

Your Name Here
Your Mailing Address
City, ST Zip

04/19/2017

Rep. John Faso
1616 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Rep. John Faso,

I am writing as a concerned constituent over the alarming movement in Washington to weaken or even eliminate the Environmental Protection Agency. Since its creation by President Richard Nixon nearly 50 years ago, the EPA has been the single most important and effective force in cleaning up our land, waters and air. Here in New York, we have eliminated inadequate sewage discharge, dramatically reduced smog and acid rain, and addressed toxic waste sites, all through the efforts of the EPA. The agency and its work are well-supported by Americans who recognize that a clean, healthy environment is essential to a strong economy and a strong nation.

Unfortunately, despite this proven record, the EPA is facing dire threats. First, President Trump named Scott Pruitt, an avowed opponent of the agency as EPA Director. Mr. Pruitt has actually sued the agency numerous times in his previous position, and has vowed to turn back basic environmental protections. President Trump and Congress have already taken steps to reverse important EPA regulations, including common sense restrictions on dumping of coal mining wastes into streams and protections for smaller waterways where the majority of pollution now occurs. These rollbacks will only benefit corporate interests and hurt the health and well-being of average Americans.

Now the Trump administration has signaled its plans to bring about massive cuts to the EPA budget. These would cut key programs that limit toxic pollution and save lives. Among the impacts of the president's budget:

- Stopping the 'Clean Power Plan' and other programs to address climate change.
- Cutting grants to promote Energy Efficiency, critical to limiting greenhouse gas emissions.
- Reducing EPA staff by a fifth, just in the first year.
- Cutting the Environmental Education and Environmental Justice programs
- Closing the Office of Public Engagement, resulting in even less transparency to the public.
- Cutting grants and programs to support state and regional environmental protections.

It is imperative that our representatives in Washington stand against these dangerous proposals that will cause harm to our environment, families, wildlife and more. I urge you to use your influence and votes to oppose the Trump administration's assault on the EPA. In particular, his budget proposal will face Congressional scrutiny and require approval. You are in a position to speak out against this ill-advised plan. New Yorkers and all Americans want and need a clean place to live and work and the Environmental Protection Agency is essential to achieving that.

Sincerely,

Your Name Here