

Dear **Lawmaker**,

As a **mom/person of faith/teacher/nurse/grandparent [you can list several categories that matter to you]**, the news that the Environmental Protection Agency is intent on weakening the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS) is deeply troubling.

Mercury is a potent neurotoxin that is particularly dangerous to pregnant women and children. Mercury easily crosses the placenta, and it concentrates in a developing fetus's blood and organs, including his or her brain, where it can disrupt the growth of that precious organ.

Coal fired power plants are the largest source of mercury pollution. Because of this problem, in 2011, EPA finalized a rule limiting the amount of mercury that power plants could emit.

Since the rule was enacted, mercury pollution has dramatically declined in the US, helping to protect pregnant women and their babies, as well as hundreds of communities living in the shadow of coal fired power plants.

The rule is in place, it's working, and it's protecting our families. Weakening the mercury rule could have devastating health consequences for communities across the country, especially pregnant women and communities of color.

The power industry is in full compliance with the rule and opposes weakening this rule. Lawmakers from both sides of aisle oppose weakening the rule. Doctors and nurses are opposed. Even the power industry is opposed to weakening our mercury pollution protections. As a **mom/person of faith/teacher/nurse/grandparent**, I am also deeply opposed to weakening this bedrock pollution protection rule that benefits pregnant women and their babies. Will you join me in opposing this dangerous rollback?

Sincerely,

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