

EPN Volunteer Memo: Supporting Our Colleagues at EPA

As the government shutdown continues—and with threats of permanent job cuts still looming—many of our colleagues at EPA are facing uncertainty, stress, and fear about the future. For those who, like all of us, have dedicated their careers to protecting public health and the environment, watching the agency's mission and workforce be dismantled is deeply personal.

This is a critical moment for EPN volunteers to reach out and offer support. Whether you're connecting with former teammates, mentoring staff, or sharing resources, your outreach can make a meaningful difference.

Below are actions you can take and tools to help you do so:

Ways to Support Current EPA Staff

- **Reach out personally** to former colleagues to check in and listen. Let them know they are not alone—and that EPN is here to help.
- Share EPN resources that can support them professionally and emotionally, including:
 - One-on-one mentoring with an EPN alum.
 - o EPN's job board featuring opportunities in environmental and public health fields.
 - The <u>Resources for Federal Employees</u> guide, which includes up-to-date information on RIFs, whistleblower rights, legal resources, and more.
 - Webinars on career transition and protection of employee rights, including:
 - Green Jobs Network: Finding Environmental Jobs (<u>recording available</u>)
 - FedsForward: Transitioning to the Private Sector (<u>recording available</u>)
 - PEER and GAP: Whistleblower Rights and Anonymous Activism November 6, 2025 6:00 pm 7:30 pm EST
- Encourage participation in EPN—invite former EPA staff to join the EPN network or subscribe to updates.
- **Stay visible** by sharing supportive messages on LinkedIn to help raise awareness of EPN's resources. And follow <u>EPN's LinkedIn account</u> for updates.

Tools to Help You Reach Out

Following are drafts to inspire thinking and get you started. Update, adjust, edit and customize to best suit your own voice and relationships.

• Sample Email to a Former Colleague

Hi [Name],

I've been thinking about you and others at EPA during this incredibly difficult time. I know how deeply you care about the agency's mission and how painful this period must be.

I'm part of Environmental Protection Network (EPN) and have found it to be a valuable community of former EPA folks. I wanted to share that EPN is offering confidential resources for current staff, including mentoring with former EPA colleagues, a job board, and guidance on employee rights and transitions.

You can learn more at www.environmentalprotectionnetwork.org.

If you'd like, I can help connect you with someone from EPN directly or share more about the webinars that may be useful right now.

Thinking of you and your colleagues, [Your Name]

Sample LinkedIn Post #1

As someone who had the privilege of serving at EPA, I'm thinking about the dedicated public servants who continue to protect our air, water, and health amid incredible uncertainty.

I'm part of Environmental Protection Network (EPN)—a nonpartisan group created by former EPA staff to protect the mission, people, and science of the agency. We're here to support current EPA folks with mentoring, job connections, and resources on rights and transitions.

If you or someone you know could use support, please message me. And you can check out EPNs website to learn more: environmentalprotectionnetwork.org.

Sample LinkedIn Post #2

Many of our former colleagues at EPA are facing tremendous uncertainty right now.

For those looking for guidance, Environmental Protection Network (EPN) has compiled a Resources for Federal Employees guide with up-to-date information on RIFs, whistleblower rights, legal contacts, and career support.

It's confidential, practical, and created by people who've been there. You can access it here:

environmentalprotectionnetwork.org/resources-for-federal-employees

Please share with anyone at EPA who may need a little extra support right now.

• Key Talking Points for Conversation or Outreach

One-on-one conversations can be the most impactful way to connect with EPA staff. Here are a few talking points that can help you get started.

- EPN is a nonpartisan group created by former EPA staff to protect the mission, people, and science of the agency.
- As part of our work, we're providing confidential support to current employees navigating uncertainty or change.
- Our network offers mentoring, professional resources, and a place to stay connected to the values that brought us all to public service.
- You are not alone. How can we help?