



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Attorney General

Mark R. Herring
Attorney General

900 East Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
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Virginia Relay Services
800-828-1120
7-1-1

April 20, 2016

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL & U.S. MAIL

David W. Schnare, Esq.
Free Market Environmental Law Clinic
9033 Brook Ford Road
Burke, Virginia 22015
schnarefine@gmail.com

Craig E. Richardson
Energy & Environmental Legal Institute
1610 Walden Drive
McLean, Virginia 22101
richardson@eelegal.org

Re: Freedom of Information Act request – received April 4, 2016

Dear Messrs. Schnare and Richardson:

The Office of the Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Virginia (hereinafter, "Office") acknowledges receipt of the above-referenced request in which you seek certain records pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, Virginia Code Section 2.2-3700, *et seq.* (hereinafter, "FOIA"). Specifically, you request:

1. Please provide us **copies of all emails, including attachments, sent to or from (including also as cc: or bcc:) employees of the the [sic] Office of the Attorney General, except secretarial/administrative staff, which correspondence uses any of the following terms, anywhere in the email, including in the body, To, From, cc: and/or bcc: or Subject fields:**
 - a) "climate denial"

- b) "climate denier"
- c) "climate risk"

For the above-described request: responsive records will be **dated over the approximately three-month period from January 1, 2016 through the date you process this request.**

2. We also request copies of all correspondence between employees of the Virginia Attorney General's Office, except secretarial/administrative staff, and employees of the New York Attorney General's Office, dated between March 20, 2016 and March 30, 2016.

This Office acknowledges that you have requested a rolling production. As such, documents will be produced on a rolling basis as they are identified and reviewed for responsiveness, exemption, and redaction. This Office anticipates the conclusion of the rolling production to occur within two weeks of today's date.

Please find enclosed the initial production of documents responsive to Part 2 of your request. Kindly be advised that this Office has identified one document that constitutes working papers of the Attorney General. This Office declines to produce this document as it is exempt from mandatory disclosure per Virginia Code Section 2.2-3705.7(2).

I hope that the information provided is of assistance to you.

With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,



Meaghan O'Brien
FOIA Administrator

Enclosures

Kelly, Michael K.

From: Nicholas Benson <Nicholas.Benson@ag.ny.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 4:10 PM
To: Kelly, Michael K.
Subject: Re: A.G. SCHNEIDERMAN, FORMER VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE AND A COALITION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY ANNOUNCE HISTORIC STATE-BASED EFFORT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

Not a problem. And some hi-red

photos: <https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipN9mn1H5AfEGVzZtSirbaiecNFPCqz3yBZY3S9PpnHSdgMyxTfUJ0X211TknDxaBA?key=cUltMXdlaVBqdVoyV3Q1WE1VdIJiRjlzY0thTXRn>

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 29, 2016, at 4:07 PM, Kelly, Michael K. <mkelly@oag.state.va.us> wrote:

Awesome...thanks again for all you guys did today!

Michael Kelly
Director of Communications
Office of Attorney General Mark Herring
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Doug, Eric, Michael, and the NYAG team--Thank you so much for including us in this and working with us! The presser was great and it sounds like the meetings are going well, too.

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News from Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 29, 2016

New York City Press Office / 212-416-8060
Albany Press Office / 518-776-2427
nyag.pressoffice@ag.ny.gov
Twitter: @AGSchneiderman

A.G. SCHNEIDERMAN, FORMER VICE PRESIDENT AL

GORE AND A COALITION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY ANNOUNCE HISTORIC STATE-BASED EFFORT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

Unprecedented Coalition Vows To Defend Climate Change Progress Made Under President Obama And To Push The Next President For Even More Aggressive Action

Attorneys General From California, Connecticut, District Of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, Washington State And The US Virgin Islands Agree To Coordinate Efforts

Schneiderman: Climate Change Is The Most Consequential Issue Of Our Time. This Unprecedented State-To-State Coordination Will Use All The Tools At Our Disposal To Fight For Climate Progress

NEW YORK – Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman today joined Attorneys General from across the nation to announce an unprecedented coalition of top law enforcement officials committed to aggressively protecting and building upon the recent progress the United States has made in combatting climate change.

Attorneys General Schneiderman, William Sorrell of Vermont, George Jepsen of Connecticut, Brian E. Frosh of Maryland, Maura Healey of Massachusetts, Mark Herring of Virginia, and Claude Walker of the US Virgin Islands were joined by former Vice President Al Gore for the announcement in New York City. Today's announcement took place during a one-day Attorneys General climate change conference, co-sponsored by Schneiderman and Sorrell.

The participating states are exploring working together on key climate change-related initiatives, such as ongoing and potential investigations into whether fossil fuel companies misled investors and the public on the impact of climate change on their businesses. In 2015, New York State reached a historic settlement with Peabody Energy – the world's largest publicly traded coal company – concerning the company's misleading financial statements and disclosures. New York is also investigating ExxonMobil for similar alleged conduct.

Many of the states in the coalition have worked together on previous multi-state environmental efforts, including pressing the EPA to limit climate change pollution from fossil-fueled electric power plants, defending federal rules controlling climate change emissions from large industrial facilities, and pushing for federal controls on emissions of the potent greenhouse gas methane emissions from the oil and natural gas industry.

All of the members of the new coalition are part a coalition of 25 states, cities and counties led by Attorney General Schneiderman that intervened to defend the federal Environmental Protection Agency's "Clean Power Plan" against legal challenge. Today, the interveners filed a brief with the DC Circuit Court defending President Obama's Clean Power Plan rule, which establishes a nationwide framework to achieve meaningful and cost effective reductions of carbon-dioxide emissions from power plants—the largest single source of greenhouse gas emissions in the nation—and provides states and power plants flexibility to decide how best to achieve these reductions.

"With gridlock and dysfunction gripping Washington, it is up to the states to lead on the

generation-defining issue of climate change. We stand ready to defend the next president's climate change agenda, and vow to fight any efforts to roll-back the meaningful progress we've made over the past eight years," said **Attorney General Schneiderman**. "Our offices are seriously examining the potential of working together on high-impact, state-level initiatives, such as investigations into whether fossil fuel companies have misled investors about how climate change impacts their investments and business decisions."

"We cannot continue to allow the fossil fuel industry or any industry to treat our atmosphere like an open sewer or mislead the public about the impact they have on the health of our people and the health of our planet. Attorneys General and law enforcement officials around the country have long held a vital role in ensuring that the progress we have made to solve the climate crisis is not only protected, but advanced. The first-of-its-kind coalition announced today is another key step on the path to a sustainable, clean-energy future," said **Vice President Al Gore**.

Vermont Attorney General William Sorrell said, "We are happy to have worked closely with New York to organize this meeting. As we all know, global warming, if not reversed, will be catastrophic for our planet. We, the states, have a role to play in this endeavor and intend to do our part."

"The states represented here today have long been working to sound the alarm, to put smart policies in place to speed our transition to a clean energy future, and to stop power plants from emitting millions of tons of dangerous global warming pollution into our air," said **Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey**. "In Massachusetts, we're a leader in clean energy and together we're taking a thoughtful, aggressive approach to ensuring our planet's health for generations to come."

Connecticut Attorney General George Jepsen, said "I am delighted to meet with so many thoughtful leaders to strategize on ways we can protect our citizens from the greatest threat we collectively face, climate change. I am proud to have worked with them and others in defending the Obama Administration's action to combat global warming, and look forward to discussing how we can best further that important work. I also appreciate the opportunity to discuss potential future efforts, including the merits of possible joint investigations in this important area."

U.S. Virgin Islands Attorney General Claude Earl Walker said, "The Virgin Islands, which is especially vulnerable to environmental threats, has a particular interest in making sure that companies are honest about what they know about climate change. We are committed to ensuring a fair and transparent market where consumers can make informed choices about what they buy and from whom. If ExxonMobil has tried to cloud their judgment, we are determined to hold the company accountable."

Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh said, "Climate change poses an existential threat to Maryland and to the nation. I am proud to join with my colleagues across the country in this important collaboration, and am willing to use every tool at our collective disposal to protect our air, our water and our natural resources. The pledge we are making today can help insure a cleaner and safer future."

Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring said, "As a Commonwealth and as a nation, we can't just put our heads in the sand because we are already confronting the realities of climate change. Hampton Roads is our Commonwealth's second most populated region, it's our second biggest economy, and it is the second most vulnerable area in the entire country as climate change drives continued sea-level rise. State government, local governments, and the military are spending

millions to prepare for this challenge, and even more significant investment and resiliency measures will be required. I'm proud to have Virginia included in this first-of-its-kind coalition, which recognizes the reality and the pressing threat of manmade climate change and sea level rise. I'm looking forward to working with my colleagues to explore opportunities to address climate change, encourage the growth of our clean energy sectors, and build a cleaner, more sustainable future."

"Taking additional steps to reduce carbon pollution will keep us moving toward cleaner air, a healthier environment, and more affordable energy," said **Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan**. "I look forward to continuing to work with other states to advance the Clean Power Plan, as well as to advocate for a comprehensive portfolio of renewable energy sources and enhancements to energy efficiency programs."

"Climate change has real and lasting impacts on our environment, public health, and the economy," said **California Attorney General Kamala D. Harris**. "California has been a national leader in fighting to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and I am proud to join this effort to preserve and protect our natural resources for future generations to come."

Maine Attorney General Janet Mills said, "Our natural resources are the lifeblood of our state's economy and our quality of life. Global climate change demands immediate action and I am committed to using the authority of my office to address the problem in a meaningful way by defending important EPA regulations against attacks led by the coal industry and exploring litigation options that will hold the worst polluters accountable for their actions."

"Washington is mired by political gridlock. We cannot sit back and watch the dysfunction while nothing gets done, or worse, Washington rolls back the progress we have made in the recent past to address the issue of climate change. If Washington is not going to step up and recognize the crisis and find meaningful solutions, then it will be up to the states to do so," said **Rhode Island Attorney General Peter F. Kilmartin**. "As a state that will incur significant negative impacts from global climate change, including sea-level rise and increased flooding, Rhode Island is committed to continuing the fight for common-sense regulation of greenhouse gas emissions from power plants and other large emitters."

"Washington State has long made protecting our environment a top priority," **Washington State Attorney General Bob Ferguson** said. "A problem like climate change is bigger than any one state. I look forward to working with the coalition on innovative solutions to combat and reverse the harmful effects of climate change."

"Our office has a mandate to protect the public interest, and this includes ensuring that our community is not negatively affected by preventable climate change. We welcome this crucial state-to-state cooperation to ensure that we do everything we can to fight the causes of climate change regardless of whether the federal government continues to partner with us in these efforts or not," said **District of Columbia Attorney General Karl Racine**.

"We have been impacted by climate change, and we see its drastic effects in New Mexico---extreme drought, increased risk of severe forest fires, and the ruin of our wildlife and natural habitats," Attorney General Balderas said. "Our efforts will ensure that progress is made on climate change and that the public is fully aware of the effects on the health and well-being of New Mexico families," said **New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas**.

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Kelly, Michael K.

From: Kelly, Michael K.
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 4:08 PM
To: 'Nicholas Benson'
Subject: RE: A.G. SCHNEIDERMAN, FORMER VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE AND A COALITION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY ANNOUNCE HISTORIC STATE-BASED EFFORT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

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Twitter: @AGSchneiderman

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Unprecedented Coalition Vows To Defend Climate Change Progress Made Under President Obama And To Push The Next President For Even More Aggressive Action

Attorneys General From California, Connecticut, District Of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Maine,

Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, Washington State And The US Virgin Islands Agree To Coordinate Efforts

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“The states represented here today have long been working to sound the alarm, to put smart policies in place to speed our transition to a clean energy future, and to stop power plants from emitting millions of tons of dangerous global warming pollution into our air,” said

Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey. “In Massachusetts, we’re a leader in clean energy and together we’re taking a thoughtful, aggressive approach to ensuring our planet’s health for generations to come.”

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Subject: FW: A.G. SCHNEIDERMAN, FORMER VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE AND A COALITION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY ANNOUNCE HISTORIC STATE-BASED EFFORT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

From: NYAG Press Office [<mailto:nysattorneygeneral@public.govdelivery.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 11:48 AM
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News from Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 29, 2016

New York City Press Office / 212-416-8060
Albany Press Office / 518-776-2427
nyag.pressooffice@ag.ny.gov
Twitter: @AGSchneiderman

A.G. SCHNEIDERMAN, FORMER VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE AND A COALITION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY ANNOUNCE HISTORIC STATE-BASED EFFORT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

Unprecedented Coalition Vows To Defend Climate Change Progress Made Under President Obama And To Push The Next President For Even More Aggressive Action

Attorneys General From California, Connecticut, District Of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, Washington State And The US Virgin Islands Agree To Coordinate Efforts

Schneiderman: Climate Change Is The Most Consequential Issue Of Our Time. This Unprecedented State-To-State Coordination Will Use All The Tools At Our Disposal To Fight For Climate Progress

NEW YORK – Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman today joined Attorneys General from across the nation to announce an unprecedented coalition of top law enforcement officials committed to aggressively protecting and building upon the recent progress the United States has made in combatting climate change.

Attorneys General Schneiderman, William Sorrell of Vermont, George Jepsen of Connecticut, Brian E. Frosh of Maryland, Maura Healey of Massachusetts, Mark Herring of Virginia, and Claude Walker of the US Virgin Islands were joined by former Vice President Al Gore for the

announcement in New York City. Today's announcement took place during a one-day Attorneys General climate change conference, co-sponsored by Schneiderman and Sorrell.

The participating states are exploring working together on key climate change-related initiatives, such as ongoing and potential investigations into whether fossil fuel companies misled investors and the public on the impact of climate change on their businesses. In 2015, New York State reached a historic settlement with Peabody Energy – the world's largest publicly traded coal company – concerning the company's misleading financial statements and disclosures. New York is also investigating ExxonMobil for similar alleged conduct.

Many of the states in the coalition have worked together on previous multi-state environmental efforts, including pressing the EPA to limit climate change pollution from fossil-fueled electric power plants, defending federal rules controlling climate change emissions from large industrial facilities, and pushing for federal controls on emissions of the potent greenhouse gas methane emissions from the oil and natural gas industry.

All of the members of the new coalition are part a coalition of 25 states, cities and counties led by Attorney General Schneiderman that intervened to defend the federal Environmental Protection Agency's "Clean Power Plan" against legal challenge. Today, the interveners filed a brief with the DC Circuit Court defending President Obama's Clean Power Plan rule, which establishes a nationwide framework to achieve meaningful and cost effective reductions of carbon-dioxide emissions from power plants—the largest single source of greenhouse gas emissions in the nation—and provides states and power plants flexibility to decide how best to achieve these reductions.

"With gridlock and dysfunction gripping Washington, it is up to the states to lead on the generation-defining issue of climate change. We stand ready to defend the next president's climate change agenda, and vow to fight any efforts to roll-back the meaningful progress we've made over the past eight years," said **Attorney General Schneiderman**. "Our offices are seriously examining the potential of working together on high-impact, state-level initiatives, such as investigations into whether fossil fuel companies have misled investors about how climate change impacts their investments and business decisions."

"We cannot continue to allow the fossil fuel industry or any industry to treat our atmosphere like an open sewer or mislead the public about the impact they have on the health of our people and the health of our planet. Attorneys General and law enforcement officials around the country have long held a vital role in ensuring that the progress we have made to solve the climate crisis is not only protected, but advanced. The first-of-its-kind coalition announced today is another key step on the path to a sustainable, clean-energy future," said **Vice President Al Gore**.

Vermont Attorney General William Sorrell said, "We are happy to have worked closely with New York to organize this meeting. As we all know, global warming, if not reversed, will be catastrophic for our planet. We, the states, have a role to play in this endeavor and intend to do our part."

"The states represented here today have long been working to sound the alarm, to put smart policies in place to speed our transition to a clean energy future, and to stop power plants from emitting millions of tons of dangerous global warming pollution into our air," said **Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey**. "In Massachusetts, we're a leader in clean energy and together we're taking a thoughtful, aggressive approach to ensuring our planet's health for generations to come."

Connecticut Attorney General George Jepsen, said "I am delighted to meet with so many thoughtful leaders to strategize on ways we can protect our citizens from the greatest threat we collectively face, climate change. I am proud to have worked with them and others in defending the Obama Administration's action to combat global warming, and look forward to discussing how we can best further that important work. I also appreciate the opportunity to discuss potential future efforts, including the merits of possible joint investigations in this important area."

U.S. Virgin Islands Attorney General Claude Earl Walker said, "The Virgin Islands, which is especially vulnerable to environmental threats, has a particular interest in making sure that companies are honest about what they know about climate change. We are committed to ensuring a fair and transparent market where consumers can make informed choices about what they buy and from whom. If ExxonMobil has tried to cloud their judgment, we are determined to hold the company accountable."

Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh said, "Climate change poses an existential threat to Maryland and to the nation. I am proud to join with my colleagues across the country in this important collaboration, and am willing to use every tool at our collective disposal to protect our air, our water and our natural resources. The pledge we are making today can help insure a cleaner and safer future."

Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring said, "As a Commonwealth and as a nation, we can't just put our heads in the sand because we are already confronting the realities of climate change. Hampton Roads is our Commonwealth's second most populated region, it's our second biggest economy, and it is the second most vulnerable area in the entire country as climate change drives continued sea-level rise. State government, local governments, and the military are spending millions to prepare for this challenge, and even more significant investment and resiliency measures will be required. I'm proud to have Virginia included in this first-of-its-kind coalition, which recognizes the reality and the pressing threat of manmade climate change and sea level rise. I'm looking forward to working with my colleagues to explore opportunities to address climate change, encourage the growth of our clean energy sectors, and build a cleaner, more sustainable future."

"Taking additional steps to reduce carbon pollution will keep us moving toward cleaner air, a healthier environment, and more affordable energy," said **Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan**. "I look forward to continuing to work with other states to advance the Clean Power Plan, as well as to advocate for a comprehensive portfolio of renewable energy sources and enhancements to energy efficiency programs."

"Climate change has real and lasting impacts on our environment, public health, and the economy," said **California Attorney General Kamala D. Harris**. "California has been a national leader in fighting to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and I am proud to join this effort to preserve and protect our natural resources for future generations to come."

Maine Attorney General Janet Mills said, "Our natural resources are the lifeblood of our state's economy and our quality of life. Global climate change demands immediate action and I am committed to using the authority of my office to address the problem in a meaningful way by defending important EPA regulations against attacks led by the coal industry and exploring litigation options that will hold the worst polluters accountable for their actions."

"Washington is mired by political gridlock. We cannot sit back and watch the dysfunction while nothing gets done, or worse, Washington rolls back the progress we have made in the recent past to

address the issue of climate change. If Washington is not going to step up and recognize the crisis and find meaningful solutions, then it will be up to the states to do so," said **Rhode Island Attorney General Peter F. Kilmartin**. "As a state that will incur significant negative impacts from global climate change, including sea-level rise and increased flooding, Rhode Island is committed to continuing the fight for common-sense regulation of greenhouse gas emissions from power plants and other large emitters."

"Washington State has long made protecting our environment a top priority," **Washington State Attorney General Bob Ferguson** said. "A problem like climate change is bigger than any one state. I look forward to working with the coalition on innovative solutions to combat and reverse the harmful effects of climate change."

"Our office has a mandate to protect the public interest, and this includes ensuring that our community is not negatively affected by preventable climate change. We welcome this crucial state-to-state cooperation to ensure that we do everything we can to fight the causes of climate change regardless of whether the federal government continues to partner with us in these efforts or not," said **District of Columbia Attorney General Karl Racine**.

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Kelly, Michael K.

From: Doug Cohen <Doug.Cohen@ag.ny.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 3:22 PM
Subject: Video of A.G.'s Press Conference with Al Gore

Here is video of the press conference today with Al Gore: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hd4Udhnha2A>

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The audio-only version is uploaded but video is still loading:

<https://rcpt.hightail.com/2936046102/b4258b84dc5e537c279b10528e3a2f01?cid=tx-02002208350200000000&s=19105>

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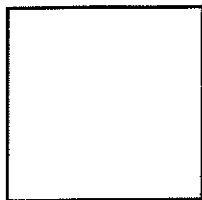
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Hey Michael,

Was hoping I might see you again today – thanks for working with us on this! I'll shoot you the video footage when we have it uploaded (it's a slow process...will probably have it in an hour or so).

Nick

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Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring said, "As a Commonwealth and as a nation, we can't just put our heads in the sand because we are already confronting the realities of climate change. Hampton Roads is our Commonwealth's second most populated region, it's our second biggest economy, and it is the second most vulnerable area in the entire country as climate change drives continued sea-level rise. State government, local governments, and the military are spending millions to prepare for this challenge, and even more significant investment and resiliency measures will be required. I'm proud to have Virginia included in this first-of-its-kind coalition, which recognizes the reality and the pressing threat of manmade climate change and sea level rise. I'm looking forward to working with my colleagues to explore opportunities to address climate change, encourage the growth of our clean energy sectors, and build a cleaner, more sustainable future."

"Taking additional steps to reduce carbon pollution will keep us moving toward cleaner air, a healthier environment, and more affordable energy," said **Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan**. "I look forward to continuing to work with other states to advance the Clean Power Plan, as well as to advocate for a comprehensive portfolio of renewable energy sources and enhancements to energy efficiency programs."

"Climate change has real and lasting impacts on our environment, public health, and the economy," said **California Attorney General Kamala D. Harris**. "California has been a national leader in fighting to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and I am proud to join this effort to preserve and protect our natural resources for future generations to come."

Maine Attorney General Janet Mills said, "Our natural resources are the lifeblood of our state's economy and our quality of life. Global climate change demands immediate action and I am committed to using the authority of my office to address the problem in a meaningful way by defending important EPA regulations against attacks led by the coal industry and exploring litigation options that will hold the worst polluters accountable for their actions."

"Washington is mired by political gridlock. We cannot sit back and watch the dysfunction while nothing gets done, or worse, Washington rolls back the progress we have made in the recent past to address the issue of climate change. If Washington is not going to step up and recognize the crisis and find meaningful solutions, then it will be up to the states to do so," said **Rhode Island Attorney General Peter F. Kilmartin**. "As a state that will incur significant negative impacts from global climate change, including sea-level rise and increased flooding, Rhode Island is committed to continuing the fight for common-sense regulation of greenhouse gas emissions from power plants and other large emitters."

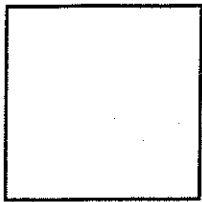
"Washington State has long made protecting our environment a top priority," **Washington State Attorney General Bob Ferguson** said. "A problem like climate change is bigger than any one state. I look forward to working with the coalition on innovative solutions to combat and reverse the harmful effects of climate change."

"Our office has a mandate to protect the public interest, and this includes ensuring that our community is not negatively affected by preventable climate change. We welcome this crucial state-

to-state cooperation to ensure that we do everything we can to fight the causes of climate change regardless of whether the federal government continues to partner with us in these efforts or not,” said **District of Columbia Attorney General Karl Racine**.

“We have been impacted by climate change, and we see its drastic effects in New Mexico---extreme drought, increased risk of severe forest fires, and the ruin of our wildlife and natural habitats,” Attorney General Balderas said. “Our efforts will ensure that progress is made on climate change and that the public is fully aware of the effects on the health and well-being of New Mexico families,” said **New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas**.

###



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Kelly, Michael K.

From: Kelly, Michael K.
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 1:31 PM
To: 'Doug Cohen'; 'Eric Soufer'; Michael Meade; Nicholas Benson
Subject: RE: A.G. SCHNEIDERMAN, FORMER VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE AND A COALITION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY ANNOUNCE HISTORIC STATE-BASED EFFORT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

Doug, Eric, Michael, and the NYAG team--Thank you so much for including us in this and working with us! The presser was great and it sounds like the meetings are going well, too.

I swear I'm almost out of questions, but I think someone mentioned that video from the presser might be available later today. Is that still the plan? We had at least 1 TV station in Hampton Roads (which is our prime area for this issue) was asking if photos or videos were available and I'd love to get them something.

Thanks again for everything,
Michael

Michael Kelly
Director of Communications
Office of Attorney General Mark Herring
(804)786-5874 (d)
(804)356-5077 (c)
mkelly@oag.state.va.us

From: Doug Cohen [mailto:Doug.Cohen@ag.ny.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 1:01 PM
Subject: FW: A.G. SCHNEIDERMAN, FORMER VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE AND A COALITION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY ANNOUNCE HISTORIC STATE-BASED EFFORT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

From: NYAG Press Office [mailto:nysattorneygeneral@public.govdelivery.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 11:48 AM
To: Doug Cohen
Subject: A.G. SCHNEIDERMAN, FORMER VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE AND A COALITION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY ANNOUNCE HISTORIC STATE-BASED EFFORT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

News from Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 29, 2016

New York City Press Office / 212-416-8060
Albany Press Office / 518-776-2427
nyag.pressooffice@ag.ny.gov
Twitter: @AGSchneiderman

A.G. SCHNEIDERMAN, FORMER VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE AND A COALITION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL

FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY ANNOUNCE HISTORIC STATE-BASED EFFORT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

Unprecedented Coalition Vows To Defend Climate Change Progress Made Under President Obama And To Push The Next President For Even More Aggressive Action

Attorneys General From California, Connecticut, District Of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, Washington State And The US Virgin Islands Agree To Coordinate Efforts

Schneiderman: Climate Change Is The Most Consequential Issue Of Our Time. This Unprecedented State-To-State Coordination Will Use All The Tools At Our Disposal To Fight For Climate Progress

NEW YORK – Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman today joined Attorneys General from across the nation to announce an unprecedented coalition of top law enforcement officials committed to aggressively protecting and building upon the recent progress the United States has made in combatting climate change.

Attorneys General Schneiderman, William Sorrell of Vermont, George Jepsen of Connecticut, Brian E. Frosh of Maryland, Maura Healey of Massachusetts, Mark Herring of Virginia, and Claude Walker of the US Virgin Islands were joined by former Vice President Al Gore for the announcement in New York City. Today's announcement took place during a one-day Attorneys General climate change conference, co-sponsored by Schneiderman and Sorrell.

The participating states are exploring working together on key climate change-related initiatives, such as ongoing and potential investigations into whether fossil fuel companies misled investors and the public on the impact of climate change on their businesses. In 2015, New York State reached a historic settlement with Peabody Energy – the world's largest publicly traded coal company – concerning the company's misleading financial statements and disclosures. New York is also investigating ExxonMobil for similar alleged conduct.

Many of the states in the coalition have worked together on previous multi-state environmental efforts, including pressing the EPA to limit climate change pollution from fossil-fueled electric power plants, defending federal rules controlling climate change emissions from large industrial facilities, and pushing for federal controls on emissions of the potent greenhouse gas methane emissions from the oil and natural gas industry.

All of the members of the new coalition are part a coalition of 25 states, cities and counties led by Attorney General Schneiderman that intervened to defend the federal Environmental Protection Agency's "Clean Power Plan" against legal challenge. Today, the interveners filed a brief with the DC Circuit Court defending President Obama's Clean Power Plan rule, which establishes a nationwide framework to achieve meaningful and cost effective reductions of carbon-dioxide emissions from power plants—the largest single source of greenhouse gas emissions in the nation—and provides states and power plants flexibility to decide how best to achieve these reductions.

"With gridlock and dysfunction gripping Washington, it is up to the states to lead on the generation-defining issue of climate change. We stand ready to defend the next president's climate change agenda, and vow to fight any efforts to roll-back the meaningful progress we've made over

the past eight years,” said **Attorney General Schneiderman**. “Our offices are seriously examining the potential of working together on high-impact, state-level initiatives, such as investigations into whether fossil fuel companies have misled investors about how climate change impacts their investments and business decisions.”

“We cannot continue to allow the fossil fuel industry or any industry to treat our atmosphere like an open sewer or mislead the public about the impact they have on the health of our people and the health of our planet. Attorneys General and law enforcement officials around the country have long held a vital role in ensuring that the progress we have made to solve the climate crisis is not only protected, but advanced. The first-of-its-kind coalition announced today is another key step on the path to a sustainable, clean-energy future,” said **Vice President Al Gore**.

Vermont Attorney General William Sorrell said, “We are happy to have worked closely with New York to organize this meeting. As we all know, global warming, if not reversed, will be catastrophic for our planet. We, the states, have a role to play in this endeavor and intend to do our part.”

“The states represented here today have long been working to sound the alarm, to put smart policies in place to speed our transition to a clean energy future, and to stop power plants from emitting millions of tons of dangerous global warming pollution into our air,” said **Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey**. “In Massachusetts, we’re a leader in clean energy and together we’re taking a thoughtful, aggressive approach to ensuring our planet’s health for generations to come.”

Connecticut Attorney General George Jepsen, said “I am delighted to meet with so many thoughtful leaders to strategize on ways we can protect our citizens from the greatest threat we collectively face, climate change. I am proud to have worked with them and others in defending the Obama Administration’s action to combat global warming, and look forward to discussing how we can best further that important work. I also appreciate the opportunity to discuss potential future efforts, including the merits of possible joint investigations in this important area.”

U.S. Virgin Islands Attorney General Claude Earl Walker said, “The Virgin Islands, which is especially vulnerable to environmental threats, has a particular interest in making sure that companies are honest about what they know about climate change. We are committed to ensuring a fair and transparent market where consumers can make informed choices about what they buy and from whom. If ExxonMobil has tried to cloud their judgment, we are determined to hold the company accountable.”

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Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring said, “As a Commonwealth and as a nation, we can’t just put our heads in the sand because we are already confronting the realities of climate change. Hampton Roads is our Commonwealth’s second most populated region, it’s our second biggest economy, and it is the second most vulnerable area in the entire country as climate change drives continued sea-level rise. State government, local governments, and the military are spending millions to prepare for this challenge, and even more significant investment and resiliency measures will be required. I’m proud to have Virginia included in this first-of-its-kind coalition,

which recognizes the reality and the pressing threat of manmade climate change and sea level rise. I'm looking forward to working with my colleagues to explore opportunities to address climate change, encourage the growth of our clean energy sectors, and build a cleaner, more sustainable future."

"Taking additional steps to reduce carbon pollution will keep us moving toward cleaner air, a healthier environment, and more affordable energy," said **Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan**. "I look forward to continuing to work with other states to advance the Clean Power Plan, as well as to advocate for a comprehensive portfolio of renewable energy sources and enhancements to energy efficiency programs."

"Climate change has real and lasting impacts on our environment, public health, and the economy," said **California Attorney General Kamala D. Harris**. "California has been a national leader in fighting to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and I am proud to join this effort to preserve and protect our natural resources for future generations to come."

Maine Attorney General Janet Mills said, "Our natural resources are the lifeblood of our state's economy and our quality of life. Global climate change demands immediate action and I am committed to using the authority of my office to address the problem in a meaningful way by defending important EPA regulations against attacks led by the coal industry and exploring litigation options that will hold the worst polluters accountable for their actions."

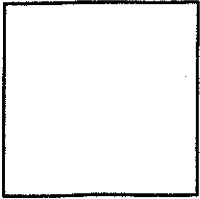
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"Washington State has long made protecting our environment a top priority," **Washington State Attorney General Bob Ferguson** said. "A problem like climate change is bigger than any one state. I look forward to working with the coalition on innovative solutions to combat and reverse the harmful effects of climate change."

"Our office has a mandate to protect the public interest, and this includes ensuring that our community is not negatively affected by preventable climate change. We welcome this crucial state-to-state cooperation to ensure that we do everything we can to fight the causes of climate change regardless of whether the federal government continues to partner with us in these efforts or not," said **District of Columbia Attorney General Karl Racine**.

"We have been impacted by climate change, and we see its drastic effects in New Mexico---extreme drought, increased risk of severe forest fires, and the ruin of our wildlife and natural habitats," Attorney General Balderas said. "Our efforts will ensure that progress is made on climate change and that the public is fully aware of the effects on the health and well-being of New Mexico families," said **New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas**.

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Kelly, Michael K.

From: Michael Meade <Michael.Meade@ag.ny.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2016 9:37 PM
To: Kelly, Michael K.
Cc: O'Holleran, Kevin C.; Doug Cohen; Eric Soufer
Subject: RE: 3/29 Climate Change Release

Adding my colleagues from our press office. We'll send you the day-of advisory and stream link in the morning.

Thanks again for all your help.

Mike

From: Kelly, Michael K. [mailto:mkelly@oag.state.va.us]
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2016 9:34 PM
To: Michael Meade
Cc: O'Holleran, Kevin C.
Subject: Re: 3/29 Climate Change Release

Thanks Mike! Sounds like it's going to be a great event. Can yall send around streaming/call in info at your convenience?

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Below is the press release we plan to send to NY media at noon EST. Feel free to edit as necessary for your local media.

Mike

**A.G. SCHNEIDERMAN, FORMER VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE AND A COALITION
OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY ANNOUNCE
HISTORIC STATE-BASED EFFORT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE**

*Unprecedented Coalition Vows To Defend Climate Change Progress Made Under President
Obama And To Push The Next President For Even More Aggressive Action*

*Attorneys General From California, Connecticut, District Of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa,
Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Virginia,
Vermont, Washington State And The US Virgin Islands Agree To Coordinate Efforts*

*Schneiderman: Climate Change Is The Most Consequential Issue Of Our Time. This
Unprecedented State-To-State Coordination Will Use All The Tools At Our Disposal To Fight
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NEW YORK – Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman today joined Attorneys General from across the nation to announce an unprecedented coalition of top law enforcement officials who pledged to aggressively protect and build upon the progress the United States has made in combatting climate change.

Attorneys General Schneiderman, William Sorrell of Vermont, George Jepsen of Connecticut, Brian E. Frosh of Maryland, Maura Healey of Massachusetts, Mark Herring of Virginia, and Claude Walker of the US Virgin Islands were joined by former Vice President Al Gore for the

announcement in New York City. Today's announcement took place during a one-day Attorneys General climate change conference, co-sponsored by Schneiderman and Sorrell.

The participating states are exploring working together on key climate change-related initiatives, such as ongoing and potential investigations into whether fossil fuel companies misled investors and the public on the impact of climate change on their businesses. In 2015, New York State reached a historic settlement with Peabody Energy – the world's largest publicly traded coal company – concerning the company's misleading financial statements and disclosures. New York is also investigating ExxonMobil for similar alleged conduct.

Many of the states in the coalition have worked together on previous multi-state environmental efforts, including pressing the EPA to limit climate change pollution from fossil-fueled electric power plants, defending federal rules controlling climate change emissions from large industrial facilities, and pushing for federal controls on emissions of the potent greenhouse gas methane emissions from the oil and natural gas industry.

All of the members of the new coalition are part a coalition of 25 states, cities and counties led by Attorney General Schneiderman that intervened to defend the federal Environmental Protection Agency's "Clean Power Plan" against legal challenge. Today, the interveners filed a brief to the DC Circuit Court defending President Obama's Clean Power Plan rule, which establishes a nationwide framework to achieve meaningful and cost effective reductions of carbon-dioxide emissions from power plants—the largest single source of greenhouse gas emissions in the nation—and provides States and power plants flexibility to decide how best to achieve these reductions.

"With gridlock and dysfunction gripping Washington on the generation-defining issue of climate change, it is up to the states to lead. We stand ready to defend the next president's climate change agenda and vow to fight any efforts to roll-back the meaningful progress we've made over the past eight years," said **Attorney General Schneiderman**. "And our offices will begin working together on important state-level initiatives, such as investigations into whether fossil fuel companies are misleading their investors about how climate change will impact their investments, fossil fuel companies, and our planet."

Vermont Attorney General William Sorrell said, "We are happy to have work closely with New York to organize this meeting. As we all know, global warming, if not reversed, will be catastrophic for our planet. We, the states, have a role to play in this endeavor and intend to do our part."

"The states represented here today have long been working to sound the alarm, to put smart policies in place to speed our transition to a clean energy future, and to stop power plants from emitting millions of tons of dangerous global warming pollution into our air," said **Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey**. "In Massachusetts, we're a leader in clean energy and together we're taking a thoughtful, aggressive approach to ensuring our planet's health for generations to come."

Connecticut Attorney General George Jepsen, said "I am delighted to meet with so many thoughtful leaders to strategize on ways we can protect our citizens from the greatest threat we collectively face, climate change. I am proud to have worked with them and others in defending the Obama Administration's action to combat global warming, and look forward to discussing how we can best further that important work. I also appreciate the opportunity to discuss potential future efforts, including the merits of possible joint investigations in this important area."

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"Climate change has real and lasting impacts on our environment, public health, and the economy," said **Attorney General Kamala D. Harris**. "California has been a national leader in fighting to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and I am proud to join this effort to preserve and protect our natural resources for future generations to come."

"Washington state has long made protecting our environment a top priority," **Washington State Attorney General Bob Ferguson** said. "A problem like climate change is bigger than any one state. I look forward to working with the coalition on innovative solutions to combat and reverse the harmful effects of climate change."

Maine Attorney General Janet Mills said, "Our natural resources are the lifeblood of our state's economy and our quality of life. Global climate change demands immediate action and I am committed to using the authority of my office to address the problem in a meaningful way by defending important EPA regulations against attacks led by the coal industry and exploring litigation options that will hold the worst polluters accountable for their actions."

"I am committed to working with Attorney General Schneiderman and the coalition to protect the progress we are making on climate change in this country. Our work will protect the health and well-being of New Mexico children and families, and that is the priority of the New Mexico Office of the Attorney General," **New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas**.

"Our office has a mandate to protect the public interest, and this includes ensuring that our community is not negatively affected by preventable climate change. We welcome this crucial state-to-state cooperation to ensure that we do everything we can to fight the causes of climate change regardless of whether the federal government continues to partner with us in these efforts or not," said **District of Columbia Attorney General Karl Racine**.

From: Michael Meade

Sent: Friday, March 25, 2016 12:11 PM

To: 'mkelly@oag.state.va.us'

Cc: 'O'Holleran, Kevin C.'
Subject: 3/29 Climate Change Release

Michael,

See the draft press release below. We expect to send this out to NY press around noon on Tuesday morning. We suggest using this as a template (replacing your AG in the headline and throughout the text) and send out to your own local VA media outlets after 12:00 noon EST.

Can you send me a quote for AG Herring when you have a chance? I'm collecting all of the quotes from the AG's and can send you everything I have next week.

Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks!

Michael Meade
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs
Office of the Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman
120 Broadway, 25th Floor
New York, NY 10271
Office: 212-416-8985
Mobile: 347-809-0122
Fax: 212-416-8738

<image005.png>
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A.G. Schneiderman, Vice President Al Gore And Attorneys General from 17 States Announce Historic Coalition to Curb Climate Change

Unprecedented Coalition Vows to Defend Climate Change Progress Made Under President Obama and To Push The Next President For Even More Aggressive Action

Attorneys General From California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, Washington state and the US Virgin Islands Agree To Coordinate Efforts

Schneiderman: "Climate Change Is The Most Consequential Issue Of Our Time. This Unprecedented State-to-State Coordination Will Use All The Tools At Our Disposal to Fight For Climate Progress."

NEW YORK – Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman today joined Attorneys General from across the nation to announce an unprecedented coalition of 17 top law enforcement officials to protect and expand progress the nation has made in combatting climate change.

Attorneys General Schneiderman, William Sorrell of Vermont, George Jepsen of Connecticut, Brian E. Frosh of Maryland, Maura Healey of Massachusetts, Mark Herring of Virginia, and Claude Walker of the US Virgin Islands were joined by former Vice President and leading climate activist Al Gore for the announcement in New York City. Schneiderman and Sorrell co-sponsored the event.

The states agreed to work together on key investigations, such as ongoing or any potential investigations into whether fossil fuel companies misled investors and the public on the impact of climate change on their businesses. In 2015, New York State reached a historic settlement with Peabody Energy – the world’s largest publicly traded coal company – concerning the company’s misleading financial statements and disclosures. New York is also investigating ExxonMobil for similar alleged conduct.

Many of the states in the coalition have worked together on previous multi-state environmental efforts, including pressing the EPA to limit climate change pollution from fossil-fueled electric power plants, defending federal rules controlling climate change emissions from large industrial facilities, and pushing for federal controls on emissions of the potent greenhouse gas methane emissions from the oil and natural gas industry.

All of the members of the new coalition are part a coalition of 25 states, cities and counties led by Attorney General Schneiderman that intervened to defend the federal Environmental Protection Agency’s “Clean Power Plan” against legal challenge. Today, the interveners filed a brief to the DC Circuit Court in support of President Obama’s Clean Power Plan rule, which requires fossil-fueled power plants, the largest single source of greenhouse gas emissions in the nation, to cut their emissions pursuant to the Clean Air Act.

“These states stand ready to defend the next president’s climate change agenda and vows to fight any efforts to roll-back the meaningful progress we’ve made over the past eight years,” said AG Schneiderman. “With gridlock and dysfunction gripping Washington on the generation-defining issue of climate change, it is up to the states to lead. This new era of coordination among our offices will ensure investors and the public know the truth about how climate change will impact our earth and the future of these industries.”

Quote from William Sorrell of Vermont

Quote from Al Gore

Quote from Mark Herring of Virginia

Quote from George Jepsen of Connecticut

Quote from Brian E. Frosh of Maryland

Quote from Maura Healey of Massachusetts

Quote from Claude Walker of the US Virgin Islands

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Vermont Attorney General William Sorrell said, "We are happy to have work closely with New York to organize this meeting. As we all know, global warming, if not reversed, will be catastrophic for our planet. We, the states, have a role to play in this endeavor and intend to do our part."

"The states represented here today have long been working to sound the alarm, to put smart policies in place to speed our transition to a clean energy future, and to stop power plants from emitting millions of tons of dangerous global warming pollution into our air," said **Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey**. "In Massachusetts, we're a leader in clean energy and together we're taking a thoughtful, aggressive approach to ensuring our planet's health for generations to come."

Connecticut Attorney General George Jepsen, said "I am delighted to meet with so many thoughtful leaders to strategize on ways we can protect our citizens from the greatest threat we collectively face, climate change. I am proud to have worked with them and others in defending the Obama Administration's action to combat global warming, and look forward to discussing how we can best further that important work. I also appreciate the opportunity to discuss potential future efforts, including the merits of possible joint investigations in this important area."

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Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh said, "Climate changes poses an existential threat to Maryland and to nation. I am proud to join with my colleagues across the country in this important collaboration, and am willing to use every tool at our collective disposal to protect our air, our water and our natural resources. The pledge we are making today can help insure a cleaner and safer future."

Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring said, "As a Commonwealth and as a nation, we can't just put our heads in the sand because we are already confronting the realities of

climate change. Hampton Roads is our Commonwealth's second most populated region, it's our second biggest economy, and it is the second most vulnerable area in the entire country as climate change drives continued sea-level rise. State government, local governments, and the military are spending millions to prepare for this challenge, and even more significant investment and resiliency measures will be required. I'm proud to have Virginia included in this first-of-its-kind coalition, which recognizes the reality and the pressing threat of manmade climate change and sea level rise. I'm looking forward to working with my colleagues to explore opportunities to address climate change, encourage the growth of our clean energy sectors, and build a cleaner, more sustainable future."

"Climate change has real and lasting impacts on our environment, public health, and the economy," said **Attorney General Kamala D. Harris**. "California has been a national leader in fighting to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and I am proud to join this effort to preserve and protect our natural resources for future generations to come."

"Washington state has long made protecting our environment a top priority," **Washington State Attorney General Bob Ferguson** said. "A problem like climate change is bigger than any one state. I look forward to working with the coalition on innovative solutions to combat and reverse the harmful effects of climate change."

Maine Attorney General Janet Mills said, "Our natural resources are the lifeblood of our state's economy and our quality of life. Global climate change demands immediate action and I am committed to using the authority of my office to address the problem in a meaningful way by defending important EPA regulations against attacks led by the coal industry and exploring litigation options that will hold the worst polluters accountable for their actions."

"I am committed to working with Attorney General Schneiderman and the coalition to protect the progress we are making on climate change in this country. Our work will protect the health and well-being of New Mexico children and families, and that is the priority of the New Mexico Office of the Attorney General," **New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas**.

"Our office has a mandate to protect the public interest, and this includes ensuring that our community is not negatively affected by preventable climate change. We welcome this crucial state-to-state cooperation to ensure that we do everything we can to fight the causes of climate change regardless of whether the federal government continues to partner with us in these efforts or not," said **District of Columbia Attorney General Karl Racine**.

From: Michael Meade
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2016 12:11 PM
To: 'mkelly@oag.state.va.us'
Cc: 'O'Holleran, Kevin C.'
Subject: 3/29 Climate Change Release


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Michael Meade
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs
Office of the Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman
120 Broadway, 25th Floor
New York, NY 10271
Office: 212-416-8985
Mobile: 347-809-0122
Fax: 212-416-8738

<image005.png> 
[Get Email Updates!](#)

A.G. Schneiderman, Vice President Al Gore And Attorneys General from 17 States Announce Historic Coalition to Curb Climate Change

***Unprecedented Coalition Vows to Defend Climate Change Progress Made
Under President Obama and To Push The Next President For Even More
Aggressive Action***

***Attorneys General From California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of
Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico,
New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, Washington state and
the US Virgin Islands Agree To Coordinate Efforts***

***Schneiderman: "Climate Change Is The Most Consequential Issue Of Our
Time. This Unprecedented State-to-State Coordination Will Use All The
Tools At Our Disposal to Fight For Climate Progress."***

NEW YORK – Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman today joined Attorneys General from across the nation to announce an unprecedented coalition of 17 top law enforcement officials to protect and expand progress the nation has made in combatting climate change.

Attorneys General Schneiderman, William Sorrell of Vermont, George Jepsen of Connecticut, Brian E. Frosh of Maryland, Maura Healey of Massachusetts, Mark Herring of Virginia, and Claude Walker of the US Virgin Islands were joined by former Vice President and leading climate activist Al Gore for the announcement in New York City. Schneiderman and Sorrell co-sponsored the event.

The states agreed to work together on key investigations, such as ongoing or any potential investigations into whether fossil fuel companies misled investors and the public on the impact of climate change on their businesses. In 2015, New York State reached a historic settlement with

Peabody Energy – the world’s largest publicly traded coal company – concerning the company’s misleading financial statements and disclosures. New York is also investigating ExxonMobil for similar alleged conduct.

Many of the states in the coalition have worked together on previous multi-state environmental efforts, including pressing the EPA to limit climate change pollution from fossil-fueled electric power plants, defending federal rules controlling climate change emissions from large industrial facilities, and pushing for federal controls on emissions of the potent greenhouse gas methane emissions from the oil and natural gas industry.

All of the members of the new coalition are part a coalition of 25 states, cities and counties led by Attorney General Schneiderman that intervened to defend the federal Environmental Protection Agency’s “Clean Power Plan” against legal challenge. Today, the interveners filed a brief to the DC Circuit Court in support of President Obama’s Clean Power Plan rule, which requires fossil-fueled power plants, the largest single source of greenhouse gas emissions in the nation, to cut their emissions pursuant to the Clean Air Act.

“These states stand ready to defend the next president’s climate change agenda and vows to fight any efforts to roll-back the meaningful progress we’ve made over the past eight years,” said AG Schneiderman. “With gridlock and dysfunction gripping Washington on the generation-defining issue of climate change, it is up to the states to lead. This new era of coordination among our offices will ensure investors and the public know the truth about how climate change will impact our earth and the future of these industries.”

Quote from William Sorrell of Vermont

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Kelly, Michael K.

From: Michael Meade <Michael.Meade@ag.ny.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2016 9:06 PM
To: Kelly, Michael K.
Cc: O'Holleran, Kevin C.
Subject: RE: 3/29 Climate Change Release

Below is the press release we plan to send to NY media at noon EST. Feel free to edit as necessary for your local media.

Mike

**A.G. SCHNEIDERMAN, FORMER VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE AND A COALITION
OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY ANNOUNCE HISTORIC STATE-
BASED EFFORT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE**

*Unprecedented Coalition Vows To Defend Climate Change Progress Made Under President Obama And To
Push The Next President For Even More Aggressive Action*

*Attorneys General From California, Connecticut, District Of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland,
Massachusetts, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, Washington State And
The US Virgin Islands Agree To Coordinate Efforts*

*Schneiderman: Climate Change Is The Most Consequential Issue Of Our Time. This Unprecedented State-
To-State Coordination Will Use All The Tools At Our Disposal To Fight For Climate Progress*

NEW YORK – Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman today joined Attorneys General from across the nation to announce an unprecedented coalition of top law enforcement officials who pledged to aggressively protect and build upon the progress the United States has made in combatting climate change.

Attorneys General Schneiderman, William Sorrell of Vermont, George Jepsen of Connecticut, Brian E. Frosh of Maryland, Maura Healey of Massachusetts, Mark Herring of Virginia, and Claude Walker of the US Virgin Islands were joined by former Vice President Al Gore for the announcement in New York City. Today's announcement took place during a one-day Attorneys General climate change conference, co-sponsored by Schneiderman and Sorrell.

The participating states are exploring working together on key climate change-related initiatives, such as ongoing and potential investigations into whether fossil fuel companies misled investors and the public on the impact of climate change on their businesses. In 2015, New York State reached a historic settlement with Peabody Energy – the world's largest publicly traded coal company – concerning the company's misleading financial statements and disclosures. New York is also investigating ExxonMobil for similar alleged conduct.

Many of the states in the coalition have worked together on previous multi-state environmental efforts, including pressing the EPA to limit climate change pollution from fossil-fueled electric power plants, defending federal rules controlling climate change emissions from large industrial facilities, and pushing for federal controls on emissions of the potent greenhouse gas methane emissions from the oil and natural gas industry.

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source of greenhouse gas emissions in the nation—and provides States and power plants flexibility to decide how best to achieve these reductions.

"With gridlock and dysfunction gripping Washington on the generation-defining issue of climate change, it is up to the states to lead. We stand ready to defend the next president's climate change agenda and vow to fight any efforts to roll-back the meaningful progress we've made over the past eight years," said **Attorney General Schneiderman**. "And our offices will begin working together on important state-level initiatives, such as investigations into whether fossil fuel companies are misleading their investors about how climate change will impact their investments, fossil fuel companies, and our planet."

Vermont Attorney General William Sorrell said, "We are happy to have work closely with New York to organize this meeting. As we all know, global warming, if not reversed, will be catastrophic for our planet. We, the states, have a role to play in this endeavor and intend to do our part."

"The states represented here today have long been working to sound the alarm, to put smart policies in place to speed our transition to a clean energy future, and to stop power plants from emitting millions of tons of dangerous global warming pollution into our air," said **Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey**. "In Massachusetts, we're a leader in clean energy and together we're taking a thoughtful, aggressive approach to ensuring our planet's health for generations to come."

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Sent: Friday, March 25, 2016 12:11 PM
To: 'mkelly@oag.state.va.us'
Cc: 'O'Holleran, Kevin C.'
Subject: 3/29 Climate Change Release

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Attorneys General From California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, Washington state and the US Virgin Islands Agree To Coordinate Efforts

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Kelly, Michael K.

From: Eric Soufer <Eric.Soufer@ag.ny.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 3:18 PM
To: Kelly, Michael K.
Cc: Doug Cohen; Nicholas Benson
Subject: Re: Questions about next week

Yup. We'll livestream it and will have a video recording that we can send you 2-3 hours after the presser ends.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 24, 2016, at 3:07 PM, Kelly, Michael K. <mkelly@oag.state.va.us> wrote:

Hey Eric--Thanks again for your time yesterday. Will the presser on Tuesday be streamed and/or recorded? Thanks--Michael

Michael Kelly
Director of Communications
Office of Attorney General Mark Herring
(804)786-5874 (d)
(804)356-5077 (c)
mkelly@oag.state.va.us

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Hi, Michael. Can I give you a call around 4:30?
Best
Eric

Eric Soufer | Senior Counsel for Communications and Policy | NY State Attorney General | (w) 212 416 8060 | (m) 202 664 7370

From: Kelly, Michael K. [<mailto:mkelly@oag.state.va.us>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 11:48 AM
To: Doug Cohen; Nicholas Benson; Eric Soufer
Subject: RE: Questions about next week

Hey everyone--If yall have a few minutes today, I'd like to discuss what to expect at next week's meeting, particularly the press conference. I'm at 804-356-5077. Thanks--Michael

Michael Kelly
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mkelly@oag.state.va.us

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To: 'Doug Cohen'; Nicholas Benson; Eric Soufer
Subject: RE: Questions about next week

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From: Doug Cohen [<mailto:Doug.Cohen@ag.ny.gov>]
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From: Kelly, Michael K. [<mailto:mkelly@oag.state.va.us>]
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Hi, Michael. Can I give you a call around 4:30?

Best

Eric

Eric Soufer | Senior Counsel for Communications and Policy | NY State Attorney General | (w) 212 416 8060 |(m) 202 664 7370

From: Kelly, Michael K. [mailto:mkelly@oag.state.va.us]
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 11:48 AM
To: Doug Cohen; Nicholas Benson; Eric Soufer
Subject: RE: Questions about next week

Hey everyone--If yall have a few minutes today, I'd like to discuss what to expect at next week's meeting, particularly the press conference. I'm at 804-356-5077. Thanks--Michael

Michael Kelly
Director of Communications
Office of Attorney General Mark Herring
(804)786-5874 (d)
(804)356-5077 (c)
mkelly@oag.state.va.us

From: Kelly, Michael K.
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 3:31 PM
To: 'Doug Cohen'; Nicholas Benson; Eric Soufer
Subject: RE: Questions about next week

Thanks, gang...just had a few questions about the press conference component. You can get me on my cell at your convenience when you have 5 minutes. 804-356-5077. Thanks again--Michael

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Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 1:50 PM
To: Kelly, Michael K.; Nicholas Benson; Eric Soufer
Subject: RE: Questions about next week

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