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ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH CONGRESS
**Select Committee on
Energy Independence and Global Warming**
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

EDWARD J. MARKEY, MASSACHUSETTS
CHAIRMAN

February 23, 2010

Suzanne Schwartz
Acting Director
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds (4501T)
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Ms. Schwartz:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds is funding an effort to influence meteorologists on issues relating to climate change through a program called Earth Gauge created by the National Environmental Education Foundation.

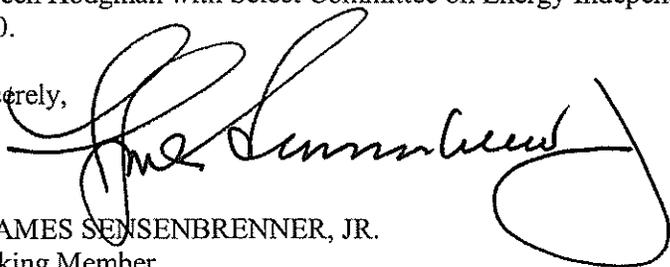
Earth Gauge is using their government provided funds to perpetuate the ongoing global warming hysteria characterized by Al Gore's claim of a 20 foot sea level rise. The information provided to meteorologists is derived from extreme points of view rather than from real scientific debate, inhibiting a healthy scientific dialog. Some of the materials provided to meteorologists contain titles such as "25 Years of Arctic Ice Left," "India's Wettest Place Lacks Water," and "Decline of Roman and Byzantine Empires 1,400 Years Ago May Have Been Driven by Climate Change." This funding could be better spent on scientific research to find definitive answers rather than to convince meteorologists that the sky is falling.

I am writing to inquire further about funding for this and similar programs. Specifically:

1. How much funding has been provided to the Earth Gauge program by the EPA's Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds?
2. What are the intended purposes of this funding?
3. Do you support the goal of persuading meteorologists to adopt specific positions on climate change?
4. What safeguards, if any, does the EPA use to ensure that tax dollars are spent in the manner in which they were intended?

I would appreciate a response by March 12, 2010. Should you have any further questions, please contact Colleen Hodgman with Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming at (202) 225-0110.

Sincerely,



F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.
Ranking Member
Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming