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New Clean Air Rules Can Help Curb Extreme Weather and the Economic Harm it Does to Small Businesses

Statement by John Arensmeyer, CEO, Small Business Majority, about rules proposed today by the Environmental Protection Agency that would limit carbon emissions from power plants

****Small business owners available for comment****

Rules proposed today by the Environmental Protection Agency that would limit carbon emissions from power plants will help curb climate change and reduce the extreme weather events it causes, which hurt our economy and wreak havoc on small businesses' bottom lines. What's more, rules such as these are supported by small businesses—our primary job creators.

Small Business Majority's [opinion polling](#) found the majority of small businesses support the EPA setting standards for existing power plants to curb carbon emissions. In addition, the vast majority believe investing in clean energy can stimulate the economy and create jobs now.

Small employers realize carbon pollution is linked to climate change and extreme weather. More and more, extreme weather has been hitting small employers where it hurts the most. Our [polling](#) also revealed climate change and extreme weather events are causing real financial hardships for small employers—so much so that the majority of entrepreneurs affected by an extreme weather event have experienced a “significant” financial impact to their companies and some have even had to lay off employees.

Small businesses make up the backbone of our economy. For every one large business in America, there are more than 1,400 small businesses diligently working to reenergize the economy. These entrepreneurs are doing everything they can to hire, grow and move their business forward. As part of these efforts, they want pragmatic, innovative policies that help guide them into a modern clean energy economy and that will mitigate extreme weather events brought about by climate change, which can hurt their profit margins. This includes strengthening EPA standards of carbon emissions that get into the air from power plants.

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About Small Business Majority

Small Business Majority is a national small business organization, founded and run by small business owners, to support America's 28 million small businesses. We conduct extensive opinion and economic research and work with our rapidly growing network of small business owners across the country to ensure their voices are an integral part of the public policy debate. Learn more about us on [Wikipedia](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).