

**Statement of W. Charles McIntosh
Nominated to be Assistant Administrator,
Office of International and Tribal Affairs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**

Good morning, Chairman Barrasso, Ranking Member Carper, and esteemed members of the Committee. I count it a high honor to appear before you as you carry out your responsibility to provide advice and, hopefully, consent for my nomination for the position of Assistant Administrator for the U.S. EPA Office of International and Tribal Affairs.

I am humbled and thrilled to be nominated by President Trump. Thank you Mr. President for your confidence in me. I promise to faithfully carry out my duties. Thank you Administrator Pruitt for trusting in me and supporting this nomination.

40 years ago, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources hired me to review permit applications submitted under the Clean Air Act. I worked in the air, hazardous waste and radioactive waste programs, before having the opportunity to work as Governor Engler's Environmental and Natural Resources Policy Advisor. I shepherded the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 through the state legislature, enjoying broad bipartisan support. We reformed the state remediation laws, codified the environmental and natural resources statutes, and improved the state's wastewater infrastructure.

I spent 19 proud years with the Ford Motor Company, where compliance with environmental regulations is the minimum and improving the environment is expected.

To my colleagues in the Office of International and Tribal Affairs, I cannot wait to start working with you. You embody the mission of the EPA to protect human health and the environment through our Tribal mission and our work with our International partners.

When I started my environmental protection career, Lake Erie would catch fire, portions of the regulated community were recalcitrant in their compliance and the states and tribes were just learning how to implement their environmental responsibilities.

President Trump and Administrator Pruitt have set an aggressive agenda that I am excited to help implement should I be confirmed.

Administrator Pruitt is focusing the agency on the implementation of federal laws. I look forward to helping ensure that the agency's regulations and guidance faithfully and literally implement the laws of the land.

The states and tribes have become so capable over the last 40 years, cooperative federalism has become essential. In many cases, there is no longer a need for federal redundancy in regulation. We can work with the states and tribes to faithfully implement the laws and fully protect the public health and the environment by providing oversight and assistance without duplicating their actions.

We have made so much progress and the environment is so much cleaner, over the span of my career, I am thrilled to have the opportunity to be part of the EPA as it assists the states and tribes and provides an example to other nations working to protect the environment.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you again for your time and the opportunity to appear before you.