

August 20, 2014

Administrator Gina McCarthy
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0602

Dear Administrator McCarthy:

The impacts of climate change described in the recently released National Climate Assessment¹ are of particular relevance to south Florida. In fact, Miami is listed as one of the major cities *most* at risk from climate change impacts, such as more extreme weather events and sea level rise. In south Florida, the threat from sea level rise includes salt water intrusion into our municipal drinking water wells, flood control system challenges, and inundation threats to roads, infrastructure, and private property.

As local elected officials, we can take individual and collective action to shore up our communities against sea level rise. Yet scientists say that at the heart of the problem is increasing carbon pollution from fossil fuel emissions that continue to warm the planet. Therefore, carbon pollution reductions are necessary if we wish to avert the worst impacts from climate change. Carbon pollution emissions from existing power plants are the largest source of carbon pollution in the United States.

On June 2, 2014, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released the first-ever draft rule on reducing carbon pollution from existing power plants. I understand that this rule will allow the states flexibility in meeting the proposed carbon pollution reduction levels, including the more efficient use of electricity and the increased development of clean, renewable energy such as solar power.

As local elected officials in the south Florida region, we support the EPA's new rule and urge the agency to finalize the rule and implement it. It's time we limit carbon pollution, put a clean power plan in place for Florida that helps our homes and businesses be more energy efficient, and invest in clean solar power to create more jobs in the state. As local elected officials we are doing our part to address climate change impacts, we support the EPA in doing its part to reduce carbon pollution from exiting power plants.

¹ Melillo, Jerry M., Terese (T.C.) Richmond, and Gary W. Yohe, Eds., 2014: *Climate Change Impacts in the United States: The Third National Climate Assessment*, available at:
file:///C:/Users/George/Downloads/NCA3_Full_Report_17_Southeast_HighRes.pdf

Sincerely,

City of North Miami

Councilwoman Carol Keys

Councilman Scott Galvin

City of North Bay Village

Vice Mayor Eddie Lim

Commissioner Dr. Richard Chevrony

City of Bal Harbour

Councilwoman Patricia Cohen

City of North Miami Beach

Councilwoman Barbara Kramer

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City of Miami Beach

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