

**EPA Sets Termination Date of August 31, 2020, for its COVID-19 Enforcement Discretion Policy**

*(7/8/2020)*

On June 29, 2020, EPA announced a termination date for its enforcement discretion policy during the COVID-19 pandemic, entitled “COVID-19 Implications for EPA’s Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Program.” The temporary Policy will expire on August 31, 2020, meaning that EPA will no longer exercise enforcement discretion for any noncompliances that occur after this date due to COVID-19. In addition, EPA notes that it may terminate the Policy on a state or national basis, in whole or in part, before August 31st, based on changing conditions in a state or region of the country. In such a case, EPA commits to provide at least seven days prior notice.

The termination of the Policy is based on new federal guidelines and directives that have been issued to support public health response and economic recovery efforts. In addition, many parts of the country have already taken steps to relax social distancing, with the goal of returning to normal operations.