According to <u>reports this morning</u>, the EPA pick will be Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt.

We'll hear more about him in the coming days. For me, the story that sticks out most about him is <u>this one</u> – revealing his history of copying and pasting letters written by fossil fuel lobbyists and sending them under his Oklahoma letterhead.

The letter to the Environmental Protection Agency from Attorney General Scott Pruitt of Oklahoma carried a blunt accusation: Federal regulators were grossly overestimating the amount of air pollution caused by energy companies drilling new <u>natural gas</u> wells in his state.

But Mr. Pruitt left out one critical point. The three-page letter was written by lawyers for Devon Energy, one of Oklahoma's biggest oil and gas companies, and was delivered to him by Devon's chief of lobbying.

"Outstanding!" William F. Whitsitt, who at the time directed government relations at the company, said in a <u>note to Mr. Pruitt's office</u>. The attorney general's staff had taken Devon's draft, copied it onto state government stationery with only a few word changes, and sent it to Washington with the attorney general's signature. "The timing of the letter is great, given our meeting this Friday with both E.P.A. and the White House."

Mr. Whitsitt then added, "Please pass along Devon's thanks to Attorney General Pruitt."