STATEMENT FROM POLICY INTEGRITY DIRECTOR, RICHARD REVESZ ON THE SUPREME COURT’S REVIEW OF GREENHOUSE GAS REGULATION OPINION

Review delivers victory for EPA, little impact on emission regulations.

Professor Richard Revesz, Institute for Policy Integrity’s director and New York University School of Law professor, released this statement following the Supreme Court’s announcement this morning:

The Supreme Court gave the Environmental Protection Agency a significant victory this morning. By deciding to review only one narrow permitting question from an expansive D.C. Circuit opinion upholding EPA's power over greenhouse gas emissions, the court leaves intact EPA’s ability to regulate climate-altering pollution from both stationary and mobile sources.

The narrow scope of this review means that the decisions will have very little impact on EPA’s ability to regulate stationary sources and no impact on EPA’s ability to regulate mobile sources. Even if this challenge to EPA is successful, it would only affect the way certain siting permits are granted. EPA is implementing a far more comprehensive program to control emissions through its recently proposed new stationary sources rule and its forthcoming existing sources rule. EPA's legal authority to proceed with these rules is not affected in any way by the Supreme Court's decision today. The question taken by the Supreme Court will have very limited real world consequences for greenhouse gas controls.

By leaving EPA’s endangerment finding in place, the Supreme Court allows EPA to proceed with its ambitious program for controlling greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act.

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