

Internal Rifts, Huge Staff Cut Hint EPA Retreat on Programs

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Budget cuts at the Environmental Protection Agency will strip 3,200 personnel of their jobs by the end of 1983, eliminating 30 percent of the agency's 10,380 employees at a cost of \$17.6 million just for severance pay.

The cuts are so massive that they could mean a basic retreat on all the environmental programs of the past 10 years, according to agency sources and administration critics.

At the same time, divisions between Administrator Anne M. Gorsuch and career agency staff over her approach to policymaking have all but reached open warfare. White House aides are privately worried that Gorsuch may be isolating her-

self not only from environmental groups, whom they expected to alienate, but from some industry and state officials as well.

Gorsuch has reportedly proposed a 1983 operating budget down 20 percent from her 1982 request of \$1.19 billion, according to several Capitol Hill sources. Counting inflation and President Reagan's recent call for another 12 percent chop, actual spending could drop to a level that will buy about 40 percent of what former president Carter proposed.

At stake would be many programs ordered by Congress that are just

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