

ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

Majority (202) 225-2927
Minority (202) 225-3641

July 9, 2019

The Honorable Lee M. Thomas
224 Fern Lane
Glennville, NC 28736

Dear Mr. Thomas:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations on Tuesday, June 11, 2019, at the hearing entitled “Critical Mission: Former Administrators Address the Direction of the EPA.” We appreciate the time and effort you gave as a witness before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations.

Pursuant to Rule 3 of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, members are permitted to submit additional questions to the witnesses for their responses, which will be included in the hearing record. Attached are questions directed to you from members of the Committee. In preparing your answers to these questions, please address your responses to the member who has submitted the questions using the Word document provided with this letter.

To facilitate the publication of the hearing record, please submit your responses to these questions by no later than the close of business on Tuesday, July 23, 2019. As previously noted, this transmittal letter and your responses, as well as the responses from the other witnesses appearing at the hearing, will all be included in the hearing record. Your responses should be transmitted by e-mail in the Word document provided with this letter to Jourdan Lewis with the Committee staff (jourdan.lewis@mail.house.gov). A paper copy of your responses is not required. Using the Word document provided for submitting your responses will also help maintain the proper format for incorporating your answers into the hearing record.

The Honorable Lee M. Thomas

July 9, 2019

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Thank you for your prompt attention to this request. If you need additional information or have other questions, please contact Jourdan Lewis at (202) 225-2927.

Sincerely,



Frank Pallone, Jr.
Chairman

Attachment

cc: The Honorable Greg Walden
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Diana DeGette
Chair
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

**Committee on Energy and Commerce
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations**

**Hearing on
“Critical Mission: Former Administrators Address the Direction of the EPA”**

June 11, 2019

The Honorable Lee M. Thomas

The Honorable Michael C. Burgess, M.D.

1. Under this administration, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has changed its top-down, business as usual approach to one that includes all stakeholders and seeks compliance of environmental law rather than heavy handed regulation and punitive action.
 - a. What is the most cost-effective approach to obtaining compliance with EPA's laws and regulations for taxpayers and consumers?
 - b. Is compliance with the law only possible if punitive action is taken against states and private industries?
 - c. Who pays the cost of the mistakes of the EPA?