



CREATING GOOD JOBS, A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT, AND A FAIR AND THRIVING ECONOMY

February 2, 2021

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Joe Manchin  
Chairman, Senate Committee on  
Energy and Natural Resources  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Barrasso  
Ranking Member, Senate Committee  
on Energy and Natural Resources  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Chairman Manchin, and Ranking Member Barrasso:

As a coalition of the nation's largest labor unions and environmental groups, collectively representing millions of members and supporters, the BlueGreen Alliance writes in full support of the nomination of the Honorable Jennifer Granholm to be the next Secretary of Energy.

This nomination comes at a critical time for our country. The COVID-19 pandemic has taken its toll and it's nowhere close to done. Months into this pandemic workers continue to struggle to stay safe and healthy on the job and our economy is ravaged. At the same time, we went into this pandemic with three ongoing and closely related additional crises: economic inequality, racial inequality, and climate change. The COVID-19 pandemic has cast a harsh spotlight on just how severe and disproportionate the impacts of these crises are.

The BlueGreen Alliance is firm in our belief that Americans don't have to choose between a good job and a clean environment—or our health and a strong economy. A comprehensive approach to tackling this pandemic and economic crisis can be done in ways that will create and sustain good union jobs, strengthen our communities and economy, rebuild American manufacturing, and increase U.S. competitiveness all while simultaneously tackling the underlying crises of climate change, economic inequality, and racial injustice.

Governor Granholm has demonstrated time and again, and reiterated recently in her testimony to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, that she shares this view and will carry it with her into her work as the next Secretary of Energy. The U.S. Department of Energy has the opportunity to drive energy innovation, clean energy and infrastructure investments, and investments in the retooling and modernization of America's manufacturing sector with a major reinvestment in cleaning up, strengthening, and transforming heavy industry to build more of the products, materials, and technologies of the future here—all while providing more pathways into good, family-supporting, union jobs. And she will do all of this in ways that lift up communities

and workers and prioritizes investments in workers and communities that need it most— including those workers and regions impacted by energy transition.

Governor Granholm is the right person for this job. We urge you to swiftly confirm this nominee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason Walsh', with a stylized, cursive script.

Jason Walsh  
Executive Director  
BlueGreen Alliance

