

Air Quality: Manhattan Institute Report Addresses Proposed United States Environmental Protection Agency Budget Cuts



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The Manhattan Institute (“MI”) issued an April 24th issue paper titled:

Will EPA Cuts Harm America’s Air Quality? (“Report”)

The Massachusetts Institute of Policy Research describes itself as a “leading voice of free-market ideas, shaping political culture since our founding in 1977.”

The organization focuses on subjects such as:

- Welfare reform
- Tort reform
- Proactive policing
- Supply-side tax policies

MI argues that:

The U.S. has some of the cleanest air in the world, thanks to decades of steady progress that has persisted across Democratic and Republican administrations, as well as across EPA budget expansions and cuts.

The organization identifies as key findings in the Report:

- Emissions of major air pollutants were 71% lower in 2015 than in 1970; emissions of air toxics were 60% lower in 2011 than in 1990
- Gains on every pollutant proceeded during the aggressive EPA budget and staff cuts of the Reagan administration and were generally as fast during the Reagan and Bush administrations as during the Clinton and Obama administrations
- The EPA has repeatedly tightened its standards for acceptable air quality, creating the appearance of serious health risks even as pollution continues to decline

The topics in the Report include:

- How Clean is America’s Air?
- Who Deserves Credit?
- A Permanent Crisis

[A copy of the Report can be downloaded here.](#)

