# **EPA Region 6**

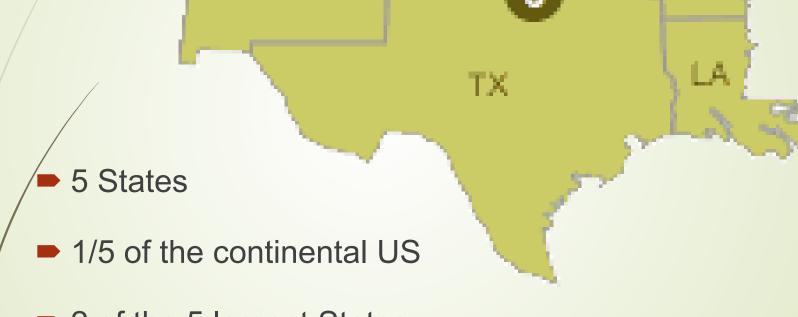
# Welcomes you

Cheryl Seager, Director Enforcement, Compliance Assurance Division National Compliance Initiative (NCI) on Significant Non-Compliance (SNC)

> EPA/State Symposium #2 Dallas, Texas January 2020

### **Region 6 – who are we?**

NM



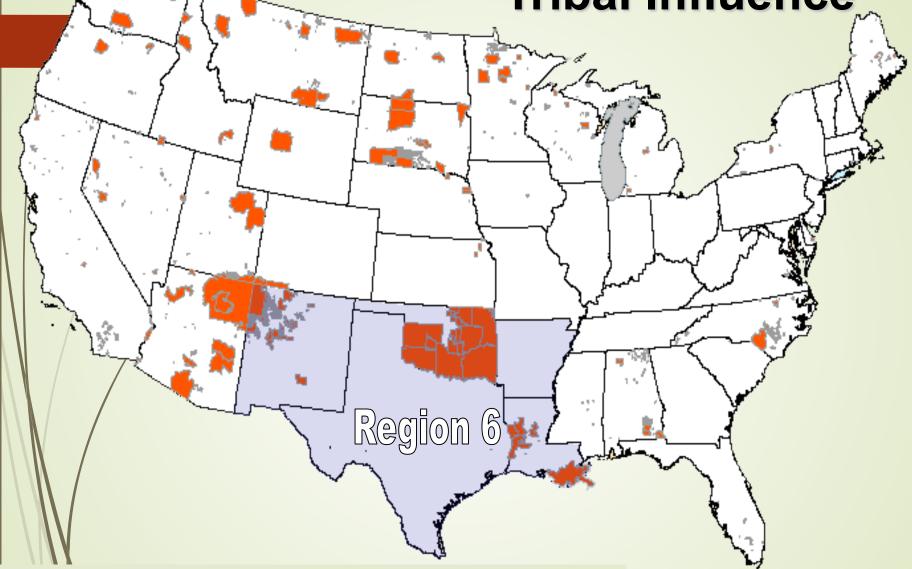
OK.

AR

2 of the 5 largest States







65 Tribes with about 400,000 members & 10,000,000 square miles of Tribal Lands

### **Undelegated State of NM**

- R6 is also a "primacy state" as NM is undelegated.
- Challenges in NM include:

5

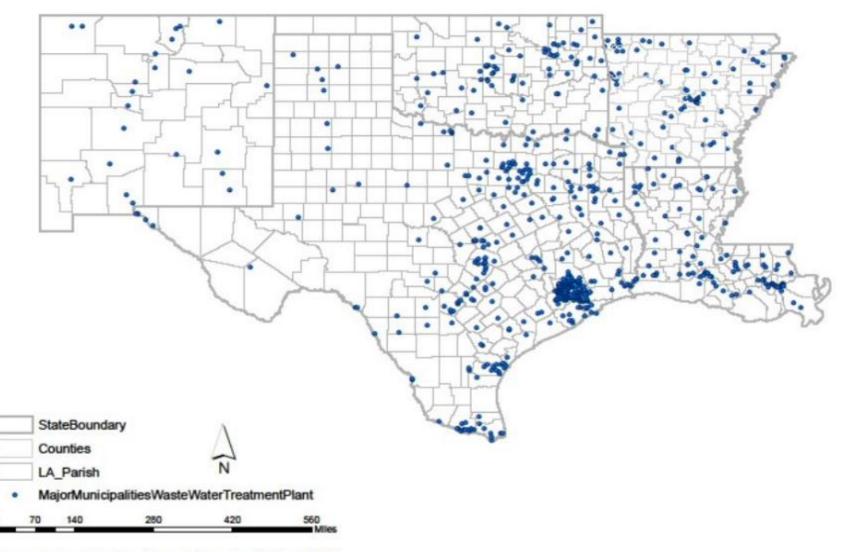
- small, rural systems
- poor communities
- difficulty in getting them infrastructure funding
- difficulty keeping qualified operators
- background water quality vs. surface water quality

### Challenges in general

- Small, rural systems
- Poor communities
  - Difficulty in getting them infrastructure funding
- Difficulty keeping qualified operators
- Permitting practices
- Number of small individual WWTPs

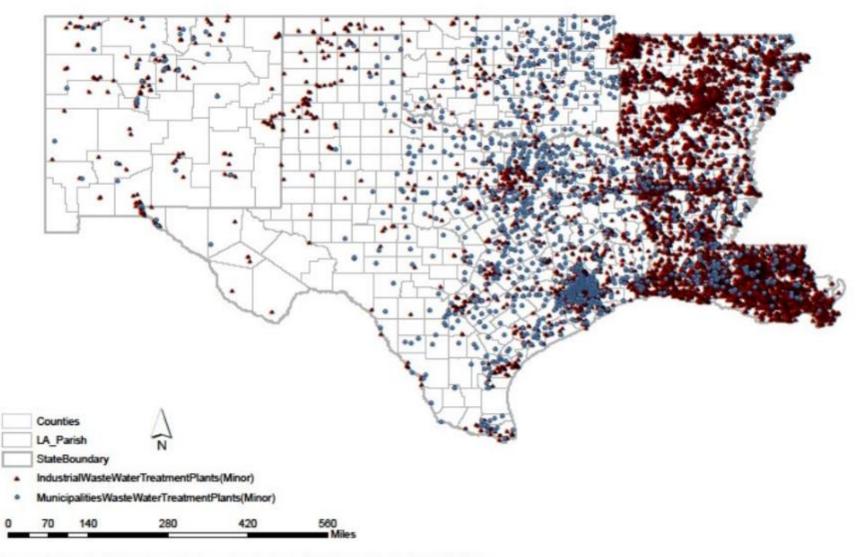
|       |                | Individual |
|-------|----------------|------------|
|       |                | NPDES      |
| State | 2018 Est. Pop. | Facilities |
| AR    | 3,013,825      | 858        |
|       | 4,659,978      | 1,322      |
| ОК    | 3,943,079      | 455        |
| ТХ    | 28,701,845     | 3,219      |
| NM    | 2,095,428      | 126        |
| R6    | 42,414,155     | 5980       |

### An Overall Distribution of Major Municipalities Waste Water Treatment Plants with Permit in Region 6



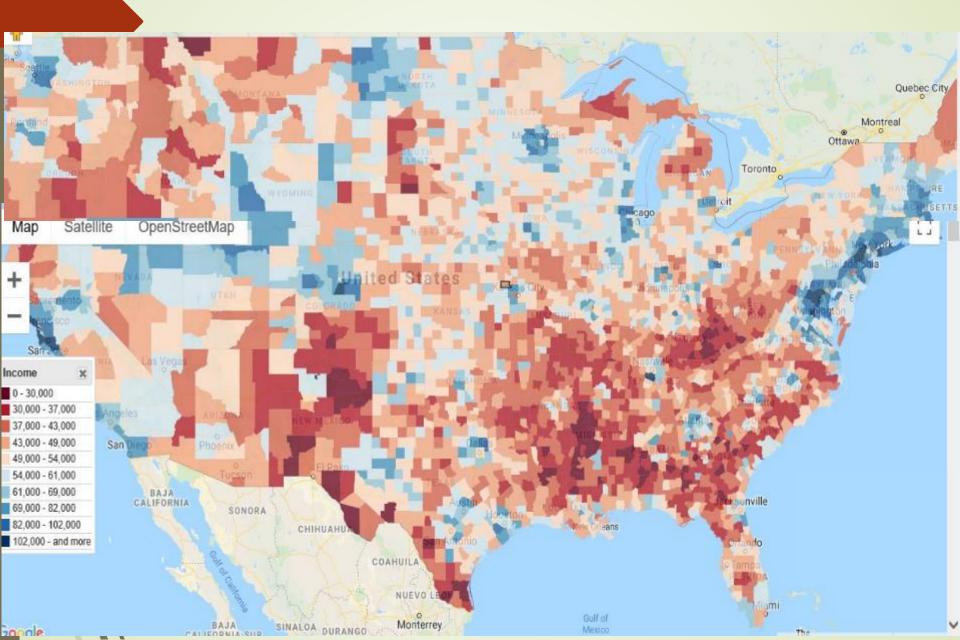
Source: Integrated Compliance Inforamtion System (ICIS)

#### Distribution of POTW and NPOTW in Region 6 (Industrial, Federal and Municipalities Waste Water Treatment Plants - Minor)



Source: Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS) provided by EPA (2010)

### Median Household Income



### **R6 Into the Future**

Region 6 States population projected to increase by 42% by 2030

 US/Mexico Border population projected to double by 2030

### Critical for Success of NCI

- Matching available funding to the communities that need it most
- Coordinated partnerships with all agencies/offices involved
  - Permitting practices do not create an unnecessary burden.
  - Regionalization assistance
- Qualified operator training and retaining

## State Collaboration: Critical for Success

R6 collaboration:

- Regular Senior-level coordination meetings with each state
- Regional activities are discussed & coordinated with each impacted state
- Texas Water Infrastructure Coordination (TWIC)

## **State Collaboration: Critical for Success**

**Open Communication** Professionalism Teamwork Creativity Integrity

Fairness

# Thank you!

# Welcome to Dallas, Texas & Welcome to Region 6 EPA