



Thomas A. Schatz
President

April 9, 2012

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative,

Rep. Ed Whitfield (R-Ky.) recently introduced H.R. 4255, the Accountability in Grants Act. On behalf of the more than one million members and supporters of the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste (CCAGW), I urge you to support this legislation.

In addition to the many questionable grants that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) doles out domestically, a great deal of taxpayer money is given to U.S. entities to carry out programs internationally. For example, the EPA has sent \$150,000 to Kenya for clean cooking technology, \$141,450 to China to “quantify the environmental impacts from different biogas digesters used to treat swine manures,” and \$180,000 to teach Polish municipalities about landfill gas.

The pace of the EPA’s foreign grant program has intensified in recent years. Republicans on the House Energy and Commerce Committee estimate that over the last decade, the agency’s foreign grant programs have cost taxpayers more than \$99 million, including \$27 million in the last 3 years. The Accountability in Grants Act would prohibit the administrator of the EPA from awarding any grant, contract, cooperative agreement, or other financial assistance to any foreign projects or activities.

At a time when the national debt has soared to \$15.6 trillion, the federal government simply cannot justify spending millions of dollars on these international projects. It is time for Congress to tighten its belt and begin getting the nation’s fiscal house in order. I strongly urge you to support the Accountability in Grants Act. All votes on H.R. 4255 will be among those considered in CCAGW’s *2012 Congressional Ratings*.

Sincerely,