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April 8, 2021

VIA EMAIL

Reginald Babin, Chief Counsel, Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer
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Andrew Ferguson, Chief Counsel, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell
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Michael Fragoso, Chief Nominations Counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee Ranking Member Charles E. Grassley
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Please see the enclosed letter submitted for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Richard J. Lazarus'.

Richard J. Lazarus

April 8, 2021

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Chairman Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Letter in Support of the Nomination of Todd Kim to Serve as Assistant Attorney General
for the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the U.S. Department of Justice

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Chairman Durbin and Ranking
Member Grassley:

We write in support of the nomination of Todd Kim to be Assistant Attorney General for the
Environment and Natural Resources Division (ENRD) in the U.S. Department of Justice. We are
all longstanding practitioners of environmental law from a wide variety of settings and
perspectives. We include lawyers from private law firms, public interest organizations,
governmental offices, in-house counsel, and legal academics.

We do not always agree. We sometimes litigate on the same side of cases and frequently serve as
opposing counsel too. For those of us engaged in legal scholarship, it is not unusual for us to
sharply disagree. But what we all share in common is a deep respect for the rule of law and the
essential public service performed by ENRD attorneys in enforcing and defending the nation's
environmental protection and natural resource management laws. What joins us in this letter is
our confidence that Todd Kim will be an outstanding Assistant Attorney General to lead ENRD.

Todd Kim combines enormous achievement, a career largely dedicated to public service, proven
leadership, private sector experience, and a deep expertise in environmental law. Kim graduated

magna cum laude from both Harvard College and Harvard Law School and then clerked for the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. His first job after his clerkship was as an Honors Program Attorney in the Appellate Section of ENRD — the same Justice Department Division that President Biden has now named Kim to lead.

Kim enjoyed a stellar reputation at the Justice Department as a highly skilled appellate advocate, as underscored by EPA’s decision to award Kim the Agency’s Gold Medal. Working at ENRD for more than eight years under both Democratic and Republican Administrations, Kim developed a deep and wide expertise in environmental law. He briefed and presented oral argument in federal courts of appeals on a wide variety of complex environmental and natural resources law cases. He was named the District of Columbia’s first Solicitor General in 2006 and ably served in that office for eleven years until he joined a private law firm in 2018.

ENRD deserves one of the nation’s best lawyers at its helm to run the nation’s most important environmental law firm charged with representing the American public. Todd Kim promises to be just such a leader.

We urge the Senate Judiciary Committee and the Senate to confirm Todd Kim to serve as the Assistant Attorney General for ENRD.

Sincerely,*

Richard J. Lazarus
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Former ENRD Attorney (1979-1983)
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