



**National Conference of State Legislatures  
Office of State-Federal Relations**

**EPA Releases Final Rules to Reduce Methane Gas Emissions from  
Landfills; Upcoming Webinar on Proposed Rules for PCBs**

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**EPA Releases Final Methane Emission Landfill Rules**

On July 14, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) [issued](#) final New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) to reduce emissions of methane-rich landfill gas from new, modified, and reconstructed municipal solid waste (MSW) landfill as well [new Emission Guidelines](#) (EG) for existing landfills, updating previous standards that were issued 20 years ago. Specifically, under the new rules, MSW landfills will be required to collect and control emissions of greenhouse gas at levels that are one-third lower than current standards and would reduce methane gas emissions by an estimated 334,000 tons a year beginning in 2025. In its rule, EPA noted that MSW landfills are the second-largest industrial source of methane emissions in the U.S., accounting for 20 percent of methane emissions in 2014. The release of these final rules align with the Administration's attempt to reduce methane emissions under the president's [Climate Action Plan](#).

**Upcoming EPA Webinar on Proposed Rule for PCBs**

EPA will be hosting an upcoming webinar regarding their forthcoming rulemaking on Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB)-containing light fixtures in schools and daycare centers. The webinar is a required consultation with state and local governments as defined under the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) due to the likely intergovernmental cost implications the rule will contain. Specifically, EPA is developing a proposed rule that would prohibit the use of PCB-containing fluorescent light ballasts (FLB) in schools and daycares, which would take effect in 2020. If you are interested in participating in the webinar, please register with [Todd Coleman](#) in the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics.

For any further questions or concerns please contact NCSL staff [Ben Husch](#) (202-624-7779) or [Kristen Hildreth](#) (202-624-3597).