



NEW YORK CITY LAW DEPARTMENT

Zachary W. Carter, Corporation Counsel

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STATEMENT BY CORPORATION COUNSEL ZACHARY W. CARTER ON CIRCUIT COURT'S REFUSAL TO STAY EPA'S CLEAN POWER PLAN

NEW YORK – New York City Corporation Counsel Zachary W. Carter issued the following statement on the decision by the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit to deny several motions to stay the federal Environmental Protection Agency's "Clean Power Plan" while it considers challenges to cut power plant emissions. The City joined 25 states, cities and counties to intervene in support of EPA and defend these rules against suits brought by other states and industry groups.

- **Corporation Counsel Zachary W. Carter:** *"My office looks forward to defending the Clean Power Plan on the merits – these regulations are essential to ensure that the public's health and the environment are protected from the worst consequences of climate change."*

The Clean Power Plan rule, issued under the Clean Air Act, requires fossil-fueled power plants, the largest single source of greenhouse gas emissions in the nation, to cut their emissions. This most recent victory continues New York City's longstanding efforts to spur EPA to regulate greenhouse gas emissions on the national level and to defend those regulatory actions in courts.

The EPA adopted the Clean Power Plan through a multi-year stakeholder process that drew heavily on the experience of states and utilities in reducing power plant greenhouse gas emissions. The finalization of the Clean Power Plan marks the culmination of a decade-long effort by states and cities to require mandatory cuts in the emissions of climate change pollution from fossil fuel burning power plants under the Clean Air Act. The Clean Power Plan, along with the companion rule on new, modified, and reconstructed power plants, will control these emissions by setting limits on the amount of climate change pollution that power plants can emit. The rule for existing plants is expected to eliminate as much climate change pollution as is emitted by more than 160 million cars a year – or 70% of the nation's passenger cars.

The Attorneys General of New York, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, the District of Columbia, the City of New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Boulder, South Miami, and Broward County (FL) have all joined the coalition.

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Contact: Nick Paolucci
Press Secretary, NYC Law Department
media@law.nyc.gov
212-356-4000