

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard
Sent: Mon 12/4/2017 10:08:55 PM
Subject: Head of conservative states' air group to take top EPA post

By Emily Holden

12/04/2017 05:07 PM EDT

EPA is hiring Clint Woods, the head of an association that represents conservative state air agencies that have challenged federal pollution and climate regulations, to become deputy assistant administrator of the agency's air office.

Woods is executive director of the Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies. He previously worked for the energy and environment subpanel of the House Science Committee and for the American Legislative Exchange Council, an organization of conservative state legislators and businesses. Before that, he was government affairs manager for the Recreation Vehicle Industry Association.

Woods will work under the agency's air chief, Bill Wehrum, a former Hunton & Williams lawyer who has represented fossil fuel and chemical companies and was acting head of the air office under the Bush administration. Woods says he will also work with Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator Mandy Gunasekara, who took up the role last month, and David Harlow, an EPA air adviser from the same law firm as Wehrum.

Woods did not say what his specific duties would be but noted that his time with state and local agencies through AAPCA will "draw a lot of parallels" with EPA's work in implementing the Clean Air Act through cooperative federalism.

He is currently based in Lexington, Ky., and will assume his new position in mid-December.

AAPCA President Stuart Spencer, the associate director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, said Woods helped grow membership, increased engagement with EPA and produced reports on the state role in environmental protection.

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