

Wright-Ingraham Institute Final Report Summary December 2019

The Environmental Protection Network was launched in January 2017 to harness the expertise of former EPA career staff and confirmation-level appointees—spanning multiple Republican and Democratic Administrations—to provide an informed and rigorous defense against current efforts to undermine the protection of public health and the environment.

Now a growing 501(c)(3) organization, EPN has become a go-to source for reporters, green groups and congressional staff. EPN's 450+ volunteer experts from across the country are uniquely positioned to analyze and explain the consequences of proposed EPA regulatory rollbacks, budget cuts and legislative actions. In just over two years, EPN has become an important asset and partner, providing accurate and informed perspectives on government environmental and public health actions.

Thanks to the generous support of the Wright-Ingraham Institute and other foundations, we have made great strides toward achieving our goals of:

- Defending EPA's budget
- Protecting Environmental Laws and Regulations
- Informing and Holding Accountable Decision-makers

Examples of EPN's important work include:

- In-depth, continued [analyses of EPA budget proposals and appropriations](#), including fact sheets on [EPA's core programs](#) and the [implications of budget cuts on specific agency programs and activities](#).
- Critical tracking and analysis of the Trump Administration's proposed policy to [ensor science](#) when the agency sets rules and policies
- Technical testimony and formal comments on the administration's proposed [rollbacks of fuel efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions standards for passenger vehicles](#)
- Numerous comments on detrimental proposed rulemakings such as [Cost Benefit Analysis](#), [Toxic Substances Control Act](#), [Waters of the United States](#), [National Environmental Policy Act](#) and [hydrofluorocarbons](#)
- Essential background information for journalists that has generated significant [media coverage](#) and [op-eds](#) across the country
- Important legislative outreach with partners, such as participation in the Clean Water Action-led response to the proposal by EPA and U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to [revise the definition of WOTUS](#)
- Crucial work with the Hill to bolster support for EPA, such as a [joint](#) letter to Congress from seven former EPA administrators, facilitated by EPN through its Advisory Council, offering lawmakers resources and support in their oversight efforts

EPN volunteers have the institutional memory, knowledge, and experience essential to monitor and assess the impacts of current regulatory efforts. EPN is helping to answer the call for objective analysis and scientific rigor about human health, the environment, and EPA when all of these are under siege.