

STEVE DAINES
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

206 Cannon
Office Building
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February 7, 2014

Mr. [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]:

Thank you for contacting me to express your strong concerns about climate change. I value your point of view and appreciate the opportunity to respond. As a fifth generation Montanan and avid sportsman I know how special our environment is to our way of life. I believe we can balance growth and stewardship while reducing rates of pollution to better preserve and protect a clean environment for my children and generations to come.

As you may know, there is considerable debate as to whether human activities significantly contribute to climate change. While some believe increased levels of CO₂ from human activities in our atmosphere are a major factor in planetary warming trends, others observe that there may be other factors. Some note that increases in solar activity have contributed to our global warming trend. Still others suggest that our planet has gone through many natural heating and cooling cycles over the last thousand years. What we do know is that several factors including carbon dioxide and methane emissions from plants, animals contribute to climate change and that the effect is more severe weather patterns, a rise in sea levels and increased temperatures.

While I believe we all have a moral responsibility to be good stewards of the environment, the current uncertainty surrounding climate change requires us to consider very carefully any legislation that would cost jobs and hurt families with only the promise of an extremely small impact on the reported problem. I graduated with an engineering degree from MSU. My education trained me to base decisions on sound math and science. I will not support policies that would harm America's economy while having an insignificant or uncertain benefit to the environment. We need a strong economy that creates jobs and opportunities for families and a clean sustainable environment. I believe the greatest challenge comes from global competitors such as China—the world's leader in carbon emissions—who are unlikely to implement similar policies, placing our nation at a major competitive disadvantage.

Again, thanks for contacting me. It is my number one priority in Congress to represent the values and interests of the people of Montana, and your input is very helpful as I do. Please do not hesitate to contact me again in the future regarding this or any other federal issue important to you

Sincerely,



Steve Daines
Member of Congress

SD/dg

**Please do not reply to this email, as this box is unattended.
Instead, please use the contact form on my website if you have any further comments.**



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