

Lisa Jackson
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson,

As local elected officials representing big cities and small towns, we want to express our strong support for the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) recently issued Mercury and Air Toxics Standards for Power Plants (MATS). Mayors are on the front lines of protecting public health and this long overdue safeguard will reap tremendous benefits for our communities.

Mercury pollution, much of it coming from coal-fired power plants, represents a particularly widespread threat to families nationwide. According to your agency's own analysis, as of 2010, all 50 states have fish consumption advisories in place to warn residents of the potential health effects of eating fish caught from local waters. Of these advisories, 81% were issued in part because of mercury pollution accumulated within the aquatic food chain.

A dangerous neurotoxin, mercury poses a particular threat to pregnant women and small children. Exposure affects a developing child's ability to walk, talk, read, write and learn. The Center for Disease Control, along with your agency, estimate that as many as 1 in 6 women of childbearing age have high enough mercury levels in their blood to harm a developing fetus. Additionally, these rules will reduce exposure to a host of other health-threatening toxics, including arsenic, cyanide, chromium and acid gases.

EPA's own regulatory impact review of the rules predicts it will save citizens as much as \$90 billion annually when fully implemented through lower health care costs. Each year, this translates into as many as 11,000 lives saved, 4,700 heart attacks and 130,000 asthma attacks prevented, and 5,700 hospital visits avoided.

Clean, healthy air and water are fundamental American rights and we are eager to work with your agency to ensure these historic protections are quickly implemented.

Respectfully,

Albany, NY - Gerald Jennings
Alexandria, VA - Bill Euille
Ann Arbor, MI - John Hieftje
Atlanta, GA - Kasim Reed
Austin, MN - Thomas Stiehm
Austin, TX - Lee Leffingwell
Berea, KY - Steven Connelly
Bethlehem Township, NJ - John Graefe
Beverly, MA - Bill Scanlon
Biscayne Park, FL - Noah Jacobs
Bloomington, IN - Mark Kruzan
Boston, MA - Thomas Menino
Burlington, VT - Bob Kiss
Charlottesville, VA - Satyendra Huja
Chicago, IL - Rahm Emanuel
Cincinnati, OH - Mark Mallory
Cohoes, NY - John T. McDonald, III
College Park, MD - Andrew Fellows
Columbus, OH - Michael B. Coleman
Cutler Bay, FL - Ed MacDougall
Dearborn Heights, MI - Daniel S. Paletko
Decatur, GA - Bill Floyd
Denver, CO - Michael B. Hancock
Duluth, MN - Don Ness
Durham, NC - William V. "Bill" Bell
Eden Prairie, MN - Nancy Tyra-Lukens
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Fayetteville, AR - Lioneld Jordan
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Hallandale Beach, FL - Joy Cooper
Hampton, VA - Molly Ward
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Henderson, NV - Andy Hafen,
Houston, TX - Annise Parker
Jackson, MS - Harvey Johnson, Jr.
Jordan, MN - Pete Ewals
La Mesa, CA - Art Madrid
Lambertville, NJ - David DelVecchio,
Las Vegas, NV - Carolyn Goodman
Long Beach, NY - Jack Schnirman
Los Angeles, CA - Antonio Villaraigosa
Macon, GA - Robert Reichert
Madison, WI - Paul Soglin
Manhattan Beach, CA - Richard P. Montgomery
Maplewood, MN - Will Rossbach

Maui County, HI - Alan M. Arakawa
Mayfield Village, OH - Bruce G. Rinker
Memphis, TN - A C Wharton, Jr.
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Missoula, MT - John Engen
Montgomery, AL - Todd Strange
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Oak Park Heights, MN - David Beaudet
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Philadelphia, PA - Michael Nutter
Phoenix, AZ - Greg Stanton
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Savannah, GA - Edna Jackson
Seattle, WA - Michael McGinn
Shepherdstown, WV - Arthur III Auxer
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Tribe of the Lake
Traverse Reservation, SD - Robert Shepherd
South Miami, FL - Philip K Stoddard, PhD
Takoma Park, MD - Bruce R. Williams
Urbana, IL - Laurel Prussing
Warren, MI - James Fouts
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Westland, MI - William R. Wild
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Wilmore, KY - Harold Rainwater
Yonkers, NY - Mike Spano
Ypsilanti, MI - Paul Schreiber