

January 11, 2017

Dear Colleague,

Attached you will find a letter we have written encouraging President Elect Trump to take action on climate change. As physicists, we feel compelled to use our collective expertise and credibility to demand action on this dire threat to our country and our planet.

The information in this letter reflects peer-reviewed statements taken from the Technical Summaries of the IPCC WG1 and WG2 5<sup>th</sup> Assessment Reports ([www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5](http://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5)), the Department of Defense report on climate change and national security (<http://archive.defense.gov/pubs/150724-congressional-report-on-national-implications-of-climate-change.pdf?source=govdelivery>), and a meta-analysis of the scientific consensus on the causes of climate change (<http://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/11/4/048002>).

We began sending this letter to every department chair registered with AIP on Dec. 6, 2016 and now have over 600 signatures. In the course of the next 5 days, we hope to collect as many more signatures as possible from physicists and astronomers in academia around the country. We will then compile the signatures and send the letter to President-Elect Trump. During the signature collection process, we will be pursuing avenues for publication as op-ed pieces and planning publicity on social media.

Whether or not you choose to sign the letter, we would be very grateful if you could circulate both this cover sheet and the letter among all of the teaching and research faculty at your institution, drawing their attention to both the content, and the need for a response by 11:59pm, Jan 16, 2017. This is a firm deadline.

To add a signature to the letter, either go to the website [people.usm.maine.edu/pauln/climate](http://people.usm.maine.edu/pauln/climate) or go directly to the letter signing at <http://tinyurl.com/physics-on-climate>. The website gives some background about the impetus for the letter, as well as providing direct links to the actual letter (in multiple formats). You will need a password to sign the letter; this will be provided by the colleague who brought this letter to your attention, or in reply to an e-mail to [climateletter@physicistsfortheearth.org](mailto:climateletter@physicistsfortheearth.org).

While we are aware that publication of this letter may have little impact on our country's climate policy, we are absolutely certain that the absence of a letter will achieve even less. We cannot remain silent in good conscience.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Mark O. Battle, Associate Professor of Physics, Bowdoin College

Madeleine Msall, Professor of Physics, Bowdoin College

Paul Nakroshis, Associate Professor of Physics, University of Southern Maine