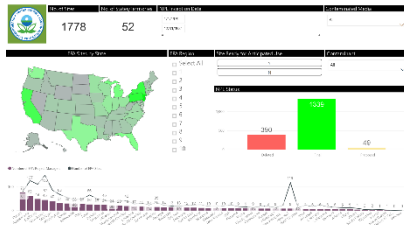


EPA and States as Co-Regulators under Federalism 2.0 Speeding up Cleanups with a Superfund Remediation Project Executive Dashboard

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Everyone familiar with the Superfund process understands that there are many inefficiencies and delays in remediating these complex sites to closure. EPA Administrator Pruitt's top priority is to reinvigorate and prioritize the Superfund program in a most expeditious manner. Administrator Pruitt wants a Superfund Priorities List to identify Superfund sites to accelerate cleanup actions and, pursuant to the EPA Superfund Task Force Recommendations, wants an ongoing and robust dialogue with stakeholders to promote expeditious remediation. At the same time, many remediation parties' business objectives are timely cleanups in accordance with certain project schedules and fully-approved and budgeted work plans. However, these common objectives of expeditious cleanup are thwarted by delays caused, in part, by EPA short-staffing, overall workload allocation, and not identifying the regulatory or technical challenge causing delays and responding with the right expertise.

The Superfund Remediation Project Executive Dashboard is an excellent means for EPA, states and remediating parties to track remedy implementation and completion progress in real time with current EPA digital data collection and analytics tools. Key performance indicators can include: 1) Remediation Milestone Stage, 2) Regulatory Submittal Dates for submittals awaiting approval, 3) Dates of Pending Key Events (major milestone decision documents/field work implementation), 4) Regulatory or technical challenges, 5) Stakeholder Interests (state interests, potential redevelopment) and other information to accelerate decision-making and cleanups.

Many remediation parties have fully-funded plans to remediate Superfund sites to regulatory closure and without this information and other data sets, EPA executive management is unaware that there is low hanging fruit available for significant Superfund accomplishments and site close outs. The Dashboard can assist all stakeholders with a clear understanding of the issues, decision points and steps needed to make progress. The Dashboard's data collection of key information in real time can dramatically remove barriers, increase transparency, predictability and collaboration while reducing costs and years of time. Having the Dashboard at the executive level empowers EPA, states and remediating parties to deliver on their promises and drive key outcomes in accordance with their respective strategic plans.

EPA developed the Superfund Human Exposure Dashboard, and states such as Minnesota, New Hampshire, Colorado and Utah are using dashboards to track and identify performance measure for environmental progress. These are effective public outreach mechanisms to describe environmental conditions but creating a Superfund Remediation Executive Dashboard can be extremely useful as EPA and the states re-boot their relationships through cooperative federalism. EPA and ECOS are recasting their interaction under Cooperative Federalism 2.0 where federal and state agencies want to reduce operating costs through a more efficient division of services, streamline operating relationships, share best practices, and eliminate redundancies across states and EPA Regions. The Dashboard can provide Superfund site information to assist with a more effective allocation of resources. The Dashboard can open opportunities for a more matrixed management of Superfund sites with both EPA and state team members, so the right technical and project management resources are deployed. With this management tool at the fingertips of stakeholder management, it is possible that everyone can win.