



**American Academy of Nursing**  
*transforming health care policy and practice through nursing knowledge*

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**American Academy of Nursing Releases Statement on  
Repeal of EPA Clean Power Plan and Proposed Affordable Clean Energy Rule**

*Proposed Rollback of Greenhouse Gas Regulations Will Cost Health, Safety, and Lives*

**Washington, D.C. (September 26, 2018)** — Based on the expertise and recommendation of its Environmental and Public Health Expert Panel, the American Academy of Nursing is alarmed by the recent repeal of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Clean Power Plan and the newly proposed Affordable Clean Energy Rule. This proposed change places the health of many US residents at risk and the Academy urges its fellows, allied health care organizations and other stakeholders to contact their elected officials and/or make issue public comments stating opposition to the proposed rule. (See instructions below.)

The goal of the Obama administration's 2015 Clean Power Plan was to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from power plants. It was estimated that by 2030 the Clean Power Plan would have cut power plant emissions by 32% below 2005 levels, thus avoiding approximately 3,600 deaths, 90,000 asthma attacks, and 1,700 myocardial infarctions annually.

The Trump administration proposed ACE rule introduces less stringent emission regulations compared with the Clean Power Plan. In contrast to the Clean Power Plan, the proposed ACE rule will increase poor air quality and the rate of climate change. The rule allows states to set weaker standards or to have no standards at all. The proposed regulations could annually lead to as many as 1,400 premature deaths by 2030, up to 48,000 episodes of asthma exacerbation, and 21,000 missed school days. Of major concern is that the ACE rule threatens states' authority to set their own stringent standards.

The Academy's Environmental and Public Health Expert Panel encourages all Academy fellows and their institutions to become informed about the negative effects of the proposed ACE rule and alert elected officials, colleagues, and others of their concern. Public comment on the proposed ACE rule may be sent to [a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov](mailto:a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov). Include Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0355 in the subject line of the message. Comments will be accepted through October 31, 2018.

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**The American Academy of Nursing ([www.AANnet.org](http://www.AANnet.org))** serves the public and the nursing profession by advancing health policy and practice through the generation, synthesis, and dissemination of nursing knowledge. The Academy's more than 2,500 fellows are nursing's most accomplished leaders in education, management, practice, and research. They have been recognized for their extraordinary contributions to nursing and healthcare.

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