Dear Mr. Klain,

EPA has been severely damaged by four years of Trump, and the urgency of the climate crisis requires a steady and experienced hand that can immediately undo damage while also setting the country on a deeply ambitious path to carbon neutrality by mid-century. We believe there is no environmental leader in the country more prepared than Mary Nichols to hit the ground running at EPA, nor more likely to receive Senate confirmation.

In addition, it has been our experience that Mary recognizes that climate change and racial and economic justice are inextricably linked. Mary has advanced programs to address environmental justice concerns, protect public health in front-line communities, and deliver benefits directly to disadvantaged communities.

In light of the above we write to respectfully request a call with you at your earliest convenience, that would also include other state and community leaders and advocates to discuss her nomination for EPA Administrator, before a decision is made.

Signed,

Ricardo Lara

California State Insurance Commissioner Former California State Senator, District 33

Eduardo Garcia

California State Assemblymember, District 56

Representing Western Riverside County and Imperial County, including Blythe, Brawley, Bermuda Dunes, Calexico, Calipatria, Cathedral City, Coachella, Desert Hot Springs, El Centro, Holtville, Imperial, Indio, Mecca, Oasis, North Shore, Salton Sea, Thermal, Thousand Palms, and Westmorland