

Of all the potential actions in Donald Trump’s forthcoming presidency, none will have more long-lasting effects than those on climate change. Just four days after the Paris climate agreement went into force—the first comprehensive global deal to reduce heat-trapping pollution—the U.S. elected a president who has called climate change a hoax and vowed to “cancel” the Paris accord. Trump has said he would block the Clean Power Plan, which would reduce utilities’ greenhouse gas emissions and is at the heart of the U.S. Commitment to the agreement. And he promises to reinvigorate the fossil-fuel sector, just when global energy production is moving rapidly in the opposite direction, toward clean, inexpensive, renewable sources.

Not only would this agenda be disastrous for climate, it would actually undermine Trump’s ability to achieve his own primary goals. First, climate change is not like other issues that can be postponed from one year to the next. The U.S. and world are already behind; speed is of the essence because climate change and its impacts are coming sooner and with greater ferocity than anticipated: 2016 was the hottest year on record by a large margin, and 2015 and 2014 set the previous records. Extreme weather events such as heat waves and heavy downpours are becoming more frequent and severe, as are related fires, droughts and floods.

Excerpt from “Climate Trumps Everything” (2017) in *Scientific American* by Michael Mann and Joy-Hassol, S.

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# #PoetsForScience

## Instructions

Create an Emerge poem using the excerpt on the front of this card. Mark out words and phrases with a marker so that other expressions can *Emerge* from the author's original work. Share your work through social media and tag your poem with #PoetsForScience and #TravelingStanzas. Also consider sharing to #ScienceMarch. If you'd like, mail your poem to a friend or loved one by using a first class stamp. Through the collaborative efforts of The Wick Poetry Center and The March For Science we proudly stand together to advocate for the conservation of our environment and the importance of science through the intimate and inclusive voice of poetry.



### The Poets For Science Collection

Curated by Jane Hirshfield

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### Visit [MarchForScience.com](http://MarchForScience.com)

Please visit the online home of the march to learn more and get involved

### Michael Mann

Distinguished Professor and  
Director of the Earth System  
Science Center at Penn State

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