

The logo for ACEC (American Council of Engineering Companies) features the acronym "ACEC" in a large, bold, serif font. Above the letters is a thin, curved yellow line. Below the acronym, the full name "AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES" is written in a smaller, all-caps, sans-serif font.

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

100 Years of Excellence

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUNE 22, 2017

Alan D. Crockett, ACEC, 202-682-4301; acrockett@acec.org

Superfund Hazardous Waste Cleanup Lags Due to Funding Shortages

WASHINGTON, DC – An independent study of EPA’s Superfund program—which cleans up contaminated industrial sites—found that, while approximately two-thirds of non-federal contaminated sites on the National Priorities List have been cleaned up or are nearing completion, one-third remain a threat to health. The study cites a decline in progress at these sites in recent years because of budget cuts.

Authored by Katherine N. Probst, an analyst whose previous study on the Superfund program was funded by Congress and published in 2001, the new study was commissioned by the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) and provides extensive data on the program from FY 2000 through FY 2016.

Titled *Superfund 2017: Cleanup Accomplishments and Challenges*, the study shows a decline in annual Superfund appropriations from a high of \$1.9 billion in FY 2000 to a low of \$1.09 billion in FY 2016, even as new hazardous sites continue to be added to the list. For FY 2018, the Trump Administration has proposed an additional 30 percent cut of \$330 million from the program.

In addition to building the case for more funding, the study recommends specific improvements in the administration of the program, including better estimates of the future cost of completing work at non-federal sites.

“This is a timely study at a critical point in the federal appropriations process,” said ACEC President and CEO David A. Raymond, “and can be used by Congress, government agencies, and private firms to effectively address remaining issues in this important program.”

The full text of *Superfund 2017: Cleanup Accomplishments and the Challenges Ahead* can be found at [ACEC Superfund 2017](#).

The American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) is the business association of America’s engineering industry, representing more than 5,000 independent engineering firms and more than 500,000 professionals throughout the United States engaged in the development of America’s transportation, water and energy infrastructure, along with environmental, industrial and other public and private facilities. Founded in 1906 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., ACEC is a national federation of 52 state and regional organizations.