Superfund - Back in the Limelight?

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Post-Trump EPA in the news

EPA airbrushes climate webpage as Pruitt nears confirmation

Counseled by Industry, Not Staff, E.P.A. Chief Is Off to a Blazing Start

The Ten Worst Things Scott Pruitt’s EPA Has Already Done

Pruitt makes WOTUS pledge at approps hearing

EPA's Scott Pruitt Announces Repeal Of Clean Power Plan
In FY 2017, EPA initiated more than 1,900 civil judicial and administrative cases, and concluded nearly 2,000 civil judicial and administrative cases.
Post-Trump Superfund Chronology

- 1/20/2017 Trump inaugurated
- 2/17 Pruitt confirmed
- 4/13/17 “EPA’S ‘BACK-TO-BASICS AGENDA’ – Protecting the environment; engaging with state, local and tribal partners; and creating sensible regulations that enhance economic growth.”
- 5/22/17 Superfund Task Force established
- 7/25/17 Superfund Task Force Recommendations
- 12/8/17 List of Superfund sites targeted for “immediate and intense attention … restoring its Superfund program to its rightful place at the center of the Agency’s mission … develop plans for each of these sites to ensure they are thoughtfully addressed with urgency.”
- 1/17/2018 List of Superfund Sites for Redevelopment Focus, sites with the “greatest expected redevelopment and commercial potential.”
- 1/18/18 Ten sites proposed for NPL, four added to NPL
Superfund Task Force Goals

- Expediting Cleanup and Remediation
- Re-Invigorating Responsible Party Cleanup and Reuse
- Encouraging Private Investment
- Promoting Redevelopment and Community Revitalization
- Engaging Partners and Stakeholders
What is going on with Superfund?

Construction and development projects not science projects
Shift to headquarters from regions
Shifts between states and feds
Flexibility in ROD remedies/implementation
Speed
Focus on funding
Reduced DOJ deference to agencies
Demonstrable successes
Politics
National Priorities List (NPL)
Sites Listed Per Year 1998 - 2018
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