



October 30, 2007

Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher
Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and
Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Room 6217
Washington, DC 20230

Re: Profane E-mail from NOAA Staff Member

Dear Admiral Lautenbacher,

I am writing to inform you of a profane e-mail (attached) I received from NOAA scientist Dan Schwarzkopf on October 29, 2007.

In response to an e-mail from me requesting his participation in a survey of climate experts, Dr. Schwarzkopf replied simply with “f*** you.” [Note: Asterisks substituted here for the sake of propriety.]

I immediately replied to Dr. Schwarzkopf’s e-mail, asking him if he would like to retract his e-mail. He never replied.

I request a personal apology from Dr. Schwarzkopf and NOAA.

More importantly, it may be that Dr. Schwarzkopf’s inappropriate conduct stems from the rampant disrespect and intolerance among many climate scientists of differing views on global warming. I therefore respectfully request that you instruct NOAA staff to conduct themselves in a manner more befitting of the scientific method.

Narrow-minded intolerance on important scientific controversies does not serve the public well and is particularly disappointing on the part of a federal agency.

Sincerely,

Steven J. Milloy
Executive Director

Attachment: Milloy-Schwarzkopf e-mail exchange

[bias + teaching ≠ education]

fuck you

Steven Milloy wrote:
Hi Dr. Schwarzkopf,

DemandDebate.com is surveying climate experts about climate change. It would be terrific if you could take a few moments to participate. Please reply to this e-mail by answering the questions below. Simply place an "X" in the box that best represents your view. Responses will remain confidential. If you have any questions, please e-mail steve@demanddebate.com.

Question #1. Which best describes the reason(s) for climate change?

- Human activity is the principal driver of climate change.
- Human activity drives climate change, but natural variability is also important.
- Natural variability drives climate change, but human activity is also important.
- Natural variability is the principal driver of climate change.
- No opinion.

Question #2. Which best describes the role of manmade CO2 emissions in climate change?

- Manmade CO2 emissions are the principal driver of climate change.
- Manmade CO2 emissions drive climate change, but other natural and human-related factors are also important.
- Other natural and/or human-related factors drive climate change, but manmade CO2 emissions are important.
- Other natural and/or human-related factors are the principal drivers of climate change.
- No opinion.

Question #3. Which best describes the impact on global climate of controlling manmade CO2 emissions?

- Limiting manmade CO2 emissions would have a strong impact.
- Limiting manmade CO2 emissions would have some impact.
- Limiting manmade CO2 emissions would have no impact.
- It would be impossible to discern the impact.
- No opinion.

Question #4. Current mean global temperature is:

- Unprecedentedly warm and getting warmer.
- Within natural variability but moving to unprecedentedly warmer levels.
- Within natural variability and stable.
- Not a useful metric.
- No opinion.

Question #5. The climatic impacts of a mean global temperature that is 1-degree Celsius warmer than today are:

- Undesirable.
- Desirable.
- Desirable for some and undesirable for others.
- Too difficult to assess.
- No opinion.

Question #6. The ideal global climate is...

- Warmer than the present.

- Cooler than the present.
- Occurring today.
- There is no such thing as an "ideal" global climate.
- No opinion.

Thank you for your response. Please return this e-mail to steve@demanddebate.com.

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