Data Quality Record for Long-Term Performance Goals

Long-Term Performance Goal Text: By September 30, 2026, all EPA programs and regions will identify and implement areas and opportunities to integrate environmental justice considerations and achieve civil rights compliance in their planning, guidance, policy directives, monitoring, and review activities.

Corresponding Annual Performance Goal: Percentage of EPA national programs and regions that have established environmental justice and external civil rights implementation plans.

Goal Number/Objective: Goal 2/Objective 2.2

NPM Leads: Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights (OEJECR)

1a. Purpose of Long-Term Performance Goal:

This long-term performance goal (LTPG) will integrate civil rights equity principles and environmental justice considerations throughout EPA's programs and activities as civil rights enforcement and environmental justice are EPA-wide responsibilities. Achieving this long-term performance goal requires EPA's national programs and regional offices to identify opportunities to strengthen civil rights compliance and environmental justice integration by recipients of EPA financial assistance and for integrating civil rights obligations and environmental justice considerations in EPA's own programs and activities. By doing so, EPA will help to ensure that its obligations to integrate civil rights law and environmental justice extends outside of EPA's actions to those entities that hold delegated authorities and receive funding from EPA. Progress toward this LTPG will be driven by and tracked using the annual Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights Implementation Plans (EJECR IPs) that each program and regional office has established and built upon each fiscal year.

1b. Performance Measure Term Definitions:

<u>EPA regions and national programs</u>: The initial universe of program offices that submitted foundational EJECR IPs to implement in FY 2023 were the first 7 listed offices below as well as EPA's 10 regional offices. Starting in FY 2024, 3 additional program offices are included in the universe for this LTPG.

- Office of Air and Radiation
- Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
- Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
- Office of International and Tribal Affairs
- Office of Land and Emergency Management
- Office of Research and Development
- Office of Water

Added for FY 2024:

- Office of the Administrator (Office of Children's Health Protection and Office of Policy)
- Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights
- Office of Mission Support

<u>Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights Implementation Plans</u>: For this performance measure, starting in FY 2022, national program offices and regions developed a foundational EJECR IP for

implementation in FY 2023. Building upon the established foundational plans, the FY 2024 EJECR IPs highlight commitments under the following 3 priority areas: community engagement/meaningful involvement, environmental justice and external civil rights integration at EPA, and engagement with external stakeholders to advance environmental justice and external civil rights. Commitments can be directly tied to Goal 2 priorities in EPA's FY 2022 – FY 2026 Strategic Plan, or to other programmatic and regional priorities that focus on environmental justice and external civil rights. Each fiscal year, the established EJECR IPs will continue to be built upon, allowing for adding new priorities, or for continuing progress toward medium and long-term outcomes.

<u>Policies, programs, and activities:</u> In the context of this performance measure, EPA's policies, programs, and activities are the touchpoints for the integration of environmental justice considerations and external civil rights compliance. Examples include:

- Terms included in a permit that are responsive to community concerns.
- The option selected for a rule being responsive to an understanding of the cumulative impacts faced by certain communities.
- A clean-up or emergency response prioritizing activities for the most vulnerable and overburdened communities identified through use of a tool such as EJScreen.
- The prioritization of enforcement attention or resource allocations based upon an analysis of the distribution of the benefits of those activities.

1c. Unit of Measure:

The percentage of EPA programs and regions.

2a. Data Source:

Each implicated program office and region will submit an updated EJECR IP annually to OEJECR before the end of each fiscal year, for implementation in the following fiscal year.

2b. Data needed for interpretation of (calculated) Performance Result:

The submission of updated EJECR IPs. The FY 2023 baseline was 100%.

3. Calculation Methodology:

Results will be calculated annually, with the number of program offices and regions submitting their updated implementation plans representing the numerator. The total number of implicated program offices and regions will be the denominator.

4. Quality Assurance/Quality Controls:

Each year, the implementation plans will go through a qualitative analysis to assess for gaps, best practices, and for continuous improvement.

5. Data Limitations/Qualifications:

The FY 2023 EJECR IPs were a pilot year for this effort. This was the first time in EPA's history that this has been done. There will continue to be lessons learned and improvements each year.

6. Technical Contact:

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7. Certification Statement/Signature:

I certify the information in this DQR is complete and accurate.