

CLEAN AIR VICTORY: COURT UPHOLDS PLAN TO REDUCE HAZE POLLUTION

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DENVER, CO – The Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals has ruled decisively in favor of a plan to reduce health-harming haze pollution in Oklahoma. A three judge panel denied a request by Attorney General Scott Pruitt, OG&E and the Oklahoma Industrial Energy Consumers asking for a review of the court’s previous decision to uphold the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s plan to cut haze pollution.

“Today’s ruling re-affirms what we already know: EPA’s plan to reduce serious pollution levels is common sense and good for Oklahomans,” said Whitney Pearson, with Sierra Club. “We will see cleaner air and clearer skies when the plan is put into action.”

“We look forward to working with the Governor, Attorney General, OG&E and other stakeholders to move forward, put this litigation behind us, and chart an Oklahoma-first path to responsibly replace the coal plants with local clean energy solutions,” continued Pearson. “We can build clean energy resources like wind farms in Oklahoma, which will put millions of dollars into our rural communities and schools and create the jobs here at home.”

The Public Service Company of Oklahoma (PSO) announced in April of 2012 that it would gradually phase out coal use at its Northeastern power plant in Oologah in order to reduce its haze-forming sulfur dioxide pollution. PSO recently announced a large purchase of wind power, an investment which will result in more than \$50 million in savings for its customers.

Sierra Club is America's largest grassroots environmental organization. Inspired by nature, we are 2.1 million of your friends and neighbors, working together to protect our communities and the planet.

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