Thank you for your letter dated 10 November regarding the recommendations of the US House of Representatives Committee on Science and Technology on the regulation of geoengineering activities.

The inquiries of both the House of Representatives Committee and the former House of Commons Science and Technology Committee have been important contributions to the understanding of this complex subject and I commend both committees on their successful collaboration. I am also pleased to see that your Committee is progressing the discussion.

You note in your letter the US Committee's support for further UK and US collaboration and their recommendation that the US Government should press for an international database of climate engineering (geoengineering) research. We would be keen to foster such international collaborative initiatives in the future to address the issue of geoengineering, which we agree will need to be considered at a global level.

We will consider options for developing joint initiatives to encourage the establishment of an international database in the future and, in the meantime, await the US Government's response to the recommendations of the US Science and Technology Committee with interest.

CHRIS HUHNE