Public Testimony of Mandy Warner, Environmental Defense Fund, on EPA "Evaluation of Existing Regulations," Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OA-2017-0190

EPA Office of Air and Radiation Public Teleconference

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My name is Mandy Warner and I am with Environmental Defense Fund. Today, however, I am speaking on behalf of myself and my family. I have two daughters, ages 4 years, and 11 months. I am gravely concerned with actions EPA may take that would result in more pollution that can harm my children and millions of other children across the country. I asked my four-year-old the other night why she thought clean air was important and she said very simply, "So you can breathe." She's right. And that's what this stakeholder meeting should be all about – ensuring clean air so kids can breathe.

We know from four and a half decades of environmental protection that the narrative of "burdensome regulations" is simply false. It is a narrative repeatedly disproven by industry's own actions to comply on time and more cheaply with standards, reducing pollution for millions of Americans in the process.

There is an endless pool of worry parents have to contend with already. We worry about how much fish is safe for our children to eat every week due to mercury pollution, what days we need to be careful about letting our children play outside due to smoggy air, and what serious challenges our children will face from runaway climate change. And we rely upon EPA to set commonsense safeguards to protect us from things we cannot protect our children from alone. Please don't add to our worries by rolling back critical, lifesaving protections that can help ensure a healthier future for my children and children across America.