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**Clean Air Moms Action Launches Ad on EPA Toxics Nominee**  
***Michael Dourson tried to downplay the dangers of tobacco and other harmful chemicals for industry clients***

(Washington DC) Tuesday, Clean Air Moms Action will launch [an ad](#) exposing the deep conflicts that characterize the record of President Trump's nominee for chemical safety at EPA. The hard-hitting ad targets Michael Dourson's decades of work to minimize the dangers of tobacco and other harmful chemicals. A series of reports and articles have documented Dourson's work as a toxicologist-for-hire for corporate clients, dating back to work in 2001 for a tobacco industry front group as well as more recent work on toxic chemicals tied to cancer and learning impairments in children.

"In 2001, when he was working for a tobacco front group and exchanging emails with Philip Morris employees, Michael Dourson knew very well the harm cigarettes do to kids' health," said Gretchen Dahlkemper, Director of Clean Air Moms Action. "We want to make sure that Senators know the full story on Michael Dourson before they consider entrusting him with our families' health."

The ad, which can be viewed [here](#), spells out the tobacco connection, first reported by [Inside Climate News](#) in 2014, and Dourson's paid work for chemical companies that – if confirmed – he would be charged with regulating. His work for industry has been documented by numerous publications including [E&E News](#), [USA Today](#), and many more.

If confirmed, Dourson would lead EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention, charged with regulating both chemicals under the recently reformed Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) and pesticides. Dourson and his firm have been [paid](#) by more than three dozen companies or trade associations for work involving dozens of chemicals. This included work on the pesticide chlorpyrifos paid for by DowAgroSciences, petroleum coke paid for by Koch Industries and many more.

Dourson's work as toxicologist-for-hire includes work for a tobacco industry front group to play down the health impact of second-hand smoke. Asked [by a reporter](#) about his work for big tobacco, Dourson pleaded, "Jesus hung out with prostitutes and tax collectors."

The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works will hold a hearing on Dourson's confirmation on Wednesday morning.

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[Clean Air Moms Action](#) is the political action partner of Moms Clean Air Force. As moms, we are building strong, bipartisan support to protect our children from the health impacts of air pollution – including the urgent crisis of our changing climate. By cultivating unlikely political support and mobilizing an army of

concerned parents, we work toward keeping toxic chemicals out of our homes and bodies and delivering climate change solutions big and small.