

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

GREG PORTER, CHAIRMAN

JOHN CONNORS, VICE CHAIRMAN

RICHARD ALVORD

FRED BOVENKAMP

JIM COLES

WILLIAM CONNER

KATHY CONNORS

JIM DAY

HON. KEMPER FREEMAN, JR.

JOHN HENNESSY

HON. STEPHEN L. JOHNSON

ANNE KELLEY

DAVID MARYATT

DANIEL MEAD SMITH

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

JERRY NUTTER

MARY ODERMAT

JOHN OTTER

KEN PETERSON

SARAH RINDLAUB, PAST CHAIRMAN

MICHAEL SOTELO

AL SYMINGTON

ROBERT M. TIPPETT

JANET TRUE

FREDERIC S. WEISS

ROBERTA WEYMOUTH

ROBERT L. WILEY III

CRAIG WILLIAMSON

LEN ZARELLI

PRESIDENT

DANIEL MEAD SMITH

VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

PAUL GUPPY

EDUCATION CENTER DIRECTOR

LIV FINNE

ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER DIRECTOR

TODD MYERS

GOVERNMENT REFORM CENTER DIRECTOR

JASON MERCIER

HEALTH CARE CENTER POLICY ANALYST

DR. ROGER STARK

SMALL BUSINESS CENTER DIRECTOR

CARL GIPSON

TRANSPORTATION CENTER DIRECTOR

MICHAEL ENNIS

WASHINGTONVOTES.ORG DIRECTOR

BRANDON HOUSKEEPER

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

KATIE BERING

OPERATIONS MANAGER

BRADEN GOODWIN

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

JOHN BARNES

Dear Councilmember Constantine:

Recently, you and your campaign spokesmen have claimed that we at Washington Policy Center “don’t believe in global warming” and that we are climate “deniers.” You have repeated this assertion several times on television, in ads and in other venues.

Your assertions regarding Washington Policy Center’s views on climate change are false and we ask that you correct them.

For instance, your campaign released a television ad (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Oh1JPhHXko>) that includes a blog entry from the *Seattle Weekly* regarding Washington Policy Center’s position on climate change. The clip your campaign used from the *Weekly* indicates that we “don’t believe in global warming” (although the title of the blog does not mention WPC, the ad’s language refers to us and the blog post is about our position on the issue). That blog post went on to call the WPC climate “deniers.”

The *Seattle Weekly* specifically retracted the claim made in the article your ad references. Under the tag of “*mea culpas*,” they note that we challenged their characterization of our position, admitting that we were “right to be upset.” *SeattlePI.com* made a similar correction of the assertion made by your campaign’s spokesman Sandeep Kaushik.

Since the *Weekly* has now corrected the blog entry you cite, we request that you immediately remove the clip from your ad on television, the Internet and any other venue where you are using the ad.

If you would like information on our true position regarding protecting the environment, and our support for a carbon tax and tax cuts for innovation as the best policy for addressing climate change and reducing CO₂ emissions, you can read our research conclusions and environmental policy recommendations at www.washingtonpolicy.org/publications/topics/environment.html. Alternatively, you can read Chapter 3 of the *Policy Guide for Washington State*, 3rd edition, which we provided to all council members. It is also available on the web at www.washingtonpolicy.org/policyguide/index.html.

Washington Policy Center is an independent, non-profit, non-partisan research and education organization. We do not oppose or endorse political candidates. Our policy recommendations for addressing climate change are based on best available science, sound economic principles and the latest data.

Your statements regarding Washington Policy Center’s climate research mislead the public. We realize reasonable people may disagree with our views on the best way to protect the environment, but we strongly feel such disagreements should be based on an honest understanding of our true position, not on incorrect and unsupported assertions.

Sincerely,



Todd Myers

Environmental Director, Washington Policy Center
tmyers@washingtonpolicy.org