

# Trump appoints former New Hampshire regulator to head EPA New England office

Mark Sanborn will oversee the EPA's operations in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, and 10 federally recognized Tribal Nations.

By **Erin Douglas** Globe Staff, Updated April 1, 2025, 2:07 p.m.



Mark Sanborn was sworn in as EPA Regional Administrator for New England, April 1, 2025. EPA

President Trump on Tuesday appointed Mark Sanborn, a former environmental regulator in New Hampshire, to lead the Environmental Protection Agency's [New England office](#).

The EPA's regional office oversees EPA activities in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, and 10 federally recognized Tribal Nations.

Sanborn was previously the assistant commissioner of New Hampshire's environmental department, the second-highest environmental post in the state, between 2021 and 2023. Most recently, he worked in the private sector for a logistics company, Northeast Purification Systems, which focuses on removing forever chemicals called PFAS, and prior, for a construction company.

In 2023, [Sanborn resigned](#) from his position at the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services after it was revealed that he and another state regulator had closely consulted with a waste industry lobbyist while drafting the language for a law regarding where landfills could be built in the state.

He told media outlets at the time that his decision to resign was in no way connected to concerns in the Legislature that he had been too industry friendly in helping craft the proposed bill. Sanborn and other state regulators maintained that gathering feedback from all parties involved, including industry representatives, was common and part of the process of developing regulations.

The state legislators ultimately [declined to create the new rules on landfills](#) in New Hampshire in part due to that controversy involving a onetime lobbyist for Casella Waste Systems and the New Hampshire environmental regulators.

After he left state government, Sanborn joined North and South Construction Services in Newington, N.H., to work on government relations and permitting. He has also worked for the US Department of Housing and Urban Development,

the US Department of Transportation, and the US Department of Agriculture.

Some local environmental advocates criticized Trump's choice of Sanborn. Brad Campbell, president of the Conservation Law Foundation, characterized Sanborn as an industry-friendly pick and noted the EPA may not have the resources under Trump to adequately protect the environment. (The Trump administration has previously promised to slash EPA spending by more than half.)

"It is not clear that the Regional Administrator Sanborn will have either the staff or the authority to protect the communities and resources Congress has entrusted to his care," Campbell said in a statement.

In a statement, EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin said that Sanborn brings a "deep knowledge" of communities across New England.

"His experience in state and federal government and his work in the private sector provides him with the tools and experience necessary to help implement President Trump's policies throughout the region," Zeldin said.

Sanborn said in a statement that he was honored by the appointment.

"I look forward to working with EPA leadership and the Region 1 workforce to foster clean air, safe water, and healthy land while encouraging sound economic growth," Sanborn said in a statement Tuesday.

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