

Congress's attack on the Clean Air Act and the EPA

DIRTY AIR

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Dirty Air

20 DEAD IN SMOG; RAIN CLEARING AIR AS MANY QUIT AREA

Officials Study Cause of Plague
Apparently Borne by Heavy
Atmosphere in Donora, Pa.

ZINC PLANT CLOSING DOWN

Process Was in Use Since 1917
—Chemist Suggests Deadly
Gas Was Responsible

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

DONORA, Pa., Oct. 31—Several



<http://scottbeveridge.blogspot.com/2008/10/donora-smog-truth-was-concealed.html>

What happens with no regulation?



<http://earthfirst.com/wp-content/uploads/2008/05/china-pollution.jpg>

It's about health and justice

Our Dependence Coal is Harming Us—Especially Communities of Color

A 2000 report on power plant pollution found that *all power plants in the U.S. (both coal and other fuel sources) are responsible for 30,000 premature deaths, 7,000 asthma-related emergency room visits, and 18,000 cases of chronic bronchitis each year.*⁵ Out of all power plants in the U.S., coal power plants are responsible for 88% of SO₂ emissions and 85% of direct PM_{2.5} emissions; coal's share of these emissions totals indicates that *coal power plants alone are responsible for tens of thousands of these premature deaths each year.*

Sulfur dioxide, or SO₂, is one of the main pollutants produced by burning coal. Immediately, SO₂ causes

The top ten coal-energy-producing states referenced above have an average lung cancer rate of 98.3 per 100,000 (or 19% higher than the U.S. average); the bottom ten states have an average lung cancer rate of 77.2 per 100,000 (or 6.6% lower than the U.S. average).¹⁵

*As this report clearly shows, coal power plants tend disproportionately to be located in low-income communities and communities of color.*¹⁶

Source: NAACP "Coal-Blooded: Putting Profits Before People in Wisconsin, July 2011

Clean Air Act 101

- Mobile sources
- Stationary sources

- Air quality standards
- Performance standards

Status of Wisconsin

- ⦿ Violating current ozone air quality standard
- ⦿ Wisconsin power plants emit:
 - 2,000 lbs of Hg per year
 - 100,000 tons of SO₂ per year
 - 30,000 tons of NOx per year
 - 10,000 tons of particulate matter per year
 - 44,000,000 tons of CO₂ per year.

Source: DNR, EPA e-grid and Toxics Release Inventory (TRI)

What has the Clean Air Act done for me lately?

- CSAPR - 440 fewer premature deaths and between \$1.4 billion and \$3.5 billion in health benefits each year in Wisconsin.
- Mercury - in 2016, these standards could yield between \$1.3 and \$3.1 billion in health benefits for Wisconsin.
- Total savings: hundreds of lives plus \$2.7-6.6 billion in health benefits.

Source: The Clean Air Act in Wisconsin

www.epa.gov/cleanairactbenefits/whereyoulive/wi.html

Current deficiencies in CAA implementation

- Ozone standard – currently 13 years out of date.
- Greenhouse gas regulation
- Hazardous Air Pollutants from utilities, called “utility MACT” – draft out summer of 2011, final rule expected 2011 – 20 years after it was due.
- CSAPR – Regulating cross-state pollution of ozone, revision of 2006 rule.

Attacks against the EPA and the Clean Air Act

- Delay of Ozone air quality standard
- Delay of greenhouse gas performance standard
- “TRAIN” act – H.R. 2401 – Significantly limits EPA authority to implement the Clean Air Act.
- Possible delay of CSAPR and EGU MACT?

What will the future hold:



OR



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Clean Air Promise

Ask your legislators to make the promise:

- ⦿ *I promise to protect America's children and families from dangerous air pollution.*
- ⦿ *Because toxics and pollutants such as mercury, smog, carbon, and soot, cause thousands of hospital visits, asthma attacks, and even deaths,*
- ⦿ *I will support clean air policies and other protections that scientists and public health experts have recommended to the EPA to safeguard our air quality.*

For more information, contact your local League.

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