

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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WISCONSIN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCATES DISAPPOINTED WITH EPA FOR WEAK SOOT POLLUTION PROPOSAL

Milwaukee, Wisconsin – Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published its first draft in ten years of new protections to limit dangerous and deadly soot pollution. This proposal is inadequate and fails to prevent the deadly impacts of soot pollution, especially in overburdened communities.

In response to the proposal, The National Wildlife Federation, Faith in Place, and Wisconsin Health Professionals for Climate Action – all a part of the [Climate Action Campaign's Solutions for Pollution](#) coalition to drive greater Biden administration ambition for strong pollution standards across federal agencies – released the following statements:

"The EPA's proposed Soot Rule does not align with public health guidance or the Biden Administration's goals of halving emissions by 2030. While this is a step in the right direction, it does not adequately address the threat of soot pollution in our air to human health, wildlife, and the ecosystem that we share. It especially fails to protect the health of low income and BIPOC communities, who disproportionately carry the burden of our climate crisis. We need to continue to work so that our health is not compromised to benefit large industrial polluters." – **National Wildlife Federation / Jordyn Perr**

"Fine particles kill thousands of Americans yearly, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must strengthen standards to protect public health. We are saddened that the EPA disregards scientific experts who recommended stricter limits than the agency proposes. One-thirtieth of human hair, soot particles enter the lungs and bloodstream, triggering asthma, heart attacks, and strokes, and are among the most lethal of air pollutants. We must continue to protect those who face disparate exposure to soot by living near highways and industrial areas and fight for air quality and equity improvements." – **Faith in Place / Alexander Malchow**

“As health professionals, we see how prevention impacts the quality of life and outcomes of Wisconsinites that come into our clinics and emergency rooms every day. Our overburdened communities deserve better from the EPA than the proposed standard. Health research has shown that soot safeguards could save over 20,000 lives each year. That’s 20,000 of our friends, children, elders, neighbors, and patients that do not have their futures stolen by heart attacks, asthma exacerbations, and other medical harms. We hope President Biden and Administrator Regan heed the guidance of independent scientists and health experts by finalizing a rule that meets the moment, choosing to clean up pollution and save lives.”

-Abby Novinska-Lois / Wisconsin Health Professionals for Climate Action

About Solutions for Pollution

CAC launched the [Solutions for Pollution](#) campaign in September 2022, with more than 200 advocacy partners, to encourage the Biden administration to use its existing authority under the Clean Air Act and other laws to set the strongest-science based standards to reduce pollution from transportation, power plants, and appliances, and to set additional standards that protect consumers and investors, lower energy costs, and advance environmental justice.

About the Climate Action Campaign

[CAC](#) is a vibrant coalition of dozens of major national environment, environmental justice, and public health groups, working together to drive ambitious, durable federal action based on science, to address the climate crisis. Our goal is to reduce climate pollution and accelerate the transition to clean energy in ways that support justice, jobs, health and economic opportunity for all.

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