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**From:** Williams, Felicia on behalf of Stepp, Cathy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 12, 2018 12:00 PM  
**To:** R5 ALL EPA  
**Subject:** News on External Hiring

Good afternoon colleagues,

As we finish this first week in June, I am happy to share this hiring update. Based on the information provided by the Division, and taking into account our priorities, I have approved just over 20 external hires as well as a number of internal opportunities. Divisions and Offices will be proceeding with the postings, so you will see more details as positions are announced. Highlights of these opportunities include:

- 3 external positions in ARD to support EPA's SIP and nonattainment work;
- 4 external positions in ORC covering both attorney and legal assistance work;
- 1 external reassignment in GLNPO supporting our ability to manage the significant Great Lakes grants programs;
- Backfilling of our Tribal and International Affairs Office Director;
- 2 external positions in the Chicago Regional Lab to support their ability to provide analytical support to all our programs; and
- 11 external positions in SF covering a variety of program areas including 2 remote-stationed OSC's, an ecologist, QA specialist, investigator/enforcement specialist, among others.

In addition to these external postings, I have approved 4 GS-13 merit promotion opportunities (2 in ARD and 2 in RMD) and a number of internal recruitments that will allow opportunities for movement across Division/Offices. While some of these internal opportunities will be targeted between specific divisions in order to help balance our FTE levels, there will be a number of region-wide opportunities.

I appreciate this will not backfill every vacancy that has occurred, however, as I shared previously, based on the Agency's budget and taking into account the uncertainty of FY 2019, we have to be strategic as we prioritize our hires. As I said at the All Hands meeting earlier this month, I'd like to share my appreciation for staff who've taken on extra workload over the years and the many personal and family sacrifices they have endured, especially in those Divisions where based on budget constraints there is not an ability to add staff at this time. We will continue to monitor separations and budget news and can adjust as necessary through the end of the fiscal year, including conducting another hiring assessment in late summer.

Thank you for all you do in support of our great mission.

Cathy