What President Trump's Record on Climate Means for Colorado

For years, <u>President Trump</u> has called the climate crisis a "Chinese hoax," a "big scam" and even a "make-believe problem."

However, recently Donald Trump has been changing his language on the climate crisis. Why? It's the polls. In poll after poll, voters are prioritizing climate action. In fact, they're consistently ranking climate change as a top tier issue.

Yet, the Trump Administration has a <u>long laundry list</u> of anti-environmental actions they've taken.

Right here, in <u>Colorado</u> the climate crisis is already impacting the state, including extreme heat, poor air quality, droughts and wildfires. In fact, Fort Collins is the 9th-fastest warming city in the country and the number of summer days above 95 degrees in Denver has more than doubled since the 1970s. Both cities continue to struggle with <u>air pollution</u> created by power plants, cars and oil and gas operations. And of course, wildfires and droughts have always been part of Colorado's history, but over the years the fires have been increasing at an alarming rate, and the Colorado River Basin has been plagued with drought that continues to worsen because of climate change. The impacts will only continue to get worse.

The Trump Administration has spent the past three years installing lobbyists and industry insiders to key environmental positions, including putting a coal lobbyist in charge of EPA and an oil and gas lobbyist in charge of the Department of the Interior. In these positions, they're undercutting science, cutting critical research funding, and rolling back critical air and water protection. In fact, under President Trump, the US has seen 15% more days with unhealthy air than under President Obama.

The Administration's affronts to the environment and public health include:

- Rolling back the clean cars standard, a move that will lead to less fuel-efficient cars and billions of tons of additional carbon pollution.
- Seeking to undermine the Mercury and Air Toxic Standards, which have saved more than 10,000 lives a year.
- Proposing loopholes to take away communities' right to have a voice in the review of projects like pipelines, oil and gas development and mining on federal lands.

The climate crisis won't wait. Four more years of President Trump will cost Colorado families – endangering public health, damaging our public lands and resources, and losing the precious time we need to tackle climate change head on with smart policy solutions.

Trump in the News:

- New Trump rule would allow government to ignore climate impacts of major projects
- Climate Change Once Again Left Out of Trump's Federal Budget
- Angry Schwarzenegger condemns Trump for wrecking clean-air standards
- Science Under Attack: How Trump Is Sidelining Researchers and Their Work

If you'd like to talk to an expert about the policies or politics of environmental or climate change issues, please contact Hannah Blatt at 202-572-3534 or hblatt@edfaction.org.