



STATE OF ALABAMA
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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January 4, 2017

The Honorable John Barrasso
307 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, District of Columbia 20510

The Honorable Tom Carper
513 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, District of Columbia 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

As the attorneys general of our respective states, we write to express our unqualified support for our colleague and the Attorney General of Oklahoma, E. Scott Pruitt, as Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

As attorneys general, we understand the need to work collaboratively to address threats to our environment that cross state lines, as well as the importance of a federal counterpart in the EPA Administrator who possesses the knowledge, experience, and principles to work with our states to address issues affecting our environment. We believe that no one exemplifies these qualities more than Scott Pruitt.

As the Attorney General of Oklahoma, Mr. Pruitt developed expertise in environmental law and policy. He negotiated a historic water rights settlement with Indian tribes that preserved the ecosystems of scenic lakes and rivers; he worked with his Democrat counterpart in Arkansas to reduce pollution in the Illinois River; and he represented the interests of Oklahomans in rate cases against utility companies and in numerous actions against those who contaminated his state's air and water.

Attorney General Pruitt is committed to clean air and clean water, and to faithfully executing the environmental laws written by Congress. He believes that environmental regulations should be driven by State and local governments--a notion endorsed by Congress in the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act. When our nation is confronted with issues affecting the environment that are not covered by a particular statute, Scott will come to Congress for a solution, rather than inventing power for his agency. He wholeheartedly believes in a strong Environmental Protection Agency that carries out its proper duties, providing a backstop to state and local regulators as they develop environmental regulations suited to the needs of their own communities.

The Honorable John Barrasso
The Honorable Tom Carper
January 4, 2017
Page Two

Scott Pruitt is more than just an exemplary state attorney general, he is also our friend. A man of deep faith who is committed to his family and to his friends, Scott seeks always to do the right thing. His friendship and leadership have been invaluable to us over the years.

The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency plays a critical role in our Nation's government. Attorney General Pruitt has proven over the course of his career that he has the right character, experience, and knowledge to serve as the Administrator of the EPA. We urge the Senate to confirm his nomination.

Sincerely,



Jeff Landry
Attorney General
State of Louisiana



Alan Wilson
Attorney General
State of South Carolina



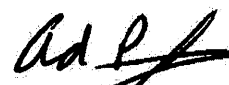
Luther Strange
Attorney General
State of Alabama



Marty Jackley
Attorney General
State of South Dakota



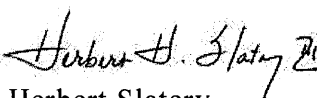
Patrick Morrissey
Attorney General
State of West Virginia



Adam Laxalt
Attorney General
State of Nevada



Mark Brnovich
Attorney General
State of Arizona



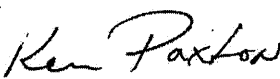
Herbert Slatery
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State of Tennessee



Curtis Hill
Attorney General
State of Indiana



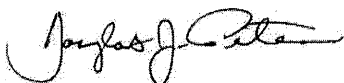
Brad Schimel
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State of Wisconsin



Ken Paxton
Attorney General
State of Texas



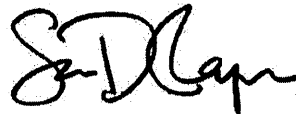
Bill Schuette
Attorney General
State of Michigan



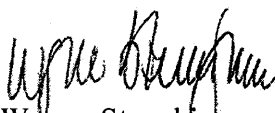
Doug Peterson
Attorney General
State of Nebraska



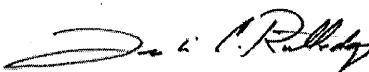
Chris Carr
Attorney General
State of Georgia



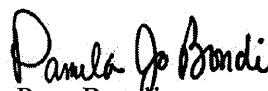
Sean Reyes
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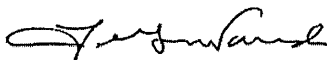
Wayne Stenehjem
Attorney General
State of North Dakota



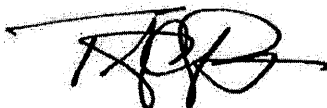
Leslie Rutledge
Attorney General
State of Arkansas



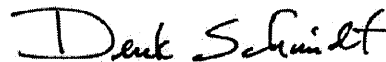
Pam Bondi
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