

Climate debate heats up

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Lamar Smith rightly asserts climate change policy needs thoughtful, objective planning. However, he hasn't studied climate change enough to recognize objective analysis. He misrepresented IPCC statements on climate change's connections to severe weather, cited [the State Department's] Keystone draft omitting its flaws, and claimed warming stopped ignoring that temperatures are within ranges predicted, ocean warming continues, sea level rise and ice melting exceed predictions.

Smith's committee heard Dr. Kerry Emanuel (Republican) testify highlighting a Bush-era Defense Department report calling for American action stabilizing climate change and warning that scientists conservatively, routinely underestimate risk. His committee also needs testimony from top Oil CEOs (ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil, Shell) who acknowledge climate change, and prefer a carbon tax solution. These voices ought be heeded if Smith wants objective, thoughtful policy. — **Judy Weiss, Brookline, Mass.**

<http://www.utsandiego.com/news/2013/May/27/lamar-smith-climate-change-global-warming/3/?#article-copy>