

From: Message from the Administrator <messagefromtheadministrator@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 12:32 PM
To: Message from the Administrator <messagefromtheadministrator@epa.gov>
Subject: Region 8 Administrator Greg Sopkin

Region 8 Colleagues,

Greg Sopkin, the Regional Administrator (RA) in Region 8, has announced his intention to leave his position in the regional office effective Friday, November 27, 2020 (his last day in the office will be November 20). I want to thank Greg for his service to EPA and the Mountain West region. We appreciate him agreeing to stay as RA through the early part of this Fall to see through a number of priorities in Region 8 and I wish him well in his next endeavor. Deb Thomas, the Deputy Regional Administrator, will serve as the Region 8 Acting Regional Administrator until a replacement for Greg is named.

From Associate Deputy Administrator Doug Benevento: "Greg is a good friend and has been an invaluable member of our team and an outstanding successor to lead the Region 8 office. I'm grateful to Greg for his work in helping advance environmental priorities for residents across the region; he will be missed. Region 8 will be in great hands with Deb Thomas - she knows the issues and is more than capable of running the region."

Greg provided the following comments: "Leading the EPA's Mountains and Plains Region for the past 18 months has been an honor and I want to thank Administrator Wheeler and Associate Deputy Administrator Doug Benevento for this incredible opportunity. Doug is a tough act to follow, but I believe we made great progress in expediting superfund cleanups, helping states and industries attain clean air and water quality compliance, and securing a meaningful partnership with the Region 8 states' excellent DEQs, agriculture directors, oil and gas commissions, and tribal nations. Every day the Region 8 team of dedicated professionals worked to protect human health and the environment, and I am honored to have been part of a great team to provide a better future for the people who live and work in Region 8."

Please join me in thanking Greg for his service to EPA and in particular Region 8.

Andrew Wheeler
Administrator