

8/6/2025

Dear Administrator Zeldin,

We, the undersigned organizations, are devoted to ensuring clean air and a healthy environment for communities across the country and expect the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to share this commitment and fulfill its responsibilities under law. We are outraged by the proposal to weaken the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS) for power plants. This proposal would increase toxic pollution, poisoning our air and exacerbating environmental injustice, while letting the worst polluters off the hook.

Coal-fired power plants spew mercury into the air along with other toxic pollutants, polluting the air we breathe, our water, and even our food. [Mercury pollution harms babies](#) and fetuses by causing permanent brain damage with long term harms such as development delays, learning disabilities, and birth defects. In addition to limiting mercury pollution, MATS addresses [air toxics linked to cancer](#) and other serious health harms. Weakening the MATS would strip away [\\$300 million in health benefits](#) over the course of a decade.

Due to environmental racism, communities of color are [more likely](#) to live near coal-fired power plants and be exposed to mercury and air toxics pollution, and communities relying on fish as a dietary staple, including many Indigenous communities, are also [overburdened](#) by mercury pollution. Consequently, weakening the MATS would perpetuate dangers to these people and their communities.

The Environmental Protection Agency, which you lead, is charged with protecting our environment and our health. Yet, under your stewardship, the EPA is rescinding strong air pollution standards like the MATS standard, putting people and communities at risk. Additionally, this Administration has provided waivers to dozens of power plants to let them avoid compliance with existing standards as part of a broader effort to allow industrial sources of hazardous air pollution to seek exemptions from clean air protections. This "free pass to pollute" program lets polluters release more toxic pollution and avoid accountability, harming communities nationwide who suffer from increased cancer risks and other health hazards associated with air toxics.

Your attack on MATS also goes against the wishes of the American people: according to American Lung Association research, [82% of voters](#) across party lines support setting stricter limits on mercury and other toxic air pollution from power plants and over [90,000 public comments](#) were submitted in support of the strengthened MATS.

By rolling back the MATS, the Trump administration is with one hand taking a swipe at the health of working people and families exposed to air pollution while providing handouts to big polluters with the other. We will not stand idly by as you rob communities across the country of cleaner air by weakening the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards and will work together to protect our health and our environment from these reckless and dangerous attacks.

Sincerely,

350 Bay Area Action
Accelerate Neighborhood Climate Action
AFGE Local 704
Agave Community Threads
Allegheny County Clean Air Now (ACCAN)
Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments
Anabaptist Climate Collaborative
Arizona Forward
Arizona Health Professionals for Climate Action
Arizona Interfaith Power & Light
Arizona Sustainability Alliance
Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America - Michigan Chapter
Between the Waters
BLKHLTH
Blue Future
California Communities Against Toxics
Center for Coalfield Justice
Center for Earth Energy & Democracy (CEED)
Change the Chamber
Chesapeake Climate Action Network
Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility
Church Women United in New York State
Clean Air Council
Clean Energy Action
Clean Water Action
Climate + Energy Project
Climate Action Campaign
Climate Generation
Climate Hawks Vote
Climate Power
Climate Reality Project - Northern Colorado Chapter
ClimateVoice, a Project of Tides Center
Concerned Citizens of Cook County
Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action
Detroit Green Skills Alliance
Earthjustice
Earthjustice Action
Elders Climate Action
Elders Climate Action - Massachusetts Chapter
Elders Climate Action (ECA) Arizona Chapter
Elders Climate Action (ECA) Northern California (NorCal) Chapter
Elders Climate Action (ECA) Southern California (SoCal) Chapter

Elders Climate Action Colorado Chapter
Elders Climate Action Maryland Chapter
Elders Climate Action Twin Cities
Elected Officials to Protect America
Electrify Now
Environmental Defense Fund
Environmental Integrity Project
Evergreen Action
Fourth Branch Action
FreshWater Accountability Project
Georgia Conservation Voters
Girl Plus Environment
Great Lakes Business Network
Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility
Green the Church
Greenpeace USA
Group Against Smog & Pollution
Health Care Without Harm
Hip Hop Caucus
IncludUS Fund - El Verde Es Vida
Jewish Earth Alliance- PA
Just Transition Northwest Indiana
League of Conservation Voters
Medical Students For a Sustainable Future
Michigan Clinicians for Climate Action
Michigan Interfaith Power & Light
Michigan Sustainable Business Forum
Mid-Ohio Valley Climate Action
Moms Clean Air Force
Moms Clean Air Force AZ
Moms Clean Air Force Georgia
Moms Clean Air Force Michigan
Moms Clean Air Force Pennsylvania
Montana Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate
NAACP Greater Grand Rapids
Native Voters Alliance Nevada
Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
Nevada Conservation League
Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition
Partnership for Policy Integrity
PennFuture
Physicians for Social Responsibility
Physicians for Social Responsibility Colorado
Physicians for Social Responsibility PA

Physicians for Social Responsibility, West NC
Poder Latinx
Prairie Rivers Network
Protect Franklin Park
Respiratory Health Association
San Francisco Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility
Sierra Club
Sierra Club Pennsylvania Chapter
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy
Students for Clean Energy
Sustainable Mill Valley
The People's Justice Council
Union of Concerned Scientists
Vermont Climate and Health Alliance
Virginia Chapter Elders Climate Action
WE ACT for Environmental Justice
Wildlife for All
Young, Gifted & Green