

Statement on the Resignation of Christine Todd Whitman as Administrator  
of the Environmental Protection Agency  
*May 21, 2003*

Christie Todd Whitman is a trusted friend and adviser who has worked closely with me to achieve real and meaningful results to improve our environment.

Christie Todd has been a dedicated and tireless fighter for new and innovative policies for cleaner air, purer water, and better protected land.

In just over 2 years, we have acted in a comprehensive way to reduce pollution from diesel fuel sources and implemented an innovative initiative to better protect our water quality and watersheds. We are

cleaning up abandoned industrial sites and turning them into assets for the communities in which they are located. We are also making great progress on the Clear Skies Initiative that I outlined to significantly reduce pollution from powerplants by 70 percent.

Christie Todd Whitman has served my administration exceptionally well. I thank her for her outstanding service to our Nation and wish her well as she returns home to New Jersey.

Remarks at the President's Dinner  
*May 21, 2003*

Thank you all. Thanks for the warm welcome. It's always nice to have a nice quiet dinner with a few friends. [*Laughter*] Can't tell you how much we appreciate you coming, though.

First I want to thank my friend George Allen for putting together this fine event. I want to thank all those who've helped. I particularly want to thank all of you all for coming from all across the great country. Thank you for your support. It makes a huge difference to our "Grand Party." Your participation in the process makes a great difference to our great country.

All of us who serve this country have important responsibilities. You've got responsibilities at home to love your children with all your heart and all your soul. You've got responsibilities in your communities to love a neighbor like you'd like to be loved yourself. If you're a CEO in corporate America, you have a responsibility to tell the truth to your employees and shareholders. And we have responsibilities here

in Washington, DC, to work together to keep this Nation strong and secure and prosperous and hopeful, and we accept that responsibility.

I appreciate so very much the Speaker of the House, Denny Hastert. He is such a good Speaker. We want to keep him as the Speaker. And the same goes for the majority leader in the United States Senate, Senator Bill Frist. It is a joy to work with these two fabulous Americans.

I'm also honored to be on the—sharing the stage with the Senate dinner chairman, Senator Orrin Hatch from Utah; the chairman of the National Republican Campaign Committee, from the State of New York, Congressman Tom Reynolds; the House dinner chairman, Congressman Dave Camp from Michigan. I want to thank all the Senators and Members of the House of Representatives who are here. America is fortunate to have you—your service on behalf of all of us.