



“EPA’s commitment to environmental justice has not wavered. Under my leadership, we have embedded environmental justice into all our programs at Region 6, from permits to enforcement to grants.”

Dr. Earthea Nance
Region 6 Administrator

EPA Region 6 Accomplishments in Louisiana and the Mississippi River Industrial Corridor

Grants Awarded

- \$2 million in air monitoring for communities in St. John the Baptist Parish, St. James Parish, and City of New Orleans.
- \$3 million in EJ grants to groups in Cameron Parish, Calcasieu Parish, and City of New Orleans.
- \$13 million to the Deep South Center for technical aid to environmental justice communities throughout Louisiana.
- \$3,982,000 to the City of New Orleans to improve material management and to improve existing recycling programs.

Enforcement Actions

- Mosaic Fertilizer: agreed to add an ammonia monitor and donate equipment to the St. James Parish Emergency Response Department.
- Evonik Corporation: agreed to reduce 5.6 tons/year of hazardous emissions.
- Sasol Chemicals: agreed to pay \$1.7 million in civil penalties.
- Denka: ordered to reduce hazardous chloroprene emissions under RCRA 3008 order; endangerment finding is awaiting trial.

Community Partnerships

Region 6 launched a project with RISE St. James and other groups to study contamination of concern to residents.

What's Coming Up?

In response to community concerns, Region 6 formed for the first time ever a special team to meet with communities that experience major facility incidents that result in chemical releases.

New Rules by the EPA

Chemical Plants

- HON Rule for hazardous air pollutant standards will reduce emissions of chloroprene and other toxics, requires fence-line monitoring, and will reduce number of people with elevated cancer risk by 96% in communities near plants that emit ethylene oxide and chloroprene.
- Ethylene Oxide Rule will reduce emissions from commercial sterilizers by more than 90%.

Pollution and Climate

- Clean Vehicle Standards
- PM 2.5 Standards

Clean Up & Protection

- Lead Pipe Removal
- Lead Soil Standard
- Asbestos Ban
- Exide Superfund Site Clean Up
- Open Burn/Detonation
- PFAS Drinking Water Standard
- Designation of two PFAS as CERCLA Hazardous Substances

Embedding Environmental and Climate Justice

Denka

EPA Region 6 issued the first Imminent and Substantial Endangerment Order for cancer risk. This action recognizes the justice implications of this permit. We are awaiting trial.

The final amendments to the air toxics standards for ethylene oxide commercial sterilization facilities put in place the strongest measures in U.S. history to reduce emissions of EtO.

Open Burning/ Open Detonation

As part of our work with Colfax, Louisiana and surrounding communities, EPA Region 6 embedded EJ principles into national guidance for open burning and detonation.

Carbon Capture/ Sequestration

EPA Regions 6 and 9 embedded EJ principles into the EPA's Underground Injection Control program. Region 6 also embedded EJ into its agreement with Louisiana for CCS permitting.

Methane Rule

EPA issued a final rule that will sharply reduce emissions of methane and other harmful air pollution from oil and natural gas operations.

Learn more about EPA Region 6

www.epa.gov/region6

EPA Region 6 serves Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and 66 Tribal Nations.

