Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 19, 2016

Administrator Gina McCarthy
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Office of the Administrator, 1101 A
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator McCarthy,

On January 14, 2016, the undersigned members of Congress wrote to you to request information about the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) plan to embed U.S. federal employees in countries that are part of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). EPA's goal in embedding these employees abroad is apparently to help these countries monitor their progress towards meeting the non-binding emissions targets that were set at the 21st annual session of the Conference of Parties (COP 21). You discussed this plan in your comments before the Council on Foreign Relations in January, where you stated that your job "was to explain to countries that this isn't punishment, this is opportunities [*sic*] here[.]"[1]

On April 22, 2016, over three months after we requested a response from you and one month after you personally committed to providing answers to our questions in a joint subcommittee hearing to discuss the EPA's budget request, we received a letter from Acting Assistant Administrator Janet McCabe. In this letter, the Acting Assistant Administrator indicated that the EPA itself does not plan to deploy U.S. federal employees overseas as a result of the 21st annual session of the Conference of Parties (COP 21). Rather, U.S. federal employees from several different agencies, including the Department of State, will "provide assistance" to UNFCCC participating countries to fulfill obligations under Article 4 of the UNFCCC.

Accordingly, we request a detailed explanation of the collaboration between the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the EPA, and other U.S. government agencies related to the "capacity building" and "expert advice." As part of this explanation, we ask that you specifically include:

1. A list of federal departments or agencies involved in the "collaboration" within the federal government to provide international assistance pursuant to the UNFCCC;

[1] Council on Foreign Relations Events, *U.S. Environmental Regulation After the Paris Climate Talks, A Conversation with Gina McCarthy*, Jan. 7, 2016, *available at* http://www.cfr.org/united-states/us-environmental-regulation-after-paris-climate-talks/p37410 (last accessed April 20, 2016).

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2. The total amount of federal dollars that have been spent to date, and the total amount of federal dollars that the Administration estimates will be spent over the next ten years, for providing assistance to other countries pursuant to the UNFCCC;

3. The number of federal employees currently working abroad in any agency that have any responsibilities related to the Paris accord, including the employing agency and type of work that is performed;

4. The number of federal employees that EPA or other federal agencies plan to deploy abroad that will have responsibilities related to the Paris accord over the next year, including the employing agency and type of work that is performed; and

5. A breakdown of the budgets for the EPA and the Department of State related to capacity building projects in other countries, which you committed to provide at the March 22 hearing.

Please provide your response to these questions as soon as possible, but by no later than June 10, 2016. If you have any questions, please contact Liz Payne of Congressman Mullin's staff at (202) 225-2701.

Sincerely,

Markwayne Mullin
Member of Congress

Tim Murphy
Member of Congress

Joe Barton
Member of Congress

Jim Bridenstine
Member of Congress

Larry Bucshon, M.D.
Member of Congress

Michael C. Burgess, M.D.
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Chris Collins
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Tom Cole
Member of Congress

Renee Ellmers
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Bill Flores
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H. Morgan Griffith
Member of Congress

Brett Guthrie
Member of Congress

Richard Hudson
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Bill Johnson
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David B. McKinley, P.E.
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