Environmental Protection Agency
Summary of Performance by Strategic Objective

Goal 1: Addressing Climate Change and Improving Air Quality.
Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and develop adaptation strategies to address climate change, and protect and improve air quality

Objective 4: Minimize Exposure to Radiation. *Minimize releases of radioactive material and be prepared to minimize exposure through response and recovery actions should unavoidable releases occur.*

Selection from EPA's FY 2017 Annual Performance Plan

FY 2017 Activities

In FY 2017, the EPA's Radiation program, in cooperation with federal agencies, states, tribes, and international radiation protection organizations, will develop and use voluntary and regulatory programs, public information, and training to protect the public from unnecessary exposures to radiation. The EPA expects to complete its review of the public comments and move toward a final rule in 2017 on the revisions to the agency's Health and Environmental Protection Standards for Uranium and Thorium Mill Tailings (40 CFR 192), last reviewed in 1995. The agency also will work to ensure that the nation has broad-based, non-site-specific standards that protect public health and the environment from risks associated with subsurface disposal of high-level radioactive waste.

The EPA's Radiological Emergency Response Team will maintain the level of readiness to support federal radiological emergency response and recovery operations under the National Response Framework and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan in FY 2017. RadNet, the agency's national ambient radiation air monitoring system, will continue to provide data from 135 locations in the United States and Puerto Rico to assist in protective action determinations. The EPA will continue to support waste site characterization and clean-up by providing field and fixed laboratory environmental radioanalytical data and technical support, delivering radioanalytical training to state and federal partners, and developing improved radioanalytical methods.

In FY 2017, the EPA will continue to implement its regulatory oversight responsibilities for Department of Energy (DOE) activities at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) facility, as mandated by Congress in the WIPP Land Withdrawal Act of 1992. This includes conducting inspections of waste generator facilities and evaluating DOE's compliance with the EPA's standards and applicable environmental laws and regulations to ensure the permanent and safe disposal of all radioactive waste shipped to WIPP.

Selection from EPA's FY 2015 Annual Performance Report and Eight-Year Array of Performance

Objective 4 - Minimize Exposure to Radiation: Minimize releases of radioactive material and be prepared to minimize exposure through response and recovery actions should unavoidable releases occur.

Summary of progress towards strategic objective:

EPA is on track to meet its strategic objective of minimizing exposure to radiation by maintaining a high level of readiness, both in personnel and assets, to support federal radiological emergency response and recovery operations. EPA's regulatory and non-regulatory activities support our mission to protect human health and the environment by minimizing unnecessary exposures to radiation, including operating and maintaining RadNet, providing oversight at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), and developing important rules and guidance documents. In FY 2015, EPA proposed updated standards for uranium extraction facilities that include groundwater restoration and monitoring requirements. EPA also issued updated Radiation Protection Guidance for Diagnostic and Interventional X-Ray Procedures to ensure radiation doses given to children are as low as possible to minimize exposure risk. Moving forward, EPA continues to face challenges maintaining scientific, technical, and policy expertise in the radiation field as the workforce ages, and continues to utilize innovative approaches to maintaining the requisite expertise.

Program Area	Performance Measures and Data
(1) Prepare for Radiological Emergencies	**Strategic Measure:** Through 2018, EPA will maintain a 93 percent level of readiness of radiation emergency response program personnel and assets that meet functional requirements necessary to support federal radiological emergency response and recovery operations. The 2012 readiness baseline is 91.5 percent. The level of readiness measure is based on the Agency's Core National Approach to Response assessment process.

(PM R35) Level of readiness of radiation program personnel and assets to support federal radiological emergency response and recovery operations.

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	Unit
Target	90	90	90	90	93	93	93	93	Percent Readiness
Actual	97	97	92	99	94	93			

Additional Information: The baseline in 2005 is a 50% level of readiness. The level of readiness is measured as the percentage of response team members and assets that meet scenario-based response criteria.

(PM R36) Average time before availability of quality assured ambient radiation air monitoring data during an emergency.

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	Unit
Target	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	Days
Actual	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3			

Additional Information: The baseline in 2005 is 2.5 days. The average time in availability is measured as time in days between collection and availability of data for release by EPA during emergency operations.

Program Area	Performance Measures and Data								
	(PM R37) Time to approve site changes affecting waste characterization at DOE waste generator sites to ensure safe disposal of transuranic radioactive waste at WIPP.								
		FY 2010	**FY 2011**	**FY 2012**	**FY 2013**	**FY 2014**	**FY 2015**	**FY 2016**	**FY 2017**	**Unit**
	Target	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	Days
	Actual	66	64	73	64	66	67			
	Additional Information: The baseline in 2004 is 150 days.									