

April 8, 2019

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Chair, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment
and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable David Joyce
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Interior,
Environment and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair McCollum and Ranking Member Joyce,

We are senior leaders, Republican and Democratic political appointees, who managed EPA and helped carry out its congressional mandates. We are united that there has never been a more important time for us to put aside our differences and advocate collectively for public health and the environment. Time is of the essence, and much is as stake.

We recognize that you are experts in oversight and are receiving advice from many sources. As you go about creating an oversight strategy and a path forward, we would like to convey our personal willingness to connect you with resources on substance and sounding boards on priorities. Longer term, we look forward to sharing ideas on an affirmative path forward for EPA.

We also offer to connect you with our former colleagues who now comprise the Environmental Protection Network. EPN includes over 350 EPA alumni from across the country volunteering their time to provide informed analyses of current federal actions on the environment and public health and to assure the agency's capacity to fulfill its mission.

As you move forward, we urge you to:

- Affirm the bipartisan public health and environment mission of the agency and hold the agency responsible for adherence to its mission and legislative mandates;
- Focus on the most significant and pervasive public health and environmental risks, including attention to our most vulnerable populations;
- Support the essential role of rigorous consensus science, economics and engineering and assure their use in EPA decisions and regulations;
- Concentrate on substantive policy, management, and enforcement/compliance issues; and
- Look ahead to the future to establish a foundation for advancing higher performing federal/state/tribal environmental management systems through innovation, collaboration and partnerships.

We are willing and eager to be a resource on any number of pressing issues under your consideration. There are many areas that are ripe for oversight and are consistent with the suggestions mentioned above. We are pleased to support you and provide more information as needed.

Sincerely,

Hon. Carol Browner

EPA Administrator, 1993-2001

Hon. Lisa Jackson

EPA Administrator, 2009-2013

Hon. Gina McCarthy

EPA Administrator, 2013-2017

Hon. William Reilly

EPA Administrator, 1989-1993

West 9 Rh. L. Hon. William Ruckelshaus

EPA Administrator, 1970-1973 and 1983-1985

Hon. Lee Thomas

EPA Administrator, 1985-1989

Hon. Christine Todd Whitman EPA Administrator, 2001-2003