



## Free & Confidential Environmental Assistance

Visit our Website

**If you have questions, we have answers.**

**Hotline:** (800) 882-3233 | **Email:** [help@unrbep.org](mailto:help@unrbep.org)



## News & Updates

### **Final Memo Issued: Climate Resilience in Hazardous Waste Permitting**

On June 5, 2024, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a final memorandum that provides guidance to EPA Regions, states, and territories on when and how to consider potential adverse climate change impacts in the hazardous waste permitting process under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. This guidance includes recommendations for conducting climate change vulnerability screenings and assessments for treatment, storage, and disposal facilities to determine whether there are climate vulnerabilities that hazardous waste permits should address.

Read the final memo [here](#).

### **Hazardous Waste Basics**

A US EPA ID number is generally required for generating, transporting, treating, storing, and disposing hazardous waste. How can an EPA ID number be obtained? An EPA ID number can be obtained by applying for one using [EPA Form 8700-12](#) or by using the [RCRAInfo](#) software online.

BEP staff can assist one-on-one with completing your application and answering any questions. Contact us today to use our confidential and no-cost services!

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## US EPA Signs Proposal to Remove “Affirmative Defense” from Several Standards

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently signed a proposal to remove "affirmative defense" provisions from 18 rules in the New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) under the Clean Air Act. These provisions had previously protected sources from civil penalties for emission standard violations during malfunctions if specific actions were followed. The move follows a 2014 D.C. Circuit court decision (NRDC v. EPA) that vacated such provisions in one EPA regulation. This proposal aims to enhance consistency and clarity in Clean Air Act regulations without affecting emission standards, compliance, or costs.

A copy of the proposed rule and fact sheet can be found [here](#).

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## AirToxScreen Tool Updates

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently released the fourth edition of AirToxScreen, a national screening assessment that estimates cancer and noncancer health risks from air toxics using 2020 data. This tool provides broad estimates of potential health risks and helps identify areas with potential air toxics issues for further assessment in areas around the Country.

Key updates in this edition include:

1. **Community-Scale Assessment:** For the first time, results are presented at the community-scale census block level, offering a finer spatial resolution than the previous census tract-level assessments.
2. **Comprehensive Data Compilation:** EPA compiled and analyzed air toxics emissions data from state, local, and tribal air agencies, as well as industrial facilities. Where data was missing, estimates were calculated to provide a more in-depth picture of emissions from various sources, including industries, vehicles, and wildfires.
3. **Health Risk Estimates:** The data, combined with toxicity information for over 100 chemicals, were used to create a national assessment estimating potential cancer and other health hazards from air toxics.

This update aims to improve understanding of local air toxics issues and guide further risk assessments. For more information about this tool, visit the US EPA's [AirToxScreen website](#).

To view and use the mapping tool you can visit this [Website](#).

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**Sustainability Corner**

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## Latest *Sustainable Nation* Podcast

Todd Brady, Chief Sustainability Officer and Vice President of Community Relations and Sustainable Operations at Intel

Host Josh Prigge speaks with Todd Brady at Intel to discuss:

- Advice for approaching leadership about pre-competitive collaboration
- The challenges and opportunities of AI on sustainability
- Intel's progress toward 100% renewable electricity by 2030
- Advice and recommendations for sustainability professionals



The *Sustainable Nation Podcast* is made available through a [partnership](#) with the Nevada Business Environmental Program. Be sure to also check out the full [library](#) of podcasts.

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**Free & Confidential Environmental Assistance**  
**We look forward to hearing from you.**

[www.unrbep.org](http://www.unrbep.org)

If you have any environmental or energy questions, do not hesitate to get in touch with us. Our confidential toll-free hotline is taking calls and we are promptly answering all emails. We are staffed from 8am – 5pm, Monday through Friday.

If you are interested in having BEP visit your business for a free on-site assessment, give us a call. We are also available to communicate via calls, photos, and online video meetings.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about why it makes sense to work with BEP!

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