

# The Intelligencer

## **LTE: Earth Day commentary was propaganda**

April 27, 2020

The 4/22 opinion piece, “EPA should mark the 50th Earth Day with humble pie” is instructive at least as an illustration of how the climate change-denial industry’s propaganda infiltrates mainstream media and so gains a veneer of validity. The author, Patrick J. Michaels, is one of only 3% or so of climate scientists who question the role of humans in climate change. He’s made a lucrative career of it, taking apparently hundreds of thousands of dollars from fossil-fuel industries, on top of positions at deep-pocketed (and fossil fuel-supported) “think tanks” the Cato Institute and the Competitive Enterprise Institute.

What do his backers get for their money? Michaels uses his scientific background to combine out-of-context and cherry-picked information with patently incorrect assertions, churning out results often debunked by his colleagues.

Here he’s true to form, attacking the view of the EPA (and the other 97% or so of climate scientists) that increasing atmospheric carbon dioxide will endanger life on this planet. This is from a scientist who awhile back predicted that the early 2000s would see a “significant global cooling trend.” He even mentioned — no kidding — an ice age coming. Perhaps a helping of humble pie for Dr. Michaels?

**Ellen Slack**

**Wycombe**