



Letter: Climate science legitimate

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The "challenges to science" highlighted in the recent editorial "Our View: EPA faces challenges to science, mandates" (Jan. 20) were brought forward by a small minority of climate change deniers. Their views will

do little to influence the greater scientific community.

First, the skeptical climatologist who participated in the public debate in Detroit on Jan. 12 was none other than Patrick J. Michaels, a senior fellow at the libertarian Cato Institute. Michaels runs a science consulting firm whose clients have included coal-powered electric utilities.

Second, in the wake of the overblown e-mail hacking incident, 1,700 members of the U.K. scientific community came forward on Dec. 10 to reaffirm the scientific consensus on human-accelerated global warming. And the Union of Concerned Scientists states: "The e-mail content being quoted does not indicate that climate data and research have been compromised. Most importantly, nothing in the content of these stolen e-mails has any impact on our overall understanding that human activities are driving dangerous levels of global warming."

EPA's scientific assumptions are far from "questionable." Questionable are the ties to industry and political motives of global warming skeptics who stand to benefit from the overextended reign of dirty power in the U.S. Regulating greenhouse gases will make this world a safer and more prosperous place for our children — it's time for us to accept the facts.

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