



11 April 2024

Hon. Brad Wenstrup
Chairman, Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic

Hon. James Comer
Chairman, Committee on Oversight and Accountability

Hon. Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Chair, Committee on Energy and Commerce

Hon. Morgan Griffith
Chair, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

Hon. Brett Guthrie
Chair, Subcommittee on Health

U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Wenstrup, Comer, McMorris Rodgers, Griffith, and Guthrie:

I am writing in response to your letter of 4 April 2024, regarding your invitation to appear voluntarily before the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic (SSCP) on 1 May 2024 to provide public testimony. I look forward to appearing before the SSCP to answer the Committee's questions. In this letter, I address several of the allegations made in your letter, as well as your requests for additional documents.

Allegations about discrepancies in testimony

Your letter claims that I made statements in a transcribed interview before the SSCP that are inconsistent or divergent with statements in documents that the Committee has obtained. I categorically reject this mischaracterization of my previous statements to the SSCP. The examples you gave in your letter are not inconsistent or divergent with my earlier testimony – your interpretations are based on false assumptions and misinterpretations of the record. I look forward to clarifying these misunderstandings in my testimony on May 1.

Responses to SSCP Requests for further information (enumeration from SSCP 4th April 2024 letter)

2. *All phone records from November 1, 2019, through present [September 29, 2023] for Dr. Peter Daszak.*

*Please produce or notify the Committees you are unable to access the following records by **April 11, 2024**:*

- a. *Pursuant to conversations with counsel, all phone records from November 1, 2019 through January 13, 2021. Consistent with the September 29 Letter, the Committees request you prioritize documents sufficient to show any meetings, phone calls, or other interactions between Dr. Daszak and the federal government or any entity in China.*

Response to 2: Per previous communications from our counsel, we asked our telecommunications carrier for these records. They told us that prior to 14 January 2021, the records they have do not include the requested details. Therefore, EcoHealth Alliance is unable to provide these records.

4. *All documents and communications between or among EcoHealth Alliance, Inc., including any of its subsidiaries, affiliated institutions, or affiliated individuals, and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), including but not limited to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, between January 1, 2014, and present.*

*Please produce the following records by **April 11, 2024**:*

- a. *Documents and communications regarding the reinstatement of the grant entitled “Understanding the Risk of Bat Coronavirus Emergence;”*

Response to 4a: These documents have already been made publicly available by NIH via FOIA requests and are available here: <https://www.nih.gov/institutes-nih/nih-office-director/office-communications-public-liaison/freedom-information-act-office/nih-foia-library>.

- b. Documents and communications regarding the suspension or debarment of the Wuhan Institute of Virology; and*

Response to 4b: EcoHealth Alliance was not involved in communications regarding suspension or debarment of the Wuhan Institute of Virology and has no documents and communications regarding this matter.

- c. Documents and communications regarding the competitive renewal of the grant entitled "Understanding the Risk of Bat Coronavirus Emergence."*

Response to 4c: These documents have already been made publicly available by NIH via FOIA requests and are available here: <https://www.nih.gov/institutes-nih/nih-office-director/office-communications-public-liaison/freedom-information-act-office/nih-foia-library>.

- 6. All documents and communications between or among EcoHealth Alliance, Inc, including any of its subsidiaries, affiliated institutions, or affiliated individuals, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation between January 1, 2014, and present. Please produce the following records by **April 11, 2024**:*

- a. Pursuant to conversations with counsel, all documents and communications between or among EcoHealth Alliance, Inc, including any of its subsidiaries, affiliated institutions, or affiliated individuals, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation between January 1, 2014, and present.*

Response to 6: The Federal Bureau of Investigation were dealing with threats to EcoHealth Alliance, and to EcoHealth Alliance staff, including Dr. Daszak and his family. For this reason, and because some likely relate to active investigations, EcoHealth Alliance cannot provide these records to the SSCP. If you have further questions, please contact the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

10. All documents and communications between or among EcoHealth Alliance, Inc, including any of its subsidiaries or affiliated individuals, and the Wuhan Institute of Virology, including any of its subsidiaries, affiliated institutions, or affiliated individuals, between January 1, 2014, and present. Please produce the following records by **April 18, 2024**:

a. All documents and communications between or among EcoHealth Alliance, Inc, including any of its subsidiaries or affiliated individuals, and the Wuhan Institute of Virology, including any of its subsidiaries, affiliated institutions, or affiliated individuals, between December 15, 2019 and present, including but not limited to:

Response to 10: These documents will be provided to your committee by the deadline above.

i. Documents and communications regarding the origins of COVID-19, or SARS-CoV-2, or any iteration thereof;

Response to 10i: These documents will be provided to your committee by the deadline above.

ii. Documents and communications regarding the suspension or debarment of the Wuhan Institute of Virology;

Response to 10ii: EcoHealth Alliance was not involved with communications regarding the suspension or debarment of the Wuhan Institute of Virology and has no documents and communications on this matter.

iii. Documents and communications regarding EcoHealth's efforts to obtain WIV laboratory notebooks pursuant to NIH oversight and compliance efforts;

Response to 10iii: EcoHealth Alliance will review records for documents and communications regarding its efforts to obtain WIV laboratory notebooks pursuant to NIH oversight and compliance efforts and will share any records responsive to the SSCP's request by the deadline above.

- iv. *Documents and communications regarding all humanized or transgenic mice experiments conducted at the WIV;*

Response to 10iv: These documents have already been made publicly available by NIH via FOIA requests and are available here: <https://www.nih.gov/institutes-nih/nih-office-director/office-communications-public-liaison/freedom-information-act-office/nih-foia-library>.

- v. *Documents and communications, including drafts with the underlying metadata, regarding EcoHealth's Year 4 and Year 5 progress reports produced to the NIH pursuant to the grant entitled "Understanding the Risk of Bat Coronavirus Emergence";*

Response to 10v: These documents have already been made publicly available by NIH via FOIA requests and are available here: <https://www.nih.gov/institutes-nih/nih-office-director/office-communications-public-liaison/freedom-information-act-office/nih-foia-library>.

- vi. *Documents and communications regarding the biosafety standards employed by the WIV, including if the WIV follows the applicable Biosafety and Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories standards; and*

Response to 10vi: EcoHealth Alliance will review records for any documents and communications regarding the biosafety standards employed by the WIV including if the WIV follows the applicable Biosafety and Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories standards and will share any records responsive to the SSCP's request by the deadline above.

- vii. *Documents and communications regarding the reinstatement of the grant entitled "Understanding the Risk of Bat Coronavirus Emergence," including but not limited to any efforts to access or retain sequences or samples.*

Response to 10vii: These documents have already been made publicly available by NIH via FOIA requests and are available here: <https://www.nih.gov/institutes-nih/nih-office-director/office-communications-public-liaison/freedom-information-act-office/nih-foia-library>.

13. Copies of all grants, contracts, memorandums, and/or other documents executed between January 1, 2014, and present that involve the following, any iterations thereof, or affiliated individuals as parties:

- a. University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill;
- b. New York Blood Center; **N/A**
- c. Georgia State University; **N/A**
- d. Wuhan Institute of Virology;
- e. Wuhan Center for Disease Control; **N/A**
- f. Wuhan University;
- g. Chinese Academy of Sciences; **N/A**
- h. People's Liberation Army; or **N/A**
- i. Academy of Military Medical Sciences. **N/A**

Please produce the following records by **April 18, 2024**:

- a. All data sharing contracts, memorandums, or agreements between EcoHealth Alliance and the Wuhan Institute of Virology; and
- b. All subgrant documents between EcoHealth Alliance and the Wuhan Institute of Virology

Response for 13a-b: We have indicated **Not applicable (N/A)** for all institutions listed (a-i) above with which EcoHealth Alliance did not have any grants, contracts, memorandums, and/or other documents executed between January 1, 2014 and present. We will review our records for any contracts, memorandums, subgrant documents or agreements between January 1, 2014 and present with the Wuhan Institute of Virology. We will endeavor to do this by the requested deadline above, but it may take additional time to review over 10 years of records.

16. All documents and communications between or among EcoHealth Alliance, Inc, including any of its subsidiaries or affiliated individuals and any of the individuals listed in Appendix I regarding or referencing the origins of COVID-19.

Please produce the following records by **April 18, 2024**:

- a. All documents and communications between or among EcoHealth Alliance, Inc, including any of its subsidiaries or affiliated individuals and any of the individuals listed in Appendix I regarding or referencing the origins of

Response for 16a: We will check our records for documents relating to these 31 individuals and the origins of COVID-19. Because this will require a significant amount of research, it will take some time to complete this review, but we will make our best effort to provide these by the deadline above.

You have also made 7 new requests with a deadline of 25 April 2024. Responses are below:

1. *All documents and communications sufficient to corroborate claims of cyber-attacks against EcoHealth Alliance, Inc that occurred from December 2019 through present.*

Response to new request 1: The information we received came directly from conversations with the FBI, who told us on multiple occasions that they had scanned our IP addresses and found that foreign states and other nefarious cyber attackers had targeted our systems. This information was reported to EcoHealth Alliance verbally, so there are no records to share. Please direct further questions on this issue to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

2. *A copy of the spreadsheet attached to the April 24, 2020 email sent by Metabiota Senior Management Developer to an EcoHealth Alliance, Inc. Research Scientist.*

Response to new request 2: These data have not yet been published. We will share these data with the Committee as soon as the peer-reviewed manuscript containing these data is accepted for publication.

3. *All documents and communications regarding sampling expeditions conducted with the Wuhan Institute of Virology that were provided to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Inspector General.*

Response to new request 3: To our knowledge there were no such documents provided to the US Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General. All sampling activities were organized by an on-the-ground field coordinator and were usually reported in annual reports, which may be viewed in the NIH FOIA Library (<https://www.nih.gov/institutes-nih/nih-office-director/office-communications-public-liaison/freedom-information-act-office/nih-foia-library>).

4. *A list of all science communicators, public relations experts, social media influencers, and crisis management consultants retained or otherwise used by EcoHealth Alliance, Inc. since January 2020.*

Response to new request 4: EcoHealth has not retained or otherwise used science communicators, public relations experts, social media influencers, or crisis management consultants since January 2020. As stated to this committee in my transcribed interview, in the summer of 2021 EcoHealth Alliance engaged the services of Dr. Jeffrey Sturchio as a strategic communications consultant to advise us on how to address the increasing volume of false allegations and misinformation in the press and social media about EcoHealth Alliance's work.

5. *All drafts of the 2017 paper "Discovery of a Rich Gene Pool of Bat SARS-related Coronaviruses Provides New Insights into the Origins of SARS Coronaviruses,"*

Response to new request 5: EcoHealth Alliance has reviewed its records and we found only the final version of the paper.

6. *All drafts of the EcoHealth Alliance, Inc. grant application submitted in 2019 in response to the National Science Foundation Notice of Funding Opportunity 2011162;*

Response to new request 6: EcoHealth Alliance will provide the Committee with its grant application submitted in 2019 in response to the National Science Foundation Notice of Funding Opportunity 2011162 by 25 April 2024. *All communications between EcoHealth Alliance, Inc. and United States Agency for International Development regarding the Global Virome Project or the WIV from January 2018 to present.*

Response to new request 7: EcoHealth Alliance will provide all communications between itself and the United States Agency for International Development regarding the Global Virome Project or the Wuhan Institute of Virology from January 2018 to present by 25 April 2024.

EcoHealth Alliance continues to make its best efforts to respond to all Committee requests within the stated deadlines and thanks the Committee in advance for understanding the level of staffing effort required to recover and produce documents from a period covering more than a decade.

In accordance with our responses above, EcoHealth Alliance will convey these additional documents to the SSCP as soon as possible. Please let me know if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,



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www.ecohealthalliance.org

cc: The Honorable Raul Ruiz, M.D., Ranking Member
Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic

The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Accountability

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr. Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Kathy Castor, Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

The Honorable Anna Eshoo, Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on Health

EcoHealth Alliance Counsel - Tarter, Krinsky & Drogin