

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 2, 2016

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AG STRANGE AND PARTNERING STATES CHALLENGE EPA'S JOB-KILLING OIL AND GAS RULE

(MONTGOMERY) – Alabama Attorney General Luther Strange joined a coalition of 14 states and state agencies in filing suit against the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's job-killing attack on the nation's oil and natural gas industry.

The lawsuit, filed Tuesday, petitions the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit to review the EPA's final rule regulating emissions standards for new, reconstructed and modified oil and gas operations.

Attorney General Strange and his partners argue this latest regulation imposes unnecessary and burdensome rules upon the oil and natural gas industry, while setting the stage for further limits on existing oil and gas operations before President Obama leaves office.

"Americans are already taxed and regulated to death by Washington and this new EPA rule is another bureaucratic attempt to restrict access to more affordable energy," said Attorney General Strange. "We should be working to build up our country's domestic energy production for the benefit of consumers and our struggling economy, not creating more obstacles to oil and gas."

The coalition contends EPA's rule is unnecessary and would raise production and distribution costs and, in turn, force an increase in consumer utility bills. The EPA itself predicts its regulations will cost \$530 million in 2025, while other studies project the annual price tag may hit \$800 million.

Attorney General Strange and the others contend that imposing unnecessary and costly regulations will jeopardize jobs in the nation's natural gas, pipeline and construction sectors.

Those signing onto the lawsuit were West Virginia, Alabama, Arizona, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Montana, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Wisconsin, along with the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet and North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality.

A copy of the petition is attached.

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**IN THE
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT**

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA;
STATE OF ALABAMA;
STATE OF ARIZONA;
STATE OF KANSAS;
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY;
STATE OF LOUISIANA;
ATTORNEY GENERAL BILL SCHUETTE,
 For the People of Michigan;
STATE OF MONTANA;
STATE OF OHIO;
STATE OF OKLAHOMA;
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA;
STATE OF WISCONSIN;
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
 ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT CABINET;
and, STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
 QUALITY;

Petitioners,

v.

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY;
and, REGINA A. MCCARTHY, Administrator,
United States Environmental Protection Agency;

Respondents.

PETITION FOR REVIEW

Case No. _____

The States of West Virginia, Alabama, Arizona, Kansas, Louisiana, Montana, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Wisconsin, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and Attorney General Bill Schuette for the People of Michigan, the Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet, and the State of North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality hereby petition this Court, pursuant to Rule 15(a) of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, Section 307(b)(1) of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7607(b)(1), and 5 U.S.C. § 702, for review of the final rule of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency published in the Federal Register at 81 Fed. Reg. 35,824 (June 3, 2016), titled “Oil and Natural Gas Sector: Emission Standards for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources.” This Court has jurisdiction, and is a proper venue for this action, under 42 U.S.C. § 7607(b)(1).

Petitioners will show that the final rule is in excess of the agency’s statutory authority and otherwise is arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion and not in accordance with law. Accordingly, Petitioners ask the Court to hold unlawful and set aside the rule, and to order other such relief as may be appropriate. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 7607(d).

Dated: August 2, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

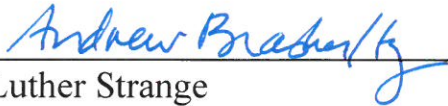


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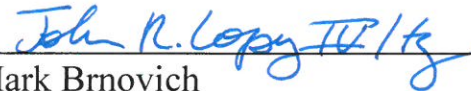


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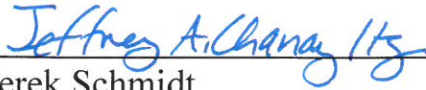


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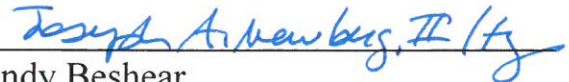
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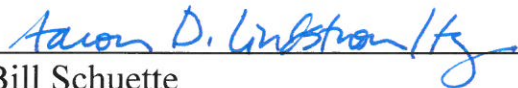
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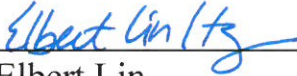
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I will cause to be served a true copy of the Petition for Review via U.S. mail on August 2, 2016, upon the following:

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