

MIKE PENCE
SECOND DISTRICT, INDIANA

ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
SCIENCE
SMALL BUSINESS

CHAIRMAN,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON REGULATORY
REFORM AND OVERSIGHT

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1402

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July 12, 2001

The Honorable Gale A. Norton
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW, Room 6140
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Norton:

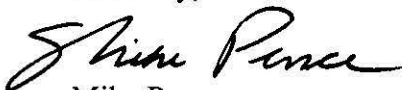
On May 11, 2001, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) issued Interim Guidelines pertaining to the conduct of field trails on State lands purchased, managed, or developed with federal Aid (Pittman-Robertson) in Wildlife Restoration Funds. The Service apparently felt compelled to issue these guidelines as a result of some State audits involving the use of Pittman-Robertson funds, where, in one or two circumstances, there were questions regarding the extent and type of use of some State lands for field trails.

While I certainly support audits as a necessary and appropriate means of ensuring the integrity of the expenditure of these funds, I believe that site specific use questions like this should be resolved between the appropriate State fish and wildlife agency and the USFWS. In this case, I'm not convinced of the need for national guidance and would encourage the Service to engage further discussion with the State fish and wildlife agencies, and the affected user groups, to address what may be a very local issue.

In the interim, I would respectfully request that you withdraw the Interim Guidelines until the new Service Director can reassess this issue in cooperative discussion with the State fish and wildlife agencies.

Thank you for your attention to this important request and I look forward to hearing from you in this matter.

Sincerely,



Mike Pence
Member of Congress

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAL
OFFICE OF THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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RECEIVED

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 31, 2006

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06 AUG -7 PM 3: 32

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

The Honorable Stephen L. Johnson
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania, Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Johnson:

We are writing to convey our serious concerns about the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed standard on coarse particulate matter (PMc).

We appreciate EPA's proposal to exclude fugitive PMc from agriculture and mining sources and agree that these exclusions are well supported by the evidence. In addition, we are concerned about the lack of scientific rationale for setting a PMc standard for urban-type dust.

PMc emissions have never been demonstrated to cause substantial adverse health effects at ambient concentrations, and EPA has not provided the scientific evidence sufficient to demonstrate otherwise. In presenting its PMc proposal, EPA relies on four studies that, by its own admission, are seriously flawed. In a discussion on the health evidence, EPA concedes that there are powerful reasons for not adopting a PMc standard at this time.

Moreover, EPA acknowledges that the level of scientific uncertainty surrounding these studies is "too large to use the reported air quality levels directly as a basis for setting a specific standard level." It also admits that available scientific evidence does not provide a sufficient basis to perform a quantitative risk assessment. EPA lacks scientific evidence of danger and exposure – and thus risk of adverse health effects – necessary to justify promulgation of a NAAQS standard for PMc at this time.

A PMc standard would have serious ramifications on dust-emitting industries and would significantly constrain economic development. Given these significant consequences, before any PMc standard under NAAQS can be established, it must have a clear scientific basis that is set forth in the public record. According to current information, however, that scientific evidence does not exist and adoption of a PMc standard should not occur.

It is our understanding that not only is EPA planning to move forward with a final rule regulating urban-type PMc, but is also considering not including the agriculture and mining exclusions in its final rule. While regulation of any PMc is not supported by sufficient evidence, a rule without exclusion of agriculture or mining PMc would devastate an already struggling rural economy. At a minimum, an exclusion for agriculture and mining dust should be retained.


The combination of unsound science and flawed methodologies can only result in an ineffective, unfair, and unnecessary regulation that would constrain agriculture production, energy production, and economic growth in every affected sector of the economy without any clearly defined health or environmental benefits. Therefore, we respectfully request that EPA not issue a PMc standard under NAAQS unless and until research findings demonstrate that a standard is necessary to protect human health.

Sincerely,


Rep. Jerry Moran (KS-01)


Rep. John Salazar (CO-06)


Rep. Bob Goodlatte (VA-06)


Rep. Collin Peterson (MN-07)


Rep. Terry Everett (AL-02)



Rep. Tim Holden (PA-17)


Rep. Donald Manzullo (IL-16)


Rep. Mike McIntyre (NC-07)


Rep. Tom Latham (IA-04)



Rep. Joe Baca (CA-43)



Rep. Robert Aderholt (AL-04)



Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (TX-18)



Rep. Robin Hayes (NC-08)



Rep. Jim Marshall (GA-03)


Rep. Tom Osborne (NE-03)


Rep. G.K. Butterfield (NC-01)


Rep. Joe Schwarz (MI-07)


Rep. Henry Cuellar (TX-28)


Rep. Mike Pence (IN-06)


Rep. Charlie Melancon (LA-03)


Rep. Sam Graves (MO-06)


Rep. Rick Larsen (WA-02)


Rep. Jo Bonner (AL-01)


Rep. Ben Chandler (KY-06)

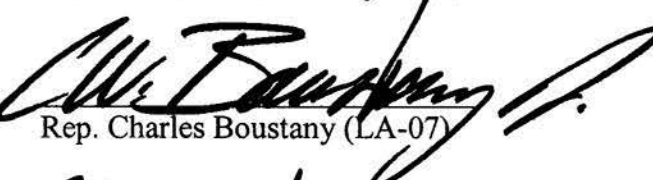

Rep. Michael D. Rogers (AL-03)



Rep. Steve King (IA-05)



Rep. Marilyn Musgrave (CO-04)


Rep. Devin Nunes (CA-21)


Rep. Randy Neugebauer (TX-10)


Rep. Charles Boustany (LA-07)


Rep. Virginia Foxx (NC-05)


Rep. Mike Conaway (TX-11)

cc: Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns
Secretary of Interior Dirk Kempthorne
Secretary of Energy Samuel Wright Bodman
Director of Office of Management and Budget Robert J. Portman
Chairman White House Council on Environmental Quality James Connaughton

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 19, 2010

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

We are writing to express our serious concern over reports that Minerals Management Service (MMS) Director Liz Birnbaum deliberately withheld information from you regarding public comments received on the five-year plan for new offshore oil and gas drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS).

According to emails uncovered under the Freedom of Information Act, Director Birnbaum directly contacted a number of Department of Interior (DOI) employees explaining her rationale to withhold important information on the proposed OCS Oil & Gas Leasing Program for 2010 to 2015. As you are now no doubt aware, the DOI received approximately 530,000 comments, and according to Ms. Birnbaum's email, with the overwhelming majority in support of off-shore drilling.

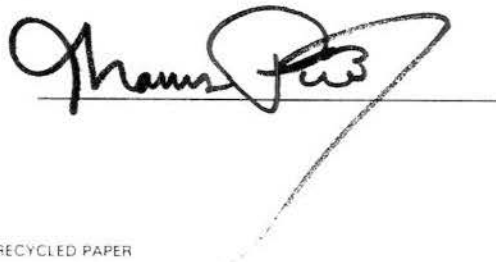
We find it outrageous that members of your staff would purposely delay the release of public input from hundreds of thousands of concerned Americans. The issue of responsible offshore energy production should not be politicized and delayed through bureaucratic fiat simply because your employees do not like the result of the comments.

Along with President Obama, you have regularly expressed the need for a comprehensive energy plan that includes the responsible production of fossil fuels on the Outer Continental Shelf. The mounting evidence is clear; the policies and practices displayed by your employees, along with your recent decision to delay the release of a new leasing plan by three years until 2012, are not matching the rhetoric of this Administration and running contrary to the will of the American people.

You stated in April of last year that you desired to maximize public opportunity to "give us guidance on what it is that they want to do" because "these are not decisions that are going to be made behind closed doors." The actions of your staff, combined with your abrupt decision to ensure virtually no new lease sales will occur during President Obama's term in office, run in obvious conflict to your previous statements.

We respectfully request an explanation of why you continue to employ individuals who seemingly seek to suppress public opinion, along with a detailed explanation of why you have changed your position to proceed with an OCS Leasing Program, since it is well-supported by the American people. We appreciate your consideration of this matter and look forward to a timely reply.

Sincerely,



Phil Pringle

Art Felt

Ron Paul

Clara Bader

Kevin Brady

Mark (K)

Joseph Pitts

Doug Lamborn

Acem Ghosh

Pete Orr

Patrick Peltier

Mark Buntz

Alan King

Virginia Fox

Bob

Lynn Jenkins

Joe Wilson

Kenny Mehall

Rodney Alexander

Paul C Brown

John Shady

JMS

Eric Schmitt

Wally Herger

Dr. Hensarling

Frank Lautenberg

John McCain
Cathy McMorris-Rodgers

Randy Ann

Robert B. Aderholt

K. J. ...

Andy J. ...
Jo Bonner

Carl Kingston

[Signature] 24-19

Jack W. ...

Mary F. ...

M. ...

Shirley ...

[Signature]

Ken ...

John ...

James ...

Tom ...

Robert ...

Bob ...

Donald ...

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

2010 MAR 30 PM 2:47

RECEIVED

484475

Richardson, Carrie

From: Barter, Madeline [Madeline.Barter@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, April 06, 2010 5:24 PM
To: Richardson, Carrie
Subject: letter signatures

Below are the names. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Gingrey
~~Gingrey~~, Bishop (UT), Hensarling, Jenkins, Paul, Wilson (SC), Blackburn, McHenry, Marchant, Flake, Herger, Brady, Alexander, Rogers, Broun, Pitts, Price (GA), Shadegg, Lamborn, Barrett (SC), McClintock, Schock, Gohmert, Olsen, Olson, Chaffetz, King (IA), Westmoreland, Foxx, McMorris Rodgers, Neugebauer, Pence, Aderholt, Wamp, Conaway, Latta, Cao, Calvert, Souder, Hoekstra, Bonner, Bachus, Burton, Issa, Kingston, Franks, Shimkus, Fallin, and Goodlatte

Thanks,

Madeline M. Barter
Legislative Assistant
Congressman Parker Griffith (AL-05)
417 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-4801 (o)
(202) 225-4392 (f)

Pence

Total Number Of Records: 1

FOIA Number	Request Date	Completion Date	Requester Last Name	Requester First Name	Subject
OS-2004-00171	January 21, 2004	January 30, 2004	Groppe	Maureen	"Correspondence during 2003 between your department and members of the Indiana congressional delegation. (The delegation is Sen. Richard Lugar, Sen. Evan Bayh, Rep. Pete Visclosky, Rep. Chris Chocola, Rep. Mark Souder, Rep. Steve Buyer, Rep. Dan Burton, Rep. Mike Pence, Rep. Julia Carson, Rep. John Hostettler and Rep. Baron Hill.)"