



Comments Opposing Scott Pruitt's Rollback of the Clean Power Plan *October 2017 – February 2018*

Governors, Attorneys General, and Other State Officials

Ted Thomas, Chairman, Arkansas Public Service Commission, [NYTimes](#)

"Even if they repeal the Clean Power Plan, or replace it with something that doesn't require us to do very much, you still have to reckon with the fact that ultimately regulations on carbon are coming. So we need to develop options to deal with that other than sticking our heads in the sand and hoping we can just file lawsuits forever. You can either be prepared or unprepared, and that's a pretty simple choice."

Jerry Brown, Governor of California, [Press Release](#)

"Scrapping the Clean Power Plan ignores sound science and the extreme cost of climate change. California will, in fact, exceed the goals of the Clean Power Plan. We will push ahead and work with states that share our belief in science and the imperative to combat global warming."

Xavier Becerra, California Attorney General, [Press Release](#)

"EPA has a legal responsibility to significantly reduce carbon pollution from power plants. This responsibility can only be fulfilled through a strong, effective, and science-based policy like the Clean Power Plan. Repealing it simply won't cut it. That is why I will do everything in my power to defend the Clean Power Plan."

John Hickenlooper, Governor of Colorado, [NYTimes](#) (see also his [statement](#))

"We have dramatically cleaner air and we are saving money. My question to the EPA would be, 'Which part of that don't you like?'"

Brian Sandoval, Governor of Nevada, [Statement](#)

"Nevada was well on its way to exceeding the expectations outlined in the Clean Power Plan prior to its inception and will remain on that path. Today's announcement will not change the state's approach to ensuring our energy future includes abundant clean and renewable energy choices for Nevada consumers."

Dan Malloy, Governor of Connecticut, [Statement](#)

"This announcement is another disappointing policy reversal that will harm Americans. The Trump administration continues to ignore the clear and indisputable scientific fact

that humans are responsible for climate change and that the ever increasing severe weather we experience is a direct result. If the federal government refuses to act in the best interest of the people of this nation, then it is incumbent upon state and local leaders to act and work to reverse the harm human activity has done to our planet. Connecticut is a leader in addressing global warming and resiliency by increasing deployment of green energy technologies and promoting energy efficiency. Irrespective of what nonsensical energy and environmental policies come out of Washington, our state will hold firm in its commitment to a clean and protected environment.”

George Jepsen, Connecticut Attorney General, [Press Release](#)

"While not unexpected, the EPA administrator's action today is disappointing nonetheless. EPA has a responsibility under the law – a responsibility affirmed by our country's highest court – to regulate carbon emissions. Because the Trump Administration's EPA has clearly demonstrated that it has no interest in doing its job when it comes to carbon emissions, Connecticut will join with colleagues in other states in action to defend the Clean Power Plan and protect the health, safety and well-being of our residents."

Maura Healey, Massachusetts Attorney General, [Washington Post](#)

“Along with our partners, Massachusetts fought for years to put this rule in place, and we will be suing to protect the Clean Power Plan from the climate change deniers in this administration who are trying to move us backwards”

Mark Dayton, Governor of Minnesota, [Statement](#)

“The Trump Administration’s constant assault on our environment will not diminish Minnesotans’ resolve to build a vibrant clean energy economy. We will not allow President Trump to stand in the way, as we do everything in our power to reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions that threaten our health and our environment. In the upcoming 2018 Session, I will again urge the Legislature to adopt the ‘50 by 30’ Renewable Energy Standard, which Lt. Governor Smith and legislators from both parties have championed. We must do more to ensure our children and grandchildren inherit a better future, and an even stronger clean energy economy.”

Andrew Cuomo, Governor of New York, [Statement](#)

“The Trump Administration's move to dismantle the Clean Power Plan is a reckless decision that gives power plant operators free reign to do what they will without any concern for our climate. It rolls back the progress we have made to reduce carbon emissions and puts industry interests ahead of our ability to reduce damaging emissions. Climate change is a profound threat to our planet, and it cannot be wished away by denial. There is no denial here in New York. While the Trump Administration takes a back seat to the rest of the world, New York is on track to meet our ambitious target of achieving 50 percent of electricity from renewables by 2030, and we will continue to lead the fight to meet the standards set forth in both the Paris Accord and the Clean Power Plan.”

Eric Schneiderman, New York Attorney General, [Press Release](#)

"I am proud to lead the coalition of states and localities defending the Clean Power Plan in federal court. If and when the Trump Administration finalizes this repeal, I will sue to protect New Yorkers' and put a stop to the Trump Administration's irresponsible and illegal efforts to turn back the clock on public health...The Trump Administration's persistent and indefensible denial of climate change — and their continued assault on actions essential to stemming its increasing devastation — is reprehensible, and I will use every available legal tool to fight their dangerous agenda."

Neil Shader, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection spokesperson, [Statement](#)

"Governor Wolf and DEP are disappointed in the President's decision. It ignores science and the country's global leadership to address climate change. Pennsylvania has made real progress in reducing carbon emissions and DEP will continue to work to find ways to reduce PA's carbon footprint while ensuring the state remains a net energy exporter."

Kate Brown, Governor of Oregon, [Statement](#)

"I am deeply disappointed in the repeal of the Clean Power Plan rule. Oregon will not turn its back on the environment or the thousands of jobs that have been created through the clean energy industry. Oregon was the first state in the nation to adopt a coal-to-clean law and will continue to be a leader in clean energy. That's why we're stepping up, as the federal government steps down from its leadership role in tackling climate change."

Jay Inslee, Governor of Washington, [Statement](#)

"By repealing the Clean Power Plan, President Trump and his EPA administrator are recklessly removing any meaningful, science-based federal restraint on the carbon pollution that power plants are allowed to pump into our atmosphere. Washington State is already feeling the harmful and costly effects of climate change – in more devastating wildfire seasons, strained water resources, increasingly acidic coastal waters, and more. And we are taking action to respond: at my direction, the Washington State Department of Ecology has implemented the nation's first Clean Air Rule, to limit carbon pollution from our state's largest sources. We are investing in new clean energy technologies – fueling jobs and business growth in an area with tremendous economic opportunity. We are partnering with other states – through the bipartisan United States Climate Alliance – to fill the void left by the Trump Administration's total abdication of American leadership. This action by the EPA is a setback in the struggle against climate change, but it will not and cannot stop Washington State and our determined allies in the fight against this existential threat."

Public Health Associations

17 National Health and Medical Organizations, [Joint Press Statement](#)

"Today's proposal to revoke the Clean Power Plan is inconsistent with EPA's core mission of protecting public health and the environment. The Clean Power Plan, adopted in 2015, would have substantially reduced carbon pollution and other emissions from power plants, and prevented an estimated 90,000 pediatric asthma attacks and 3,600 premature deaths each year once fully implemented. Revoking this lifesaving plan

denies Americans these health protections and removes crucial tools to reduce pollution that causes climate change.”

Paul Billings, Senior VP for Advocacy at the American Lung Association. [E&E News](#)

"EPA is cooking the books and cherry-picking data to avoid showing the true health costs of air pollution."

Katie Huffling, Executive Director, Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments, [Press Release](#)

“As nurses concerned about the public health impacts resulting from poor air quality and a changing climate, we are deeply disappointed about the decision to repeal the Clean Power Plan. Administrator Pruitt stated that the EPA should not be picking winners and losers, but by his announcement today it is clear that by repealing the Clean Power Plan public health is the loser.”

U.S. Senators

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, California, [Press Release](#)

“President Trump’s decision to repeal the Clean Power Plan, announced by President Obama in 2015, ignores the reality happening all around us.”

Sen. Kamala Harris, California, [Twitter](#)

“This decision fails Americans for generations to come.”

Sen. Michael Bennett, Colorado, [Twitter](#)

“Clean Power Plan repeal would be another @POTUS action to roll back protections for America’s children. Wrong priorities.”

Sen. Richard Blumenthal, Connecticut, [Twitter](#)

“I’ll use every tool at my disposal to protect #CleanPowerPlan and resist the Trump admin’s dangerous denial of climate science.”

Sen. Tom Carper, Delaware, [Press Release](#)

“The Clean Power Plan was a historic step to reduce carbon pollution by building on the common sense actions that states, cities, businesses and utilities across the country are already undertaking. It is a flexible, thoughtful and scientific approach that required real vision and leadership. Today, President Trump and Mr. Pruitt are on the wrong side of history. They are not just ignoring clear facts. They are creating their own reality, complete with rigged science and math, to justify doing nothing in the face of the greatest environmental challenge of our lifetime. That is not leadership.”

Sen. Chris Coons, Delaware, [Twitter](#)

“Deeply disappointed by @EPA’s decision to withdraw from the Clean Power Plan. The @EPA has a clear obligation to address carbon emissions & the Clean Power Plan was

helping to achieve that goal... Along w/ withdrawal from #ParisAgreement, this decision undermines our commitment to fight climate change & embrace a clean energy future.”

Sen. Brian Schatz, Hawaii, [Press Release](#)

“Once again, the administration has put partisan ideology above the health of the American people, our economy, and our planet. Like their failed attempts to undermine clean water and methane rules, this effort to repeal the Clean Power Plan has no basis in law and will absolutely be challenged in court.”

Sen. Dick Durbin, Illinois, [Twitter](#)

“The Administration has chosen politics over science. This is about the world we leave our children.”

Sen. Tammy Duckworth, Illinois, [Twitter](#)

“Curbing CO2 emissions & supporting renewable energy is common sense. This decision from @EPAScottPruitt will set the entire nation back.”

Sen. Ben Cardin, Maryland, [Twitter](#)

“With this rollback of the #CleanPowerPlan, @POTUS continues singular focus on derailing any Obama Admin policies at the country's expense. Rolling back the #CleanPowerPlan undercuts our renewable energy sector, which employs 5x more American workers than the fossil fuel industry. The #CleanPowerPlan's number speak for themselves. The Trump Administration's rollback of this plan takes us in the wrong direction.”

Sen. Chris Van Hollen, Maryland, [Twitter](#)

“While the White House has become an adult day care center—the EPA has turned over the keys to lobbyists, swamp monsters and climate deniers.”

Sen. Elizabeth Warren, Massachusetts, [Press Release](#)

“The Clean Power Plan is about one thing: stopping big corporations from dumping dangerous amounts of carbon pollution into our air. But this Administration's only priority seems to be stuffing the pockets of Big Oil and Big Coal executives while American families are left to suffer the consequences.”

Sen. Ed. Markey, Massachusetts, [Press Release](#)

“President Trump has failed his climate IQ test with the repeal of the Clean Power Plan. He is giving up on the economic opportunity that would be unleashed by deploying clean energy technologies in every state of the union. We know that by cutting carbon pollution, we can grow our economy, save American families money and protect the health of children and families.”

Sen. Amy Klobuchar, Minnesota, [Twitter](#)

“Another really bad idea! Last time I checked, science mattered!”

Sen. Catherine Cortez-Masto, Nevada, [Press Statement](#)

“Stunting Nevada’s progress as a leader in clean energy by removing incentives, while jeopardizing the health of Nevadans, is simply unacceptable and morally reprehensible.”

Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, New Hampshire, [Twitter](#)

“The Trump administration’s decision to roll back the Clean Power Plan continues a dangerous agenda that will harm environment and public health. We owe it to future generations to build on the Clean Power Plan and incentivize energy efficiency and the transition to cleaner, renewable forms of energy. By beginning efforts to roll back this critical rule, the Trump administration is ignoring the devastating effects of climate change and the glaring action needed to combat the environmental threats we face here and around the globe.”

Sen. Maggie Hassan, New Hampshire, [Twitter](#)

“Protecting our environment is critical to our people, businesses & way of life in NH. Scrapping the Clean Power Plan is completely backward.”

Sen. Bob Menendez, New Jersey, [Twitter](#)

“Pres.Trump ending the Clean Power Plan is disastrous for public health. The fossil fuel industry clearly has a vice grip on the Trump Admin.”

Sen. Cory Booker, New Jersey, [Twitter](#)

“The Clean Power Plan was a major step forward our effort reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fight climate change. Today’s announcement that it will be repealed is a major step backwards, and will result in more extreme weather events and greater costs to our economy in the long run.”

Sen. Martin Heinrich, New Mexico, [Twitter](#)

“The #CleanPowerPlan was a historic step in combating climate change and protecting the health of our kids and future generations. It established reasonable & achievable standards to reduce our carbon emissions & create thousands of new clean energy jobs in the process. By withdrawing these standards, the Trump admin is taking us in the wrong direction & retreating from our moral obligation to #ActOnClimate If we fail to reduce carbon emissions, the consequences will only become greater and our solutions will only become more expensive.”

Sen. Tom Udall, New Mexico, [Twitter](#)

“We can’t afford to ignore #climatechange. Citizens must speak out, states & Congress must act to cut pollution & save clean energy economy.”

Sen. Kristen Gillibrand, New York, [Twitter](#)

“Another move to cede our country’s leadership on global climate change. A terrible decision.”

Sen. Chuck Schumer, New York, [Twitter](#)

“With America seeing more extreme and dangerous weather than ever before, last thing we should do is roll back actions to combat #ClimateChange. Walking away from the #CleanPowerPlan would have real costs—to our environment, our health, and our economy. Frankly, rigging the system for polluters won’t help kids with asthma, farms or recreation biz, or Americans looking for jobs in this economy. As much as he’ll deny it @EPAScottPruitt wants to pick winners & losers. We all lose unless we #ProtectCPP.”

Sen. Ron Wyden, Oregon, [Twitter](#)

“Dismantling Clean Power Plan = one more glaring example how this administration can’t grasp climate change reality.”

Sen. Jeff Merkley, Oregon, [Twitter](#)

“By reversing the #CleanPowerPlan, @realDonaldTrump is trading a fictional “war on coal” for a very real war on our nation’s public health.”

Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, Rhode Island, [Twitter](#)

“In a '09 @nytimes ad, @realDonaldTrump called climate change 'scientifically irrefutable' & its consequences 'catastrophic' & 'irreversible.' Now, @realDonaldTrump’s industry lackey, @EPAScottPruitt, is unraveling one of the most important steps we’ve taken to combat climate crisis. The decision to repeal the Clean Power Plan is all to serve the most malign & voracious special interest, the fossil fuel industry.”

Sen. Tim Kaine, Virginia, [Twitter](#)

“This would erode US leadership in tackling climate change & set us back years in hastening clean energy & job creation. Woefully misguided.”

Sen. Patty Murray, Washington, [Twitter](#)

“First the Paris climate accord, now #CleanPowerPlan. Trump Admin continues to shun science & your health in favor of corporate interests. This move is especially egregious as wildfires rage & millions of Americans try to pick up the pieces after Harvey, Irma, Maria & Nate.”

Sen. Maria Cantwell, Washington, [Twitter](#)

“Sabotaging our chances of becoming the world’s #cleanenergy superpower in order to line the pockets of polluters.”

Sen. Tammy Baldwin, Wisconsin, [Twitter](#)

“We should meet the challenge of taking on climate change with a state-federal partnership to cut carbon pollution, not walk away from it.”

Members of the U.S. House of Representatives

Rep. Ruben Gallego, Arizona, [Twitter](#)

“The Trump administration’s decision to repeal the Clean Power Plan is a reckless step backward and a disappointing abdication of our responsibility to address a worsening climate crisis. Scott Pruitt’s actions mean that millions of Americans will be exposed to more pollution, and many regions of the United States will face the prospect of serious economic effects from climate change.”

Rep. Raul Grijalva, Arizona, [Twitter](#)

“By repealing the Clean Power Plan, Pruitt is doing the bidding of big corporations and polluters, putting their profits before the health and safety of our children and families.”

Rep. Jimmy Gomez, California, [Press Statement](#)

“With this action, the Trump administration has doubled down on government-sanctioned pollution. This radical decision grants industry a broad license to pollute at the expense of the health and well-being of millions of Americans.”

Rep. Alan Lowenthal, California, [Twitter](#)

“Trump EPA has chosen to roll back the Clean Power Plan. A massive giveaway to special interests that moves us in wrong direction. The Trump EPA fundamentally can’t be trusted to protect the health and wellbeing of our families and communities from carbon pollution.”

Rep. Nancy Pelosi, California, [Press Statement](#)

“The White House’s short-sighted, dangerous decision to dismantle the Clean Power Plan is a direct assault on the health of our nation’s children. Yet again, the Trump Administration is showing its disregard for the health and security of the American people, and is demonstrating its failure of leadership to combat the surging storms, devastating wildfires and other catastrophic impacts of the climate crisis.”

Rep. Ed Perlmutter, Colorado, [Twitter](#)

“A new report shows extreme weather has cost the U.S. economy at least \$240 billion a year over the past 10 years. Repealing the Clean Power Plan means the cost of climate change will continue to burden taxpayers & future generations.”

Rep. Joe Courtney, Connecticut, [House Floor Statement](#)

“Going back to the days of Teddy Roosevelt, it has been a bipartisan principle that protecting the public health and America’s environment is a sacred obligation for those of us who have the honor to serve this nation in elected or appointed office. Unfortunately, Mr. Scott Pruitt didn’t get that memo because yesterday he announced that he is precipitously going to strike down the Clean Power Plan Rule which will turn back the clock in this country on the issue of carbon emissions.”

Rep. Darren Soto, Florida, [Press Statement](#)

“The Trump administration’s decision to rescind back policy curbing climate pollution from power plants is a reckless step back in the efforts to tackle climate change. Cancelling our nationwide limits on emissions would dangerously contribute to heat waves and rising sea-levels, factors that are strengthening weather-related disasters.”

Rep. John Yarmuth, Kentucky, [Twitter](#)

“At the heart of today’s Clean Power Plan decision is one of the cruelest deceptions perpetrated in politics today: telling the American people that clean air protections are responsible for reduced demand for coal and that getting rid of those protections will create tens of thousands of coal jobs. Both are false. The facts are clear and by willfully ignoring them, the Trump Administration is jeopardizing our environment, our economy, and – ultimately – our existence. For the sake of future generations, I hope we will be able to fix the damage.”

Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi, Illinois, [Twitter](#)

“The Trump administration's plan to override President Obama's Clean Power Plan reduces the incentive for investment in clean energy while increasing air pollution and our national contribution to climate change.”

Rep. Mike Quigley, Illinois, [Press Release](#)

”One doesn’t have to be a scientist in order to understand that if we are serious about preserving clean air, we must actively address emissions from the power sector. By scraping the Environmental Protection Agency’s Clean Power Plan, this Administration has once again chosen to side with polluters at the peril of the health, safety, and economic wellbeing of every American this government represents.”

Rep. Anthony Brown, Maryland, [Twitter](#)

“We need to invest in clean energy, tackle #ClimateChange & prepare America for the 21st century economy #SaveCPP.”

Rep. Niki Tsongas, Massachusetts, [Twitter](#)

“Reversing the Clean Power Plan is direct assault on public health and hurts our efforts to combat climate change #ProtectCPP.”

Rep. Keith Ellison, Minnesota, [Twitter](#)

“It is truly unconscionable that the Trump administration has chosen to repeal the #CleanPowerPlan. Climate change is an urgent priority.”

Rep. Tim Walz, Minnesota, [Twitter](#)

“At the expense of jobs, health and well-being of future generations, @realDonaldTrump is again failing to lead. Terrible move on #CleanPowerPlan. @realDonaldTrump’s

#CleanPowerPlan decision won't stop states like MN from continuing to lead the way on renewables.”

Rep. Jacky Rosen, Nevada, [Twitter](#)

“By repealing federal limits on carbon pollution from power plants, Administrator Pruitt and the Trump Administration are doing the bidding of big polluters at the expense of Nevadans who want clean air.”

Rep. Ann Kuster, New Hampshire, [Twitter](#)

“This move by the Trump Administration to dismantle the Clean Power Plan is an attack on our environment and health and wellbeing of people in New Hampshire and across the country.”

Rep. Frank Pallone, New Jersey, [Twitter](#)

“Make no mistake, rolling back the #CleanPowerPlan puts the health and safety of all Americans at risk.”

Rep. Eliot Engel, New York, [Twitter](#)

“Repealing #CleanPowerPlan is an attempt to please the polluters while undermining clean-energy jobs today.”

Rep. Grace Meng, New York, [Twitter](#)

“Outrageous that Trump admin is undoing Clean Power Plan that combats climate change & global warming. Our children deserve better than this.”

Rep. Brendan Boyle, Pennsylvania, [Twitter](#)

“By repealing the #CleanPowerPlan, the Trump administration jeopardizes our health & safety, economic competitiveness, & global leadership.”

Rep. Mike Doyle, Pennsylvania, [Twitter](#)

“Disappointed by @EPA move to repeal #CleanPowerPlan. US must address #climatechange head-on with new tech and scientific advancement. This is a huge step backwards that ignores scientific consensus. #ClimateChange requires action now - not years from now. First, @POTUS withdraws from the #ParisAgreement, now he reverses #CleanPowerPlan. I'll continue fighting these short-sighted actions.”

Rep. Jim Langevin, Rhode Island, [Twitter](#)

“Inexcusable that Trump is rolling back enviro & public health protections by repealing the #CleanPowerPlan.”

Rep. Gene Green, Texas, [Twitter](#)

“Rescinding the Clean Power Plan will hurt our environment and isolate us on the international stage. The actions today by @EPAScottPruitt do not move us in the right direction toward protecting the planet for our grandchildren.”

Rep. A. Donald McEachin, Virginia, [Press Release](#)

“The lack of regard for public health is infuriating. Administrator Scott Pruitt and the Trump Administration’s decision to reverse the Clean Power Plan was probably made during Mr. Pruitt’s many meetings with industry and corporate executives and lobbyists – average Americans, without corporate connections, will suffer the most after this unfortunate decision.”

Rep. Denny Heck, Washington, [Twitter](#)

“Any move to dismantle the #CleanPowerPlan threatens our health & environment. There are things we can all agree on. For one, our kids should have the chance to grow up healthy. That’s why we need to #ProtectCPP.”

Reps. Alan Lowenthal, California and Don Beyer, Virginia, co-chairs of the Congressional Safe Climate Caucus, [Statement](#)

“Turning our back on this progress by ending the Clean Power Plan is dangerous, it will hurt our economy, and it will further damage our reputation around the world. American leadership is urgently needed now, and we cannot ignore or pretend our way out of this crisis. We must stand up, we must fight for future generations, and we must act on climate.”

Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham, New Mexico, Chairwoman, Congressional Hispanic Caucus, [Press Release](#)

“The Trump administration’s repeal of the Clean Power Plan without any plan to reduce carbon pollution and fight climate change is egregiously irresponsible and will have severe consequences for the health and well-being of our communities and planet. This is especially concerning as we increasingly see the devastating health and economic costs of severe droughts, wildfires, and hurricanes. We must move forward with solutions that mitigate the problem at hand, rather than denying one exists.”

Legal and Economic Experts

Richard Revesz, Dean Emeritus, NYU Law, and Director of the Institute for Policy Integrity (together with Jack Lienke), [NYTimes](#)

“The Trump administration has mangled the costs and benefits of one of the most significant climate regulations of the Obama years in an effort to justify its repeal, which Scott Pruitt, the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, announced on Monday...In the end, all of these methodological contortions are meant to obscure a very basic truth: that any ‘savings’ achieved by rescinding the Clean Power Plan will come at an incredibly high cost to public health and welfare. If the Trump administration is willing to make that trade, it should at least have the courage to admit it.”

Jack Lienke, Regulatory Policy Director at NYU’s Institute for Policy Integrity, [E&E News](#)

"The changes EPA has made to its original cost-benefit analysis are economically irrational and inconsistent with the best available science. They're quite transparently designed to exaggerate the Clean Power Plan's costs and obscure its substantial benefits."

Jody Freeman, Archibald Cox Professor of Law, Harvard Law School, [NYTimes](#) (discussing Clean Power Plan rollback and Department of Energy proposed Grid Resiliency rule)

"You see a pretty powerful message. Disavow any effort to control greenhouse gases in the power sector, and instead, intervene in the market to promote coal. It's a wow."

Eli Savit, Adjunct Professor of Law, University of Michigan Law School, [Take Care blog](#)

"Today, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt will officially announce the proposed rollback of the Clean Power Plan—President Obama's signature program to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions. Though there is still a long road ahead before the rollback is finalized, one thing appears clear. If Trump and Pruitt do succeed in dismantling the Clean Power Plan, people will die. Thousands and thousands of Americans will suffer adverse health effects. And the costs will far outweigh the benefits. Don't take my word for it, though. Take Scott Pruitt's. Remarkably, Pruitt's proposed rollback actually concedes that the health-related costs of abandoning the Clean Power Plan are likely to be staggering."

Michael Greenstone, Professor of Economics, University of Chicago, [Washington Post](#)

"It does not feel like an effort to refresh the cost-benefit analysis to make sure it's on the frontiers of science, it seems like an effort to find the levers that will make the cost go down."

Business Associations

Lisa Woll, CEO, US SIF: The Forum for Sustainable and Responsible Investment, [Press Release](#)

"Today's decision is reckless and will harm the US economy and every American for years to come. This is not the time to retreat from action to protect current and succeeding generations from the catastrophic implications of further, unrestrained climate change."

Richard Eidlin, VP for Policy and Co-Founder, American Sustainable Business Council, Press Statement

"To side with some of our biggest polluters in the coal industry against the health and welfare of the rest of country is unconscionable. For an EPA Administrator to lead the charge should be unacceptable to all reasonable people."

Frank Knapp, South Carolina Small Business Chamber of Commerce, [Press Release](#)

"The energy future is renewables. That is why I led the American Sustainable Business Council effort to file an amicus brief on behalf of that organization and 23 other business organizations in support of the Clean Power Plan."

Consumer Advocacy Groups

Shannon Baker-Branstetter, Senior Policy Counsel, Consumers Union, [Press Statement](#)

“The proposed repeal of the Clean Power Plan continues this administration’s efforts to undo protections by ignoring or undervaluing the public health benefits and consumer savings of lower pollution and energy use. This would shift the cost of pollution and climate change away from polluters and onto families and individuals. By using an unrealistically low estimate of the social costs of carbon, the rule essentially ignores the societal impacts of climate change, including higher food prices, property damage, higher insurance premiums, and higher energy costs.”

Dave Kolata, Illinois Citizens Utility Board, [Statement](#)

“Any attempt by the Administration to weaken or repeal the Clean Power Plan is bad news for consumers. The Clean Power Plan would have led to increased investment in energy efficiency that reduces our electric bills and helps to create a more reliable power grid. It also would have sparked energy innovation, advancing new money-saving technologies in key areas such as efficiency and storage. Rolling back the Clean Power Plan will strip people of the tools they need to keep their power bills down—so this is a step backwards for all consumers, in particular seniors and families on tight incomes who already have a difficult time affording their utility costs. Today’s development reinforces the importance of Illinois passing the Future Energy Jobs Act last year to set the state on a course to a more reliable and affordable energy future. Regardless of developments in Washington, CUB will continue to work with legislators, regulators and consumer advocates to help improve the lives of electric customers across the state of Illinois.”

Faith Groups

Scott Wright, Director, Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach, [Press Statement](#)

“The Columban Center opposes the EPA’s decision to repeal the Clean Power Plan. Columban missionaries working across the globe have witnessed the horrible devastation carbon pollution wreaks on the earth and the vulnerable. This administration continues to demonstrate that they do not appreciate the extent to which the insatiable energy demands of our economy are tearing apart the web of life, with disastrous consequences for future generations.”

Rev. Reginald Smith, Director, Office of Social Justice, Christian Reformed Church, [Press Statement](#)

“The United States has been a leader in environmental policies that move our country and the rest of the world forward. The repeal of the Clean Power Plan represents a major step backwards - one that is deeply harmful to creation and disproportionately unjust to vulnerable groups. As Christians, we have a mandate from our Creator to steward the earth well and care for creation. We are also called to love and care for our neighbors as ourselves. Allowing carbon emissions that have been proven harmful to pollute the atmosphere without limit is morally wrong and rationally illogical.”

Rev. Mitch Hescox, President, Evangelical Environmental Network, [Press Statement](#)

“We are profoundly disappointed in the announcement today by Scott Pruitt, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), that the agency would formally begin the roll-back of the Clean Power Plan, which required utilities to reduce their carbon pollution.”

Emily Wirzba, Legislative Representative, Friends Committee on National Legislation, [E&ENews](#)

“People of faith are called to serve the most vulnerable people, so weakening the Clean Power Plan is a moral failure of leadership at the national level.”

Kyle Meyaard-Schaap, Spokesman, Young Evangelicals for Climate Action, [E&ENews](#)

“Faithfulness to these commands in a warming world requires that we care for God's good world and that we show compassion to those whose very lives are threatened by a changing climate. If our political leaders, many of whom confess our faith, will not take the action necessary to respond to these commands, then the rest of us will.”

Rabbi Jonah Dov Pesner, Director, Religions Action Center of Reform Judaism, [E&ENews](#)

“The decision to repeal the Clean Power Plan represents a gross failure to protect the health of people who live near fossil-fuel-fired power plants, and fails to protect the lives of all who will face the effects of climate change. We are acutely aware that, due to their locations, these power plants often hurt people of color and low-income people the most, perpetuating environmental racism and inequality.”

Franciscan Action Network, [Press Statement](#)

“The Trump administration has been hostile to the environment and the future of our planet, instead deciding to align itself with the fossil fuel industry in order to increase revenue rather than protect the wellbeing of its citizens. The New York Times recently stated that the Trump Administration has rolled back 53 environmental regulations. This marks at least the 54th. ...”

Former Public Officials

Al Gore, Former Vice President, [Press Statement](#)

“Repealing the Clean Power Plan is out of step with all of the businesses, states, cities, investors, and citizens that are moving forward with the transition to a clean energy economy in America. All across this country, new ideas and solutions are being developed to address the urgent climate crisis affecting us today. Our movement won't be deterred by a science-denying Administration that's trying to take us backwards. We will win this fight to protect our planet, for our children and the generations to come.”

Gina McCarthy, Former Administrator, EPA, [E&E News](#)

"A proposal to repeal the Clean Power Plan without any timeline or even a commitment to propose a rule to reduce carbon pollution isn't a step forward, it's a wholesale retreat

from EPA's legal, scientific and moral obligation to address the threats of climate change."

Carol Browner, Former Administrator, EPA, [E&E News](#)

"The Clean Power Plan would have cut dangerous carbon pollution from power plants, cleaned our air, protected our health, addressed the pollution contributing to climate change and encouraged clean energy development. Administrator Pruitt's decision is especially cynical, coming as wildfires devastate the West and in the wake of four disastrous hurricanes that have battered the Gulf Coast from Texas to Tampa — causing billions in damage and taking lives."

Mike Bloomberg, former Mayor of New York City, [Twitter](#)

"The EPA can repeal the Clean Power Plan but not the laws of economics. This won't revive coal or stop the U.S. from reaching our Paris Goal."

Newspapers

[Miami Herald Editorial Board](#)

"The Trump administration on Tuesday doubled down on a dangerous agenda that seeks to reverse decades of painful progress on cleaning up the air we breathe and limiting damage to the environment. The rollback of the Clean Power Plan (CPP) represents one of the biggest policy errors of this still-young administration — which is saying a lot, considering the record. The action holds out the false promise that the government can save a dying industry by defying common-sense rules to curb harmful emissions from coal-fired plants. That's like trying to stop the sun from shining or the tide from rolling in."

[New York Times Editorial Board](#)

"The Trump administration formally proposed on Tuesday to roll back yet another of President Barack Obama's efforts to position the United States as a global leader in the fight against climate change. The move, though widely anticipated, was deeply disheartening. In March Mr. Trump ordered Scott Pruitt, the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, to repeal the Clean Power Plan, which was aimed at reducing carbon dioxide emissions from coal-fired power plants. Mr. Pruitt, a climate denier closely tied to the fossil fuel industry, was only too happy to oblige — boasting to an audience of Kentucky coal miners on Monday that the plan was dead and that 'the war on coal is over.' All this is infuriating on several levels."

Citizen Organizations

Dr. Adrienne Hollis, Director of Federal Policy, WE ACT for Environmental Justice, [Press Statement](#)

"This administration's treacherous rollback of environmental regulations continues with the repeal of the Clean Power Plan. The decision to repeal the Clean Power Plan is a direct attack on our health. In the face of this atrocity, our most vulnerable communities will suffer increased adverse health effects from power plant pollution."

David Arkush, Managing Director of Climate Program, Public Citizen, [Press Statement](#)

“President Donald Trump and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Scott Pruitt’s plan to repeal the Clean Power Plan shows yet again that the administration puts polluters over people, at any cost.”

Green for All, [Twitter](#)

“Some things we can ALL agree on. For one, our kids should have the chance to grow up healthy. That’s why we need to #ProtectCPP.”

Mustafa Santiago Ali, Senior VP for Climate and Environmental Justice, Hip Hop Coalition, former Director of EPA’s Environmental Justice Office, [Press Release](#)

“This backwards move is another clear indication that fossil fuel industry corporations have taken control of the Environmental Protection Agency. It simply does not make sense for our pocketbooks and health. Unfortunately our most vulnerable communities will face the brunt of this irresponsible decision, including disproportionate health impacts, while rich corporations that have control over the EPA will reap the profits.”

Chris Carson, President, League of Women Voters, [Press Statement](#)

“By repealing the Clean Power Plan, the White House is putting the interests of corporate polluters ahead of the health and safety of the American public. This decision will have a devastating impact on the planet at a time when we are seeing the powerful climate change effects with rising temperatures, deadly hurricanes and destructive wildfires. The League is appalled at this irresponsible decision that will have a long-term devastating impact on our planet and health of the American people.”

Christy Goldfuss, VP Energy and Environmental Policy, Center for American Progress, former Managing Director of Council on Environmental Quality, [Twitter](#)

“@EPAScottPruitt says climate change has no cost, but hurricanes Irma and Harvey stopped 7 years of consecutive growth.”

Mary Kay Henry, President, Service Employees International Union, [Press Statement](#)

“The Trump administration has spent the last ten months putting corporate profits ahead of working families’ healthcare, immigrant lives and paychecks. Now President Trump and his EPA Administrator, who has been wined and dined by oil company executives, are putting corporate profits ahead of our ability to breathe clean air.”

Varshini Prakash, Spokesperson, Sunrise Movement, [Statement](#)

“The overturn of the Clean Power Plan is a handout to the corporate executives that EPA administrator Scott Pruitt has aligned himself with his entire career. This is just the latest example of how the Trump administration would rather line the pockets of a few oil, gas, and coal executives rather than unlock the millions of good jobs we could create stopping climate change.”

Brian Sewell, Director of Strategic Advancement, Appalachian Voices, [Blog](#)

“Repealing the rule, on the other hand, is a historic step backward. But it’s just the latest move from an administration singularly hostile to environmental and climate protections. Like the decision to leave the Paris Agreement, the White House’s action signals to the world that the United States is unwilling to take the responsibility that comes with being one of the planet’s largest carbon emitters. Nor does it seem like the White House is willing to acknowledge the economic opportunities that come with climate action.”