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Apple Leadership

Lisa Jackson

Vice President,
Environment, Policy and Social
Initiatives



Lisa Jackson is Apple's vice president of Environment, Policy and Social Initiatives, reporting to CEO Tim Cook.

Lisa oversees Apple's efforts to minimize its impact on the environment by addressing climate change through renewable energy and energy efficiency, using greener materials and inventing new ways to conserve precious resources. She is also responsible for Apple's education policy programs, its product accessibility work and its worldwide government affairs function.

From 2009 to 2013, Lisa served as Administrator of the US Environmental Protection Agency. Appointed by President Barack Obama, she focused on reducing greenhouse gases, protecting air and water quality, preventing exposure to toxic contamination, and expanding outreach to communities on environmental issues.

She has also served as chief of staff to New Jersey Governor Jon S. Corzine and as commissioner of New Jersey's Department of Environmental Protection.

Lisa holds a master's degree in Chemical Engineering from Princeton University and a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from Tulane University. She serves on the boards of Tulane and the Clinton Foundation.



Leadership > Lisa Jackson

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Lisa P. Jackson

Lisa Perez Jackson^[1] (born February 8, 1962) is an American chemical engineer who served as the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from 2009 to 2013. In May 2013, it was announced that Jackson would be joining Apple Inc. as their environmental director.^[2]

Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Jackson is a graduate of Tulane University and Princeton University. She began working as a staff-level engineer for the Environmental Protection Agency in 1987; later moving to the EPA's regional office in New York City, where she spent the majority of her 16-year EPA career. She joined the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection in 2002, working as the assistant commissioner of compliance and enforcement and as the assistant commissioner for land use management. In 2006, New Jersey Governor Jon Corzine appointed Jackson the state's Commissioner of Environmental Protection. Jackson also briefly served as Corzine's Chief of Staff in late 2008.

On December 15, 2008, the President-elect Barack Obama nominated Jackson as the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, she was confirmed by the Senate and took office on January 23, 2009. During her tenure, Jackson oversaw stricter fuel efficiency standards; the EPA's response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill; authorized carbon dioxide as a public health threat, granting the EPA authority to set new regulations regarding CO2 emissions; and laid out a failed plan to set stricter smog pollution limits by amending the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. In December 2012, Jackson announced she would be stepping down as EPA Administrator, a move which took effect on February 15, 2013; she was succeeded by Deputy Administrator Bob Perciasepe, who became Acting Administrator pending Senate confirmation of Gina McCarthy on July 18, 2013 as a permanent successor.

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Lisa Jackson



12th Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency

In office

January 23, 2009 – February 19, 2013

President Barack Obama

Deputy Bob Perciasepe

Preceded by Stephen Johnson

Succeeded by Gina McCarthy

Chief of Staff to the Governor of New Jersey

In office

December 1, 2008 – December 15, 2008

Governor Jon Corzine

Preceded by Bradley Abelow

Succeeded by Edward McBride

Commissioner of Environmental Protection of New Jersey

In office

February 28, 2006 – November 30, 2008

Governor Jon Corzine

Preceded by Bradley Campbell

Early life, education and family

Lisa Jackson was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and was adopted weeks after her birth. She grew up in Pontchartrain Park, a predominantly African-American middle-class neighborhood of New Orleans, Louisiana.^[3] In 1979, Jackson graduated as valedictorian from St. Mary's Dominican High School in New Orleans.^[4] She received a scholarship from the National Consortium for Graduate Degrees for Minorities in Engineering & Science due to her strong performance in mathematics. This allowed her to gain early exposure to a college environment.^[5]

She attended Tulane University with a scholarship from Shell Oil Company.^[5] A dean at the Tulane School of Engineering got her interested in that discipline as an academic path, and she graduated *summa cum laude* with a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering in 1983.^[5] Jackson then earned her Master of Science degree, also in chemical engineering, from Princeton University in 1986.

Jackson's mother was living in New Orleans at the time Hurricane Katrina flooded the city in 2005, and Jackson drove her out of the city.^[6] Jackson is married to Kenneth Jackson and is the mother of two children.^[4]

Jackson has been a resident of East Windsor Township, New Jersey, along with her husband and two sons.^[7]

On July 13, 2013 she was initiated into Delta Sigma Theta sorority as an honorary member, during their Centennial Celebration in Washington, DC.

Early EPA and DEP career

Jackson had not grown up as an outdoors person, but became interested in environmental matters following the national and international coverage of the Love Canal Disaster.^[5] She worked for a year and a half at Clean Sites, a nonprofit that tried to accelerate cleanup of toxic sites.^[5]

Then Jackson joined the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at its headquarters in Washington, D.C. in 1987, working as a staff-level engineer.^[8] She then moved to its regional office in New York City. During her tenure at EPA, Jackson worked in the federal Superfund site remediation program, developing numerous hazardous waste cleanup regulations, overseeing hazardous waste cleanup projects throughout central New Jersey, and directing multimillion-dollar cleanup operations. She later served as deputy director and acting director of the region's enforcement division.^[4]

After 16 years with EPA, Jackson joined the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in March 2002 as assistant commissioner of compliance and enforcement. She served as the assistant commissioner for land use management during 2005. Jackson headed numerous programs, including land use regulation, water supply, geological survey, water monitoring and standards, and watershed management. She focused on developing a system of incentives for stimulating what was in her opinion the right growth in the right places. Under her leadership, the state Department of Environmental Protection developed regulatory standards for implementing the landmark Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act.

New Jersey Commissioner of Environmental Protection

Succeeded by	Mark Mauriello
Personal details	
Born	February 8, 1962 <div>Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.</div>
Political party	Democratic
Spouse(s)	Kenneth
Children	2
Education	Tulane University (BS) <div>Princeton University (MS)</div>

Jon S. Corzine, Governor of New Jersey, nominated her to serve as Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Serving in that position, Jackson led a staff of 2,990 responsible for protecting and improving New Jersey's land, air, and water environment. In addition to overseeing environmental programs for the state, as Commissioner, Jackson oversaw state parks and beaches, fish and wildlife programs and historic preservation. As commissioner in July 2006, she had to shut down all state parks and beaches due to the state governmental shutdown in relation to the state budget delay.

As the state's chief environmental enforcer, Jackson led compliance sweeps in Camden and Paterson, communities in which the effects of pollution on public health had long been neglected. She launched the environmental initiative following multicultural outreach efforts to inform and involve community residents and businesses. Working with county officials, New Jersey State Police and the federal Environmental Protection Agency, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection then mobilized more than 70 inspectors to conduct upward of 1,000 compliance investigations in the two cities, the first of a series of enforcement sweeps.^[4]

The online environmental magazine *Grist* interviewed several New Jersey environmental activists and reported that opinion about Jackson was divided: "The split seems to be between those who work on energy and climate policy in the state's capital [who were supportive of Jackson] and those who work on toxic cleanups at the local level [who were critical of her]."^[9]

Chief of staff to the Governor of New Jersey

On October 24, 2008, Corzine announced that Jackson would take over as his Chief of Staff, effective December 1, 2008, succeeding Bradley Abelow.^[10] As Chief of Staff Jackson would have served as Corzine's top advisor and chief political liaison to the State Legislature. However, Jackson was tapped by President Barack Obama to become Administrator of the EPA just days after she became Corzine's chief of staff and resigned on December 15, 2008.^[11]

EPA Administrator

On December 15, 2008, then President-elect Barack Obama officially designated Jackson as the nominee for Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.^[12] She was confirmed by voice vote in the U.S. Senate on January 22, 2009.^[13] Jackson is the first person of African American descent to serve as EPA Administrator, along with being the fourth woman and second New Jerseyan to hold the position.^[14] Her Deputy Administrator was Bob Perciasepe, and additionally she has three Associate, twelve Assistant, and ten Regional Administrators overseeing some 17,000 agency employees.^[15]

By the EPA's own statements, Administrator Jackson has pledged to focus on core issues of protecting air and water quality, preventing exposure to toxic contamination in U.S. communities, and reducing greenhouse gases. She has pledged that all of the agency's efforts will follow the best science, adhere to the rule of law, and be implemented with unparalleled transparency. By the same statements, she has made it a priority to focus on vulnerable groups – including children, the elderly, and low-income communities – that are particularly susceptible to environmental and health threats. She has promised that all stakeholders will be heard in the decision-making process.^[16]



Jackson with Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus (center), and Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley (right).

She has become the first EPA administrator to focus on reforming the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976, which regulates the introduction of new or already existing chemicals.^[5] Indeed, she has called this the issue "closest to my heart ... The law and the structure of the law in no way is modern enough or has enough teeth."^[5]

On December 8, 2009, Jackson said in a written statement that the finding, which declares carbon dioxide and five other greenhouse gases a threat to public health, marks the start of a U.S. campaign to tackle greenhouse gas emissions.^[17]



Jackson at a 2010 briefing on the BP Oil Spill at the Coast Guard Station Venice in Venice, Louisiana

After the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig explosion, the Obama Administration ordered the EPA, the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Interior to coordinate federal emergency response efforts.^[18] Jackson's agency oversaw environmental and public health concerns during the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, including air and water monitoring and assessing aquatic life and other environmental destruction.^[19] Jackson authorized and defended BP's choice to use the dispersant Corexit to combat the 210 million gallons of oil spilled in the Gulf of Mexico.^[20] The use of Corexit was criticized because it's more toxic and less effective than other EPA approved dispersants,^{[21][22]} which later studies showed that Corexit had major effects on the aquatic life's food chain in the Gulf of Mexico.^[23] While testifying before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee, Jackson called the use of dispersants

an "environmental tradeoff", and that "We know dispersants are generally less toxic than the oils they break down."^[24] Jackson's agency is facing a lawsuit in response of the spill from health and environmental groups for not setting adequate guidelines on how and where dispersants can be used safely.^[25] Jackson was designated by President Obama to serve as Chair on the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Task Force, a federal effort to restore damages and preserve the ecosystem in the Gulf of Mexico.^[26]

In 2011 Jackson laid out a plan for stricter limits on the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.^[27] The plan was based on adopting a 2007 recommendation from the EPA's Science Advisory Board to set the NAAQS no higher than 70 parts per billion and no lower than 64 parts per billion,^[28] though it was later set to 75 parts per billion in 2008.^[29] Jackson met opposition to the smog standards proposal from economic advisors within Obama's administration, along with his Chief of Staff William Daley and Regulatory Affairs Administrator Cass Sunstein.^[30] After recommending the plan to President Obama, he conclusively rejected the proposal saying that "Ultimately, I did not support asking state and local governments to begin implementing a new standard that will soon be reconsidered."^[31] His decision was met with anger from Environmentalists and a lawsuit from environmental and health associations, with calls and speculation on whether Administrator Jackson would resign in protest.^{[32][33]} Jackson later announced that she would stay with the EPA, "respected President Obama's decision" and that her Agency would "aggressively implement" the curtailed version of the ozone standards.^[34]

Media outlets and industry figures often refer to Jackson's testimony during a May 2011 Senate Hearing Committee that she is not aware of any cases where hydraulic fracturing itself has contaminated water.^[35] A 1987 EPA report and reports released since May 2011, however, have identified hydraulic fracturing as the likely source of water contamination in several cases.^{[36][37][38][39]}

During an event with youth environmental leaders at Howard University, Jackson was asked by students about the controversial proposed Keystone Pipeline, she said that "To me, it's awesome; it's awesome that we're having this conversation in this country. This should be a moment where we're having a big conversation."^[40] She also urged caution

on the proposed project saying that "This isn't a little tiny pipeline; this is a pipeline that cuts our country literally in half."^[41]

Jackson has spoken out against the Senate Joint Resolution 26 (the Murkowski Amendment), which would take away the EPA's authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions under the Clean Air Act, which was expanded by the 2007 Supreme Court decision in Massachusetts v. Environmental Protection Agency.^[42] Regulations that Senator Lisa Murkowski calls an "economic train-wreck."^[43] In an op-ed in the Huffington Post on the Murkowski Amendment, Jackson said that "now is not the time to take a big step backward, by doubling down on the kinds of energy and environmental policies that keep America addicted to oil."^[44] Jackson has argued against claims by lobbying groups and members of congress that the EPA is responsible for a "train wreck" of new clean air regulations and the effect of existing EPA regulations on the economy. Jackson said that "Big polluters are lobbying Congress for loopholes to use our air and water as dumping grounds. The result won't be more jobs; it will be more mercury in our air and water and more health threats to our kids."^[45]

During her tenure as head of the EPA, Jackson received criticism from the coal industry and Republican members of the House and Senate, most notably Oklahoma Senator Jim Inhofe, for claims of the EPA overreaching on regulating toxins released from coal ash and power plant mercury emissions.^[46] Senator Inhofe, who's a ranking member on the Senate Committee on the Environment, and does not believe that human activity causes global climate change,^[47] called on Jackson to reconsider new greenhouse gas regulations after the Climatic Research Unit email controversy.^[48] With Jackson responding saying that "The science behind climate change is settled, and human activity is responsible for global warming," and that "That conclusion is not a partisan one."^[49] Though Jackson and Inhofe have conflicted views on Environmental issues, in an interview he called her "One of my favorite Liberals."^[50]

On December 13, 2012, the Assistant Inspector General notified the EPA they would be conducting an audit into record keeping practices associated with the use of private email accounts by Lisa Jackson under the name of "Richard Windsor." The Justice Department has agreed to release 12,000 emails at a rate of 3000 per week from this account beginning January 14, 2013 in response to a lawsuit brought by a Washington attorney.^{[51][52][53]}

On December 27, 2012, Jackson announced that she would be stepping down from her position as EPA Administrator.^{[54][55][56]} According to the New York Post, Jackson submitted her resignation because she believed that the Obama administration would move to support the Keystone pipeline and she did not want this to occur on her watch.^[57] Jackson left office on February 15, 2013, and was succeeded by Deputy Administrator Bob Perciasepe.^[58]

At a House hearing in September 2013, Jackson denied knowledge of any government secrecy and denied that she tried to evade federal record keeping laws.^[59]

Apple

On May 28, 2013, Apple Inc. CEO Tim Cook told Walt Mossberg at the D11 Conference that Jackson would be joining Apple.^[60] She reports directly to Cook and oversees Apple's environmental issues.^[61] Jackson was promoted in 2015 to vice president of environment, policy, and social initiatives,^{[62][63]} a top policy position among the leaders of Apple.



NASA Administrator Charles Bolden and Jackson sign an agreement in 2010 to continue collaboration between the two agencies

In 2018, Cook invited Jackson to accompany him to the U.S. state dinner held at the White House on April 24 for Emmanuel Macron, the president of France. Jackson is a strong supporter of the Paris climate accord and was the only former Barack Obama cabinet member attending the dinner.^[64]

Clinton Foundation

Jackson has served on the board of directors of the Clinton Foundation since 2013.^[65]

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Political offices		
Preceded by <u>Bradley Campbell</u>	<u>Commissioner of Environmental Protection of New Jersey</u> 2006–2008	Succeeded by <u>Mark Mauriello</u>
Preceded by <u>Bradley Abelow</u>	<u>Chief of Staff to the Governor of New Jersey</u> 2008	Succeeded by <u>Edward McBride</u>
Preceded by <u>Stephen Johnson</u>	<u>Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency</u> 2009–2013	Succeeded by <u>Gina McCarthy</u>

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