

**From:** Thorpe, Alan J [Redacted text]  
**Sent:** 06 February 2010 12:41  
**To:** Beddington MPST  
**Subject:** Climate

**Importance:** High

Dear John,

Last Thursday, Julia Slingo, Brian Hoskins and I held a press conference with the science journalists at the Science Media Centre to discuss and re-affirm the science of climate change. It went fine but it is clear that the journalists think that it will take more than respected scientists re-affirming the science to turn the horrifically bad press we are getting at the moment around. I think this is now a very bad time for British science as a whole unfortunately because of the UEA affair plus the IPCC report error.

I want to suggest that an authoritative urgent investigation be carried out into the peer-reviewed published science of the Climatic Research Unit at UEA - so purely to confirm or otherwise that the published papers are sound. This could (and perhaps should) be offered to Muir Russell as a contribution to his independent review. (Another issue is peer review in general and its credibility as a mechanism to regulate science quality. But this is probably a separate matter.)

I would be happy for NERC to help with such a scrutiny of the CRU papers but I feel the review would be most powerful if owned by either yourself and/or the Royal Society. It would need to be carried out very quickly.

What do you think? I have raised this with Martin Rees and he is going to talk it through with RS colleagues.

Alan

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