

[MAY 7, 2018 - OFA MARIN CLIMATE NEWS AND EVENTS](#)

Dear Friends: The Scott Pruitt hearing not only exposed ethics violations but raised questions on his dismantling of the EPA, including angry ones about the Clean Power Plan and scientific method. Of immediate serious concern is the legal clash between the federal government and California challenging the state's authority to set its own, stricter, air pollution rules. Read on for more good news on comparable costs of renewable vs. fossil fuels, huge wind mills and Oman rocks. We add an important article featuring Christiana Figueres, who will be principal speaker at Lead on Climate event in Marin, September 15, after the Global Climate Summit in San Francisco. Belle and Climate Team

[Links to climate articles](#)

[Scott Pruitt, Under an Ethics Cloud, Faces Lawmakers](#)

By [JOHN SCHWARTZ](#), [CORAL DAVENPORT](#) and [LISA FRIEDMAN](#), APRIL 26, 2018

WASHINGTON — Scott Pruitt, the head of the Environmental Protection Agency, testified on Capitol Hill on Thursday in what turned out to be a day-long grilling over allegations of ethical infractions and lavish spending...

[E.P.A. Readies Plan to Weaken Rules That Require Cars to Be Cleaner](#)

By [Hiroko Tabuchi](#), [Brad Plumer](#) and [Coral Davenport](#), April 27, 2018

The Trump administration has drafted a new set of regulations on planet-warming emissions from cars and light trucks that would dramatically weaken Obama-era standards. The proposal, if implemented, would also set up a legal clash between the federal government and California by challenging the state's authority to set its own, stricter, air pollution rules.

Details of the proposal, which is being jointly drafted by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Transportation Department and is expected to be sent to the White House for approval in coming days, were described to The New York Times by a federal official who had seen them but was not authorized to discuss the matter.

Freeze sought on fuel rules

Agencies may revoke stricter state standards ([Download Document](#))

By David R. Baker

The Trump administration reportedly may freeze fuel-mileage standards for cars and end California's ability to set its own auto-emissions rules, potentially gutting one of the country's most important climate change regulations and setting up a major legal battle with the state.

As initially reported Friday by the Los Angeles Times and confirmed by other news outlets, officials are considering a freeze of fuel mileage standards in 2020 for both cars and light trucks. Regulations adopted under President Barack Obama and modeled after California standards require automakers to increase the average fuel economy of their fleets to more than 50 miles per gallon by 2025.

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In addition, the administration may try to sidestep or override California's authority to set its own air pollution standards, which the state has extended to greenhouse gases produced by cars. EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, testifying before Congress last Thursday, said the administration had no plans to do so "at present."

[How Windmills as Wide as Jumbo Jets Are Making Clean Energy Mainstream.](#)

Prototype **wind turbines** whirl at a testing site in Osterild, near the northern end of Denmark's Jutland peninsula. ... OSTERILD, Denmark — At the northern end of Denmark's Jutland peninsula, the wind blows so hard that rows of trees grow in one direction, like gnarled flags.

[EPA staff in 'despair' after Pruitt blame game](#)

Even political aides are tired of the chief 'constantly putting himself first,' one former agency official said.

[Oman's Rocks Could Help the Fight Against Climate Change](#)

Oman's rocks are more than just scenery, a rugged backdrop for travel photos to show off to friends back home. In fact, as The New York Times reported Friday, the rocks of this small peninsula in the Persian Gulf could play a role in the fight against [climate change](#).

They are quietly "hard at work," as the Times notes, "naturally reacting with carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and turning it into stone." The carbon forms what Times writer Henry Fountain describes as an "ice-like crust."

[Production Cost of Renewable Energy Now 'Lower' Than Fossil Fuels](#)

For the first time in history, the production cost of renewables is lower than that of fossil fuels, an industry asset manager has claimed.

[Tech Titans Urged to Lead in Decarbonization of Global Economy](#) [\(Download Article\)](#)

Former UN Climate Chief Issues New Challenge as Corporates to Cities Mobilize for Major September Summit

New Orleans/San Francisco, May 1, 2018 – The global technology sector was today urged to dramatically step up climate action by pledging to halve their emissions every decade to realize the international goals of a carbon neutral world by 2050.

Laying the groundwork for the radical collaboration needed to bend the curve of emissions, Christiana Figueres, the former UN Climate Chief and Convener of Mission 2020, told delegates at the Collision 2018 in New Orleans to take a leading role to step up accelerated climate action.

[Lawmakers demand answers over FEMA's omission of climate change from key document](#)

"Did FEMA consult with any scientists or climate experts on the strategic plan?"

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[11 key themes as countries take stock of Paris Agreement progress](#)

Published on 01/05/2018, 12:57pm

The Talanoa Dialogue could be a springboard to stronger action on climate change, or just another talking shop. Here are the discussions to watch

[Xavier Becerra on California vs. Trump](#)

By ADAM NAGOURNEY AND INYOUNG KANG

Attorney General Xavier Becerra... discussed a lawsuit filed by 17 states and the District of Columbia over the Trump administration's plans to scrap vehicle emission standards at a news conference in Sacramento on Tuesday.

[Trump voters hurt most by Trump policies, new study finds](#)

[Events](#)

Monday-Friday, May 7-11: West Tamalpais Bike Lane Test. Celebrate 'Bike to Work Week' to riding the temporary Bike Lane that DPW has painted north-south from Mission to 3rd Streets. Then voice your support for a permanent design by text (415-993-9797), tweet (#TamalpaisBikeLane), or [Email DPW](#).

Tuesday, May 8: "Marin Green Drinks." Learn about the upcoming Environmental Forum of Marin master class from Executive Director Kim Rago. 5:30 - 7:30 pm. Lotus Cuisine of India, 704 Fourth St., downtown San Rafael.

Wednesday, May 9: General Plan 2040 Steering Committee. Hear a final update on the Resilient by Design sea level rise strategy, current development projects, and draft 'Guiding Principles' of future development of San Rafael. 6:00 pm. BioMarin Conference Room, 750 Lindero St., San Rafael. [Agenda & staff reports](#).

Friday, May 11: Youth in Action and Leadership. Re-energize with an evening of award-winning videos by youth activists, then a panel of Marin Youth Environmental Leaders. 6:30 pm. Women's Building, 46 Park Rd., Fairfax. Information at [Sustainable Fairfax](#).

Saturday, May 12: May Madness (with EVs!). Come downtown for San Rafael's 30th annual classic car show, this year featuring an array of EVs allowing you to test drive the electric future of transportation that's truly and affordably available right now! (And while you're there, celebrate **San Rafael's vintage urban design** just sitting on those cool concrete benches under right-sized shade trees.) Noon - 6:00 pm (parade at 5:00). Food & live music.

Saturday, May 12: Bike the Canal with 'Resilient by Design'. Explore potential new bikeways designed to create safe routes for walking and biking--possibly doubling as flood control barriers. 11:00 am - 2:00 pm. Pickleweed Park, 50 Canal St., San Rafael

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State of the North Bay

Economic Insight Conference

How does the North Bay economic ecosystem work as a region? Find out what the state of the North Bay economy is and how will it be disrupted.

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Micah Weinberg

President
Bay Area Council Economic Institute.

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Panel: The Disruptors

Cannabis Industry: *Bill Silver, CEO - CannaCraft*

Autonomous Vehicles: *Randy Iwasaki, Executive Director - Contra Costa Transportation Authority*

New Types of Housing Construction: *Chris Schmidt, Business Development Manager - Guerdon Modular Buildings*

When

Thursday

June 14, 2018

Registration: 7:00 a.m.

Program: 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Where

Sheraton Hotel

745 Baywood Drive
Petaluma, CA 94954

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\$75 Per Person, \$600 Table of 8
(Includes continental breakfast)

Pre-Registration Required

Register

Space is Limited-Buy Your Ticket Today!
Deadline for Reservations: June 8, 2018

If you or your organization are interested in becoming a sponsor for this event, please
contact

info@northbayleadership.org

September 12-14, 2018 Global Climate Action Summit

Put on calendar- more later:

**September 15, 2018," Getting to Paris Without Stopping in Washington", Diamond Center
College of Marin, 7-9 pm. Pre-event, 5:30-7pm. Christiana Figueres principal speaker,
Lead on Climate event.**

Organizing for Action, Marin Team

ofamarin.org

Belle Cole, Team Lead (415) 482-6627

Karen Andresen, Assistant Team Lead (415) 382-8490

Find other events below:

[Marin Resists Calendar](#)

[Our Partners' Websites](#)