



CREATION JUSTICE MINISTRIES

Justice for God's planet and God's people.

For Immediate Release

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Creation Justice Ministries Disappointed in Proposed EPA Electricity Rule *New Proposed Rule Weakens Protections from Greenhouse Gas Emissions*

Creation Justice Ministries profoundly disappointed at the Trump Administration's repeated actions that undermine our values of protecting God's creation, the most vulnerable, and future generations.

On Tuesday, August 21, the Trump Administration proposed a new rule called "Affordable Clean Energy." It is intended to replace former national standards for the electricity sector with weaker ones. Rather than having federal standards for emissions reductions, which were in keeping with the United States' emissions reduction goals in the Paris Climate Agreement, the proposed rule would allow states to decide whether and by how much they will reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates this new rule would impact 600 coal-fired electric generating units at 300 facilities.

Creation Justice Ministries Executive Director Shantha Ready Alonso said of the new proposed rule, "Weakening protections against greenhouse gasses harms creation and the most vulnerable. Faith communities often deal with the fallout of our collective failure to protect our air quality and climate – whether helping families through health ministries, mobilizing for disaster relief, organizing refugee resettlement, or alleviating hunger. Rolling back protections against greenhouse gasses will make our ministry harder."

The Creation Justice community has a strong record of advocating for clean air, as well as pursuing efforts to mitigate climate change, and now is the time to continue it. The Environmental Protection Agency will have a 60-day comment period on this proposed rule. Creation Justice Ministries calls on people of faith and good conscience to submit comments expressing concern about: greenhouse gas emission standards, meaningful engagement of low-income communities and communities of color in state implementation planning, and the need for environmental justice proximity analysis.

Creation Justice Ministries represents the creation care and environmental justice policies of major Christian denominations throughout the United States. We work in cooperation with 38 national faith bodies, including mainline Protestant, Black Church, Peace Church, and Orthodox communions.