

CAC REPORT: EPA Dirty Power Scam Hearing in Chicago, Illinois October 1, 2018

Local elected officials, health advocates, and concerned community members from Illinois, Ohio, and Missouri traveled to Chicago on Monday, October 1 for an Environmental Protection Agency hearing where they [voiced their opposition](#) to President Trump and EPA Acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler's Dirty Power Scam, their scheme to gut the lifesaving Clean Power Plan.

Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments (ANHE), Chicago Physicians for Social Responsibility, Environmental Law & Policy Center (ELPC), Green The Church, GreenLatinos, Illinois Environmental Council (IEC), Interfaith Power & Light (IPL), League of Conservation Voters's Chispa, Moms Clean Air Force (MCAF), National Wildlife Federation (NWF), National Medical Association (NMA), Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), Sierra Club, Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS), and others turned out members or sent representatives to testify against the replacement rule.

Testimony Counts

Support Existing Clean Power Plan: **197 (96%)**

Oppose Existing Clean Power Plan: **8 (4%)**

Between the two hearing rooms, there were about 75 to 100 people listening to the arguments. About two dozen were part of a People's Action disruption in the hearing room early in the day. It lasted about 10 minutes before EPA peacefully escorted them out.



In his testimony, [Washington Gov. Jay Inslee](#) rebutted that the plan is “affordable” stating, “There is nothing affordable about extreme hurricanes and intense wildfires.” Among other notable testifiers supporting the Clean Power Plan were a representative from the office of **Sen. Tammy Duckworth** (who also [released a statement in advance](#) of the hearing), [American Lung Association President and CEO Harold Wimmer](#), [IL Attorney General Lisa Madigan](#), engineer and [AFGE Local 704 President Michael Mikulka](#), and [Rep. Mike Quigley \(D-IL\)](#).

Republican state Sen. Dale Fowler testified in support of the replacement plan, citing job creation for miners in his district. Representatives from **Murray Energy, Aremex**, and the **Heartland Institute** also testified, but there was no organized visibility by the industry.

Sierra Club local chapters, community partners, and allies held a rally at noon, where an **estimated 60 people gathered in Federal Plaza** outside the hearing to make their voices heard by demanding action on climate justice, transformative clean energy development, and protection for community health and environment.

IL Attorney General Lisa Madigan; Dulce Ortiz, environmental justice advocate from Clean Power Lake County; AFGE Local 704 President Michael Mikulka, Girl Scout Troop #6195, and Illinois State



Rep. Juliana Stratton spoke at the rally, which was emceed by **Rev. Tony Pierce of Illinois People's Action**. **Rep. Mike Quigley (IL-5)** also attended, spoke with press, and [posted on social media using our hashtags](#).

Reporters from *ABC Chicago*, *WGN*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Bloomberg*, *E&E News*, *Reuters*, *Telemundo*, *RCN Chicago*, and several freelancers and photographers attended, interviewing speakers and high-level testifiers after the rally wrapped.

More than 1.6K people watched a [Facebook Live](#) video of Girl Scout Troop #6195 preparing for the rally. You can [watch video of the full rally](#) on Sierra Club Illinois's Facebook page.

Online Amplifications: More than 2,400 tweets mentioned the #DirtyPowerScam or #EPainIL hashtags throughout the day of the hearing, and [The Climate Reality Project](#) hosted a Tweetstorm with the #DirtyPowerScam hashtag at 12 PM ET to amplify the proceedings. They provided graphics and sample tweets on health, clean energy, and jobs messages.

[Sen. Duckworth](#), [Gov. Jay Inslee](#), [State Rep. Stratton](#), [State Rep. Quigley](#), [Illinois Sierra Club](#), [SEIU Local 1](#), [LCV's Chispa](#), [Moms Clean Air Force](#), [PennEnvironment](#), [Chispa AZ](#), and other partner groups and allies have amplified the hearing and opposition to the Dirty Power Scam on Twitter. Check out [Sierra Club's compilation of top posts](#) for more.



Sierra Club sponsored a Snapchat filter that could be used by people in or around the hearing area.

Select Press Coverage

9/28, [EPA to Host Chicago Hearing on Repeal of Obama-Era Clean Power Plan](#), *WTTW* (Chicago public radio)

10/1, [Activists, politicians call on EPA to drop Trump plan to relax emission standards for coal-fired power plants](#), *Chicago Tribune*

10/1, [Tensions High At Public Hearing For Climate Rule](#), *E&E News*

10/1, [Backers, Critics Of EPA's ACE Plan Spar Over Role Of Low-GHG Market Shift](#), *Inside EPA*

10/1, [Protesters Interrupt Sole EPA Hearing On Weaker Power Plant Rules](#), *WGN*

CAC Resources

[Hearing Digital Guidance](#)

[Sample Testimony \(ENGLISH\)](#)

[Sample Testimony \(SPANISH\)](#)

[Email and Comment Templates](#)

[Dirty Power Scam Toolkit](#)

[Social Guidance](#)