

October 10, 2017 (Washington, DC)- Creation Justice Ministries Opposes Repeal of Clean Power Plan

Today, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) officially moved forward a repeal of the Clean Power Plan (CPP). The CPP was passed by the Obama Administration in 2014. Religious communities actively pushed for its establishment and implementation. The CPP aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from power plants, one of the biggest sources of global warming emissions. This plan was among a historic commitment the U.S. made to do our part in the international Paris Climate Agreement.

Repealing the CPP will make it much more difficult for the U.S. to keep our promises in the Paris Climate agreement, as well as promises made to people living in the United States who today face the first and worst burdens of pollution.

Shantha Ready Alonso, executive director of Creation Justice Ministries, in response to announcement:

"While the Environmental Protection Agency and Trump Administration plan to repeal the Clean Power Plan, they are signaling their moral acceptance that more children get sick and die from preventable asthma, communities face danger and impoverishment due to increasingly brutal extreme weather, and the racial health gap grows as communities of color bear an unequal burden of pollution from coal, oil, and natural gas extraction as well as coal-fired power plants. As people of faith, we will not accept this state of affairs as moral or normal. We are called to protect the gifts of God's creation and stand with our most vulnerable neighbors. Faith communities are often the first ones leading relief efforts, caring for the sick, and helping families mourn lost loved ones. We are called to more than compassion for those being threatened by injustice. We are called to take individual and political action to rectify injustice: starting at home, then into our neighborhoods, our sanctuaries, our cities, and states. The force of faith-rooted love of neighbor can, and must, bring about the better future we know God dreams for all of creation."

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Creation Justice Ministries is a national organization of ecumenical denominations who have come together on agreement of environmental issues and are committed to protecting God's Creation. We work in cooperation with 38 national faith bodies, including mainline Protestants, Black churches, Peace churches, Baptist conventions, and Orthodox communions. Visit <u>creationjustice.org</u> for more information.