



**For Immediate Release**

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**CONTACT:** Stuart C. Ross

Clean Air Task Force

(914) 649-5037 cell

[sross@catf.us](mailto:sross@catf.us)

## **CEOs Join Nearly One Million Americans to Demonstrate Resounding Support for Reducing Methane Pollution**

**Washington, DC**—More than 800,000 comments have been submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency voicing overwhelming support for the agency’s proposed methane pollution standards. The following CEOs today join the public in sharing their support for action to reduce methane and other toxic pollution from the oil and gas industry:

**David Yarnold, President and CEO, Audubon:**

*"Regulating methane pollution is a win-win for people and birds. Methane and other toxic pollutants from oil and gas drilling threaten human health and our climate."*

**Armond Cohen, Executive Director, Clean Air Task Force:**

*"With world leaders in the throes of climate negotiations in Paris, the United States is poised to take a historic step toward limiting methane pollution from the oil and gas sector. CATF is submitting public comments on EPA's proposal today that, if implemented, would place much-needed limits on methane emitted from new and modified sources. Ultimately, we also need standards governing existing sources, which will account for 90% of overall methane emissions from the oil and gas sector by 2018."*

**Robert Wendelgass, President and CEO, Clean Water Action:**

*"Clean Water Action went door-to-door talking to people about methane pollution in states directly impacted by oil and gas development. The message we heard back was clear - tackling climate change right now is critical for creating a safe and prosperous climate for future generations and reducing methane pollution from the oil and gas industry is commonsense approach. We are proud to stand with our allies in support of EPA in this rulemaking and look forward to speedy action to control this dangerous pollutant."*

**Alicia Prevost, Director, Defend Our Future:**

*"If we're going to defend our future from climate change, we need to take action today, and that includes limits on methane pollution. Leaks from oil and gas production are a major climate threat, but despite being more than 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide in the short-term, there are currently no national limits on methane emissions at all. Everyone who cares about protecting our planet for future generations should tell the EPA that they support limits on methane pollution."*

**Trip Van Noppen, President, Earthjustice:**

*"We have a narrowing window to avoid climate tipping points. If we continue pumping enormous quantities of this supercharged greenhouse gas into the atmosphere, that window will close. More than 800,000 people have weighed in – EPA must reduce harmful methane emissions from the oil and gas sector."*

**Fred Krupp, President, Environmental Defense Fund:**

*"Cutting oil and gas methane emissions is the single biggest untapped opportunity we have to slow near-term warming now. In places like Colorado, we've already seen that big methane reductions are possible at low costs. These are some of the most inexpensive pollution controls available anywhere, for any industry – where the problem can be fixed for pennies."*

**Gene Karpinski, President, League of Conservation Voters:**

*"The administration has already made great progress to reduce air pollution and promote clean energy. Reducing harmful methane pollution from the oil and gas industry is the next big step in the urgent battle against climate change. As the world watches the climate negotiations in Paris, hundreds of thousands of people from across the nation are voicing their support for these critical safeguards. We urge the Obama administration to quickly finalize strong regulations that reduce methane pollution to protect our climate, our environment, and our public health."*

**Dominique Browning, Co-founder and Senior Director, Moms Clean Air Force:**

*"Parents across the country applaud Administrator McCarthy for these protections against industrial methane pollution. These are a welcomed first step, but we also look forward to urgently needed protections from existing sources of oil and gas pollution. This is now the most important work EPA can do in bringing dangerous climate change under control. We thank Administrator McCarthy for her ongoing care of our common home."*

**Dan Lashof, Chief Operating Officer, NextGen Climate America:**

*"The EPA's historic proposal to limit methane pollution from new and modified oil and gas operations is a critical step for combating climate change and improving public health. Throughout the comment period for this proposal, the American people have shown overwhelming support for strong action by the EPA to put an end to unlimited pollution from the oil and gas industry. But this is just the start. The EPA now needs to tackle the largest source of methane emissions—existing oil and gas operations."*

**Rhea Suh, President, NRDC:**

*"As world leaders are gathered in Paris to discuss global action on climate change, curbing the oil and gas industry's rampant methane pollution is the next biggest thing the White House can do to fight climate change here at home. Setting strong emissions standards from new oil and gas operations is an important start. In order to make meaningful progress, however, standards for the largest source of this pollution—existing oil and gas operations nationwide—must come next, and swiftly. These standard sets us on the right path, and we look forward to working with the administration to ensure industry-wide action."*

**Michael Brune, Executive Director, Sierra Club:**

*"The delivery of nearly 785,000 comments in support of these much needed methane protections demonstrates historic public demand to minimize the fossil fuel industry's impact on our climate and communities. While fracking can never be made safe, these methane standards are a welcome step towards creating healthier and more secure communities."*