



michigan league of
conservation voters



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Proposed EPA Carbon Rules Would Accelerate Transition from Coal to Clean Energy, Michigan LCV Plans Robust Field Effort in Support

ANN ARBOR --- The Michigan League of Conservation Voters (LCV) and Moms Clean Air Force (MCAF) commended the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) today for proposing strong, common sense rules to reduce harmful emissions from coal-fired power plants, which are the largest source of carbon pollution in the country. The EPA's recommendations spark a kick-off of a statewide Michigan LCV program to mobilize Michigan citizens in support of the stronger air quality standards.

"We have an obligation to take action on climate change and the EPA's proposed rules are a common sense solution that will build upon Michigan's clean energy success story, spark clean energy sector investment and ensure our Great Lakes, rivers and streams are clean for future generations," said Jack Schmitt, Deputy Director for Michigan LCV. "We will have teams on the ground throughout Michigan to ensure that decision makers in Washington, DC and Lansing take action on implementing these sensible carbon pollution standards."

Coal-fired power plants are not currently held to carbon emissions standards, yet they are responsible for 40 percent of the carbon pollution in the United States. Left unchecked, emissions from power plants will continue to fuel climate change and increase harmful pollution that is already contributing to respiratory diseases such as asthma and tainting rivers, streams and the Great Lakes.

"Stronger air quality protections are critically important for all Michiganders, and for the health of future generations," said Wibke Heymach, Program Manager for Moms Clean Air Force (MCAF). "We can no longer pass the buck to our children and their children to combat climate change. We must rise to the challenge and curb carbon emissions before it's too late."

The release of the rules kicks off an expanded Michigan LCV field program to solidify support for the carbon pollution standards and engage Michigan citizens on clean energy and climate change issues throughout the state. Additional Michigan LCV offices will be opened in five key areas in the state, with more than two dozen new field staff working throughout the summer to build grassroots support for the rule and Michigan's clean energy policies.

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Michigan League of Conservation Voters is the leading non-partisan political voice for protecting Michigan's land, air and water. Visit our website: <http://www.michiganlcv.org>.

Moms Clean Air Force is a community of moms and dads united against air pollution – including the urgent crisis of our changing climate – to protect our children's health. Visit our website: <http://www.momscleanairforce.org/>