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More Than 160 Advocacy Groups Launch "Solutions for Pollution" Campaign in Arizona and Need For Stronger Pollution Standards to Protect Health, Tackle Climate Change

Phoenix, AZ — Building on landmark congressional climate, jobs, justice, and clean energy investments, hundreds of local and national advocacy groups are now focusing on the need for the Biden administration to use all its available tools to set the strongest possible health, environment, and climate protections.

Today, Sierra Club's Grand Canyon Chapter, Moms Clean Air Force, Defend our Future, and Arizona Interfaith Power & Light, are joined by the Arizona Public Health Association, Chispa Arizona, Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments, and Physicians for Social Responsibility, to formally launch the Solutions for Pollution campaign in Arizona to drive ambition within the Biden administration to set the strongest possible pollution protections across federal agencies to make good on the president's promises to cut climate pollution by 50–52%, advance justice, and protect our health and environment.

The Solutions for Pollution campaign is a broad and diverse coalition of more than 160 environmental, climate, public health, environmental justice, youth, and clean energy organizations organized by the <u>Climate Action Campaign</u>. On September 12th, the coalition sent <u>a letter to President Biden calling</u> for his administration to implement the approximately 20 federal protections included in the coalition's <u>Solutions for Pollution Action Plan</u> that along with the Inflation Reduction Act would get us all the way to meeting the president's climate commitments.

"Climate change is fueling deadly heat waves and wildfires across Arizona, leaving our cities and communities more vulnerable. That's why we need Solutions for Pollution now," said **Vania Guevara, deputy advocacy director for Chispa Arizona**. "We need President Biden to use all of his authority under existing laws like the Clean Air Act to deliver the most ambitious solutions for pollution possible."

Finding solutions for pollution is critical because the cost of inaction is simply too great.

This is key because our most vulnerable bear the greatest burden from this crisis.

"Low income communities suffer the most from air pollution. The worst kind of pollution is small particles called PM2.5 that lodge deeply in the lungs.. We need President Biden's EPA to follow through with more aggressive control standards for this kind of damaging pollution- including strong enforcement requirements to immunize Arizonans against continued sloppy enforcement by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality," said **Will Humble from the Arizona Public Health Association.**

"While the Inflation Reduction Act is a historic start to climate action, more must be done to fight climate change and advance justice for all. By implementing the Solutions for Pollution Action Plan, we can ensure that communities across our country, and future generations have access to a cleaner, more just, equitable and healthier environment," said **Hazel Chandler with Moms Clean Air Force**.

"Over 42 million young people between the ages of 15-24 live in the US and will be the ones to suffer the consequences of our inaction. Many young people have mobilized across the country to make their message clear: we shouldn't have our futures jeopardized because leaders are delaying the actions necessary to combat the climate crisis." said **Dr. Eve Shapiro with Physicians for Social Responsibility**.

"There is strong and direct scientific evidence showing adverse impacts of air pollution exposure on human health, as well as extreme heat's role in exacerbating both air pollution levels and health impacts. Enacting change to reduce harmful exposures today can result in tremendous current and future benefits to health protection and quality of life, " said **Jennifer Vanos, Associate Professor at Arizona State University.**

The Solutions for Pollution campaign will focus on engaging the administration and mobilizing the public to ensure implementation of rigorous pollution limits on power plants and industrial sources, the strongest possible standards to reduce vehicle pollution, standards for more efficient appliances, limits on methane and HFCs, as well as more transparency for investors, shareholders, and others on climate risks to corporations, and more.

The news conference is available on Facebook <u>here</u>.

To learn more about the Solutions for Pollution campaign, visit https://www.actonclimate.com/solutions.

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