

For Immediate Release January 9, 2020

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Statement on White House Proposal to Reform NEPA Reviews

(Washington, D.C.) — The following statement, regarding the White House Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) proposed rule modernizing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), may be attributed to James Edwards, Executive Director, Conservatives for Property Rights:

"Property rights conservatives applaud the White House's proposed NEPA reforms. They're long overdue. NEPA environmental reviews have grown longer and longer, and slower and slower — thus denying exercise of one's property rights through what amount to regulatory takings. The proposed regulatory relief will speed up these reviews, streamline them, reduce associated costs and, importantly, increase America's industrial competitiveness without sacrificing bonafide conservation concerns. This regulatory reform across the federal government strengthens private property rights and respects property owners' decisions on how to enjoy the fruits of their labor."

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For more information on CPR's policy priorities related to regulatory reform, see section titled "Regulatory Reform to Restore Private Property Rights" here.

For more information on the role of property rights in industrial competitiveness, see our report here.

For more information on how environmental regulations have come to outweigh other meritorious concerns, see Oren Cass, *The Once and Future Worker*, Chapter 5, "The Environment and the Economy" (For example: "Major environmental laws explicitly reject consideration of cost in setting standards and are designed to tighten continually no matter how much environmental quality improves." (p. 81)).

About Conservatives for Property Rights:

Conservatives for Property Rights is a coalition of conservative organizations that stand for private property rights. CPR believes property rights are divinely endowed to human beings on account of their humanity, and private property is essential to the functioning of free enterprise, investing one's resources in discovery and creativity, and the exercise of ordered liberty.