

FY 2019 Program Evaluations

Project in Brief	Purpose and Brief Description	List of Results and Conclusions	Significance
Office of Air and Radiation			
<p>Title V Permitting Program Reviews</p> <p>Office of Air and Radiation (OAR)</p> <p>Completed: Throughout 2019</p>	<p>EPA periodically evaluates state and local permitting programs, including fees, under Title V of the Clean Air Act as part of its responsibility to oversee delegated and approved air permitting programs. In general, the purpose of these program evaluations is to identify good practices, document areas needing improvement, and learn how EPA can help the permitting agencies improve their performance.</p>	<p>The purpose of the Title V program evaluation is to identify good practices implemented by the state/local agency, areas needing improvement within the state/local program, and ways in which EPA can improve its own oversight role. EPA Regional Offices report on Title V program evaluations on their respective websites. For example, the Title V program evaluation conducted at one air agency identified best practices for that agency and EPA to take to continue improving and standardizing the permitting process, such as promoting early communication during the permit development process and developing permit templates. Additional program information is available at: https://www.epa.gov/title-v-operating-permits.</p>	<p>The reviews evaluate the overall effectiveness of the planning, permitting, monitoring and compliance, and enforcement programs to identify good practices implemented by the state/tribal agency, areas needing improvement within the state/tribal program, and ways EPA can improve oversight.</p>
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance			
<p>Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Data Analytics Evaluation</p> <p>Office of Enforcement and Compliance</p>	<p>Since 2015, EPA has worked with The University of Chicago Energy & Environment Lab to develop a robust machine learning model that forecasts the likelihood that Large Quantity Generators (LQG) hazardous waste</p>	<p>Field test results suggest that use of the model increases the likelihood of determining a severe violation by nearly 47%.</p>	<p>EPA is sharing FY 2020 model predictions to support FY 2020 inspection planning.</p>

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<p>Assurance (OECA)</p> <p>Completion Date: Preliminary results in FY 2019, will be continuing based on these results</p>	<p>facilities will violate RCRA regulations. From FY 2017 through FY 2019, EPA coordinated across regions to field test the model through a randomized evaluation.</p>		
Office of Land and Emergency Management			
<p>Estimating the Effects of Superfund Cleanups on Children’s Blood Lead Levels</p> <p>Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM)</p> <p>Completed: NCEE Working Paper- January 2019 (Peer Review Journal Publication Projected for Q4 2021)</p> <p>https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2019-01/documents/2019-01.pdf</p>	<p>The purpose was to identify the effect of Superfund cleanups on children’s elevated blood lead levels across a wide swath of Superfund sites spanning different regions, contamination levels, and potential exposure pathways. It would quantify the average health impact across a substantial subset of the Superfund program and potentially allow for generalizability of results to the national program.</p>	<p>The preliminary analysis of two decades of blood lead level measurements from children across six states indicates that cleanup at lead contaminated Superfund sites lowered the risk of elevated blood lead levels (EBLL) for children living within two kilometers of the sites 8% to 18%.</p>	<p>Authors are working towards publication in a peer-reviewed academic journal by FY 2021. Information from this study will help support the Agency’s contribution to the Federal Action Plan to Reduce Childhood Lead Exposures and Associated Health Impacts and improve the Agency’s understanding of the potential scope of childhood lead exposures and the effect of Superfund cleanups on EBLL.</p>