



Dear Colleagues,

I want to make sure you all know that we sincerely miss our furloughed colleagues and the talent and expertise that each of you bring to the Agency. We are all dedicated to the critically important task of protecting human health and the environment, and I look forward to working with you to accomplish that mission on a daily basis. Each and every one of you and the work that you do is missed.

I would also like to share some news. Some in the media have reported that EPA employees would not get any pay during the shutdown, but, as you know, EPA remained open for one additional week, from December 23rd to December 28th, following the lapse in appropriations. As a result, I want to report that EPA employees will receive one-half of their salary for a normal pay period for the week of December 23rd on the upcoming regularly scheduled pay date this week. Understandably, many staff were concerned about the complete lack of another paycheck.

We continue to update our internet page set up to provide you with information during the shutdown (www.epa.gov/2018lapse). Please remember to check routinely for any significant developments.

Thank you for your dedication to EPA and for your service to the American people.

Andrew Wheeler
Acting Administrator