



environmental update
find out about issues that
matter to you

my backyard
stay in touch with events,
issues and chapters in your area

Select an Issue

Select a Place

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Date: Thu, 20 Feb 2003 11:57:01 -0500
Reply-To: Sierra Club Press Releases
<CE-SCNEWS-RELEASES@LISTS.SIERRACLUB.ORG>
Sender: Sierra Club Press Releases
<CE-SCNEWS-RELEASES@LISTS.SIERRACLUB.ORG>
From: Zach Roth <Zachary.Roth@sierraclub.org>
Subject: Environmentalists Sue EPA for Ignoring Global Warming Pollution
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

For Immediate Release:
February 20, 2003

Contact:
Zack Roth, Sierra Club (202) 675 6279
Jen Burcham, Our Children's Earth (703) 622 3593

Environmentalists Sue EPA for Ignoring Global Warming Pollution

Washington, DC: The Sierra Club and Our Children's Earth (OCE) announced today that they are suing the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for its refusal to protect public health by acting against global warming pollution. Their lawsuit also charges that EPA has failed to update emissions standards for other forms of pollution, as required by law.

"Why has the Bush administration been missing in action on the greatest environmental threat facing the nation?" asked David Bookbinder, senior attorney with the Sierra Club. "Again we find EPA fiddling while Rome burns."

"EPA's failure to update these standards allows power plants to emit massive, excessive air pollution that could and should be avoided by existing law," said Tiffany Schauer, executive director of Our Children's Earth. "The health of our children and our planet is in danger."

Under the Clean Air Act, the EPA is required to regulate all air pollution that affects public health. It must review emissions standards for power plants and various other pollution sources every eight years. Sierra Club and OCE allege that the most recent review took place over twelve years ago, and included only a small number of the pollution sources under contention. Standards for many other sources covered under the Clean Air Act have not been looked at since 1979.

Because of the EPA's lapse, global warming pollution has continued unchecked. Over the last ten years, global warming pollution has been shown to pose a major threat to public health and the environment. Among other effects, increased temperatures brought on by global warming will cause more frequent and severe heat waves, droughts, and storms, and will spread infectious diseases.

In addition, the EPA's delay has meant that emissions standards for other harmful pollutants like mercury and sulphur dioxide have not been updated

for almost twenty-five years in some cases, despite considerable advances in pollution technology, and in scientific research showing a clear link between air pollution and human health.

The environmentalists' case is being brought in conjunction with a lawsuit announced today by seven states, which are suing the EPA for its failure to regulate carbon dioxide emissions from the nation's coal-fired power plants.

###

For the latest environmental news, please visit <http://www.sierraclub.org/pressroom>
For SC email list T-and-C, send: GET TERMS-AND-CONDITIONS.CURRENT
to listserv@lists.sierraclub.org

[Back to: Top of message](#) | [Previous page](#) | [Main CE-SCNEWS-RELEASES page](#)

LISTS.SIERRACLUB.ORG

Please Note: The Email List Archives of many Sierra Club lists contain email messages which were generated and posted by individual List participants. Archives are provided as a courtesy for the convenience of the List participants -- they may not be a source of official Sierra Club documents or information.

The information and opinions expressed in messages posted by individual List participants (the "posted content") are those of the sender, and are not necessarily approved or endorsed by the Sierra Club. It is the sole responsibility of the sender to ensure that the posted content is accurate and does not infringe or violate the intellectual property rights or other rights of third parties. The Sierra Club does not screen the posted content for such violations and makes no representations or warranties of any kind regarding the posted content.