

**Statement of Marianne Lamont Horinko
Nominated to be Assistant Administrator,
Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Before the
Senate Environment and Public Works Committee

September 21, 2001**

Mr. Chairman, Senator Smith, and distinguished members of the Committee. Thank you for the privilege of coming before you today. I am honored that President Bush nominated me to be Assistant Administrator for the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) at the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). I believe that all of the public and private sector positions that I have been fortunate enough to hold in the past have set the stage for this opportunity to serve our country. If confirmed, you have my word that I will bring thoughtful deliberation, integrity, and enthusiasm to the challenges that loom ahead.

I am especially proud to introduce my husband, Tim Horinko, my children, Kaitlyn and Hunter, my parents, John and Johanna Maccini, and my in-laws, Terry and Larry Horinko. Finally, I would also like to thank my many colleagues and friends who have given so generously of their support and friendship– not just today, but always.

I am particularly attracted to this opportunity to serve EPA because, thanks to my father, I probably have some groundwater running through my veins. My dad is a geologist who worked for many years as a university professor and career civil servant at the National Science Foundation. He taught me to love science, and by example, showed me that public service was not merely a job, but a higher calling. My mother provided strong support and reinforcement of our love of science and curiosity about our natural environment. Their great respect for the natural treasures of our lands impressed me deeply, and it is because of their early influence that I chose the protection of the environment as my own profession.

In my testimony today, I would like to share some of the key themes and approaches I would bring to this position, if confirmed. They include: innovation, information sharing, and partnerships.

One of my principal observations is that there has been a sea change in Federal attitudes and approaches to managing waste since I left EPA. The old command and control method has been supplemented, in some measure, by partnerships and consensus building as the means of cooperative problem solving.