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Faith Leaders Speak Out for EPA's Clean Power Plan Show Support Through Prayer and Public Witness

Tues 7/29 8:30 am **Multifaith Blessing for EPA's Clean Power Plan**

EPA on 12th St NW between Constitution and Pennsylvania

Tues 7/29 9 am-8pm EPA Hearings on Clean Power Plan

Wed 7/30 9 am-8 pm **Twenty-six faith leaders will testify**, most on Wednesday (see following page for schedule)

Environmental Protection Agency, Clinton Building, 1201 Constitution Ave, NW

Washington DC – Faith leaders throughout the region are seeing the EPA's Clean Power Plan as the beginning of a moral and comprehensive response to climate change that puts the US on the path to sustainability. Over two dozen faith leaders from DC, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Iowa will testify at the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) DC listening session on reducing carbon emissions from existing power plants (see following page for schedule). Religious leaders are likewise speaking out at hearings this week around the country in Atlanta, Denver, and Pittsburgh.

In addition, people of faith will gather near the EPA headquarters in DC on Tuesday morning at 8:30 am to pray for the process and for those providing witness to the importance of the EPA's rulemaking. People from nine Christian denominations and the Baha'i, Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, and Unitarian Universalist traditions will gather together, urging EPA to move quickly and finalize these safeguards so as to prevent the worst impacts of climate change.

"In our religious communities, people understand that climate change is real and are heart-sick about the suffering it will cause for our neighbors close to home and around the world," said Joelle Novey, director of **Interfaith Power & Light (DC.MD.NoVA)**, one of forty state Interfaith Power & Light programs engaging religious communities in responding to climate issues. "We're offering our blessings to the EPA today for this important process that will finally put some limits on climate pollution from power plants."

"The impacts of climate change are no longer in the future," noted Tricia Bruckbauer, coordinator of **Creation Justice Ministries**, an organization of 37 national Christian denominations called to climate justice and creation care. "We must reduce our emissions to ensure climate justice for all of God's people and God's Creation."

"The United States has an opportunity to make history with this EPA rule," says Lisa Sharon Harper, who is the senior director of mobilizing for **Sojourners**, a Christian organization that articulates the Biblical call to social justice. "These safeguards can protect people in every corner of our country, rural and urban, from the devastation of climate change. This move can only be hailed by my evangelical colleagues and all people of faith as one more step toward protection of the image of God in all people on our soil."

Faith communities throughout the US have reduced their carbon emissions by weatherizing their buildings, investing in renewable energy, and choosing low carbon options that are more sustainable. They are calling on government and utilities throughout the US to do the same.

The following religious leaders are among those expected to testify on Tuesday and Wednesday at Environmental Protection Agency's William Jefferson Clinton Building on 1201 Constitution Ave NW. There will be two hearing rooms in use simultaneously.

Tuesday, July 29

9:15 AM	Rev.	Delman	Coates	Mt. Ennon Baptist Church (Clinton, MD)	Baptist
9:55 AM	Rev.	Lennox	Yearwood	Hip Hop Caucus (Washington, DC)	
4:20 PM		Jayce	Hafner	The Episcopal Church (Washington, DC)	Episcopal

Wednesday, July 30

9:45 AM		Joelle	Novey	Interfaith Power & Light (DC.MD.NoVA) (Silver Spring, MD)	Jewish
10:20 AM	Rev.	Ashley	Goff	Church of the Pilgrims, Presbyterian (Arlington, VA)	Presbyterian
10:40 AM	Rev.	M.	Dele	Virginia Interfaith Power & Light (Richmond, VA)	United Church of Christ
1:25 PM		Jose	Aguto	Friends Committee on National Legislation (Arlington, VA)	Catholic
1:30 PM		Liz	Schmitt	Sojourners (Washington, DC)	Evangelical
1:35 PM		David	Kepley	Providence Presbyterian Church (Fairfax, VA)	Presbyterian
1:40 PM		Nitin	Dogra	Bhumi Project (Loudoun, VA)	Hindu
1:45 PM	Rev.	Darriel	Harris	Baltimore Food & Faith Project (Baltimore, MD)	Episcopal
1:50 PM	Rev.	Richard	Cizik	New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good, Virginia Interfaith Power & Light (Fredericksburg, VA)	Evangelical
1:55 PM		Tricia	Bruckbauer	Creation Justice Ministries (Washington DC)	Lutheran
2:15 PM	Rev.	Bill	Rosenow	<i>retired</i> , Muhlenberg Lutheran Church (Harrisonburg, VA)	Lutheran
2:20 PM	Rev.	Mary	Minette	Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (Washington, DC)	Lutheran
2:25 PM	Rev.	Cheryl	Pyrch	Summit Presbyterian Church (Philadelphia, PA)	Presbyterian
2:35 PM		Priscilla	Martinez	All Dulles-Area Muslim Society – ADAMS (Herndon, VA)	Muslim
3:10 PM		Adrian	Vance	Baha'is of the United States (Washington, DC)	Baha'i
3:35 PM		Natalie	Pien	Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Loudoun (Loudoun, VA)	Unitarian Universalist
3:55 PM	Rev.	Barbara	Schlachter	Episcopal Diocese of Iowa (Iowa)	Episcopal
4:00 PM		Kristin	Barker	One Earth Sangha (Washington, DC)	Buddhist
6:10 PM	Rev.	Susan	Guy	Iowa Interfaith Power & Light (Iowa)	Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
6:15 PM	Rabbi	Jeffrey	Saxe	Temple Rodef Shalom (Falls Church, VA)	Jewish / Reform
7:10 PM		Jaydee	Hanson	Caretakers of God's Creation, United Methodist Church (Arlington, VA)	Methodist
7:20 PM		Sophie	Golomb	Religious Action Center for Reform Judaism (Washington, DC)	Jewish / Reform
7:45 PM		Erik	Backus	Lutherans Restoring Creation (Annandale, VA)	Lutheran