

To: Dravis, Samantha[dravis.samantha@epa.gov]
From: EPA Press Office
Sent: Wed 11/1/2017 5:30:14 PM
Subject: Pruitt Promotes Independence On EPA Science Boards

Pruitt: "The days of 'political science' are over at the agency."

Pruitt Promotes Independence On EPA Science Boards

"It Just Is Not Right For The Agency To Be Issuing \$77 Million In Grants And Then Asking These People To Be Providing Independent Counsel."
- EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt

THE WASHINGTON POST: "Scott Pruitt Blocks Scientists With EPA Funding From Serving As Agency Advisers." "It is very, very important to ensure independence, to ensure that we're getting advice and counsel independent of the EPA,' Pruitt told reporters Tuesday. He estimated that the members of three different committees — Scientific Advisory Board, the Clean Air Science Advisory Committee and the Board of Scientific Counselors — had collectively accepted \$77 million in EPA grants over the last three years. He noted that researchers will have the option of ending their grant or continuing to advise EPA, 'but they can't do both.'" ([The Washington Post](#), 10/31/17)

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL: "EPA Bars Scientists It Funds From Advisory Roles." "The Environmental Protection Agency will no longer permit scientists receiving agency grants to serve on three of its independent advisory boards, a change the agency said was designed to foster greater independence and regional diversity for the panels, but which scientist groups and environmental advocates said would give polluting industries undue policy influence." ([The Wall Street Journal](#), 10/31/17)

USA TODAY: "Pruitt Moves To Shake Up EPA Advisory Boards." "Scientists who receive grants from the Environmental Protection Agency will no longer be allowed to simultaneously serve on the agency's nearly two dozen advisory boards, an unprecedented directive EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt ... 'We want to ensure that the American people have confidence ... in the process and that the advisers that we have in each of these respective capacities are providing independent, arms-length input to us as we make decisions.'" ([USA Today](#), 10/31/17)

THE WASHINGTON FREE BEACON: "Members Of Scientific Boards Received \$77 Million From EPA While Advising Agency." "Under the last three years of the Obama administration, members sitting on just three of the agency's scientific advisory boards received \$77 million in EPA grants. Pruitt said individuals advising in policy and regulatory matters should be completely independent of the EPA." ([The Washington Free Beacon](#), 10/31/17)

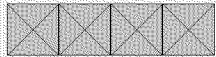
THE WASHINGTON EXAMINER: "Scott Pruitt Bars EPA Grant Recipients From Serving On Advisory Boards." "People receiving EPA grants who currently serve on the three boards will have to choose whether to keep the grant or continue their work on the boards. Most board members serve three-year terms. 'You have to choose, are you going to continue getting a grant or serve the agency,' Pruitt said. 'They can't do both.'" ([The Washington Examiner](#), 10/31/17)

ABC NEWS: "EPA Blocks Some Scientists From Serving On Advisory Boards." "The

Environmental Protection Agency announced today that scientists who receive money from the agency will no longer be able to serve on its advisory boards, a move that critics contend will push independent science out of decisions about environmental policy. ... The EPA argues that in addition to strengthening the independence of members on its boards, the move will further increase the diversity of the councils, with new members offering 'fresh perspectives.' The agency is further promoting participation from state, local and tribal governments." ([ABC News](#), 10/31/17)

DAILY CALLER: "Trump's EPA Takes Steps To 'Ensure Independence' Among Science Advisers." "EPA will no longer allow researchers to serve on three scientific advisory boards if they also receive agency grants. The policy is to ensure science advisers are truly independent from EPA, Pruitt said, echoing concerns Republicans have voiced for years." ([Daily Caller](#), 10/31/17)

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