May 14, 2018

The Honorable Scott Pruitt
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

We write to respectfully request the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) extend the comment deadline to July 30, 2018 on the proposed rule “Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science,” docket number EPA-HQ-OA-2018-0259, and hold one or more public hearings.

This proposed rule is expected to have a significant effect on the types and number of scientific studies EPA considers during rulemaking. The rule also implicates patient privacy. With these concerns in mind, many public health groups, including the American Lung Association, the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Preventive Medicine, the American Thoracic Society, and the American Public Health Association, have similarly requested an extension of the comment deadline and public hearings.

EPA would be well served by giving stakeholders adequate time to draft and submit thorough, well-reasoned comments and by conducting at least one hearing to hear public feedback. Doing so will help ensure that EPA receives the highest quality comments from the broadest array of stakeholders.

Sincerely,

Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator

Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator

Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator
Tom Udall  
United States Senator

Margaret Wood Hassan  
United States Senator

Mazie K. Hirono  
United States Senator

Kamala D. Harris  
United States Senator

Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator

Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator

Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator

Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

Brian Schatz  
United States Senator

Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator

Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator

Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator

Bernard Sanders  
United States Senator

Jack Reed  
United States Senator
Edward J. Markey
United States Senator

Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator