

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 13, 2019

Contact: Kathryn Phillips--916-893-8494 (mobile)

State Files Suit to Challenge Trump Administration Rollback of Power Plant Cleanup Rules

SACRAMENTO---The State of California has joined with 22 other states to file a lawsuit challenging the Trump Administration's rollback of a federal rule designed to cut pollution from power plants.

The rule, called the Clean Power Plan, was adopted during the Obama Administration and replaced by the Trump Administration with a much weaker substitute designed to encourage continued dependence on polluting coal-fire powered plants throughout the country, including in states neighboring California.

California's Governor Gavin Newsom, Attorney General Xavier Becerra, CalEPA Secretary Jared Blumenfeld, and Air Resources Board Chair Mary Nichols announced the lawsuit at a morning press conference.

Statement by Kathryn Phillips, Director, Sierra Club California:

"Once more the state's political and agency leaders are taking steps to protect Californians and California's environment from the polluting tendencies of the current president.

"Thank goodness for California's leadership. The Trump rollback of the Clean Power Plan is a recipe for more asthma, more heart disease, more climate pollution and more climate change impacts.

"We look forward to the day when, thanks to this lawsuit, the courts rule to reinstitute the Clean Power Plan."

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Sierra Club California is the legislative and regulatory advocacy arm of the Sierra Club's 13 local chapters and more than 400,000 members and supporters in California.