

From: Tom Jensen, Director of Public Policy Policy Polling
To: Interested Parties
Subject: Virginia's Latino and women voters support stronger EPA safeguards
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A new Public Policy Polling survey finds that Virginia voters – particularly Latinos and women - strongly support the work of the EPA and think that it should be able to implement stronger standards on the release of mercury, lead, arsenic, and carbon pollution without the interference of either Congress or President Obama. Key findings from the poll include:

- **77% of Virginia voters want the EPA to hold corporate polluters accountable for what they release into the community.** This is not something that breaks out as a partisan issue- there is a strong consensus across party lines with 91% of Democrats, 78% of independents, and 60% of Republicans believing the EPA should implement safeguards to protect air and water.
- **78% of women and 76% of Latino voters in Virginia think the President should have sided with health experts instead of polluters and supported the stronger smog safeguards proposed by EPA experts.** Overall 71% of voters are unhappy with President Obama's decision to block the safeguards and with that key group of Latino women that could hold the key to Obama's winning the state again in 2012 the displeasure with him is even stronger. 84% of Democrats, 67% of independents, and 62% of Republicans think Obama made the wrong choice.
- **68% of Virginia voters support the EPA requiring stricter limits on the amount of toxic chemicals that industrial facilities can release and 66% are in favor of the EPA limiting the amount of carbon pollution that power plants and industrial facilities can release** This is something that the key demographic of women is very clear about – 73-74% within that group want to see the EPA set those stronger standards and politicians who oppose them will have a hard time winning favor with this important group of voters.
- **Virginia voters don't buy the line from some in Congress that EPA safeguards are bad for jobs and the economy.** After hearing arguments against the policies and the arguments of health experts in favor of them, 70% of voters in the state say that they side with the health experts in their support for the EPA's work.

Public Policy Polling surveyed 634 Virginia voters on October 6th and 7th on behalf of the Natural Resources Defense Council. The margin of error for the poll is +/-3.9%.



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