

Lease or Sell Underused EPA Space

SAVINGS IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2016-2020	2016-2025
\$22	\$22	\$22	\$22	\$22	\$22	\$22	\$22	\$22	\$22	\$110	\$220

Heritage Recommendation:

Space not currently used by the Environmental Protection Agency should be leased. This proposal saves \$21 million annually, and \$216 million over 10 years.

Rationale:

The EPA has been leasing unneeded space since 2007, achieving over \$12 million in savings. According to a 2013 EPA Inspector General report, the agency could save an additional \$21 million every year by leasing all remaining underutilized space. The EPA should maximize use of public space and faithfully steward taxpayer resources.

Additional Reading:

- Nicolas Loris, “EPA Is Desperately in Need of Budget Cuts. Here’s a Few Places to Start,” *The Daily Signal*, July 10, 2014, <http://dailysignal.com/2014/07/10/epa-desperately-need-budget-cuts-heres-places-start/>.
- The Heritage Foundation, “Environmental Conservation: Eight Principles of the American Conservation Ethic,” <http://www.Heritage.org/research/projects/environmental-conservation>.

Calculations:

The EPA estimates that it can save \$21.6 million annually from releasing underused space, found on page 6 of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, “EPA Can Further Reduce Space in Under-Utilized Facilities,” February 20, 2013, <http://www.epa.gov/oig/reports/2013/20130220-13-P-0162.pdf>