April 14, 2021

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency
Office of the Administrator, 1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Regan:

Congratulations on your appointment as the sixteenth Administrator. On behalf of our members and supporters, the undersigned leaders of national public health, nursing and medical organizations respectfully request a meeting with you to discuss opportunities for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to take urgent action to reduce air pollution, curb climate change and improve health equity.

Our organizations represent millions of people who face greater risk of harm from air pollution, including children with asthma, adults with lung and heart disease, pregnant people, newborns and children and older adults. We advocate for strong, science-based air pollution limits to protect public health, especially for underserved communities that bear a disproportionate pollution burden.

We were pleased to hear the Biden Administration recognize that the climate crisis, air pollution and environmental injustice are interrelated, and state that the administration places a high priority on addressing all three. Our organizations would like to discuss with you how to seize this opportunity and maximize the benefits to human health.

Key priorities that we would like to discuss with you include:

- The urgent need for stronger, science-based National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone and particle pollution that fully and equitably protect health;
- The opportunity to set long-term standards to dramatically reduce emissions from cars and trucks;
- The need to set stronger standards for power plants, oil and gas operations and other large pollution sources;
- The opportunity to transition the nation to clean, renewable, non-combustion electricity;
- President Biden’s pledge to ensure 40% of investments in this transition benefit disadvantaged communities.

Please consider our organizations a resource on these issues, along with other topics that impact public health. To help schedule this important conversation, please contact Laura Kate Bender at the American Lung Association, at Laura.Bender@Lung.org or 202-715-3457.

Sincerely,
Katie Huffling, RN, MS, CNM, FAAN  
Executive Director  
Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments

Tonya A. Winders  
President and CEO  
Allergy & Asthma Network  
President  
Global Allergy & Airways Patient Platform

Mark Del Monte, JD  
CEO/Executive Vice President  
American Academy of Pediatrics

Harold P. Wimmer  
National President & CEO  
American Lung Association

Arthur C. Evans, Jr., PhD  
Chief Executive Officer  
American Psychological Association

Georges C. Benjamin, MD  
Executive Director  
American Public Health Association

Karen Collishaw, CAE  
Executive Director  
American Thoracic Society

Kenneth Mendez  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America

Mona Sarfaty, MD MPH FAAFP  
Executive Director  
Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health  
Center for Climate Change Communication  
George Mason University

Ed Maibach  
Director  
Center for Climate Change Communication  
George Mason University

Nsedu Obot Witherspoon, MPH  
Executive Director  
Children’s Environmental Health Network

Bob Perkowitz  
Founder and President  
ecoAmerica/Climate for Health
Gary Cohen  
President and Co-Founder  
Health Care Without Harm

Sarah Hsu  
Chair  
Medical Students for a Sustainable Future

Lori Tremmel Freeman, MBA  
Chief Executive Officer  
National Association of County & City Health Officials

James H. Wendorf  
Executive Director  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners

David Dyjack, DrPH, CIH  
Executive Director  
National Environmental Health Association

Beverly Malone, PhD, RN, FAAN  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
National League for Nursing

Jeff Carter  
Executive Director  
Physicians for Social Responsibility

Mary A. Pittman  
President & CEO  
Public Health Institute