November 19, 2019

The Honorable Andrew Wheeler
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Wheeler:

We are concerned about potential unfair labor practices and refusal to bargain in good faith with union representatives at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

We understand that you have undertaken efforts to negotiate with union representatives; however, more must be done. The negotiations seem to have broken down when EPA adopted proposals that are similar to certain provisions of Executive Orders 13836, 13837, and 13839.

It is our understanding that in June 2019, EPA unilaterally imposed a new contract on its employees. This imposed contract:

1) eliminates the grievance procedure, stripping workers of important due process and depriving employees of a way to hold managers accountable;
2) removes union members from their voluntary union membership without their consent;
3) evicts union representatives from office space and severely restricts the amount of time they can devote to meetings with employees and management to eliminate problems or obstacles in the workplace; and
4) reduces workplace schedules and
5) telework options, and makes other work schedule changes, hurting EPA employees who commute long distances because they cannot afford to live close to their offices.

We strongly urge EPA’s management to return to the bargaining table with union representatives and negotiate in good faith. In addition, we request timely and continuous updates regarding ongoing negotiations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Frank Pallone, Jr.

Paul D. Tonko

Ann McLane Kuster

Robert C. "Bobby" Scott

Donald M. Payne, Jr.

Alan Lowenthal

Vicente Gonzalez

Debbie Mucarsel-Powell

Raja Krishnamoorthi

Debbie Dingell

Madeleine Dean

Josh Harder
Tom O'Halleran

John Yarmuth

Ted Lieu

Mike Thompson

Eric Swalwell

James P. McGovern

Jamie Raskin

Mark Takano

Tom Malinowski

Mark DeSaulnier

Antonio Delgado

Nanette Diaz Barragán
Matt Cartwright

Dwight Evans

Debbie Wasserman Schultz

Lauren Underwood

Tim Ryan

Ruben Gallego

David Trone

J. Luis Correa

Earl Blumenauer

Katie Porter

Donald S. Beyer Jr.

Seth Moulton

Brendan F. Boyle

Jennifer Wexton
John P. Sarbanes
Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Robin L. Kelly
Eliot Engel
Kathleen M. Rice
Tony Cárdenas
Norma J. Torres
Henry Cuellar
Rosa DeLauro
Judy Chu
Wm. Lacy Clay
Donald Norcross
Bonnie Watson Coleman
Katherine M. Clark
Susie Lee
Elaine G. Luria
Kim Schrier, M.D.
Dave Loebsack
Chrissy Houlahan
Donna Shalala
Al Lawson

Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Ayanna Pressley
Mikie Sherrill
Susan A. Davis
Jared Golden
Steven Horsford
Derek Kilmer
Jahana Hayes

Ron Kind

Veronica Escobar

Lucy McBath

Andy Kim

Lisa Blunt Rochester

Elissa Slotkin

Jimmy Gomez

Sharice L. Davids

Sylvia Garcia

Mike Levin

Ami Bera, M.D.

Kathy Castor

Karen Bass
Stacey E. Plaskett
Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.

Kurt Schrader
Hakeem Jeffries

Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.

Ed Case

Frederica S. Wilson
Ted Deutch

Denny Heck
G. K. Butterfield