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June 20, 2007

Mr. James L. Connaughton
Chairman
Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In July 2006, the Committee requested documents from the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regarding its activities on climate change.¹ This request was prompted by reports in the press that CEQ had edited climate change documents and managed the press statements of government climate scientists in order to further a political agenda. Eleven months later, the Committee still has not received all of the requested documents. We are writing to establish a firm deadline for the completion of CEQ's document production.

In February, CEQ committed to completing the document production by April 15, 2007.² However, by CEQ's own admission, CEQ continues to withhold some 513 responsive documents from the Committee.³ On May 10, we met with you to discuss these documents. We explained that CEQ had two options for each of the documents: provide the document to the Committee or assert executive privilege with respect to the document. As an accommodation, we offered to have Committee staff review the documents in order to determine whether they were relevant to the Committee's investigation.

¹ Letter from Reps. Tom Davis and Henry A. Waxman to James L. Connaughton, Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality (July 20, 2006).

² Letter from Reps. Henry A. Waxman and Tom Davis to James L. Connaughton, Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality (Feb. 26, 2007).

³ Letter from James Connaughton, Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality, to Reps. Henry A. Waxman and Tom Davis (Apr. 25, 2007) (stating that CEQ has found "approximately 500 other responsive documents"); Letter from James Connaughton, Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality, to Reps. Henry A. Waxman and Tom Davis (Feb. 9, 2007) (stating that CEQ will not provide 13 specifically requested documents to the Committee).

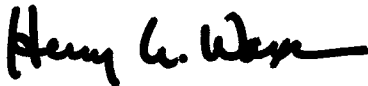
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Despite numerous conversations between our staffs, CEQ still has not provided or claimed executive privilege with respect to any of these documents. Moreover, CEQ has been unwilling to commit to any timetable for producing the documents. Nor has it taken advantage of the offer for a staff review.

Eleven months should be sufficient time to respond to the Committee's request. The Committee will provide CEQ with one additional week, until June 27, 2007, to produce the documents, provide the documents for staff review, or claim executive privilege. If CEQ has not produced the documents, provided the documents for review, or asserted executive privilege by that time, the Committee will have no option but to issue a subpoena for the documents, which is a step we would like to avoid.

If you have any questions about this deadline, please have your staff contact Greg Dotson or Jeff Baran of the Committee staff at (202) 225-4407.

Sincerely,



Henry A. Waxman
Chairman



Tom Davis
Ranking Minority Member