



Federal Government CSO Commits to Sustainability Focus at SPLC Event

PORTLAND, Oregon, August 4, 2021 - On July 22, at an SPLC gathering of leaders in industry, government, research, and sustainability, the Chief Sustainability Officer of the Federal government, Andrew Mayock (Council on Environmental Quality, Executive Office of the President of the United States) thrilled the audience of leading sustainability professionals with the statement that “sustainable purchasing is going to be a key part of the Federal Sustainability Plan coming up.”

SPLC convened the six-hour virtual event [Defining the Delta: Supply Chain Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategies](#) to discuss the challenge of curbing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in extended supply chains. As part of the event’s Keynote session Mayock provided a Washington update that included this commitment.

“Our members – leaders of sustainable procurement and sustainability for corporate, government and higher education organizations -- have been doing critical work to address climate change in the absence of Federal leadership,” said Sarah O’Brien, SPLC CEO. “They were excited to hear that the Federal government, the world’s largest purchaser of goods and services, will once again align with them on strategies to drastically reduce the 70-80% of emissions that arise from global supply chains.”

Challenging the assembled attendees and speakers, Mayock posed the critical question, “We can do big things... this is a big opportunity to align our approaches with results [But] how do we do this work with impact... to truly drive change?” In part, he pointed to the Federal Sustainability Plan now entering the Federal rulemaking process.

With that process underway, the CEQ leader had to be very precise with his words. Mayock read two rules directly from Executive Order 14030 as they related most fully to the event’s attendees.

1. *Require major federal suppliers to publicly disclose GHG emissions and climate related financial risk and to set science-based reduction targets*
2. *Ensure that major federal agency procurements minimize the risk of climate change, include the requirement of social cost of GHG emissions to be considered in procurement decisions, and where appropriate and feasible, give preference bids and proposals to suppliers with lower cost of GHG emissions.*

He then highlighted word choices the statement contained, indicating just how important each element is to the future goals of the new leadership.

To watch Andrew Mayock’s “Washington Update” in full, [click here](#) for the 16’ video.

For more information or to register for SPLC’s next Deep Dive event, focused on **Leveraging Rating and Reporting for Impact** visit <https://splcdeepdives.org>.

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The Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council (SPLC), founded in 2013, convenes a global community of purchasers, suppliers, advocates, and researchers to develop and propel best practices in sustainable procurement. A membership-driven non-profit, SPLC enables public and private organizations to be strategic in their sustainable purchasing for the

greatest social, economic, and environmental impact. Based in Portland, OR, SPLC has over 160 active members wielding \$300 billion in annual purchasing power. <http://sustainablepurchasing.org>

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