

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
Ranking Member
House Committee on Science, Space and Technology
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
United States of America

26 November 2018

Dear Congresswoman Johnson,

I am writing to invite you to participate in a forthcoming session that I am co-convening at the Fall Meeting of the American Geophysical Union, which will be held between 4pm and 6pm on Monday December 10th at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington DC.

You are widely recognised as having been a champion for evidence-based policymaking on climate change as the Ranking Member on the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology. In your recent interview with 'Science' magazine, you indicated that, as the likely new Chair from January 2019, you will seek for the House Committee to examine the evidence on climate change in the 116th Congress. I sense that my counterparts in the climate research community in the United States are keen to engage with federal lawmakers about this issue and will want to help you and the rest of the Committee with your considerations. As you know, the Committee's hearings during the current Congress have often been hostile and unproductive experiences for climate scientists.

As a first step in re-engaging the climate science community, we hope you will be able to reach out to researchers through our session on 'Communicating Climate Change: Informing Politicians and Policy Makers'. The session will be divided into two halves. In the first half, there will be presentations by Richard Alley (Pennsylvania State University), Jerry Taylor (Niskanen Center) and Anthony Leiserowitz (Yale University). In the second half there will be three short presentations by Kathie Dello (Oregon State University), Kate Marvel (NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies) and Michael Mann (Pennsylvania State University), followed by a 30-minute discussion with the audience. Further details about the session can be accessed at: <https://agu.confex.com/agu/fm18/meetingapp.cgi/Session/57711>

We would be very glad if you would begin the discussion session with a short statement and/or question to the panel. We understand that your schedule is very busy and that it might not be possible for you to attend the session in person, so we would welcome, as an alternative, a written statement that could be read out on your behalf.

We do hope you are able to participate in some way in our session on December 10th. I think your presence would send a powerful message to the climate science community in the United States and abroad that the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology in the 116th Congress will be serious about evidence-based policymaking on climate change.

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Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R.E.J. Ward". The letters are cursive and connected, with a distinct flourish at the end of the word "Ward".

Bob Ward

Policy and Communications Director

Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment and ESRC Centre for Climate

Change Economics and Policy

London School of Economics and Political Science