

BARBARA BOXER, CALIFORNIA, CHAIRMAN

MAX BAUCUS, MONTANA
THOMAS R. CARPER, DELAWARE
FRANK R. LAUTENBERG, NEW JERSEY
BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, MARYLAND
BERNARD SANDERS, VERMONT
AMY KLOBUCHAR, MINNESOTA
SHELDON WHITEHOUSE, RHODE ISLAND
TOM UDALL, NEW MEXICO
JEFF MERKLEY, OREGON
KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND, NEW YORK
ARLEN SPECTER, PENNSYLVANIA

JAMES M. INHOFE, OKLAHOMA
GEORGE V. VOINOVICH, OHIO
DAVID VITTER, LOUISIANA
JOHN BARRASSO, WYOMING
MIKE CRAPO, IDAHO
CHRISTOPHER S. BOND, MISSOURI
LAMAR ALEXANDER, TENNESSEE

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

BETTINA POIRIER, STAFF DIRECTOR
RUTH VAN MARK, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

November 24, 2009

Dr. Malcolm Hughes
Professor of Dendrochronology
Laboratory of Tree Ring Research
University of Arizona
PO Box 210058
Tucson, AZ 85721

Re: Materials related to communications with or concerning the Hadley Climate Research Unit
("Hadley CRU")

Dear Dr. Hughes:

The Minority Staff of the United States Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works is conducting an investigation into the disclosure of alleged e-mails and documents from the Hadley CRU. Your name has surfaced in either the e-mails or the documents. This letter is to notify you that through either the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") or other information disclosure laws we may be asking for copies of any documents or records you may have related to communications or other interactions with Hadley CRU. Please secure all materials, including those in electronic form.

Please note that there are severe civil and criminal penalties, federal and state, for the destruction of certain materials. For example, provisions of the Federal Record Act (44 U.S.C. Sections 3105, 3106) prohibit the actual, pending or threatened, removal, defacing, alteration or destruction of documents, including documents or records of a Federal Agency. Criminal penalties, including fines or jail time for the unlawful destruction of records or documents, can be found in 18 U.S.C. Section 2071. Many states have similar laws.

Agency/organization official records include records either made or received under Federal law or in connection with the transaction of public business. All official records, regardless of their form, belong to the agency/organization rather than the person or persons who have custody, and they are to remain in the custody of the agency/organization until there is official authorization for disposal. Correspondence designated "personal," "confidential," "private," or "restricted," but which relates to the conduct of public business, is an official record. Records created as a

result of daily activities, e.g., calendars, appointment books, schedules, logs, diaries, and other records documenting meetings, appointments, telephone calls, trips, visits, and other activities, that contain substantive information relating to official activities not documented elsewhere, are official records and subject to the provisions applicable to official records. While state laws may differ, many have coverage similar to Federal law.

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