

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

November 1, 2021

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

The Honorable Joe Manchin Chairman, Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources 410 Dirksen SOB Washington, D.C. 20510 The Honorable Mitch McConnell Minority Leader U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Barrasso Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources 410 Dirksen SOB 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 Laura Daniel Davis as Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management at the Department of the Interior.

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. Our public lands have an essential role to play in meeting climate goals, with their potential for carbon sequestration, job creation, and responsible energy development. In order to meet our goals, we will need leadership at the U.S. Department of Interior (DOI) that recognizes the vital role of public lands. Investing in the reclamation of abandoned coal mines and orphaned oil and gas wells can immediately create goodpaying jobs while remediating environmental problems and laying the foundation for economic development and diversification in these communities. Responsibly developing wind and solar on public lands and waters is also an excellent opportunity to invest in our economic recovery while expanding our clean energy resources, and creating good jobs in the process. By investing in the build-out of offshore wind—including investments in worker training and domestic supply chains—we can meet renewable energy goals while creating good jobs and revitalizing American manufacturing.

These investments must go hand in hand with measures to ensure these jobs are quality jobs and that the communities impacted have the tools and resources they need to emerge with stronger, fairer economies. Additionally, we will need leadership that will work to establish environmentally, economically, and socially responsible production, recycling, and reclamation of minerals and materials critical to anchor clean technology manufacturing in the U.S. Laura Daniel Davis is the

right person for this job. She can bring continued leadership and experience to the DOI to do this critical work in ways that lift up communities and workers and prioritize investments in workers and communities that need it most, including frontline communities.

We urge you to swiftly confirm this nominee.

Sincerely,

Jason Walsh

**Executive Director** 

BlueGreen Alliance