FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WASHINGTON, DC—Today, GreenLatinos, and the National Hispanic Medical Association released the following statement upon conclusion of the oral arguments on the Clean Power Plan litigation before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit:

“What we heard in the courtroom today simply underscores what we've known to be true all along—the Clean Power Plan is built on a strong legal foundation. It is consistent with the law, earlier court precedents, and other EPA programs. The strong presentation made by the government, environmental and public health organizations, states, and power companies in support of the EPA is a reflection of our strong case and reinforces why the Clean Power Plan is critical for Latino communities.

“Climate change is an urgent threat to all Americans, including Latinos, who are disproportionately at risk from its impacts. Nearly 2 in 5 Latinos live within 30 miles of a power plant, and nearly half of Latinos live in counties where the air is unsafe to breathe. Latinos are less likely to carry health insurance, which makes it difficult for them to cope with health-related problems caused by air pollution. The Clean Power Plan will reduce extreme weather events and improve the health of Latino communities.”

“Outside of the courtroom, a majority of Americans, including Hispanics, know that we need climate action. Nearly 80 percent of Latinos consider climate change to be a somewhat serious or very serious problem, and more than half said they consider climate change a deciding factor in their vote for President.”

“We just heard more of the same today from polluters and their political allies in court. Simply repeating false and misleading claims does not make them true. The arguments being offered by polluters and their political allies to date have lacked merit, and nothing we heard in the courtroom today was any different.”

“The attorneys general who are trying to stop the Clean Power Plan are doing so at the expense of our public health—even as many states are moving forward with plans to cut carbon pollution. Instead of fighting for the health and economic well-being of their state's residents, they're standing by the polluter interests who funded their million-dollar campaigns.”

“Now more than ever, we need to take strong action on climate change. We remain confident that the D.C. Circuit will uphold the Clean Power Plan.”

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