**CAC MESSAGE GUIDACE: PFAS Decision**

**Core Message: Despite the overwhelming public demand to take action on PFAS, Acting EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler has again failed to protect the public from dangerous pollution.**

* Wheeler’s announcement – that he is planning to develop a plan to address PFAS – is a thinly veiled attempt to buy him and his polluting industry allies more time before concrete action is taken on these dangerous chemicals.
* This dangerous group of chemicals is found in everything from drinking water to food packaging to consumer products to firefighting foams. These are chemicals that have ended up in the drinking water of millions of Americans including newborn babies and is especially prominent in those living on or near military bases.
* Wheeler’s “nationwide plan” comes seven months after the EPA promised to address these dangerous chemicals. And in a potential conflict of interest, Wheeler’s plan for a plan was developed under the direction of David Dunlap, a former Koch Industries official now at the EPA, who has not disclosed how the process he is overseeing will cost his former employer, who has been tied to the toxic chemicals.
* PFAS are known as “forever chemicals,” meaning they don’t break down naturally in the environment and can stay in our bodies for up to eight years. And they have been linked to cancer, thyroid disease, weakened childhood immunity, and other serious health problems.
* While Wheeler is buying time for polluters, states are taking action. At least 12 states are moving forward to reduce or eliminate these chemicals by considering bills that range from more PFAS disclosure to bans on PFAS in food packaging, firefighting foam, and flame retardants.
* Members of Congress also are introducing bills to expand PFAS monitoring, to ban some PFAS uses, and to set tough cleanup standards, among other priorities.
* But the fact is that EPA action would be the most efficient and effective way to protect Americans from PFAS. Wheeler’s non-action today fits the pattern the former coal lobbyist has established of putting polluters first on everything from carbon pollution to mercury to PFAS.
* We need an EPA Administrator that will uphold the agency’s mission to protect our health and environment, not a coal industry lobbyist doling out favors to his industry friends paid for with our health and our lives.

**SOCIAL GUIDANCE:**

* READ: @SenatorCarper calls @EPAAWheeler’s plan to ensure all Americans have clean drinking water “insufficiently protective.” We agree. #StopWheeler <https://www.carper.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2019/2/epa-fails-to-commit-to-setting-a-drinking-water-standard-for-pfas>
* We need action on #PFAS contamination, but “it has taken the EPA nearly a year just to kick the can even further down the road.” - @SenatorCarper on ex-coal lobbyist @EPAAWheeler dragging his feet to clean up our water. #StopWheeler <https://www.carper.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2019/2/epa-fails-to-commit-to-setting-a-drinking-water-standard-for-pfas>
* Millions of Americans are affected by dangerous chemicals in their drinking water. We don’t need your empty promises @EPAAWheeler – we need action. Stop slow-walking plans to protect us. #StopWheeler <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/epa-chief-andrew-wheeler-calls-toxic-chemicals-drinking/story?id=61004327>
* Scott Pruitt called #PFAS contamination a “national emergency” last year and never moved to fix it. We need deeds not words, @EPAAWheeler. #StopWheeler <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/epa-chief-andrew-wheeler-calls-toxic-chemicals-drinking/story?id=61004327>
* Ex-coal lobbyist @EPAAWheeler is putting polluters first by dragging his feet on committing to set a limit on #PFAS contamination that makes our drinking water toxic. A work plan won’t cut it – we need decisive action. #StopWheeler <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/epa-chief-andrew-wheeler-calls-toxic-chemicals-drinking/story?id=61004327>
* Don’t be fooled: ex-coal lobbyist @EPAAWheeler is dragging his feet to clean up our drinking water. #StopWheeler <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/epa-chief-andrew-wheeler-calls-toxic-chemicals-drinking/story?id=61004327>
* .@EPAAWheeler forces through rollbacks to our country’s most important health safeguards, but is stalling when it comes to our right to clean drinking water. Shameful. #StopWheeler <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/epa-chief-andrew-wheeler-calls-toxic-chemicals-drinking/story?id=61004327>
* .@EPAAWheeler’s “Action Plan” on #PFAS contamination allows him to drag his feet on cleaning up our drinking water while pushing through the rest of his toxic agenda at full speed. #StopWheeler <https://www.politico.com/story/2019/02/14/epa-chemical-plan-1174120>