

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

December 6, 2017

The Honorable Scott Pruitt  
Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of the Administrator 1101A  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Administrator Pruitt,

We write to you today to voice strong support for the Adirondack Lake Survey Corporation which is receiving \$250,000 in funding from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for long term monitoring of water quality recovery from acid rain.

The Adirondack Park is an ecological gem and contributes greatly to the culture and economy of New York State. The Park which is situated in Northern New York is located directly downwind from major Midwest coal-burning sources. Power generating facilities in the Midwest emit sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides, which are the major precursors of acid rain which has caused the acidification of many Adirondack lakes and ponds. Certain geologic and soil characteristics including elevated terrain, thin shallow soils, and impermeable bedrock combined with high amounts of rainfall make the Park one of the most sensitive areas to acidification in North America.

Consequently, this region is a focal point for numerous scientific research efforts designed to identify the processes involved in acidification and to evaluate its effect on aquatic resources as well as the effectiveness of emissions controls. Thanks to actions taken after the enactment of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 and the invaluable work of the Adirondack Lake Survey Corporation, the Adirondacks have experienced a tremendous return to health. Trout populations are returning to once dead lakes, waters and trees are getting healthier, and the park is once again an economic engine in Northern New York.

While we are all pleased to see the Park come back from the brink, work is ongoing and we risk a return to more polluted days should we turn away from this important monitoring. In particular, facilities such as the lab in Ray Brook which collect information for the Adirondack Lake Survey Corporation could close if EPA shifts the focus of the programs and grants that have provided an essential funding stream.

Having seen the benefits both ecologically and economically from effective EPA sponsored research, we ask that you work with us to protect ongoing research and monitoring in the Adirondack Park so we never again return to the days of dead lakes and a dying forest.

We appreciate your attention to this matter.

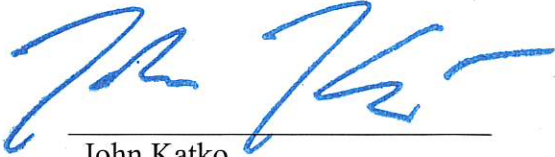
Sincerely,



Elise M. Stefanik  
Member of Congress



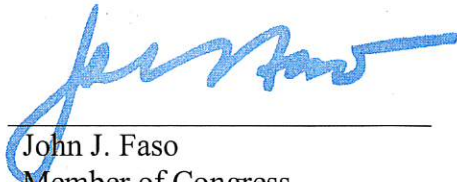
Paul Tonko  
Member of Congress



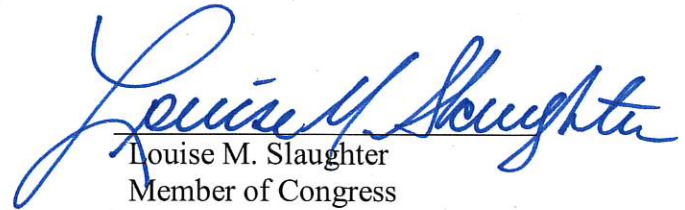
John Katko  
Member of Congress



Kathleen M. Rice  
Member of Congress



John J. Faso  
Member of Congress



Louise M. Slaughter  
Member of Congress



Chris Collins  
Member of Congress



Carolyn B. Maloney  
Member of Congress