

From: Gray, David

Sent: Wednesday, June 19, 2019 10:59 AM

Subject: Good Morning

Good morning,

Earlier today I met with our employees in Houston to let them know that Region 6 laboratory services will be co-locating with ORD Kerr Research Center in Ada, Oklahoma. The drivers behind this plan are the requirement to reduce the amount of federally leased space by consolidating operations into federally owned space and to reduce our overall operational costs moving forward.

This plan will affect all our colleagues who work at the Houston facility within the next 3 years. Our analytical services and support operations personnel will move to Ada. A smaller presence of non-laboratory operations will move to a yet-to-be determined GSA-leased office space in the Houston area. There are many unanswered questions resulting from my announcement today – and we will immediately turn our attention to planning for the relocation, laboratory renovations, office requirements and decommissioning so that we can answer these questions as quickly as possible.

As I mentioned in my discussion with our Houston staff earlier today, we have been working to set a path for the future of the Houston laboratory for a long time and while today's announcement is difficult - it will allow us all to move forward and plan our future. Many of our colleagues in Houston are now faced with an even more difficult set of decisions from both a personal and professional perspective. I am sending this message to make you aware of their situations and to ask that you keep them in your thoughts as they work through their options for moving forward.

David