

**To:** Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Karp, Katherine (NBCUniversal)[Katherine.Karp@nbcuni.com]  
**From:** Stern, Karen (NBCUniversal)  
**Sent:** Thur 3/9/2017 2:32:02 PM  
**Subject:** Re: CNBC Introduction

John,

Thank you. Interview was great, and Administrator Pruitt was a champ with the remote interview logistics. CNBC very happy we could make this work.

Next time, let's have him on set in NYC!

Thanks again,

Karen

On Mar 8, 2017, at 1:26 PM, Konkus, John <[konkus.john@epa.gov](mailto:konkus.john@epa.gov)> wrote:

Katherine: Attached are some points from Administrator Pruitt's first two weeks on the job as well as a copy of his embargoed remarks as prepared for delivery.

The questions you have outlined below look good.

My cell phone number is Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Thank you!

John Konkus

**From:** Karp, Katherine (NBCUniversal) [<mailto:Katherine.Karp@nbcuni.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 8, 2017 12:57 PM  
**To:** Stern, Karen (NBCUniversal) <[Karen.Stern@nbcuni.com](mailto:Karen.Stern@nbcuni.com)>; Konkus, John <[konkus.john@epa.gov](mailto:konkus.john@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNBC Introduction

Thanks, Karen.

Hi John, good to connect with you here. We greatly look forward to Administrator Pruitt's appearance on our broadcast tomorrow morning.

As Karen mentioned, we would love to see an advanced copy of his prepared remarks if/when they are available.

I have read that Mr. Pruitt plans to focus his remarks at CERAWeek on environmental policy. Is that correct?

In addition, the conversation will focus on:

- What he inherits in his new role
- What is the priority list of the agency?
- The impact on business? Energy?
- What can we expect in the first 100 days?

Small logistical matter, may I ask for your #? Mine is **(b) (6)**

Thanks again and please let me know if I can provide additional details.

All best,

Katy

***Katy Ramirez Karp***

Senior Talent Producer

CNBC's *Squawk Box*

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*CNBC is the recognized world leader in business news and provides real-time financial market coverage and business information to more than 800 million homes worldwide, including more than 100 million households in the United States and Canada.*

**From:** Stern, Karen (NBCUniversal)

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 12:18 PM

**To:** 'Konkus, John'

**Cc:** Karp, Katherine (NBCUniversal)


**Subject:** RE: CNBC Introduction

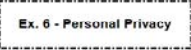
John, let me loop in my colleague Katy Karp from Squawk Box, cc'ed on this email.

If you're able to send us Mr. Pruitt's remarks under embargo, that will help us prepare for the segment on our end.

We'll look forward to seeing you tomorrow, at our set at CERAWeek (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, outside the Ballroom of the Americas) for the 7:40a CT interview. If you can be here 10 minutes earlier, that will give us time to get him all wired up and do our technical checks.

As I mentioned on the phone, Joe Kernen is really looking forward to speaking with him, and Katy can provide a little bit more color on the topics we'll want to cover.

If you have questions/concerns anytime about logistics, feel free to call me on my cell: 

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Looking forward to it – thanks again!

Karen

**From:** Konkus, John [<mailto:konkus.john@epa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 07, 2017 5:46 PM  
**To:** Stern, Karen (NBCUniversal)  
**Subject:** RE: CNBC Introduction

Can we jump back on the phone tomorrow morning so you can help me write my pre-briefing for this hit? The who, what, where, etc.?

**From:** Stern, Karen (NBCUniversal) [<mailto:Karen.Stern@nbcuni.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 7, 2017 2:16 PM  
**To:** Konkus, John <[konkus.john@epa.gov](mailto:konkus.john@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNBC Introduction

John,

How about 7:40a CT from our camera here at CERAWeek? We would do this as a remote interview, so Mr. Pruitt would be speaking with the anchors of Squawk Box remotely via an earpiece. Does that work?

Thanks,

Karen

**From:** Stern, Karen (NBCUniversal)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 07, 2017 9:23 AM  
**To:** 'Konkus, John'  
**Subject:** RE: CNBC Introduction

John, is Mr. Pruitt doing any other interviews with TV outlets while he's in town for CERAWeek? Or would we be able to call this a CNBC Exclusive?

**From:** Konkus, John [<mailto:konkus.john@epa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 07, 2017 9:14 AM  
**To:** Stern, Karen (NBCUniversal)  
**Subject:** RE: CNBC Introduction

Yes. Make it so J

**From:** Stern, Karen (NBCUniversal) [<mailto:Karen.Stern@nbcuni.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 7, 2017 9:10 AM  
**To:** Konkus, John <[konkus.john@epa.gov](mailto:konkus.john@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: CNBC Introduction

John, any chance we can make 7:40a CT work on Thursday? (As I mentioned the next hour is tough because of the opening bell....)

**From:** Konkus, John [<mailto:konkus.john@epa.gov>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 07, 2017 8:33 AM  
**To:** Stern, Karen (NBCUniversal)  
**Subject:** Re: CNBC Introduction


Karen per my VM we are good for administrator Pruitt to appear on the show Thursday morning. Let's hop on the phone later today to walk through logistics. Thanks!

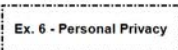
Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 6, 2017, at 11:32 AM, Stern, Karen (NBCUniversal) <[Karen.Stern@nbcuni.com](mailto:Karen.Stern@nbcuni.com)> wrote:

Hi John,

Just following up to see if Mr. Pruitt might be available for a CNBC interview on Thursday morning in Houston? I'm sure his schedule is packed, so we'd appreciate any time he can make available for us.

Happy to discuss logistics with you anytime -- I'm in Houston now, and my cell is 

  
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Many thanks,

Karen

On Mar 3, 2017, at 12:28 PM, Stern, Karen (NBCUniversal) <[Karen.Stern@nbcuni.com](mailto:Karen.Stern@nbcuni.com)> wrote:

Thanks, Jeff.

Hi John – nice to e-meet you. Can you let me know what Mr. Pruitt's availability looks like on Thursday morning for a live interview with CNBC?

We will have a setup outside of the conference – at a nearby restaurant (Grotto, which is actually in the convention center), and would potentially like to do the interview there if we can make that work.

Happy to discuss in detail with you anytime – my contact information is below.

Thanks,

Karen Stern

<image010.gif>

**Karen Stern**

[karen.stern@nbcuni.com](mailto:karen.stern@nbcuni.com)

201.735.3143 (w)

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**From:** Marn, Jeff [<mailto:Jeff.Marn@ihsmarkit.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 03, 2017 1:04 PM  
**To:** [konkus.john@epa.gov](mailto:konkus.john@epa.gov); Stern, Karen (NBCUniversal)  
**Subject:** CNBC Introduction  
**Importance:** High

John,

Please allow me to introduce Karen Stern, lead producer for CNBC at CERAWEEK. They are interested in connecting with you about Administrator Pruitt's potential availability Thursday that you and I discussed.

Best,

Jeff

<image001.png>

**Jeff R. Marn**

Senior Manager | Corporate Communications

1150 Connecticut Ave., NW | Washington, DC 20036

**P:** +1 202 463 8213 **Mobile:** Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

jeff.marn@ihsmarkit.com

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## TOP LINE POINTS:

- Today (Tuesday, March 7) marked Administrator Scott Pruitt's two-week mark on the job at EPA
- In only two weeks, the EPA has rolled back a series of job-killing Obama era regulations: Waters of the U.S. rule, Methane collection and is working on stopping unrealistic and expensive CAFÉ standards
- More major rollbacks are forthcoming
- All of the regulations EPA has acted on cost American jobs and tax dollars
- These actions taken by the EPA will create more jobs
- Farmers, auto manufactures, energy produces and American consumers are all winning again thanks to decisive leadership at the White House and at EPA

## DRILL DOWN POINTS

### Waters of the U.S. Rule

Headline: Trump directs EPA to roll back Obama era Water rule

Article: <http://insider.foxnews.com/2017/02/28/epa-admin-scott-pruitt-waters-united-states-donald-trump-power-grab>

Article: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/02/27/trump-to-direct-rollback-of-obama-era-water-rule-tuesday/>

### Messaging Points:

To the delight of farmers and small business owners across America, President Trump directed EPA Administrator Pruitt to withdraw and reconsider the odious Waters of the U.S. Rule

- Administrator Pruitt immediately signed a Notice of Proposed Rule Making with a 30-day comment period and final rule withdrawing the Clean Water Rule: Definition of 'Waters of the United States'.
- Under the Waters of the United States Rule the government has claimed the right to regulate every ounce of standing water, from a puddle in the yard to a farmer's feeding pond. Not only have the courts stayed this rule, the American people have told their Members of Congress that this rule an overreach that must stop.
- A bipartisan majority in the 114th Congress rejected the WOTUS rule with the passage of a resolution under the Congressional Review Act in January 2016. American landowners and companies spend \$1.7 billion every year on wetlands permits – approvals from federal regulatory to use land near what the federal government defines as a navigable water.
- The President has directed the EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers to not only reconsider the Waters of the U.S. rule, but has provided clarity on how to apply the Clean Water Act.
- This action preserves a federal role to protect the nation's water quality. However, this also restores States' role and States' regulation of water.
- The WOTUS rule never went into effect because 32 states sued EPA challenging the rule and 2 courts granted a stay. On Oct 9, 2015, the 6th Circuit applied the stay nationwide to the WOTUS rule.

o The National Association of Manufacturers says that the WOTUS rule "exerts power over a staggering range of man-made and isolated features even if they are usually dry or too small to appear on a map. The definitions are complex and vague, and often require case-by-case determinations by the agencies."

o The National Association of Homebuilders sums up the rule's disastrous impact on everyday lives: "While many wetlands and streams are an important part of the ecosystem and should be protected, the new definition represents federal overreach of the worst kind: more permits, more regulation and more costs without a corresponding environmental benefit. The new 'waters of the U.S.' definition means, for example, that a builder in Arizona would have to get a permit for an activity in a dry desert wash that could be 30 miles from the nearest river. Such intrusive federal encroachment is bad governance and will inevitably lead to bureaucratic delays, increased project costs and mitigation fees, and ultimately, decreased housing affordability."

#### Methane ICR Letter Withdrawn

Headline: [EPA Withdraws Obama-Era Request for Data On Oil, Natural Gas](#)

Article: <http://www.foxbusiness.com/politics/2017/03/02/epa-withdraws-obama-era-request-for-data-on-oil-natural-gas.html>

Article: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/03/02/epa-halts-inquiry-into-oil-and-gas-industry-emissions-of-methane-a-powerful-greenhouse-gas/>

#### Messaging Points:

- The EPA took the remarkable step of sending 15,000 letter to American energy producers telling them they no longer have to respond a letter that the Obama EPA sent back in November at the direction of the previous EPA Administrator.
- On November 8, 2016 EPA had issued a final Information Collection Request (ICR) seeking information the past administration said it needed to help the agency determine how to best reduce methane.
- The problem? Methane is a valuable resource that oil and gas company owners and operators want to keep, not allow to escape into the atmosphere.
- These owners and operates are developing new technologies to capture this methane because it's highly valuable. They already have an inherent reason to not allow this gas to escape.
- Having the EPA breathing down their neck in not an additional incentive, but it is very expensive. The EPA itself estimates the cost to American business attempting to comply with the November letters would cost \$42,453,050 million and 284,751 man hours to complete.
- By sending these letters telling these businesses they no longer have this additional bureaucratic burden, these companies and the public save money and move close, faster to capturing any methane from escaping into the air.

Headline: President Trump set to reverse Obama's fuel economy mandate

Article: <http://dailycaller.com/2017/03/03/trump-preparing-to-reverse-obamas-fuel-economy-mandate/>

Article: [https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/epa-to-pull-back-on-fuel-efficiency-standards-for-cars-trucks-in-future-model-years/2017/03/03/c4406b0c-0054-11e7-99b4-9e613afeb09f\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/epa-to-pull-back-on-fuel-efficiency-standards-for-cars-trucks-in-future-model-years/2017/03/03/c4406b0c-0054-11e7-99b4-9e613afeb09f_story.html)

Messaging points:

- The Environmental Protection Agency is set to deliver a major win for American automobile manufacturers and American workers and consumers by deciding to reexamine an Obama Administration rule that could have required the automobile industry to achieve 54.5 miles per gallon by 2025, a standard manufacturers said would be difficult and costly to achieve.<sup>1</sup>
- The Obama era CAFÉ standards were expensive. It is estimated by the auto industry that it would need to spend \$200 billion to comply.<sup>2</sup>
- The Obama era CAFÉ standards cost American jobs. The National Center for Policy Analysis says these standards pushed manufacturing and jobs to Mexico.<sup>3</sup>
- EPA has a 2018 deadline to provide a "midterm review" of these standards, and is committed to ensuring that deadline is met.
- The Department of Transportation - National Highway Traffic Safety Administration working hand-in-glove with the EPA will take a fresh look at these fuel economy standards to determine if the existing rules are good enough or need to be altered.
- Realistic CAFÉ standards are good for consumers and the environment.

1: <http://www.autonews.com/article/20161110/OEM11/161119989/automakers-reach-out-to-trump-on-regulation-seek-review-of-fuel>

2: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidkiley5/2016/11/30/obamas-epa-moves-to-firm-up-fuel-economy-regs-before-trump-takes-office/#7560892cc482>

3:: <http://retirementblog.ncpa.org/cafe-standards-distort-auto-production-and-push-jobs-south/#sthash.4PmummPG.dpbs>

**OPENING:** Everyone wants to have their cake and eat it too. Why wouldn't you want both pro-energy and pro-environment?

***BRIDGE:*** We can have both – look at what we've accomplished. No one does it as good as US...

### **CELEBRATE PROGRESS**

- Since '80 63% reduction in pollutant
- Since '02 10% reduction in carbon emissions mostly due to fracking boom
- U.S. economy continued to grow, drove more miles, population & energy use up

### **OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS**

- Abundant domestic resources: 100 billion barrels of oil & 650 trillion cubic feet of gas
- Shale gas revolution: US set to become third largest exporter of LNG by 2020
- Shout out to Harold Hamm and NAM – helping to get export ban lifted

***BRIDGE:*** Opportunity is knocking and new leadership in the WH and at EPA will answer

### **EPA WILL ANSWER**

- Restore trust, respect
- Abuse of process leads to litigation, uncertainty, and bad outcomes. Follow the rule of law... CO2 regulations always stayed, SCOTUS struck down Tailoring. Scalia: *It is plain as day that the CAA does not envision an elaborate, burdensome permitting process for major emitters of steam, oxygen, or other harmless airborne substances.*
- Stop practice of sue and settle
- Cooperative Federalism: an attitude and leadership: Appoint regional officials who share view states are partners not punishers

***BRIDGE:*** Only week two and already: WOTUS, methane ICR notice, CAFÉ, CPP coming...

**CLOSING:** Baseball fan. Astros vs. Cards right about now in Jupiter (will get you exact inning and score at the time of speech).

Yogi Berra favorite philosopher: "The future ain't what it used to be"