

August 11, 2025

Lee Zeldin, Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
William J. Clinton Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Comments on EPA's proposed rule to **"Proposed Repeal of Specific Amendments to the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards for Coal- and Oil-Fired Electric Generating Units"**
(Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OAR-2018-0794)

Administrator Zeldin:

Our kids are the brightest part about our future, and EPA has the ability and the responsibility to ensure healthy environments for them to grow up in. We are therefore deeply concerned by the agency's proposal to repeal strong health protections from power plant pollution. Rolling back standards that will prevent premature deaths, asthma attacks and lifelong harms from impacts of power plant pollution runs in direct contrast to EPA's mission of protecting human health and the environment. Finalizing these repeals will mean real harm to children's health.

The stronger mercury and air toxics standards that were finalized in 2024 will reduce 1,000 pounds of mercury in the year 2028 alone. Mercury is a dangerous neurotoxin that can permanently damage the brains of babies and unborn children, leading to birth defects, developmental delays, learning disabilities and neurological challenges. The standards will also cut back on other hazardous air pollutants by setting stricter limits on power plants. The rule also included a requirement that power plants continuously monitor their emissions – something that will help families and communities like ours know what's in the air we breathe.

EPA has a responsibility to protect human health and the environment. The science is clear that power plant pollution is harmful to health. Undoing these standards would leave more people at risk of disease and even premature death, particularly children. The nation cannot afford to strip away tools designed to protect them. Please withdraw the proposed repeal of these critical, health-protective standards.

Sincerely,

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