

MEDIA ADVISORY

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EHP's Executive Director Steele Offers Comments on Controlling Air Pollution from the Oil and Gas Industry Before the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

June 15, 2021 – Today, the Environmental Health Project's Executive Director, Alison L. Steele, offered comments on controlling air pollution from the oil and gas industry before the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The remarks were made during one of three listening sessions the EPA is hosting this week.

As part of her remarks, Steele said: "Every day, my organization confronts the health effects that coincide with under-regulated air pollution. We talk to people who are scared for themselves, for their loved ones, and for their neighbors. The status quo is not good enough for them. They need relief, and they need it now. A stronger air pollution standard can give them peace of mind, and it can go a long way toward giving them back their health."

For a full transcript of Steele's remarks, click [here](#).

Overview

In May, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a public engagement process as they begin to craft new rules to tackle methane and associated pollution from new and existing oil and gas operations. As a part of this process, EPA is hosting three listening sessions this week to allow environmental justice communities, Tribes, businesses, NGOs, and industry to weigh in and make their voices heard ahead of the September rule-makings.

Through their rule-making process, EPA has the ability to limit methane pollution 65% below 2012 levels by 2025, and the listening sessions this week are a unique opportunity to amplify the voices of those impacted by the methane pollution from the oil and gas industry and set the agency on the path towards meeting this target.

About Alison L. Steele

Alison L. Steele is executive director of the Environmental Health Project. She earned her undergraduate degree in physics from Drew University in Madison, NJ, and her MBA in Sustainable Business Practices from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA. As part of her graduate work, Steele studied sustainability tools and practices used by leading companies in Europe, performed consulting services for large Pittsburgh-area companies, and published

research on organizational behavior techniques used to aid adoption of sustainability initiatives. Prior to starting at EHP, she led policy and education efforts at Conservation Consultants, Inc. and developed the company's flagship grassroots community engagement program, which focused on advancing home health and energy efficiency in low-income Pittsburgh neighborhoods.

About the Environmental Health Project

The [Environmental Health Project](#) (EHP) is a nonprofit public health organization that defends public health in the face of oil and gas development. We provide front-line communities with timely monitoring, interpretation, and guidance. We engage diverse stakeholders: health professionals, researchers, community organizers, public servants, and others. We do so because knowledge protects health.