



THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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I am pleased to present the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's *Fiscal Year 2013 Financial and Program Performance Highlights*, which summarizes some of the EPA's key results from last year. During FY 2013 the EPA made significant strides toward protecting public health and our environment throughout America.

Under President Obama's Climate Action Plan announced in June 2013, the EPA proposed Clean Air Act standards to cut carbon pollution from new power plants. These proposed standards will combat climate change and improve public health. They also will spark the innovation we need to build the next generation of power plants and help grow a more sustainable, clean-energy economy. The EPA also reached out to state, tribal and local governments; industry and labor leaders; and nonprofit and other organizations to begin considering carbon-pollution standards for existing power plants and build on state efforts to move toward a cleaner power sector.

In FY 2013 we took action on toxics, working to strengthen chemical safety in communities across the nation and to address environmental-justice issues. We changed our Integrated Risk Information System program to increase transparency in the program and process while seeking to complete more health assessments for chemicals that are being used nationwide every day and to better ensure the safety of chemicals for our children and families.

We also furthered our efforts to embrace next-generation tools and processes to enable businesses routinely to conduct electronic environmental-business transactions with the EPA and to make data more transparent and readily available to our federal, state, local and tribal partners. In FY 2013 we launched ChemView, a Web-based tool that will significantly improve access to chemical-specific regulatory information. The EPA also proposed a rule that will modernize Clean Water Act reporting processes for hundreds of thousands of municipalities, industries and other facilities by converting to an electronic data-reporting system. Under this proposed National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Electronic Reporting Rule, inspection and enforcement history, pollutant-monitoring results and other data required by permits would be reported electronically and made available on the EPA's website, saving the states about \$29 million each year.

I am proud of the EPA's FY 2013 accomplishments, even with the fiscal challenges during the year, and I have tremendous confidence in the agency's talented and committed professionals – and their work with our partners – to meet the environmental challenges ahead. We envision continued progress as we implement the EPA's new *FY 2014-2018 Strategic Plan*, which will outline our plans during the next four years for protecting Americans' health and the environment in every community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gina McCarthy", is positioned above the name.

Gina McCarthy