

From: Message from the Administrator <messagefromtheadministrator@epa.gov>
Date: January 27, 2019 at 7:54:13 PM EST
To: Message from the Administrator <messagefromtheadministrator@epa.gov>
Subject: Welcome Back to EPA



Dear Colleagues,

Welcome back to EPA. I know that the past month has been difficult. Uncertainty is very stressful. We are working to make your transition back to work as smooth as possible. Among the first actions is to ensure your back pay is restored as quickly as possible. We are working to pay everyone by Thursday, January 31, 2019. Our payroll provider will process back pay during the week of [January 28, 2019](#). Employees should start seeing the first deposits as soon as [Wednesday, January 30, 2019](#). (Note: Depending on your financial institution's direct deposit timeframes, the actual deposit dates may vary).

Please know that each and every one of you and the work that you do was missed. The knowledge and expertise that each of you bring to this Agency is critical to protecting human health and the environment. We have important work ahead of us and I look forward to continuing to work alongside you to advance our mission.

As you settle back into the office, there are many resources available to you if you have any questions. In addition to talking with your supervisor, the website - www.epa.gov/2018lapse - addresses issues such as People Plus and back pay, employee counseling, annual and sick leave, retirement benefits, IT support, transit subsidy, and travel. Updates will continue to be provided.

Again, thank you for your dedication to EPA and your service to the American people. You play a vital role in protecting public health and I am proud of the work we accomplish on the country's behalf. I'm looking forward to getting us back to work full swing.

It's great to have you back!

Andrew Wheeler
Acting Administrator