

National Enforcement and Compliance Document: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Announces Initiatives for Years 2024-2027



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The United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) announced its National Enforcement and Compliance Initiatives (“NECIs”) for fiscal years 2024-2027.

EPA chooses every four years national initiatives on which to focus resources on what it believes are serious and widespread environmental problems for which federal enforcement can make a difference.

The primary objective of the initiatives has been stated by EPA as protecting:

... human health and the environment by holding polluters accountable and compelling regulated entities to return to compliance.

The NECIs include for the first time initiatives to:

- Mitigate climate change
- Methane emissions from oil and gas facilities
- Methane emissions from landfills
- Use, importation, and production of HFCs
- Address exposure to PFAS contamination
- Address facilities that manufacture PFAS and/or use PFAS in a manufacturing process
- Address the federal facilities that release PFAS
- Address industrial parties that significantly contribute to the release of PFAS into the environment
- Address coal ash
- Address on-site landfills
- Address settling ponds
- Address other coal plant surface impoundments

NECIs are also retaining the following initiatives:

- Reducing air toxics in overburdened communities
- Increasing compliance with Safe Drinking Water Act drinking water standards
- Chemical accident risk reduction

EPA notes that environmental justice concerns will be a component of these initiatives.

Note that the State of Arkansas has been delegated almost every federal environmental program. As a result, the primary sources of enforcement are Arkansas agencies. Nevertheless, EPA has the authority, and does on occasion, initiate federal enforcement actions involving Arkansas facilities.

A copy of the EPA NEClS can be downloaded [here](#).