

**U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works**  
**Statement of Senator John F. Kerry**  
**Nomination Hearing for Dr. Paul Anastas to be Assistant Administrator,**  
**Office of Research and Development, of the Environmental Protection Agency**  
**Wednesday, June 24, 2009**

As a candidate, President Obama pledged to restore the role of science to its proper place in government. He began to do so by appointing a Nobel prize winning physicist as Secretary of Energy and installing Dr. John Holdren as his chief science advisor. In nominating Dr. Paul Anastas, President Obama has scored the trifecta and chosen someone of impeccable scientific qualifications to help pioneer a new, sustainable path forward as Assistant Administrator for Office of Research and Development, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Dubbed the “father of green chemistry,” Dr. Anastas is credited with founding a field that relies on scientific innovation to address issues of efficiency, environmental protection, energy conservation, and economic competitiveness.

In returning to the EPA, Dr. Anastas brings with him years of experience and expertise in both science and government. He is the former chief of the Industrial Chemistry Branch of the EPA, where he is recognized for establishing the Green Chemistry Program. He went on to serve in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy under both President Bill Clinton and President George W. Bush from 1999-2004, demonstrating that science remains fact regardless of politics.

Most recently, Dr. Anastas was the Heinz Professor in the Practice of Chemistry for the Environment at Yale University and also the Director of the Yale Center for Green Chemistry and Green Engineering. He has been praised and honored nationally and internationally for his achievements and was listed on the ICIS Top 40 Power Players – the most influential people impacting the global chemical industry.

I am proud that this Massachusetts native and product of North Quincy High School has also been recognized by President Obama for this a deserving honor. Studying at the University of Massachusetts, Boston and Brandeis, it clear that he values and truly captures the pioneering spirit of our state.

Twenty years ago, “green chemistry” wasn’t on many people’s radar. It is today in large measure because of Dr. Anastas. I believe that this independent thinking has the brains, creativity, and leadership to help guide our nations down a new, perhaps not yet known, pathways to a sustainable future. I look forward to working with Dr. Anastas at the EPA and encourage his prompt confirmation.