

Conservative Think-Tank Battles Texas EPA Czar

Contributed by Tom McGregor
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The Texas Public Policy Foundation released a report on Monday denouncing 10 job-killing environmental regulations proposed by Texas EPA Czar Al Armendariz, a professor at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Tx. They contend that Czar Armendariz has put forth an "avalanche" of Environmental Protection Agency rules that would damage the limping economy by \$1 trillion and force hundreds of thousands of workers to lose their jobs.

The Houston Chronicle reports that, "in the report, the highly influential conservative think-tank says the large number of regulations, which are slated to go into effect during the next three years, are a result of 'manipulated science' and do not offer health benefits. The regulations cover greenhouse gases, cross-state pollution, ozone quality, and industrial controls on industrial boilers, Portland cement kilns, cooling water intake systems and coal combustion."

The TPPF report contends that Texas pollution has considerably decreased since 1980 and argues the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule would have the deepest impact on the Lone Star state which could result in rolling blackouts for Texans next summer.

The Houston Chronicle quotes the report's author, Kathleen Hartnett-white as saying that, "never in its 40-year history has EPA simultaneously promulgated so many environmental rules characterized by converging dates, massive compliance costs, and mandates exceeding existing technological controls. Nor has EPA before relied on such speculative manipulated science to justify this most aggressive regulatory agenda to date."

To read the entire article from the Houston Chronicle, link here:Mcgregor@chinadaily.com.cn