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## Trying to Silence Scientists Skeptical of Climate Change

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Cue the chants from the Left about a vast climate-denier conspiracy. At the end of February, Democrat senators Edward Markey, Barbara Boxer and Sheldon Whitehouse sent 100 letters to groups skeptical of the Left's dogma about man-made global warming asking about how the groups got their funding. They were on a witch-hunt looking for a vast conspiracy of big business paying off scientists to cast doubt on global warming. In a [statement](#) about the letters, Boxer said, "We've known for many years that the tobacco industry supported phony science claiming that smoking does not cause cancer. Now it's time for the fossil fuel industry to come clean about funding climate change deniers." But some of the groups are fighting back. In a letter in reply, Cato Institute president John Allison wrote that the trio's letter was an attempt to chill honest academic research. "It surprises nobody that you disagree with Cato's views on climate change – among a host of issues – but that doesn't give you license to use the awesome power of the federal government to cow us or anybody else," he wrote. And that is why the scientific process is so powerful. With enough open discussion, the truth eventually rises to the surface. The senators' letters only amount to a frivolous attempt to protect their propaganda.