JUL 2 4 2014

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's "Policy on Environmental Justice for Working with Federally Recognized Tribes and Indigenous Peoples"

FROM: Gina McCarthy

TO: All EPA Employees

I am pleased today to issue the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's "Policy on Environmental Justice for Working with Federally Recognized Tribes and Indigenous Peoples." This policy establishes principles to ensure that achieving environmental justice is part of the EPA's work with federally recognized tribes, state-recognized tribes, individual tribal members, indigenous community-based and grass-roots organizations, and others living in Indian country.

I want to thank you all for your hard work in crafting a policy that demonstrates the EPA's commitment to strengthening its engagement with tribal governments and indigenous communities and to fulfilling its trust responsibility to federally recognized tribes. This policy acknowledges our need to focus more closely on environmental-justice issues as they pertain to tribal governments and all other indigenous peoples and communities.

The EPA is firmly committed to implementing the policy's principles, which require all of us to consider the environmental and public-health concerns of tribes and indigenous peoples throughout the U.S. and others living in Indian country.

I encourage everyone to read the new policy by visiting at www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice or www.epa.gov/indian.

During the coming months the Office of Environmental Justice and the designated policy adviser for each national-program and regional office, in coordination with the American Indian Environmental Office, will guide the agency in implementing this policy. I ask you to support their efforts. Indeed, this policy is truly an example of One EPA, and I look forward to working with you in making it a success.