

Could have told Rokita this

When a voter questioned Rep. Todd Rokita about climate change, he dodged her questions, asserting he'd like real facts about human-caused climate change instead of liberal opinion. The voter insulted Rokita and stormed out. And Rokita inappropriately insulted her by calling her "intolerant" (it was inappropriate for Rokita to label scientists' hard work as liberally biased and intolerant of him to use the word liberal as a slur). It was probably hard for her to stand alone and hear denials about such a serious issue that puts at risk people, places and things that she values. It may be hard for Rokita to break with the GOP's irresponsible climate change denial platform, and risk admitting human-caused climate change. Congressmen who break ranks on climate change get attacked — ask former Rep. Bob Inglis, R-South Carolina.

If the voter had wanted to give Rokita real facts about climate change's human causation, the seriousness of the risks and best policy options in a way that he might have found less threatening — she could have read to him from Exxon's website. Exxon isn't usually known for liberal opinions.

Or the voter could have suggested that he schedule a meeting with Exxon —in the last six months, Exxon stepped up their efforts to lobby Congress for climate legislation (see Wall Street Journal, June 30).

Or she could contact Citizens' Climate Lobby. We meet with all members of the House and Senate. With us, she'll be well-prepared to lobby effectively, and she wouldn't feel alone.

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