



## CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION

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March 7, 2018

The Honorable Scott Pruitt, Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Mail Code: 1101A  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

On behalf of the Chesapeake Bay Commission, we applaud your decision to reinstate funding for the *Bay Journal* for FY 2019. As noted in our letter to you last August, the *Bay Journal* serves an important source of independent information, and has facilitated objectivity and accountability at all levels of the Bay restoration effort. With a large print and on-line presence, the *Bay Journal* has become the gold-standard for readable, science-based information about the Bay for all of us, leaders and stakeholders alike.

I would also like to thank you for having your staff reach out directly to Commission staff last week with news of this announcement. We are grateful for this direct communication. As both a formal signatory to the Chesapeake Bay agreements and an integral member of the multi-jurisdictional Chesapeake Bay Program, the Chesapeake Bay Commission brings a unique perspective to the table, as the only member of the partnership that represents both multiple states and the legislative branch of government.

As appropriators, we can understand potential concerns to committing to grant funding for the *Bay Journal* beyond FY 2019, given funding availability is subject to the Congressional appropriation. That said, we envision the funding reinstatement will be not just for FY 2019, but for the length of the current grant between EPA and Bay Journal Media, and beyond.

We look forward to meeting you again in person on the afternoon of May 3<sup>rd</sup>, when the full Commission will be meeting at the EPA Headquarters in Washington, DC. (agenda attached). Thank you for serving as our host.

Sincerely yours,

Frank W. Wagner, Chairman  
Senate of Virginia (R-7)

CC: Chesapeake Bay Commission Members  
Kenneth Wagner  
Troy Lyons

*I look forward to meeting you!*  
*Frank*

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