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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

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November 30, 2009

Todd J. Zinser
Inspector General
U.S. Department of Commerce
Office of Inspector General
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Re: Preservation of Agency/Organization records

Dear Mr. Zinser:

The Minority Staff of the United States Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works has sent letters to specific individuals requesting that they secure all documents and records related to the University of East Anglia's Climatic Research Unit ("CRU").

Recently, a large number of alleged CRU documents and e-mails were released to the public. The documents and e-mails outline a disturbing trend of actions, which, at the least, imply activity to create a false impression of the certainty of climate change science. I will be conducting an investigation into these matters.

I am requesting that you secure, as soon as possible, all documents and records related to the communications or other interactions with CRU. This would include materials directly and reasonably related to CRU documents, e-mails, and its subject matter. Should you discover that other employees in your agency/organization have interacted with CRU or have furnished information which may be used in communications with CRU, please secure those documents as well.

Should you have any questions, please contact EPW Minority Counsel George Sugiyama or Tom Hassenboehler at 202-224-6176.

Respectfully,



Senator James M. Inhofe
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Environment
and Public Works