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PRESS RELEASE

Attorney General Frosh's Statement on Clean Power Plan Replacement

Maryland Part of Coalition of States and Local Governments Defending Clean Power Plan; Will Vigorously Oppose Replacement Rule

BALTIMORE, MD (August 21, 2018) – Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh today released the following statement in response to the Trump Administration's proposed plan to dismantle the Clean Power Plan, the first-ever national limits on climate change emissions from existing fossil-fuel power plants:

"The Environmental Protection Agency cannot step away from its job. We have a shared responsibility to protect our environment from harm. Any effort to pare down or eliminate the Clean Power Plan takes away years of progress to mitigate the harmful effects of climate change on our public health and our environment. Our coalition of states and local governments will continue to defend the Clean Power Plan which is critical to ensuring that progress is made in confronting climate change."

Attorney General Frosh is part of a coalition defending the Clean Power Plan led by New York Attorney General Barbara D. Underwood. That coalition also includes New York, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, the District of Columbia, New York City (NY), Broward County (FL), Boulder (CO), Chicago (IL), Philadelphia (PA), and South Miami (FL). The states of North Carolina and Pennsylvania and the City of Los Angeles also joined in comments the coalition filed in April opposing repeal of the Clean Power Plan.

The Clean Power Plan is the culmination of a decade-long effort by partnering 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 applicable to new, modified, and reconstructed power plants, would control these emissions by setting limits on the amount of climate change pollution that power plants can emit. The Clean Power Plan would eliminate as much climate change pollution as is emitted by more than 160 million cars a year – or 70 percent of the nation's passenger cars.