



## Statements Opposing Andrew Wheeler's Weakened Clean Power Plan Replacement Proposal

On August 21, 2018, Acting EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler released a [proposal](#) to replace the landmark Clean Power Plan with a far weaker substitute. The proposal would lead to [more harmful air pollution](#) and do little to protect Americans from the effects of climate change. In response, a large and diverse group of Congressional, state, and local officials; businesses; power companies; energy and legal experts; and public health, environmental, and consumer groups representing millions of Americans have spoken out in vigorous opposition to Wheeler's efforts to unravel the Clean Power Plan's lifesaving protections.

\* \* \*

### Governors, Mayors, and other State and Local Officials

#### Governors

- **California Governor Jerry Brown** [statement](#): “This is a declaration of war against America and all of humanity – it will not stand. Truth and common sense will triumph over Trump’s insanity.”
- **Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper** [Tweet](#): “Wildfires burning all over the world – smoke everywhere – and President Trump wants to burn more coal with fewer clean air protections by dropping the Clean Power Plan. Colorado is staying the course, improving air quality and safeguarding our health.”
- **Delaware Governor John Carney** [statement](#): “Delawareans up and down our state are already experiencing the effects of climate change and sea level rise. ... This proposed replacement of the Clean Power Plan will make our efforts to reduce carbon pollution more difficult, and will remove a strong incentive for state and federal governments to work together to clean up our air. Put simply, it’s a bad idea to abandon any tool we have to fight climate change together.”
- **New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy** [statement](#): “Across our state, New Jerseyans are experiencing the destructive effects of climate change first-hand. ... Reversing efforts to combat climate change and increasing carbon emissions nationwide is not only a shameful move by the Trump Administration, but one that puts lives at risk and drastically harms human health.”
- **New York Governor Andrew Cuomo**:
  - [Statement](#): “The future of our environment, our economy and our children is at stake, and New York will not let President Trump take us backward. Today I am proud to announce that New York will join the Powering Past Coal Alliance to share our expertise and experience and continue to lead the fight against dirty and dangerous fossil fuels. With our bold mandate to close all coal-fired power plants by 2020 and our nation-leading

- commitment to renewables, we are already at the forefront of the clean energy revolution and we will not go back.”
- [Letter to Acting EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler](#): “The time is now to harness American ingenuity to address and lead the fight against this global challenge. Instead, in a summer of raging wildfires and extreme storms, following the worst hurricane year on record, the Trump administration is inexplicably failing to protect Americans from a serious threat to our health and security.”
  - **Oregon Governor Kate Brown** [Tweet](#): “Here in Oregon, we will continue to build the clean economy of the future no matter what reckless actions the Trump Administration takes to undermine the Clean Power Plan and move us all backward.”
  - **Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo** [quote](#) (*Rhode Island Public Radio*): “‘The Trump administration is putting people’s health and our environment in harm’s way,’ Gina Raimondo, Democratic governor of Rhode Island, said. ‘This regressive proposal will result in increased greenhouse gas emissions and is filled with loopholes that will allow older power plants to continue to operate without effective pollution controls.’ Raimondo said her administration will use every tool available to fight the Trump administration’s ‘short-sighted policy changes.’”
  - **Vermont Governor Phil Scott** [statement](#): “The U.S. must continue to provide responsible environmental leadership, and the proposed replacement for the Clean Power Plan does not appear to live up to the EPA’s mission or provide the national leadership we need in this area. As communities across the country deal with the impacts of climate change and air pollution, this is simply the wrong approach.”
  - **Washington Governor Jay Inslee and Attorney General Bob Ferguson** [statement](#): “This deadly rollback abandons the government’s obligation to protect our health and reduce carbon pollution, in favor of propping up the dying coal industry at precisely the time we need to be transitioning to clean energy options. We’ve proven in Washington state that it is possible to create jobs through the clean energy economy and protect health and our environment.”
  - **U.S. Climate Alliance** [statement](#) (signed by governors of **California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Minnesota, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, Oregon, Rhode Island, Virginia, and Washington**): “We strongly reject, and will continue to oppose, the Administration’s proposal to replace the Clean Power Plan with a weak framework that fails to protect our communities from dangerous carbon pollution, and seeks to prop up dirty power plants. ... In a summer of record temperatures, extreme storms, and raging wildfires following the worst hurricane year on record, this administration is failing to protect Americans from the threat of climate change and turning a blind eye to the economic benefits of renewable energy development and energy efficiency deployment.”

### State Attorneys General

- **California Attorney General Xavier Becerra**:
  - [Tweet](#): “In #California, we led a multistate letter months ago to @EPA stressing the importance of the #CleanPowerPlan. Don't forget: The Clean Power Plan would reduce

- coal and gas-fired power plant emissions by 16% by 2030, while avoiding 3,500 premature deaths per year. #ActOnClimate”
- [Tweet](#): “We strongly oppose the #Trump Administration’s backsliding in the fight to preserve our children’s future & planet.”
  - **Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan [statement](#)**: “The U.S. EPA’s complete rejection of the Clean Power Plan and our country’s path to a cleaner and safer environment will have disastrous consequences. I will take legal action to ensure the federal government does its job to protect our environment and our health.”
  - **Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller [statement](#)**: “Iowa has made huge strides in moving away from its dependence on coal. Wind provided 37 percent of Iowa’s total electric generation last year, a larger share than in any other state. Iowa is well prepared to comply with the Clean Power Plan. The administration wants to go backward, however, and our health and our environment will suffer as a result. The administration’s own proposal acknowledges that its replacement plan would increase carbon emissions and, according to some estimates, lead to up to 1,400 premature deaths annually.”
  - **Maryland Attorney General Brian Frosh**:
    - [Tweet](#): “Where have all the glaciers gone? EPA’s latest regs are a sham. Climate change is real and needs to be addressed.”
    - [Quote](#) (*Baltimore Sun*): “They cooked the books so they can cook the planet, really. It’s a canard. It’s a sham. . . . The Clean Power Plan was a fact-based, science-based proposal to reduce carbon and other air pollution. Now they’ve come up with a new rule that they claim is based on science, and it ain’t.”
  - **Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey [Tweet](#)**: “The entire proposal deserves to be tossed in a recycling bin, but knowing the EPA’s current leadership, I’m sure they don’t have one.”
  - **New York Attorney General Barbara D. Underwood [press release](#)**: “Climate change is real, no matter how much this administration tries to deny it. We need strong, immediate action to drastically cut climate change pollution and promote affordable, clean, and sustainable energy — not foot dragging and backtracking that seeks to prop up dirty, expensive power plants. If the Trump administration’s proposal to dismantle the Clean Power Plan is adopted, we will work with our state and local partners to file suit to block it — in order to protect New Yorkers, and all Americans, from the increasingly devastating impacts of climate change.”

### **U.S. Mayors**

- **U.S. Conference of Mayors President and Columbia, SC Mayor Steve Benjamin [statement](#)**: “We are extremely disappointed that the Environmental Protection Agency, through their proposed Affordable Clean Energy Rule, has chosen to dramatically weaken our nation’s efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. With intense droughts, wildfires, rainstorms, and flooding plaguing our nation, we need to move swiftly to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate

the very real impact climate change is having on the health and economic vitality of our communities.”

- **Chicago, IL Mayor Rahm Emanuel [statement](#):** “We need leaders who will address the challenge of climate change, not accelerate it. President Trump and the climate change deniers he installed at the EPA are burying their heads deeper in the sand, ignoring settled science and giving polluters a free pass to contaminate the air we breathe for the sake of short-term profits. In Chicago we were proud to close down our coal plants because they put our residents’ health and our environment at risk. While the Trump administration recklessly turns its back the clock on progress, Chicago and cities across the country will keep moving forward towards a cleaner, more sustainable future.”
- **Denver, CO Mayor Michael B. Hancock [Tweet](#):** “Rules were put in place to address climate change, improve public health & create thousands of good paying clean energy jobs. Rolling them back is a mistake. If White House refuses to lead, we will. Denver will push forward w/ 80x50 Climate Action Plan.”
- **Los Angeles, CA Mayor Eric Garcetti [statement](#):** “President Trump’s plan is nothing more than a dangerous giveaway to special interests at the expense of public health, economic growth, and our families’ well-being. More pollution from dirty energy will only result in bigger fires, more severe storms, and deadlier heat waves. No matter how hard Washington fights to pull us backward in the face of the climate crisis, Los Angeles and cities across America will remain firmly focused on building a clean energy future.”
- **Seattle, WA Mayor Jenny Durkan [Tweet](#):** “As Seattleites’ health is threatened by smoke from wildfires – which climate change is making more and more of a threat – our national leaders in the other Washington are taking us backwards. This is why cities must – and will – lead.”

### Other State & Local Officials

- **Mary Nichols, Chair, California Air Resources Board [Tweet](#):** “Like the Roman emperor Nero, @EPA fiddles while federal forests burn By choosing cowardice over courage, they're turning their backs on the legal & moral imperative to tackle climate-changing gases — gambling with public health & clean air again.”
- **Ben Grumbles, Secretary, Maryland Dept. of the Environment [quote](#) (*Baltimore Sun*):** “It underscores now more than ever the need for state and regional leadership. The more states that are putting a price on carbon, the better.”
- **Basil Seggos, Commissioner, New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation [Tweet](#):** “This isn’t about economic progress. It’s a blatant giveaway to a dirty industry at the expense of human health and our future. This takes us backward. In NY, @NYGovCuomo has been leading the charge on renewable energy future.”
- **Fourteen State Environmental and Energy Agency Leaders (from California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington) [letter](#):** “We strongly oppose the Administration’s proposal to replace the Clean Power Plan with a framework that would fail to

require critically important reductions in carbon pollution from power plants—one of the largest sources of carbon pollution in our country. The Administration’s proposal abandons its obligations under the Clean Air Act to ensure that state plans address dangerous air pollution from existing pollution sources and satisfy the fundamental statutory requirement—that they achieve emission reductions commensurate with those achievable using the best system of emission reduction available. This proposal will endanger the health and welfare of our residents.”

\* \* \*

## Members of Congress

- **Sen. Michael Bennet (D-CO)** [statement](#): “President Trump claims he is ending the war on coal. In reality, his plan creates more uncertainty for coal miners. This is not a plan — it’s a punt. The President is placing the views of extreme partisans and special interests above the overwhelming judgment of scientists. Meanwhile, our children will continue to get sick, more wildfires will rage throughout the West, and more storms will damage our coasts. President Trump should embrace a lasting policy that makes the air cleaner for our children, addresses climate change, and provides real certainty for businesses.”
- **Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)** [Tweet](#): “Trump’s plan to roll back the Clean Power Plan by weakening pollution controls for coal-fired power plants will increase carbon emissions & premature deaths—a disaster for our planet & detriment to our health.”
- **Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ)** [Tweet](#): “Trump @EPA’s new plan rolling back the Clean Power Plan is a gift to coal plants over the health of Americans & our environment. The fine print in their own proposal even acknowledges that it will result in up to 1,400 premature deaths annually by 2030.”
- **Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH)** [quote](#) (*WSAZ*): “Businesses need certainty to operate, so every time the administration changes the rules in the middle of the game, it’s bad for business. We’ve seen how climate change is impacting Lake Erie, with algae blooms causing a water crisis for the communities that depend on it. I refuse to accept the idea that we have to choose between clean air and clean drinking water and good jobs. We can have both and the White House needs to work with us to produce policies that support both.”
- **Sen. Tom Carper (D-DE)** [statement](#): “If I were grading the Trump Administration’s proposal to replace the Clean Power Plan, I would give it an ‘F.’ This egregious climate denial plan fails to protect the American people from the serious risks of climate change, fails to produce the same health and energy saving benefits that were achieved under the Clean Power Plan, and could send clean energy jobs to China. That alone would be enough for anyone to get a failing grade, but this proposal goes even further and allows polluters to increase the amount of smog and soot they emit into the air our children breathe.”
- **Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA)** [statement](#): “This decision will severely undermine our nation's efforts to promote clean air and combat climate change. It will also put our workers at a competitive

disadvantage when it comes to competing for good-paying, clean energy jobs. In particular, children who have asthma or other diseases suffer when we fail to take aggressive action on clean air. And, as reported by the New York Times, the new rules could lead to as many as 1,400 premature deaths annually by 2030.”

- **Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME)** [Tweet](#): “In Maine, our economy is inextricably linked to the environment. And our state has made substantial progress in reducing carbon emissions, increasing energy efficiency, adopting clean energy technologies, & improving air quality & public health. But Maine is also located at the end of our nation’s air pollution “tailpipe,” receiving pollution generated by power plants in other states. The Administration’s proposal to rewrite the national standards established by the Clean Power Plan is a step in the wrong direction.”
- **Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL)** [Tweet](#): “Make communities less clean. Prop up corporate interests. Cede global leadership on combating climate change. That is the Trump Administration's #DirtyPowerPlan strategy for our environment and public health. Our kids and grandkids deserve better.”
- **Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)** [statement](#): “President Trump’s decision to replace the Clean Power Plan with weaker rules governing power plant emissions is the latest in a string of terrible decisions that undermine our fight against global warming, lower our quality of life and endanger lives.”
- **Sen. Kamala Harris (D-CA)** [Tweet](#): “The Trump administration is again siding with polluters over people. Their plan to dismantle the Clean Power Plan, a critical component of our fight to combat climate change, could cause hundreds of premature deaths each year due to increased air pollution.”
- **Sen. Martin Heinrich (D-NM)** [Tweet](#): “Welcome to Trump’s America. More asthma, gas guzzling cars, and ever worsening forest fires.”
- **Sen. Angus King (I-ME)** [Tweet](#): “Climate change is a serious challenge facing Maine people, and we must meet it head-on. The Clean Power Plan was an important step in the right direction, and any alternative that undoes its work to restrict emissions is a major mistake; the CPP should remain in place.”
- **Sen. Bob Menendez (D-NJ)** [Tweet](#): “NJ will suffer the consequences of this rule, as winds bring pollution from coal plants burning in Pennsylvania. That’s why I supported President Obama’s #CleanPowerPlan, why I’ve fought to keep it, and why you can count on me to do everything in my power to stop its rescission.”
- **Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR)** [statement](#): “This pro-pollution plan is a threat to public health and will produce more catastrophic wildfires, more devastating droughts, and more climate chaos that will wreak havoc.”
- **Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA)** [Tweet](#): “With today’s move from @EPA to abandon the Clean Power Plan & return to business as usual at our nation’s coal plants, President Trump has once again put profits for his well-connected friends ahead of the health & well-being of millions of Americans.”

- **Sen. Bernie Sanders (D-VT)** [Tweet](#): “This must not go unnoticed. The Trump administration just announced their extremely dangerous plan to repeal the Clean Power Plan. Mr. Trump: You are threatening not only this generation, but you're threatening the lives of our children and grandchildren.”
- **Sen. Brian Schatz (D-HI)** [quote](#) (*E&ENews*): “President Trump's proposal is full-fledged climate denial. It gives coal companies the green light to pollute the air we breathe and the water we drink. This proposal flies in the face of scientific fact, morality, and America's leadership.”
- **Sen. Tina Smith (D-MN)** [Tweet](#): “My colleagues & I are at the Capitol speaking out against Pres. Trump's misnamed ‘Clean Power Plan.’ This reckless proposal would let U.S. coal plants emit more harmful pollutants & in turn put human health & our environment at serious risk.”
- **Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM)** [Tweet](#): “While #NM communities grapple with raging wildfires and increasingly severe droughts, Trump @EPA again undermines our safety & kills the #CleanPowerPlan. Climate change denial in service of big polluters will have grave consequences for future generations.
- **Sen. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)** [Tweet](#): “We see the mounting costs of climate change in the disastrous floods in Ellicott City and extreme weather events that put life and property at risk. Yet Trump is again doing the bidding of powerful special interests and we will pay the price. Mr. President, see you in court!”
- **Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)** [statement](#): “This proposal guts a solid and sensible plan this country put forth to fight the pollution driving climate change, and replaces it with a fossil fuel handout. The funding of the Republican Party by the fossil fuel industry has just reaped a rich reward. It shows not much has changed from Scott Pruitt’s EPA. This craven obedience to polluting interests will lead to serious consequences for American communities and our economy, as well as for the planet we call home. Economists, scientists, central bankers, and real estate insurance and finance professionals are all warning of dire consequences of climate change, and we get this?”
- **Rep. Alma S. Adams (D-NC)** [Tweet](#): “Replacing the Clean Power Plan with the #DirtyPowerScam could cause up to 3,600 premature deaths by 2030. How will this impact #BlackMaternalHealth? Black women have the highest infant mortality rate in the country. We must #ProtectCPP!”
- **Rep. Nanette Barragán (D-CA)** [Tweet](#): “President Trump’s proposed rollback of the #CleanPowerPlan is a big win for polluters, but a huge loss for our communities. Weaker emissions standards for coal power plants will have drastic consequences for the environment and will only worsen climate change.”
- **Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-OR)** [Tweet](#): “While the West burns & the world suffers from climate change, Trump unveils a #DirtyPowerScam letting polluters off the hook & putting future generations at risk. Irresponsible & dangerous. We must fight back at the ballot box. A better Congress is our best check on Trump.”

- **Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR)** [Tweet](#): “I will do everything I can to fight back against this #DirtyPowerScam. By ignoring the warnings of their own researchers, Trump and his EPA are putting coal lobbyists and interest groups ahead of public health.”
- **Rep. Brendan Boyle (D-PA)** [Tweet](#): “Today, the Trump Admin. took yet another step backward, dismantling the Clean Power Plan. Instead of ignoring climate change, we need to invest in our future – creating solar and wind infrastructure to help our economy and leave a better planet for our children.”
- **Rep. Michael Capuano (D-MA)** [Tweet](#): “The longer we wait to address climate change the harder it is to halt its harmful effects. Trump’s roll back of the Clean Power Plan makes a mockery of EPA’s mission. It trims one-tenth the CO2 and according to EPA’s own estimates will cause more deaths.”
- **Rep. Kathy Castor (D-FL)** [Tweet](#): “Trump Admin sides w dirty air & coal plants over kids & our health: ‘the fine print includes an acknowledgment that the plan would increase carbon emissions and lead to up to 1,400 premature deaths annually.’”
- **Rep. Katherine Clark (D-MA)** [Tweet](#): “Newsflash, @EPAAWheeler: Greenhouse gas emissions are one of the leading causes of #climatechange. Rolling back these regulations in an outdated effort to revive coal will cost us clean water & air & the viability of future generations. #DirtyPowerScam”
- **Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-VA)** [Tweet](#): “Trump’s rollback of the Clean Power Plan is a giant step backwards and will have serious public health consequences. This does nothing to Make America Great Again and hands the 21st century clean energy economy to our global competitors.”
- **Rep. Carlos Curbelo (R-FL)** [statement](#) (August 15, 2018): “The Administration’s expected new plan to placate polluters is also wholly unacceptable. I’ve long said the next meaningful action on climate policy must come from Congress, and a real solution is a bill that would aggressively invest in American infrastructure while protecting the environment by empowering Americans to reduce carbon emissions. Threats like sea level rise and saltwater intrusion caused by climate change will have devastating long-term effects on our economy, national security and environment. Congress must act on a market-based solution...”
- **Rep. Diana DeGette (D-CO)** [Tweet](#): “Simply unconscionable. With these new rules, @EPA takes its reckless repeal of @POTUS44’s environmental legacy to new depths, admitting the plan will result in an additional 1,400 premature deaths, while also prolonging unsustainable carbon emissions.”
- **Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)** [Tweet](#): “The Trump administration’s plan to dismantle the Clean Power Plan will hurt people’s health and lead to increased pollution in our air and water. That is unacceptable and dangerous.”
- **Rep. Mark DeSaulnier (D-CA)** [Tweet](#): “President Trump’s #DirtyPowerPlan seeks to undo this progress, turn back the clock on clean energy innovation, and harm public health.”

- **Rep. Lloyd Doggett (D-TX)** [Tweet](#): “@EPAAWheeler has replaced the #CleanPowerPlan with a #DirtyPowerScam. Trump has turned the war on coal into a war on public health to protect his coal industry allies. The cost? 1,400 lives lost EVERY YEAR. #ProtectCPP”
- **Rep. Mike Doyle (D-PA)** [Tweet](#): “Rolling back the Clean Power Plan undermines our nationwide effort to reduce air pollution & protect public health while creating jobs & growing the economy. @POTUS wants to allow more greenhouse gases & deadly chemicals into the air, leading to 3600 more premature deaths a year. I will continue to advocate for clean air protections and investment in job-creating clean energy research and technology — and I will oppose efforts to undermine public health and job creation.”
- **Rep. Eliot Engel (D-NY)** [Tweet](#): “#Trump’s proposal to rollback the #cleanpowerplan is not at all surprising. Once again, the #GOP shows that it puts #pollution over people. Their latest proposal hinders progress, is hazardous to our families, and in some cases threatens life itself.”
- **Rep. Lois Frankel (D-FL)** [Tweet](#): “The Trump Admin is taking us backwards again, putting the air our children breathe & the water they drink in danger. We need to protect our families from harmful pollution, not sell out public health & safety for toxic special interests. #DirtyPowerScam”
- **Rep. Alcee Hastings (D-FL)** [Tweet](#): “The Trump Administration's dangerous proposal to gut the #CleanPowerPlan will lead to more asthma and more deaths. This is yet another example of the Administration putting special interests ahead of Americans. Climate change is real and calls for action now. #DirtyPowerPlan”
- **Rep. Eddie B. Johnson (D-TX)** [statement](#): “Once again President Trump has decided to ignore science and put the health of the American people and our environment at risk. It is appalling that President Trump’s EPA was just touting the fact that harmful air pollutants have dropped by 73 percent since the Clean Air Act was enacted at the very same time they were working to roll back the clock on that very achievement. Instead of promoting innovation and the creation of new jobs in the clean energy industry, this Administration insists we continue to creep further back into the dark ages.”
- **Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA)** [Tweet](#): “Gutting the Clean Power Plan is not just bad for the environment, it's bad for our economy. It will cost us up to 560k US jobs by 2030. Rather than doubling down on the dated, dirty ways of the past, let's lock in long-term jobs by investing in our clean-energy future.”
- **Rep. Jim Langevin (D-RI)** [Tweet](#): “‘The Trump E.P.A. predicts its plan will see between 470 and 1,400 premature deaths annually by 2030...’ Trump’s rollback of the Clean Power Plan isn’t just a threat to the environment, it is a very serious threat to public health and safety.”
- **Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA)** [Tweet](#): “The Trump Administration's proposed rollback of the Clean Power Plan will kill people. That’s not hyperbole – EPA experts predict in their OWN proposal that this plan could cause 1,400 premature deaths every year.”
- **Rep. Ted Lieu (D-CA)** [Tweet](#): “Coal is not coming back for the same reason 35mm film is not coming back. Cheaper, cleaner, better alternatives were discovered. @realDonaldTrump

scrapping the Clean Power Plan will not save the coal industry. It will just make our air and water dirtier.”

- **Rep. Doris Matsui (D-CA)** [Tweet](#): “The Administration’s irresponsible effort to reverse President Obama’s Clean Power Plan puts public health in danger and fails to protect our children and grandchildren from harmful pollution.”
- **Rep. Betty McCollum (DFL-MN)** [Tweet](#): “.@realDonaldTrump has announced he will reverse the Clean Power Plan, ensuring more pollution, more greenhouse gases, and less clean air. This decision is an affront to our environment and our public health. The American people deserve better.”
- **Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI)** [Tweet](#): “.@EPA’s #DirtyPowerScam could cause 1,400 deaths every year. Once again the president has put corporate profits ahead of our kids' safety & our planet's future. This nonsense must be stopped. We must put #PeopleOverPolluters & protect the Clean Power Plan.”
- **Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ)** [statement](#): “As expected, the Trump Administration has replaced the Clean Power Plan with a Coal Protection Plan that fails to safeguard our families and communities from harmful carbon pollution. Once again, this Administration is choosing polluters’ profits over public health and safety. ... The Trump Dirty Power Scam will not lower electric bills, create jobs, or revive the coal industry, but will instead stifle innovation in clean energy, harm human health, and push the planet toward further dangerous warming. This is a dangerous proposal, and I will do everything I can to fight it.”
- **Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)** [statement](#): “The Trump Administration’s disdain for the clean air our children breathe and the clean water they drink knows no bounds. This rule is a brazen special interest handout that poisons families’ health today, and threatens their security and well-being for decades to come by accelerating the climate crisis.”
- **Rep. Ed Perlmutter (D-CO)** [Tweet](#): “In 2004, Colorado became the first state in the country to pass a renewable portfolio standard. Since then we have made great strides to reduce our carbon footprint. We cannot let the Trump's #DirtyPowerPlan undo our progress and take us backward.”
- **Rep. Scott Peters (D-CA)** [statement](#): “Once again, the president has tossed aside a carefully crafted plan to keep our air clean and protect the environment and the public from the effects of climate change. It is another step backward for energy innovation, public health, and our decades of progress combatting climate change.”
- **Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME)** [Tweet](#): “From wildfires raging across the West to spread of tick-borne Lyme disease in Maine, it’s clear that we ignore climate change at our peril. Yet that is exactly what Trump Administration is doing by rolling back Clean Power Plan.”
- **Rep. David Price (D-NC)** [Tweet](#): “Repealing the Clean Power Plan is another example of the Trump admin putting the profits of polluters above the health & safety of the American people.”
- **Rep. Mike Quigley (D-IL)** [Tweet](#): “Action to combat #climatechange can be a major boost to our economy. Instead @realDonaldTrump + @EPAAWheeler are endangering our #cleanair, jeopardizing public safety, and costing our economy billions by repealing the #CleanPowerPlan and replacing it with their #DirtyPowerScam”

- **Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL)** [Tweet](#): “Admin plan that encourages instead of helps retire coal power plants will release more #CO2 into our atmosphere. This only contributes to #ClimateChange and worsens #SeaLevelRise. We should have forward, not backward looking energy policy”
- **Rep. Bobby Rush (D-IL)** [statement](#): “It should come as no surprise that the Trump Administration, which has been riddled with an unprecedented culture of corruption, cronyism, and self-enrichment has decided to put the profits of polluters over the health and safety of Americans. Trump’s toxic team is clearly beholden to their special interest friends’ dirty energy agenda, which threatens the health of our nation.”
- **Rep. Tim Ryan (D-OH)** [Tweet](#): “The Clean Power Plan was an important step for our nation to combat climate change. Today’s decision continues a long line of misguided actions by this President that are toxic to our planet and to the American people.”
- **Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA)** [Tweet](#): “Once again, the Trump Administration has chosen the profits of polluters over public health and safety. Their proposal to gut the Clean Power Plan represents another step backward in the fight against climate change. We will resist this all-out assault on the environment.”
- **Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-NY)** [Tweet](#): “I oppose the Trump Administration's regulatory roll back of the Clean Power Plan that was announced today. As the proud home of the Adirondacks, the North Country knows the importance of protecting our environment for future generations.”
- **Rep. Dina Titus (D-NV)** [Tweet](#): “The Trump dirty power plan will lead to more pollution, more asthma, and more premature deaths. Nevada is not going back to coal. Clean energy is our future.”
- **Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY)** [quote](#) (*The Daily Gazette*): “This proposal not only ignores the clear and growing threat of climate change, it exposes countless New York families and communities to real dangers from air pollution. In New York, we rely on science and evidence to set standards; yet we have suffered the consequences of cross-state air pollution for decades.”
- **Rep. Norma Torres (D-CA)** [Tweet](#): “The #DirtyPowerScam is the Trump Administration’s latest threat against the health & security of our children & climate in exchange for kickbacks to special interests. We can’t stop fighting for the clean air, clean water, & clean energy future generations of Americans depend on.”
- **Rep. Nydia Velazquez (D-NY)** [statement](#): “The Trump Administration’s ‘polluters-first’ proposal to gut the Clean Power Plan is just as reckless as expected.”
- **House of Representatives Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition** [statement](#) (including **Co-Chairs Reps. Paul Tonko, Gerry Connolly, and Doris Matsui** and **Vice-Chairs Reps. Matt Cartwright, Alan Lowenthal, Mike Quigley, Chellie Pingree and Jared Polis**): “While Americans across the country battle devastating wildfires, floods, and heatwaves, the Trump Administration is releasing a power plan that does almost nothing to protect them from the climate-warming impacts of carbon pollution. President Trump and his Administration continue to put the heavy cost of climate change on homeowners, local businesses, and taxpayers. Not only is this plan expected to produce little to no climate benefits, it’s also

projected to increase premature deaths and health problems because of increased exposure to dangerous air pollutants.”

\* \* \*

### **Business Organizations**

- **Malcolm Woolf, SVP for Policy, Advanced Energy Economy [statement](#)**: “When it comes to our nation's electricity, the Trump Administration seems to favor options that cost more and provide less. Though legally obligated to control pollution from the nation’s power sector, EPA proposes to set emissions standards based only on costly upgrades at aging, inefficient power plants. This command and control approach unfairly favors obsolete technologies and ignores the proven cost-effective emissions reductions that can be achieved by readily available advanced energy technologies.”
- **Abby Hopper, President & CEO, Solar Energy Industries Association [statement](#)**: “We disagree with the Trump administration’s regressive approach to regulating climate change by directing the states to address this global problem. We believe that by deploying solar and other renewable technologies, there are ways to reduce pollution of all sorts and provide electricity to Americans at a lower cost. New solar energy will create tens of thousands of jobs and inject billions of dollars of investment into the economy.”

\* \* \*

### **Energy, Environmental, and Legal Experts**

- **Jason Bordoff, Director, Columbia University Center on Global Energy Policy [quote](#) (*E&ENews*)**: “The world has shifted dramatically in the last few years to the point where we are going to get pretty close to the targets in the Clean Power Plan even without it, so the effect of weakening it is much smaller. But that does not mean it does not matter. The Clean Power Plan was a starting point. It was a framework within which we could continue to bring down power-sector emissions over time, as required to meet our climate targets. That remains a major loss with this rollback even if market conditions will continue to force coal's decline in the medium term.”
- **Michael Gerrard, Columbia Law School**:
  - **[Quote](#) (*Charleston Gazette-Mail*)**: “All it does is to delay the closure or conversion of some existing coal plants. If they had to comply with the Clean Power Plan as released by the Obama administration, many utilities would be required to go to more use of natural gas and renewables, so this will delay that impact.”
  - **[Quote](#) (*The New Yorker*)**: “But in terms of addressing climate change, [the Clean Power Plan replacement proposal] does nothing, and could—according to its own analysis—

even lead to an increase in annual carbon emissions. ‘It’s like shooting an elephant with a water pistol,’ Gerrard said.”

- **Joseph Goffman, Harvard Environmental & Energy Law Program [quote](#)** (*Los Angeles Times*): “Joseph Goffman, an environmental law scholar at Harvard University who helped write the Clean Power Plan while an attorney at the EPA, called the Trump administration’s replacement plan ‘an anti-climate, pro-coal policy that is part of the mosaic of policies the administration is pushing to promote fossil fuels.’”
- **James Van Nostrand, West Virginia University College of Law [quote](#)** (*Charleston Gazette-Mail*): “Killing the Clean Power Plan will not bring coal back, because the Clean Power Plan did not kill coal. It’s still economics.”
- **Richard Revesz, Professor of Law at NYU School of Law:**
  - **[Statement](#)**: “In regulating greenhouse gas pollution, the EPA is legally required to use the ‘best system of emission reduction,’ not a mediocre or downright counterproductive system of emission reduction. This proposal is an enormous step backwards, and it will have severe repercussions for public health and the climate.”
  - **[Quote](#)** (*InsideEPA*): “If ACE is finalized, EPA will ‘face enormous legal hurdles because it will have to explain why it is exercising its discretion to pick a legal interpretation that causes so much harm.’ He and other Clean Air Act experts said that the proposal to restrict mandated GHG cuts to what can be achieved by efficiency improvements at individual coal plants ‘is downright counterproductive, leading to an increase in GHGs. It will also lead to a significant increase in pollutants that affect public health’ and bring ‘increased premature deaths and asthma attacks.’ ... ‘Typically, agencies don’t acknowledge enormous harm from’ their own proposed rulemaking, according to Revesz. But here EPA makes it ‘clear in the RIA, it’s clear in the Federal Register [notice] and I think that finding deserves a great deal of attention.’”
- **Sue Tierney, Senior Advisor, Analysis Group [quote](#)** (*InsideEPA*): “Given the financial challenges of some of the older coal-fired power plants ... it is entirely possible this gesture to give them regulatory relief for installing efficiency improvements won’t even be attractive because it is very difficult to justify in the real world those business decisions to add new investments on their power plants.”
- **Bob Ward, Policy & Communications Director, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment at London School of Economics [statement](#)**: “This proposal by the Environmental Protection Agency for a new Affordable Clean Energy rule is wholly inadequate and confirms suspicions outside the United States that President Trump has a policy of inaction on climate change, which increases serious risks to the lives and livelihoods not just of Americans but of people all around the world.”
- **Jason West, Professor of Environmental Sciences and Engineering, University of North Carolina [quote](#)** (*AP*): “ ‘It shows that removing the Clean Power Plan would be detrimental to health,’ said... West, who went through the agency’s regulatory analysis with The Associated

Press. ‘The cost to society in increases of death and other outcomes from air pollution are greater than the cost to industry from removing the Clean Power Plan.’”

\* \* \*

### Former Public Officials

- **Mustafa Ali, former EPA Senior Associate Administrator** [statement](#): “To no surprise, Trump and his corporate puppets running our government are again putting profits over people. Their new ‘Affordable Clean Energy Plan’ is neither affordable nor clean, and nothing more than a dirty and dangerous scam.”
- **Michael Bloomberg, UN Special Envoy for Climate Action** [statement](#): “The pollution limits the EPA is wrongly trying to roll back have never gone into effect. Yet emissions continue to shrink because Americans are demanding cleaner air and cheaper, cleaner energy — and cities, states and businesses are delivering. Wind, solar and other clean energy sources are beating coal in the marketplace, which is benefiting both public health and the economy. That will continue to happen even if the EPA keeps spitting in the wind. Washington ought to lead, follow, or get out of the way.”
- **Al Gore, former Vice President** [Tweet](#): “Today @EPA proposed a policy that would slow our ongoing transition to a healthier, carbon-free future. This is a failure of leadership & vision. Those of us in cities, states, businesses, and NGOs will not be deterred, and will continue to build a stronger, clean energy economy.”
- **David Hayes, former Interior Deputy Secretary** [statement](#): “By only requiring marginal efficiency improvements at individual coal plants, the proposed replacement plan is a regulatory fig leaf. Instead of reducing carbon pollution from coal plants as required by the Clean Air Act, the proposal provides coal plants with a virtually free pass to continue polluting with impunity. State attorneys general, who have been at the forefront of fighting for clean air, and against carbon pollution, will challenge this proposal in the rulemaking process and, if it survives, in the courts.”
- **Gina McCarthy, former EPA Administrator**:
  - [Quote](#) (*Indianapolis Business Journal*): “They are continuing to play to their base and following industry’s lead. ... This is all about coal at all costs.”
  - [Quote](#) (*Washington Post*): “There is no other country in the world that is looking at coal as its future — they are all running to clean energy to save money, create jobs and save lives today and protect our children’s future. Climate change is real.”

\* \* \*

### Public Health Organizations

- **Allergy & Asthma Network [statement](#)**: “The federal government needs to protect public health and the environment. Poor air quality can make it difficult to breathe and cause great harm to those who already live with chronic respiratory conditions. Reducing carbon pollution and other greenhouse gases is necessary in our country as ozone and particulate matter can trigger potentially life-threatening asthma flares. This proposed EPA rule threatens the health of millions of Americans with chronic respiratory conditions by significantly increasing the risk of more hazardous air pollutants.”
- **Harold P. Wimmer, National President & CEO, American Lung Association [statement](#)**: “With today's proposal, President Trump and Acting EPA Administrator Wheeler abandon much-needed public health safeguards against power plant pollution, placing the health of all Americans at risk, and especially those who are most vulnerable, including children, older adults, and people with asthma and heart disease. Today's proposal is a dangerous substitute for the Clean Power Plan and a careless giveaway to polluters that will delay meaningful progress in the future. The United States must aggressively limit power plant carbon pollution to protect human health from the impacts of climate change, including degraded air quality and more extreme weather threats, such as hurricanes, wildfires and floods.”
- **Mona Sarfaty, Director, Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health [quote](#)** (*Washington Post*): “The cost of failing to act is enormous — from increases in lung disease and heavy metal poisoning to the many health harms from climate change that doctors are already seeing among their patients.”
- **Jeff Carter, Executive Director, Physicians for Social Responsibility [statement](#)**: “Eliminating the Clean Power Plan would reverse America’s only federal limits on carbon pollution from power plants, increasing this major source of the pollution that worsens climate change. The Trump administration is clearly putting the interests of corporate polluters before human health, recklessly exposing millions of Americans to more pollution, especially communities of color and vulnerable communities who are disproportionately impacted by this pollution.”

\* \* \*

## Faith Organizations

- **Columban Center for Advocacy & Outreach [Tweet](#)**: “This administration's replacement to the Clean Power Plan 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.”
- **Jason Miller, Director of Campaigns and Development, Franciscan Action Network [quote](#)** (*Sojourners*): “Scott Pruitt and his scandals may be gone but it is clear that Andrew Wheeler is still going to continue to carry out Donald Trump's deadly policies. People of faith and goodwill should speak out and follow the example of Pope Francis in *Laudato Si* who encourages all of us to ‘hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.’”
- **Friends Committee on National Legislation [press release](#)**:

- **Diane Randall, Executive Secretary:** “We are profoundly disappointed with the Affordable Clean Energy rule. By weakening the rule, the Trump Administration is threatening public health, risking lives, and exacerbating climate change.”
- **Emily Wirzba, Legislative Representative for Sustainable Energy & Environment:** “As people of faith, we have a moral calling to be faithful stewards of God’s creation and care for vulnerable peoples, but this new plan will do the exact opposite. The recent wildfires, hurricanes, and floods that are devastating communities around the country paint a clear picture: the impacts of climate change are already happening and causing irreparable harm.”
- **Rev. Dr. Leah D. Schade [quote](#) (*Sojourners*):** “Trump’s EPA has issued a death sentence for thousands of Americans with the deceitfully named ‘Affordable Clean Energy’ rule. This is gaslighting at its finest. The Trump administration is once again manipulating the public with subterfuge, claiming that their new rules rolling back regulations on the coal industry will benefit America. Nothing could be further from the truth. This plan is only ‘affordable’ for the fossil fuel industry, while the rest of us will bear the costs of 15,000 new cases of upper respiratory problems, a rise in bronchitis, asthma, and heart disease. Not to mention tens of thousands of missed school days for America’s vulnerable children.”

\* \* \*

### Citizen & Consumer Organizations

- **David Arkush, Climate Program Managing Director, Public Citizen [statement](#):** “Under President Donald Trump’s new plan, state governments that are captive to coal barons will be able to force consumers to subsidize dirty, dangerous coal extraction that can’t compete on the marketplace with natural gas and renewables. Like so many of Trump’s policies, it harms the many to benefit the few. This latest scam aims to transfer billions from the poor and middle class to a few Trump cronies and invite unspeakable harm to the U.S. by accelerating, rather than mitigating, climate change.”
- **Every Voice [Tweet](#):** “Our democracy should work for EVERYONE, not just wealthy special interests #DirtyPowerScam #FixDemocracyNow”
- **Mark Magaña, President & CEO, GreenLatinos [statement](#):** “The Trump Administration continues to put the health of the Latino community and all Americans at risk by gutting the Clean Power Plan, the first and only federal limit on carbon pollution from power plants – a major source of the pollution that exacerbates climate change – which protects public health, promotes climate change solutions.”
- **Indivisible [Tweet](#):** “.@realDonaldTrump’s Clean Power Plan is a #DirtyPowerScam - it would give a free pass to corporate polluters. #ProtectCPP”
- **Tom Steyer, Founder, NextGen America [statement](#):** “The EPA was created to safeguard the health of the American people and reign in corporate excess to protect both public health and the environment. Under Trump, it has been repurposed to do the opposite: push the interests of the

most powerful corporate polluters at the expense of the health of the American people and meaningful action on climate.”

- **Rob Altenburg, Energy Center Director, PennFuture [statement](#):** “We need to do more to combat climate change, not less, but the Trump administration is attempting to scrap emissions standards for the biggest carbon polluters. Not only will this plan be worse for the air we all breathe, it will actually cost our citizens more than the existing Clean Power Plan. It’s a bad deal for all of us.”
- **Josh Freed, VP Clean Energy Program, Third Way [statement](#):** “The “Affordable” Clean Energy Plan is just another poorly conceived bailout for coal. The American public wants a modern and future-oriented energy policy that provides cleaner air, affordable electricity, and technologies that create jobs and spur growth. This does none of that. Instead, it’s another ill-fated effort to preserve today’s aging, dirty coal plants in amber by eliminating any incentives or emissions standards for states to meet.”

\* \* \*

## Environmental Organizations

- **May Boeve, Executive Director, 350.org [statement](#):** “Trump’s attack on the Clean Power Plan isn’t just a reversal of policy, it’s an all-out assault on our climate and communities. This new plan gives more power to fossil fuel polluters while leaving people to deal with the consequences of a worsening climate crisis.”
- **Sarah Greenberger, SVP, National Audubon Society [statement](#):** “The President’s plan is an unnecessary step backward. It wastes time that birds and people and the environment we share just don’t have. Every day we see more clearly that climate change is here, threatening our communities’ health and safety as well as driving beloved birds from their historic homes.”
- **Bob Perciasepe, President, Center for Climate and Energy Solutions (C2ES) [statement](#):** “The Administration’s proposal aims to counter prevailing market forces with the sole aim of extending the lives of America’s most-polluting power plants. The proposal, out for public comment, is out of step with where the industry is going and with what its consumers and markets are demanding. When you consider this reality along with the recent proposed freeze on vehicle standards, we find a federal government simply out of step with the reality on the ground and a missed opportunity to help rather than hinder.”
- **Conrad Schneider, Advocacy Director, Clean Air Task Force [statement](#):** “With today’s Dirty Power Plan proposal, the Trump EPA once again proves that it cares more about extending the lives of old coal plants rather than saving the lives of the American people.”
- **Ken Berlin, President & CEO, The Climate Reality Project [statement](#):** “At a time when relentless heatwaves and raging wildfires fill the headlines and make the stakes of the climate crisis crystal clear, the Trump Administration continues to defy logic and even basic common sense. Instead of actually confronting the crisis, the administration is attacking forward-thinking

environmental protections like the Clean Power Plan that can help solve it—all to line the pockets of the failing fossil fuel industry.”

- **Defend Our Future [statement](#):** “Communities of color and low-income communities that too often bear the brunt of climate change and pollution have the most to lose under this reckless rollback. And it also will be young people and future generations who will pay the price for this administration’s ongoing assault on our health and the environment. ... By putting forward this ‘Dirty Power Plan,’ Acting Administrator Wheeler is once again putting polluters – including some of the very ones he represented as a former coal lobbyist – before the health and safety of the American people.”
- **Bob Keefe, Executive Director, E2 [statement](#):** “Rolling back the Clean Power Plan is the wrong move—potentially costing 560,000 jobs and \$52 billion in GDP—but this proposal solidifies that the administration has no interest in producing a meaningful energy vision that benefits American business and workers and helps America compete in a 21st century economy. Clean energy jobs now vastly outnumber fossil fuel jobs, but this administration once again wants to put its thumb on the market scale to prop up these industries and slow the growth of American jobs.”
- **Trip Van Noppen, President, Earthjustice [statement](#):** “This misguided proposal would wreak havoc on communities in two ways. First, fossil fuel interests won’t have to make the big cuts in climate-altering carbon pollution that the Obama-era Plan would require, exacerbating the destructive impacts of climate change. Second, polluters can avoid making the large, life-saving reductions in smog and soot pollution that the Plan would have achieved. Instead of gutting the Clean Power Plan, EPA should strengthen it to protect communities across the nation from the increasingly urgent impacts of climate change and polluted air.”
- **Fred Krupp, President, Environmental Defense Fund [statement](#):** “As America suffers through a summer of record-breaking wildfires and heat waves, Acting Administrator Wheeler responds with this do-nothing plan leaving American families unprotected from dangerous climate pollution,” said Environmental Defense Fund president Fred Krupp. “This proposal would eliminate almost all the life-saving climate and health benefits that the Clean Power Plan provides. The Trump-Wheeler plan will mean millions of tons more air pollution endangering our kids’ health, lives and future.”
- **Dominique Browning, Senior Director, Moms Clean Air Force [statement](#):** “At a time when the impacts of climate change on our families and communities have never been more obvious, the Trump Administration is turning its back on reality – and in the process, showing reckless disregard for our children’s health and future. ... This is a cynical plan. This is all about protecting coal barons—including Trump’s rich pals. This scheme would expose millions of Americans to more pollution.”
- **Stephanie Kodish, Senior Director & Counsel of the Clean Air Program, National Parks Conservation Association [statement](#):** “Without strong EPA regulations to curb power plant pollution, our national parks and the millions of people that visit and live nearby will suffer. National parks like Glacier, Joshua Tree and Sequoia risk losing their namesake features, while

other forested parks like the Great Smokies and Yosemite will continue combating record wildfires in both intensity and scope.”

- **Rhea Suh, President, NRDC** [statement](#): “The world’s on fire and the Trump administration wants to make it worse,” says NRDC president Rhea Suh. “This Dirty Power Plan is riddled with gimmicks and giveaways. It would mean more climate-changing pollution from power plants. That’s a recipe for climate disaster.”
- **Michael Brune, Executive Director, Sierra Club** [statement](#): “The Wheeler-Pruitt Dirty Power Plan is one of the Trump Administration’s most egregious attacks on clean air, public health, and our fragile climate. The proposed rollback of life-saving clean air safeguards is an anemic rule that subjects the EPA to the very coal industry executives who used to sign Wheeler’s paychecks and want to pollute with impunity. That is why the Sierra Club and communities across the country are committed to fighting this rollback and continuing our work retiring coal plants, championing clean energy, and protecting the health of our families. America will continue moving away from dirty, polluting fossil fuels and confront the climate crisis head on, with or without the Trump Administration.”
- **Ken Kimmell, President, Union of Concerned Scientists** [statement](#): “The administration is clearly intent on swinging its wrecking ball at two of the most important national policies that address climate change. Coming on the heels of the proposed rollback of EPA’s clean car standards, this shows the administration plans to sit on its hands while communities reel from heatwaves, drought, wildfires and flooding, all of which are worsened by climate change. This will do little to bring back coal-fired power, which is increasingly uneconomic compared to wind, solar and natural gas. If the administration is sincere about wanting to help coal miners, they should help coal communities diversify their local economies and provide transition assistance and worker retraining.”
- **Dan Lashof, U.S. Director, World Resources Institute** [statement](#): “We’ve seen a surge in climate action across the U.S., with states, cities, and companies ramping up their commitments to clean energy, and markets delivering new jobs and innovation. Yet, the Trump administration is now trying to put its thumb on the scales to prop up older, dirtier energy sources. This is backward thinking that will lead to more pollution, more health problems, higher bills, and less security.”
- **Carter Roberts, President & CEO, World Wildlife Fund** [statement](#): “This proposed rule would set back federal efforts to limit harmful emissions from America’s dirtiest power plants. But it will not stop American cities, states, and companies from charting their own course with science, rather than politics, as their guide. ... These engines of the American economy aren’t waiting for Washington.”