



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 Thomas Carper
Chairman, Senate Committee on
Environment and Public Works
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Ranking Member, Senate Committee
on Environment and Public Works
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Chairman Carper, and Ranking Member Capito:

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 Michael Regan to be the next Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

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 unites America's largest and most influential labor unions and environmental organizations to solve today's environmental challenges in ways that create and maintain quality jobs and build a stronger, fairer economy. Michael Regan is the right person to take this vision forward as Administrator of the EPA. He can advance the mission of the EPA to protect human health and the environment in ways that address the ongoing health and economic crises, create and sustain good union jobs, and strengthen our communities—all while simultaneously tackling the underlying crises of climate change, economic inequality, and racial injustice.

The next EPA Administrator has the opportunity—and duty—to restore the work of the EPA to protect communities and implement and enforce key protections, like the nation's industrial safety rules that help protect communities, workers, and emergency responders from catastrophic industrial incidents; long-standing safeguards like the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act, which have protected our environment and public health for decades; critical programs like the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and Chesapeake Bay program, which protect regional watersheds;

and millions of dollars in critical infrastructure programs—like those that support our nation’s drinking water infrastructure.

Michael Regan is the right person for this job. And he 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 frontline communities and those workers and regions impacted by energy transition.

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

