



New Jersey
Work Environment Council
Safe, secure jobs and a healthy, sustainable environment

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Statement of NJ Work Environment Council on Appointment of Lisa Jackson as EPA Administrator by the President-Elect

The New Jersey Work Environment Council (WEC), an alliance of 70 environmental, community, and labor organizations, today issued the following statement responding to President-Elect Barack Obama's anticipated announcement that Lisa Jackson, former Commissioner of New Jersey's Department of Environmental Protection, will be named Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency:

According to John Pajak, President of the New Jersey Work Environment Council, "While we have differences with some of Governor Corzine's environmental policies, Lisa Jackson has proven an able DEP Commissioner and has helped make New Jersey safer and more secure by adopting new and precedent-setting policies pushing chemical plants to adopt safer processing methods and by engaging workers and their unions during environmental inspections. We look forward to working with her as EPA Administrator to enact a new law for chemical safety and security, to involve workers and their unions in helping to protect our air and water, on environmental justice issues, and to reverse the Bush legacy of environmental destruction."

The New Jersey Work Environment Council's 70 affiliate members include: United Steelworkers, Communications Workers, Health Professionals and Allied Employees, NJ Education Association, Sierra Club – NJ Chapter, NJ Environmental Federation, GreenFaith, Environment NJ, NJ Environmental Lobby, and many other labor, environmental, and community groups. Formed in 1986, WEC is the nation's oldest coalition of labor and environmental organizations.