

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Ed Potosnak, Executive Director, New Jersey LCV

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SUBJECT: Jack Ciattarelli's dismal legislative environmental record – raising electricity bills, unchecked sprawl and danger to our air, clean water, open spaces and parks.

Overview

As New Jerseyans prepare to go to the polls in a few short weeks to elect our next governor, the New Jersey League of Conservation Voters is releasing this brief overview of Jack Ciattarelli's environmental record. As a longtime state legislator, Ciattarelli has amassed an extensive record on the environment.

Unfortunately, while in office he almost exclusively voted to protect big polluters and to put the corporate profits of mega-corporations ahead of protecting our environment and the health and safety of New Jersey families.

While in office he:

Earned an abysmal 38%, Failing Score on Conservation and Environmental Protection:

Ciattarelli's life-time score on New Jersey LCV's comprehensive environmental scorecard is an abysmal 38% and FAILING. This is in contrast even to his other Republicans colleagues, many of whom scored A's and A+'s — showing just how far out of the mainstream he is.

Actively Opposed Open Space Preservation: Ciattarelli can't be trusted to protect our natural resources. He'll say anything to get elected and while on the campaign trail he says he'll fight to preserve New Jersey's open space his legislative record paints a starkly different picture.

Put Corporate Profits Over People: As a legislator, Ciattarelli consistently voted to advance the interests of powerful developers and oil, gas, and coal industry CEOs over the well-being of New Jersey's working families by opposing solar energy, RGGI and funding for open space and protections for clean drinking water that millions of people rely on.

Prevented voters from protecting the environment: Ciattarelli voted on two separate occasions to deny voters the chance to weigh in on important environmental issues: Establishing dedicated funding for open space and creating a lock box to prevent money to prevent fines paid by polluters from being diverted as part of one-shot budget gimmicks. Ciattarelli opposed these constitutional amendments, which were overwhelmingly approved by

voters — showing just how out of touch he was as he tried to silence the voices of voters on all ends of the ideological spectrum.

Key Anti-Environment Actions: The Receipts

Opposing Open Space, Parks, Historic Sites, and Farmlands: While on the campaign trail Ciattarelli has pledged to stand against overdevelopment, his legislative record tells the opposite story. Time and again Ciattarelli voted against open space funding and stood on the side of sprawl. Ciattarelli's vision for New Jersey is clear: endless warehouses, proliferating strip malls and growing traffic congestion to benefit millionaire real estate developers

- **OPPOSED the Open Space Public Question.**
 - Ciattarelli opposed ACR130/SCR84, which put a public question to the voters in the 2014 November ballot to constitutionally dedicate a small portion of the Corporate Business Tax (CBT) to permanently provide for the responsible financing of open space preservation, farmland, and historic preservation, stewardship, parks, water programs, public and private site remediation, and underground storage tank programs.
 - He was out of step with the public, with an overwhelming majority of voters, 65%, voting to make land preservation a top priority in the most densely populated state.
 - Despite Ciattarelli's opposition, in the 10 years since voters approved the measure more than \$2 billion has been invested to preserve our natural landscapes and protect clean drinking water.
- In 2015, Ciattarelli doubled down in support of overdevelopment, opposing S2769 which spelled out how the voter approved funds would be allocated to preserve open spaces, parks, farms, and historic sites. In voting against this bill, he stood on the side of Chris Christie and against efforts to combat sprawl. Since 2014, New Jersey has added 98 million square feet of warehouses, and while Ciattarelli opposed the bill, its passage has given towns important new funding streams to permanently curtail overdevelopment on ecologically sensitive tracts of land.

Opposing Clean Drinking Water and Opposing Flood Prevention: Voted against programs designed to make our drinking water safer and prevent flooding.

- Ciattarelli backed the profits of out-of-state oil and gas companies over the health and safety of New Jersey families by failing to support S1041 in 2014, which would have prevented the treatment, discharge, disposal, application to roadway, or storage of

wastewater, wastewater solids, sludge, drill cuttings or other byproducts from natural gas exploration or production using in **fracking**. This wastewater is contaminated by dangerous chemicals and can even be radioactive.

- Ciattarelli also voted against legislation (A2307) in 2014 which promoted **green and blue roofs**, which reduce energy costs while also protecting water quality and preventing flooding.
- And when drinking water is potentially contaminated, he voted to put families in harm's way by not supporting **Boil Water Notice** transparency legislation in 2014 (A1348) that strengthened mandatory reporting on boil water notices to keep families from being exposed to dangerous bacteria and other harmful contaminants.
- Preventing flooding and contamination of clean drinking water from flood water is critical in the most densely populated state, but instead of standing up to developers and protecting families and businesses from damaging floods and pollution, Ciattarelli voted to weaken **flood protection** rules in 2016 with ACR160. Given the many threats that New Jersey's waterways already face, safeguards that protect drinking water and mitigate economic and environmental disasters should not be weakened.

Supports Dirty Oil, Gas, and Coal: Dirty oil, gas, and coal are the most expensive sources of electricity, increases our electricity bills, line the pockets of oil and gas industry CEOs, and kill good local union jobs in New Jersey

Flip Flopping on Offshore Wind,

- In 2017, Ciattarelli supported offshore wind, voting yes on S988/A3093, which would have paved the way for offshore wind developments that would lower electricity costs by producing more electricity right here in New Jersey.
- Yet on the campaign trail Ciattarelli, appeasing Donald Trump and his billionaire oil and gas donors, has turned sharply against offshore wind, which would cost thousands of union jobs and will lead to more expensive electricity costs for working families.
- **Solar:** In 2017, he also voted against S2276, which would have increased solar energy, which is the cheapest form of electricity today, creating union jobs in New Jersey while improving air quality and lowering electricity bills for our state's working families and local businesses. This bill was authored, sponsored, and supported by his Republican Senate Districtmate at the time, Christopher "Skip" Bateman.
- **Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative:** In 2017, Ciattarelli cozied up to Chris Christie and out-of-state fossil fuel companies by repeatedly opposing legislation (A4701, AR48) that would have brought New Jersey back into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative

(RGGI), which has helped lower electricity costs by investing nearly \$1 billion in clean energy projects that have also created union jobs.

- **Lining ExxonMobil CEO Pockets:** Ciattarelli voted in 2015 on AR242 to approve a sweetheart deal that let ExxonMobil off the hook for the vast majority of environmental damages it should have owed the state under a lawsuit brought for natural resource damages caused by the Bayway and Bayonne oil refinery sites. This settlement, championed by Chris Christie, allowed ExxonMobil's executives to avoid a staggering 97% of the costs for the damage they caused, leaving New Jersey taxpayers stuck with the vast majority of the cleanup tab.
- **Denying Public Vote on Budget Raids of Polluter Damage Money:** In addition to siding with wealthy oil executives, he also opposed a constitutional amendment that would have ensured that money paid for by big polluters would actually go toward environmental cleanup — and not be diverted by Chris Christie as part of one-shot gimmicks to close a state budget hole. This constitutional amendment to establish a lockbox, ACR127, passed overwhelmingly at the ballot box, with 69% of voters approving provisions that will ensure that fines paid by polluters go toward cleaning up the damage that they caused.