Message

From: Abboud, Michael [abboud.michael@epa.gov]
Sent: 3/26/2019 5:08:03 PM
To: Baptist, Erik [Baptist.Erik@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: CNN request for comment

Ok. Going to talk to RJ now.

From: Baptist, Erik
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 1:08 PM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: CNN request for comment

Sorry had to jump off for meeting with EDF. Alex and I will be tied up until 2:45pm.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 26, 2019, at 12:46 PM, Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov> wrote:

> OCSPP –
>
> The Times wrote a story focused on Bernhardt, but included a ton about EPA and didn't reach out for comment from us. We're getting some questions about Wendy Cleland-Hamnett's comments which are below. The article mentions 3 pesticides specifically malathion, diazinon, and chlorpyrifos and our process of labeling these pesticides. Is there anything we can say in regards to Wendy's comments but also the work we are doing on the three pesticides mentioned?
>
> Wendy Cleland-Hamnett, the E.P.A. official at the time who ran the office in charge of toxic chemicals and pesticides, said the sudden change in regulatory philosophy was part of a broader trend across the government after Mr. Trump's election.
>
> "It is certainly similar to the pattern we saw in toxic chemicals as well, where the regulated industry had a more sympathetic ear in the new administration," said Ms. Hamnett, who left the E.P.A. in late 2017, after a 38-year career with the agency. "And that resulted in a shift in approach as to how these issues would be handled."
>
> https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/26/us/politics/endangered-species-david-bernhardt.html
>
> **Michael Abboud**
> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
> Office of Public Affairs
> M: 202-578-9013

From: Cole, Devan M <Devan.M.Cole@cnn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 12:21 PM
To: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: CNN request for comment

Hello,

My name is Devan Cole and I'm a reporter with CNN in Washington. I'm working on a story about the New York Times piece that said Interior Sec. Bernhardt worked in 2017 to block a report on pesticides and endangered species.

I'm wondering if the EPA has a general comment or a comment on what Wendy Cleland-Hammett, a former EPA official, told the paper.

I can be reached via email or phone, 202-898-7566.

Thanks,

Devan Cole

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Devan Cole

CNN Politics | Breaking News Writer

Desk: 202-898-7566, Cell: 202-706-4431