

On March 16, 2011 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released its proposed Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (the “Air Toxics Rule”). The Air Toxics Rule will require over 1,100 existing and new coal-fired electricity generating plants to reduce emissions of mercury and other hazardous air pollutants.

Businesses and organizations across the country have released statements of support for the rule, including:

Organization/Speaker	Statement
<p><a href="#">Dr. Marian Burton, President of the American Academy of Pediatrics</a></p>	<p>"Dirty air makes people sick. That's the long and short of it. If you think it's expensive to put a scrubber on a smokestack you should see how much it costs to treat a preventable birth defect."</p>
<p><a href="#">Mike Durham, CEO of Littleton, Colo.-based ADA-ES Inc.</a></p> <p><i>*His company has installed mercury controls on approximately 100 coal-fired boilers in response to state regulations.</i></p> <p><a href="#">Dr. Michael Durham, cont.</a></p>	<p>"The controls needed to cut down on toxic pollution are proven, and environmental technology companies are ready to install it...I don't believe it will be a challenge," Durham said in an interview. "We've had years to prepare for this."</p> <p>"We are enthusiastic about the significant opportunities for the Company expected to result from the proposed Air Toxics Rule. We believe that the Company is well positioned to take advantage of these opportunities with a number of low capital cost approaches to emissions reduction. Our goal is to help our customers comply with the challenges of the new regulation while keeping cleaner-burning coal a viable part of the country's energy mix.</p> <p>"We are also pleased to welcome EPA Regional Administrator, Jim Martin at our Littleton, Colorado offices later this afternoon to discuss the Air Toxics Rule with the media. At that time, I will discuss ADA's state-of-the-art air pollution control technologies, the markets they address and the economic benefits of the rule."</p>
<p><a href="#">American Lung Association</a></p>	<p>"Today EPA is proposing to close a toxic loophole that has existed for 20 years by updating standards to protect Americans all across the country from hazardous air pollution. Without these standards, toxic pollution will continue filling our lungs and</p>

	<p>more people will suffer—and even die—unnecessarily.</p> <p>"While we are encouraged by this landmark proposal, the American Lung Association will fully participate in the public comment process and will look for ways to improve and strengthen the final rule.</p> <p>Speaking directly to the power companies, [Charles D. Connor, president and CEO of the American Lung Association] urged them to install the pollution controls that some plants are already using. "Don't wait. Start now to save lives tomorrow. I can assure you that no one will complain if the air gets cleaner, faster—and many will thank you."</p>
<p><a href="#"><u>American Public Health Association Executive Director Georges C. Benjamin, MD, FACP, FACEP</u></a></p>	<p>"These pollutants can worsen asthma and other respiratory diseases; cause heart attacks, cancers and stroke; and exact an enormous economic toll in terms of health-related costs and lost productivity. We applaud EPA for following the clear evidence in cleaning up these toxins from the air we breathe and safeguarding the public's health."</p>
<p><a href="#"><u>American Thoracic Society President Dean E. Schraufnagel, MD</u></a></p>	<p>"Today, the EPA proposed a badly needed updated air quality standard to protect Americans against life-threatening air pollution such as mercury and arsenic from power plants. The American Thoracic Society supports this vitally important move by the EPA.</p> <p>"Under the proposed rule, the EPA will set new air toxics emissions limits based on the pollution reductions already achieved by the cleanest and best-performing power plants and facilities, ensuring that the standards set are both achievable and realistic.</p> <p>"The proposed rule could save thousands of lives each year, and spare countless individuals from the harmful effects of some of the most toxic air pollutants known to us. Even in small amounts these extremely harmful air pollutants are linked cancer, heart disease, neurological damage, birth defects, asthma attacks and even premature death.</p> <p>"As a society of healthcare professionals who</p>

	<p>specialize in pulmonary and critical care medicine, the ATS whole-heartedly supports the proposed rule. The effects are not just theoretical; our membership encounters individuals every day whose health is compromised, or whose lives are lost, because of these toxic pollutants released into the air by the power industry. As healthcare professionals, we must do everything possible to help our patients, but as citizens and humans, we must take a broader view and advocate for stopping the problem at its source.”</p>
<p><a href="#">Calpine Corporation, Constellation Energy, Exelon Corporation, PG&amp;E Corporation, Public Service Enterprise Group, Inc., and Seattle City Light</a></p>	<p>“For over a decade, operators of coal-fired generation have known that pollution controls would be required to comply with Clean Air Act (CAA) requirements to reduce hazardous air emissions like mercury, hydrochloric acid, and arsenic. Most of the industry has been preparing for the rule by investing in modern pollution controls and cleaner, more efficient power plants.”</p>
<p><a href="#">John Podesta, Center for American Progress</a></p>	<p>“Reducing mercury and other toxic air pollutants is a prescription for healthier babies, children, and seniors. It is an antidote for premature deaths and the soaring costs from medical treatment and missed work days caused by illnesses linked to these poisons. A mandate to slash these toxic airborne pollutants will drive utilities to develop and deploy innovative clean energy technologies.</p> <p>“Many dirty utilities and big coal companies will again falsely claim that protecting people from poison in the air will harm their balance sheets. Clean air safeguards prescribed over the past 40 years left few traces of job losses or economic hardship. In fact, past air pollution protections yielded \$20 in benefits for every \$1 in cost, a return on investment that would make Warren Buffett proud.</p> <p>“President Barack Obama and EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson deserve great credit for reviving this cure for cancer-causing pollutants from dirty utilities while simultaneously boosting clean tech innovation and American competitiveness.”</p>

<p><a href="#">Ceres President Mindy Lubber</a></p>	<p>“Ceres fully supports the Environmental Protection Agency’s Mercury and Air Toxics Standard and the current schedule for implementation. As the nation’s economy struggles, the opportunity to improve public health while creating high-paying construction, installation, engineering and manufacturing jobs – while retrofitting outdated, high-polluting power plants – is a win-win we cannot ignore.</p> <p>Studies show that utility compliance with EPA’s air pollution rules is <a href="#">feasible and manageable</a> and would also stimulate significant job gains. Based on recent estimates that the power sector will invest almost \$200 billion in total capital improvements over the next five years, total employment created by these investments is estimated at <a href="#">1.46 million jobs</a>, or about 290,000 jobs on average in each of the next five years.</p> <p>This standard is critical to protecting Americans from the deleterious impacts of mercury and other hazardous air pollutants emitted from coal-fired power plants that aren’t equipped with robust emissions controls. It’s time to move forward with implementation of a standard that will not only protect American’s health, but avoid billions of dollars in health care costs and spur America’s competitiveness.”</p>
<p><a href="#">Clean Air Watch President Frank O’Donnell</a></p>	<p>“This is historic – it would end the lethal loophole that permits coal-burning power plants to spew poisonous pollution into the air.</p> <p>“Indeed, this is the single biggest step for public health protection that the EPA will take this year. Thousands of Americans will live longer and many millions will breathe easier as a result. Not only that, but fish will be safer to eat as toxic mercury is reduced from water bodies.</p> <p>“EPA would bring the dirtiest and most toxic coal power plants up to the standards of today’s cleanest plants. This would protect public health, clean up the environment – and create jobs.</p> <p>“Thanks to its lobbying prowess, the coal-burning power industry has escaped toxic pollution controls</p>

	<p>for more than two decades. Coal burning is the biggest source of mercury and other toxic emissions.</p> <p>“It is high time we closed this lethal loophole that permits coal-burning power plants to escape toxic pollution controls.</p> <p>“We have no doubt this is only round one of this battle, and that coal interests will continue to fight for loopholes and delays. We anticipate a smokestack smokescreen: scare tactics, including phony claims about possible blackouts.</p> <p>“EPA needs to stand its ground and make sure that these dirty power plants clean up ASAP.”</p>
<p><a href="#">Conservation Law Foundation</a></p>	<p>“The EPA’s proposed ‘Air Toxics Rule’ will provide critical protection from major health impacts, including cancer, brain damage and birth defects, associated with this deadly brew of as yet unregulated pollutants...”</p>
<p><a href="#">Conservation Law Foundation Director of Clean Energy and Climate Change Jonathan Peress</a></p>	<p>“Right now, coal-fired power plants are allowed to poison the air we breathe with toxic pollutants like mercury, arsenic and lead. The EPA’s proposed ‘Air Toxics Rule’ will provide critical protection from major health impacts, including cancer, brain damage and birth defects, associated with this deadly brew of as yet unregulated pollutants. When implemented, this long-overdue rule will provide immediate health benefits to everyone, but particularly the most vulnerable among us – especially children – and prevent the thousands of premature deaths attributed to these power plants annually. Moreover, the benefits will be widely shared, importantly among low-income and minority communities, which bear a disproportionate burden of the effects of air pollution because of their proximity to dirty power plants.</p> <p>“In New England, which bears the brunt of hazardous emissions blowing in from the Midwest, the proposed rule will provide welcome and long overdue protection.</p> <p>“Toxic pollutants from coal-fired power plants in</p>

	<p>the Midwest are being deposited in the forests, lakes and rivers in New England due to the prevailing winds carrying them east. Finally, the laws adopted by Congress in 1990 will be able to do their job of protecting Americans here and across the country. With everything we have to gain from enforcing standards like these, it is staggering that our leaders in Congress are fighting tooth and nail to allow these polluters to continue sickening our children.”</p>
<p><a href="#">Constellation Energy Senior Vice President and Chief Environmental Officer Paul Allen</a></p>	<p>“We recently completed the installation of a major air quality control system, including scrubbers, baghouse, and other equipment at one of our major coal facilities in Maryland. These systems work effectively and result in dramatically lower emissions of mercury, sulfur dioxide, particulate matter, and acid gases. We know from experience that constructing this technology can be done in a reasonable time frame, especially with good advance planning; and there is meaningful job creation associated with the projects.”</p>
<p><a href="#">Environmental Defense Fund President Fred Krupp</a></p>	<p>“EPA is addressing the most toxic contaminants that imperil the health of our most precious resource, America's children. Our nation's commitment to cleaner air means healthier lives, safer communities and a stronger economy.”</p>
<p><a href="#">Grist.org Blogger David Roberts</a></p>	<p>“Polluters have the tech they need to reduce toxic mercury and make Americans healthier.”</p>
<p><a href="#">Joint statement by leading energy companies</a></p>	<p>“We support the EPA’s efforts to finalize the rule in order to reap the significant public health benefits as indicated by the Agency’s analysis...There ought to be no further delay.”</p>
<p><a href="#">Public Service Enterprise Group Senior Vice President for Public Affairs and Sustainability Anne Hoskins</a></p>	<p>“While we are still evaluating the rule, we believe the Toxics Rule can be achieved in a cost effective manner while maintaining the reliability of the electric system.”</p>