

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

## GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE: AN OVERVIEW OF THE SCIENCE AND NOAA'S RESEARCH

July 19, 2002

Dear Colleague:

We encourage you and your staff to attend a congressional briefing featuring the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) top leadership for an overview of climate change science and a look at the priorities of NOAA's climate change program. The briefing, co-sponsored by the House Climate Change Caucus and the Environmental and Energy Study Institute, will take place on **Tuesday, July 23, 2002, at 3:00 – 4:30 p.m., in 562 Dirksen Senate Office Building.**

### Briefing Panel:

- **Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr., (U.S. Navy, retired),** Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator
- **Dr. James R. Mahoney,** Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Director of the U.S. Climate Change Science Program Office
- **Dr. Daniel L. Albritton,** Director, NOAA Aeronomy Laboratory, Boulder, CO

### Congressional Respondents:

- **Bryan Hannegan,** Minority Staff Scientist, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
- **Margaret Spring,** Majority Senior Counsel, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

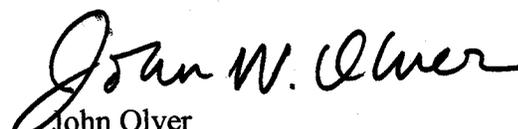
Located within the Department of Commerce, NOAA has been conducting research and gathering data on global systems for over thirty years and is at the forefront of climate science. NOAA is a leading source of information on water and climate forecasts, environmental monitoring, fisheries and coastline management, and oceanic changes. .

Vice Admiral Lautenbacher will discuss priorities for NOAA's climate science research initiatives, specifically addressing U.S. efforts to expand the global climate observation system. Dr. Mahoney will discuss the U.S. climate change science management structure and NOAA's role in U.S. climate science and research. Dr. Albritton, who is lead author on the science of the climate system for the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), will provide an overview of climate change science.

For more information about this briefing or about the Climate Change Caucus, please contact Abbie Meador in Rep. Olver's office (x55335) or Sally McGee in Rep. Gilchrest's office (x55311).

Sincerely,

  
Wayne T. Gilchrest  
Co-Chair  
House Climate Change Caucus

  
John Olver  
Co-Chair