



**AMERICAN COUNCIL
ON SCIENCE AND HEALTH**

Science. Not Hype.

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Hank Campbell

President

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Mr. John R. Venrick
20561 Wild Horse Ranch Rd
Rollins, MT 59931

Dear Mr. Venrick,

The Environmental Protection Agency has always been a political beast – staffed with political appointees serving the interests of the federal bureaucracy in Washington instead of the general public.

But the EPA under President Barack Obama has been truly spectacular in its blatant *politicization of science*.

President Obama's EPA has become the enforcement arm of the climate change lobby.

Among the many examples I could cite include the EPA's lawless war on America's energy industry ... wasting \$72 billion in taxpayer money on green energy corporate welfare ... and giving the personal information of 80,000 law-abiding farmers and ranchers to environmental activists and eco-terrorists in clear violation of federal law.

If you find this kind of political activism by unelected federal bureaucrats as dangerous as I do, then here's some good news.

Debunking the false rhetoric of those who put their political agendas above real science has been the mission of the **American Council on Science and Health (ACSH)** since 1978.

And we're good at it.

My name is Hank Campbell, and I serve as president of ACSH. We are a public policy group founded by real scientists and eminent medical professionals who are constantly on the alert for scare campaigns based on political ideology and not sound science.

Obviously, we have a full-time job on our hands. Whether it's false claims about clean-burning natural gas derived from fracking or modern agriculture in the form of GMOs or vaccines or chemicals, the mostly scientifically illiterate media are only too eager to help ideologues scare the public with bad science.

The explosive rise of the Internet and social media has made spreading bad ideas based

on bad science easier than ever before.

But there is hope: We have won every fight we've ever fought! But the war for American science is on many more fronts now. That's why I need to dramatically increase ACSH's ability to fight back against these alarmists in and out of government. And that's why I am writing to you today.

With your support, ACSH will expand its mission to defend the American people from needless fear and bad public health policy resulting from the politicization of science. Let me stress that we are not a government agency. We do not receive one dime of taxpayer money.

Please take a look at our popular website: *ACSH.org*.

There you will find a daily offering of articles from distinguished scientists and doctors and other health care professionals debunking the latest scaremongering from the pseudo-science Left. No, an artificial sweetener won't kill you. No, your sunscreen won't give you cancer. No, trace chemicals found in everyday products are not toxic. No, genetically modified crops have no impact on human health. No, vaccines don't cause autism. And no, fracking does not contaminate our drinking water. And so much more.

Without people like you making ACSH possible, no one would be there to debunk the health scams that take root in a nation increasingly ignorant of basic scientific knowledge – especially among educated people who should know better!

That's our constant challenge. Without ACSH, the anti-scientific fear mongers would go unchallenged.

The nucleus of ACSH, the secret of our effectiveness in combating the army of health frauds running rampant, is our board of more than 300 physicians, scientists and policy advisors – world-renowned experts in a wide variety of fields.

Our advisory board knows better than anyone that distorted and overstated scientific evidence – when used to promote public policy – threatens our personal freedom, as well as our personal health and well-being.

ACSH is the only organization of its type backed by a full range of scientific and medical experts, who have fought to defend the benefits of solid science.

Before explaining more about the threat we face from a politicized EPA, let me stress that a lot of powerful people *don't like us* and *want to suppress us*.

And I can't think of a better endorsement of our effectiveness.

One of those who doesn't like us is the attorney general of the U.S. Virgin Islands – Claude Walker – who this year named ACSH in a subpoena related to our research on global “climate change.” This was an outrageous abuse of his authority and a gross misuse of the law.

Walker is part of a gang of 17 attorneys general who are going after those they claim have “lied” about climate change.

They laughably call themselves “AGs United for Clean Power.” But they’re really a lynch mob using the power of government to create an “icy chill” among groups that discuss science issues the government does not want discussed.

Though Attorney General Walker was eventually forced to drop this subpoena, this legal assault was clearly part of a nationwide, coordinated campaign by these AGs and radical groups to criminalize any disagreement with environmental agendas. Naming us in this subpoena was a bare-knuckled attempt to silence the free speech that is critical to scientific debate.

It won’t work, of course. But it is another example of the tragic politicization of science that is so rampant today.

Yet another effort to suppress ACSH comes from the United Nations World Health Organization International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), which recently sent us a legal threat.

Why? Because we wrote a series of articles criticizing their claims that *eating sausage* is as dangerous as eating plutonium or smoking cigarettes or inhaling mustard gas.

And then there’s the fact that Left-wing publications like *Mother Jones* and *Newsweek* have declared war on us. They despise our extensive media presence and are trying to create a grassroots effort to keep science articles that disagree with their agendas from appearing at all.

And recently, an unknown environmental group got a gaggle of activists together and tried to get our website banned as a spam site. This effort failed but they will keep trying.

The anti-science radical Left is today a \$1 billion industry filled with hatred for humans and the modern world. They are terrified that ACSH is helping the public see through their nefarious tactics and derail their plans to subvert human progress in medicine, agriculture, energy and every other field of human endeavor.

ACSH will not be stopped with bullying and intimidation.

I say that because I am confident I can persuade people like you to stand with us.

With your help, ACSH will continue leading the way in reassuring the public and defending companies and products that are unjustly targeted by fear mongering zealots. And we’ll continue waging campaigns to give people the truth they need to understand they are being lied to by the health frauds in and out of government.

Right now, one of our biggest fights is against the EPA’s blatant politicization of science.

One of the agency’s favorite tactics is to invent environmental crises that don’t exist – such as by hyping the risk people face from exposure to chemicals we all use every day.

Now, I bet you already know that our nation’s environment is cleaner than it has ever been, cleaner than any country on earth – and getting cleaner all the time thanks to the advancements of real science.

But you also know that the ideologically-driven bureaucrats running the EPA and their allies in the environmental lobby don't care anything about science.

They ONLY care about advancing their political agenda that aims to regulate every area of our lives and ultimately rob us of our freedoms.

That's why the EPA is ginning up a public panic over exposure to chemicals. It provides a convenient smokescreen that masks their true motives.

Specifically, they "justify" this needless alarm by making people feel like harmful chemicals are lurking in their homes, in the clothes they wear or in their food ... chemicals ready to poison them at any moment.

I'm writing to you today because I'm hoping you will help the American Council on Science and Health alert the public to what the EPA is up to.

And, after reading my letter, I believe you will see the urgency we face to take action on this important issue as soon as possible.

So let me explain what's going on.

As you probably know, Congress created the EPA in 1970 to write and enforce regulations designed to protect the environment and, by extension, human health.

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), a sister agency of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), was created 10 years later as a non-regulatory public health information agency. Its job is to analyze the public health implications of environmental data provided by the EPA and others, and to write Public Health Assessments for concerned citizens at contaminated sites.

Now this is key:

Although ATSDR has always been a non-regulatory agency, it has also always been a compliant stepchild of the EPA. Because, for most of ATSDR's history, the EPA was the source of both its funding and many of its personnel – especially its upper management.

This is why both political agencies have always been more responsive to the environmental lobby than to scientific facts, not to mention the needs of the public they're supposed to serve.

Moreover, they're conning Americans by playing a "numbers racket" to create an environmental crisis over chemicals where none exists.

The EPA and ATSDR set dose-specific health guidelines that represent "safe" levels of ingestion and inhalation exposure to various chemicals.

Both agencies also establish media-specific comparison values for "safe" levels of exposure to various chemicals in various environmental media such as air, water, soil and fish.

When they were both originally created, the EPA and ATSDR had legitimate problems to solve. And solve them they did.

No one can deny that the quality of the water we drink or the air we breathe is better for Americans than it was 40 years ago. Many people can still recall that the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland was so polluted it literally caught fire in 1969!

News of “the river that caught fire” spurred the environmental movement, which led to the EPA’s creation the following year.

But the EPA quickly became a victim of its own success. As the environment became cleaner, there were fewer and fewer real environmental problems to solve.

So, to justify keeping their power and proving their existence, the bureaucrats running the EPA began inventing environmental problems out of thin air.

At first, they were just making their dose-specific health guidelines and media-specific comparison values smaller to create the impression of increased “risk.” This was an ongoing process that has seen the officially “safe” levels of exposure go from the sensible to the completely ridiculous.

Dr. Frank Schnell, who is a member of ACSH’s Board of Scientific Advisors, was a toxicologist at ATSDR for 20 years. He says the agency’s guidelines for chemical exposure were increasingly nothing more than what he calls “funny numbers” – bogus figures made up to inflate the risks that chemicals pose to people.

Dr. Schnell tells me that by the time he retired, most of the agency’s “funny numbers” were for “celebrity” chemicals like dioxins, PCBs, arsenic, lead, trichloroethylene and formaldehyde ...

... in other words, the chemicals that the environmental lobby has been needlessly scaring people about for years.

The agency even started claiming that levels of exposure to these chemicals, which had always been deemed safe, were now a threat to humans.

And the change had nothing to do with science.

Why do I say that? Because the scientific evidence never changed!

Now do you see why I say the EPA and ATSDR are running a “numbers racket”?

Another trick the alarmists at the EPA came up with was doing away with the Concept of Dose.

Two of the most important factors in determining the effect a chemical will have on an organism is (1) the body weight of that organism and (2) the frequency of exposure. That’s why “dose” is typically expressed in milligrams of the substance per unit body weight or per frequency of exposure, such as mg/kg/day.

It is an established scientific fact that larger, longer-lived mammals like humans tend to be more resistant to the adverse effects of a given chemical than are smaller, shorter-lived mammals like rats.

Of course, this is because larger body weights effectively dilute the concentration of the chemical at the cellular level and slower ventilation rates effectively reduce the frequency of exposure.

What's more, longer-lived mammals like humans tend to have more efficient immune systems and other defense mechanisms – that's why they live longer.

This all proves that human exposure to a given chemical almost always has *less* of an adverse effect than it does on smaller animals.

Consider, for example, the very different effect that a squirt of insecticide has on a roach compared to a human.

It's just a matter of common sense and reason.

But the EPA and ATSDR have stood common sense and reason on their respective heads.

Because the long-standing *policy* at the EPA and ATSDR has been that humans are *more* susceptible than laboratory animals to chemical exposure. This is a purely political policy. The EPA started using a new mathematical method to support this policy that, when explained, is confusing to the average American.

And make no mistake – it is meant to be confusing.

Why? Because even when pure nonsense is expressed mathematically and claims to be “scientific,” the tendency is for people to assume that it is just “over their heads” and they accept it uncritically.

Especially when it comes from a government agency that's supposed to be serving their best interests.

Yet Americans are not as stupid as bureaucrats want us all to believe. That is why I urgently need your help today.

Working through the American Council on Science and Health, we can expose the anti-science activism at the heart of what the EPA and ATSDR are really up to. And we can alert the American people to the fact that both of these agencies are joined at the hip with the most radical elements of the environmental lobby.

Just recently, ACSH published an original and peer-reviewed book that debunked the hysterical claims made about chemicals.

Now I need your help to take our research and inform millions of Americans with the truth about chemicals – and the dangers we all face when real science takes a backseat to the environmental lobby's political agendas.

For starters, we need to make sure the general public understands what Paracelsus famously said and that ACSH has long shown: “The dose makes the poison.”

Everyone agrees that chemicals can be toxic – if consumed in high amounts. Heck, even *water* can be dangerous at high enough doses.

Yet the chemicals in the products we buy and use on a daily basis – such as fragrances used in diapers – are used in trace amounts, which improve product safety and undergo hundreds of safety tests. Without discussing the amount of exposure, any talk about hazards is meaningless – yet all we hear is that something may be a carcinogen, without talking about the dose needed to make it dangerous.

That has to stop. We can do it. But not without you.

In addition to alerting the nation about the EPA manufacturing a crisis over chemicals, we need to educate people about the shocking abuses of power coming out of this increasingly lawless agency.

Earlier in my letter, I mentioned that the EPA gave out the personal information of 80,000 law-abiding farmers and ranchers to environmental activists and eco-terrorists – a clear violation of federal privacy law.

It’s no secret that plenty of environmental groups are unhinged. They’re not just anti-science – they are flat-out anti-people.

No one at the EPA would want these loons showing up on their doorsteps, so why would they place farmers and their families at risk by giving the personal addresses of farmers and ranchers to Earthjustice, an eco-terrorist wing of the Sierra Club?

Well, the agency claims it was just trying to be transparent by replying to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted by several environmental groups.

I don’t believe them – just like I don’t believe that none of the more than 17,000 government workers at the EPA knew that doing so was a clear violation of the federal Privacy Act.

After all, they would never honor a FOIA request for the names and addresses of EPA employees if thugs hired by an oil company asked for them, would they?

Not on your life.

But because we’re talking about law-abiding farmers, the EPA eagerly gave out names, phone numbers, addresses – and even the names of deceased family members.

The EPA also gave out their geographic coordinates to make it as easy as possible for the environmental activists and eco-terrorists to come knocking on the door.

These environmental groups claim they only wanted the addresses of 80,000 farmers and ranchers because they supposedly cause water pollution. And the environmental groups wanted

to show the EPA how poorly the agency has been enforcing clean water standards.

Believe me, that's cold comfort if you're a farmer and care about your family or the families of your employees.

Senator John Thune of South Dakota found out about the EPA's wanton disregard for the safety of his constituents and demanded an explanation. This led the EPA to ask for the names back. Pew Charitable Trusts, one of the signatories to the FOIA request and a major funder of Earthjustice, did return the names and addresses.

But the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), which also got the personal information, refused to do so. They claim there's no need to since they don't endorse eco-terrorism.

Again, that's little comfort for farmers and their families. And returning the names wouldn't make anyone feel safe anyway, since these activist groups have probably made copies of the personal information.

Almost as outrageous as the EPA's illegal behavior was the media blackout of the agency's shocking abuse of power.

Aside from Fox News, no major media organization covered this EPA scandal. NONE. We at the American Council on Science and Health were at the forefront of exposing this scandal.

You can bet that every major media outlet – print, broadcast, cable and online – would have covered it if Exxon or Shell Oil had illegally obtained the names and addresses of environmental corporation employees.

Keep in mind, the mainstream media in this country have a strong bias in favor of the kind of chemophobia and fear-mongering so often encouraged by today's EPA.

So we can't sit back and hope the news media will do their job and tell Americans the truth about the EPA or ATSDR. They won't.

This makes it imperative that ACSH goes over and around the media to make sure Americans hear about the EPA overreach directly from us ...

... about how the agency banned over-the-counter inhalers for asthma patients, forcing them to pay exorbitant prices for prescription-only alternatives. The reason? Supposedly to protect the ozone, though its impact requires highly sensitive equipment to even detect ...

... and about how the agency settled a lawsuit by *declaring water a pollutant* (I'm not making this up!) and forcing a county in Virginia to spend \$500 million on a creek. The reason? To artificially control the flow of water and make life better for canoers who were told to sue to force a settlement! The U.S. General Accounting Office scolded them for engaging in "propaganda" in trying to manipulate public sentiment to give the EPA control of every small body of water, even on private land.

Just recently, EPA Associate Administrator Michael Goo was caught throwing parties for his friends at NRDC and Sierra Club, and illegally used private e-mail servers to hide his dialogues with them.

I could go on all day about all the many ways the EPA has run amok, how it's creating environmental crises where none exist, and how it's in bed with the environmental lobby.

And I could talk a lot more about the abusive attorney general naming us in a government subpoena, as well as an agency of the United Nations threatening legal action against us.

But our course of action couldn't be clearer: The politicization of science in this country has reached the crisis point and must be stopped.

And the only way to stop an out-of-control federal agency like the EPA and its powerful allies in and out of government is to educate the public about *real science*.

That's why I need you in this fight.

With the support of people like you, ACSH has become the one and only public policy organization in the nation that can take on a government agency as big and powerful as the EPA – and actually WIN.

Remember, we already have the original research and peer-reviewed studies needed to inform and then **unleash millions of Americans** armed with the truth. It's a proven nationwide grassroots strategy that can defeat the EPA.

But I need your generous support to help us:

- >>> Aggressively market and distribute these peer-reviewed studies to the public and to key regulatory and legislative decision-makers;
- >>> Spread the word through our *Priorities* print magazine and upcoming ACSH TV show;
- >>> Make ACSH experts available for government testimony;
- >>> Write op-ed columns and editorials in leading newspapers and magazines, as well as for major online publications;
- >>> Continually update our *ACSH.org* website, which has seen 400% more traffic from consumers and members of the press who are looking for the truth about chemicals and other science issues;
- >>> Aggressively distribute our work through our video commentaries as well as through social media sites including Facebook, YouTube and Twitter.

I hope I've adequately expressed to you that ACSH is uniquely suited to separate the facts from the hype. We know how to do this! Right now, we need additional financial support to carry on the fight. That is, to trumpet our science-based conclusions far and wide.

The unmatched prestige of the ACSH Board of Scientific Advisors is the reason why ACSH can lead the fight to refute the lies the EPA is whipping up about chemicals and other benefits of science.

It is the most powerful weapon we have to defend freedom and fight for sane public policy!

With so much at stake, could you help us fight the growing politicization of science that threatens our nation?

Mr. Venrick, please send a tax-deductible contribution of \$50 or \$100 to the American Council on Science and Health today. And if you could invest \$250, \$500 or even \$1,000 or more in this critically important fight, I would be most grateful.

Any size gift will be most welcomed ... and is urgently needed to advance the cause of *real science* and help everyday Americans understand these complex issues.

Thank you for taking a leadership role in exposing the EPA's anti-science agenda and its ties to the environmental lobby.

Sincerely,



Hank Campbell
President

P.S. In recent years, the Environmental Protection Agency has blatantly politicized science to an extent unthinkable not too long ago. And that's saying something since the EPA has always been a political beast.

We must alert Americans to the EPA agenda that places politics above real science. We must expose the EPA's deep ties to the environmental lobby. And we must educate the nation about how the EPA is frightening people about exposure to chemicals – by deliberately hyping threats that don't exist.

Your support will also alert Americans about the attorney general of the U.S. Virgin Islands naming ACSH in a subpoena over climate change, which sets a dangerous new precedent in the politicization of science, as well as an agency of the United Nations threatening us with legal action. If we don't stand up to these political threats, we will see real science debates wiped out one subpoena at a time.

Mr. Venrick, we don't stand a chance in this fight without you. So please send us your tax-deductible gift of \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1,000 or more to ACSH today. Taking on the government is a huge task – but one we can win if we work together!