

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



West Lake Update

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Karl Brooks Bids Farewell, Mark Hague New Acting R.A.

EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy recently announced that EPA Region 7 Administrator Karl Brooks will join the Headquarters leadership team in EPA's Office of Administration and Resources Management as the Deputy Assistant Administrator. Karl, who has served as Region 7 Administrator since February 2010, began his new duties with the headquarters office in Washington, D.C., on March 9, 2015.



The Office of Administration and Resources Management (OARM) provides national leadership, policy, and management of many essential functions for the Agency, including human resources management, acquisition activities (contracts), grants management, and management and protection of EPA's facilities and other critical assets nationwide.

Administrator McCarthy has selected Mark Hague, Region 7's Deputy Regional Administrator, to serve as the region's Acting Regional Administrator.

Prior to assuming his role as the Deputy Regional Administrator in 2011, Mark served as the Director of the Enforcement Coordination Office, which also coordinates the Region 7 Environmental Justice Program. Mark has also served as the Acting Assistant Regional Administrator for Policy and Management in EPA Region 7.

Mark began his career at EPA in Washington, D.C., in 1980 and joined Region 7 in the spring of 1989. During his time at Headquarters, Mark worked on the planning staff for the Office of Noise Abatement and Control and in the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, primarily working on Pesticides and Toxic Substances programs. Mark also worked in the Executive Office of the President in the Office of Management and Budget.

Mark graduated from Northwest Missouri State University in May 1980 with a degree in Political Science/Public Administration. He has two sons and enjoys biking, cooking, and volunteering.

Under Mark's leadership, EPA Region 7 priorities at the West Lake Landfill remain unchanged, protecting human health and the environment as the Agency continues working towards a long-term remedy for the site.

A Personal Note From Mark

Throughout my career in EPA, I've focused on serving the American public. My colleagues and I are dedicated to act with integrity and a commitment to public service. On a daily basis, we demonstrate those values by making decisions to protect public health and the environment. Our decisions are based on sound science and engineering practices that comply with the laws we are entrusted to implement. As the Acting Regional Administrator for EPA Region 7, I will lead this organization in making and sharing the decisions that must be made at the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site. This is what every citizen in the Heartland should expect from me and my colleagues.



In the months and years ahead, there are many complex decisions we will face delivering a final remedy. We continue to work with our partners at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on the science and engineering challenges. We recognize it's our responsibility to reach decisions that lead to a feasible and protective remedy to problems at the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site. The capable men and women of EPA and the USACE are known for tackling these kinds of challenges across our great country.

If you live and work around the West Lake Landfill, you can expect EPA to hold the Potentially Responsible Parties accountable and to review any potential solutions with a critical eye. In the last issue of West Lake Update, we shared with you our process for moving forward in selecting and implementing a final long-term remedy that will protect the public from the contaminants in the landfill. We will build on the important connections between EPA and the state of Missouri, elected leaders, businesses, unions and community members as we complete our work at the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site.

Community Inquiries

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