

June 2, 2015

The Honorable G. K. Butterfield, Jr.  
Chairman, Congressional Black Caucus  
United States House of Representatives  
2305 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Butterfield,

Thank you for your enduring support, and that of the Congressional Black Caucus, for our African-American communities, and for your leadership in addressing environmental, economic and educational issues to ensure that all U.S. citizens have an opportunity to achieve their version of the American Dream.

**As African American religious leaders, we write today to seek your support for the President's new Clean Water Rule. We view caring for God's creation, including God's gift of water, as an important moral and religious obligation. It is our responsibility to ensure every child has access to clean water.**

Several confusing Supreme Court rulings over the last few years had created legal loopholes that allowed industry and developers to exploit our water supplies. No more. The President's new Clean Water Rule ensures that *every* family can again trust the safety of the tap water they pour for their children.

The new Clean Water Rule restores pollution protections to headwater streams nationwide and halts the filling and paving over of the wetlands, which filter pollutants, mitigate floods and provide habitat for wildlife. These headwater and intermittent streams and wetlands provide drinking water to one in three Americans downstream.

Access to clean drinking water has significant health, economic and quality of life implications for our communities. Many low-income, communities of color lack access to safe drinking water. Every child has the right to clean water. Moreover, we have a moral obligation to protect God's gift of water for our children and grandchildren.

Thank you for continuing to stand up for our communities.

Sincerely,

Bishop John Bryant, Sr. Bishop, African Methodist Episcopal Church  
Rev. Otis Moss, III, Trinity UCC, Chicago, IL  
Miriam J. Burnett, MD, MDiv, MPH, CHCQM, President, Resource and Promotion of Health  
Alliance, Inc. and Medical Director, AME Church Connectional (worldwide) Health  
Commission  
Rev. Alvin M. Durant, Union Wesley AME Zion, Washington, DC

Rev. Clarence Moore, Good Shepherd Baptist, Augusta, GA  
Rev. Thurmond N. Tillman, First African Baptist, Savannah, GA  
Rev. Gerald Durley (ret), Providence Baptist, Atlanta, GA  
Rev. Greg Williams, Tower Community CME, Atlanta, GA  
Rev. Steve Hilgeman, Holy Lutheran Church Savannah, GA  
Rev. Rosalinde M. Kent, St. James AME, Savannah, GA  
Rev. Richie Williams, Bethel AME, Savannah, GA  
Rev. Henry R. Delaney, St. Paul CME, Savannah, GA  
Rev. Herman Mason, Trinity CME, Augusta, GA  
Rev. Jerry D. Black, Beulah Baptist, Decatur, GA  
Rev. Fred J. Smith, Shiloh Baptist, Atlanta, GA  
Rev. Leroy Wright, Jr., First Thessalonian, Atlanta, GA  
Rev. Reginald M. Morton, Faith AME Zion, Atlanta, GA  
Rev. George D. Crenshaw, Shaw Temple AME Zion, Atlanta, GA  
Rev. Stanley Walker, Tabernacle Baptist, Tallahassee, FL  
Rev. Ben McMilliam, St. James CME, Tallahassee, FL  
Rev. Lee Johnson, Trinity United Presbyterian, Tallahassee, FL  
Rev. Margaret Forte Wade, Bethany CME, Clearwater, FL  
Rev. Anita Davis-Williams, Holsey Temple CME, Tampa, FL  
Rev. D'Juan Henson, Isom Memorial, Ocala, FL  
Rev. Trudye Thompson, Holsey Temple CME, Jacksonville, FL  
Rev. Charles Youman, Dawson Chapel CME, St. Augustine, FL  
Rev. Roscoe C. McKinney, Jacksonville-Orlando District Jacksonville, FL  
Rev. John L. Phipot, Sr., Talbot Chapel AME Zion, Pensacola, FL  
Elder F.R. Rush, St. Peters Primitive Bapt, Tallahassee, FL  
Rev. Marcus D. Davis, Mt. Olive Baptist, Ft. Lauderdale, FL  
Elder Bernard Yates, Zion Hope Primitive Bapt, Pensacola, FL  
Rev. J.W. Rigsby, Woodlawn Presbyterian, Jacksonville, FL  
Rev. Zollie Webb, Friendship Baptist, Evanston, IL  
Rev. Alvin Love, First Lillydale Baptist, Chicago, IL  
Rev. Ewin Millsap, Shiloh Baptist, Chicago, IL  
Rev. William Foster, Providence Baptist, Chicago, IL  
Rev. Curlee L. Adams, St Paul CME, Chicago, IL  
Rev. John D. Johnson, Calvary CME, Chicago, IL  
Rev. James Moody, Sr., Quinn Chapel AME, Chicago, IL  
Rev. Stevie McKinney, Walls Memorial CME, Chicago, IL  
Rev. Joel D. Miles, Greater Walters AMEZ, Chicago, IL  
Rev. Louis Malone, St. Luke Baptist, Rockford, IL  
Rev. Reginald Burke, New Hope CME, Evanston, IL  
Rev. Patrice E. Friom, Ebenezer AME, Evanston, IL  
Rev. Glenn Shelton, Second Baptist, Lincoln, IL  
Rev. Stephen J. Thurston, New Covenant MBC, Chicago, IL  
Rev. A. William Staten, Sr., Calvary MBC, Chicago Heights, IL  
Rev. Isaac Floyd, Joy Fellowship Baptist, Lansing, IL  
Rev. Gessel Berry, Sherman UMC, Evanston, IL  
Rev. Eric Leake, Martin Temple AMEZ, Chicago, IL

Rev. G K Moss, St Paul Baptist, Charlotte, NC  
Rev. Ruby Clark, First Baptist, Statesville, NC  
Rev. Michael Sharp, Hosley Memorial, CME, Statesville, NC  
Rev. Robert Williams, Williams Memorial CME, High Point, NC  
Rev. Howard Parker, Sycamore Hill MBC, Greenville, NC  
Rev. J. Vincent Terry, Jr., Mt Peace Baptist, Raleigh, NC  
Rev. Cureton L. Johnson, First Baptist, Fayetteville, NC  
Rev. James Henderson, McQueen Chapel UMC, Sanford, NC  
Rev. James French, Rush Metropolitan AMEZ, Raleigh, NC  
Rev. Theodore Breeden, Piney Grove MBC, Clayton, NC  
Rev. Jimmy Hawkins, Covenant Presbyterian, Durham, NC  
Rev. Peter Wherry, Mayfield Memorial Baptist, Charlotte, NC  
Rev. Leonzo Lynch, Ebenezer Baptist, Charlotte, NC  
Rev. Mark Clark, Scotts Chapel UMC, Statesville, NC  
Rev. Randy Minor, Calvary Holiness, Statesville, NC  
Rev. Timothy Bates, Calvary Presbyterian, Statesville, NC  
Rev. Reginald Kett, Mt. Pleasant AMEZ, Statesville, NC  
Rev. Burrell Brooks, St John Baptist, Statesville, NC  
Rev. James H. Cokley, Cherry Hill MBC, Conway, SC  
Rev. Michael McClain, Liberty Hill MBC, Catawba, SC  
Rev. B D Snooddy, Mt Moriah MBC, Spartanburg, SC  
Rev. Isaac J. Holt, Jr., Royal MBC, N. Charleston, SC  
Rev. W E Givens, Jr., First MBC, Summerville, SC  
Rev. D E Green, Jr., Andrew Chapel, Orangeburg, SC  
Rev. Henry L. Edmonds, Union Baptist, Columbia, SC  
Rev. Alonzo Johnson, Universal Outreach COGIC, Columbia, SC  
Rev. Keith A Kershaw, Genesis COGIC, Columbia, SC  
Rev. William Prioleau, Evening of Prayer COGIC, N. Charleston, SC  
Rev. Caesar Richburg, Williams Chapel AME, Orangeburg, SC  
Rev. Ronnie Brailsford, Sr., Bethal AME, Columbia, SC  
Rev. Charles B. Jackson, Sr., Brookland Baptist, Cayce, SC  
Rev. Eric Davis, Word of God Church, Columbia, SC  
Rev. George A. Ashford, Jr., Journey UMC, Columbia, SC  
Rev. Sheila Elliot, Francis Burns UMC, Columbia, SC  
Bishop Michael Blue, Door of Hope Christian Church, Marion, SC  
Rev. Henry Rivers, Wallingford Presbyterian, Charleston, SC  
Rev. Alonza Washington, Beaufort-Salem Presbyterian, Charleston, SC  
Rev. Isaiah D. Phinisee, St Luke Presbyterian, Orangeburg, SC  
Rev. Gerald A. Tucker, Zion Benevolent MBC, Hopkins, SC  
Rev. Edward Moultrie, Sr., Sidney Park CME, Columbia, SC  
Elder Carl Whittaker, Bibleway Church of God in Christ, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Calvin J. Hicks, Bethal AME, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. John Ivey, Beulah Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Bishop Michael Dantley Christ Emmanuel Christian Fellowship, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. James Harris, Brown Chapel AME, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. George Parks, Sr. Sacrificial Baptist, Cleveland, OH

Rev. Walter Houston, Temple of Praise Baptist, Cleveland, OH  
Rev. Wesley Reid, Lee Memorial AMEZ, Cleveland, OH  
Rev. Stephen D. Sullivan, Gethsemane Baptist, Cleveland, OH  
Rev. J.R. Chisley, Calvary MBC, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Henry Wilson, Cornerstone MBC, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Sherman R. Buttram, First Baptist of W. College Hill, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. K.Z. Smith, Corinthian Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. E.G. Smith, Jr., First Antioch Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Allen Middleton, Galilee Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Jim Vickers, Mountaintop Power Center, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Walter A. Dobbins, Sr., First Baptist-Mt. Auburn, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Steve McGhee, Greater Faith Baptist, Middletown, OH  
Rev. Michael K. Cash, First New Shiloh, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Paul Bowers, Greater Emmanuel Apostolic Temple, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Oliver Williams, Friendship Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Iva J. Durand, Jr., Jerriel Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Donald Newberry, Sr., Lee Chapel AME, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Donald E. Jones, Greater New Hope MBC, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Harry White, Mount Moriah Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. R.N. Mitchell, Mount Sinai Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Gregory Chandler, Sr., Peace Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Eugene Sebastain, Mount Zion Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Cecil Ferrell, St. Mark MBC, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Russo O'Neal, Rockdale Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Damon Lynch, Jr., New Jerusalem Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Jerry Culbreath, Tried Stone New Beginning Church, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Robert E. Baines, Jr., Southern Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Calvin Harper, Morningstar Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Floyd Brown, St Stephens Community Church, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Timothy Swan, Mount Zion Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Orlando Yates, Union Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Donald Harvey, Mount Zion Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Bishop Bobby Hilton, Word of Deliverance Ministries, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Damon Lynch, III, New Prospect Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Clayton Walker, Tabernacle Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Bennie Fluellen, Overflow Ministries Covenant, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. James H. Cantrell, Zion Baptist, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Taylor Thompson, Quinn Chapel AME, Cincinnati, OH  
Rev. Carrol Johnson, Blackwell Chapel AMEZ, St. Louis, MO  
Rev. Anthony Witherspoon, Samuel Brown AMEZ, St. Louis, MO  
Rev. Kelsey Hopson, St. Matthew AMEZ, Kansas City, MO  
Rev. Michael Murray, Metropolitan AMEZ, Kansas City, MO  
Rev. Robert Scott, Central Baptist, St. Louis, MO  
Rev. Faith Allen, Jamison Memorial Temple CME, Kansas City, MO  
Rev. Brenda Hayes, Ebenezer AME, Kansas City, MO  
Rev. Regina Conway, Ebenezer, AME, St. Joseph, MO

Rev. Patricia Winfrey, St. Paul AME, Independence, MO  
Rev. Bobby Roberson, Corinthian Baptist, Kansas City, MO  
Rev. Paul Cofer, Canaan MBC, Springfield, MO  
Rev. James T. Morris, Carter Tabernacle CME, St. Louis, MO  
Rev. Joseph Morgan, Jerusalem MBC, St. Louis, MO  
Rev. Ronald Bobo, Sr., Westside MBC, St. Louis, MO  
Rev. Henry W. Crump, Olivet MBC, Florissant, MO  
Rev. Sammie Jones, Mt. Zion Baptist, St. Louis, MO  
Dr. Lamar F. Jones, Galilee Baptist Church, Hallsville, TX  
Rev. Richard Holloway, Pleasant Green Baptist Church, Longview, TX  
Rev. Derrick Richardson, Willow Spring Baptist Church, Longview, TX  
Rev. David Venters, Pine Grove Baptist Church, Gilmer, TX  
Rev. Harvel Davis, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Hallsville, TX  
Rev. Rodney McFarland, Hebron Baptist Church, Longview, TX  
Rev. Charles Faulks, Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, Tyler, TX  
Rev. James Brice, Progressive Baptist Church, Tyler, TX  
Rev. James Dews, St. James Baptist Church, Tyler, TX  
Rev. V.L. Rockmore, Union Grove 1st Baptist Church, Easton, TX  
Rev. Mark Hood, Liberty Baptist Church, Tyler, TX  
Rev. Damien Reese, St. James Baptist Church, Gladewater, TX  
Rev. James Webb, Bethesda Baptist Church, Marshall, TX  
Rev. Robert Hundley, New Zion Baptist Church, Longview, TX  
Rev. Stevie Jeffery, Valley View Baptist Church, Gilmer, TX  
Rev. Lafayette Herndon, East Springfield Baptist Church, TX  
Rev. Fred Rusk, Golden Hill Baptist Church, Hallsville, TX  
Rev. Carl George, Macedonia Baptist Church, Chandler, TX  
Rev. Leroy Richardson, New Zion Baptist Church, Jefferson, TX  
Rev. Darrin Rudolph, Corinth Baptist Church, Jefferson, TX  
Rev. Roy Duncan, Antioch Baptist Church, Palestine, TX  
Rev. Randy Ross, Mt. Gideon Baptist Church, Longview, TX  
Rev. Roger Smith, St. Paul Baptist Church, Tatum, TX  
Rev. Kevin Lynch, Growing Valley Baptist Church, Longview, TX  
Rev. Lewis Thompson, Antioch Baptist Church, Henderson, TX  
Rev. Frederick Lewis, St. John Baptist Church, Longview, TX  
Rev. Carlton Wall, New Jerusalem Baptist Church, Longview, TX  
Rev. Calvin McKinney, Calvary Baptist, Garfield, NJ  
Rev. Joe McClain, Christian Fellowship Bapt., Newark, NJ  
Rev. Kenneth Clayton, St Luke Baptist, Patterson, NJ  
Rev. Michael Jordon, Mt. Olive, East Orange, NJ  
Rev. Lester Wormley, Liberty Baptist, Elizabeth, NJ  
Rev. Marshall Jenifer, Phillips Metropolitan CME, Newark, NJ  
Rev. Joseph K. Fairley, New Vision Tabernacle CME, Newark, NJ  
Rev. Nathaniel Legay, Metropolitan AME Zion, Jersey City, NJ  
Rev. Dwight B. Cannon, Wesley AME Zion, Burlington, NJ  
Rev. Odinga L. Maddox, II, Price Memorial AME Zion, Atlantic City, NJ  
Rev. Alonzo Perry, Sr., New Hope MBC, Jersey City, NJ

Rev. Gary Floyd, Sr., Jerusalem MBC, Jersey City, NJ  
Rev. Lionel P. Pointer, Jr., Round Oak MBC, Silver Springs, MD  
Rev. Essentino A. Lewis, Jr., Clifton Park Baptist, Silver Springs, MD  
Rev. Emmett Lafayette, West Hyattsville Baptist, Hyattsville, MD  
Rev. T. Kenneth Venable, Clinton AME Zion, Rockville, MD  
Rev. Scot C. Moore, Judah Temple AME Zion, Mitchellville, MD  
Rev. Kenel Stevenson, Oak Grove AME Zion, Gaithersburg, MD  
Rev. Grainger Browning, Jr., Ebenezer AME, Ft. Washington, MD  
Rev. Alan M. Gould, Sr., Allen Chapel AME, Silver Springs, MD  
Rev. Charles T. Sembly, Union Berthel AME, Randallstown, MD  
Bishop Dwayne C. Debam, Morning Star Baptist, Baltimore, MD  
Rev. Douglas E. Summers, Providence Baptist, Baltimore, MD  
Rev. Orlando A. Wilson, New Antioch Church, Baltimore, MD  
Rev. Darron D. McKinney, Sr., Macedonia Bapt., Baltimore, MD  
Rev. Michael A. Chambers, Fountain Baptist, Baltimore, MD  
Rev. William H. Graham, First Missionary Bapt., Baltimore, MD  
Rev. Delman Coates, Mt. Ennon Baptist, Baltimore, MD  
Rev. Tracy Duvall, Cornerstone MBC, Baltimore, MD  
Rev. Courtney Miller, Norbuck Community, Silver Spring, MD

Cc: Members, Congressional Black Caucus, Honorable Gina McCarthy, Administrator,  
Environmental Protection Agency, Cecilia Muñoz, Director, White House Domestic Policy  
Council Christina Goldfuss, Director, White House Council on Environmental Quality