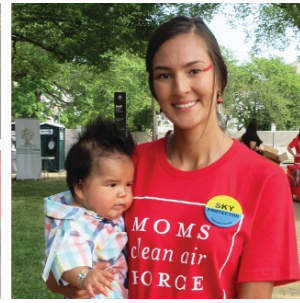


MOMS
clean air
FORCE



PRESS STATEMENT

August 29, 2019

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MOMS CLEAN AIR FORCE OPPOSES TRUMP'S PLAN TO GUT CRITICAL EPA METHANE SAFEGUARDS FOR COLORADO FAMILIES

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Andrew Wheeler today **proposed** to eliminate direct regulation of methane pollution from new and modified oil and gas facilities. This proposal would be a major step backward in the effort to address climate change and a thinly veiled attempt to shield oil and gas facilities from national standards for years to come while ignoring EPA's core mission to protect public health and the environment.

"Nationally oil and gas operations are leaking, venting, and flaring dangerous climate pollution at alarming rates. This industry needs to clean up its act. Voluntary measures are not working, and children are already being exposed to harmful air pollution. **The federal rule we are defending today was modeled after Colorado's 2014 state methane regulations that have worked with industry to protect health, reduce methane waste, and spur innovation and our economy. Unfortunately, Colorado families are still being impacted by oil and gas air pollution from surrounding states who don't have comprehensive state methane rules. Today's proposal is a direct threat to our children's health and future,**" said Christine Berg, Field Consultant in Colorado for Moms Clean Air Force.

"Climate change is a public health emergency and Coloradans are already feeling the effects. Snow is melting 15-30 days earlier than it was 25 years ago and scientists say the snowpack in the Southern Rockies will drop 50% this century. This isn't only bad news for the ski industry, but also for Coloradans who rely on snowpack for our drinking water supply.

Along with rising temperatures and droughts, Colorado has also seen an increase in devastating forest fires, habitat loss, droughts, epic floods, and rising temperatures. Extreme heat caused by climate change is dangerous for babies, children, pregnant women, older adults, and people with underlying health conditions, such as asthma," said Berg, who is a mother to daughters ages six and two and recently served a five year term as the Mayor of Lafayette. "We need urgent action to address the climate crisis. Today's proposal is a major step backward in our efforts to protect our children's health and future from runaway climate change. Moms across the country strongly oppose today's proposal from Trump's EPA, and we plan to fight for vital methane safeguards to reduce climate pollution and clean up the air for families who are living, learning, and playing near oil and gas operations as well as downwind."

Oil and gas operations across the U.S. release over **13 million metric tons of climate-warming methane a year**. This pollution accounts for **25 percent** of the global warming we are experiencing today. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas more than 80 times more powerful than carbon dioxide in the near term.

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Moms Clean Air Force is a community of over one million moms—and dads—working together to fight air pollution, including the urgent crisis of our changing climate. For more information, go to www.momscleanairforce.org or follow us on Twitter [@CleanAirMoms](https://twitter.com/CleanAirMoms), Instagram [@cleanairmoms](https://www.instagram.com/cleanairmoms), or Facebook.