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AG MARSHALL PRAISES TRUMP EXECUTIVE ORDER REGARDING EPA CLEAN POWER REGULATIONS

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Steve Marshall praised an executive order signed today by President Donald Trump to ease federal regulation by the Environmental Protection Agency of power plant emissions, known as the Clean Power Plan, that was put into place by the Obama administration.

“The so-called Clean Power Plan was an unlawful, job-killing extension of the EPA’s authority under President Obama,” said Attorney General Marshall. “It was stayed by the U.S. Supreme Court in a lawsuit filed by the State of Alabama and others, and I am pleased that President Trump has ordered that it be reviewed.”

The Alabama Attorney General’s Office has been joined by numerous other Attorneys General throughout the nation in opposing the regulations. They assert that the Clean Power Plan exceeded the EPA’s congressional authority and violated the U.S. Constitution by attempting to commandeer and coerce the states into carrying out federal energy policy. They say that the EPA specifically overstepped its authority by transforming the nation’s energy industry, double regulating coal-fired power plants and forcing states to fundamentally shift their energy portfolios away from coal-fired generation.

Attorney General Marshall urges Congress to take longer-term legislative action to prevent any future EPA from drafting similarly unlawful and/or more extreme rules. He said Congressional action is important to avoid the repetition of federal overreaches such as those occurring under the Obama administration.

Earlier this month, Attorney General Marshall joined in a coalition of 19 states calling on the EPA to adhere to the cooperative approach to regulating the environment that the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act require, with the primary responsibility reserved for state and local governments.

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