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Latin(a/o/x) Families React To Trump's Positions On Environmental Preservation For Years To Come

Moms, Youth Leaders & Latinx Families Have A Clear Message For The Trump Administration: Our Families Will Continue Fighting For Access To Clean Air, Clean Water

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.– Following the recent announcement by President-elect Donald J. Trump on possible candidates for his cabinet beginning 2017, leaders of Juntos: Our Air Our Water and families of the Latin(a/o/x) immigrant community in Albuquerque have vowed to continue their fight for access to clean air and clean water in NM for a healthier today and tomorrow for their families and future generations.

The reaction comes after **The New York Times reports** the following possible candidates to become head of the E.P.A. (*information via: <u>The New York Times</u>*):

- **Myron Ebell** A director at the Competitive Enterprise Institute and a prominent climate change skeptic.
- **Robert E. Grady** Gryphon Investors partner who was involved in drafting the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990.
- **Jeffrey R. Holmstead** Lawyer with Bracewell L.L.P. and former deputy EPA administrator in the George W. Bush administration.

According to the New York Times, "Mr. Trump has already vowed to 'cancel' last year's Paris climate agreement, which commits more than 190 countries to reduce their emissions of planet-warming carbon dioxide pollution, and to dismantle the Clean Power Plan, Mr. Obama's domestic climate change regulations," as reported in their Nov. 10 article titled <u>Donald Trump</u> <u>Could Put Climate Change on Course for 'Danger Zone'.</u>

The following are statements by leaders from Juntos: Our Air Our Water on the EPA candidates and possibility of Trump dismantling the Clean Power Plan:

Martha Favela, Leader of Juntos' "Mother Promotoras" program said, "Our families are passionate about clean air and water for our children today and tomorrow.

"Regardless of who is in power, we have a right and responsibility to organize for a healthier future of clean air and clean water for all New Mexicans. Our resilience has

come through for generations and we will keep fighting and surviving together under Trump's presidency," **she added.**

Keily Castro-Miranda, Juntos' Youth Leader/Canvasser said, "Our families deserve to be treated with dignity and that includes ensuring the clean air, clean water and clean energy we need."

"We have gathered thousands of signatures from our communities to ensure that New Mexican families are heard and we can build a better future for our families," **she said.**

Christopher Ramirez, Program Director of Juntos: Our Air Our Water also added, "Latin(a/o/x) communities have historically been left out of decisions that will impact the health and well-being of our families and future generations."

"Trump's presidency presents many challenges for the Latinx community, and environmental justice is another one of them. We are ready to continue stand with and organize alongside other communities to ensure a safe and healthy future for our families and loved ones in the present and the future," **he said.**

On Nov. 21, Juntos: Our Air Our Water will be presenting Governor Susana Martínez thousands of petitions that have been gathered in the past 6 months where New Mexicans demand her administration to allow more spaces for public input from Latinx communities and to implement a strong plan that will help our state transition into clean renewable energy for the well-being and health of Latinx families.

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Juntos is an environmental justice program of the non-profit Conservation Voters New Mexico Education Fund in partnership with Chispa, a program of the League of Conservation Voters Education Fund, that strengthens Latina/o/x voices in New Mexico to protect the air we breathe and the water we drink -- for the health of our families and our future through the development of Latin(a/o/x) leaders who are committed to organize and mobilize for healthy and strong communities.