

Episode 56EE May 12, 2023. The “May 11, 2023, Environmental Protection Agency (E P A) proposed standards today for CO2 and Particulate Matter (PM2.5) are restricted to Fossil-Fuel-Fired Power Plants. There should also be standards for Biomass (wood) fired power plants.” Issue.

Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates (see RAWSEPresidents.wordpress.com and Scroll Down for PDFs of articles with U R L’s to search on, and on the website are links to 30 minute Youtube videos and Spotify podcasts as well as podcasts on Amazon Music Prime (free for Prime subscribers), podcasts.google.com, Cast Box, and Pocket Cast (Pocket Cast is only free on the phone App. Pocket Cast can be played on Apple phones.)

If you care about the adverse health effects of air pollution on human beings, please comment on this proposal in the near future, within 60 days! And please sign up for the training sessions in commenting on the proposed PM2.5 standards today. The Environmental Protection Agency (E P A) will host virtual trainings to provide communities and Tribes with information about the proposal and about participating in the public comment process. Those trainings will be on June 6 and 7, and registration information is available on EPA’s website. Join EPA for an Informational Webinar on this Proposal.

EPA will host two webinars offering: an overview of the proposed rules, information on how to effectively engage in the regulatory process, and an opportunity to participate in a Q&A session.

[Register to attend the June 6th webinar.](#)

[Register to attend the June 7th webinar.](#)

June 6, 2023. at 2:00 PM Eastern Time.

June 7, 2023. at 5:30 PM Eastern Time:

Target audience: Tribal Environmental Professionals, **Communities and Organizations with Environmental Justice Concerns**

Greenhouse Gas Standards and Guidelines for Fossil Fuel-Fired Power Plants

Basic Information

Docket Numbers

EPA-HQ-OAR-2023-0072

[Rule Summary](#)

[Rule History](#)

[Additional Resources](#)

Rule Summary

EPA is proposing Clean Air Act emission limits and guidelines for carbon dioxide (CO2) from fossil fuel-fired power plants based on cost-effective and available control technologies. The proposals would set limits for new gas-fired combustion turbines, existing coal, oil and gas-fired steam generating units, and certain existing gas-fired combustion turbines.

Join EPA for an Informational Webinar on this Proposal.

EPA will host two webinars offering: an overview of the proposed rules, information on how to effectively engage in the regulatory process, and an opportunity to participate in a Q&A session.

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Consistent with EPA’s traditional approach to establishing pollution standards for power plants under section 111 of the Clean Air Act, the proposed standards are based on technologies such as carbon capture and sequestration/storage (CCS), low-GHG hydrogen co-firing, and natural gas co-firing, which can be applied directly to power plants that use fossil fuels to generate electricity.

As laid out in section 111 of the Clean Air Act, the proposed new source performance standards (NSPS) and emission guidelines reflect the application of the best system of emission reduction (BSER) that, taking into account costs, energy

requirements, and other statutory factors, is adequately demonstrated for the purpose of improving the emissions performance of the covered electric generating units.

United States

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-new-carbon-pollution-standards-fossil-fuel-fired-power-plants-tackle>

<https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/greenhouse-gas-standards-and-guidelines-fossil-fuel-fired-power>

May 11, 2023, Environmental Protection Agency (E P A) proposed standards for CO<sub>2</sub> and Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) are restricted to Fossil-Fuel-Fired Power Plants.

Target audience: Tribal Environmental Professionals, **Communities and Organizations with Environmental Justice Concerns**

Proposed Rule URL

[https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-05/FRL-8536-02-OAR%20111EGU%20NPRM%2020230504\\_Admin.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-05/FRL-8536-02-OAR%20111EGU%20NPRM%2020230504_Admin.pdf)

RAWSEP View: These new, May 11, 2023, Environmental Protection Agency (E P A) proposed standards for CO<sub>2</sub> and Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) are restricted to Fossil-Fuel-Fired Power Plants. What if the E P A adopted standards for CO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> for Biomass Plants. Or what if, since it is apparent that the pollution from Biomass (Wood) burning plants is similar to or exceeds CO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions, the E P A just shuts down Biomass (wood) burning plants, and removes all government subsidies for Biomass (wood) burning plants? Biomass (wood) burning plants can't survive without government subsidies, unlike with Wind, Solar and Geothermal generation, which will survive and thrive after being given some government start up dollars.

The technology-based standards EPA is proposing include:

Strengthening the current New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) for newly built fossil fuel-fired stationary combustion turbines (generally **natural gas**-fired)

Establishing **emission guidelines for states** to follow in limiting carbon pollution from existing fossil fuel-fired steam generating EGUs (including **coal, oil and natural gas**-fired units)

Establishing emission guidelines for large, frequently used existing fossil fuel-fired stationary combustion turbines (generally **natural gas**-fired)

Based on a separate analysis, EPA is projecting the proposed standards for existing **gas**-fired plants and the third phase of the NSPS could **achieve up to 407 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions**. As EPA works to finalize the rulemaking, the agency will complete additional advanced modeling, aligning methodologies across the rulemaking and considering real-world scenarios within the power sector to best understand how components of the rule impact each other.

EPA will take comment on these proposals for **60 days after publication** in the Federal Register. EPA will also hold a **virtual public hearing** and will make additional information available on the website. Registration for the public hearing will open after the proposal is published in the Federal Register.

The agency will also host **virtual trainings to provide communities and Tribes with information about the proposal and about participating in the public comment process**. Those trainings will be on June 6 and 7, and registration information is available on EPA's website.

For more information: [Greenhouse Gas Standards and Guidelines for Fossil Fuel-Fired Power Plants](#)

For further information: EPA Press Office ([press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov))

EPA Press Office

May 11, 2023.

EPA Proposes New Carbon Pollution Standards for Fossil Fuel-Fired Power Plants to Tackle the Climate Crisis and Protect Public Health

New proposed standards for coal and new natural gas fired power plants would avoid more than 600 million metric tons of **CO<sub>2</sub> pollution**, while also **preventing 300,000 asthma attacks and 1,300 premature deaths** in 2030 alone

WASHINGTON – Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed new carbon pollution standards for **coal and natural gas**-fired power plants that will protect public health, reduce harmful pollutants and deliver up to \$85 billion in climate and **public health benefits** over the next two decades.

The proposal for coal and new natural gas power plants would avoid up to 617 million metric tons of total carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) through 2042, which is equivalent to reducing the annual emissions of 137 million passenger vehicles, roughly half the cars in the United States. Through 2042, EPA estimates the net climate and health benefits of the standards on new gas and existing coal-fired power plants are up to \$85 billion.

The proposals would also result in cutting tens of thousands of tons of particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxide, harmful air pollutants that are known to endanger people's health, especially in communities that for too long have disproportionately shouldered the burden of high pollution and environmental injustice. In 2030 alone, the proposed standards would prevent:  
approximately 1,300 premature deaths;  
more than 800 hospital and emergency room visits;  
more than 300,000 cases of asthma attacks;  
38,000 school absence days;  
66,000 lost workdays.

The proposed standards build on the momentum already underway in the power sector to move toward a cleaner future. Since 2005, the power sector has reduced carbon dioxide emissions 36 percent while continuing to keep pace with growing energy demand. President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act provides historic investments in pollution control technologies and clean energy, and together, will move the United States closer to ensuring a cleaner, healthier future for all communities.

EPA will take comment on these proposals for 60 days after publication in the Federal Register. EPA will also hold a virtual public hearing and will make additional information available on the website. Registration for the public hearing will open after the proposal is published in the Federal Register.

The agency will also host virtual trainings to provide communities and Tribes with information about the proposal and about participating in the public comment process. Those trainings will be on June 6 and 7, and registration information is available on EPA's website.

For more information: [Greenhouse Gas Standards and Guidelines for Fossil Fuel-Fired Power Plants](#)  
For further information: EPA Press Office ([press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov))

<https://sites.google.com/tenstrands.org/cayouthclimatepolicyleadership/program-overview?fbclid=IwAR3brjPnJmwXu5t0rrUajlzsrvFvVH2ljrt7279Cgm1AsxzFFxn40BIA0J8>

## California

CA high school climate leadership program, July-December 2023: "During the program, students will participate in a summer retreat and monthly workshops that focus on foundational knowledge and skill-building activities related to environmental and climate action. Students will then apply their knowledge and skills on leading a campaign that passes climate policies (or builds on existing policies) in their school or district."

There's a legislature branch of 350 Bay Area to join at some point <https://350bayareaaction.org/legislative-committee>  
AB 45 - Blue carbon demonstration projects

Eliminating Fossil Fuels

Summary

Requires demonstration projects to provide data quantifying the carbon sequestration potential of coastal ecosystems, which will lead to additional protection for coastal wetlands, subtidal, intertidal or marine habitat, considered to have large and important carbon sequestration properties.

[https://350bayareaaction.org/legislative-committee?fbclid=IwAR36RkU8E\\_E-6C8LXRh5AyVI21qOBL60IRD7-47\\_4N-7hoGZ0pHUt8rJiT4](https://350bayareaaction.org/legislative-committee?fbclid=IwAR36RkU8E_E-6C8LXRh5AyVI21qOBL60IRD7-47_4N-7hoGZ0pHUt8rJiT4)

GSA's energy retrofit program issues largest ever call to accelerate progress toward net zero buildings through President Biden's Investing in America Agenda.

Inflation Reduction Act funding will enable hundreds of millions of dollars in energy and cost-saving improvements at 41 facilities.

WASHINGTON— The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) issued its largest ever [notice of opportunity](#) under its National Deep Energy Retrofit program this week, announcing its intent to leverage funding from the Inflation Reduction Act for projects in four states and the District of Columbia.

As part of the White House’s [Climate Smart Buildings Initiative](#), [GSA's National Deep Energy Retrofit program](#) helps modernize federal buildings to cut greenhouse gas emissions and reduce site energy consumption by renovating buildings to maximize reductions in onsite energy use. These projects will also help support GSA’s efforts to meet the recently released [Federal Building Performance Standard](#) and convert buildings to all-electric buildings in which none of the equipment will use onsite fossil fuel combustion.

<https://sites.google.com/tenstrands.org/cayouthclimatepolicyleadership/program-overview?fbclid=IwAR3brjPnJmwXu5t0rrUajlzsrvFvVH2ljrt7279Cgm1AsxzFFxn40BIA0J8CA> Youth Climate Policy Leadership Program

[APPLY HERE](#) TO PARTICIPATE IN COHORT 1 (July–December 2023)

#### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Today’s young people will be most impacted by a changing climate and therefore need opportunities to be a part of taking climate action. The California Youth Climate Policy (CYCP) Leadership Program empowers ninth- to twelfth-grade students to take climate action into their own hands. During the program, students will participate in a summer retreat and monthly workshops that focus on foundational knowledge and skill-building activities related to environmental and climate action. Students will then apply their knowledge and skills on leading a campaign that passes climate policies (or builds on existing policies) in their school or district. Throughout the program participants will receive mentoring from adult coaches, as well as support in developing and implementing a personal leadership plan.

#### PROGRAM COMPONENTS

The California Youth Climate Policy (CYCP) Leadership Program Fellowship is built around key elements of youth development: Knowledge and Increased Capacity, Action with Guided Implementation Support, and Accountability and Reflection. Each of these components is outlined below.

**Knowledge and Increased Capacity:** Youth leaders will be exposed to a variety of thinking styles and lenses in this program, such as systems thinking, design thinking, and environmental justice. By increasing foundational knowledge and skills, they will explore climate problems in a trauma-informed way and design advocacy-based solutions to these problems.

**Action with Guided Implementation Support:**

**Action:** Students will learn the steps behind carrying out policies by planning and implementing an advocacy campaign with appropriate guidance. The action-oriented leadership experiences they have in this program will translate to any and all leadership opportunities they partake in moving forward.

**Coaching and Mentorship:** Each participant will have access to individualized mentorship that guides them through brainstorming, strategizing, and cultivating leadership. These mentors are individuals who have committed to addressing the climate crisis and can provide invaluable exposure in career paths to people who are passionate about climate action. Mentors will also guide students as they develop and implement their advocacy campaigns.

**Accountability and Reflection:** Taking accountability for project completions and sharing both successes and failures is a critical part of one’s climate journey. Students will learn how to reflect on their personal growth and development every step of the way, from the opening retreat to the Case Study and Capstone presentation.

United States

Washington, DC

RAWSEP View: Above was a program for young people to educate themselves and others about the Biden Administration's programs to invest in U S Clean Energy. Below is the Republican House of Representatives' Leader on an Environmental Committee criticizing the Biden Administration for spending money on investing in a green economy. U S House Republicans are choosing to focus on the monetary cost of confronting and eliminating PM2.5 pollution and ignoring the human health cost we are already suffering from PM2.5 pollution.

[Environment Subcommittee Chair Johnson in Hearing with EPA: "Republicans are for ...](#)

House Committee on Energy and Commerce

... the standard for fine particulate matter to a level that could bring nearly the entire country into noncompliance with the PM 2.5 standard.

Environment Subcommittee Chair Johnson in Hearing with EPA: "Republicans are for Energy Innovation"

May 10, 2023

[Hearings](#)

[Environment, Manufacturing, & Critical Materials](#)

[Press Release](#)

Washington, D.C. — In the House of Representatives, the Subcommittee on Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Materials Chair Bill Johnson (R-OH) delivered the following opening statement at today's Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Materials Subcommittee hearing titled: "[The Fiscal Year 2024 Environmental Protection Agency Budget.](#)" Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates.

Representative Bill Johnson of Ohio said, "The economic freedom of the American people is taking a back seat at the EPA. Administrator Regan, presents a vast set of troubling actions, to pursue ideological green goals. The administration is forcing consumers to purchase all-electric cars, and shutting down oil and gas production. This is not what the EPA is designed to do. We just simply cannot de-industrialize the United States in pursuit of the 100% use of wind and solar power generation. The results would be disastrous. Rather than a premature energy transition, we could change the conversation to an energy journey. This is a EPA regulatory onslaught with more than 150 new regulatory actions underway. EPA's electric generating unit (EGU) strategy is placing burdensome requirements on coal-fired and gas-fired power plants. This will lead to more blackouts. The EPA's proposal to dramatically lower the standard for fine particulate matter to a lower level that could bring nearly the entire country into noncompliance with the PM 2.5 standard. Don't create standards so low that many of our small businesses and family farms can't function. Finally, President Biden's effort to force electric cars on an unwilling public is deeply troubling. The proposal would introduce electricity into the Renewable Fuel Standard Program, a final rule cracking down on heavy duty trucks; and worst of all, proposed emission standards that would essentially eliminate gas-powered vehicles from the market." I am concerned about the 19 percent increase for the EPA requested in the President's budget, the EGU strategy, the Clean School Bus program, HFCs, and eRINS proposal.

Arizona, Maricopa County

[State issues pollution advisory for May 11 | The Daily Independent at YourValley.net](#)

YourValley.net

Wood burning in residential fireplaces, chimeneas, outdoor fire pits and similar outdoor fires is prohibited in Maricopa County on Thursday, ...

Georgia

[Regulators may not allow more tire burning for electricity after all](#)

Atlanta Journal-Constitution

ExploreMore Georgia biomass plants could soon burn a new fuel: Scrap tires ... to fossil fuels or as a supplement to burning coal or wood

Michigan, Flint

[America Must Clean Up Communities Harmed by Contamination and Pollution | Opinion](#)

Newsweek

... of pollution that is typically emitted directly from construction sites, wildfires, wood burning, gravel pits, agriculture, and dusty roads.

Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates.

America Must Clean Up Communities Harmed by Contamination and Pollution | Opinion.

Historically, marginalized communities have disproportionately suffered the consequences of environmental degradation and pollution, resulting in health disparities and perpetuated poverty. According to the American Lung Association (ALA), air pollution is a much more worse [problem](#) for lower income neighborhoods, where racial and ethnic groups are constantly dealing with greater exposure to pollutants. In 2021, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) [researched](#) the health effects of [particle air pollution](#) (PM2.5) across the country and found that nonwhite populations, especially Black people, faced a higher risk from this specific type of pollution that is typically emitted directly from construction sites, wildfires, [wood burning](#), gravel pits, agriculture, and dusty roads. Despite this bleak situation, the potential for change is highlighted in a [recent study](#) that examined [disparities in environmental grantmaking](#). The Yale School of the Environment found that [over 80 percent](#) of general support grants, the most important grant for organizations to receive, went to white-led organizations. Less than 10 percent of the general support grants end up going to organizations for people of color. Male-led organizations received over half of the grants and more than two-thirds of the total grant money. Organizations led by white leaders got more than 80 percent of both the grants and grant dollars. White-male-led organizations were awarded both the most grants and grant dollars taking in roughly 48 percent of the grants and approximately 61 percent of the grant dollars doled out. In Flint, Mich., a city with a [56.7 percent Black population](#), the water crisis that began in 2014 continues to affect the health and well-being of residents. By addressing racial disparities in environmental grantmaking and empowering our communities with resources and support, we can ensure that everyone has the opportunity to thrive in a cleaner, greener, and more just world.

<https://www.wfae.org/energy-environment/2023-05-05/shares-of-wood-pellet-maker-enviva-plummet-amid?fbclid>

Shares of wood pellet maker Enviva plummet as losses widen.

May 5, 2023.

WFAE

Enviva's Northampton County, N.C., wood pellet plant.

Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates.

Enviva, the world's largest maker of wood pellets with four plants in North Carolina, saw its stock price plummet this week after it canceled its dividend and told investors it expects bigger losses to come. Enviva's shares fell about 60% after Wednesday's announcements. The Maryland-based company posted a bigger-than-expected loss for the first three months of 2023 as European customers delayed pellet orders and expenses ballooned for unplanned repairs and maintenance. CEO Thomas Meth acknowledged it was a disappointing start to the year. "Our results this quarter were much softer than we expected. Mainly driven by (a) cost position that is not acceptable. But we believe it can be remedied in the short term," Meth said. Enviva said it now expects a larger-than-expected loss for the full year. To save money, it will stop paying a dividend to shareholders, though it promised to buy back shares. The company is also trimming other costs. The company also announced a new 10-year contract with a Japanese customer, which Meth said is a sign of continued growth. "Our industry continues to be persistently structurally short supply. So signing new contracts like the one we just announced means new production capacity must get built. And therefore these new contracts are underwriting our large-scale fully contracted capacity expansions," Meth said. Enviva cuts down trees and turns them into wood pellets at plants across the South, then ships them to Europe and Asia where they're burned in place of coal and classified as clean energy. But that designation is controversial among many scientists and environmental groups. They would rather see renewable energy like wind and solar expanded, not wood substituted for coal. And they note that wood burns dirtier than coal and that producing and shipping pellets creates more carbon

pollution. The European Union is close to adopting changes to its renewable energy rules that could limit the use of wood pellets. But Meth told investors the changes are minor and won't affect the business.

"The European Union will finalize the text related to its Renewable Energy Directive 3 over the next month, which we expect will continue to provide demand tailwinds for woody biomass, given how important this renewable resource is to the net zero targets of the EU member nations," Meth said. Enviva has four plants and a port facility in eastern North Carolina, one plant in South Carolina and one in Virginia. It's come under fire in eastern North Carolina [over concerns about air pollution and noise](#).

North Carolina, Protest at Enviva Wood Pellet Plant May 15, 2023, and Environmental Justice Day at North Carolina Legislature May 17, 2023

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdOvswRnDZERKRQIMtsPuygnGTSGbsueZkf\\_9xJzpOIXxaAgw/viewform?fbclid](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdOvswRnDZERKRQIMtsPuygnGTSGbsueZkf_9xJzpOIXxaAgw/viewform?fbclid)

Day of Action: Environmental Justice Legislative Day for our Forests and Health & Protest at Enviva HQ  
NC residents from Tier 1 communities impacted by the wood pellet manufacturing facilities in Eastern NC will be meeting with members of the NC Legislature. The goal of these meetings are to inform NC state representatives on the impacts of the dirty wood pellet extraction industry. The wood pellet industry causes deadly pollution, excessive dust, noise, widespread forest destruction and climate warming carbon emissions.

Please join us on May 17th to make sure our legislators know about the impacts this industry is having on community health, our forests, our air, our water, and our climate.

We will offer 2 virtual webinar information sessions to make sure you have all the information you need. The first session has passed, and the last will take place on Monday May 15th at 12noon. We will also provide an in-person session on the morning of the 17th. Later that same day, we will take our message directly to Enviva at their headquarters in Raleigh. We will protest from 4-6pm. Join us!

South Carolina

[This South Carolina Town Has the State's Worst Air Quality](#)

Kiss 95.1

bad air with PM 2.5 dust in the atmosphere in the city. Well, be careful out there South Carolina. Air quality can be an important factor when it ...

Utah, Ogden

<https://www.standard.net/news/government/2023/apr/25/matheson-focuses-on-environment-affordability-for-council-race/>

Matheson focuses on environment and affordability for Ogden council race.

Apr 25, 2023

Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates.

Katie Matheson is running for an at-large seat on the Ogden City Council.

OGDEN, Utah. Tackling issues affecting air quality and the cost of living are among the top priorities of a new City Council contender.

Last week, Katie Matheson told the Standard-Examiner she will be running for the at-large position on the board. She said she's been active in the community for years. "I started community organizing in 2017 and, from there, I realized not only do I have a passion for community organizing and government, but I also have a knack for it," she said. Matheson said she wants to make Ogden work for all parties. Matheson said combatting poor air quality in the city and expanding green space are among her priorities. "Clean air is one of my key priorities," she said. "Another priority area is green space. My kids play rec sports and I want our kids to be able to play in these community spaces that are valuable, not just for community connection, but also to reduce heat sinks. It helps keep our city cooler during the hot months." She would also like to put a focus on making it easier to live in the city itself. Matheson said she's excited about the opportunity to run for City Council.

Vermont, Arlington

[Crews' swift response knocks down Arlington house fire quickly - Manchester Journal](#)

Manchester Journal

The room contained a wood-burning stove with firewood stacked around it. ... of the first floor and the second floor had extensive smoke damage.

Washington, Olympia

[Scientists say WA government's prescribed burns targets have no scientific basis - ABC](#)

ABC

Dr Orr said prescribed burning produced smoke that affected human health, animal welfare and climate change. "Wood smoke is toxic to the heart, the ...

[Letters to the editor for May 11 - Yahoo News](#)

Yahoo News

... ask Home Depot to stop selling wood from the boreal forest, ... a brain tumor likely caused by burn pit smoke where he was stationed overseas.

Letters to the editor for May 11

Olympian readers

Thu, May 11, 2023.

Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates.

SENIOR AIRMAN JULIANNE SHOWALTER/MCT

Who authorized military burn pits?

Most of the concern regarding military burn pits overseas has focused on the harm the toxic smoke has caused our veterans. An array of medical ailments has been connected to those who inhaled these fumes that have resulted in death and disabilities. Even President Biden's son, Beau, died of a brain tumor likely caused by burn pit smoke where he was stationed overseas.

Thankfully legislation has finally passed to include burn pit exposure within VA medical coverage. Getting injured through breathing polluted air while serving is no less harmful than getting shot in war. Indeed, trauma wounds can heal, while cancer often kills.

However, the fight to make things right should not stop with just providing compensation for the injured. It should continue to include identifying those responsible for authorizing the burn pits in the first place. Who decided that burning every discarded thing from a military base with jet fuel, in open pits, next to where our soldiers were housed was a good idea, and why did they decide this?

Surely superiors were informed by someone about the potential hazards of toxic smoke, so why was the decision made to ignore this reality? Could it be because generals regard combat casualties as more significant than dying from disease? Is the latter just considered acceptable collateral damage?

We need to know who authorized the burn pits, and if they knew of the potential health hazards. If so, they should be held to account for the harm to our troops.

Canada, Alberta, Jasper National Park Fire

[Jasper National Park now under a fire ban - Fitz Hugh](#)

The Fitzhugh

wood-burning campfire; charcoal, briquette or wood barbecues; ... or suspicious smoke to Parks Canada Dispatch at 780-852-6155 or call 911.

Australia, University of Western Australia UWA, Fire and Air Forum

[Mary Verstegen Fire & Biodiversity Western Australia \(FaBWA\)](#)



So many urgent voices from environmental scientists at the amazingly enlightened Fire and Air Forum at UWA. This Governments not listening to all the warning scientific voices The burn-everything cult system is a shocking display of ignorant behavior. It's destroying the hope that anyone can stop us tipping into chaos. We must instead preserve every plant that we possibly can. As if seeing dead animals, birds, millions of years of soil microbes on such a massive millions of hectares scale isn't bad enough, we know so clearly that the 'system' is so terribly wrong. We are not being protected from anything... just suffering so much earth-killing human cult madness and fear.

United Kingdom

<https://news.yahoo.com/wind-main-source-uk-electricity-105512452.html>

Wind is main source of UK electricity for first time.

Esme Stallard - Climate and Science Reporter, BBC News

Thu, May 11, 2023.

Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates.

Wind turbines in field in U K

Wind turbines have generated more electricity than gas for the first time in the UK.

In the first three months of this year a third of the country's electricity came from wind farms, research from Imperial College London has shown.

National Grid has also confirmed that April saw a record period of solar energy generation.

By 2035 the UK aims for all of its electricity to have net zero emissions.

[Where does the UK get its energy and electricity?](#)

[Green energy projects worth billions stuck on hold](#)

"There are still many hurdles to reaching a completely fossil fuel-free grid, but wind out-supplying gas for the first time is a genuine milestone event," said an energy researcher at Imperial College and lead author of the report. The majority of the UK's wind power has come from offshore wind farms. Installing new onshore wind turbines has effectively been banned since 2015 in England. Under current planning rules, companies can only apply to build onshore wind turbines on land specifically identified for development in the land-use plans drawn up by local councils. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak [agreed in December](#) to relax these planning restrictions to speed up development. [Scientists say](#) switching to renewable power is crucial to curb the impacts of climate change, which are already being felt, including in the UK, which last year recorded its hottest year since records began. Solar and wind have seen significant growth in the UK. In the first quarter of 2023, 42% of the UK's electricity came from renewable energy, with 33% coming from fossil fuels like gas and coal. But [BBC research revealed on Thursday](#) that billions of pounds' worth of green energy projects are stuck on hold due to delays with getting connections to the grid. Some new solar and wind sites are waiting up to 10 to 15 years to be connected because of a lack of capacity in the electricity system. And electricity only accounts for 18% of the UK's total power needs. There are many demands for energy which electricity is not meeting, such as heating our homes, manufacturing, and transport. Currently [the majority of UK homes use gas for their heating](#) - the government is seeking to move households away from gas boilers and on to heat pumps which use electricity.

[Heat pumps: How do they work and how do I get one?](#)

[How will we heat homes in zero carbon Britain?](#)

<https://airly.org/en/25-top-air-quality-influencers-in-2023/?fbclid>

Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates.

25 top air quality influencers in 2023

The fight for clean air requires more than great technology and data to help improve air quality. Expressive personalities can also be the face of changes and effectively influence regulations and raise awareness of this problem.

Here are 25 influencers – activists, journalists and scientists from all around the world that we think are effectively making the topic of air pollution important and widely discussed.

Rosamund Adoo-Kissi Debrah

A grassroots activist from London, UK raising awareness of asthma and the health problems that can be caused by air pollution. Kissi-Debrah's campaign for clean air followed the death of her 9 year old daughter, Ella Roberta, who had experienced a series of severe asthma attacks over several years. Her campaign led to an inquest in 2020, where a ruling determined that pollution from the South Circular Road, London was a contributing factor to Ella Roberta's death.

[Rosamund Adoo-Kissi Debrah on Twitter](#)

Simon Birkett

A former banker who left the financial industry more than 10 years ago and dedicated himself to the fight for clean air. The founder and director of Clean Air in London – an organization that has been successfully influencing the policy of the British government and local governments regarding pollution standards and the fight to improve air quality for many years.

[Simon Birkett on Twitter](#)

Sotirios Papathanasiou

Author of the [See The Air blog](#) and the podcast of the same title. In addition, the author of books on air pollution – “See The Air”, as well as books for children explaining the basics of air pollution. Very active on social media, especially on Twitter, where he publishes his thoughts and interesting content on air pollution.

[Sotirios Papathanasiou on Twitter](#)

Dr Maria Neira

A Spanish physician, international civil servant and diplomat, who has since 2005, served as the Director of the Public Health, Environment and Social Determinants of Health Department (PHE) of the World Health Organization (WHO). Very committed and actively working to improve air quality around the world, especially within the most vulnerable populations.

[Dr Maria Neira on Twitter](#)

Jemima Viven

Lawyer/human rights activist, founder of [Mums for Lungs](#). London based group of parents seriously concerned about air pollution's impact on children's health.

[Jemima Viven on Twitter](#)

Damian Carrington

“The Guardian” environment editor. One of the most influential and inquisitive reporters on air pollution issues around the world. Very often his texts shed light on the pollution problems in Great Britain and around the world.

[Damian Carrington on Twitter](#)

Simon Evans

Deputy Editor and Policy Editor [Carbon Brief](#) – Award-winning website focused on [climate change](#), science, energy and policy.

[Simon Evans on Twitter](#)

Beth Gardiner

American journalist based in London. Author of [“Choked”](#) – bestselling air pollution book. A journalist writing for NY Times, The Guardian and more. Her in-depth story on air pollution has become the cover story for global “The National Geographic” in the spring of 2021.

[Beth Gardiner on Twitter](#)

Jyoti Pande Lavakare

Writer, economic and financial journalist, columnist, producer of radio programmes, with special interest in innovations in education, sustainable environment, affordable healthcare. Author of the book about air pollution in India – [“Breathing Here Is Injurious To Your Health”](#).

[Jyoti Pande Lavakare on LinkedIn](#)

Tim Smedley

Environment journalist for The Financial Times, BBC, The Guardian, The Observer, The Sunday Times, New Scientist and more. His first book [Clearing the Air: the Beginning and the End of Air Pollution](#), published by Bloomsbury's Sigma Science, was shortlisted for the Royal Society Insight Investment [Science Book Prize 2019](#). Right now Tim Smedley is working on his second book, [The Last Drop: Solving the World's Water Crisis](#), to be published by Picador in spring 2022.

[Tim Smedley on Twitter](#)

Jane Burston

Jane Burston is the Executive Director of the [Clean Air Fund](#) and previously was the Head of Energy and the Environment at the National Physical Laboratory. She led a team of 150 scientists and engineers researching new energy technologies,

emission measurements, as well as monitoring the climate and air pollution. Jane has spoken at Davos and the UN General Assembly. She has been interviewed about air pollution and the movement for clean air by the New York Times, BBC, Times Radio and for numerous podcasts.

[Jane Burston on Twitter](#)

Sadiq Khan

The current mayor of London places great emphasis on making the city a green metropolis setting the standards for reducing emissions of pollutants for the whole world. Khan calls air pollution “an urgent issue of social justice” and described tackling the problem as “a matter of life and death”.

[Sadiq Khan on Twitter](#)

Gary Fuller

Dr Gary Fuller is an air pollution scientist at Imperial College London. His research interests focus on urban air pollution. Author of “[The Invisible Killer – the rising global threat of air pollution](#)” book.

[Gary Fuller on Twitter](#)

James Thornton

An environmental lawyer and writer. He is the founding CEO of [ClientEarth](#), a global non-profit environmental law organisation. “We started with one lawyer and his laptop in 2007. Now we are over 200 people, with eight offices around the world, creating powerful change for life on Earth” – we read on the ClientEarth’s website.

[James Thornton on Twitter](#)

Angel Hsu

Angel Hsu is a professor and data geek who applies data-driven methods to solve challenging environmental issues. Hsu founded and directs the [Data-Driven EnviroLab](#), an international team of interdisciplinary researchers, scientists, programmers and visual designers who work collaboratively around the world to create new knowledge and policy tools designed to make the world greener and healthier.

[Angel Hsu on Twitter](#)

Jeffrey K. Smith

WHO consultant and environmental health solutionist. Air Quality Monitoring expert and clean, renewable energy advocate. Pro bono environmental health advisor to organizations driving solutions to the most vulnerable. Having witnessed the hazards of air and water pollution within his own family whilst his daughter was hospitalized in 2008

[Jeffrey K. Smith on Twitter](#)

Mike Bloomberg

[Bloomberg Philanthropies](#), of which Bloomberg is the founder, focuses on numerous activities to improve air quality around the world. Bloomberg Philanthropies funded a large part of the new air monitoring system in London. It has also established cooperation with Brussels Clean Air Partnership with whom they willingly implement a wide range of projects to support policy to reduce air pollution, including the use of low-cost monitoring devices to provide critical data.

[Mike Bloomberg on Twitter](#)

Greta Thunberg

Greta Thunberg is a climate and environmental activist from Sweden. In 2018, she started a global school strike movement to protest against governments’ inaction on the climate crisis. Although Greta’s actions relate to broadly understood climate change, part of them is just care for clean air. The huge interest in Thunberg’s activities has also contributed significantly to the serious attention to be paid to air quality problems around the world.

[Greta Thunberg on Twitter](#)

Dr. Shelly Miller

A Professor of Mechanical Engineering and faculty in the Environmental Engineering Program at the University of Colorado Boulder. Dr. Miller teaches about and investigates urban air quality and works diligently to understand the impact of air pollution on public health and the environment. She is also an expert on indoor environmental quality including airborne infectious disease transmission and control and air cleaning technologies.

[Dr. Shelly Miller on Twitter](#)

Sonja Graham

Sonja is CEO at [Global Action Plan](#), a sustainability charity that helps people live more sustainable lifestyles by making connections between what’s good for people and good for the planet. This includes their Clean Air movement which mobilises and enables people and organisations to act on air pollution. The charity has worked on many public facing

initiatives such as [Clean Air Day](#), the UK's largest air pollution campaign, the [Clean Air Hub](#) – the UK's go-to-public information source on air pollution, and the world's first personal [air pollution calculator](#).

[Sonja Graham on Twitter](#)

Dr Iq Mead

Dr Iq Mead commenced the role of Head of Air Quality Measurement in the ERG team at Imperial College London in December 2021. As part of this role his responsibilities include the London Air Quality Network of reference grade instruments, as well as the Breathe London hyper-local community sensor network.

[Dr Iq Mead profile](#)

Dr David Green

David specialises in air quality monitoring technology at the UK's supersites, measuring chemical and physical properties of PM and gases.

[Dr David Green on Twitter](#)

Dr David Carruthers

David is the founder of CERC the developer of ADMS the UK leading air quality model. Throughout the development of ADMS models, David has led CERC in model development and validation and has been at the forefront of technical debate in the UK and internationally. In addition, he has participated in US EPA Modeling Conferences and has presented the ADMS models internationally for government approval. Other projects he has directed have included research projects for government departments including DEFRA (UK Department of Environment), the Department of Transport, and major international projects supported by the European Union.

[Dr David Carruthers profile](#)

Prof Sir Stephen Holgate

Probably the most influential person in the UK on the medical effects of air pollution and has been lobbying for action on pollution for many years. He is the force behind the Clean Air Champions and the author of the Medical Professions statistics on health effects and death statistics on air quality.

[Prof Sir Stephen Holgate profile](#)

Prof Frank Kelly

Frank J. Kelly is a British professor of community health and policy and Head of the Environmental Research Group (a global centre dedicated to air pollution research) at Imperial College London. He is an authority on the medical effects of air pollution.

[Prof Frank Kelly profile](#)

Author

Marcin Gnat - Head of Marketing & PR at Airly. Very dedicated to the mission to fight for clean air around the world. A fan of music, football, good food and books.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/extras/indybest/gadgets-tech/headphones-earphones/dyson-headphones-zone-price-absolute-uk-b2240841.html?fbclid>

Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates.

Yes, the Dyson Zone air-purifying headphones are real, and they launch in May.

The company's weirdest gadget in existence will set you back £750 for the Zone and £820 for the Absolute+

[Alex Lee](#)

Thursday 27 April 2023 16:00

Yes, they really look like that when you're wearing them.

The Dyson Zone air-purifying headphones are real, and they're coming to UK shores this May. Yes, really.

The quirky gadget is a pair of noise-cancelling, over-ear headphones that double up as a personal air purifier for your nose and mouth, essentially securing you inside an air-pollution-free bubble, while delivering clean and clinical audio with active noise-cancelling technology.

The odd-looking product faced ridicule when it was announced in early 2022. It was supposed to launch in March 2023 but, after a few months' delay, Dyson has revealed that the Zone, as well as a new Dyson Zone Absolute+ bundle, will release on 17 May, when we'll all find out who has the last laugh.

The company has been working on the Dyson Zone for more than five years. It's a product that was thought up in response to the increased problem of pollution levels in urban environments. The World Health Organisation (WHO)

estimates 9 in 10 people globally are currently breathing in air that exceeds [pollutant limit guidelines](#), Londoners were even told to [exercise indoors](#) at the start of 2022, due to high pollution levels.

U K, Scotland

### [Barbecue smoke and traffic fumes linked to crippling rheumatoid arthritis, new study reveals](#)

Scottish Daily Express

Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, or PAHs, are toxic chemicals formed from burning coal, oil, gas, wood, or from flame grilling meat and other ...

Pakistan

### [Alert - U.S. Mission, Pakistan - U.S. Embassy & Consulates in Pakistan](#)

U.S. Embassy and Consulates in Pakistan - USEmbassy.gov

Air Quality Data: U.S. Embassy and Consulates' air quality monitors measure PM 2.5 data. See here... [Skip to Content].  
Visas. Nonimmigrant Visas.

PM2.5 and Human Health

### [Wood-burning stoves may raise risk of arthritis - The Times](#)

The Times

Researchers found that a group of chemicals formed by burning wood, fossil fuel or when grilling meat and other food was “strongly linked” to the ...

### [Toxins From Grilling, Smoking & Car Exhaust Could Raise Odds for Rheumatoid ... - USNews.com](#)

USNews.com

They form as coal, oil, gas, wood, or tobacco burn. ... smoke from wood or coal-burning fires, fumes from asphalt roads, and consumption of grilled. These chemicals are called polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).

### [The contribution of the exposome to the burden of cardiovascular disease - Nature](#)

Nature

The role of PM2.5 as a major health hazard is also supported by the gradually increasing risk of all-cause and cardiovascular death associated with ...

### [Air pollution shown to worsen movement disorder after stroke - Medical Xpress](#)

Medical Xpress

Ultimately, the goal of the research team is to better understand the mechanism by which PM2.5 causes neuroinflammation, since air pollution is ...

### [The Truth About Biomass: Burning Trees is not a Green Alternative - Earth Day](#)

Earth Day

Wood has been used to fuel human civilizations for generations, and it was the main source of energy until the mid 1800s. However, the rise of coal in ...

### [Improved cookstoves emit more ultrafine particles than conventional stoves, finds new study](#)

Phys.org

... ultrafine air pollution particles (PM0.1) as conventional stoves, ... improved cookstoves can reduce fine particles (PM2.5) by up to 65%, ...

### [Eco-sense: A USA history of ecological change - Estes Park Trail-Gazette](#)

Estes Park Trail-Gazette

We must be aware of the infringements of global warming, including the ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) and particulate matter (PM 2.5) levels in Rocky Mountain ..

## [EPA Clean Air Act Regs Under Biden: A Look Back - Law360](#)

### Law360

If finalized as proposed, the rule would strengthen the primary, health-based annual particulate matter, or PM 2.5, standard from 12 micrograms ...

This website Law360 may require special registration qualifications to read articles.

### China

<https://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-023-15735-3?fbclid>

Effects of air pollution control policies on intracerebral hemorrhage mortality among residents in Tianjin, China  
Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates.

### Background

Exposure to air pollution is an important risk factor for intracerebral hemorrhage (ICH), which is a major cause of death worldwide. However, the relationship between ICH mortality and air quality improvement has been poorly studied. This study aims to evaluate the impact of the air pollution control policies in the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region on ICH mortality among Tianjin residents.

### Methods

This study used an interrupted time series analysis. We fitted models to assess the changes in hemorrhage (ICH) deaths before and after the interventions of air pollution control policies based on the data of ICH deaths in Tianjin collected by the Tianjin Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

### Conclusion

During the study period, some interventions of air pollution control policies were significantly associated with the reductions in the number of deaths from ICH among residents in Tianjin. ICH survivors and females were more sensitive to the protective effects of the interventions. Interventions for air pollution control can achieve public health gains in cities with high levels of air pollution.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1438463923000779?fbclid>

[International Journal of Hygiene and Environmental Health](#)

[Volume 251](#), June 2023, 114186

Monitoring ambient air pollution and pulmonary function in asthmatic children by mobile applications in COVID-19 pandemic

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijheh.2023.114186>[Get rights and content](#)

### Abstract

#### Background

Several public health measures were implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, little is known about the real-time assessment of environmental exposure on the [pulmonary function](#) of asthmatic children. Therefore, we developed a mobile phone application for capturing real-time day-to-day dynamic changes in ambient air pollution during the pandemic. We aim to explore the change in ambient [air pollutants](#) between pre-lockdown, lockdowns, and lockdowns and analyze the association between pollutants and [PEF](#) mediated by mite sensitization and seasonal change.

#### 5. Conclusion

In conclusion, smartphone apps may help to collect personal ambient air pollution data. Using our developed smartphone apps, we found that NO<sub>2</sub>, CO, and PM<sub>10</sub> were higher during the pre-and post-COVID-19 lockdowns than during the lockdown. Exposure to air pollution increased PEF variability in asthma subjects during the monitoring period. Lastly, the association was stronger in children who were sensitized to mites. It is essential to inform asthmatic children about the risk of exposure to high air pollution levels. Ongoing monitoring of air pollution levels is essential for children's health, and sending in time reminders of avoidance of unhealthy air quality may be performed by smartphones to protect children's lung health and acute asthma attacks. The digitally controlled air monitoring and management system and peak flow monitoring may help fight against asthma during and even beyond the pandemic. This smart healthcare model can be the new normal for asthma hybrid care.











