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Federal Government Doles Out Millions in Greenhouse Pork

By James M. Sheehan

The Kyoto global warming treaty may pose a threat to the U.S. economy, but it has spawned a cottage industry based in the nation's capital, courtesy of the U.S. taxpayer. A review of Environmental Protection Agency grants shows that the federal government has shelled out well over \$30 million in greenhouse pork to environmental advocacy organizations, academic "researchers," state government agencies and foreign governments. This federal largess has created a growing constituency dependent on the success of the U.N. global warming treaty.

"Educating" Legislators. EPA grants are cleverly designed to create the appearance of broad support for its global warming policy agenda. For instance, the agency paid over \$1.3 million to Local Environmental Initiatives-USA for the purpose of promoting "local government led, community-wide sustainable development planning." Another half-million went to state government agencies to educate students, alert the general public, and design greenhouse gas reduction strategies. One Minnesota agency even received funding from EPA to "educate" state legislators about the looming threat of a warmer planet.

Numerous groups are paid with taxpayer dollars to carry EPA's message to the general public. The Climate Institute received \$727,000 to educate the public about the evils of fossil fuels. The agency also paid the Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, Environment, and Security \$190,000 to disseminate "objective information" about global warming. The information is disseminated in print and on-line through a magazine called "Global Change," which reproduces data already publicly available in federal government publications and web sites.

The EPA also funds lots of academic "research," but it only grants money for studies likely to support its assumptions and theories about global warming. The World Resources Institute was awarded \$150,000 to "show that policy actions that are under active consideration to mitigate global climate change can have immediate beneficial effects." EPA granted Resources for the Future \$437,000 to assess "the vulnerability of low income households" to global warming, presupposing the existence of the phenomenon itself.

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Various global warming-related research grants totaling \$12 million have been made to colleges and universities. These grants paid for assessments of the alleged public health risks of a warmer climate, and funded “workshops” to publicize global warming horrors.

Business Rent Seeking. To generate support for the global warming agenda from business, EPA gave \$103,000 to the Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy, a lobbying group for fluorocarbon manufacturers who expect to benefit from the treaty. The group is a component of the International Climate Change Partnership, comprised of companies that support the global warming theory, such as British Petroleum, Boeing, and General Electric. These companies either seek regulatory protection from smaller firms or have close ties to the government from their dependence on federal subsidies. By cooperating with the Clinton-Gore Administration on global warming, they hope to reap profits at the expense of competing businesses.

Other EPA grants promote a similar form of business rent seeking. The American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy, the International Institute for Energy Conservation, and the Climate Institute were paid hundreds of thousands of dollars to agitate for energy conservation. U.S. dollars are being used to propagandize American industry about the need for energy conservation, to write “climate change action plans” for Third World countries, and to manage fossil fuel use reduction programs in China. These groups and their affiliates no doubt hope the Kyoto treaty will lead to an avalanche of government-funded energy conservation subsidies in the future.

The federal government’s efforts to enlist support for the Kyoto treaty are not confined within this country’s borders. The EPA has handed out almost \$5 million tax dollars to an assortment of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), UN bureaucrats, and Third World regimes. The money is used to prepare greenhouse gas inventories, to develop public awareness of global warming forecasts, and to hold training conferences and other boondoggles for environmental consultants. Additional taxpayer dollars are channeled abroad through the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), a fund supervised by the World Bank and the UN. So far, the GEF has funded \$675 million in Third World environmental projects over the last six years. Activist groups such as the World Wildlife Fund, International Union for the Conservation of Nature, and Greenpeace are named as the executing agencies or collaborating organizations for \$312 million worth of these activities.

Symbiotic Relationship. Legions of Green pressure groups, business lobbyists and tax-exempt “research” institutes have been put on the greenhouse dole. It should surprise no one that these recipients of Washington’s largess are preaching the global warming gospel. EPA’s activities create a symbiotic relationship between power-seeking agency bureaucrats and rent-seeking interest groups, each of which stands to benefit tremendously from the policies they advocate. Unfortunately, the losers in this game are the same taxpayers, consumers, and businesses who are being forced to bankroll it.

EPA Grants to Non-Profit Organizations for Environmental Advocacy

Organization	Amount	Award Date	Purpose
Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy	\$103,000	09/08/95	Facilitate effective global communication regarding climate change initiatives
American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy	\$70,000	05/19/97	Assess Climate Wise program for reducing industrial greenhouse gas emissions
American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy	\$333,726	7/1/94	Promote reduced greenhouse gas emissions in China
American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy	\$50,000	4/18/98	Disseminate information on energy efficient technologies to industry, government and NGOs
Brookings Institution	\$495,367	8/30/95	Assess international trade impacts of global warming policies
Center for Clean Air Policy	\$250,000	9/11/96	Study implementation and management of domestic greenhouse gas emissions trading system
Center for Clean Air Policy	\$463,939	3/31/95	Provide opportunities for international negotiators and U.S. and foreign officials to "exchange ideas" on Joint Implementation of greenhouse gas reduction projects
Center for International Environmental Law	\$80,000	9/15/95	Analyze natural resource sector environmental issues with international implications
Climate Institute	\$451,086	9/15/97	Assist countries in creating action plans to implement an energy management program
Climate Institute	\$690,458	9/15/94	Green Buildings Initiative to reduce "global warming gases" in municipal buildings
Climate Institute	\$469,199	9/15/97	"Promote awareness of climate change and air pollution resulting from fossil fuel use"
Climate Institute	\$258,000	9/15/95	Educate "millions of Americans" about global warming
Community Nutrition Institute	\$20,000	10/8/97	Maintain a dialogue between environmental organizations and industry on trade and environmental issues
Global Environment and Trade Study (GETS)	\$105,000	11/31/95	Analyze key issues underlying trade and environment debate
International Institute for Energy Conservation	\$490,000	8/20/96	Assist countries in developing national climate change action plans
Local Environmental Initiatives-USA	\$1,483,523	7/1/96	"Municipal collaboration" to champion the climate change issue
Local Environmental Initiatives-USA	\$104,553	9/26/96	"Local Agenda 21-USA" to promote sustainable development planning at the local level
Natural Resources Defense Council	\$729,251	8/28/96	Encourage the purchase of energy efficient equipment

Natural Resources Defense Council	\$113,419	8/29/97	Develop regional energy-efficiency code for Russia
The Nature Conservancy	\$569,022	9/29/95	Develop sustainable development and ecosystem strategies
The Nature Conservancy	\$101,246	9/18/96	Assess ecological threats to tropical reefs in the Bahamas
The Nature Conservancy	\$150,000	9/14/95	Study "spatial biodiversity data" for use in environmental planning
Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, Environment, and Security	\$190,000	7/29/97	"Getting the Word Out:...dissemination of objective information regarding climate change issues through the publication of Global Change magazine"
Resources for the Future	\$437,597	9/25/95	Research the vulnerability of low income households to the hydrologic effects of climate change
Resources for the Future	\$75,000	7/11/97	Theoretical and empirical economic research on global warming policies
Resources for the Future	\$874,055	9/1/95	Climate change economics and policy research
Resources for the Future	\$160,000	9/30/97	Research technological innovation and reduction in carbon emissions
Resources for the Future	\$195,000	9/30/93	Assess and propose improvements to international environmental management practices
World Resources Institute	\$70,000	9/6/95	Examine competitive impact of environmental regulations for business and environmental regulators
World Resources Institute	\$20,000	9/15/97	Environmental Governance Initiative to disseminate info on Local Environmental Action Programs to Eastern Europe
World Resources Institute	\$1,710,485	9/28/94	Environmental statistics and indicators
World Resources Institute	\$150,000	3/12/98	Assess public health consequences of fossil fuel combustion, show that global warming policy actions can have beneficial effects
World Resources Institute	\$389,409	7/29/97	Build business support for climate treaty
World Resources Institute	\$1,286,606	6/24/94	Analysis of domestic and international "climate change mitigation strategies"
World Wildlife Fund	\$1,130,540	9/27/92	Assessment of global marine contamination
World Wildlife Fund	\$39,850	7/15/95	Train educators "by using biodiversity as an organizing theme"
World Wildlife Fund	\$90,000	5/26/94	Facilitate participation by NGOs in international chemicals policy-making
TOTAL	\$14,399,331		

Source: EPA Grants Information and Control System

EPA Grants to States

Recipient	Award	Award Date	Activities Funded
Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources	\$24,666	July 28, 1997	Develop greenhouse gas (GHG) emission inventory under Phase 1 of EPA State and Local Climate Change Program
Hawaii State Dept. of Business, Economics	\$104,867	July 27, 1997	Develop and implement a GHG reductions strategy for Hawaii
Maine State Planning Office	\$75,000	Sept. 4, 1997	Project to educate students about climate change; outreach program to inform general public about GHG mitigation
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency	\$75,000	Aug. 5, 1997	Use GHG mitigation to educate state legislature about climate change
Oregon Economic Development Dept.	\$50,000	Sept. 25, 1997	Design and implement Asia-Pacific sustainable development network
Oregon Economic Development Dept.	\$50,100	Sept. 26, 1997	Conference on Asia-Pacific sustainable development
State of Iowa	\$75,000	Sept. 9, 1997	Global climate outreach program to develop GHG emission indices
State of North Carolina Dept. of Commerce	\$50,000	June 16, 1998	North Carolina Climate Wise Program
State of Tennessee	\$25,000	June 11, 1998	Maintain network of state governments promoting Climate Wise activities
Wisconsin Dept. of Administration	\$50,000	June 5, 1998	Help companies assess facilities, lower GHG emissions and energy use
TOTAL	\$579,633		

Source: EPA Grants Information and Control System

EPA Grants to Colleges and Universities

Recipient	Award	Award Date	Activities Funded
Boston University	\$124,595	Aug. 26, 1997	Dynamic models of industrial responses to climate change policy
Colorado, University of	\$100,000	Sept. 27, 1996	Develop and apply methods for assessing vulnerability to climate change; transfer knowledge through courses, workshops, guidance manuals
Delaware University, of	\$299,216	Sept. 29, 1995	Development of early warning systems, strategies by states and localities to offset adverse health effects of climate change
Harvard University	\$899,499	May 23, 1994	Analyze impacts of environmental policy on U.S. competitiveness Assess economic/institutional impacts of responses to global climate change
Illinois, University of	\$100,000	Sept. 4, 1997	Research effects of methane emissions on global climate, their role in greenhouse gas abatement strategies

Illinois, University of	\$175,000	Aug. 23, 1996	Research effects of human-related gas emissions on ozone and climate
Illinois, University of	\$380,000	Sept. 29, 1995	Research vulnerability of water resources to global climate change in the agricultural Midwest
Indiana University	\$1,393,879	Sept. 13, 1996	Integrated assessment of strategies for climate change, impacts on Midwestern agriculture
Iowa, University of	\$57,614	July 1, 1998	Assess public perceptions of global warming and its consequences through experimental futures market
Johns Hopkins University	\$2,779,763	Oct. 1, 1996	Integrated assessment of U.S. public health effects of climate change
Johns Hopkins University	\$794,168	Oct. 1, 1994	Assessment of public health effects of global climate change; communicate significant risks to policy makers
Kentucky, University of	\$217,500	Aug. 9, 1995	Assessment and abatement of emissions with high global warming potential
Maryland, University of	\$1,017,800	Mar. 31, 1994	Research ecological restoration and valuation, their effects on sustainable development
Michigan, University of	\$169,223	Apr. 13, 1998	Workshop on effects of climate change in the Upper Great Lakes
Michigan, University of	\$261,000	Sept. 3, 1996	Examine impact of land use and climate change on Great Lakes
Minnesota, University of	\$300,000	Sept. 29, 1995	Research changes in water quality and availability, fish habitat in cold regions due to climate change
Oklahoma, University of	\$244,955	Sept. 25, 1995	Research sustainable development and management of environmentally conscious technological innovation under alternative market conditions
Oklahoma, University of	\$295,879	Sept. 24, 1993	Consequences to native fish faunas in upland streams of North America related to climate change
Penn. State University	\$460,000	Sept. 29, 1995	Research on regional hydrologic adaptation to climate change
Penn. State University	\$120,000	Sept. 27, 1995	Research regional stream-flow sensitivity to climate change in an urbanizing environment
Penn. State University	\$591,981	Sept. 6, 1995	Assess public perceptions of climate change impacts on water quality and quantity, recreational fishing
Southern University / A. & M. University	\$91,317	Sept. 30, 1997	Examine regional vulnerabilities to climate change, obtain information to be integrated across regions
Texas A. & M. College	\$30,000	July 6, 1998	Promote sustainable economic development in Taiwan

Tufts University	\$1,325,370	Sept. 26, 1996	Assessment of impact of climate change on water resources
Washington, University of	\$463,762	Sept. 29, 1995	Research to assess hydrological vulnerability to climate change
TOTAL	\$12,692,521		

Source: EPA Grants Information and Control System

EPA Grants to Foreign Countries

Recipient	Location	Award	Award Date	Activities Funded
Agency for Rational Energy Use and Ecology	Kiev, Ukraine	\$682,981	Sept. 15, 1994	Assess Ukraine's vulnerability to climate change and possible adaptive responses Develop policies for mitigating production of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
China Coal Information Institute	Beijing, China	\$535,000	Sept. 28, 1994	Establish clearinghouse to disseminate information about opportunities to reduce methane emissions from coal mining
Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society - NATO	Brussels, Belgium	\$3,000	Oct. 29, 1996	Workshop on ecosystem modeling of coastal lagoons for sustainable development
Environmental Management and Law Assoc.	Budapest, Hungary	\$126,016	July 10, 1997	Institutionalize sustainable environmental management practices on the local level
Government of Bangladesh	Dhaka, Bangladesh	\$329,081	Sept. 12, 1994	Prepare GHG emission inventory; evaluate options for reducing emissions; disseminate information
National Env. Protection Agency	Beijing, China	\$50,000	Sept. 8, 1995	Develop and implement environmental labels for CFC-free, super energy-efficient refrigerators
Natural Resources Canada	Ottawa, Ontario, Canada	\$10,000	Aug. 28, 1997	Assess the performance of energy-efficient and environmentally-friendly buildings around the world
Palau Conservation Society	Koror, Palau	\$52,000	May 6, 1998	Sustainable development training conference
Regional Env. Center (R.E.C.) for Central and Eastern Europe	Budapest, Hungary	\$1,023,350	Mar. 15, 1994	Provide support for improved environmental management; assist in clearinghouse and sustainability functions

Republic of Kazniimosk	Almaty, Kazakhstan	\$230,871	Sept. 10, 1993	Prepare a GHG emissions inventory; recommend climate change measures
Republica Federativa do Brazil	Brasilia, Brazil	\$400,000	Aug. 24, 1995	Inventory of net GHG emissions not controlled by Montreal Protocol
The Royal Thai Government	Bangkok, Thailand	\$537,400	Aug. 31, 1994	Assessment of sea level rise vulnerability; analysis of mitigation options Draft national climate plan Public education/institutional development activities
UNEP Chemicals	Geneva, Switzerland	\$250,000	Sept. 9, 1997	Assist countries to implement recommendations of Agenda 21 Support development of environmental management tools for sustainable industrial development
UNITAR	Geneva, Switzerland	\$924,990	Sept. 20, 1994	Training programs to assist countries in their implementation of Agenda 21
United Republic of Tanzania	Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania	\$307,480	Sept. 23, 1994	Assess climate change impact; identify policy measures to mitigate GHG emissions Create awareness in the public of the impacts of climate change
TOTAL		\$4,980,669		

Source: EPA Grants Information and Control System

NGOs and the World Bank's Global Environment Facility

(Cumulative)

Major NGO Executing Agencies/Collaborating Organizations	Location	Project Funding
World Conservation Union-IUCN, World Resources Institute	Global	\$745,000
World Conservation Union-IUCN	Global	\$348,000
World Conservation Union-World Conservation Union-IUCN, Conservation International, The Nature Conservancy	Global	\$4,000,000
World Resources Institute, World Conservation Union-IUCN	Global	\$2,000,000
World Resources Institute, World Conservation Union-IUCN	Global	\$5,000,000
World Conservation Union-IUCN	Central Africa region	\$12,000,000
World Wildlife Fund (WWF), World Conservation Union-IUCN	Danube basin region	\$3,900,000
World Conservation Union-IUCN, World Wide Fund for Nature	Pacific Islands	\$2,440,000

World Conservation Union-IUCN	Indonesia/Malaysia	\$2,000,000
World Conservation Union-IUCN	West Africa region	\$7,000,000
Greenpeace, The Nature Conservancy	South Pacific islands	\$10,000,000
World Wildlife Fund-US	Bhutan	\$10,000,000
World Wildlife Fund-Brazil	Brazil	\$20,000,000
World Wildlife Fund-US	Cameroon	\$5,960,000
World Wildlife Fund	China	\$17,800,000
World Conservation Union-IUCN	Congo	\$10,000,000
World Wildlife Fund	Czech Republic	\$2,000,000
Center for Marine Conservation	Dominican Republic	\$3,000,000
The Nature Conservancy	Ecuador	\$7,200,000
World Wildlife Fund	Georgia	\$120,000
Conservation International	Guyana	\$6,000,000
World Wildlife Fund-India	India	\$20,210,000
World Wildlife Fund-Indonesia, WALHI	Indonesia	\$14,400,000
World Wildlife Fund, World Conservation Union-IUCN	Lao PDR	\$5,000,000
World Conservation Union-IUCN	Lebanon	\$2,530,000
Conservation International	Madagascar	\$21,300,000
World Wildlife Fund-US	Malawi	\$5,000,000
World Wildlife Fund, Conservation International	Mexico	\$25,000,000
World Conservation Union-IUCN	Mozambique	\$5,000,000
The Nature Conservancy, World Wildlife Fund	Papua New Guinea	\$5,000,000
World Conservation Union-IUCN, The Nature Conservancy	Peru	\$5,000,000
World Wildlife Fund-US, Conservation International	Philippines	\$20,000,000
World Wildlife Fund-Germany	Romania	\$4,500,000
World Wildlife Fund	Russia	\$20,100,000
World Conservation Union-IUCN, World Wildlife Fund	Seychelles	\$186,000
World Wildlife Fund, World Conservation Union-IUCN	Slovak Republic	\$2,300,000
World Conservation Union-IUCN	Sri Lanka	\$5,417,000
World Conservation Union-IUCN	Sri Lanka	\$4,100,000
World Wildlife Fund	Tunisia	\$89,000
World Wildlife Fund, World Conservation Union-IUCN	Uganda	\$10,290,000
World Conservation Union-IUCN	Ukraine	\$112,000
World Wildlife Fund	Ukraine	\$1,500,000
World Wildlife Fund, World Conservation Union-IUCN	Vietnam	\$3,000,000
Total		\$311,547,000

Source: Global Environment Facility