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Contacts: [Timothy Telleen-Lawton](#) or [Jen Mueller](#), 202-683-1250

EPA Joins the Ranks of the Scientific Community on Global Warming

Washington, DC – Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released its proposed finding that carbon dioxide and other global warming pollutants, which come mostly from burning fossil fuels, are a threat to public health and welfare. Environment America Federal Global Warming Program Director Emily Figdor issued the following statement in response:

“Duh’ may not be a scientific term, but it applies here. Today, common sense prevailed over pressure from Big Oil and other big polluters to deny the obvious in order to maintain the status quo on energy. EPA has embraced the basic facts on global warming that scientists around the world have acknowledged for years. We applaud President Obama and EPA Administrator Jackson for putting science back in its rightful place at the forefront of environmental policy.

“Reducing global warming pollution to the levels demanded by the science will drive the creation of a clean energy economy, put Americans back to work in clean energy jobs, and spare our children and grandchildren and the world they’ll inherit from the ravages of global warming.”

The following is the timeline leading up to today’s decision:

- 1999: [EPA was first petitioned](#) to regulate global warming pollutants from new cars and light trucks under the Clean Air Act.
- 2003: [The Bush EPA denied the petition.](#)
- April 2007: [The Supreme Court rejected](#) the Bush EPA’s reasons for denying the petition.
- December 2007: [The Bush EPA prepared a proposal](#) finding that global warming pollutants endanger public welfare, but the White House did not allow the proposal to be released.

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Environment America is a federation of state-based, citizen-funded environment groups working for clean air, clean water, and open space. www.environmentamerica.org