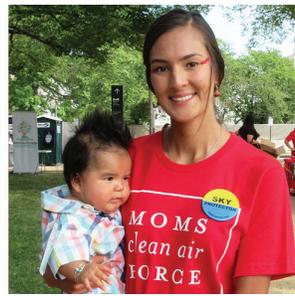


MOMS
clean air
FORCE



MEDIA ADVISORY for TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2019

Contact: Sasha Tenenbaum, (917) 887-0146, stenenbaum@momscleanairforce.org

TOMORROW: EXPERT HEATHER MCTEER TONEY TESTIFIES AT FIRST CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT HEARING ON EPA ADMINISTRATOR'S PLAN TO UNDERMINE VITAL PROTECTIONS FROM MERCURY POLLUTION

WASHINGTON, D.C. (May 20th 2019) – Tomorrow, Moms Clean Air Force's own Heather McTeer Toney joins other leading experts who will testify in opposition to Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Andrew Wheeler's controversial proposal to undermine our country's mercury pollution standards (the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards, or "MATS").

This oversight hearing comes in the wake of bipartisan letters from both chambers of Congress ([here](#) and [here](#)) requesting that EPA withdraw its proposed changes to MATS. Broad opposition led by moms, health care professionals, the electric utility industry, the faith community, and civil society has prompted this flashpoint moment of accountability.

WHAT: House Energy and Commerce Committee's Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee hearing titled "[Undermining Mercury Protections: EPA Endangers Human Health and the Environment.](#)"

WHO: [Heather McTeer Toney](#), National Field Director, Moms Clean Air Force, who as Southeast Regional Administrator for the EPA oversaw the implementation of MATS in the southeast.

WHEN: Tuesday, May 21st, at **10:00 a.m.** at **2322 Rayburn House Office Building**, located on Independence Avenue between First Street SW and South Capitol Street in Washington, DC. Please arrive early to allow for security clearance at the building's main entrance.

Note: a media "scrum" with Heather McTeer Toney will be held following the hearing for journalists with additional questions not addressed during the Q&A session. The scrum location is in the hallway outside the hearing room at the conclusion of the hearing.

You can read Heather McTeer Toney's full testimony [here](#).

BACKGROUND

In December, EPA's Acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler issued a proposal to undermine the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards. The proposal takes aim at national standards, in place since 2012, which limit mercury and acid gas pollution from coal fired power plants. Mercury is a dangerous heavy metal that can lead to brain damage. It easily crosses the placenta and is especially harmful to babies and children. The largest source of mercury pollution in the US is coal-fired power plants. Undermining mercury standards could have devastating health consequences for families across the country, especially pregnant women and communities of color living in the shadow of coal plants.

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Moms Clean Air Force is a community of over one million moms—and dads—working together to combat air pollution, including the urgent crisis of our changing climate. We work across the US on national and local policy issues, through a vibrant network of state-based field teams. Learn more at www.momscleanairforce.org.