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