



February 12, 2019

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

On behalf of Associated Builders and Contractors, a national construction industry trade association with 69 chapters representing more than 21,000 members, we encourage you to confirm Andrew Wheeler as the next administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

As the acting administrator of the EPA, Wheeler has shown his commitment to common-sense regulation to protect our environment while allowing our communities to continue to thrive. He has also worked to promote an effective environmental permitting process for construction projects that will allow our members to start and complete projects in a timely and affordable manner. ABC believes that this approach to environmental regulation is vitally important to the construction industry, allowing our members to uphold critical environmental standards while building in communities throughout the United States.

Acting Administrator Wheeler's work to propose a new Waters of the United States rule has also shown his dedication to providing ABC members, businesses and landowners with clear definitions of what are and what are not 'navigable waters.' ABC looks forward to continuing our work with EPA to ensure the regulation of our nation's waterways is good for the environment and our country.

Finally, the EPA's work under Acting Administrator Wheeler to repeal and replace the Obama administration's Clean Power Plan with the Affordable Clean Energy proposal takes a more reasonable approach to addressing carbon emissions while supporting businesses and jobs and ensuring necessary and essential environmental protections in our communities.

It is with great optimism and conviction, therefore, that we urge a swift confirmation of Acting Administrator Wheeler to the EPA, and we appreciate your consideration of ABC's support.

Sincerely,

Kristen Swearingen
Vice President of Legislative & Political Affairs