



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Federal Trade Commission
Washington, D.C. 20580

February 24, 2021

BY E-MAIL [REDACTED]

Frank A Tinker, Ph.D.
[REDACTED]

Dear Dr. Tinker:

Thank you for your letter dated November 29, 2020, seeking corrective action under the Information Quality Act ("IQA") with regard to the terms "greenhouse effect," "greenhouse gas" and related concepts as used in materials posted by the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC" or "Commission") on its public Web site, www.ftc.gov.

Specifically, you assert that the concepts of "greenhouse effect" and "greenhouse gas" have been disproven in your recently published book. You request that the FTC correct "all documents, electronic or paper based, published by the Agency, that include[] the terms 'Greenhouse Effect', 'Greenhouse Gas', or any related concept. Such correction should address the fact that the Effect has been disproven or the document in question should be removed from public view and replaced with an accurate analysis of Earth's surface temperature." Letter at 3. In support, you attach the partial results of an Internet search of the FTC's Web site, indicating approximately 268 documents in which these terms are used.

Upon review of the specific examples provided, the terms at issue occur mainly in public FTC filings with other entities (e.g., Environmental Protection Agency), remarks by individual agency officials, comments received from members of the public, and background and other file materials posted on the FTC's Web site. These materials do not contain or constitute official FTC statements or representations as to the accuracy or validity of the terms or concepts at issue. Moreover, many of the materials in question are third-party materials not produced by the FTC itself. While the IQA and the Commission's IQA procedures apply to the correction of an agency's own materials, the procedures generally do not authorize or require the correction, modification or clarification of public comments, statements, or materials received from or produced by third parties, where they have not been endorsed or adopted by the agency itself. Requests to correct these materials should be directed to such third parties.

In addition to the removal of references to greenhouse effect, greenhouse gas, or related concepts, you request that the FTC affirmatively explain that these concepts have been disproven and that the FTC provide an accurate analysis of Earth's surface temperature. This request also goes beyond the scope of the IQA's administrative correction mechanism. None of the examples you provide appears to include any agency statement or representation that greenhouse concepts have been proven or disproven, or any analysis of the Earth's surface temperature that has been

adopted or promulgated by the agency. The IQA does not require the agency to address these specific scientific or factual matters where the agency itself has not released any official position or conclusion on such matters that might be subject to correction.

We trust that this response addresses your request. If you seek further clarification or formal reconsideration (within 30 days of this response), please contact us again at section515@ftc.gov. Thank you for your continued interest in the FTC's programs and activities. A copy of your request (after redacting your personal contact information) and this response will be posted on the FTC's IQA page at www.ftc.gov.

ELIZABETH TUCCI  Digitally signed by ELIZABETH
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Elizabeth Tucci
Deputy General Counsel for Legal Counsel