



STEPHEN E. SANDHERR, Chief Executive Officer

February 2, 2021

The Honorable Thomas Carper  
Chairman  
Environment & Public Works Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
Ranking Member  
Environment & Public Works Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**RE: AGC Letter of Nomination Qualification for Mr. Regan to EPA Administrator**

Dear Chairman Carper and Ranking Member Capito:

On behalf of the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), I would like to congratulate Mr. Michael Regan on his nomination as Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). AGC is the largest construction trade association representing more than 27,000 construction firms with chapters and members in every state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The association understands the importance of protecting our environment while advancing economic development. Nevertheless, AGC is deeply concerned that this administration's environmental agenda could have a detrimental impact on certain construction markets, firms, and in turn, well-paying construction jobs.

Mr. Regan is a qualified candidate for the position. His resume exhibits experience on a range of environmental policy matters at various levels of government. He worked at U.S. EPA during both the Clinton and Bush administrations. And, as Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Mr. Regan managed an environmental portfolio in a collegial manner. However, AGC is concerned that the dialogue he maintained with the regulated community in North Carolina will be significantly curtailed in a more partisan Washington, D.C.

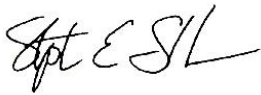
We cannot wish for a green future. We have to build it. AGC member firms do just that in building clean water and energy infrastructure, net-zero energy buildings, and other construction projects essential to helping address the impacts of climate change. They also support well-paying jobs constructing legacy energy infrastructure (e.g., oil and gas production and pipelines), roads and bridges, and other projects vital to maintaining and upgrading our quality of life. The business opportunities for AGC member firms in those markets are vulnerable to heavy-handed regulatory implementation that could leave behind many communities where these workers live.

AGC agrees with the Biden administration's call to improve our infrastructure. Yet many projects—no matter how environmentally considerate, resilient or sustainable—face federal and state

environmental review and permitting requirements that are susceptible to long delays. As such, AGC supported many reforms across the federal agencies in the last four years to improve bureaucratic processes that were inefficient or duplicative. Many of these reforms improved communication within and across agencies without jeopardizing environmental stewardship. AGC fears that these administrative improvements will be subject to increased scrutiny in the current administration.

If Mr. Regan is confirmed, we hope that he would be willing to maintain an open dialogue with the regulated community on how to protect our environment while simultaneously protecting well-paying construction jobs. AGC stands ready and willing to do this as it has under every administration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen E. Sandherr". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Stephen E. Sandherr

CC: All members of the U.S. Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works