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May 4, 2018

The Honorable E. Scott Pruitt  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

I write regarding your use of registered lobbyists in your official capacity as Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to plan international travel.

*The New York Times* recently reported that Matthew C. Freedman, a former lobbyist for foreign governments, helped you plan a trip to Australia in 2017.<sup>1</sup> Another recent *Washington Post* article reports that lobbyist Richard Smotkin helped you plan a trip to Morocco in December 2017.<sup>2</sup> Within a month of this trip, Smotkin was hired to lobby on behalf of the government of Morocco and paid \$40,000 a month for his work. Leonard Leo, the head of the conservative judicial group the Federalist Society, was reportedly involved in planning your trip to Italy in June 2017.<sup>3</sup> The outsized role you have given lobbyists and non-governmental individuals in setting both your domestic policy agenda as well as your international travel is concerning and leads to even more questions about your ability to objectively serve the American people.

The latest media reports, in addition to the other investigations examining your governance of the EPA – including your excessive and unjustified first-class travel, exorbitant pay raises given to your staff, and frequent trips to your home in Oklahoma at the taxpayer's expense – are damaging not only to you personally but to the EPA as well. To further understand the role that lobbyists and others outside the U.S. government have played in connection with your travel as

<sup>1</sup> Lisa Friedman et al, *Ex-Lobbyist for Foreign Governments Helped Plan Pruitt Trip to Australia*, NEW YORK TIMES (May 2, 2018), <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/05/02/climate/epa-pruitt-australia-travel.html>.

<sup>2</sup> Kevin Sullivan et al, *Lobbyist helped arrange Scott Pruitt's \$100,000 trip to Morocco*, WASHINGTON POST (May 1, 2018), [https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/lobbyist-helped-broker-pruitts-100000-trip-to-morocco/2018/05/01/b2e20ee0-4d76-11e8-b725-92c89fe3ca4c\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.da79e833153e](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/lobbyist-helped-broker-pruitts-100000-trip-to-morocco/2018/05/01/b2e20ee0-4d76-11e8-b725-92c89fe3ca4c_story.html?utm_term=.da79e833153e).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

EPA Administrator, I request that you respond to the following questions no later than May 18, 2018:

1. Please detail the dates, destinations, and purpose of every international trip planned for you during your tenure at the EPA, whether or not the trip ever occurred.
2. Did anyone outside the U.S. government play any role in planning or executing any of these trips? If the answer to this question is yes:
  - a. Please provide their names, organizations, titles, and details about the trip(s) they helped to plan or execute.
  - b. Did anyone at the EPA express any concern about potential conflicts of interest for these individuals?
3. For each trip that anyone outside the U.S. government played a role in planning or executing:
  - a. Please identify the individual(s) outside the U.S. government who were involved and the extent of their involvement.
  - b. Please describe their impact on setting the agenda and developing the itinerary for your trip.
  - c. Please identify the EPA staff with whom they communicated about the agenda or itinerary for your trip.
  - d. Please identify any events or meetings during the trip that they had a role in planning, including cost, purpose, time, and agenda.
  - e. Please identify any events or meetings during the trip that they attended, including whether you also attended (in your official capacity as EPA Administrator or otherwise) and whether any representatives of a foreign government also attended. Please also identify any non-EPA participants in those events or meetings.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Dr. Avenel Joseph of my staff at 202-224-2742.

Sincerely,



Edward J. Markey