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LETTER

## A Nobel laureate of convenience

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[For the Monitor](#)

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Re "Perry sticks to his guns in first town hall" (Monitor front page, Oct. 1):

While Rick Perry feels the need to cite a "Nobel laureate" to bolster his rejection of the near-universal scientific consensus on global climate change, he didn't mention the hundreds of Nobelists in multiple disciplines who support the findings of the vast majority of the world's climatologists.

Perry prefers the contrarian position of Ivar Giaever, a physicist who won the prize in 1973 for his work with semiconductors and superconductors, and whose climatological experience is limited to participation in a single discussion panel at a convention of Nobel laureates. He's done no research in climate science and has no published papers in the field, despite a lucrative affiliation with petrol-subsidized conservative think tanks like the Cato Institute.

Perry's rejection of science when it's inconvenient to his political aspirations is contemporary Republican realpolitik at its best. A Nobelist's opinion? Valid - if it supports his ideological preconceptions. Otherwise? "Junk science!"

**WARREN SENDERS**

**Medford, Mass.**

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