



## ANTI-SCIENCE CLIMATE DENIER CAUCUS

Climate change is happening, and humans are the cause. But a shocking number of congressional Republicans—more than [55 percent](#)—refuse to accept it.

One hundred and fifty-seven elected representatives from the 113th Congress have taken more than [\\$51 million](#) from the fossil-fuel industry, which is the driving force behind the carbon emissions that cause climate change. These representatives deny what more than [97 percent](#) of climate scientists say is happening: Current human activity creates the greenhouse gas emissions that trap heat within the atmosphere and cause climate change.

And their constituents are paying the price, with Americans across the nation suffering 368 climate-related national [disaster declarations](#) since 2011. There were [25 extreme weather events](#) that each caused at least \$1 billion in damage since 2011, including Superstorm Sandy and overwhelming drought that has covered almost the entire western half of the United States. Combined, these extreme weather events were responsible for 1,107 fatalities and up to [\\$188 billion](#) in economic damages.

## COLORADO

We have a moral obligation to act on climate change to protect our future generations. Despite the overwhelming scientific consensus and high costs to taxpayers, Colorado has four resident deniers who have taken [\\$1,151,301](#) in dirty energy contributions. The state has suffered [11 climate-related disaster declarations](#) since 2011, including the [Black Forest Fire](#), which was the most destructive in Colorado history—15,000 acres were ablaze, 360 homes were destroyed, and 38,000 people were evacuated. Below are quotes from Colorado’s four members of Congress who refuse to believe there is a problem to address:

**Rep. Mike Coffman (R-CO-06):** “Climate change is naturally occurring. What influence do we have over that, we certainly need to look into, but that’s subject to debate.” [[The Atlantic, June 15, 2012](#)]

**Rep. Cory Gardner (R-CO-04):** “I think the climate is changing, but I don’t believe humans are causing that change to the extent that’s been in the news.” [[ThinkProgress, September 21, 2010](#)]

**Rep. Doug Lamborn (R-CO-05):** “Lamborn said there are ‘a lot of contentious facts and claims about global warming and whether it is man made.’ However, he said there is ‘not much unanimity’ about it...Lamborn said he spoke to a scientist who believes that global warming is man-made and ‘should materialize’ 50-100 years from now. He said there are issues that need dealing with now.” [[The Mountain Mail, June 3, 2013](#)]

**Rep. Scott Tipton (R-CO-03):** “Scott Tipton (R-CO) conceded that climate change exists, but argued that it’s caused by natural climate cycles rather than humans. ‘Here in the state of Colorado as our tree rings demonstrate, we’ve had droughts long before there were very many people here,’ the Tea Party freshman argued. Acknowledging that humans can affect the climate is futile because it would ‘divide America,’ said Tipton. [[ThinkProgress, August 23, 2012](#)]