

TRUMP REJECTS CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE

2009 EPA finding had affirmed greenhouse gases are a threat to health and welfare.

BY HAYLEY SMITH AND IAN JAMES

The Trump administration on Thursday reversed the U.S. government's long-standing scientific conclusion that planet-heating pollution seriously threatens Americans, erasing a foundational piece of the country's efforts to address climate change. California, with its ambitious goals for cutting emissions, immediately announced it will sue the administration to block the decision.

The repeal of the 2009 endangerment finding — a conclusion based on decades of science that carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases endanger public health and welfare — represents one of the biggest environmental rollbacks in U.S. history, and the latest in a series of actions by President Trump to scrap policies and regulations designed to curb the use of fossil fuels and accelerate the transition to clean energy.

The administration on Thursday also dismantled all federal emissions regulations governing vehicle models and engines between 2012 and 2027 and beyond.

"Today, the Trump EPA has finalized the single largest act of deregulation in the history of the United States of America, referred to by some as the holy grail of federal regulatory overreach," said Lee Zeldin, administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. "The 2009 Obama EPA endangerment finding is now eliminated."

The action will restore consumer choice, make more affordable vehicles available for American families, decrease the cost of living on all products by lowering the cost of trucks, and save Americans more than \$1.3 trillion by removing regulatory requirements for motor vehicle standards, Zeldin said, though experts questioned that number.

"This is a big one if you're into the environment — this is about as big as it gets," Trump said.

Experts and scientists condemned the action. The Environmental Protection Network — a bipartisan group of more than 700 former staff and appointees at the Environmental Protection Agency — described it as "unprecedented and dangerous."

"This move is a fundamental betrayal of EPA's responsibility to protect human health," said Joseph Goffman, former assistant administrator of the EPA

[See Climate, A12]



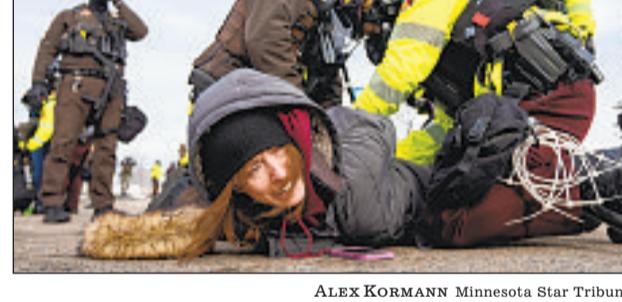
Photographs by MYUNG J. CHUN Los Angeles Times

SHIMICA GASKINS, top right, and Gina Clayton-Johnson, who both lost their homes in the January 2025 fires, hug in front of west Altadena residents. Black Altadena residents disproportionately experienced damage, researchers found.

ICE operation in Minnesota ending

Federal officials call it a success; critics call for more accountability

By Steve Karnowski



A PROTESTER is arrested during demonstrations that rocked not just Minnesota but the entire U.S.

Case to deport Marines' dad dismissed

By RUBEN VIVES AND BRITTNEY MEJIA

The Times that the judge terminated his stepfather's case during a virtual hearing on Jan. 28.

"It was the third case the judge heard that day," Hernandez said in a phone interview. "It was nerve-racking."

Barranco, 49, made national headlines when Border Patrol agents took him into custody on June 21 while he tended to some grass with a weed whacker outside a Santa Ana IHOP.

The arrest was caught on

video that was shared on social media, and soon after, his eldest son was granted interviews to the media, keeping his father's case in the news cycle, pushing for his release. Alejandro Barranco, a Marine veteran, told

The Times then that his father had been pepper sprayed and that his shoulder had been dislocated.

At the time, the Department of Homeland Security denied Barranco's shoulder had been dislocated and

arrests, Homan said, touting it as a success.

"The surge is leaving Minnesota safer," he said. "I'll say it again, it's less of a sanctuary state for criminals."

The announcement marks a significant retreat from an operation that has become a major distraction for the Trump administration and has been more volatile than prior crackdowns in Chicago and Los Angeles. It comes as a new AP-NORC poll found that most U.S. adults say Trump's immigration policies have gone too far.

But Trump's border advisor pledged that immigration enforcement won't end when the Minnesota operation is over.

"President Trump made

[See Minnesota, A6]

Big win for biologists tracking rare red fox

By CLARA HARTER

The Sierra Nevada red fox is one of the nation's rarest and most critically threatened mammals with fewer than 50 believed to remain. And now, for the first time, a specimen has been successfully fitted with a GPS collar and released back into the wild, marking a major victory for conservation efforts to protect it.

The species' existence in the Sierra Nevada was confirmed only in 2010 when a motion camera north of Yosemite National Park captured a photo of the elusive

vulpine and its white-tipped tail. Researchers previously believed the fox was wiped out from the region in the 1920s.

For the last decade, wildlife biologists have been using remote cameras and scat surveys to track the movements of the fox in the southern Sierra. For the last three years, they have been carrying out intensive trapping efforts.

But the fox has proved difficult to capture. The speedy and delicate animal is extremely wary of humans. The few remaining foxes live in barren, rugged

[See Red fox, A6]



KIRILL KUDRYAVTSEV AFP/Getty Images

A STAR FALLS SHORT

Chloe Kim of the U.S. had to settle for the silver after taking a spill in the halfpipe. Her protege from South Korea captured the gold. **SPORTS, D1**

Barbie maker takes earnings hit

Mattel announces weak holiday-season sales and expects another slow year as the iconic doll's products struggle.

BUSINESS, A10

UCLA professor in Epstein files

Amid fallout, he regrets emails with disgraced financier in which he sought funding for his work. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Weather

Sunshine. L.A. Basin: 73/48. **B5**

Markets **A12**

Opinion Voices **A13**

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