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United States Environmental Protection Agency Exit Memorandum

Arkansas Environmental, Energy, and Water Law Blog



The United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") issued an "Exit Memorandum" ("Memo") pursuant to the request of President Obama that addresses:

- Progress the agency has made
- The agency's vision of the country's future
- Work that remains to be undertaken to achieve that vision

Each Cabinet level agency was asked to prepare such a Memo.

EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy references by way of introduction references "historic progress in terms of environmental protection." However, she further states that "pollution remains a significant threat to the health and wellbeing of our children, families, and communities, as well as to the healthy, vibrant ecosystems on which we rely for clean air, water, and land." The argument is also made that "smart investments in our environment do not conflict with the growing economy – they support it."

The topics discussed in the Memo include:

- Addressing climate change
- Reducing air pollution
- Clean water and resource protection
- Infrastructure investment
- Protecting and improving iconic water resources
- Chemical safety
- Increased safety for workers and citizens
- Environmental justice
- Communities
- Stakeholder engagement
- Travel partnerships
- State and local partnerships
- International engagement

A copy of the Memo can be downloaded here.



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