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President Trump Begins Irresponsible Environmental Rollbacks with Attack on Clean Water Rule

Matthew Shudtz, Executive Director of the Center for Progressive Reform, released the following statement on President Donald Trump's executive order attacking the Clean Water Rule (Waters of the U.S.):

"Today, President Donald Trump signed yet another executive order attacking our public protections. In this latest order, the president has directed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers to begin a formal 'review' of the Clean Water Rule, also known as the Waters of the U.S. rule.

"Make no mistake: the outcome of this so-called 'review' has already been predetermined. It's intended to sound the death knell for a critical rule that would make our water cleaner, protect wetlands for people and wildlife, and bring greater regulatory certainty to an area of environmental law that has been plagued by vague interpretations and inconsistent enforcement.

"Fortunately, in this case, the Trump administration will find that implementing this order and dismantling the Clean Water Rule will be a lot harder than sending out a late-night tweet. The president and the industry interests he's carrying dirty water for with this executive order will run into numerous hurdles and an extensive scientific record that will be difficult to simply wish away. It's deeply troubling that the Trump administration is continuing its assault on our safeguards by moving forward with such an irresponsible attempted environmental rollback."

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