



Rt Hon Peter Lilley MP
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Grantham Research Institute
on Climate Change and
the Environment

Chair: Professor Lord Stern
of Brentford

25 March 2013

Dear Mr Lilley,

Thank you for your correspondence of 13 March. I am disappointed, but not surprised, that you continue to make inaccurate and misleading statements about the Stern Review. It seems that you are wedded to your false account of the Review regardless of any confounding evidence that is presented to you.

None of the four criticisms of the Review which you repeat in your letter is true, as I explained in detail in my previous correspondence. In summary, in response to your four points:

- The Review did make an appropriate comparison, based on sound economics and science, which showed that the future risks of inaction on climate change are far greater than the future costs of action.
- The Review did employ a rigorous methodology to help policy-makers to compare the risks from unmanaged climate change with the investments required to avoid them.
- The Review did apply discounting correctly in the calculations both of the future potential losses from unmanaged climate change and of the future costs of mitigation.
- The Review did warn against the mistaken assumption that everyone will be much richer in the future than today regardless of what impacts unmanaged climate change would have.

I am afraid that you are also wrong to assume that my letters have been written on behalf of Lord Stern. While he is aware of the existence of our correspondence, your letters have simply recycled flawed criticisms that have been made previously about the Stern Review, and it has fallen to me to point out your numerous errors.

Over the course of our correspondence, you have shown that you are unable or unwilling to accept the findings of either robust science or economics. Not only

have you misrepresented the contents of the Stern Review, but you have also misrepresented the conclusions of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. I have been unable to work out whether this is because they conflict too much with your political views or with your commercial interests. However, I am certain that the best interests of the constituents of Hitchin and Harpenden would be better served by their MP taking a more considered and well-informed approach to the issue of climate change.

Yours sincerely,

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

Bob Ward
Policy and Communications Director