



Science & Public Policy Institute

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Dear Professor Nelson:

For the public Record

An updated [11/28/2009 10:31:38 PM MST] Salt Lake Tribune article, [BYU scientists take lawmakers to task on climate change issues](#), carried a PDF file of an open letter reputedly signed by you.

There, you characterize Dr. Roy Spencer as a "fringe" scientist whose testimony "puts all of us at risk by promoting poorly informed decisions."

You also express the opinion that "some of our legislators (irresponsibly) manipulate the scientific evidence in order to support a political agenda."

In the public interest, the [Science and Public Policy Institute](#) is preparing a critical examination and equally public *science and policy* review of your letter.

Before releasing and publicizing this review to the public, we fairly offer you the opportunity to reply to the following clarifying questions:

1. Did you actually sign this letter?
2. If you did sign, did you *before hand* actually read Dr. Spencer's testimony and/or fairly consider the scientific points presented by him?
3. If you did sign, do you still stand by your comments in full, or are there any redactions or clarifications you wish to make upon further reflection?
4. Would you accept our challenge to publicly present the science of "catastrophic anthropogenic global warming" in a local, public forum? SPPI would provide a scientist counter-presenter in the forum, followed by a Q&A session with the attendees.

If you choose not to respond by Monday, February 1, 2010, we will proceed under the reasonable assumption that you did sign the letter without considering Dr. Spencer's testimony, that you stand by your comments in full, and that you are either unwilling or professionally unqualified to engage in the public forum.

Warmest Regards,

Robert Ferguson
President, Science and Public Policy Institute
202-288-5699
1-20-10