Allagash Brewing Company · Alliance Brewing Company · Bang Brewing · Baxter Brewing Co. Bent Paddle Brewing Co. · Big Grove Brewery · Blue Point Brewing Company BrewDog Brewing Company · Brewery 85 · Brewery Techne · Brewery Vivant · BREWSKI Beers Brooklyn Brewery · Cahaba Brewing Company · Earth Bread + Brewery Eastern Market Brewing Co. · Engrained Brewery & Restaurant · Fibonacci Brewing Company Fiddlin' Fish Brewing Company · Flossmoor Station Brewing Company · Flying Fish Brewing Co. Fremont Brewing · Great Lakes Brewing Company · Greenstar Organic Brewing Half Acre Beer Company · Hops & Grain Brewing · Horse & Dragon Brewing Company Lakefront Brewery · Lost Rhino Brewing Company · Maine Beer Company Maui Brewing Company · Mill River Brewing · MotoSonora Brewing Co. Naked River Brewing Company · Old Bust Head Brewing Company · One World Brewing Orono Brewing Company · Port City Brewing Company · Rising Tide Brewing Company Rolling Meadows Farm Brewery · Saltwater Brewery · Sedona Beer Company Sierra Nevada Brewing Co. · SweetWater Brewing Company · Temperance Beer Co. Wild Onion Brewery · Wolf Hills Brewing Company · Zed's Beer

January 15, 2020

Andrew Wheeler, Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20460

Submitted online via regulations.gov

RE: Docket ID Number EPA-HQ-OW-2009-0819: Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards for the Steam Electric Power Generating Point Source Category

Dear Administrator Wheeler:

We oppose your proposal to weaken national water pollution standards for coal-burning power plants. This rule would endanger the water sources that many craft breweries depend on to produce high-quality beer.

Beer is mostly water, a resource that our businesses care about deeply. The quality of our source water significantly affects our finished product. Compounds present in brewing water can affect pH, aroma, and taste. Trace quantities of metals can affect the metabolism of yeast and the physical properties of beer, including its color and stability. Even small chemical disruptions in our water supply could influence the quality of our brews.

For breweries that depend on surface water, unexpected changes in water quality due to pollution can affect the brewing process and our bottom line. We need reliable sources of clean water to consistently produce the great beer that is key to our success. It is thanks in part to this important natural resource that the craft brewing industry contributes about \$79.1 billion to the U.S. economy each year, along with more than 550,000 jobs.¹

¹ Brewers Association statistics from 2018. https://www.brewersassociation.org/statistics-and-data/economic-impact-data/.

EPA's proposal to allow power plants to discharge greater amounts of toxic substances into waterways could threaten the most important ingredient for breweries as well as other industries that rely on clean, safe sources of water. Coal-burning power plants are by far the largest source of toxic water pollution in the United States, including heavy metals like arsenic, mercury, selenium, and lead. These pollutants can be dangerous for human health and must be controlled to keep our water safe for drinking and brewing.

Coal plant water pollution has already made 4,000 miles of rivers in the U.S. unsafe for use as a drinking water source. Limits on this pollution need to be made more protective, not less, and it makes no sense to roll back the stronger standards that were established in 2015. We need to keep source waters clean to protect public health and ensure sustainable water supplies for industries like ours.

We ask you not to weaken power plant toxic water pollution limits. Protecting clean water is central to our long-term business success. Moreover, it is vital to the health and the economy of the communities where we live and work.

Thank you for considering our views on this important matter.

Sincerely,











Jason Perkins Brewmaster Portland, ME

Stephanie Carlson Knoxville Area Brewers Assoc. Knoxville, TN

Sandy & Jay Boss Febbo Owners/Brewers St. Paul, MN

Justin Blouin

Head Brewer

Lewiston, ME

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Will Cameron CEO Greenville, SC

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Matt Gallagher Engineer Chicago, IL

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MUNALKEE WARE WISCONSIN BREWERY, INC



Maine Beer Company











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