

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard
Sent: Mon 8/14/2017 5:24:47 PM
Subject: Green groups sue EPA over TSCA rules

By Annie Snider

08/14/2017 01:21 PM EDT

Environmental groups have filed a suite of lawsuits challenging a pair of chemical safety rules finalized by the Trump administration last month.

The suits, filed Friday by [Earthjustice](#) in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, and [Environmental Defense Fund](#) in the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals in New York, contest the two "framework rules" for implementing last year's bipartisan overhaul of the Toxic Substances Control Act. The rules govern how EPA will prioritize and conduct evaluations of tens of thousands of chemicals that are already on the market in the U.S.

In particular, the suits challenge the rules' approach to excluding certain uses of chemicals from EPA's evaluation of the substance's safety. Green groups argue that, under the law, EPA must analyze all of a substance's likely uses.

"Unfortunately, in straying from the letter and intent of that law, the EPA's framework rules leave the public at risk from chemicals commonly found in our homes, schools and workplaces," Richard Denison, lead senior scientist for Environmental Defense Fund, said in a statement. "Our legal challenges seek to hold EPA to the law and ensure that the public is protected as Congress intended."

EPA did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the lawsuits.

WHAT'S NEXT: The two appellate courts will decide whether to allow the lawsuits to proceed.

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