



October 31, 2017

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Washington, D.C. 20009

Sent via email: Mr. Peter Tsirigotis, airaction@epa.gov

Peter Tsirigotis
Sector Policies and Programs Division (D205-01)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Research Triangle Park, NC 27711
airaction@epa.gov

RE: Request to Hold Public Hearings On Proposed Repeal of the Clean Power Plan

Dear Mr. Tsirigotis,

On behalf of the **Power Shift Network (PSN)**, a network of **64 nonprofit and student organizations representing over one million students and young adults in all 50 states and Puerto Rico**, I request a public hearing on the proposed repeal of the Clean Power Plan – America's only nation-wide limit on climate-destabilizing pollution from existing fossil fuel-fired power plants. The PSN works on behalf of and for Millennials who are concerned about the consequences of climate pollution and effects of climate change. As a result, we are also deeply concerned about the repeal of the Clean Power Plan. A public hearing will provide an essential forum for our community and the public to raise concerns related to this deeply harmful and reckless proposal.

Young people will have to live with the effects of climate change longer than any other generation before them. Therefore, young people have a special interest in ensuring that we, as a country, are doing everything possible to mitigate the amount of climate pollution emitted into the atmosphere. Although not perfect and certainly not enough to stop the effects of climate change completely, we believe the Clean Power Plan is a critical step forward. It is in young people's best interest to ensure that it stays in place. Repealing the Clean Power Plan not only sets us back in this regard, but also goes directly against EPA's legal obligation to regulate harmful pollutants set forth by the Clean Air Act.

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It is essential for the public to have a location accessible to a diverse array of impacted individuals to air their concerns and provide input on such a momentous action that will greatly impact our communities and families. These hearings should be held in Washington D.C. and in cities across the country, particularly in areas where Americans are experiencing the adverse impacts of climate change- such as New Orleans and Miami- and the deaths and illnesses caused by power plant pollution. Prior to issuing the proposed Clean Power Plan in 2014, EPA engaged in extensive outreach to the public to solicit ideas and input on the design of a program to reduce carbon pollution from the power sector. This process stands in stark contrast to the total absence of public hearings that preceded your proposed action.

For these reasons, we request a public hearing under sections 307(d)(5) of the Clean Air Act on your proposed repeal of the Clean Power Plan. We emphasize that this hearing must provide a *meaningful* opportunity for public participation, just as EPA afforded on the proposed Clean Power Plan – meaning that it must be held in a broadly accessible location, be scheduled for a reasonable duration, and allow sufficient time for individual organizations and members of the public to provide meaningful input.

Sincerely,

Lydia D. Avila
Executive Director
Power Shift Network