

3003 Van Ness Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
June 7, 2017

The Honorable John Barrasso  
Chairman, Environment and Public Works Committee  
United States Senate

The Honorable Thomas Carper  
Ranking Member, Environment and Public Works Committee  
United States Senate

Dear Senator Barrasso and Senator Carper:

For over 46 years, enforcing federal environmental law has been an essential function of the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The cases involving the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and the falsification of emission control devices by Volkswagen are two recent high profile instances that illustrate the importance of this work, but there are thousands of day to day interactions where federal and state officials uphold America's commitment to a healthy and safe environment through the rule of law.

Sound, experienced leadership is needed to ensure that this vital mission is sustained and strengthened. It is for this reason that I write in support of the nomination of Susan Bodine to be Assistant Administrator for Enforcement and Compliance.

I had the privilege of working with Susan during her previous service with EPA as the Assistant Administrator for Solid Waste and Emergency Response. At that time, I was the career Deputy Regional Administrator in Region 4, and also served for two years as a liaison between EPA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In both of these capacities, I found Susan to be a person of integrity, committed to the rule of law and to the mission of EPA. She is an excellent analytical thinker, asking insightful and searching questions about the legal, factual and scientific underpinnings of policy choices. Perhaps most important, Susan demonstrated professionalism in her relationship with the career staff at EPA. She is a good listener who seeks out a wide range of opinions while retaining the ability to make independent judgments, as any leader should. I have great respect for her knowledge and temperament, and she was a pleasure to work with.

To be sure, there are matters on which we may not see eye to eye. For example, I strongly oppose the administration's proposed budgetary cutbacks in EPA enforcement activities. Even in 2016 these activities were underfunded. But while relevant to ongoing oversight of the agency, that is not the criterion for judging Susan's nomination. Nominees have a right to a full, open, respectful and speedy confirmation process. In Susan Bodine you have an experienced nominee with a broad background, a keen intellect, a strong regard for public service, a history of treating her professional career colleagues with respect, an abiding commitment to the rule of law and

due process, and service within the mainstream traditions of EPA. Her presence as a confirmed nominee will strengthen the voice of enforcement in the agency.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A Stanley Meiburg'.

A. Stanley Meiburg  
Former Acting Deputy Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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