Professor Hans-Otto Pörtner and Professor Debra Roberts, Co-Chairs, IPCC Working Group II, c/o Technical Support Unit, Alfred-Wegener Institut, Bremen, Germany

31 May 2018

Dear Professor Pörtner and Professor Roberts,

We are writing to you, as Co-Chairs of Working Group II of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, to draw your attention to our new paper, which will be published in the journal 'Review of Environmental Economics and Policy' on Monday 4 June 2018.

The title of the paper is 'Recommendations for Improving the Treatment of Risk and Uncertainty in Economic Estimates of Climate Impacts in the Sixth Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Assessment Report'. A confidential advance copy of the paper accompanies this letter.

The paper points out that large discrepancies persist between projections of the physical impacts of climate change and economic damage estimates. These discrepancies increase with increasing global average temperature projections. Based on this observation, the paper recommends that, in its forthcoming Sixth Assessment Report, the IPCC improves its approach to the management of the uncertainties inherent in climate policy decisions.

In particular, the paper suggests that the IPCC strengthens its focus on applications of decision making under risk, uncertainty and outright ambiguity, and estimates how the uncertainty itself affects its economic and financial cost estimates of climate damage.

Our hope is that by adopting these recommendations, the Sixth Assessment Report will be able to resolve some of the documented inconsistencies in estimates of the physical and economic impacts of climate change.

Yours sincerely,

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