



Institute for
Policy Integrity

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – November 2, 2021

Contact: Derek Sylvan | (614) 638-8282 | derek.sylvan@nyu.edu

STATEMENT ON EPA METHANE RULE

Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [proposed](#) new limits on emissions of planet-warming methane. The agency will target methane leaks from both new and existing oil and gas infrastructure.

Richard Revesz, AnBryce Professor of Law and Dean Emeritus at New York University School of Law, where he directs the Institute for Policy Integrity, issued the following statement:

“The decision to regulate methane emissions from both new and existing sources is a profoundly important step for U.S. environmental policy. In the past, EPA regulations have generally targeted new sources of pollution while leaving only lax rules (or no rules) in place for existing sources. The effects have been disastrous. For example, this approach kept some of the nation’s dirtiest power plants running decades beyond their expected lives.”

“Methane leaks are a significant contributor to climate change, and it is critical to limit methane emissions from existing oil and gas operations as well as those that are yet to be built. The Biden administration is taking a historic step forward with this move by avoiding the key conceptual mistake that has plagued U.S. environmental policy. Existing sources of pollution severely threaten public health and the environment, and should not be left unchecked.”

Revesz is available for interviews on this issue.

###

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.