



NEWS RELEASE

Contact:

Keith Gaby, 202-572-3336, kgaby@edfaction.org

New Ad Campaign Highlights Dangers of Putting Scott Pruitt in Charge of EPA

(Washington, D.C. – January 3, 2017) A new series of TV and online ads will highlight the dangers of putting Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt in charge of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The ads will begin running today in seven states – Florida, Maine, Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Tennessee – and the District of Columbia. The six-figure ad buy is paid for by Clean Air Moms Action, a project of EDF Action.

“Scott Pruitt has been openly hostile to the mission of the Environmental Protection Agency throughout his entire career,” said Dominique Browning, president of Clean Air Moms Action. “He has opposed rules limiting the most dangerous kinds of pollution, like mercury and smog, and has even tried to dispute that mercury pollution is a health hazard. We can’t trust Scott Pruitt with our children’s health. Putting him in charge of the agency for which he has such contempt would be a terrible mistake. We hope Senators will uphold America’s long tradition of bipartisan support for clean air and safe water instead.”

Scott Pruitt has a long history of opposing the clean air and clean water standards that protect American families from mercury, smog, arsenic and other dangerous air pollutants (see examples [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#)).

Pruitt has even tried to cast doubt on the danger of polluting our lakes and rivers – and ultimately the fish we eat – with mercury, which is a neurotoxin that the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) has identified as particularly dangerous to developing children. In a legal brief filed with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, he asserted that “the record does not support EPA’s findings that mercury ... pose[s] public health hazards.” ([Brief](#) at page 23)

Pruitt has also [attacked limits](#) on ground level ozone – better known as smog – despite the fact that ozone pollution problems are worsening in Oklahoma. The latest [American Lung Association report](#) gave all Oklahoma counties surveyed an “F” for ozone problems and found that the number of high ozone days had [increased in most counties](#) as compared to 2010 - 2012.

You can read more about Pruitt’s history of attacking clean air and clean water safeguards [here](#).

You can [see the TV ad here](#).