



Interfaith Power & Light

A Religious Response to Global Warming

February 23, 2018

Administrator Scott Pruitt
United States Environmental Protection Agency
EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), Mail code 28221T
Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0545
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt,

Nearly four years ago, I traveled to Washington, D.C., to give testimony to the EPA in support of the Clean Power Plan. At the time, I was working as a faith advocate for clean energy in Iowa, where there had been longstanding bipartisan support for wind energy and energy efficiency. With vision and foresight, policymakers had put in place the policies needed in order to grow these energy industries, creating thousands of jobs, lowering carbon emissions, and building healthy communities in the process.

When the Clean Power Plan was proposed, the wind industry in Iowa spoke out about the benefits to wind growth that were a part of the plan. Solar installers and energy efficiency businesses also identified opportunities to create even more good-paying jobs in both rural and urban areas. Frontline communities being impacted by air pollution also stood to benefit, as polluting coal-fired power plants were replaced by clean, renewable energy sources.

Interfaith Power & Light opposes the repeal of the Clean Power Plan, and any attempts to replace it with weaker limits on power plant carbon pollution. Power plants are the number one stationary source of carbon pollution, which is the primary driver of climate change. Families, congregations, and communities are already experiencing the devastating impacts of global warming through severe storms, drought, wildfires, heat waves, sea level rise, and other extreme weather events. We are called by our faith traditions to act on behalf of those who are most vulnerable, and who are being impacted first and hardest by all of these weather events. In order to live out our calling, we must act now to dramatically lower carbon emissions from power plants.

Thousands of clergy and communities of faith, representing Interfaith Power & Light's network of 20,000 congregations, stand with millions of Americans in support of the Clean Power Plan. For years, we have testified, written comments in support, and attended hearings. Now, we stand against any attempt to replace the Clean Power Plan with a meaningless plan that does not protect the health and safety of our neighbors and our communities.

May you have the wisdom to do your duty in protecting human health and the environment.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Susan Hendershot Guy
President
Interfaith Power & Light