

## LCV's Year One Report Card: Trump Gets an "F"

The League of Conservation Voters has traditionally issued a report card for new presidents at the end of their first year in office as an early assessment of how well the new administration is protecting our environment. When it came to President Donald Trump, we simply couldn't wait that long – it was painfully obvious he earned an "F" after just his first 100 days. And nearly a full year in, his grades continue to plummet – if there was anything worse than an "F", he'd get it.



However, to simply award Trump an "F" does not come close to capturing both the breadth and depth of his administration's assault on environmental protections and the harm it is causing communities across the country – all to provide favors to the wealthiest corporate polluting interests. The totality of anti-environmental offenses made to benefit special interests is absolutely staggering.

That is why, instead of a traditional report card, we've produced a timeline of key rollbacks, polluter giveaways, efforts to silence scientists and other abuses of power from the first year under Trump. Some of these are well-known, like announcing his intent to withdraw from the landmark Paris Climate Agreement or eliminating millions of acres of protected public lands like was just done in Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante national monuments. But many other attacks on our air, land, water, and wildlife were unfortunately only one of several terrible and newsworthy things to happen that day – and thus have largely been missed by the public.

In addition to going after even the most basic standards of environmental protection, Trump's racism, sexism, homophobia and other forms of discrimination leave people throughout our country feeling threatened and unable to contribute to their communities.

How does Trump stack up against LCV's grades for some of his predecessors? President Barack Obama received a B+ for his first year in office, President George W. Bush earned a D-, and President Bill Clinton ended his first year with a C+. But Trump's administration – including a corrupt cabinet with the likes of Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt and a host of dirty deputies – truly belongs in a category of its own. While it would be easy to attribute these failures to incompetence, to do so would ignore the insidious planning of corporate polluters and their lobbyists who now find eager allies in the White House.

Indeed, many in the Trump administration likely consider an "F" from LCV a badge of honor. No previous administration has ever embarked on such an intentional systematic dismantling of our country's environmental safeguards and conservation values. The good news is that the horrendous developments at the federal level stand in stark contrast with the clean energy revolution that continues to build in other countries, states, cities, and the private sector. And with the recent elections in New Jersey, Washington, Virginia and Alabama as key indicators, it's clear that anyone with hopes of a political future would be wise to stay as far away as possible from the most anti-environmental president we've ever had.

## DONALD TRUMP: FIRST YEAR REPORT CARD

DATE	ACTIONS TAKEN
<b>January 20</b>	Within minutes of his swearing in, Trump's environmental policies are <a href="#">outlined</a> on the White House website and include pledges to eliminate the Climate Action Plan and Clean Water Rule, and mentions of climate change and clean energy are removed as well.
	The Trump administration <a href="#">freezes</a> the Obama administration's energy efficiency standards for air compressors, which are devices used to power commercial and industrial equipment, portable air conditioners, commercial packaged boilers, and uninterruptible power supplies.
<b>January 24</b>	Trump <a href="#">signs</a> executive orders that direct the Army Corps of Engineers to expedite the Dakota Access pipeline and invite TransCanada to resubmit its application for the Keystone XL pipeline. Both of these pipelines threaten local water sources and lock in our country's dependence on fossil fuels.
	Trump <a href="#">signs</a> an executive order that significantly shortens the process for environmental reviews and analyses, which undermines the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
<b>January 30</b>	Trump <a href="#">signs</a> an executive order requiring that two regulations be eliminated every time a new regulation is made. The order also directs that spending on all new regulations for the rest of this fiscal year should be zero. This order threatens bedrock environmental protections and makes it extremely difficult to develop new safeguards.
<b>February 14</b>	Trump signs into law the Congressional Review Act "Resolution of Disapproval" of the Disclosure of Payments by Resource Extraction Issuers Rule. This repeals the <a href="#">rule</a> issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission that promotes transparency by requiring drilling and mining companies to disclose any payments they make to foreign governments.
<b>February 16</b>	Trump signs into law the Congressional Review Act "Resolution of Disapproval" of the Stream Protection Rule. This repeals the <a href="#">rule</a> issued by the Department of the Interior that holds coal companies accountable for water pollution. The rule was projected to safeguard 6,000 miles of streams and 52,000 acres of forest from coal companies' pollution.
<b>February 24</b>	Trump <a href="#">signs</a> an executive order that creates a task force that, under the guise of regulatory reform, will work to eliminate safeguards and protections for public health and the environment.
<b>February 27</b>	Trump issues a 2018 budget outline that proposes dramatic slashes in spending for environmental programs and research. The outline proposes a 25 percent <a href="#">cut</a> to the EPA's budget and a 20 percent reduction of staff. It also suggests NOAA climate science research programs be <a href="#">cut</a> by over 20 percent.

<b>February 28</b>	Trump <a href="#">signs</a> an executive order instructing EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt to rewrite President Obama's 2015 Clean Water Rule, which restored key protections for streams and wetlands.
<b>March 2</b>	Trump's Interior Secretary, Ryan Zinke, <a href="#">signs</a> an order reversing an Obama administration ban on the use of lead bullets in wildlife refuges that allow hunting and fishing. The ban was meant to prevent lead poisoning in plants and animals.
<b>March 15</b>	Trump <a href="#">announces</a> that he will order the EPA to redo the midterm evaluation of fuel efficiency standards for cars. These fuel efficiency standards are one of the key federal programs aimed at reducing emissions from the transportation sector, which accounts for one-third of carbon dioxide emissions in the U.S.
<b>March 16</b>	Trump proposes a preliminary budget that <a href="#">cuts</a> the EPA's budget by 31 percent, <a href="#">cuts</a> the Department of Interior's budget by 12 percent, <a href="#">cuts</a> the Department of Energy's budget by 5.6 percent—which includes completely eliminating the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy and the Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing Program— <a href="#">cuts</a> funding for NOAA, and <a href="#">eliminates</a> the Green Climate Fund and the Climate Investment Fund.
<b>March 24</b>	The State Department <a href="#">issues</a> a presidential permit that allows TransCanada to build the Keystone XL Pipeline.
<b>March 27</b>	Trump <a href="#">signs</a> into law the Congressional Review Act "Resolution of Disapproval" of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Planning 2.0 Rule. This law repeals a rule that would make planning processes more efficient and increase public participation in BLM's management of more than 245 million acres of America's public lands.
<b>March 28</b>	Trump <a href="#">signs</a> an executive order that aims to roll back numerous initiatives that address climate change. The order contains provisions to rewrite the Clean Power Plan, reconsider carbon emission standards for new power plants, reconsider regulations on methane emissions from oil and gas operations, lift the moratorium on federal coal leasing on public lands, and revisit the social cost of carbon estimate that is used to calculate the economic costs of climate change and justify policies that reduce emissions. It also contains provisions to rescind policies that balance natural resource development with the impacts on the land, review safety standards for hydraulic fracturing on public lands, rescind presidential guidance that encourages agencies to leverage private investment for natural resources restoration, and repeal guidance for factoring climate change into reviews of major projects under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
<b>March 29</b>	Trump's EPA administrator, Scott Pruitt, <a href="#">rejects</a> the scientific conclusion of the EPA's own chemical safety experts who recommended that chlorpyrifos, one of the nation's most widely used insecticides, be permanently banned on farms nationwide because of the public health risks. Scientific studies have shown that exposure to the chemical causes reduced cognitive function, particularly among farm workers and young children.

<p><b>April 3</b></p>	<p>Trump's Interior Department <a href="#">informs</a> oil and gas companies of their plan to change royalty calculations for minerals extracted from federal lands. This will allow fossil fuel companies to underpay the federal government by selling to subsidiaries at artificially low prices.</p>
	<p>Trump <a href="#">signs</a> into law the Congressional Review Act "Resolution of Disapproval" of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Alaska National Wildlife Refuges Rule. This law blocks efforts to protect wildlife from the Alaska's intensive predator control policy, a policy that significantly suppresses the populations of native carnivores in order to artificially inflate game populations.</p>
<p><b>April 7</b></p>	<p>The Senate <a href="#">confirms</a> Trump's Supreme Court nominee, Neil Gorsuch, by a vote of 54-45. Gorsuch's record reflects support for corporations at the expense of the public interest, and his stance on the "Chevron doctrine" and demonstrated hostility of the federal agencies' regulatory power could undermine the EPA's ability to enforce safeguards against polluters.</p>
<p><b>April 13</b></p>	<p>The EPA <a href="#">delays</a> the compliance date by which power plants have to begin demonstrating they are using up-to-date technology to remove toxins from wastewater. The rule seeks to limit the amount of toxic metals, such as arsenic and mercury, that power plants dispose of in public waterways.</p>
<p><b>April 26</b></p>	<p>Trump <a href="#">signs</a> an executive order that opens a "review" of more than 20 national monuments. This order threatens protections for public lands and potentially opens them up to fossil fuel companies for drilling. The order also defies the century-old law that has protected millions of acres of public lands, the Antiquities Act.</p>
<p><b>April 27</b></p>	<p>The EPA <a href="#">asks</a> a federal court to delay a case about a rule limiting the amount of mercury, lead and other toxins emitted from power plants. Under the rule, known as the MATS rule, coal and oil-powered utilities are required to install pollution controls equivalent to those of their cleanest peers in the sector.</p>
<p><b>April 28</b></p>	<p>Trump <a href="#">signs</a> an executive order directing Interior Secretary Zinke to review the current five-year development plan on outer continental shelf offshore oil and gas exploration in Arctic waters, areas of the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic outer continental shelves. In addition, the order directs the Commerce Department to review all marine sanctuaries created or expanded in the last 10 years. The order <a href="#">eliminates</a> the Bering Sea Climate Resilience Area and the accompanying tribal advisory council set up by Alaskan tribes and the Obama administration in 2016 to ensure that tribes have a voice in managing federal natural resources. The order also <a href="#">directs</a> the Secretary of Commerce to review marine national monument and national marine sanctuary designations, as well as review technical guidance on the impacts of oil and gas seismic testing exploration on marine life.</p>
	<p>The D.C. Circuit Court <a href="#">grants</a> a stay in litigation over the Clean Power Plan at the request of the Trump administration and the EPA. The stay lasts for 60 days while the EPA decides how to proceed with the Clean Power Plan, a plan that called for the power sector to cut carbon pollution by 32 percent below 2005 levels.</p>

<b>May 5</b>	The EPA <a href="#">fires</a> members of the Board of Scientific Counselors, a board that reviews EPA scientists' work.
<b>May 10</b>	The Interior Department <a href="#">announces</a> a review of six energy company applications requesting seismic surveys in the Atlantic Ocean. The Obama Administration rejected all six applications and seismic surveys have been blocked in the region for at least 30 years.
<b>May 12</b>	Trump's EPA <a href="#">reaches</a> a settlement with a mining company to build a mine in Alaska's Bristol Bay watershed. This action could revive a project that had been effectively ended under the Obama administration due to environmental concerns.
<b>May 23</b>	Trump <a href="#">releases</a> a full budget proposal with significant cuts to the EPA, Department of Interior, Department of Energy, and the Army Corps of Engineers. The plan <a href="#">calls</a> to eliminate restoration projects for the Great Lakes, Chesapeake Bay, and the Puget Sound, in addition to a lead risk-reduction program.
<b>May 25</b>	Trump's EPA administrator, Scott Pruitt, <a href="#">signs</a> a proposed regulation that suspends compliance dates for regulations limiting toxic pollution from coal-fired plants.
<b>May 30</b>	Trump's EPA <a href="#">reconsiders</a> rules on methane emissions from landfills. The existing standards would reduce methane emissions from new and existing landfills, which are the third largest industrial source of methane in the U.S.
<b>June 1</b>	Trump <a href="#">withdraws</a> from the Paris Climate Accord. This renouncement of our commitments to reduce carbon emissions takes the U.S. even further in the wrong direction, putting global health at risk and jeopardizing our country's standing in the world.
<b>June 2</b>	Trump's EPA <a href="#">delays</a> implementation of the Obama administration rule meant to protect farm workers from toxic pesticides.
<b>June 6</b>	Trump's EPA administrator, Scott Pruitt, <a href="#">delays</a> the implementation of ozone pollution standards. This delay will increase pollutants that are the main components of smog. Ozone contributes to a number of adverse health effects, including exacerbating respiratory problems.
<b>June 8</b>	Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke <a href="#">signs</a> an order that calls for a review of the rules protecting sage grouse. The order reopens a compromise plan between conservationists and industry that was brokered under the Obama administration. This action opens the door for activities that threaten the sage grouse's existence.
<b>June 9</b>	The EPA and BLM <a href="#">delay</a> rules that would limit the release of methane from oil and gas sources.
<b>June 12</b>	The Trump administration <a href="#">refuses</a> to sign a G-7 statement committing the United States to reducing carbon dioxide emissions. The six other nations that

	<p>signed on to the statement acknowledge the need to limit global warming and increase efforts to reduce emissions.</p> <p>Trump's EPA administrator, Scott Pruitt, <a href="#">signs</a> a directive delaying chemical plant safety standards until 2019. The original rule was put in motion after 15 people were killed following an explosion at a Texas chemical plant in 2013. This delay would make conditions less safe for workers.</p> <p>The Trump administration <a href="#">cancels</a> a rule limiting the number of whales, dolphins, and sea turtles that can be killed or hurt by fishing nets. The rule would have helped protect endangered species.</p>
<b>June 13</b>	<p>Trump's EPA <a href="#">announces</a> a delay on methane emissions standards set by the Obama administration. The action means that the oil and gas industry does not have to comply with the emissions standards during the two-year stay.</p>
<b>June 14</b>	<p>Trump's BLM <a href="#">delays</a> rules that would limit methane emissions. They would have prevented nearly 200,000 tons of methane pollution per year from oil and gas wells.</p>
<b>June 17</b>	<p>Trump's Interior Department <a href="#">allows</a> the charter to expire for the Advisory Committee on Climate Change and Natural Resource Science. The group was formed under the Obama administration to advise the Secretary of the Interior and included scientists, state experts, environmentalists, and business stakeholders.</p>
<b>June 19</b>	<p>Trump's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration <a href="#">announces</a> it will not enforce parts of a 2016 safeguard for underground natural gas storage sites. The 2016 rule was put in place after one of the <a href="#">largest gas leaks</a> in U.S. history.</p>
<b>June 20</b>	<p>Trump's EPA administrator, Scott Pruitt, further <a href="#">cripples</a> the Board of Scientific Counselors—which provides the EPA advice on its research and programs—by not renewing the tenures of 38 of the 49 existing members. The move signals the agency's lack of interest in unbiased science and desire to stack advisory boards with representatives from industry.</p>
<b>June 22</b>	<p>Trump's EPA <a href="#">finalizes</a> two framework rules required under the revised Toxic Substances Control Act. These finalized rules are much weaker than the original proposed rules, fulfilling the chemical industry's wishes, ignoring the requirements of the law, and jeopardizing the health of families, especially vulnerable populations.</p>
<b>June 29</b>	<p>Trump and Interior Secretary Zinke <a href="#">announce</a> their first steps for rewriting the Obama administration's offshore oil and gas leasing plan for 2017-2022.</p>
<b>July 6</b>	<p>Trump's Interior Department <a href="#">issues</a> an order that speeds up the permitting process for oil and gas drilling on public lands. The order is indicative of the Trump administration's larger agenda, which prioritizes benefits for the fossil fuel industry over people's access to public lands.</p>

<b>July 12</b>	The Trump administration <a href="#">suspends</a> enforcement of penalties for automakers that violate fuel efficiency standards. The transportation sector is one of the country's largest sources of the pollution that fuels climate change, and this sector accounts for the majority of our oil consumption.
<b>July 14</b>	Trump's Interior Department <a href="#">orders</a> a review of federal rules that outlaw killing bears and wolves using extreme techniques. Rescinding the rule would enable hunters to kill bear and wolf mothers in dens with pups.
<b>July 17</b>	The Trump administration <a href="#">announces</a> it will use its votes at multilateral development banks, such as the World Bank, to support funding coal power plants. This decision represents a handout to the fossil fuel industry and takes a step back in the fight against climate change.
<b>July 20</b>	Trump's EPA <a href="#">withdraws</a> a proposed rule setting recycling standards for aerosol cans. This action eases regulation of industries that make and use aerosol cans. It also makes it easier to discard aerosol cans rather than to recycle them, which will increase pollution.
<b>July 24</b>	The Senate <a href="#">confirms</a> Trump's nomination of David Bernhardt to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior Department by a vote of 53-43. Bernhardt <a href="#">has</a> a long history of lobbying for the very industries under DOI's purview—creating numerous conflicts of interest—and, combined with his proximity to ethics scandals during his previous tenure at DOI, Bernhardt's ability to put the public interest first is questionable at best.
<b>July 25</b>	Trump's Commerce Secretary, Wilbur Ross, <a href="#">rejects</a> findings from the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission on the fishing quota for summer flounder in New Jersey. The Trump administration's overruling is unprecedented in the 75 years the commission has overseen fishing along the East Coast.
<b>July 27</b>	Trump's EPA <a href="#">formally proposes the repeal</a> of the Clean Water Rule. The rule clarifies the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act, reinstating its protections to small streams and wetlands. This rollback of drinking water safeguards would allow big polluters to dump waste into the drinking water of 1 in 3 people in this country – that's 117 million.
<b>August 1</b>	Trump's Department of Homeland Security <a href="#">waives</a> environmental laws and regulations for border wall projects. This project <a href="#">prioritizes</a> construction of an environmentally and culturally destructive wall ahead of protecting water resources for communities on both sides of the border, federally protected lands, clean air, and hundreds of endangered species.
<b>August 7</b>	Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke <a href="#">orders</a> changes to the department's and states' implementation of conservation plans for the sage grouse. This action is a giveaway to fossil fuel special interests that threaten the existence of the sage grouse.
<b>August 8</b>	The State Department <a href="#">provides</a> guidance to diplomats to downplay the United States' withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement.

<b>August 15</b>	Trump <a href="#">signs</a> an executive order rolling back the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard, which requires new infrastructure plans to account for climate change. Federal investments in infrastructure will no longer need to be built to withstand stronger storms and flooding stemming from climate change.
<b>August 17</b>	The Trump administration <a href="#">ends</a> a ban on bottled water sales in national parks. The ban had been in place since 2011 in order to reduce waste in national parks.
<b>August 18</b>	The Trump administration <a href="#">disbands</a> the Advisory Committee for the Sustained National Climate Assessment. The committee's purpose is to arm policymakers and private-sector stakeholders with government climate analysis to aid in long-term planning.
	Trump's Interior Department <a href="#">directs</a> the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to stop examining the health impacts of mountaintop removal coal mining in Appalachia.
<b>August 31</b>	Secretary of the Interior Zinke <a href="#">signs</a> an order arbitrarily limiting the length of environmental impact statements for major infrastructure projects.
	The Trump administration <a href="#">rescinds</a> a 2016 Obama administration order calling on the National Park Service to prioritize climate change in management practices for natural and cultural resources.
<b>September 4</b>	The EPA <a href="#">places</a> former Trump campaign staffer John Konkus in charge of reviewing and approving EPA grants. Konkus instructed staff to eliminate references to climate change in applications for grant funding. Officials from both the Obama and George W. Bush administrations said having a political officer involved in rejecting EPA grants is unprecedented.
<b>September 6</b>	The EPA <a href="#">plans</a> to move the environmental justice and environmental review offices under the jurisdiction of the Office of Policy, which is overseen by political appointees of EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt.
<b>September 13</b>	The EPA <a href="#">delays</a> an Obama administration rule that limits toxic water pollution from steam-electric power plants. By delaying this rule, the administration allows polluters to continue to dump dangerous pollutants like arsenic and mercury into our drinking water.
<b>September 14</b>	Trump <a href="#">says</a> , "We've had bigger storms than this," in the wake of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, which hit Texas and Florida, respectively.
	The EPA <a href="#">reconsiders</a> the Obama administration's efforts to regulate coal ash, which is created when coal is burned in power plants. The toxic waste is a mix of mercury, cadmium, arsenic, and other heavy metals that can pollute waterways and cause health problems.
<b>September 26</b>	The Federal Highway Administration <a href="#">announces</a> an expiration of an Obama administration rule that requires states to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from highway projects.



<b>September 29</b>	Energy Secretary Rick Perry <a href="#">proposes</a> a new rule requiring the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to subsidize fossil fuels and nuclear power plants, claiming it will improve the resiliency of the electrical grid.
<b>October 3</b>	Trump's EPA <a href="#">announces</a> a revival of the Smart Sectors program, which is an effort to be more industry-friendly in the regulatory process. The agency does not include any environmental or public health groups in the program.
<b>October 4</b>	The Interior Department <a href="#">proposes</a> delaying parts of an Obama administration rule that would limit methane emissions from oil and gas wells on federal lands as well as modify the <a href="#">social cost of methane</a> , which is used to calculate damage to the climate from methane pollution.
<b>October 5</b>	The Interior Department <a href="#">says</a> it will terminate the Obama administration rules protecting 10 million acres of federal lands that make up the habitat of the threatened sage grouse. The lands will be opened up for mining and grazing.
	The Trump administration <a href="#">announces</a> its nomination of Andrew Wheeler for deputy EPA administrator. Wheeler previously worked for Senator Jim Inhofe (R-OK) on the Environment and Public Works Committee and then as a lobbyist for coal producer Murray Energy.
<b>October 10</b>	EPA Administrator Pruitt <a href="#">issues</a> a proposal to repeal the Clean Power Plan.
<b>October 11</b>	Trump's EPA <a href="#">removes</a> all mentions of "climate change" from its draft four-year strategic plan.
<b>October 13</b>	Trump <a href="#">nominates</a> Kathleen Hartnett White, a climate change denier and former Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Chairman, to chair the White House Council on Environmental Quality.
<b>October 16</b>	The State Department <a href="#">approves</a> a cross-border permit for a pipeline expansion that would transport as much oil from Canadian oil sands as the Keystone XL pipeline.
	EPA Administrator Pruitt <a href="#">issues</a> a directive on the "sue and settle" practice, which creates new procedural obstacles for groups that sue the EPA for not enforcing the laws on the books.
<b>October 18</b>	Michael Dourson, Trump's nominee to run the EPA Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention and a chemical industry toxicologist-for-hire, <a href="#">starts</a> working at the EPA before receiving a Senate confirmation vote. On December 13, Dourson <a href="#">withdrew</a> his nomination after intense scrutiny and public pressure.
<b>October 24</b>	Trump's Interior secretary, Ryan Zinke, <a href="#">announces</a> the largest oil and gas lease sale in U.S. history.
<b>October 25</b>	The Interior Department <a href="#">removes</a> all mentions of "climate change" from a draft of its four-year strategic plan.

	<p>Trump's BLM <a href="#">rescinds</a> the Obama administration's guidance for taking climate change and greenhouse gas emissions into account before approving energy projects.</p> <p>Trump's EPA <a href="#">delays</a> compliance dates for an Obama administration safeguard meant to reduce formaldehyde in composite wood products that can cause health issues.</p>
<b>October 30</b>	EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt <a href="#">makes</a> drastic changes to the EPA's Science Advisory Board, replacing scientists who have received grants from the agency with industry voices and state regulators who have a history of criticizing the EPA.
<b>November 2</b>	The Trump administration <a href="#">says</a> it will exit a global anti-corruption program that sets standards for public reporting of government revenues received from oil, gas, and mineral extraction.
<b>November 9</b>	<p>The Senate <a href="#">confirms</a> Trump's nominee, William Wehrum, to be EPA assistant administrator for air and radiation by a vote of 49-47. Wehrum previously worked as an attorney for coal, oil, gas, and chemical companies, all of whom opposed EPA clean air rules.</p> <p>The EPA <a href="#">proposes</a> repealing the Obama administration's rules for limiting greenhouse gas emissions from larger trucks. The rule regulates glider kits, which are incomplete truck bodies that owners can equip with older engines, transmissions and axles to build complete and operating trucks.</p>
<b>November 13</b>	Trump's Interior Department announces the <a href="#">closing</a> of a U.S. Geological Survey science center that studies climate change in Reston, Virginia.
<b>November 15</b>	The Senate <a href="#">confirms</a> Trump's nominee, David Zatezalo, to head the Mine Health and Safety Administration by a vote of 52-46. Zatezalo previously worked as an executive for a coal company that had multiple safety violations during his tenure.
<b>November 28</b>	The Trump administration <a href="#">announces</a> its approval for an Italian energy company to drill exploratory oil wells in the Arctic Ocean. The permit was the first to allow drilling in Arctic waters in two years.
<b>December 4</b>	Trump <a href="#">revokes</a> around 2 million acres of Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante national monuments, resulting in the largest elimination of protected public lands in our nation's history. This action is outside the president's legal authority.
<b>December 5</b>	Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke <a href="#">released</a> his final report reviewing national monuments to the White House, recommending reductions to the Gold Butte National Monument in Nevada and Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument in Oregon and California, as well as the weakening of protections for half a dozen other national monuments.

<b>December 7</b>	BLM <a href="#">finalizes</a> a two year delay of the methane waste rule, which would reduce methane pollution from the oil and gas industry on public lands.
<b>December 8</b>	EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt <a href="#">publishes</a> a memo laying out his desire to ease the air pollution permitting process by accepting industry judgements of their own emissions projections.
<b>December 12</b>	The Trump administration illegally <a href="#">withholds</a> funds for the Department of Energy's Advanced Research Projects - Energy (ARPA-E) program, which supports research and development of new energy technologies.
<b>December 18</b>	Trump <a href="#">releases</a> 68-page document outlining his new National Security Strategy, which ignores threats posed by climate change. In failing to address climate change's role in national security, Trump is ignoring the opinions of his own military advisers including Defense Secretary James Mattis.
	EPA <a href="#">issues</a> notice requesting input from the public on replacing the Obama administration's Clean Power Plan.