According to the New York Times, the Trump Administration has gotten rid of 67 environmental regulations that are important to the health and safety of Americans and are vital to caring for the earth. The Trump Administration’s recent decision to add an “applicability date” to the 2015 Clean Water Rule is another blatant example of putting the health and safety of one in three Americans at risk. This is especially egregious considering that Flint is still without clean drinking water. In his encyclical Laudato Si, Pope Francis has reminded Catholics and all people of faith and good will that clean water is a basic human right. The addition of an “applicability date” to the 2015 Clean Water Rule is an affront to basic human rights and has potentially deadly consequences for millions of Americans.

-Patrick Carolan, Franciscan Action Network