

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard
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Subject: EPA names Wisconsin official to Region 7 post

By Alex Guillén

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EPA has picked the Cathy Stepp, the head of Wisconsin's Department of Natural Resources, to be principal deputy regional administrator for Region 7.

"Stepp has consistently strived to promote clean air, water and land while ensuring regulatory certainty at the state level to promote a strong and growing economy," EPA spokeswoman Liz Bowman said in a statement.

Stepp told state lawmakers earlier this year that she turned her agency from one feared by businesses to a "safe space" where operators can learn how to avoid violating environmental laws, according to a [local report](#).

EPA has yet to name a permanent regional administrator for Region 7, which covers Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska and Kansas, but not Wisconsin. The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel [reported](#) Stepp has a home in Branson, Mo.

A former construction company owner, Stepp previously was a state senator in Wisconsin from 2003 to 2007, followed by stints on Sen. [John McCain's](#) presidential campaign in 2008 and as treasurer for the state GOP. She [spoke](#) at a campaign rally for then-candidate Donald Trump in September 2016.

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