Eliminate Regional EPA Programs

SAVINGS IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Savings</td>
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<td>$480</td>
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<td>$2,137</td>
<td>$4,485</td>
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Heritage Recommendation:
Eliminate regional EPA programs that should be owned and managed by state and local governments. This proposal saves $422 million in 2016, and $4.5 billion over 10 years.

Rationale:
Resource management should take into account the fact that environmental conditions will vary from location to location and from time to time. A site- and situation-specific approach takes advantage of the fact that those who are closest to a natural habitat are also those who are best able to manage it. Such practices allow prioritization of funds and the separation of problems into manageable units.

Additional Reading:

Calculations:
Savings are expressed as budget authority and were calculated using the FY 2014 enacted spending levels as found in page 1,002 of EPA, “Fiscal Year 2015: Justification of Appropriation Estimates for the Committee on Appropriations,” March 2014, http://www2.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2014-03/documents/fy2015_congressional_justification.pdf. The 2014 enacted level was then increased at the same rate as discretionary spending for 2016–2025, according to the CBO’s most recent August 2014 baseline spending projections.