EPA Data Governance Council

Meeting Summary – June 27, 2022

General Updates

- The Chief Data Officer (CDO) has been circulating the proposed governance strategy at the ITPR Data Discussions, highlighting the new role of the Data Officer. The CDO will brief the EPA Deputy Administrator on the proposed governance strategy later this summer. The Governance Subcommittee is developing PARS language to standardize the requirements for the Data Officer Position and creating standardized Position Descriptions (PD) that program offices and regions can use for hiring. The plan is to submit a FY 2024 budget request for additional FTE to help with resourcing. OMS and OCFO are developing a memo regarding the Data Officer Role and plan to distribute it by the end of the 2022 Calendar Year.
- Alation, the selected enterprise metadata management tool, has been approved and funded. Once the license transfer is completed, Alation will be deployed. The CDO will work with the Data Inventory Subcommittee to identify a path forward for migrating existing metadata and identifying customized develop that may be needed.
- Given that the Lanes of Opportunity (LoOps) are all progressing on different timelines, the CDO is considering revising the cadence for reporting status updates to the DGC.

Data Skills Training Subcommittee Update

- Janet Kremer briefed the DGC on the status of the Data Skills Training Subcommittee's activities.
- The subcommittee's goal is to have something in place to enhance availability and opportunities for staff to increase data skills by the end of the year. They are reviewing data skills trainings currently available and identifying potential opportunities to improve content and how it is delivered.
- The subcommittee will conduct small group interviews to understand the desired state for data skills training and what is needed to get there. They will pilot the interview process with the DGC.

LoOp Deep Dive: Regulated Facilities Data Needs Project

- Ana Greene provided an update on the Regulated Facilities Data Needs Project LoOp.
- Phase 1 took place in 2020, focusing on gathering business needs. The group developed a report describing high-level regulated facility business needs at EPA. The top six facility data business needs are:
  - Consistent, authoritative data across facility data systems
  - Sub-facility location and attribute data
  - Accurate locational data and support for various types of spatial features
  - Comprehensive corporate data
  - Accurate contact data that provides fields to differentiate key contacts
  - Expanded historical data (e.g., permits)
- Phase 2 is underway, with the goal of developing an alternatives analysis and recommendation for facility data management at EPA which also considers the needs of state and tribal partners. The team conducted deep dives with various stakeholders to fully understand all the facility data needs. They are

finalizing the alternatives analysis paper and will then communicate the recommendations to stakeholders.

- Discussion:
  - Is a unique facility data governance group needed, or could it fall under the DGC Data Governance Group?
    - The draft paper includes recommendations, but the charter will solidify the roles and interconnections with other governance groups.
  - How comprehensive is the list of systems with facility data that you compiled?
    - The list of systems is not exhaustive, but it includes at least 80% of the systems with facility data.
  - There are some interconnections with the facility data governance group and the formation of the data steward network.
  - Is the data steward network going to directly support some of the quality assurance project plan requirements that would be associated with each set of data that EPA collects?
    - The goal of the data steward network is to bring together data management staff from around the Agency to collaborate and coordinate, so the specific activities of the group could include addressing quality assurance project plan requirements.