

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

Submitted via regulations.gov

November 30, 2021

The Honorable Michael Regan
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Re: Request for a 60-day Extension to the Comment Period for EPA-HQ-OAR-2021-0317,
Standards for Performance for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources and Emissions
Guidelines for Existing Sources: Oil and Natural Gas Sector Climate Review

Dear Administrator Regan,

As members of the Oklahoma congressional delegation, we urge the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to extend the public comment period by 60-days for the EPA's proposed rule to directly regulate methane emissions from the oil and gas sector. We believe the current public comment period deadline of January 14, 2022 is insufficient in providing our constituents impacted by this sweeping regulatory proposal with enough time to thoroughly review and issue better informed comments. The complexity of EPA's proposal, coupled with the upcoming holiday season, provide ample justification for a 60-day extension of the comment period to March 15, 2022.

Oklahoma's oil and natural gas industry is vital to our economy, as it supports an estimated nearly 400,000 high-paying jobs across the state and generates billions of dollars in economic growth and tax revenue for the state and federal government. The proposed rule would unquestionably have a significant and wide-ranging impact on oil and gas businesses, most of whom are small businesses, who employ thousands of Oklahomans directly as well as indirectly. Also, at a time when Americans are paying more for energy to heat their homes and power their cars and trucks, it would be a mistake to move forward with this proposal, let alone a proposal that is not fully understood and would lead to further increased costs to consumers across the nation.

We believe extending the public comment period by 60-days is in the best interest of EPA and the regulated community, and appreciate your consideration of this request. We look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,



James M. Inhofe
United States Senator



James Lankford
United States Senator



Frank D. Lucas
Member of Congress



Stephanie Bice
Member of Congress



Tom Cole
Member of Congress



Kevin Hern
Member of Congress



Markwayne Mullin
Member of Congress