

World Bank Study Finds Air Pollution Costs the World Trillions of Dollars

“The Cost of Air Pollution: Strengthening the Economic Case for Action” September 8, 2016. World Bank study found that air pollution causes the world trillions of dollars per year in lost GDP in some countries (ie 10% loss in China in 2013), lost work days, welfare and premature deaths of 5.5 million people per year, making it the fourth leading cause of death worldwide. The study did not include health care costs in its estimates.

EPA Takes First Steps to Regulate Airliner Pollution

Omaha World-Herald, July 26, 2016 “EPA Moves to Regulate Climate-Warming Airliner Pollution”; also reported in Queens Chronicle, July 28, 2016

EPA announced it will use its authority under the Clean Air Act to limit pollution from airliners, in response to threat of a lawsuit from a coalition of environmental organizations. The EPA is expected to adopt fuel efficiency standards for domestic carriers.

Reestablishing EPA Office of Noise Abatement & Control

Port Washington News, July 16, 2016 “Reestablishing EPA Office of Noise Abatement & Control”

US Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand introduce legislation to in the Senate to empower EPA to oversee airplane noise issues across the country by reestablishing an EPA Office of Noise Abatement and Control. The Senators argue that because EPA’s mission is more closely tied to protecting human health and the environment, it makes sense to give it jurisdiction over airplane noise.

Tennessee Valley Authority Tries Non-Traditional Method to Improve Emissions

The Chattanooga, July 25, 2016 “Tennessee Valley Authority Helps Airports, FedEx Achieve Cleaner Air”

The TVA is working with four regional airports to reduce emissions by providing cash incentives to purchase non-diesel equipment. 55 pieces of equipment will be replaced in the next few months under the program, potentially saving 4,000 metric tons of CO2 emissions per year in the Tennessee Valley.