

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 19 2016

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Kickoff of FY 2018-2019 National Program Manager (NPM) Guidance

Development

FROM: David A. Bloom

Deputy Chief Financial Officer

TO: General Counsel

Assistant Administrators

Inspector General

Deputy Assistant Administrators

Regional Administrators

Deputy Regional Administrators

This memorandum transmits *OCFO's Technical Guidance: FY 2018-2019 National Program Manager Guidance and Annual Commitment Process*, which is available on EPA's <u>NPM Guidance website.</u> This effort begins now with early engagement among NPMs, regions, states and tribes on the most important work to protect human health and the environment.

The FY 2018-2019 NPM Guidance development effort builds on progress in implementing the two-year FY 2016-2017 NPM Guidance process, which was designed by the EPA-State NPM Guidance/National Environmental Partnership Performance System Workgroup. Based on workgroup feedback, the overall two-year approach is effective in strengthening early, meaningful engagement and promoting flexibilities in protecting human health and the environment. The FY 2018-2019 NPM Guidance process includes some key refinements, notably strengthening two-way communication during early engagement and increasing integration of cross-agency work (e.g., Cross-Agency Strategies, E-Enterprise, environmental justice, children's health) in development of program priorities, implementation strategies, and measures.

Please note that due to the transition to the new administration, EPA will issue draft and final FY 2018-2019 NPM Guidances later than usual, and only after the release of the FY 2018 President's Budget. The milestone table in the Technical Guidance (*see* Appendix A) will be updated and reissued when the 2017 deadlines are established. The results of early engagement will provide valuable input to help inform the new agency leadership's priorities and strategies. It will be important for NPMs and regions to continue engaging with—and keeping states and tribes informed—about the new administration's direction.

Thank you for your continued commitment to strengthening EPA's collaboration internally and with our state and tribal partners. If you have any questions, please contact me or Kathy O'Brien at 202-564-1167 or have your staff contact Beth Burchard at 202-564-6981.

cc: Acting Deputy Administrator

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