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Lattner, Jennifer

From: Masser, Michelle
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2016 11:00 AM
To: Harris, Laura
Cc: Gouveia, Susan; Lattner, Jennifer
Subject: FW: EPA Should Recognize Market-Driven Climate Progress

Correspondence

Michelle Masser
Township Clerk

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From: Jack Gerard, API [mailto:Jack_Gerard_API@mail.vresp.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2016 10:56 AM
To: Masser, Michelle <clerkmichelle@mtolivetwp.org>
Subject: EPA Should Recognize Market-Driven Climate Progress

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January 13, 2016

**EPA Should Recognize Market-Driven
Climate Progress**

**America's Climate and Energy
Success Story**

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Dear Michelle,

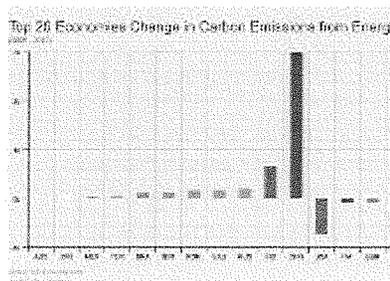
The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) pledges to start 2016 “hitting the ground running” to build on a “monumental” 2015. In [a blog post](#) last week, EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy signaled her agency will continue its focus on methane and carbon regulations.

Absent from EPA’s plans was any acknowledgement that methane and carbon emissions are already down. Recognizing progress we’ve already made – and the market factors contributing to that success – is critical to avoiding costly, duplicative regulations that could undermine that progress, as well as economic growth.

Carbon emissions from the power sector have fallen to near 20-year lows, according to data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA). We’ve [reduced carbon emissions](#) more than any nation in the world. And we didn’t need the administration’s new Clean Power Plan to do it. [America’s energy resurgence](#) has produced an abundance of affordable natural gas, and power plants have steadily switched to this cleaner-burning power source.

Consumers are reaping the benefits in the form of lower prices. According to new EIA data, [wholesale electricity prices at major](#)

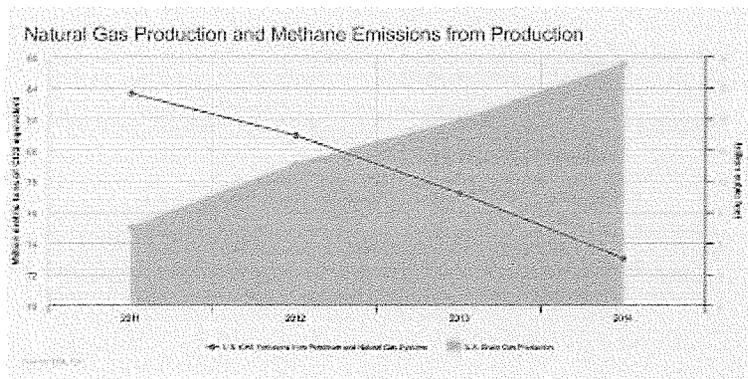
in both carbon reductions and oil and natural gas production. It’s not just carbon; methane and ozone emissions are also down. [Learn more](#) about U.S. success in reducing emissions without sacrificing energy production and jobs.



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trading hubs dropped 27 percent – 37 percent between 2014 and 2015, driven “largely by lower natural gas prices.” Rather than build on that proven, market-driven success, the Clean Power Plan encourages the power sector to rely on more intermittent sources like wind and solar, which could significantly increase energy costs for families and businesses.



Since 2005, methane emissions are down 11 percent from natural gas systems and 79 percent from hydraulically fractured natural gas wells. Emissions have plunged while natural gas production has soared thanks to voluntary efforts and technological investments from the oil and natural gas industry. As the primary component of natural gas, methane is used to heat homes and generate clean-burning electricity; producers have every incentive to find new ways to capture and sell it to consumers. Imposing new regulations on top of the successful, voluntary system threatens to undermine progress and make it more costly to produce the very natural gas that has been instrumental in cutting carbon emissions.

While the EPA is making New Year’s resolutions, here’s a suggestion: Don’t overlook the success of market-driven



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solutions. Our progress in reducing emissions has been achieved not through government-directed, one-size-fits-all regulations but through market forces and innovation from a skilled American workforce. Regulations that ignore market conditions and economic reality run the risk of undercutting an energy renaissance that is saving consumers billions.

Sincerely,

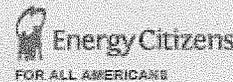
Jack Gerard
President and CEO
API

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Energy Tomorrow is a project of the American Petroleum Institute – the only national trade association that represents all aspects of America's oil and natural gas industry – speaking for the industry to the public, Congress and the Executive Branch, state governments and the media.

THE *people* OF AMERICA'S OIL AND NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY



Natural Gas

Rapid growth in natural gas production, thanks to vast shale deposits and hydraulic fracturing, is reviving America's manufacturing and other sectors while helping reduce U.S. carbon emissions to a 20-year low.



Oil

U.S. crude oil production has reached its highest point since 1997, due to production from shale and other tight rock formations, while reducing imports to their lowest level in more than 20 years.



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