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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

BETTINA POIRIER, STAFF DIRECTOR
ANDREW WHEELER, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

November 1, 2007

The Vice President
c/o The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Vice President:

On October 23, at a hearing before the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, Dr. Julie Gerberding, the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), delivered testimony on the public health implications of global warming. I subsequently learned that the Director's written statement was heavily edited during a review process coordinated by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in the Executive Office of the President. Among the changes made in the written testimony were the removal of several pages of detailed information summarizing scientific studies and reports on the public health impacts of global warming.

The public has a right to all of the facts about global warming and the threat it poses to their families and communities. I am deeply concerned that important scientific and health information was removed from the CDC Director's testimony.

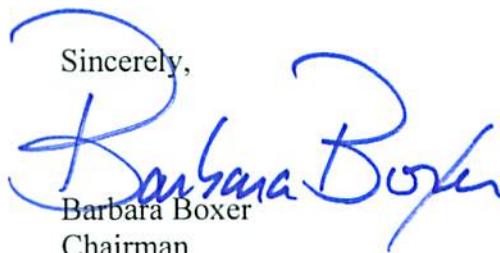
Accordingly, on October 24 I wrote to the President requesting a full accounting of what occurred during that review process. I specifically requested copies of relevant records in the possession of the White House Offices, including the Office of the Vice President. A copy of my October 24 letter is attached for your reference.

I have since received a letter from the Counsel to the President, Mr. Fielding. Among other things, it says: "We refer you to the Office of the Vice President in regard to the request for vice presidential records."

Accordingly, I am hereby separately requesting that you provide to the Committee, no later than Tuesday, November 6, a copy of all drafts of the CDC Director's testimony sent to the Office of Management and Budget or other offices within the Executive Office of the President the White House Offices or other agencies. Please also provide any records reflecting comments on the draft testimony of any of those entities or officials within or affiliated with the Executive Office of the President or any of the White House Offices (including the Office of the Vice President), or of any other agency, and the names and titles of the persons involved in the review. These requests extend to all records responsive to the requests above in the possession or control of the Office of the Vice President or any affiliated entities or officials.

If your staff has any questions, please contact Bettina Poirier, Staff Director for the Committee at 202-224-8832.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Barbara Boxer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Barbara" and the last name "Boxer" clearly legible.

Barbara Boxer
Chairman