

**From:** LisaP Jackson/DC/USEPA/US  
**To:** Kevin Christian/DC/USEPA/US@EPA

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**Date:** Tuesday, December 22, 2009 02:25PM  
**Subject:** Looking Back on a Great 2009

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Colleagues:

As we move into the new year, I want to thank you for making 2009 a landmark year for environmental protection. With the many challenges and opportunities we face, I couldn't be happier or prouder to be back at EPA, where I first started my environmental career, and working by your side on these critical issues.

We already have much to feel good about. Over the course of the past 12 months, we've shown America that EPA is back – once again committed to science, transparency, and the rule of law. With the agency leading the way, our nation took its first serious actions to reduce greenhouse gases, a change that will be remembered for generations. We set out principles to ensure that chemicals in our products and our environment are safe, a critical first step in giving Americans the information and protections they deserve. We've revitalized work on the Clean Water Act and stepped up to protect national treasures like Chesapeake Bay and the Great Lakes. We've been part of the solution for American communities in these challenging economic times by creating green jobs and opportunities through the President's Recovery Act. And we're rapidly expanding the conversation on environmentalism by reaching out to people of all ages, from all backgrounds, and all walks of life.

I could go on.

From joining the Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities, to reaching one million Energy Star homes, to traveling to Copenhagen to represent the administration and our country at the start of the Global Climate Summit – and I don't think I'll ever forget being onstage with the Flaming Lips to celebrate Earth Day 2009! This year has been a great year for the EPA, and every one of you across this agency, in every program and region, have contributed to our shared success.

This may be the end of the year, but it's just the beginning of our work together. In the year ahead, we will continue with these and other important efforts to protect our health and our environment. You can expect to hear more about our priorities for 2010 very soon. Until then, I'm happy to close 2009 with a brief video I recorded to say thank you and best wishes for the holiday and the New Year.

[Please click here to watch the video.](#)

Thank you for all that you've done to protect our health and the environment. You've made 2009 a year to remember. Seasons greetings and best wishes for 2010!

Sincerely,  
Lisa P. Jackson