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JOUR 3190
News Summary 2

Why this story is news

Lisa Friedman from The New York Times reports on [“Senate Confirms Bidens’ Pick to Lead E.P.A.”](#) The most prominent FOII element in this story is fame, as the article covers the Senate’s confirmation of Michael S. Regan to lead the Environmental Protection Agency. Friedman delves into Mr. Regan’s background in his professional experience regarding environmental policy and gives context to his goals as leader of the E.P.A.

How they reported the story

Friedman provides quotes from Senator Tom Carper, Democrat of Delaware and chairman of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, Senator Shelley Moore Capito, Republican of West Virginia, Republican Senator Mitch McConnell of Kentucky and Mr. Regan himself. These sources give a great variety of opinions regarding Mr. Regan and his new position leading the E.P.A. Given that Friedman included quotes from both sides of the political spectrum, offering insights of approval as well as disapproval, she eliminates any inherent bias. Offering both negative and positive perspectives on Mr. Regan is important for the audience to create a more realistic and neutral introduction to Mr. Regan surrounding his new position. This article passes the Topeka Test as it provides background to Mr. Regan’s qualifications, context to the agendas he will have to fulfill under President Joe Biden, and insight into the steps he will have to take to rebuild the agency post-Trump administration.

How they wrote the story

Friedman incorporates a name-recognition lead to begin the article as it centers around Mr. Regan, North Carolina’s former top environmental regulator. The best quote pulled from an interview was by Republican Senator Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, “Mr. Regan has plenty of experience. The problem is what he’s poised to do with it.” Though McConnell is a Republican and opposed the electing of Mr. Regan, he offers a very reasonable statement admitting that Mr. Regan is qualified for the position while expressing uncertainty instead of assuming staunch doubt.

