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Our sacred wilderness is left at risk. Help NRDC defend them and protect **100 MILLION** yr.
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Overview

White House Watch: Tracking Attacks on Our Environment & Health

Since the Trump administration took office in January 2017, it has already proposed at least 52 actions that directly threaten the environment, climate, and human health. NRDC is tracking the mounting toward and harm.

October 14, 2020

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LEARN MORE: CONVIT BATTLES

Here's How NRDC's Fighting Back Against the Trump Administration in Court

As soon as the second Trump administration took office in January 2017, we knew it would be a relentless, and in many instances unprecedented, attack on our public health. This includes a rollback of crucial environmental safeguards, the repeal of federal environmental and health laws, the delay of critical protections for impacted communities, and attacks on well-established science and scientists.

At NRDC, we believe it is critical to keep track of the administration's relentless efforts to undo decades of progress. Here, we are tracking all of the Trump administration's actions that have proposed to roll back environmental and public health. This is a living document that will be continuously updated as NRDC analyzes the administration's actions and as new threats emerge.

Keep sweeping executive orders to obscure regulatory changes, we are committed to documenting the full scope of the agenda. Rollbacks, postponements, and other actions that Trump's administration has taken to delay or reform public health and safety rules, and key field decision makers accountable. We believe that this work will lead to clarity for the latest developments and accountability.

ADMINISTRATION & FUNDS

Sort by Date ↓ Filter

Date ↓	Action	What Happened	Why It Matters
June 15, 2020	Announcement	The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced a proposal to remove Clean Water Act protections for wetlands and streams. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue's proposal would remove protections for wetlands and streams in "ephemeral" or arid regions.	The proposal would remove protections for wetlands and streams in arid regions, including in the Southwest.
June 15, 2020	Announcement	The Trump administration proposed to remove protections for wetlands and streams through USDA and EPA rulemakings. The proposed rule would remove protections for wetlands and streams in "ephemeral" or arid regions.	The proposal may encourage contamination or dewatering of wetlands and streams.
June 11, 2020	Personnel action	The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Sonny Perdue ousted the Office of Inspector General (OIG) Inspector General Phyllis Fong.	Actions to suspend prosecution suggestion, starting a sudden wave of investigation suspect. Fong's ousting is the latest in a series of actions by the Trump administration to remove inspectors general who have been investigating agency officials or others sponsored by the administration. Fong was investigating Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue's use of taxpayer funds for his family to travel to his hometown in his official government vehicle. Perdue's family accompanied him on the trip, which was reported to cost taxpayers $1,000 for the rental car alone. Fong was also investigating Perdue's use of a private jet for a family vacation to Montana, which reportedly cost taxpayers $25,000. Fong was also investigating Perdue's personal and political ties to a Georgia peanut farm.
May 13, 2020	Rules & regulations	The U.S. Department of Agriculture Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) proposed a rule that would remove protections for wetlands and streams. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue's proposal would remove protections for wetlands and streams.	Actions to suspend prosecution suggestion, starting a sudden wave of investigation suspect. Fong's ousting is the latest in a series of actions by the Trump administration to remove inspectors general who have been investigating agency officials or others sponsored by the administration.
April 16, 2020	Announcement	The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced a proposal to remove Clean Water Act protections for wetlands and streams. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue's proposal would remove protections for wetlands and streams.	The proposal would remove protections for wetlands and streams in arid regions, including in the Southwest.
April 1, 2020	Personnel action	The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Sonny Perdue ousted the inspector general, the agency's top watchdog, and other headquarters personnel, and will reassign the remaining staff to other agency offices.	The ousting of the inspector general is the latest in a series of actions by the Trump administration to remove inspectors general who have been investigating agency officials or others sponsored by the administration. Fong was investigating Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue's use of taxpayer funds for his family to travel to his hometown in his official government vehicle. Perdue's family accompanied him on the trip, which was reported to cost taxpayers $1,000 for the rental car alone. Fong was also investigating Perdue's use of a private jet for a family vacation to Montana, which reportedly cost taxpayers $25,000. Fong was also investigating Perdue's personal and political ties to a Georgia peanut farm.
January 30, 2020	Agency memo	The U.S. Department of Agriculture division of agriculture research, education, and economics (REE) issued a memo ordering its public relations staff to cease working on public relations.	The memo ordering personnel to cease public relations work, which is a key function of the agency, is the latest in a series of actions by the Trump administration to remove or sideline scientists and experts from government. The memo ordering personnel to cease public relations work, which is a key function of the agency, is the latest in a series of actions by the Trump administration to remove or sideline scientists and experts from government.

BUILDINGS

Sort by Date ↓ Filter

Date ↓	Action	What Happened	Why It Matters
July 2, 2020	Rules & regulations	The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposed a rule that would remove energy efficiency standards for ceiling fans, commercial refrigerators, walk-in coolers and walk-in freezers, and commercial heating, air conditioning, water heaters, refrigerators, and freezers.	Energy efficiency standards that DOE proposed to remove have saved consumers and businesses billions of dollars and have prevented the emission of hundreds of millions of tons of carbon dioxide and other pollutants.
June 26, 2020	Announcement	The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposed a rule that would remove energy efficiency standards for ceiling fans, commercial refrigerators, walk-in coolers and walk-in freezers, and commercial heating, air conditioning, water heaters, refrigerators, and freezers.	Energy efficiency standards that DOE proposed to remove have saved consumers and businesses billions of dollars and have prevented the emission of hundreds of millions of tons of carbon dioxide and other pollutants.
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May 21, 2020	Announcement	The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposed a rule that would remove energy efficiency standards for ceiling fans, commercial refrigerators, walk-in coolers and walk-in freezers, and commercial heating, air conditioning, water heaters, refrigerators, and freezers.	Energy efficiency standards that DOE proposed to remove have saved consumers and businesses billions of dollars and have prevented the emission of hundreds of millions of tons of carbon dioxide and other pollutants.
March 13, 2020	Executive order	President Trump signed an executive order that would remove energy efficiency standards for ceiling fans, commercial refrigerators, walk-in coolers and walk-in freezers, and commercial heating, air conditioning, water heaters, refrigerators, and freezers.	Energy efficiency standards that DOE proposed to remove have saved consumers and businesses billions of dollars and have prevented the emission of hundreds of millions of tons of carbon dioxide and other pollutants.
December 5, 2019	Rules & regulations	The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposed a rule that would remove energy efficiency standards for ceiling fans, commercial refrigerators, walk-in coolers and walk-in freezers, and commercial heating, air conditioning, water heaters, refrigerators, and freezers.	Energy efficiency standards that DOE proposed to remove have saved consumers and businesses billions of dollars and have prevented the emission of hundreds of millions of tons of carbon dioxide and other pollutants.
September 5, 2019	Rules & regulations	The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) proposed a rule that would remove energy efficiency standards for manufactured housing. The proposed rule would remove energy efficiency standards for manufactured housing, including requirements for insulation, windows, and heating and cooling equipment.	The rollback proposed here after a comprehensive review of the standards, which HUD had initiated in response to a petition from the Manufactured Housing Institute, would increase the cost of manufactured homes by hundreds of dollars, and would increase energy costs for homes. Energy efficiency standards for manufactured homes have been in place since 1994.
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June 5, 2019	Rules & regulations	The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposed a rule that would remove energy efficiency standards for ceiling fans, commercial refrigerators, walk-in coolers and walk-in freezers, and commercial heating, air conditioning, water heaters, refrigerators, and freezers.	These standards would have improved energy efficiency and would have saved consumers and businesses billions of dollars. The rolling back of efficiency standards would increase energy costs for consumers and businesses and increase pollution.
May 30, 2019	Announcement	EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin announced a proposal to remove energy efficiency standards for ceiling fans.	These standards would have improved energy efficiency and would have saved consumers and businesses billions of dollars. The rolling back of efficiency standards would increase energy costs for consumers and businesses and increase pollution.
May 29, 2019	Rules & regulations	The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposed a rule that would remove energy efficiency standards for ceiling fans.	These standards would have improved energy efficiency and would have saved consumers and businesses billions of dollars. The rolling back of efficiency standards would increase energy costs for consumers and businesses and increase pollution.
May 28, 2019	Rules & regulations	The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposed a rule that would remove energy efficiency standards for commercial heating, air conditioning, water heaters, refrigerators, and freezers

Date	Action	What happened	Why it matters
February 27, 2026	Announcement	The Trump administration formally notified the United Nations that it would withdraw from the Paris Agreement, the global climate treaty adopted in 2015. The withdrawal, first announced in January, takes effect in 90 days. The move marks the second time the United States has begun the process of leaving the Paris Agreement, following a withdrawal initiated during the first Trump administration.	The United States is the largest historical emitter of greenhouse gases and contributed roughly 25% of global emissions in 2023. Withdrawal removes the world's largest economy from a coordinated global framework for emissions reductions and weakens international pressure on other major emitters.
February 12, 2026	Rule & regulations	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency proposed to rescind its 2009 finding that greenhouse gas emissions pose a threat to public health and welfare, the scientific finding underpinning almost all federal greenhouse gas regulations.	If finalized, the rule would remove the legal foundation for EPA authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles and power plants under the Clean Air Act.
December 15, 2025	Announcement	The Trump administration released its National Defense Strategy, which for the first time in a major Pentagon document ranks climate change below traditional security threats.	The strategy signals that climate change will receive significantly less weight in Pentagon planning and budgeting than it has in previous administrations.
December 11, 2025	Agency memo	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued a memorandum directing its staff to stop using the social cost of greenhouse gas emissions in cost-benefit analyses of regulations.	The social cost of greenhouse gas emissions has been a central tool in federal rulemaking since the Obama administration, used to justify stricter standards for vehicles, power plants, and other sectors. Removing it makes it harder to justify new greenhouse gas rules under cost-benefit analysis.
November 13, 2025	Agency memo	The U.S. Department of Energy's loan office issued a memorandum directing staff to stop using the Biden-era "Climate Change Impact Assessment" guidance.	The guidance was used to evaluate climate risks in energy infrastructure loan applications. Its removal weakens the department's ability to assess climate risk in its lending portfolio.
October 29, 2025	Announcement	The administration is pressing the European Union to weaken its carbon tariff, a key component of Europe's climate strategy, in exchange for not being subjected to additional U.S. tariffs.	The carbon tariff is the EU's most ambitious tool for pricing carbon in imports and has been a model for similar policies in other jurisdictions. Weakening it would reduce its effectiveness as a global precedent.
August 21, 2025	Announcement	EPA administrator Lee Zeldin announced the agency's proposal to rescind its 2009 finding that greenhouse gas emissions pose a threat to public health and welfare, the scientific finding underpinning almost all federal greenhouse gas regulations.	If finalized, the rule would remove the legal foundation for EPA authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles and power plants under the Clean Air Act.
August 20, 2025	Announcement	Steve Bunce, one of the lead authors of the U.S. Department of Energy's assessment of climate risks to electric infrastructure, resigned from the department. Bunce had been working on the assessment since the Biden administration.	The assessment was intended to inform decisions about grid hardening and resilience investments. Its author's departure raises questions about the department's commitment to completing the analysis.
August 12, 2025	Announcement	The Republican-led Interior, Energy and Commerce committees released their budget reconciliation proposals, which would cut $1.4 billion from the Department of Energy's loan programs.	The cuts would significantly reduce the department's capacity to deploy clean energy and industrial decarbonization projects through its loan programs.
July 29, 2025	Announcement	EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin said he would propose rescinding the agency's finding that greenhouse gases endanger public health, the scientific finding underpinning almost all federal greenhouse gas regulations. Zeldin said the proposal would be "the most ambitious action" any administrator has taken to reduce American burdens and restore economic freedom.	If finalized, the rule would remove the legal foundation for EPA authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles and power plants under the Clean Air Act. The proposal is expected to face immediate legal challenge.
July 28, 2025	Report	Bloomberg NEF (formerly Bloomberg New Energy Finance) reported that Trump's "One Big Beautiful Bill" is projected to reduce clean energy investment by roughly $500 billion through 2035 compared with current policy, and to increase household energy costs by an average of $85 per year.	The report is one of the most widely cited estimates of the fiscal and consumer impact of the bill's energy provisions, and its figures have been used in congressional debate on the reconciliation package.
July 24, 2025	Rule & regulations	The Trump administration proposed to rescind the EPA's endangerment finding, the scientific finding that greenhouse gas emissions from cars and trucks endanger public health and welfare. The finding has been the legal foundation for almost all federal greenhouse gas regulations since the Supreme Court ruled in 2007 that the Clean Air Act gives the EPA authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions.	If finalized, the rule would remove the legal foundation for EPA authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles and power plants under the Clean Air Act. The proposal is expected to face immediate legal challenge.
July 18, 2025	Personnel action	EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin said he would "propose and finalize a rule to rescind the endangerment finding" and would "propose and finalize a rule to rescind the entirety of the Clean Vehicles rule."	The actions would remove the legal foundation for most federal greenhouse gas regulations and eliminate the rules that underpin fuel economy standards for cars and light trucks.
June 30, 2025	Announcement	The Trump administration released its National Energy Dominance Council memorandum, which directs agencies to identify "burdensome" regulations for revocation, modification, or suspension.	The memorandum is the administration's mechanism for systematically reviewing and weakening climate-related rules across the federal government.
June 5, 2025	Announcement	The Trump administration released its National Energy Dominance Council memorandum, which directs agencies to identify "burdensome" regulations for revocation, modification, or suspension.	The memorandum is the administration's mechanism for systematically reviewing and weakening climate-related rules across the federal government.
May 19, 2025	Announcement	The Trump administration released its National Energy Dominance Council memorandum, which directs agencies to identify "burdensome" regulations for revocation, modification, or suspension.	The memorandum is the administration's mechanism for systematically reviewing and weakening climate-related rules across the federal government.
May 16, 2025	Rule & regulations	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency proposed rescinding its 2024 rule requiring power plants to capture 90% of their emissions, a strategy known as carbon capture and storage, or CCS. The rule was the most ambitious climate rule for the power sector in the Biden administration.	If finalized, the rule would remove a key compliance pathway for coal and gas plants that had been expected to deploy CCS technology.
March 12, 2025	Agency memo	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced it would "reconsider" its 2024 rule limiting pollution from coal-fired power plants, including mercury, toxic metals, and greenhouse gases.	The rule was the most comprehensive air pollution standard for the coal fleet in decades. Its reconsideration signals that the Trump administration will not enforce the standard as written.

DRINKING WATER

Date	Action	What happened	Why it matters
May 14, 2026	Rule & regulations	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency proposed to rescind its 2024 rule limiting PFAS and other toxic chemicals in drinking water.	The rule would remove a key federal standard for PFAS in drinking water, the first enforceable limit on these chemicals in public water systems.
January 2, 2026	Announcement	The Trump administration released a Manchurian rule waiver allowing Manchurian to discharge wastewater into Lake Michigan.	The waiver allows the Manchurian plant to continue discharging wastewater into a Great Lake without meeting the standard that applies to most other industrial facilities.
September 15, 2025	Announcement	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced it would not enforce its 2024 rule limiting PFAS and other toxic chemicals in drinking water.	The rule was the first enforceable limit on PFAS in drinking water, and its suspension means it will not be enforced while the agency reconsiders it.
September 1, 2025	Announcement	EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin announced a "nationwide" waiver for Manchurian's Milwaukee plant, allowing it to discharge wastewater into Lake Michigan.	The waiver allows the Manchurian plant to continue discharging wastewater into a Great Lake without meeting the standard that applies to most other industrial facilities.
August 5, 2025	Announcement	The Trump administration announced it would not enforce its 2024 rule limiting PFAS and other toxic chemicals in drinking water.	The rule was the first enforceable limit on PFAS in drinking water, and its suspension means it will not be enforced while the agency reconsiders it.
July 28, 2025	Personnel action	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reassigned or placed on administrative leave dozens of employees in its Office of Water, including the office's top career official, Deputy Assistant Administrator Jennifer Orme.	The reassignments weaken the agency's capacity to implement and enforce water rules, including those governing drinking water and wastewater discharges.
June 10, 2025	Rule & regulations	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency proposed to rescind its 2024 rule limiting PFAS and other toxic chemicals in drinking water.	The rule was the first enforceable limit on PFAS in drinking water, and its rescission would remove a key federal standard for these chemicals in public water systems.
June 4, 2025	Announcement	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued an advisory that Manchurian's Milwaukee plant had been in violation of its Clean Water Act permit for several months, during which the plant discharged wastewater into Lake Michigan at levels exceeding its permit limits.	The advisory was issued after the Trump administration granted Manchurian a nationwide waiver allowing its Milwaukee plant to discharge wastewater into Lake Michigan.
May 16, 2025	Announcement	The Trump administration released its National Energy Dominance Council memorandum, which directs agencies to identify "burdensome" regulations for revocation, modification, or suspension. The memorandum specifically lists the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act among the laws under review.	Inclusion of the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act in the review signals that the administration is treating drinking water and wastewater rules as candidates for rollback.
March 12, 2025	Announcement	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced it would "reconsider" its 2024 rule limiting PFAS and other toxic chemicals in drinking water.	The rule was the first enforceable limit on PFAS in drinking water, and its reconsideration means it will not be enforced while the agency reconsiders it.

EQUITY & JUSTICE

Date	Action	What happened	Why it matters
July 28, 2026	Announcement	Lawmakers in Congress introduced the Justice for Climate Victims Act, which would allow people harmed by illegally polluting oil companies to sue for damages in federal court.	The bill would create a new legal pathway for climate litigation against fossil fuel companies, bypassing state courts where most such cases have been filed.
July 28, 2026	Announcement	GMB Illinois Sought commissioned that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency violated its federal grant-in-aid contract when it approved the Illinois Clean Water Initiative revolving loan program.	The complaint is a procedural challenge that could delay or block the program if the EPA agrees with the complaint, and it sets the stage for a potential lawsuit if the EPA does not respond.
June 5, 2026	Executive order	The Trump administration issued an executive order directing federal agencies to prioritize "energy dominance" when reviewing permits for energy projects.	The directive instructs civil service professions that environmental and other regulatory reviews should be completed with energy production as the priority.
April 9, 2026	Announcement	President Trump sent to Congress a proposal to rescind $1.7 billion in EPA grants and to cancel a capping spending bill for 5 large EPA programs, including the Clean Ports program and the Environmental Justice grant program.	The proposal would remove roughly $1.7 billion in EPA grants and cancel a capping spending bill for five large EPA programs, including the Clean Ports program and the Environmental Justice grant program.
March 5, 2026	Announcement	The Trump administration announced it would not enforce its 2024 rule limiting PFAS and other toxic chemicals in drinking water.	The rule was the first enforceable limit on PFAS in drinking water, and its suspension means it will not be enforced while the agency reconsiders it.
March 4, 2026	Announcement	The Trump administration announced it would not enforce its 2024 rule limiting PFAS and other toxic chemicals in drinking water.	The rule was the first enforceable limit on PFAS in drinking water, and its suspension means it will not be enforced while the agency reconsiders it.
February 5, 2026	Rule & regulations	The U.S. Department of Justice filed a motion to dismiss its lawsuit challenging Illinois's Through the Plant Water Generation program.	The program is a state-level effort to reduce water pollution from agricultural runoff. The dismissal signals that the federal government will not contest the program's legality in court.
February 2, 2026	Rule & regulations	The U.S. Department of Energy proposed rescinding its rule requiring that the Department of Energy's loan programs pay workers the prevailing wage and benefits in the area.	If finalized, the rule would remove a requirement that has been in place since the Biden administration and that unions have argued is necessary to prevent the loan programs from undercutting local wages.
January 27, 2026	Announcement	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced it is reconsidering its 2024 rule limiting PFAS and other toxic chemicals in drinking water.	The rule was the first enforceable limit on PFAS in drinking water, and its reconsideration means it will not be enforced while the agency reconsiders it.
January 20, 2026	Announcement	The U.S. Department of the Interior ordered the Bureau of Reclamation to halt all work on its Sites Reservoir project in California, citing concerns that the project violates the Biden administration's environmental justice guidance.	The order halts construction on a major water storage project that environmental justice groups have opposed for years, on the grounds that it would disproportionately benefit wealthy agribusiness interests at the expense of communities of color and low-income communities.
January 20, 2026	Rule & regulations	The U.S. Department of Energy rescinded its rule requiring that the Department of Energy's loan programs pay workers the prevailing wage and benefits in the area.	The rule had been in place since the Biden administration and had been expected to be challenged in court. Its rescission removes a requirement that unions had argued was necessary to prevent the loan programs from undercutting local wages

Date	Action	What happened	Why it matters
April 27, 2026	Proposed rule	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) proposed a rule to repeal the April 2023 "Pre-2015 Regulatory Definition of "Waters of the United States" and restore the regulatory definition of "waters of the United States" that was in effect before 2015.	Repeal would remove the April 2023 definition of "waters of the United States" and restore a pre-2015 definition. Regulated parties would face different jurisdictional questions under Clean Water Act permits, wetlands determinations, and enforcement cases, and may need to update compliance plans and permit applications if the rule is finalized.
March 13, 2026	Rule & regulations	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) jointly proposed a rule to rescind the "Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule" and the "Vehicle Emissions Standards" for model years 2027 and beyond.	Rescission would remove reporting requirements for greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle emissions standards for model years 2027 and beyond, which would change compliance planning for manufacturers and affect how regulators track emissions data.
January 29, 2026	Announcement	The Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM) published its 2026 Implementation Priorities for the Office of Land and Emergency Management.	The priorities signal which OLEM programs will receive attention and resources in 2026, including cleanup, chemical safety, and materials management, so regulated parties can anticipate where enforcement and compliance work may be focused.
December 18, 2025	Rule & regulations	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) jointly proposed a rule to rescind the "Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule" and the "Vehicle Emissions Standards" for model years 2027 and beyond.	The rule would remove the agency's long-standing requirement for large emitters to report greenhouse gas data and vehicle emissions standards for model years 2027 and beyond, which would change how manufacturers plan compliance and how regulators track emissions.
December 15, 2025	Rule & regulations	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) jointly proposed a rule to rescind the "Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule" and the "Vehicle Emissions Standards" for model years 2027 and beyond.	The rule would remove the agency's long-standing requirement for large emitters to report greenhouse gas data and vehicle emissions standards for model years 2027 and beyond, which would change how manufacturers plan compliance and how regulators track emissions.

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INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

Select a topic

Date	Action	What happened	Why it matters
July 15, 2025	Announcement	The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Fossil and Energy Resources (OFER) has issued a request for information (RFI) seeking comments on ways to increase the efficiency of fracking and safely recycle wastewater from fracking.	The RFI signals that DOE is considering changes to how it supports hydraulic fracturing operations and wastewater recycling, which could affect future research priorities, technical guidance, and industry practices around efficiency and water management.
July 15, 2025	Announcement	The U.S. Department of Energy is rescinding a 2020 notice, joint with Interior, Commerce, and Transportation, that had set aside certain Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) crude oil for sale to refiners in the Gulf Coast region. The notice had been issued under a provision that allows the SPR to make some oil available during a "severe energy supply interruption."	Rescinding the notice means the SPR will not set aside Gulf Coast crude for refiners under that provision, which changes how the reserve could be used in a future supply disruption and removes a specific mechanism that was written into the program.
July 11, 2025	Announcement	The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has issued a request for information (RFI) seeking comments on how to increase the efficiency of fracking and safely recycle wastewater from fracking.	The RFI signals that DOE is considering changes to how it supports hydraulic fracturing operations and wastewater recycling, which could affect future research priorities, technical guidance, and industry practices around efficiency and water management.

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LANDS & WILDLIFE

Select a topic

Date	Action	What happened	Why it matters
September 15, 2026	Rule & regulations	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has proposed a rule to remove the Gray wolf (Canis lupus) in the Western United States from multiplicity of threats, including habitat loss, disease, and human-caused mortality.	Removal would end federal protections for gray wolves in the Western United States, including prohibitions on hunting, trapping, and other activities that affect the species, and would change how federal agencies and partners manage wolf populations in those states.
September 9, 2026	Rule & regulations	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has proposed a rule to remove the Gray wolf (Canis lupus) in Wyoming for all purposes.	Removal would end federal protections for gray wolves in Wyoming, including prohibitions on hunting, trapping, and other activities that affect the species, and would change how federal agencies and partners manage wolf populations in Wyoming.
August 18, 2026	Rule & regulations	The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has proposed a rule to remove the Gray wolf (Canis lupus) in Wyoming for all purposes.	Removal would end federal protections for gray wolves in Wyoming, including prohibitions on hunting, trapping, and other activities that affect the species, and would change how federal agencies and partners manage wolf populations in Wyoming.
July 15, 2026	Rule & regulations	The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) has proposed a rule to remove the Gray wolf (Canis lupus) in Wyoming for all purposes.	Removal would end federal protections for gray wolves in Wyoming, including prohibitions on hunting, trapping, and other activities that affect the species, and would change how federal agencies and partners manage wolf populations in Wyoming.
July 10, 2026	Announcement	The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has issued a request for information (RFI) seeking comments on how to increase the efficiency of fracking and safely recycle wastewater from fracking.	The RFI signals that BLM is considering changes to how it supports hydraulic fracturing operations and wastewater recycling, which could affect future research priorities, technical guidance, and industry practices around efficiency and water management.
June 30, 2026	Rule & regulations	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has proposed a rule to remove the Gray wolf (Canis lupus) in Wyoming for all purposes.	Removal would end federal protections for gray wolves in Wyoming, including prohibitions on hunting, trapping, and other activities that affect the species, and would change how federal agencies and partners manage wolf populations in Wyoming.
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April 27, 2026	Proposed rule	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) proposed a rule to repeal the April 2023 "Pre-2015 Regulatory Definition of "Waters of the United States" and restore the regulatory definition of "waters of the United States" that was in effect before 2015.	Repeal would remove the April 2023 definition of "waters of the United States" and restore a pre-2015 definition. Regulated parties would face different jurisdictional questions under Clean Water Act permits, wetlands determinations, and enforcement cases, and may need to update compliance plans and permit applications if the rule is finalized.
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				move undermines clean air efforts, hinders U.S. competitiveness in EVs, and has triggered legal challenges over whether Congress had authority to nullify California's waiver under the CRA .
17	June 6, 2025	Rules & regulations	The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration issued a rule declaring that it will no longer factor electric vehicles into fuel economy calculations.	While the rule doesn't change any current fuel economy standards, it lays the groundwork for a broader rollback expected to reshape standards through model year 2031. By excluding electric vehicles (EVs) from compliance calculations under the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) program, the administration is dismantling a key tool used to encourage EV adoption and reduce transportation-sector emissions. It's a major step back from efforts to modernize U.S. fuel economy policy and confront the country's biggest source of carbon pollution.
18	June 3, 2025	Announcement	The Trump administration's Office of Management and Budget directed the U.S. Department of Transportation to disregard a Government Accountability Office (GAO) ruling that found that the administration violated the Impoundment Control Act by pausing $5 billion in congressionally approved funding for the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) program.	This move underscores a significant challenge to congressional authority over federal spending, as the administration continues to assert broad executive discretion in budgetary matters. By rejecting the GAO's oversight, the administration sets a precedent that could weaken legislative checks on executive spending decisions, potentially impacting the implementation of infrastructure projects and other federally funded programs.
19	June 2, 2025	Rules & regulations	The U.S. Department of Transportation eliminated requirements that applicants assess climate change, greenhouse gas emissions, and environmental justice impacts.	By scrapping climate and equity requirements, the administration has weakened incentives for building infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather and responsive to community health and environmental disparities. This shift could lead to taxpayer-funded projects that exacerbate carbon emissions and leave vulnerable communities at greater risk from future climate impacts.
20	June 2, 2025	Rules & regulations	The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) removed climate mitigation and environmental justice requirements from two major bridge funding programs—totaling $5.4 billion—declaring that such "woke Biden-era" standards would no longer apply.	By eliminating requirements that projects consider climate resilience, pollution impacts, and effects on vulnerable communities, the DOT is sidelining public health, environmental protections, and long-term infrastructure durability. These safeguards are crucial for building infrastructure that can withstand extreme weather and reduce transportation-sector emissions—the largest source of carbon pollution in the United States.
21	May 19, 2025	Rules & regulations	The U.S. Department of Transportation announced that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration submitted a new interpretive rule titled "Resetting the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) Program" to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs for review.	The rule signals a dramatic shift in federal fuel economy policy. While Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy framed it as a correction meant to lower car prices and protect consumer choice, in reality it undermines the critical transition to electric vehicles, increases emissions, and risks lasting harm to air quality and public health.

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The Wilderness Society et al. v. Trump et al. (Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument)

October 20, 2026 • Court Case • Utah • Active

The president does not have the authority to reduce or rescind national monuments created under the Antiquities Act. So we sued to protect Utah's Grand Staircase-Escalante.

NRDC et al. v. Trump et al. (Bears Ears National Monument)

October 20, 2026 • Court Case • Utah • Active

NRDC and partners fought to restore protections to this national monument of incomparable cultural and natural significance.

The Trump Administration's Pro-Cancer Agenda

October 14, 2026 • Issue Brief • United States • Erik D. Olson

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