



Institute for
Policy Integrity
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – April 24, 2020

Contact: Derek Sylvan | (212) 998-6085 | derek.sylvan@nyu.edu

NEW RESOURCE TRACKS REDUCED ENFORCEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS RELATED TO COVID-19

The Trump administration and several states are allowing violations of key safeguards in the wake of the outbreak

A [new resource released today by the Institute for Policy Integrity at NYU School of Law](#) tracks reduced enforcement of environmental laws in response to the coronavirus pandemic. In connection with the crisis, several federal and state agencies have issued waivers or announced plans to stop enforcing key environmental laws and regulations, with potentially significant ramifications for public health and the environment.

The new tracking resource, which will be continually updated, offers details on 38 actions taken thus far.

Richard Revesz, Lawrence King Professor of Law and Dean Emeritus at NYU School of Law and Director of the Institute for Policy Integrity, has released the following statement:

“Failing to enforce environmental laws could be enormously detrimental to our wellbeing, and the coronavirus is no excuse to allow dangerous pollution and unsafe practices. We are tracking reduced environmental enforcement to help provide transparency, because a public health crisis should not be used as an excuse to ignore illegal activity or remove safeguards necessary to protect public health.”

Members of our legal team are available for interviews on these issues.

The tracking resource is available at: <https://policyintegrity.org/covid-19-concession-tracker>

###

***[The Institute for Policy Integrity](#)** at New York University School of Law is a non-partisan think tank dedicated to improving the quality of government decisionmaking. The institute produces original scholarly research in the fields of economics, law, and regulatory policy; and advocates for reform before courts, legislatures, and executive agencies.*