December 11, 2018

Andrew Wheeler, Acting Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protections Agency  
William Jefferson Clinton Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.  
Washington, DC 20460

RE: Oil and Natural Gas Sector: Emission Standards for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources Reconsideration

Dear Acting Administrator Wheeler:

The Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC) writes in strong opposition to proposed rollbacks on existing requirements for capturing methane pollution.

Established in 1968, APCC is the Cape Cod, Massachusetts region’s leading nonprofit environmental advocacy and education organization, working for the adoption of laws, policies and programs that protect and enhance Cape Cod’s natural resources and quality of life.

These proposed changes would significantly relax much-needed rules requiring oil and gas companies to look for and repair methane gas leaks in order to prevent its release into the atmosphere. Methane is a greenhouse gas pollutant that is 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide. Lifting these rules would be an irresponsible act on the part of the EPA and would be a further abandonment of its responsibility to address climate change and protect the health and welfare of American citizens.

Oil and gas companies must be held accountable and be required to proactively address and prevent methane leaks. The New Source Performance Standards that regulate the release of methane must stay in place and must be enforced. APCC calls on the EPA to withdraw its proposed rollback of these important regulations.

Sincerely,

Andrew Gottlieb  
Executive Director

Don Keeran  
Assistant Director