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**RACHEL CARSON COUNCIL HIRES FMR. SEN. LEAHY STAFFER
MAYA COHN AS DIRECTOR OF POLICY & PROGRAMS**

WASHINGTON, March 10, 2023 – The Rachel Carson Council (RCC) welcomes Maya Cohn to its staff as the Director of Policy & Programs. Cohn was selected from a competitive pool of environmental policy professionals to bolster the RCC’s federal- and state-level policy campaigns. Under her direction, the RCC will continue and expand its climate justice campaigns. She will focus on opposing the industrial production of wood pellets in the United States Southeast, a major environmental justice issue; pressuring the Biden administration to limit offshore oil and gas leasing; backing the historic Biden administration investment in climate-smart agriculture and conservation programs; and advocating for policies that keep our nation’s air, water, and land safe.

Cohn brings a wealth of experience to her position with the RCC with five years of environmental work on Capitol Hill, initially in the House of Representatives as Staff Assistant for then-Congressman Peter Welch (D-VT), and ultimately for Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT) until his recent retirement as Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee. In Leahy’s office, Cohn quickly rose to Legislative Assistant, specializing in energy, agricultural, and environmental policy.

Originally from Millbrae, California, Cohn attended Bethesda’s Walt Whitman High School and went on to a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies from Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York. At Skidmore, Cohn worked closely with the Sustainability Office to expand the campus compost program. Currently, Cohn is completing a Master of Science in Environmental Metrology & Policy in Georgetown University’s program with graduation expected in May 2024.

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The Rachel Carson Council is the national environmental organization envisioned by Rachel Carson and founded in 1965. The RCC educates, organizes, and advocates

for climate justice, environmental health, and the promotion of Carson's environmental ethic of empathy for all living creatures.