

EPA Administrator pledges transparency in reporting metrics, federal funding for environmental justice

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Last week EPA Administrator Michael Regan spoke to the National Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (NEJAC), a federal advisory committee that provides recommendations about environmental justice issues. In his remarks, the Administrator said that the most challenging tasks ahead for EPA in implementing its six Justice40 (J40) pilot projects and the President's J40 initiative generally are in measuring the benefits of the agency's work. He said that EPA was considering metrics such as the amount of pollutants reduced; reductions in hospital visits and missed days of work or school; reductions in blood lead levels in children of color and the number of people with access to sustainable, safe sources of drinking water.

Regan also told NEJAC that he understands that while measuring benefits is important, he has heard "loud and clear that we also need to know where the actual dollars go." Regan expressed EPA's commitment to providing this information, "EPA will lead from the front to provide a transparent and meaningful way to see where the actual funds wind up."

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