

April 14, 2025

The Honorable Ted Cruz
Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and
Transportation

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Chair
Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and
Transportation

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subject: Urging Reconsideration of Policy Changes That Threaten Public Health, the Environment, and Economic Stability

Dear Senators Cruz, Cantwell, Capito, and Whitehouse,

We, the undersigned, are expressing our serious concerns about actions that are being initiated and plans that are being developed that will undo decades of work advancing science and policies supporting environmental quality. We are specifically referencing research funding cuts, workforce reductions in key agencies, and the planned dismantling of critical environmental regulations. These moves will not only impact public health and wellbeing, but they will subsequently seriously damage the U.S. economy. These changes will impact the ability of U.S. businesses to compete in global value chains and ruin the U.S.'s reputation as a leader in environmental sciences. A loss of funds and workforce at the federal level will also result in declining public trust and will have negative ramifications for the U.S. society and economy. In the strongest of terms, we recommend against implementing such actions to avoid their detrimental impacts.

We are extremely concerned by the current plans of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administration to dismantle 31 environmental regulations in what it described as the "[Biggest Deregulatory Action in U.S. History.](#)" Deregulations at the federal level shift the burden to states and complicates the ability of industry to conduct business, which is inherently inefficient and will derail progress on environmental issues across the U.S. These plans also include eliminating EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) and more than 1,000 dedicated employees. This will limit the ability of the U.S. to lead the world in terms of environmental management as these roles are critical in terms of protecting the health of all people living in the U.S. and are also critical in terms of allowing U.S. business interests to remain globally competitive. Plainly stated, if the EPA is not at the table in global environmental policy discussions, other voices will fill the void, placing U.S. businesses at risk. For decades, EPA ORD employees have worked collaboratively with scientists and professionals from other sectors, most notably the U.S. business sectors, to advance the science that informed many environmental regulations in the U.S. and around the world, which not only fueled the economy but also supported clean water and a healthy environment.

The recent research funding cut and workforce reductions across all federal agencies raise significant concerns about the future of evidence-based policymaking and environmental and public health protection. This is particularly alarming in agencies that perform vital information gathering, management, and other functions that support U.S. taxpayer's investments. The EPA, as well as many other agencies – including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) –play a critical role in protecting our environment and public health. Some of the most important functions in this regard include preserving our soil, air and water, forecasting and mitigating natural disasters, and enforcing laws and regulations for public and environmental health

protection. They accomplish this by delivering sound and impartial science to resource managers, emergency response teams, and the public. Weakening these agencies will be devastating for our environment and for the health of our communities and equally to the economy. Moreover, the indifference shown to public environmental scientists and managers, who have dedicated their careers to ensure public health, ultimately hurts all citizens. It is also especially disheartening for students and early career scientists who had planned to dedicate their life to meeting environmental challenges and ensuring a better future for all of us.

We urge the reconsideration of plans that would weaken the United States' ability to protect human and environmental health, erode public trust, and harm the environment, its people, and the economy in the process.

Sincerely,

Professional Societies

- Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry of North America
- American Geophysical Union
- American Industrial Hygiene Association
- American Society for Cell Biology
- American Society for Microbiology
- Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation
- Ecological Society of America
- Endocrine Society
- Society of Entomology
- Society of Toxicology

Nonprofit Organizations

- Hackensack Riverkeeper
- International Zinc Association
- Shaw Institute

Businesses

- Applied Ecological Solutions**
- Bio-Analytical Laboratories
- Innovative Omics
- Metiri Group
- Meyer EPS, Inc.
- Safer Chemistry Advisory LLC
- Samudia Engineering Co Ltd
- SEA Environmental Decisions, Ltd.
- Southern Cloud Accounting LLC
- TerraGraphics International Foundation (TIFO)
- Tetra Tech, Inc
- Vernal Pool Partners
- Yates Environmental Sciences Inc

Individuals

- Madison A
- Chiara Accolla
- Kerri Lynn Ackerly
- Claire Aelion

- Elham Akbari
- Julie Alaimo
- Vurtice Albright
- Tracy Anderson

- Kate Annunziato
- Sabine Apitz
- Jennifer Arblaster
- Joshua Arnie

James Ayodeji
Ezekiel Babatunde
Autumn Baker
Grace Baldwin
Ashley Ball
Aabir Banerji
Dane Banks
Jennifer Bare
Nikki Barlow
Paul Barrett
Sabine Barrett
Steven Bartell
DIANE BARTLEY
Casey Bartrem
Nicholas Basta
Angela Batt
Carla Baumel
Dennis Becker
Adriana C Bejarano
Scott Belanger
Brianna Benner
Micah Bennett
William Benson
Harold Bergman
Walter Berry
Adam Biales
Diane Birt
Sarah Bisesi
Ariel Blanc
Benjamin Block
Danielle Blum
Alison Bodkin
Kylie Boenisch-Oakes
Maxwell Botz
Mackenzie Bowden
Marcus Bowersox
Kelley Boyle
Susanne Brander
Gary Braun
Robert Brent
Erin Briggs
Kevin Brix
Dianne Brooke
Bryan Brooks
Juliane Brown
Steven Brown
Deborah Bruns
Gary Buchanan
Steven Bursian
Jonathan Butcher
Hugh Carola

Arielle Carrillo
William Cary
Ryan Casey
Tara Catron
Donna Caudill
Ilke Celik
Marie-Cecile Chalbot
Mathew Chandler
Ron Checkai
Brian Church
Serena Ciparis
Jeremy Clark
Amy Clarke
William Clements
Katherine Coady
Alexander Cole
Jason Conder
Jeremy Conkle
Kristin Connors
Kimberly Cook
Genevieve Cordeiro
Daniel Costa
Austin Crane
Cecilia Cyford
Tara Cyr
Kari Czajkowski
Martinho D'Sa
Julia Dady
Ellie Dalsky
Sydney Dame
Janet Davidson
Craig Davis
Jay Davis
Melissa Day
Christopher Deacutis
Adam Dec
Susanna DeCelles
David DeForest
Nancy Denslow
Shalene Derouard
Noelle DeStefano
Richard Di Giulio
Jerome Diamond
Robert Dixon
Kelly Dobroski
Clifford Duke
Itzel Duran Herrera
Jessica Dutton
Amanda Dysert
Danielle Eads
Alexander East

Devin Edge
Honesty Ehikioya Imafidon
Diana Eignor
Morgan Eldridge
Lauren Ellebracht
joanne elmoznino
Cheryl English
Jim Erckmann
Cynthia Erickson
Dawn Errede
Maya Faber
Anne Fairbrother
David Feifarek
Greg Fenner
Margaret Fenner
Janine Fetke
Yuki Floyd
Valery Forbes
Nicole Fortin
Tyler Frankel
Crimson Frankum
Phyllis Fuchsman
Stephanie Fulton
Walter Galloway
Joseph Gasink
Cameron Gastaldo
Gregory Gearheart
Robert Gearheart
Brent Gilbertson
Celine Godard
Amy Goldberg Day
Sarah Goodrich
Heather Govenor
Jacquelyn Grace
Caleb Gravesen
Andrew Green
Emily Green
Robert Griffitt
Amanda Grusz
Judy Gudelsky
Samuel Guffey
Patrick Guiney
Timothy Gustafson
Mark Hahn
Dani Hale
Tilghman Hall
Lorie Hammond
Nichole Hammond
Valerie Hanley
Stacey Harper
Elisabeth Harrahy

Lindsey Harrell
Kimberly Hazard
Wendy Heiger-Bernays
Renee Heller
Aimee Henderson
Alice Henderson
Andrew Henderson
Jeanne Henderson
Valeria Hernandez Talavera
Mei-Li Hey
Austen Hilding
Wendy Hillwalker
Janie Hils
Robert Hoke
Stephanie Holbert
Martha Holzheuer
Teagan Horan
Trevor Horan
James Horne
James Horne
Tyler Hoskins
Lei Huang
Matt Huddleston
Mar Huertas
Richard Jack
Margaret James
Lauri Jasinski
Kevin Jennings
Erica Johnson
Glenn Johnson
Michael Johnson
Bob Johnston
Brooke Johnston
Shannon Jones
Sarah Kadlec
Susan Kane Driscoll
Claire Kari
Sujay Kaushal
Nile Kemble
Dusty Kennedy
Stephanie Kennedy
Itze Kenney
Harmony Kielmel
Emily Kintzele
Ashlee Kirkwood
Susan Klosterhaus
Jeremy Koelmel
Alan Kolok
Erika Koontz
Victoria Korn
Gary Kozerski

Zachary Kralles
Christopher Kralles
Annie Krueger
Konrad Kulacki
Thomas La Point
Joseph Laakso
Tylor Lahren
Stacey Lance
Jessica Landaverde
Wayne Landis
Ramon Lavado
Daniel Lavoie
Kayla Lay
Julie Layshock
Jamed Lazorchak
Jason LeBlanc
Marcy LeBlanc
Jason Lee
Sylvia Lee
Katrina Leigh
Layla Lepak
Amelie LeTierce
Anna Lewis
Dwight Lewis
Wenting Li
Meghan Little
Bommanna Loganathan
Rainer Lohmann
Susan Lombard
Jared Lutes
Jeniffer Lynch
Angus Ronald MacGillivray
Carl Mach
Edward Mager
Kevin Magerr
Stephanie Maggio
Michael Mahon
Kurt Maier
Michelle Majdoch
Alejandra Maldonado
Farnaz Malekjahani
Katherine Manz
Keith Maruya
Tonia Masson
Sara Mathews
Kali Mattingly
Sally Mayasich
Nikki Mayo
Christopher McCarthy
Caitlin McConaghy
Laura McConnell

Dana McCue
Carrie McDonough
Andrew McEachran
Lisa McIntosh
Jenifer McIntyre
Garrett McKay
Megan Mckenney
Erica McKenzie
Colleen McLoughlin
Charles Menzie
Joseph Meyer
Michael Meyer
Alexandra Meyers
Elizabeth Middleton
Ezra Miller
William Mimbs
Alison Mize
Laurie Monserrat
Dwayne Moore
Miguel Mora
Asif Mortuza
Richard Murdoch
Terresa Murdoch
Shay Mussulman
Noelle Muzzy
Bethany Nelson
Jason Nelson
Joan Newcomer
Tamara Newcomer Johnson
Matthew Newmeyer
Roger Nisbet
David Norris
Lisa Nowell
Timothy O'Brien
Allyson O'Connor
Natalie O'Hern
Adric Olson
Chris Oneill
Lisa Ortego
Ryan Otter
Elaine Panuccio
Christine Papagni
Susan Park
Micaela Parker
Patrick R Parrish
Robert Pastorok
Gord Paterson
Michael Patnaude
Megan Payne
Trevor Peckham
Alison Pecquet

Alexandra Pesano
Katherine Pfaff
Drake Phelps
Christian Picard
Adam Point
Thomas Potter
Brett Poulin
Michael Poulsen
John Prins
Lauren Prost
Jennifer Pullen
Erin Pulster
Jason Purdue
Logan Rand
Rowena Ranoco
Ellen Rashke
April Reed
Rebecca Reeves-Jones
Mary Reiley
John Reinfelder
Lola Renauer
Kyra Reumann-Moore
Gabrielle Rigutto
Amy Ritter
Amy Ritter
Brianna Rivera
Keith Roberts
Kim Stanley Robinson
Kylie Rock
Kelly Rodman
Charles Rolsky
Isabella Romano
Lizette Romano
Ashley Romero
Ashley Romero
Karen Rosenflanz
Catherine Rudisill
Darren Rumbold
Christine Russom
Adam Ryan
Matthew Salanga
Daniel Salvito
Alan Samel
Sherri Sandberg
Melissa Sandoz
Kari Sant
Allison Satterfield
Nickolas Sayresmith
Christopher Schaupp
Christian Schlekat

Tamar Schlekat
Ann Schnitz
Hannah Scholes
Whitney Schroeder
Peter Schumann
Sarah Schweickart
Frauke Seemann
Rita Seston
Prarthana Shankar
Brandon Shannon
Kristi Shaw
Susan Shepherd
Jessica Shue
Lexi Shultz
Kyle Siegel
Michael Simini
Jaylen Sims
Sarah Skigen-Caird
Lawrence Sloan
Kayla Smith
Wesley Smith
Virginia Snarski
Ruth Sofield
Katherina Softcheck
Tasha Sorensen
Brianna Soulen
Mark Southerland
Lindsey St Mary
Margaret Stack
Melissa Staggs
Heather Stapleton
Jan Staveley
Marina Steiner
Jade Stepp
Louise Stevenson
Delaney Stokes
Chris Stransky
James Stribling
Sean Strom
Dan Stuckless
Hannah Suber
Mark Surette
Glenn Suter
Kellie Teague
Daniel Teclechiel
Maegan Teets
Devin Teri
Daniel Thomas
Daniel Thomas
Olivia Thompson

Allie Tissot
Andrea Tiwari
Julia Toro
Adriana Carolina Torres Moreno
Crista Trapp
Jan Trybula
Sarah Tucker
Lowanla Uses Knife
Eric Van Genderen
Margie Vazquez
Louise Venne
Kyle Vickstrom
David Volz
Katherine von Stackelberg
Karol Walker
David Wallace
Fretty Wallace
Mara Walters
Yinb Wang
Evan Ward
Morgan Ward
Kara Warner
Jessica Warr
Bobbie Webster
Judith Weis
Brittany Weldon
Dale White
Sara Whiting
Becky Wilkes
Catherine Willett
Alan Williams
Wayne Williams
Jessica Willis
Andrew Willner
Lee Wilpon
Kevin Wilson
Jessica Winter-Stoltzman
Rachel Wise
Lisa Y
Brian Yates
Roger Yeardley
Fielding Yost
Bruce Young
Shuo Yu
Megan Zercher
Olya Zhugayevich
Linda Ziccardi
Nicole Zimmerman

cc:

Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation Staff

Nicole Christus, Majority Deputy Staff Director, nicole_christus@commerce.senate.gov

Arielle Roth, Majority Policy Director, arielle_roth@commerce.senate.gov

Lila Helms, Minority Staff Director, lila_helms@commerce.senate.gov

Melissa Porter, Deputy Staff Director, melissa_porter@commerce.senate.gov

Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works Staff

Murphie Barrett, Majority Deputy Staff Director: murphie_barrett@epw.senate.gov

Andrew Zach, Majority Senior Policy Adviser, Energy and Environment, andrew_zach@epw.senate.gov

Kara Allen, Minority, Deputy Staff Director, kara_allen@epw.senate.gov

Dan Dudis, Staff Director, dan_dudis@epw.senate.gov