

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 30, 2017

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and
Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
2007 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and
Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
1016 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum:

As you begin work on the fiscal year (FY) 2018 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we urge you to include language that would prohibit federal agencies from using the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) "Final Guidance for Federal Departments and Agencies on Consideration of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions and the Effects of Climate Change in National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Reviews".

As you know, this sweeping guidance was issued outside of the formal rulemaking process and has the potential to significantly harm natural resource development and other important activities. This guidance adds a fundamentally flawed layer of complication to the NEPA process which is already desperately in need of reform. Federal actions that will be required to comply with this new CEQ guidance include but are not limited to land and resource management actions, including energy, transportation, forestry, and a host of other activities. The guidance also seeks to require the inclusion of the flawed and controversial "Social Cost of Carbon" models in agency analyses.

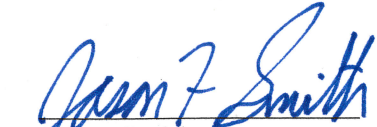
Time and again, Congress and the American people have rejected similar efforts to impose faulty and subjective climate-change mandates such as this. This unilateral order goes well beyond the intended scope of NEPA and could be used to hamper important economic opportunities.


Accordingly, we ask that you include language similar to the following:

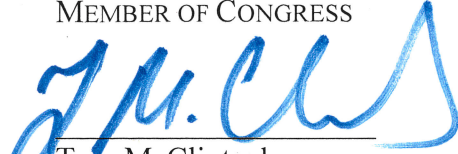
Sec. ____ . None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement, administer, or enforce the final guidance entitled "Final Guidance for Federal Departments and Agencies on Consideration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and the Effects of Climate Change in National Environmental Policy Act Reviews" published by the Council on Environmental Quality on August 5, 2016 (81 Fed. Reg. 51866 et seq.).

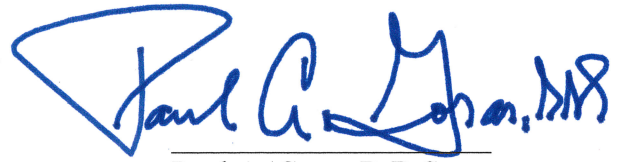
We thank you for your consideration of this request, and for your leadership on the committee.

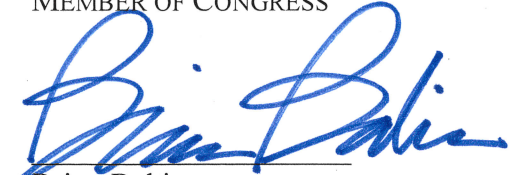
Sincerely,


Jason Smith
MEMBER OF CONGRESS


Stevan Pearce
MEMBER OF CONGRESS


Tom McClintock
MEMBER OF CONGRESS


Paul A. Gosar D.D.S
MEMBER OF CONGRESS


Brian Babin
MEMBER OF CONGRESS