
7 GAO, Environmental Protection: EPA-State Enforcement Partnership Has Improved, but EPA’s Oversight Needs Further Enhancement. GAO-07-883, July 31, 2007, and Environmental Protection Agency: Major Management Challenges, GAO-11-422T, March 2, 2011. 8 EPA Must Improve Oversight of State Enforcement, Report No. 12-P-0113, December 9, 2011, http://www.epa.gov/oig/reports/2012/20111209-12-P-0113.pdf. Congressional Research Service. 3. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is an agency of the United States federal government whose mission is to protect human and environmental health. Understanding the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Why was the EPA created? It was formed in response to widespread public environmental concerns that gained momentum in the 1950s and 1960s. The EPA’s size and influence have also been diminished, and criminal prosecutions for those who aren’t following regulations are at a 30-year low. The EPA is led by the EPA administrator, a cabinet-level post nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate. That position is currently held by Michael Regan, the first Black man to ever hold that position. Environmental protection: EPA-state enforcement partnership has improved, but EPA's oversight needs January 2011. United States Government Accountability Office. To achieve the treatment optimization goals of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Partnership for Safe Drinking Water and comply with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's filter performance evaluations, AquaPA maintains an aggressive, proactive filter inspection program for all of its treatment facilities. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is an independent executive agency of the United States federal government tasked with environmental protection matters. President Richard Nixon proposed the establishment of EPA on July 9, 1970; it began operation on December 2, 1970, after Nixon signed an executive order. The order establishing the EPA was ratified by committee hearings in the House and Senate. The agency is led by its administrator, who is appointed by the president and approved by the