

Media Advisory
For Immediate Release:
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Pennsylvania Youth Head to Court to Fight for Constitutional Rights to Stable Climate

WHAT: A panel of judges in the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania will hear oral arguments in the constitutional and public trust climate change case brought by seven young plaintiffs against Gov. Tom Wolf and six state agencies. This case is part of a national youth-led campaign organized by Our Children's Trust. The effort has resulted in recent wins in Massachusetts and Washington state.

WHEN: Monday, June 6, 2016
Hearing begins at 1:00 p.m. EST; please arrive by 12:30 to secure your seat

WHERE: Suite 3001, Pennsylvania Judicial Center
601 Commonwealth Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17106

WHY: Plaintiffs are asking the defendants to take necessary steps to regulate Pennsylvania's carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases consistent with the Commonwealth's duty and obligations as public trustee under Article I, Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution to conserve and maintain public natural resources, including the atmosphere, for the benefit of present and future generations. They contend that the Wolf administration and the six agencies are violating their constitutional and public trust rights as a result of decades of promoting the development and use of fossil fuels in Pennsylvania.

The suit was filed by the Environmental & Natural Resources Law Clinic, at Widener University Delaware Law School, with Associate Professor of Law and Clinic Director Kenneth T. Kristl as lead counsel. The Clinic prepares Delaware Law School students for practice by involving them in environmental cases and appeals like this one.

This case is one of several similar state, federal, and international cases, all supported by Our Children's Trust, seeking the legal right to a healthy atmosphere and stable climate.

Ashley Funk, one of the seven plaintiffs, was recently featured on *Heat of The Moment*, WBEZ Chicago's long-term project about climate change. Listen to her share her story about growing up in coal country [here](#).

Our Children's Trust is a nonprofit organization, elevating the voice of youth, those with most to lose, to secure the legal right to a healthy atmosphere and stable climate on behalf of present and future generations. We lead a global human rights and environmental justice campaign to implement enforceable science-based Climate Recovery Plans that will return atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration to levels below 350 ppm. www.ourchildrenstrust.org/

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