

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0301

March 22, 2016

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior,
Environment, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
B-308 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior,
Environment, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
1016 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum:

As you begin work on the fiscal year (FY) 2017 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we urge you to include language that would prohibit federal agencies from utilizing the Social Cost of Carbon in any rulemaking, guidance document or environmental decision-making process.

The Social Cost of Carbon utilizes fundamentally flawed models developed by the Obama Administration as a result of an executive order to create artificial benefits that are then used to justify outrageously expensive and damaging rules in order to shut down projects that the administration philosophically opposes. These models can be easily manipulated to arrive at whatever conclusion the administration wants.

The House has voted to block implementation of the Social Cost of Carbon at least five times and the FY 2016 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations bill contained similar language which aimed to restrict use of the Social Cost of Carbon.

Accordingly, we ask that you include language similar to the following:

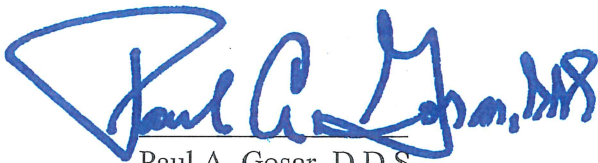
SOCIAL COST OF CARBON

Sec. _____. (a) None of the funds made available by this or any other Act shall be used for the social cost of carbon to be incorporated into any rulemaking, guidance document or environmental decision-making process.

(b) In this section, the term 'social cost of carbon' means— (1) the social cost of carbon as described in— (A) "Technical Support Document: Technical Update of the Social Cost of Carbon for Regulatory Impact Analysis Under Executive Order No. 12866", published by the Interagency Working Group on Social Cost of Carbon, United States Government, in May 2013 and revised in 2013; (B) "Revised Draft Guidance for Federal Departments and Agencies on Consideration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and the Effects of Climate change in NEPA Reviews", published by the Council on Environmental Quality on December 24, 2014 (79 Fed. Reg. 77801); or (C) any successor or substantially related document or guidance; or (2) any other estimate of the monetized damages associated with an incremental increase in carbon dioxide emissions.

We thank you for your consideration of this request, and for your leadership on the committee.

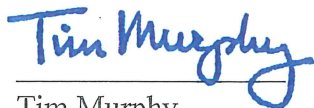
Sincerely,




Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



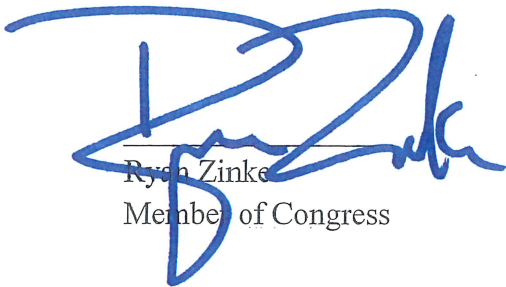
David McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress



Tim Murphy
Member of Congress



Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



Ryan Zinke
Member of Congress



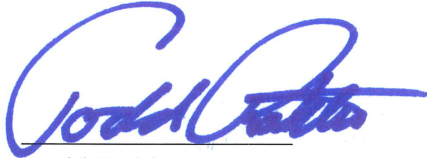
Bruce Westerman
Member of Congress



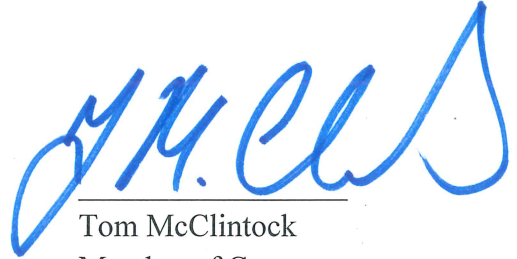
Kevin Cramer
Member of Congress



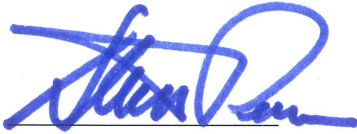
Jason Smith
Member of Congress



Todd Rokita
Member of Congress



Tom McClintock
Member of Congress



Stevan Pearce
Member of Congress