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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

HEIDI FORD, POLICY STAFF DIRECTOR
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December 16, 2011

Mr. Ralph Nader
P.O. Box 19312
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Nader:

I thank you for your invitation to debate the issue of global warming with Representative Ed Markey (D-MA), and I am pleased to accept. I hope that we can schedule the debate as soon as possible following the Christmas recess when Congress returns to session. I would also like to suggest any date between January 26 – February 8, with the exception of February 1 and 2 due to the National Prayer Breakfast. I look forward to working with you and Representative Markey on the details of a mutually acceptable moderator, rules and venue.

This debate is most welcome. Since the failure of the Kyoto process and the demise of global warming cap-and-trade legislation, the only one talking about global warming in Washington these days has been me. But, we need to be talking about global warming because President Obama is moving full speed ahead to implement the largest tax increase in American history through global warming regulations by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This is despite the fact that these regulations are based on the now thoroughly-discredited science of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and both the President and EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson have warned that EPA regulations would be even worse economically than cap-and-trade legislation. Furthermore, Administrator Jackson confirmed in a Senate hearing that such regulations will have no impact on climate.

We handily won the debate on cap-and-trade so now our fight is to stop President Obama from achieving through regulations what he could not achieve through legislation. This debate will be a great opportunity to shine the light on the President's job-killing global warming agenda.

You were right to say in your letter that just as I remain committed to fighting against "the greatest hoax" Representative Markey is, "a man of his convictions." Although I fundamentally disagree with Representative Markey's views, I have always welcomed our debates, and I appreciate that he been an impassioned leader for his cause.

I look forward to hearing from you as we work out the details of our debate.

Mr. Ralph Nader
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Sincerely,



James M. Inhofe
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public Works