, EPA and its Federal partners will build on lessons learned in the initiative's first five years to improve performance measurement and the effectiveness of Federal funds. The Budget similarly maintains support for Chesapeake Bay restoration, including \$16 million to support State partners in implementing plans to reduce nutrient and sediment pollution. The Budget builds on the significant collaboration already underway between EPA and the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to demonstrate water quality improvements through conservation. By coordinating across EPA's Nonpoint Source Grants and USDA's Farm Bill conservation programs, the agencies will ensure effective, targeted investments to support continued improvements in water quality during times of constrained budgets.

Makes Targeted Reductions

Reduces Funding for State Revolving Funds. The Budget provides \$1.8 billion for the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRFs), \$581 million below the 2014 enacted level. The Budget proposes a reduction to focus on communities most in need of assistance and

continuing to allow financing of approximately \$6 billion annually in wastewater and drinking water infrastructure projects. Nearly \$60 billion has been provided for the programs to date, including over \$21 billion since 2009. Going forward, EPA will continue efforts to target assistance to small and underserved communities that have a limited ability to repay loans, including Tribes.