UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

August 17, 2018

OFFICE OF
THE ADMINISTRATOR

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Regulatory Reform Task Force

FROM: Andrew R. Wheeler
Acting Administrator

TO: Associate Deputy Administrator and Chief of Operations
General Counsel
Assistant Administrators
Associate Administrators
Chief of Staff

As additional members have joined the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's senior management team, it is an opportune time to further refine the regulatory reform efforts taking place within the agency. We have already issued many important rulemakings to reduce unnecessary burden, and we must continue to actively consider ways to implement regulatory reform and provide certainty to state, local and tribal governments, regulated entities and the public. To build on the progress the EPA has made during the past year and advance President Trump's regulatory agenda, I am revising the membership and process for the EPA's Regulatory Reform Task Force.

The Regulatory Reform Task Force was established last year, as directed by President Trump's Executive Order 13777, to evaluate existing regulations and make recommendations on those that may be appropriate for repeal, replacement or modification. EO 13777 also directed agencies to seek input from entities significantly affected by our regulations. Accordingly, the agency opened a public comment docket in April 2017 as one method to receive such input. We received more than 460,000 comments in this docket, including a record-breaking 63,416 unique, substantive comments. These comments ranged from focusing on a single rule to covering dozens of rules. The agency also invited more than 200,000 stakeholders to nearly a dozen public meetings in April and May 2017. The feedback we received during this process has informed our regulatory reform work to date. Outreach since that time, including through the Office of Policy's Smart Sectors program, has continued to bring additional recommendations for regulatory reform to our attention.

To ensure that the EPA continues to effectively implement regulatory reform per EO 13777, I am strengthening the Regulatory Reform Task Force in the following ways:

1) Membership: I have asked the Associate Deputy Administrator to serve as the task force's chairman. The Associate Administrator for the Office of Policy will continue to serve as the EPA's regulatory reform officer. In addition to these members, the following senior managers will serve on the task force: the Chief of Staff, the General Counsel and the Assistant Administrators for the Offices of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, Air and Radiation, Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention, Land and Emergency Management and Water.

2) Support: The task force will be supported by Office of Policy staff from the Office of Regulatory Policy and Management and the Smart Sectors Program. This staff will collaborate with other relevant offices to support the work of the task force.

3) Process: The task force will meet regularly to consider specific recommendations for regulatory reform and make decisions about whether to undertake particular reforms, which will be communicated to the appropriate program office for further consideration and development. Regulatory reforms, including those that require rulemaking, will be developed in accordance with internal processes and in conformance with the *Administrative Procedure Act* and other applicable laws.

I am proud of the progress the EPA has already made implementing regulatory reform under this administration, but we still have more work to do. I appreciate the willingness of additional members of the senior leadership to participate in the work of the Regulatory Reform Task Force and to ensure our work in this area is effective and efficient. The chairman of the task force and the regulatory reform officer will follow up shortly with more details and further information.

cc: William Nickerson, Office of Regulatory Policy and Management
Nena Shaw, Smart Sectors Program