

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's recently released final Mercury and Air Toxic Standards rule weakens an air pollution safeguard designed to limit mercury, arsenic, and other toxic pollution from power plants. These standards, which were implemented more than decade ago, were created to reduce health risks for pregnant women, infants, and other vulnerable populations.

This will make people sicker and increase pollution that causes brain damage in babies, cancer and other cardiovascular and lung diseases. This rule not only threatens the health of vulnerable populations but puts the health and wellbeing of all communities at risk.

As faith organizations we strive not only for environmental stewardship but to protect human health and wellbeing. Rolling back mercury pollution standards does not fulfill EPA's mission to protect human health and the environment and fails in our duty to protect God's creation.

Signed:

Adamah  
American Friends Service Committee  
National Religious Partnership for the Environment  
Franciscan Action Network  
United Church of Christ