


From: **john william hirzy** jwhirzy@gmail.com 
Subject:
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To: Bill Hirzy jwhirzy@gmail.com

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20502

March 29, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

On January 27, 2021, President Joe Biden issued a Memorandum on Restoring Trust in Government Through Scientific Integrity and Evidence-Based Policymaking. This presidential memorandum affirmed that it is the policy of the Biden-Harris Administration “to make evidence-based decisions guided by the best available science and data” that are not “distorted or influenced by political considerations.”

The President further designated the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) to constitute an interagency Task Force on Scientific Integrity of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) to review the effectiveness of scientific integrity policies across the Federal Government. As the presidential memorandum notes, the Task Force review shall consider whether existing Federal scientific-integrity policies:

- Prevent improper political interference in the conduct of scientific research and the collection of scientific or technological data.
- Prevent the suppression or distortion of scientific or technological findings, data, information, conclusions, or technical results.
- Support scientists and researchers of all genders, races, ethnicities, and backgrounds.
- **And advance the equitable delivery of the Federal Government’s programs.**

Restoring and safeguarding scientific integrity will require the participation and contribution of scientists from across government, who will bring their diverse perspectives to the endeavor, including: type and size of agency, scientific or technological discipline, stage of career, methodology, and personal and professional background.

We look forward to working with your agencies to undertake the thorough review requested by President Biden through a process that is inclusive and deliberative; that will generate important insights and best practices including transparency and accountability—and that will, therefore, endure.

Sincerely,

Jane Lubchenco, Ph.D.
Deputy Director, Climate and Environment
OSTP

Alondra Nelson, Ph.D.
Deputy Director, Science and Society
OSTP

