

Northampton, UK
Monday, 05 May 2008

Information Services Directorate
Room 103, Whiteknights House
The University of Reading
PO Box 217, Reading RG6 6AH

By email imps@reading.ac.uk

Dear Sirs,

**Request for Information concerning
the IPCC, 2007 WGI Chapter 3 Assessment Process**

Sir Brian Hoskins of your Department of Meteorology served as a Review Editor on the IPCC Fourth Assessment, which by international agreement was required to be undertaken on a comprehensive, objective, open and transparent basis. The internationally agreed “Principles Governing IPCC Work”¹ place important duties of oversight on Review Editors including that “Review Editors must submit a written report”. Dr Hoskins provided no such report but merely signed a short *pro forma* which had been sent to all Review Editors by the WGI Technical Support Unit, and who have assured me that all Review Editors were asked to add their own detailed comments. Other Review Editors such as John Zillman did provide a detailed report in addition to signing the *pro forma* sent by their TSU.

Dr Hoskins’ signed *pro forma*, which eventually was sent to me by the WGI TSU, was dated by him on 7/12/2007 almost a year after the end of the IPCC review process, and coincidentally the date I renewed my earlier unsuccessful efforts to obtain sight of the Review Editors’ reports by writing to John Mitchell, Chief Scientist of the Met Office.

On 8 March 2008, I asked Dr Hoskins for important specific information, not so far released, on his work as a Review Editor. I have had no reply or acknowledgement. However, through other FoI enquiries, I have been given a copy of an email from Dr John Mitchell, dated 14 March 2008, to several other prominent IPCC participants including Dr Hoskins and indicating that my letter to him had been discussed. Also included in the documents released to me is an email dated 14 March 2008 to Dr Hoskins, among others, from Susan Solomon, Co-Chair of WGI, advising the addressees not to disclose information beyond that (which I consider inadequate) already in the public domain.

Accordingly, I hereby request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and/or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004:

All letters, facsimile and email correspondence to or from Dr Hoskins in connection with his work as an IPCC Review Editor, including, but not limited to correspondence between him and the following individuals involved in the assessment: Drs Susan Solomon,

¹ PRINCIPLES GOVERNING IPCC WORK: Approved at the Fourteenth Session (Vienna, 1-3 October 1998) on 1 October 1998, amended at the 21st Session (Vienna, 3 and 6-7 November 2003) and at the 25th Session (Mauritius, 26-28 April 2006). <http://www.ipcc.ch/about/princ.pdf>. See also Appendix A Procedures for the preparation, review, acceptance, adoption, approval and publication of IPCC reports. <http://www.ipcc.ch/about/app-a.pdf>

Thomas R. Karl, John Mitchell, Bubu Jallow, Kevin Trenberth, Philip Jones, Peter Ambenje, Roxana Bojariu, David Easterling, Albert Klein Tank, David Parker, Fatemeh Rahimzadeh, James A. Renwick, Matilde Rusticucci, Brian Soden, and Panmao Zhai, and/or the following institutions: IPCC, IPCC Working Group I Technical Support Unit, IPCC Working Group II Technical Support Unit, CRU, DEFRA and/or the Met office.

Yours faithfully,

David Holland
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