April 13, 2018

Karen L. Martin, NEJAC Program Manager
Office of Environmental Justice, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW (MC 2201A)
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Ms. Martin:

On behalf of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and nearly 3,000 local health departments, I am writing to put forward the nomination of Mr. Angelo J. Bellomo for the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council’s (NEJAC) seat for State and local government. Mr. Bellomo is currently Deputy Director of Health Protection for the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH). In this capacity, he oversees the Divisions of Environmental Health, Emergency Preparedness and Response, and Health Facilities Inspection, providing services for over 10 million residents, and overseeing a staff of over a thousand full time employees.

Mr. Bellomo’s career in environmental health, spanning over 40 years, has included numerous leadership positions in the private and public sectors. Before joining Public Health, he served as Director of Environmental Health and Safety for the Los Angeles Unified School District. He also developed the nation’s first local program for enforcement of the California Hazardous Waste Control Law, was appointed as the state’s first Toxics Enforcement Chief, and served as Chief of Southern California Operations for Cal/EPA.

Mr. Bellomo has advised on various committees and boards, including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Children’s Health Protection Advisory Committee, the Executive Board of the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry’s Board of Scientific Counselors. His leadership in the field has been recognized by the California Legislature, the U.S. EPA, the California League of Conservation Voters, and the National Environmental Health Association.

In Los Angeles County, Mr. Bellomo is leading several strategic environmental justice efforts to inform, empower, and protect communities living in areas with heightened toxic risks. This includes monitoring and assessment of environmental and health issues and ongoing engagement of these already heavily burdened communities. He is expanding the scope, capacity, and authority of Los Angeles County to address environmental justice issues and is leading work on climate change preparedness and mitigation.
Mr. Bellomo is looked to at the local, state and national levels for his thoughtful leadership and problem-solving, his equanimity, and his deep commitment to the most vulnerable. These qualities—paired with his expertise on sustainability, financing, compliance and mitigation—position him to be an invaluable member of NEJAC. NACCHO as well as the Big Cities Health Coalition have full confidence in his ability to develop and advise on environmental justice solutions that prioritize the health and resilience of our communities, and strongly endorse his nomination.

Sincerely,

Laura A. Hanen, MPP
Interim Executive Director & Chief of Government Affairs