

Colleagues,

I am writing to provide you with an update on the plan to establish a standard organizational structure for EPA's regional offices that more closely aligns with EPA's headquarters structure. As Acting Administrator Wheeler shared with you in his message of September 6, 2018, this realignment will increase coordination between EPA's National Programs and their regional counterparts; improve the consistent implementation of EPA regulations and policies; allow for better resource allocation; enhance operational excellence; and provide greater transparency for EPA's customers.

During the last few weeks, EPA's Office of Administration and Resources Management and members of a Regional Implementation Working Group, including representatives from each region, have developed the proposed realignment package. Great progress has been made in concurrence on a final organizational structure, writing functional statements, and preparing reorganization documentation. Our next step will be to share the proposed reorganization package with Congress and the Unions.

Because this effort is important to all of us at EPA, especially to employees working in the regional offices and regional laboratories across the country, we have developed an intranet site to keep you informed on the status of this effort. The site contains information about the new organizational structure, a Frequently Asked Questions section that will be updated periodically, and a link to an email box if you have questions about the regional realignment.

I am very encouraged by the progress the Regional Implementation Working Group has been able to achieve and by their earnest and thoughtful approach to building a new regional structure. When we work together to find better ways to do our work, everyone benefits.

I will continue to keep you informed about our progress in advancing this effort. Thank you for your commitment to the Agency and its mission.

Thank you,

Henry Darwin

Chief of Operations