

March 6, 2014

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Minority Member, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

We are writing to express our strong support for John Cruden's nomination to become Assistant Attorney General for the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the Department of Justice. The undersigned have all been Presidential appointees in Democratic and Republican administrations. Specifically we have all served as Deputy Administrators, General Counsel, or Assistant Administrators of the Environmental Protection Agency in the Administrations of Presidents Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, William Clinton and George W. Bush, and in some cases have served in other positions in the United States Department of Justice as well. We all know and have worked directly with Mr. Cruden – some of us for many years, others of us only more recently. All of us hold him in the very highest regard, and admire and respect him for his dedication, his fairness, his honesty and integrity, his exceptional intellect, and his superb legal judgment.

Mr. Cruden has had a stellar career serving the United States. He is a graduate of the United States Military Academy, University of Santa Clara (summa cum laude, 2006 Alumni Special Achievement Award), and University of Virginia (honors). He is a member of the bars of the District of Columbia and California, a number of federal courts, and the U.S. Supreme Court. After graduating from West Point, he served in airborne, ranger, and Special Forces units in Germany and Vietnam. After graduating from law school he attended the Army's Judge Advocate General's Graduate Course where he was named outstanding graduate. His subsequent military assignments include significant assignments in the Pentagon and Europe, as well as being General Counsel, Defense Nuclear Agency.

He served as the career Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, U.S. Department of Justice. In that capacity he supervised all federal civil environmental enforcement and litigation involving agencies of the United States. He has personally litigated and led settlement negotiations in numerous environmental cases, many with reported decisions. Prior to becoming Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Mr. Cruden was Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section. Most recently he has served as President of the Environmental Law Institute, a nationally recognized non-profit association that provides research, education, and publications in the area of environmental law and policy.

He has received the Presidential Rank Award from three different Presidents. He has also received the Federal Bar Association's Younger Award and the American Bar Association's Mary C. Lawton Award for Outstanding Government Service. Mr. Cruden's military awards include the Bronze Star, Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and Air Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters and the

Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Silver Star.

From this background, we have all come to know and respect Mr. Cruden as a principled and tireless advocate for the law and the highest doctrines of advocacy, justice and the interests of the United States. We believe he will continue to exhibit these traits when confirmed by the United States Senate.

We strongly and unhesitatingly urge the Senate to confirm Mr. Cruden as Assistant Attorney General for Environment and Natural Resources.

Sincerely,

Susan Parker Bodine
Assistant Administrator
2006 – 2009

Jonathan Cannon
General Counsel
1995 – 1998

Don R. Clay
Assistant Administrator
1988 – 1992

E. Donald Elliott
Assistant Administrator and
General Counsel
1989 – 1991

Timothy Fields
Assistant Administrator
1997 – 2001

Scott Fulton
General Counsel
2009 – 2013

Ben Grumbles
Assistant Administrator
2004 – 2009

Gary S. Guzy
General Counsel, 1998-2001
CEQ Deputy Director and
General Counsel, 2009-2014

F. Henry Habicht II
Assistant Attorney General, Environment
and Natural Resources Division
(1983-1987)
Deputy Administrator
(1989-1993)

Steven A. Herman
Assistant Administrator
1993 – 2001

Jeff Holmstead
Assistant Administrator
2001 – 2005

Marianne Lamont Horinko
Assistant Administrator
2001 – 2004

Ann R. Klee
General Counsel
2005 – 2008

Elliott P. Laws
Assistant Administrator
1993 – 1997

Raymond B. Ludwiszewski
General Counsel
1990 – 1993

Roger R. Martella, Jr.
General Counsel
2006 – 2008

W. Michael McCabe
Deputy Administrator
1999 – 2001

Granta Y. Nakayama
Assistant Administrator
2001 – 2008

Jean C. Nelson
General Counsel
1993 – 1995

J. Winston Porter
Assistant Administrator
1985 – 1988

Robert M. Sussman
Deputy Administrator
1993 – 1994