

Webisode 57DHXXHA September 14 2025 Black Churches develop Solar Power in California

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September 6 Sacramento Bee Fire type Wildfire Fire name Wood A new wildfire was reported today at 5 18 p m in Trinity County California Wood Fire has been burning on California Sacramento Wood Burning Update Wood Fire burns 2 point 1 acres in Trinity County since September 6 Sacramento Bee Fire type Wildfire Fire name Wood Fire The Wood Fire initially started 5 18 p m September 6 in Trinity County California It has burned 2 point 1 acres of federal California Sacramento Wood Burning Breaking View Fire in Shasta County sparked by human activity on September 6 Sacramento Bee View Fire has been burning on private land Although the wildfire Update Wood Fire burns six acres in Trinity County Updated September 6 California Santa Clarita Heat Pump Rebate AQMD launches the 21 million dollar Go Zero rebate program Santa Clarita Valley Signal To qualify for the Go Zero rebates the newly installed unit must be a heat pump that replaces a gas or propane unit furnace water heater You can Colorado Pagosa Springs Wood Smoke READY FIRE AIM The Little Things That Matter Pagosa Daily Post wood smoke to the red blood cells Then we have the coronavirus at about half the size of a typical wood smoke particle We all got a lengthy Colorado Wood Smoke BLM planning annual prescribed burns Bureau of Land Management For more information please visit the Colorado Air Pollution Control Division website <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health> Georgia Wood Smoke Ga Forestry East Albany fire contained no active threat WALB The fire which began last night involved two acres of slash pine wood chips smoke and flames The EMA reiterated that the fire is under Heat Pump Anxious homeowner searches for answers after HVAC reps offer suspicious appliance advice The Cool Down Many modern contractors recommend heat pumps due to their energy efficiency in heating and cooling within a single system Heat Pump Bosch Home Comfort CP and RP Split Heat Pumps PHCP Pros Bosch Home Comfort has unveiled new R 454B versions of its Bosch CP Split Heat Pump and RP Split Heat Pump in compliance with low GWP A2L Heat Pump Cautious homeowner searches for AC replacement advice after installer suggests high tech The Cool Down A heat pump performs great against oil and should cost the same as a straight AC responded one user It is a no brainer Heat pumps are cheaper Heat Pump Next gen home appliance wins major award for incredibly efficient capabilities The Cool Down Carrier just won an award for its Air to Water Heat Pump with Integrated Domestic Hot Water Idaho Blaine County Wood Smoke Wood River Valley air quality drops Blaine County Idaho Mountain Express Smoke drifting into central Idaho on Thursday evening and lingering through Friday morning has pushed air quality into the Air Quality Index Maryland Heat Pump Homeowner shares honest experience with a heat pump during first cold snap of the year The Cool Down Others affirmed that their heat pumps also worked wonders for their comfort in cold weather Live in Maryland and the hyper heat system has been rock Nevada Douglas County Wood Smoke The Sept 8 2025 R C Morning Report | Serving Minden Gardnerville and Carson Valley The Record Courier The sun was orange in The smell of woodsmoke is in the air this morning and not because people are burning woodstoves North Dakota Wood Smoke Dept of Environmental Quality Urges Caution During Smoky Conditions News Dakota Limit activities that contribute to air pollution such as outdoor burning use of wood burning devices unnecessary vehicle trips and idling Air Oregon Heat Pump Rebate Officials offer residents massive incentives for critical home upgrades here are the details The Cool Down Multiple providers across the Oregon region now offer rebates and zero interest loans up to 15,000 dollars to help homeowners install heat pumps appliances Pennsylvania PM 2 point 5 and Alzheimers Exposure to air pollution

worsens Alzheimers disease Penn research finds Penn Medicine Particulate matter 2 point 5 micrometers and smaller PM2 point 5 is so small that when inhaled the particles can be absorbed into the blood stream and Utah Heat Pump Rebate Heat up your savings Claim your 2,000 dollars heat pump rebate before it is gone KSL dot com Homeowners who choose to update their heat pump to an eligible model can get 30 percent of the cost of an electric or gas heat pump water heater up Washington Chelan County Douglas County Wood Smoke Wildfire Smoke Triggers Health Warnings in North Central Washington KPQ Air quality alert issued for Chelan and Douglas counties as wildfire smoke spreads Officials urge residents to stay indoors and protect their Wood Smoke Extremely High Toxicity of Gaseous Intermediate/Semi Volatile Organic Compounds Emitted ScienceDirect dot com Biomass burning a review of organic tracers for smoke from incomplete combustion Applied Geochemistry 2002 SS Leonard et al Wood smoke Wyoming Wood Smoke Millions of Americans Told To Avoid Driving Newsweek wood burning stoves and other sources of indoor smoke if possible The Wyoming Department of Health said The Wyoming Department of Health Canada British Columbia Vancouver Langley Wood Smoke Wood burning fireplaces must be registered with Metro Vancouver Langley Advance Times Some Langley residents with a wood burning fireplace or stove have to register with Metro Vancouver by Sept 15 part of a program aimed at Canada Ontario Toronto Heat Pump EVs and heat pumps do not have a popularity problem They have a barrier problem report Yahoo Finance TORONTO Sept 04 2025 GLOBE NEWSWIRE The conversation around electric cars heat pumps and other clean technologies has reached a Europe Heat Pump Financial Times on X Heat pump maker warns European market is in structural slump https x dot com Heat pump maker warns the European market is in structural slump Europe Heat Pump FT Energy on X Sweden Heat Pump Startup helps homeowners save thousands on massive upgrades There is so much Yahoo Finance heat pump system for your home Here is how it works Story Continues You go to our website you put in an address and we look up a ton of The Cool Down Startup Jetson is selling all electric heat pump systems for nearly half the cost of other companies China PM 2 POINT 5 Environmental surveillance of the health risk of PM 2 POINT 5 bound metals and metalloids in Wuxi Frontiers In recent years it has garnered widespread attention in the field of atmospheric science 2 to 4 PM 2 POINT 5 defined as particulate matter with an Japan PM 2 POINT 5 Japanese researchers find link between PM 2 POINT 5 levels and heart attacks PM 2 POINT 5 are tiny airborne particles that are 2 point 5 micrometers or smaller in diameter They are believed to increase the risk of cardiovascular and Thailand PM 2 POINT 5 risk perception and associated with sociodemographic factors in urban Thailand Nature Luangwilai T et al Risk perception and Monitoring of Self exposure to particulate matter 2 point 5 PM 2 POINT 5 associated with anxiety among general population in urban PM 2 POINT 5 and the Brain Eric Topol on X The impact of air pollution particulate matter 2 point 5 PM 2 POINT 5 on the brain and – X PM 2 POINT 5 Dementia Tiny 2 point 5 Micrometer Particles Of Air Pollutants Can Promote Certain Types Of Dementia IFL Science A massive study analyzing data from over 56 million people and laboratory experiments conducted on mice has uncovered that long term exposure to PM 2 POINT 5 PM 2 POINT 5 Dementia Lewy body dementia promotion by air pollutants – Science A leading hypothesis posits that environmental neurotoxins such as fine particulate matter PM 2 POINT 5 could trigger initial α Syn misfolding and PM 2 POINT 5 Exploring the effects of altered concentrations of PM 2 POINT 5 and its constituents on the incidence BMC Public Health BioMed Central Background Exposure to

fine particulate matter PM 2 POINT 5 and its constituents SO42- NO3 PM 2 POINT 5 and O3 A machine learning and box modeling approach to comparing the atmospheric chemistry of high ScienceDirect com PM 2 POINT 5 episodes Besides to our best knowledge this kind of comparative study has not been conducted yet between high O3 and PM 2 POINT 5 episodes To PM 2 POINT 5 and Pregnancy P09 14 Health Impact of PM 2 POINT 5 on Pregnant women and Children Systematic Review ScienceDirect dot com Air pollution especially particulate matter with the diameter less than or equal to 2 point 5 micrometer PM 2 POINT 5 pollution has become a severe problem of air pollution in the PM 2 POINT 5 Respiration Particulate matter air pollution effects on the respiratory system JCI These particles do not generally penetrate beyond the upper airway Fine particles have a diameter of less than 2 point 5 micrometer PM 2 POINT 5 and ultrafine

Headlines Inside Climate News and Other Media September 13 2025 California Palo Alto Solar Energy Battery Storage Electric Vehicle Charging Stations A California Network of Black Churches Is Embracing Solar Energy EV Charging Air pollution from fossil fuel burning is like air pollution from wood burning **Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization** Inside Climate News September 13 2025 Glad Tidings will complete its new Community Decarbonization Hub a multipurpose campus featuring a 13,000 square foot solar powered building with battery storage and ten EV charging stations The project which started four years ago and has a 4 point 3 million dollar price tag will not only cut the church energy usage and costs it is expected to generate around 500,000 dollars annually And in five to seven years as more people charge their vehicles at the church that amount is projected to double Glad Tidings is not the only Black church in the Bay Area undergoing this kind of transformation It is one of four thanks to a partnership with Green the Church and Gemini Energy Solutions a clean tech company The hubs being built will not only bring clean energy infrastructure to these churches but also turn them into year round resilience hubs ready to support residents when a disaster hits be it a power outage wildfire or heatwave Communities need to be generating their own money to implement their own decarbonization projects Black churches do not just need money for decarbonization but for their basic survival Across the country their congregations are shrinking due to aging populations and a larger generational shift away from religion Unable to rely on tithes and offerings church leaders are under pressure to find new ways to maintain their buildings their largest economic assets and cut costs Clean energy offers them a way to keep thriving Besides installing solar panels and making energy efficient upgrades UAMEZ will add 12 to 16 EV charging stations including eight fast chargers to its parking lot Construction of the UAMEZ hub is expected to take only six months including its connection to the power grid They have the potential to do more he said by turning their parking lots into revenue generating microgrids that meet their neighborhood rapidly changing energy and climate needs

Louisiana Cameron Fishermen in Southwest Louisiana Say LNG Terminals Are to Blame for Shrimp Harvest Decline Air pollution from fossil fuel burning is like air pollution from wood burning **Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization** Inside Climate News September 13 2025 The Largest Fossil Fuel and Cement Producers in the world Are Responsible for About Half the Intensity of Recent Heat Waves New Study Shows Fishermen in Southwest Louisiana Say LNG Terminals Are to Blame for Shrimp Harvest Decline Commercial fishermen are leaving what was once the seafood capital of

America in search of shrimp as LNG export terminals move in CAMERON Louisiana Ray Mallett started fishing near the mouth of the Calcasieu River more than half a century ago A Gulf Coast fisherman like his father before him Mallett harvested shrimp for decades from an estuary in Southwest Louisiana that was once the seafood capital of America Now he can hardly catch enough shrimp to pay for fuel When the inshore shrimp season opened on August 11 Mallett loaded his boat Cajun Memories with supplies for several days and headed east toward Vermilion Bay a twelve and a half hour journey in search of shrimp I could not make any money here Mallett said I had to go elsewhere

New York City PM 2 point 5 air pollution monitors RAWSEP View Air Pollution caused by fossil fuel burning from cars and Air Pollution caused by indoor residential wood burning Air pollution from fossil fuel burning is like air pollution from wood burning It is Never Good! A Street Level Look at New York City Air Quality Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization Inside Climate News September 13 2025 The Largest Fossil Fuel and Cement Producers in the world Are Responsible for About Half the Intensity of Recent Heat Waves New Study Shows George Thurston stood at a bus stop on the Manhattan east side just a block from his office and the FDR Drive a major highway in the city He looked down at his large air monitor a plastic tube jutted out of it sucking in the surrounding air and measuring the amount of invisible particle pollution that surrounded him Fine particulate matter known as PM 2 POINT 5 is among the most harmful pollutants a nasty brew of chemicals and heavy metals with health impacts ranging from childhood asthma to cancer and heart disease According to city data long term exposure to the pollutant contributes to an estimated 2,000 premature deaths a year or 1 in 25 deaths in New York City Thurston knows all about it A prominent air pollution scholar he is the director of the program in exposure assessment and human health effects at the New York University Grossman School of Medicine In 1987 Thurston and a colleague were the first to publish research connecting the pollutant PM 2 point 5 to early death On a hot humid day in the middle of August he took a walk around the city with Inside Climate News and discussed the risks that the average New Yorker is exposed to the Thurston curiosity about air pollutants extends well beyond fodder for academic research He has carried around a small air monitor for so many years that his model has now been discontinued he said PM2 point 5 describes fine particles with diameters of less than 2 point 5 micrometers millionths of a meter Many of these fine particles are produced by vehicles factories and power plants and RAWSEP interjects from indoor residential wood burning and from industrial wood burning which burn carbon based fuels worsening climate change and by the wood burning wildfires which climate change is intensifying Some particles are so small that they can even be absorbed into the bloodstream Pedestrians waiting to cross the road are getting exposed to PM2 point 5 from fossil fuel burning from cars and buses said Thurston He was standing as close as possible to the back of a bus to ensure that his air monitor could detect its emissions Dutifully the PM 2 POINT 5 readings shot up to 27 micrograms per cubic meter The World Health Organization air quality guidelines recommend that the average exposure of a person to PM 2 POINT 5 in a 24 hour period should not top 15 micrograms However research suggests that even exposures below the World Health Organization guidelines can pose a risk That is why Thurston takes issue with the U S Air Quality Index the Environmental Protection Agency tool for communicating health risks from outdoor pollution The index which incorporates measurements of many different pollutants in the air into its calculations including PM 2 POINT 5 determines that a value under 50 represents good air quality—illustrated by a fluorescent green color But according to Thurston

even when the city air quality shows up green on the index **it is never good! The bottom line is we should not be burning things Burning things for energy is barbaric** said Thurston as he walked west on 23rd Street Air quality warnings of which Inside Climate News counted 14 this past summer also **draw the Thurston ire because it gives you the impression that otherwise it is fine** Three of the air quality warnings this summer have been for PM 2 POINT 5 largely due to the Canadian wildfires A more recent research paper from Thurston took an in depth look at asthma related hospitalizations during New York City so called 2023 smoke pocalypse when Canadian wildfires turned the sky an alarming shade of orange Researchers at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California San Diego found that wildfire specific PM 2 POINT 5 in heavily populated Southern California is up to 10 times more harmful to human health than the particles from other sources The only reason our air has gotten so clean is because of regulations Thurston said But I know everybody hates them The regulations ultimately pay for themselves he said with the cost of lives saved Congestion pricing has been shown to meaningfully reduce the amount of traffic in downtown Manhattan no matter the temperature air pollution can have health impacts and Thurston really wants people to be aware of that In the city residents face those consequences daily even when there is no air quality warning We are surrounded by fossil fuel combustion he said It is always somewhat of a risk

North Dakota Rural Hospitals Are Sticking Together To Stay Open Collaborative Networks Become Popular Lifeline for Rural Hospitals **Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization** KFF Health Newsletter September 13 2025 BOWMAN North Dakota Independent rural hospitals are increasingly forming collaborative groups to share resources and combine bargaining power with the goal of saving money and improving patient care The networks which have cropped up in several states in recent years offer small town hospitals an alternative to selling to large hospital systems and forfeiting local autonomy We found that we could both have the power of negotiation as a larger entity but also be able to negotiate lower costs for services and equipment said Dennis Goebel CEO of Southwest Healthcare Services a Bowman hospital that is part of the 22 member Rough Rider Network in North Dakota Since 2010 153 rural hospitals in the U S have either shuttered completely or cut inpatient services according to the Sheps Center for Health Services Research at the University of North Carolina And 441 joined hospital chains between 2011 and 2021 according to a report commissioned by the Coalition to Strengthen American Healthcare an advocacy group consisting of hospitals and health associations Proponents of the networks hope more collaborations will be fueled by the recently approved federal 50 billion dollar Rural Health Transformation Program which became law as part of the sweeping tax and spend measure backed by President Donald The Trump administration Many hospitals that join networks are motivated by the chance to combine their patient rolls for value based care contracts a reimbursement model in which insurers pay providers based on the quality of care they provide and the health outcomes of their patients The hospitals can also pool staffers for health insurance plans share specialists and receive better rates on contracts for services ranging from prescription drug programs to mobile imaging Retta Jacobi recently took advantage of the latter service when a semitruck with an I machine inside its trailer parked outside the Bowman hospital in southwestern North Dakota a sparsely populated region dotted with ranchland and Badlands rock formations She hoped the scan would pinpoint what was causing pain in her shoulders The mobile I operation visits one or two hospitals in the Rough Rider Network each day Without it Bowman residents

would have to drive 40 minutes for similar scans. Researchers have not yet examined whether the networks are working according to a 2020 paper from the Rand Corp., a research nonprofit. But leaders from network members say their programs are saving money and improving patient outcomes by, for example, increasing rates of preventive care and decreasing hospital admissions. Jacobi, who provides speech therapy to children in the local school district, is doing physical therapy after a doctor examined her results. She is thankful she could get a diagnosis and treatment advice without having to travel far for the scan. Anytime we can maintain more local control, it is a good thing for our small towns.

Virginia Offshore Wind Projects: Research measuring how and how much birds are affected by offshore wind. The Whimbrel Bird and the Wind Turbines: Capable of Coexistence. Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates, a 501C3 nonprofit organization. September 13, 2025. Inside Climate News. The Nature Conservancy. Dominion Energy and the William and Mary Center for Conservation Biology are working to answer the question by studying the whimbrel interaction or avoidance with the utility Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW) project, expected to be the largest offshore wind project in the country once it comes online in 2026. The conservation group has used funding from Dominion Energy, the largest utility in Virginia, for research that found about 42 percent of all whimbrel will fly over the wind energy area designated for the utility offshore wind project, and a smaller one further south, off the coast of North Carolina. The new research is finding that, on their north and southbound journeys, a handful of the 31 tracked birds have come into contact with the area within the turbine spinning blades. Anytime you put a hazard in the airspace that birds use, there is a chance that birds will fly into it. We see that all the time, said Bryan Watts, director of the Center for Conservation Biology. They fly into transmission lines and they fly into towers. Yes, there is a chance that birds have hit the turbines. The goal of the research is to attain more specific data on the whimbrel flight patterns that will help guide policy decisions around future offshore wind projects. Environmental and ratepayer groups see the project as a way to provide massive amounts of electricity cheaply, even as President Donald Trump has moved to block offshore wind projects in Rhode Island and Maryland. Interior Secretary Doug Burgum has instructed the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to review how wind projects may be harming the bald eagle. The Trump steel and aluminum tariffs have also already increased the CVOW project's initial 9.8 billion dollars cost by 500 million dollars and could further increase costs to 11.2 billion dollars to 11.3 billion dollars through 2026 if the duties remain. Despite those challenges, Dominion is continuing with the project, which is intended to satisfy a requirement under the Virginia Clean Economy Act, the state decarbonization law, and researchers have not recorded any whimbrel deaths thus far. Offshore is a lot different than onshore, said Matt Overton, a biological consultant at Dominion. It is really still developing. To apply the tags, the researchers used fishing line to make carpet-like nets with loops and place them on mudflats the whimbrels frequent. When one stepped into the loop, it became trapped and the researchers emerged from their hidden marsh covering to grab the bird. You zip over there because sometimes they can get free. And then you tag them and then let them go, said Wilke. Or, in some places, it depends on where we are; they can be really sensitive to the heat. We would actually take them to the boat ramp, which was pretty close, and we would process them in an air-conditioned vehicle to help them not overheat. While many of the birds are not flying over the wind energy area, instead staying closer to the shore, another update to the technology now being used is crucial for a measurement, which is called tracking the altitude or flight height. That flight height is used to determine if the whimbrels are flying within what is

called the rotor swept zone which begins at a center point about 482 feet above the average sea level mark. The zone is what is included within the area the blades rotate around, each of which has a 782 foot diameter. Of the tagged birds, the percentage of whimbrels expected to be exposed to the windfarm swept zone on southbound flights is 6 point 8 percent. For the northbound trips in the spring, research indicates 4 point 7 percent of whimbrels would be exposed to the windfarm swept zone. Overton said the turbines have cameras and he was pleasantly not// surprised that there had not been observed deaths, though Watts acknowledged there may have been deaths among birds that were not tracked. What is next is to understand the population of birds using the staging area and how much of a risk comes from placing a certain wind farm in a certain location. If a certain amount of the bird population could be lost, that could inform how much compensation or mitigation needs to occur to make up for potential damages, Watts said. Other measures like painting the turbines a dark color could make them stand out, though their whitish color is chosen to make them less visible to beachgoers. The turbines are already equipped with blinking lights for aircraft that may be flying in the area. When the project is complete and all 176 turbines are lined up next to each other, they could act as more of a visual deterrent. We are going to be in a pause period here for a while, but in the long term, these green energies are going to move forward, said Watts. They make the most sense for the planet. Ultimately, I think they will make the most sense economically. Once various offshore wind projects are up and running, it is worth continuing the research, Wilke said, to see how any altered flight patterns might affect birds by causing them to expend more energy to fly around the turbines, or not. We have got these tagged birds in the system that are still collecting data, and they were out there before this project was built, during the project and hopefully after, said Wilke. With the young ones, it is possible that we could have the chance to see some of the same birds after the project is fully operational, which would be phenomenal.

Democrats in the US Congress. Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization. Hill Leaders Axios. September 13, 2025. Big Dem demands as Trump plays spoiler. Top Democrats are getting increasingly bold with their threats to let the government shut down, unless President Trump caves to huge concessions. A shutdown would disrupt the lives of millions. But Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer knows he cannot afford an encore of March. Schumer flirted with a leadership crisis this spring by ignoring House Democratic demands to let the government shut down. !! But things have changed since March. Schumer said. He singled out the one big, beautiful bill for its tax cuts and Medicaid spending reductions. Senate Democrats, with a few exceptions, would reject a short-term spending stopgap proposed by GOP leaders, Schumer said. The Democratic demands are centered on health care. They want Republicans to extend tax credits for the Affordable Care Act before they expire at the end of the year. Several Republicans have signaled interest in doing so. Democrats also want to roll back Medicaid cuts from the big, beautiful bill. This demand is much less likely to attract Republican support. And internally, there is a push for Democrats to expand their asks on health care to include demands on rural hospital funding. Senate Republicans need at least seven Democratic votes to pass a funding bill, even as House Republicans can pass a partisan bill on their own. Top Republicans are pointing the finger back at Democrats, arguing the party should agree to a stopgap measure to allow lawmakers more time to negotiate a larger spending deal. I think Democrats see it as politically advantageous to have a shutdown, Senate Majority Leader John Thune said. Many of the emerging Democratic demands are meant more to lay the foundation for shutdown messaging than to bring

Republicans to the table Schumer and House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries offered a preview of those arguments this week after a rare meeting of the two leaders We are together as it relates to the unprecedented attack on the health care of the American people Jeffries said We will not support a partisan spending agreement that continues to rip away health care from the American people Trump plays spoiler Do not even bother dealing with them Trump is telling Republicans about negotiating with Democrats If you gave them every dream they would not vote for it he said Deal with them or not Thune needs seven Senate Democratic votes or a shutdown will commence

US Congress Clean Energy versus Polluting Energy Industries The Energy Sector Has Spent Hundreds of Millions of Dollars on Lobbying This Year Watchdogs Say That is Only Half The Story Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization Inside Climate News September 13 2025 New Study Shows The energy and natural resource sector has spent hundreds of millions of dollars lobbying the federal government so far this year according to data compiled by the nonprofit OpenSecrets That spending comes amid a wave of policy wins for fossil fuel interests and significant setbacks for environmental and green energy groups Nearly 240 million dollars poured in during the first and second quarters of 2025 with about 2 200 lobbyists representing the sector nearly half of whom are former government employees themselves That spending puts the sector slightly ahead of the 2024 pace when its yearly total reached 435 million dollars 2025 expenditures make energy and natural resources the fifth largest lobbying sector that OpenSecrets tracked over this period ahead of transportation defense and labor Electric utilities represented the largest share of those expenditures totaling nearly 75 million dollars That is more than half of what it spent in all of 2024 combined the biggest year of the industry in over a decade And with about 71 million dollars already spent on lobbying this year the oil and gas industry continues to significantly outpace the lobbying expenditures of the renewable industry of roughly 40 million dollars The totals for oil and gas so far this year put the industry slightly below the pace of 2024 expenditures which totaled over 150 million dollars its highest since 2009 However watchdog organizations say the steady funding of the industry is actually the result of its existing influence within the federal government When you have got a White House that has made clear that they are going to do whatever you want you do not have to spend as much money to get results said the director of Public Citizen Energy Program They had to spend more when you had bipartisan shared control over government and you did not have a rubber stamp in the Oval Office Now they do Since Trump took office his administration and Republicans in Congress have pushed through a slew of regulatory and legislative measures fulfilling the priorities of fossil fuel interests often at the expense of renewables The signature legislation of the party the One Big Beautiful Bill Act has been criticized as a handout to the fossil fuel industry that increases lease sales for drilling and mandates that millions of acres of federal lands be made available for mining The president of the American Petroleum Institute said that the bill includes almost all of our priorities The administration has also granted Clean Air Act exemptions to dozens of fossil fuel burning power plants delaying their need to reduce emissions of mercury and other air toxins And the EPA announcement that it intends to rescind its endangerment finding for greenhouse gases would remove the basis for its ability to regulate emissions from motor vehicles power plants and oil and gas operations These moves have come amid a reversal of government support for renewable energy projects The One Big Beautiful Bill Act included a phaseout of tax credits for wind and solar that critics say runs counter to the Trump goal of achieving energy

dominance **Wind energy in particular has been singled out as a target by the administration** Trump issued a presidential memorandum on his first day in office halting approvals permits leases and loans for both offshore and onshore wind projects The administration later took the unusual step of issuing stop work orders for some offshore wind projects that were already under construction Multiple watchdog organizations told Inside Climate News that the real source of the current influence of the fossil fuel industry stems in part from industry insiders who have been strategically placed into key government positions That list includes Energy Secretary Chris Wright a former oil and gas executive and a range of political appointees with ties to the industry within the EPA The American Clean Power Association ACP sort of is on the outside looking in and I am not sure that any amount of money is going to be able to overcome this The association had badly misjudged their strategy by assuming they could appeal to both Democrats and Republicans They thought that they could build a bipartisan appeal for renewable energy and you see that with a few senators like Chuck Grassley and Lisa Murkowski but for the most part you know mainstream Republicans just do not want to challenge Trump publicly In an emailed statement ACP suggested that its efforts on Capitol Hill helped the renewable energy industry avert even worse outcomes and defended the attempts of the association to build bridges with key Republican legislators The ability to successfully remove the destructive excise tax from the One Big Beautiful Bill Act and secure a more reasonable phase out of clean energy tax credits required a sophisticated response to underscore the impact of these policies on consumers and the communities we represent said the CEO of ACP Despite the highly polarized environment a group of Republican senators came forward to support the core interests of the clean energy industry he said Securing this support for provisions that the entire Republican caucus originally voted against is an important accomplishment

United States Health Newsletter Headlines **Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization**
KFF Health Newsletter September 13 2025 1 Trump Administration Under Trump FDA Seeks To Abandon Expert Reviews of New Drugs Advisory committee meetings help FDA scientists make decisions and increase public understanding of drug regulation and abandoning them does not make sense former officials said 2 In the Fallout From The Trump Health Funding Cuts States Face Tough Budget Decisions The Trump administration has pushed a significant amount of health costs to states whose budgets may already be strained by declining state tax revenues a slowdown in pandemic spending and economic uncertainty State and local governments now face difficult decisions 3 The Trump Medicaid Cuts Were Aimed at Able Bodied Adults Hospitals Say Kids Will Be Hurt The GOP said its overhaul of Medicaid was aimed at reducing fraud and getting more adult beneficiaries to work Among the likely side effects fewer services and doctors for treating sick children 4 Climate Activists Cite Health Hazards in Bid To Stop Trump From Unleashing Fossil Fuels Buoyed by a Montana court ruling upholding the right of state residents to a clean and healthful environment nearly two dozen people ages 7 to 24 hope to block the Trump executive orders on energy 5 Watch Patient Numbers at NIH Hospital Tumble After Trump Cuts Fewer people are seeking care at the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center a renowned research hospital under the second Trump administration 6 KFF Health News What the Health? Countdown to Government Shutdown With less than three weeks before the deadline to pass legislation to keep the federal government running lawmakers are still far apart on a strategy Democrats hope Republicans will agree to extend expanded tax credits for the

Affordable Care Act as part of a compromise but so far Republicans are not negotiating 7 Meanwhile HHS Secretary Robert F Kennedy Jr released his long awaited Make America Healthy Again report with few specific action items 8 Work requirements are coming for millions of Americans on Medicaid as part of the Republican tax and spend bill that Trump signed into law July 4 Currently Georgia is the only state with a work requirement Eligible Georgians say it is very hard to get the system to confirm they qualify putting their benefits at risk 9 A Surgical Team Was About To Harvest the organs of This Man Until His Doctor Intervened A 22 year old was shot in the head in St Louis As a surgical team prepared him for organ harvesting his neurosurgeon raced to the operating room to stop it saying that his patient had a chance at life Today the man is alive sharing his story 10 Watch Why Is Having a Baby So Expensive in the US? Why new parents are getting billed thousands of dollars for births Public Health 11 RFK Jr Said Everybody Can Get a Covid Vaccine Is That True? Although the FDA has approved the vaccines for anyone 65 or older and anyone at least 6 months old who is at risk of a severe covid infection barriers to coverage and access persist 12 Researchers Shift Tactics To Tackle Extremism as Public Health Threat As extremism and radicalization worsen in the United States a group of researchers is trying out a new approach that addresses the issue as a public health problem 13 New research shows that regular moderate use of devices like computers and smartphones can be good for the cognitive health of older people 14 Human resources departments can help employees get health insurance companies to pay for covered care

Air pollution from fossil fuel burning is like air pollution from wood burning The Largest Fossil Fuel and Cement Producers in the world Are Responsible for About Half the Intensity of Recent Heat Waves New Study Shows Inside Climate News RFK Junior Making Vaccines Unavailable RFK Junior Is Making America Safe for Debilitating Neglected Tropical Diseases Inside Climate News Solar Power Trump Budget Cuts to provide tax breaks for the rich Air pollution from fossil fuel burning is like air pollution from wood burning Solar Power Gave Hope to Former Prisoners in NJ Federal Cuts Are Taking It Back Inside Climate News Trump Economy Inflation is reflected by yearly Social Security increases normally How Social Security COLA May Increase 2026 Benefits Trump and Epstein Fallout Jeffrey the Epstein Leaked Emails Reveal He Told Ghislaine Maxwell to remove Donald The Trump Name From a Power List **Headlines The New York Times September 14 2025** California Redistricting Democrats How Nancy Pelosi Quietly Shaped the Redistricting Fight in California The New York Times How Nancy Pelosi Quietly Shaped the Redistricting Fight in California Private meetings and longtime loyalties helped push what began as a something of a Democratic bluff into a complete counteroffensive against President Trump **Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization** The New York Times Shane Sept 14 2025 One Friday in early August Nancy Pelosi and Gavin Newsom sat together in the historic mansion of the governor in Sacramento and began dialing some of the wealthiest Democrats in America for dollars Ms Pelosi the 85 year old former House speaker and Newsom the 57 year old governor of California have known each other for decades She has been his mentor and their circles are so entwined as scions of San Francisco that their families were even blended by marriage at one point But this was something entirely new for them both as they raced to raise cash for a fall ballot campaign on redistricting that could shape the 2026 midterms Ms Pelosi would begin with pleasantries according to three people granted anonymity to discuss private fund raising calls made that day Then she would hand the phone to Newsom to close the deal The choreography was partly borne of a mindfulness of

tangled federal rules about soliciting outsized checks and partly out of deference to Newsom the Pelosi early support of redrawing the maps had proved crucial in uniting the Democratic members of Congress from California according to multiple attendees Without any brow beating every member agreed Ms Lofgren said Next came selling state legislators in Sacramento Ms Pelosi was involved in that too As Democratic Assembly members lunched on barbecue and mac and cheese at the State Capitol in the middle of August Ms Pelosi Ms Lofgren and Hakeem Jeffries the Democratic leader beamed in by video She gave a rallying cry about what is at stake and why we needed to do it Assemblywoman Buffy Wicks said of the remarks of Ms Pelosi The plan would pass days later with little Democratic dissent All that was left was getting voter approval And raising an estimated 100 million dollars a blistering pace of more than 1 million dollars a day that Ms Pelosi is seen as crucial to achieving There is a lot at stake for the country this is not just about California Newsom said in an interview It is about our democracy It is about control of Congress It is about the rigging of an election We need national support and Pelosi as the former speaker gets that Germany Rhineland Westphalia State The German Elections That Are Set to Test the Attraction of the Far Right The New York Times Friedrich Merz visits the Henkel AG factory in Düsseldorf the capital of North Rhine Westphalia on Saturday Germany Far right AfD forecast to make gains as North Rhine Westphalia goes to polls Elections in the most populous state in Germany pose first significant test at ballot box for Friedrich Merz as chancellor Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization The New York Times September 14 2025 The far right Alternative für Deutschland AfD party in Germany is expected to make significant gains as voters in the most populous state in Germany go to the polls in local elections that are seen as the first significant electoral test for Friedrich Merz since he took office as chancellor four months ago North Rhine Westphalia home to almost a quarter of citizens of Germany and made up of swathes of agricultural land the no longer industrial towns and cities with large multi ethnic and student populations is viewed as something of a bellwether for the country as a whole According to final opinion polls the Merz conservative Christian Democratic Union is on course to retain its dominant position in the state with about 35% of the vote The far right populist AfD has been polling at about 16% between two and three times its performance in the last local elections in the state five years ago giving its candidates who are running for mayoral positions a considerable chance of reaching second round votes in 14 days Countrywide attention on the vote will focus in particular on whether AfD can repeat the big gains it has made in the states of the former communist east The vote is taking place against the backdrop of a weakened German economy rising unemployment and growing unease over immigration the Alternative for German the AfD key issue Merz has pledged to get the economy back on track reduce immigration and cut the far right down to size Since the February federal election the AfD has come top in several national opinion polls The Social Democratic party a junior partner in the coalition government is facing a fierce battle for political survival in some areas in particular former coalmining regions where it was once sure of victory The more success the AfD achieves in securing a foothold in local political positions by securing mayoralties and councilor posts the harder it will be for the mainstream parties to uphold their pledge to maintain a firewall preventing political collaboration with the AfD at the federal level experts say International issues have also played a role in the North Rhine Westphalia campaign even if they only indirectly affect local political issues with Merz seen as a bolder figure in representing the interests of Germany abroad than his Social Democrat predecessor Olaf

Scholz Particular attention has been given to the role he has forged in trying to bring European allies together over the defense of Ukraine as the Trump administration vacillates over its backing But on immigration where he has pledged to dramatically change the policy of Germany voters have said they are not so convinced despite the fact that numbers have dropped in recent months The AfD has presented itself as a confident alternative scoring points with voters on issues such as energy provision education and above all immigration even though these policy areas are not decided at the local level Air Pollution caused by Fossil Fuel Burning and Air Pollution caused by Wood Burning Opinion They Came for the Oil They Took Everything The New York Times Consumers Phones The 3 Best Foldable Phones of 2025 Reviews by Wire cutter Consumers Restaurants Invites not just Reservations Think Getting a Reservation Is Hard Try Getting an Invite The New York Times Democrats Lina Khan Revamped Antitrust Now She is Pushing the Democratic Party The New York Times Democrats Opinion Democrats Cannot Just Buy Back the Working Class The New York Times Democrats Opinion Do not Just Defend the Fed Reinvent It The New York Times Electric Planes Clean Energy The Capital of Electric Cars Is Turning to Electric Planes The New York Times Human Interest My Friends Think I am Mean What Should I Do The New York Times Medicine and Science Inside a Hell on Earth in Oklahoma The New York Times New York City Mayoral Race Democrat Support of Mamdani Maryland Senator Chris Van Hollen Criticizes Democratic Leaders for Delay in Endorsing Mamdani The New York Times North Carolina Media Mister Beast Awarded 15 Million dollars to Film Reality Show in North Carolina The New York Times Republicans Opinion There Are Monsters in Your Midst Too The New York Times Republicans Republican on Republican violence Opinion Tyler Robinson and Our Poisonous Internet The New York Times Republicans Opinion We have Reached Peak Profanity The New York Times Science Nature Mark Norell 68 Discoverer of Links Between Dinosaurs and Birds Dies The New York Times Trump Tariffs U S and China to Resume Talks on Tariffs TikTok in Madrid The New York Times United States Republicans and Emergency Docket Silence on Motivation of Votes On the Supreme Court Emergency Docket Sharp Partisan Divides The New York Times Brazil After the Bolsonaro Conviction Brazil Already Considers His Amnesty The New York Times Brazil Bolsonaro was Sentenced to 27 Years for Plotting a Coup in Brazil What Comes Next The New York Times United Kingdom Far Right Rally in London Draws Huge Crowd and a Counterprotest The New York Times Portugal Funicular Crash Has Jarred the Lisbon Sense of Itself The New York Times Romania Reports Russian Drone in Its Airspace The New York Times Romania and Poland Incursions by Russia into nations outside Ukraine Russia Made Drone Production a Supreme Priority Now It Swarms the Skies The New York Times Congo Dozens of Students Among Over 200 Dead in Two Boat Disasters in Congo The New York Times **Headlines The New York Times September 13 2025** United Kingdom Climate Change Opinion Today We take clouds for granted They are one of the greatest indicators of uncertainty in climate science **Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization** The New York Times September 13 2025 Bu an author in Somerset Britain and the founder of the Cloud Appreciation Society I founded the Cloud Appreciation Society in 2005 because I believed we should all pay more attention to the sky It was originally just a lighthearted idea I felt I needed to stand up for clouds In Britain where I live they have always received a bad rap because they have a habit of raining on our barbecues The Society was for anyone who like me believed that clouds are one of the most evocative dynamic and accessible aspects

of nature Over the past two decades tens of thousands of people have joined the Society from all around the world and I have come to realize there are also weightier reasons for paying more attention to clouds Some relate to our mental health and how the sky is an ever present resource for us Others relate to atmospheric science and the way [changing cloud cover in a warming climate](#) could shift how [clouds regulate temperatures](#) below The world has changed in both these domains over the life of the Society Our need to be out in nature for well being has never been greater Our attention economy is of course dependent on getting us to look down at our devices [Looking up at the sky is something we can all choose to do at any moment](#) It is a way to lift our perspective Tuning in to the sky encourages you to [slow down](#) to follow a narrative with no beginning and no end to [find what is common between us rather than what divides](#) No one as far as I am aware has ever come to blows over the beauty of a sunrise The scientific case for paying more attention to the sky is I now believe even more profound That [these most dynamic aspects of nature should change as the global climate heats up](#) has to me always seemed likely Now [the science is starting to show us how](#) and the stakes are high The sky it turns out is [both mirror and messenger](#) It reflects our need for wonder and it carries the signals of what lies ahead We Take Clouds for Granted Clouds are changing and [we need to find out if it is just temporary](#) or from global warming Poland and NATO and Russia NATO Steps Up Defenses After Russian Drones Violate Polish Airspace The New York Times [Headlines The New York Times September 12 2025](#) RFK Junior Embracing Vaccine Skepticism without proof and evidence of harm from Vaccines Medicine and Science [RAWSEP View](#) Our tax dollars used to reinvestigate reports that are speculative and not based on Science [From the article headline](#) Trump Food and Drug Administration F D A Reviews Reports of Covid Vaccine Deaths The New York Times Air Pollution caused by Wood Burning Murder and Arson Suspect in Murder of Queens Couple Told Police That He Burned Them The New York Times California Water Pollution California Wants to Ban Forever Chemicals in Pans These Chefs Say Do not Do It The New York Times Consumers Bringing Order to Chaos without the internet The Ugmonk Analog To Do System Helps Me Ditch Distractions Reviews by Wire cutter Consumers Food Recipe Pan de Elote Mexican Corn Cake Recipe Consumers Food Recipes Taco Soup Recipe Consumers Grocery Store Wire cutter Guide to Shopping at Trader Joes Reviews by Wire cutter Consumers Laundry Products Pit Stains on Your White Tee Do not Sweat It We Can Help Reviews by Wire cutter Consumers Office Products Ralph Nader Has a Pencil Eraser Problem We Investigated Reviews by Wire cutter Consumers Phones 6 Tips to Make Your Phone Last Longer Reviews by Wire cutter Consumers Reliving the 1990s without the internet How are People Using AI to Relive the Pre Internet Era The New York Times Consumers Restaurants Closing of Businesses In High Profile Closings Los Angeles Restaurateurs See Trouble The New York Times Consumers Achieving Peace in Traffic My Secret for Finding Peace in Traffic The New York Times Democrats Success in the 1990s Opinion Clinton Era Lessons for Democrats Confronting Trump The New York Times Human Interest Consumers Gambling Cruise Ship Passenger With 16,000 dollars Gambling Debt Jumps Overboard The New York Times Media Copyright Is The Pitt Really an ER Spinoff The estate of Michael Crichton Says It Is The New York Times Media Monopolies The David Ellison Spending at Paramount Has Changed the Hollywood Mood The New York Times Media Republicans CBS News Weighs Major Role for Bari Weiss as Part of Deal to Buy The Free Press The New York Times Music Taylor Swift Fashion Ralph Lauren and the Taylor Swift Effect The New York Times New York City Architecture Aviation The New York City Buildings Amelia Earhart Left Behind The New York

Times RFK Junior Medicine and Science Rare but Serious Complication Shows the Potential Harm of the Flu The New York Times Trump Actions Aviation The Trump Administration Wants to Roll Back Airline Passenger Rights The New York Times Trump extortion of Black Colleges Hoaxes Target Black Colleges Shutting Classes as Anxiety Mounts in US The New York Times Watergate A scandal from the 1970s continuing into the 1980s Iran Contra Scandal Oliver North and Fawn Hall Key Figures in Iran Contra Scandal Are Married The New York Times Latin America Rubio Leads Charge in The Trump New War in Latin America The New York Times Europe versus Russian aggression Opposition to Putin Pulls Up European Leaders Dragged Down at Home The New York Times Belgium Medicine and Science Belgian Authorities Say 10 Million dollar Supply of Birth Control Has Not Yet Been Destroyed The New York Times Germany Political Fire Wall against Right Wing Extremism including Neo Nazis Opinion What Germany Did That America Still Has not The New York Times Poland Has Invoked the NATO Article 4 What Comes Next The New York Times Poland and NATO Opinion 3 Thoughts After the Drone Incursion of Russia Into Poland The New York Times Qatar Prime Minister to Meet Trump Officials After Israeli Strikes in Doha The New York Times Nepal Former Judge Sushila Karki Named the Nepali Leader After Gen Z Protests The New York Times China Trump Actions Opinion Trump Is Copying China That is a Terrible Idea The New York Times **Headlines The New York Times**

September 11 2025 Medicine and Science Preventive Medicine When Should You See a Doctor About Sleep The New York Times RFK Junior Opinion The MAHA Movement is Destroying the CDC Credibility Why The New York Times Canada Carney Unveils Major Projects for Canada to Offset Damage of The Trump Tariffs The New York Times Brazil Bolsonaro Convicted of Attempting a Coup in Brazil Sentenced to 27 Years in Prison The New York Times Brazil and Vietnam The Trump Tariffs on Brazil and Vietnam Are Making Coffee More Expensive The New York Times **Headlines The Guardian**

September 14 2025 United Kingdom Musk Far Right Protest Mistake against the Left Wing when the protest should be against the Right Wing Elon Musk calls for dissolution of parliament at far right rally in London Elon Musk The Guardian Elon Musk on screen at the unite the kingdom demonstration in central London on Saturday **RAWSEP View** This UK right wing protest is based on the erroneous belief that the shooter was a leftist All facts point to the shooter being a Republican who stated that he disliked the person he shot because the person he shot was not sufficiently right wing conservative This appears to be the truth based on the facts we know that this violence was United States Republican upon Republican violence Therefore this right wing protest is against the left wing but rationally the protest should be against the fellow right wing in the UK and should rationally be protest against fellow far right Republicans in the United States **Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization** The Guardian September 13 2025 Elon Musk has called for a dissolution of parliament and a change of government in the UK while addressing a crowd attending a unite the kingdom rally in London organized by the far right activist Stephen Yaxley Lennon known as Tommy Robinson Protesters on Westminster Bridge and standing on a statue with the houses of parliament in the background Far right London rally sees record crowds and violent clashes with police Musk the owner of X who dialed in via a video link and spoke to Robinson while thousands watched and listened also railed against the woke mind virus and told the crowd that violence is coming and that you either fight back or you die He said I really think that there is got to be a change of government in Britain You cannot we do not have another four years or whenever the next election is it is too long Something has got to be done There is got to be a dissolution of

parliament and a new vote held This is not the first time Musk has involved himself in British politics He started a war of words with the UK government over grooming gangs and also criticized the 2023 Online Safety Act calling the legislation a threat to free speech He had a warm relationship with Nigel Farage and there were even rumors he could channel a donation to his party before the Tesla boss called for the Reform UK leader to be replaced during a dispute over his support for Robinson Musk told the crowd in central London My appeal is to British common sense which is to look carefully around you and say If this continues what world will you be living in? Aerial footage shows scale of unite the kingdom rally video 119 Aerial footage shows scale of unite the kingdom rally video This is a message to the reasonable center the people who ordinarily would not get involved in politics who just want to live their lives They do not want that they are quiet they just go about their business My message is to them if this continues that violence is going to come to you and you will have no choice You are in a fundamental situation here Whether you choose violence or not violence is coming to you and you either fight back or you die that is the truth I think Musk also told the crowd the left are the party of murder referring to the death of Charlie Kirk He said There is so much violence on the left with our friend Charlie Kirk getting murdered in cold blood this week and people on the left celebrating it openly The left is the party of murder and celebrating murder I mean let that sink in for a minute that is who we are dealing with here He also criticized what he called the woke mind virus and said decisions for advancement should be on merit rather than discrimination on the basis of sex or religion or any race or anything else Police in hi visibility one on horseback hold back crowds in central London flying union flags Flares are thrown as police try to hold back the crowd at the rally He said A lot of the woke stuff is actually super racist it is super sexist and often it is against religion but only against Christian like why against Christian? That is unfair that should be all that matters the woke mind virus that I call it is against all that More than 110,000 people were estimated to have taken part in the far right street rally in what is thought to be one of the largest nationalist events in decades The marchers were faced by about 5,000 against racist counter protesters In addition to Musk figures including Katie Hopkins and French far right politician Éric Zemmour were invited to speak at the event The show of force by the far right leaves Met desperately kettling counter protesters Bottles thrown at police as 100 officers clash with unite the kingdom marchers Far right London rally sees record crowds and violent clashes with police Germany Far right show of force leaves Met desperately kettling counter protesters Far right The Guardian Far right AfD forecast to make gains as North Rhine Westphalia goes to polls Germany The Guardian Friedrich Merz visits the Henkel AG factory in Düsseldorf the capital of North Rhine Westphalia on Saturday Germany Far right AfD forecast to make gains as North Rhine Westphalia goes to polls Elections in the most populous state in Germany pose first significant test at ballot box for Friedrich Merz as chancellor Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization The Guardian September 14 2025 The far right Alternative für Deutschland AfD party in Germany is expected to make significant gains as voters in the most populous state in Germany go to the polls in local elections that are seen as the first significant electoral test of Friedrich Merz since he took office as chancellor four months ago North Rhine Westphalia home to almost a quarter of the citizens of Germany and made up of swathes of agricultural land no longer industrial towns and cities with large multi ethnic and student populations is viewed as something of a bellwether for the country as a whole According to final opinion polls the Merz conservative Christian Democratic Union is on course to retain its dominant position in the state with

about 35% of the vote The far right populist AfD has been polling at about 16% between two and three times its performance in the last local elections in the state five years ago giving its candidates who are running for mayoral positions a considerable chance of reaching second round votes in two weeks Countrywide attention on the vote will focus in particular on whether AfD can repeat the big gains it has made in the states of the former communist east The vote is taking place against the backdrop of a weakened German economy rising unemployment and growing unease over immigration the Alternative for Germany the AfD key issue Merz has pledged to get the economy back on track reduce immigration and cut the far right down to size Since the February federal election the AfD has come top in several national opinion polls The Social Democratic party a junior partner in the coalition government is facing a fierce battle for political survival in some areas in particular former coalmining regions where it was once sure of victory The more success the AfD achieves in securing a foothold in local political positions by securing mayoralties and councilor posts the harder it will be for the mainstream parties to uphold their pledge to maintain a firewall preventing political collaboration with the AfD at the federal level experts say skip past newsletter promotion International issues have also played a role in the North Rhine Westphalia campaign even if they only indirectly affect local political issues with Merz seen as a bolder figure in representing the interests abroad of Germany than his Social Democrat predecessor Olaf Scholz Particular attention has been given to the role he has forged in trying to bring European allies together over the defense of Ukraine as the Trump administration vacillates over its backing But on immigration where he has pledged to dramatically change the policy in Germany voters have said they are not so convinced despite the fact that numbers have dropped in recent months The AfD has presented itself as a confident alternative scoring points with voters on issues such as energy provision education and above all immigration even though these policy areas are not decided at the local level

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to monitor Belarus drills Ukraine The Guardian Romania reports Russian drone in its airspace as Poland scrambles jets again Romania The Guardian **Headlines The Guardian September 13 2025**

Air Pollution caused by Fossil Fuel Burning and Air Pollution caused by Wood Burning Opinion What 9 11 Cancer and the Palisades Fire Taught Me The New York Times Air Pollution caused by Fossil Fuel Burning and Air Pollution caused by Wood Burning Opinion When Authoritarianism Looms Old Friends Reunite The New York Times Artificial Intelligence How thousands of overworked underpaid humans train Google AI to seem smart Google The Guardian California Trump Action and Privacy Medicine and Science California Passes Bill Allowing Omission of the Names of Patients From Abortion Pill Bottles The New York Times Consumers Phones Their Schools Banned Phones Out Came the iPods and Cassette Players The New York Times Media Trump Actions Paramount Plans Bid for Warner Bros Discovery The New York Times Nature Science Octopuses prefer to use different arms for different tasks scientists find Marine life The Guardian New York City Mayoral Race Democrats Mamdani Gets Backing From National Democrats as Trump Enters Fray The New York Times Science Trump Actions Judge allows Trump to cut more than 1 billion dollars in National Science Foundation grants Trump administration The Guardian Trump Economy Consumer Price Index CPI Shows Pace of US Inflation Likely to Keep Fed Cautious on Rate Cuts The New York Times Trump Economy US inflation rises in August as firms pass Trump tariffs cost on to consumers US economy The Guardian Trump and Epstein Fallout Democrats Want JPMorgan and Other Banks to Testify Over Epstein Ties The New York Times Canada Carney unveils array of national projects to turbocharge economy Canada The Guardian Columbia Air Pollution caused by Fossil Fuel Burning and Air Pollution caused by Wood Burning The Colombian coastal village reinventing itself as seas rise Colombia The Guardian Brazil supreme court finds Bolsonaro guilty of plotting military coup Jair Bolsonaro The Guardian Brazil Supreme Court Is On Course to Convict Bolsonaro in Coup Plot The New York Times Brazil What did the Jair Bolsonaro trial reveal about an attempted coup in Brazil Jair Bolsonaro The Guardian United Kingdom Trump and Epstein Fallout As the Epstein case shows The Trump Maga faithful care about only one kind of sex crime victim Emma Brockes The Guardian United Kingdom Trump and Epstein Fallout Keir Starmer sacks Peter Mandelson over Jeffrey Epstein ties Peter Mandelson The Guardian United Kingdom Trump and Epstein Fallout The Guardian view on Peter Mandelson in Washington a parable of short sighted foreign policy Editorial The Guardian United Kingdom Trump and Epstein Fallout Starmer is always torn between risk and caution When it came to Mandelson the wrong side won Emma Burnell The Guardian United Kingdom Trump and Epstein Fallout Opinion Totalitarianism Can Be Terrifying It Can Also Be Thrilling He Taught Us Why The New York Times United Kingdom Trump and Epstein Fallout Who is in the running to replace Peter Mandelson as the US ambassador from Britain Peter Mandelson The Guardian Europe Trump or no Trump The European relationship with the US will never recover Nathalie Tocci The Guardian Spain Air Pollution caused by Fossil Fuel Burning and Air Pollution caused by Wood Burning Spanish schools to teach pupils how to cope with climate crisis disasters Spain The Guardian Belarus Frees 52 Political Prisoners and Gets a Warm Thank You From Trump The New York Times Russia Strategy Against the West Escalate Slowly and See if the West Responds The New York Times Japan and South Korea Trump Tariffs In South Korea and Japan Fury at U S Fuels Backlash Over Trade Deals The New York Times **Headlines The Guardian September 13 2025** Air pollution from fossil fuel burning is like air pollution from wood burning Electric Vehicles are Clean Energy if Wind and Solar supply the electricity Heat Pumps are

Clean Energy and an alternative to indoor residential wood burning if Wind and Solar supply the electricity
Extreme nausea Are EVs causing car sickness and what can be done Electric hybrid and low emission cars
The Guardian Air pollution from fossil fuel burning is like air pollution from wood burning
There are hundreds in the Baltic tracking Russian shadow fleet of oil tankers Sweden The Guardian
Air pollution from fossil fuel burning is like air pollution from wood burning Like walking through time as glaciers retreat new worlds are being created in their wake
Glaciers The Guardian Democrats Government shutdown draws near as Democrats push for healthcare funding US federal government shutdown
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Florida The Guardian Human Interest The unconscious process that leads to creativity how incubation works Well actually The Guardian Medicine and Science Autocrats and tech bros want to live forever
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