In an effort to protect Texas farmers, ranchers and consumers from federal regulation based on flawed science, Texas Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples, Governor Rick Perry and Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott announced Feb. 16, 2010 that Texas is challenging the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) authority to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act.

While EPA is required to collect and analyze scientific data before making a finding that will impose regulation on citizens and create new financial burdens for businesses, it instead chose to rubber stamp the faulty and subsequently discredited greenhouse gas findings of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the Hadley Center’s Climate Research Unit (CRU) at Great Britain’s East Anglia University.

**Truth or Scare?**

Texas has called on EPA to conduct its own analysis of the impact of greenhouse gases and climate change rather than relying on what now appears to be manufactured and manipulated research from the IPCC and CRU. Below are the facts about CRU’s research:

- Dr. Phil Jones, director of CRU and the central figure in the “Climategate” scandal, has been denounced after leaked e-mails prompted allegations of climate fraud and scientific manipulation. *(Source: mailonline.com)*
- As the discredited senior scientist in the global warming scare, Jones now admits there has been no statistically significant data in the past 15 years to suggest climate change is man-made. *(Source: BBC Interview)*
- The CRU and IPCC manipulated or fabricated climate data gathered in Russia, New Zealand, the Himalayas and China to exaggerate claims of warming. *(Source: Texas Attorney General’s Petition, pg. 16)*
- The Netherlands, Britain, China and India, as well as scientists who previously served with the unit and panel, have recently criticized the CRU and the IPCC for manipulating data, failing to engage in the peer review process, and generating data to produce invalid evidence of global warming in order to advance political agendas. *(Source: Texas Attorney General’s Petition, pgs. 36 & 37)*

**Serious Consequences**

Relying on data from the UN panel on climate change and the climate research unit, EPA claims greenhouse gases are harmful to the environment and mankind, and therefore, warrant costly regulation that would hit Texas farmers, ranchers and consumers squarely in the wallet.

Make no mistake, the future of Texas agriculture depends on sound environmental principles, and our industry invests billions to find the right solutions to protect our precious natural resources. That’s why Texas challenged the EPA’s approach, which would drive the hard-working agriculture producers who provide us with the safest, most abundant and most affordable food supply in the world out of business. Texans don’t like being dependent on foreign oil; they certainly don’t want to be dependent on foreign food.