



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Contact: [Caren Kagan Evans](#), ECI Communications, 301-998-6114 (office) or 301-467-6337 (cell)

**STATEMENT FROM EPN
PROPOSED 2021 TRUMP BUDGET**

Today the Trump administration marked the 50th anniversary of EPA with a wholly unacceptable proposed budget that turns back the clock on environmental protections. For the fourth straight year, President Trump has proposed an EPA budget that undermines a half century of public health and environmental gains, and undercuts the agency's ability to protect people's health and the natural world that sustains us.

The proposed federal budget for fiscal year 2021 slashes EPA's budget by 27%, a cut of \$2.4 billion from last year's enacted appropriation, severely hampering programs that have improved water quality, reduced air pollution, protected drinking water, promoted the safe use of pesticides and toxic substances, and cleaned up contaminated land. The budget would leave EPA with its smallest workforce in 30 years, and fund the agency at a level in real dollars not seen since the 1980s.

While Congress has superseded proposed Trump budgets for three straight years, the message from the administration could not be more clear—if we can't eliminate EPA, then let's starve it out of business.

The American people know what it means to drink safe water, breathe healthy air, and not worry about pollution when their children go out to play. They don't want to turn back the clock on environmental and public health protection.

The real devil is in the details, with cuts to programs that have protected people's health and the environment in communities across the country. As in the past, the impacts will be felt the most by low income and communities of color already burdened by polluted air, water and land. **The proposed Trump budget:**

- Exposes the administration's disingenuous claim that it wants to shift more responsibility for environmental protection to the states when it proposes a 28% cut in state grant funding, including a 44% cut in funds to help states operate their environmental programs; states depend on federal funding for roughly 25% of their environmental budgets.
- Clearly reveals the administration's open disdain for science, slashing EPA's budget for scientific research by 44%, a cut of \$219 million.
- Virtually eliminates the agency's climate programs following a period in which documented

global warming contributed to devastating wildfires, damaging storms and massive flooding in the U.S. and abroad.

- Calls for eliminating funding for nearly 50 successful EPA programs, including the popular EnergyStar energy conservation program.
- Cuts the Superfund program by \$113 million, when cleanups at 34 contaminated sites, the largest number in the past 15 years, remain unfunded.
- Eliminates funding for the protection and restoration of some of the nation's most important waterways, including San Francisco Bay, Long Island Sound, Puget Sound and the Gulf of Mexico, while saving funding for the Great Lakes and South Florida.

ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NETWORK

Founded in 2017, the [Environmental Protection Network](#) (EPN) harnesses the expertise of almost 500 former EPA officials to provide an informed and rigorous defense against efforts by the Trump administration to undermine EPA's mission to protect public health and the environment.