

April 24, 1998

TO: Climate science discussion participants

FROM: Joe Walker

Following up on conversations that I had or messages that I left for all of you earlier today, attached is a statement that is API's response to media inquiries stemming from a draft paper on global climate change.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Attachment

IF ASKED about a draft paper on global climate change and the debate on the validity of the science surrounding this issue:

The American Petroleum Institute officer charged with the responsibility for API's global climate change activities, and who also is the API representative on the Global Climate Coalition Executive Committee and Board of Directors, became aware of the draft document today. He was not aware that such a document existed, he did not ask for such a document, he did not authorize its preparation. Neither the idea for such a paper nor the plan outlined in it was sanctioned by the API or the GCC leadership.

We have learned that the paper was prepared after brainstorming sessions by persons involved in the global climate change debate. Their discussions were on how to reinvigorate the debate regarding the issue that the science is not conclusive on global warming. This came about because of statements by the Clinton Administration, environmental groups and reports in the news media asserting that global warming is a reality, and that extreme and costly measures are necessary to combat it. It is our understanding that the motivation for the group discussion was the need for a more accurate and balanced representation of the state of knowledge about our climate system.

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