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November 7, 2012

The Honorable Ralph M. Hall  
2321 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson  
H2-394 Ford House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
*Via mail and e-mail*

Dear Chairman Hall and Ranking Member Johnson:

I am writing on behalf of the members of The Keystone Center's Research Integrity Roundtable. The press release issued by the sponsors of the *EPA Science Advisory Board Reform Act of 2012* (H.R. 6564), referenced the Roundtable's report *Improving the Use of Science in Regulatory Decision-Making: Dealing with Conflict of Interest and Bias in Scientific Advisory Panels, and Improving Systematic Scientific Reviews*.

As a result, the members of the Roundtable wanted to clarify the Roundtable's relationship to the bill. The following statement has been posted on The Keystone Center's website:

The Research Integrity Roundtable, as an entity, does not take positions on bills, and the Roundtable did not review H.R. 6564 before it was introduced. What we have agreed to as the Roundtable is what is in the report, and the report should be read in its entirety to inform public policy. Different members of the Roundtable will have different views on the ways H.R. 6564 does and does not draw on the Roundtable report. However, we all agree that the new paragraphs (b)(2)(C) and (D) that the bill would add to the Environmental Research, Development and Demonstration Authorization Act of 1978 (in the bill, p. 2, l. 20 through p. 3, l. 4) are not based on the Roundtable's report.

We – Keystone staff and Roundtable representatives – welcome any questions or feedback from the Committee regarding the Roundtable's consensus recommendations and their relationship to H.R. 6564.

Sincerely yours,

Brad Sperber  
Senior Mediator and Facilitator