

October 3, 2017

The Honorable John Barrasso  
Chairman  
Committee on Environment & Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thomas Carper  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Environment & Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Ensuring a Fully Staffed and Functional Environmental Protection Agency

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

We are writing on behalf of millions of businesses, large and small, to urge you to move as quickly as possible to advance the four nominees currently pending before your Committee for Assistant Administrators of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Our organizations represent many major sectors of the American economy—including aerospace, agriculture, apparel, automotive, building and construction materials, chemical and raw material production, consumer and industrial goods, distribution, electronics, energy, equipment manufacturers, food and grocery, footwear, healthcare products and medical technology, information technology, mining and metals, paper and wood products, plastics, retail, storage, tire manufacturers, and travel goods.

The mission of the EPA is to protect human health and the environment. However, more than eight months into the new Administration, the EPA lacks any Senate-confirmed Assistant Administrators to carry out this mission. The EPA's activities have a significant impact on each of our industries, the products we make or the services we provide, and the millions of workers we represent. It is therefore of significant importance to our groups that EPA is appropriately and fully staffed. This holds especially true for individuals in key leadership positions. Consequently, to ensure that EPA's vast workload can be efficiently and effectively achieved and implemented, we urge you and the Senate Environment & Public Works Committee to move expeditiously towards confirmation for the following nominees:

- Michael Dourson, for EPA Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety & Pollution Prevention;
- Matthew Leopold, for EPA Assistant Administrator, Office of the General Counsel;
- David Ross, for EPA Assistant Administrator, Office of Water; and
- William Wehrum, for EPA Assistant Administrator, Office of Air & Radiation.

We appreciate your assistance in this important and timely matter.

Sincerely,

Agricultural Retailers Association  
Alkylphenols & Ethoxylates Research Council  
American Apparel & Footwear Association  
American Chemistry Council

American Coke and Coal Chemicals Institute  
American Composites Manufacturers Association  
American Forest & Paper Association  
American Foundry Society  
American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers  
American Iron and Steel Institute  
American Petroleum Institute  
American Wood Council  
Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association  
Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers  
Auto Care Association  
Biotechnology Innovation Organization  
Color Pigments Manufacturers Association  
Composite Lumber Manufacturers Association  
EPS Industry Alliance  
Extruded Polystyrene Foam Association  
Fashion Accessories Shippers Association  
Fashion Jewelry & Accessories Trade Association  
Flexible Packaging Association  
Gemini Shippers Association  
Halogenated Solvents Industry Alliance, Inc.  
Industrial Minerals Association - North America  
Institute of Makers of Explosives  
Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc.  
Institute of Shortening and Edible Oils  
International Warehouse Logistics Association  
International Wood Products Association  
ISSA - The Worldwide Cleaning Products Association  
Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association  
National Association for Surface Finishing  
National Association of Chemical Distributors  
National Association of Manufacturers  
National Association of Printing Ink Manufacturers  
National Cotton Council  
National Council of Textile Organizations  
National Industrial Sand Association  
National Oilseed Processors Association  
National Roofing Contractors Association  
National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association  
Oregon Women in Timber  
Pine Chemicals Association International  
Plastic Pipe and Fittings Association  
Plastics Industry Association (PLASTICS)  
Plastics Pipe Institute  
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association  
Portland Cement Association

PVC Pipe Association  
Resilient Floor Covering Institute  
RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment)  
Roof Coatings Manufacturers Association  
Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates  
Spray Polyurethane Foam Alliance  
SPRI, Inc. (representing the Single Ply Roofing Industry)  
Styrene Information & Research Center  
The Fertilizer Institute  
The Silver Institute  
The Vinyl Institute  
Travel Goods Association  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association  
Wallcoverings Association  
Window & Door Manufacturers Association

cc: Members of the Senate Environment & Public Works Committee