

Visuals	Audio	Backup
<p>Animated Buerkle with comically elongated arms, outstretched.</p> <p>CG: Congresswoman Ann Marie Buerkle</p>	<p>VO: How many bad ideas can one Congresswoman support? Ask Ann Marie Buerkle.</p>	
<p>A belching smokestack falls out of the sky and into her arms. Then a kid with an inhaler. Then a dead fish.</p> <p>CG: Voted to <u>stop enforcement of air and water protections</u></p> <p>Cite: HR 910, Vote #249, 4/7/11; HR 2681, House Vote #764, 10/6/11; HR 2018, Vote #573, 7/13/11; Syracuse Post-Standard, 4/8/11</p>	<p>She voted to gut clean air laws and the Clean Water Act.</p>	<p>Buerkle voted to block rules limiting toxic mercury pollution that causes birth defects, respiratory illnesses and premature deaths. Buerkle voted to block rules limiting toxic air pollution from cement plants, the nation’s 2nd largest source of mercury emissions. She also voted against reducing toxic pollution from boilers and incinerators, the nation’s 3rd largest source of mercury emissions. Every year toxic air pollutants like mercury and arsenic are responsible for thousands of premature deaths, millions of cases of respiratory ailments like asthma attacks, and millions of lost work days. Mercury in particular is so widespread that one in twelve women of childbearing age is likely to have mercury levels high enough to put her baby at risk of having difficulties walking, talking, reading, writing, and learning. [HR 2681, House Vote 764, 10/6/11; HR2250, House Vote 791, 10/13/11]</p> <p>Buerkle repeatedly voted to gut the Clean Air Act. The Energy Tax Prevention Act (HR 910) would legislatively repeal the scientific finding by the EPA that greenhouse gases endanger human health and the environment and permanently block the EPA’s ability to reduce global warming pollution under the Clean Air Act. The conservative John Roberts-led Supreme Court ruled in 2007 that global warming pollution is a pollutant covered under the Clean Air Act. The Farm Dust Regulation Prevention Act (HR 1633) guts Clean Air Act protections by eliminating the EPA’s ability to protect public health from particulate pollution produced by a range of industrial sources, including gravel and sand mines, cement kilns, coal processing plants, smelters, and open pit mines, among others. As the Obama administration noted in a Statement of Administration Policy, HR 1633 “raises serious issues about whether EPA could continue to implement the existing health-based fine and coarse particle programs, which play a vital, ongoing role in preventing adverse health effects of air pollution including premature deaths, childhood asthma</p>

		<p>attacks and other respiratory problems.” The REINS Act (HR 10) effectively rewrites virtually every environmental and other regulatory statute, making their requirements unenforceable. This would prevent the EPA from enforcing existing Clean Air Act safeguards or implementing any new safeguards under the Clean Air Act. [HR 910, House Vote 249, 4/7/11; HR 10, House Vote 901, 12/7/11; HR 1633, House Vote 912, 12/8/11]</p> <p>Buerkle voted to dismantle Clean Water Act. Buerkle voted for the so-called Clean Water Cooperative Federalism Act of 2011, which would threaten waterways Americans depend on for swimming, fishing, and drinking. The bill would amend the Clean Water Act in such a way as to cripple the EPA’s ability to set a minimum “floor” for a state’s water quality standards, blocking the agency’s ability to limit pollution flowing downstream to other waters and also into other states. The bill would also gut the Clean Water Act provisions that protect streams, wetlands, and other bodies of water from harmful large-scale mining and other destructive projects. As OMB Watch has noted, the bill “would dismantle the federal- state relationship envisioned under the [Clean Water Act] by stripping EPA of its abilities to object to state-approved permits under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program, revise state water quality standards, and veto dredge and fill permits issued by the Army Corps of Engineers.” [HR 2018, House Vote 573, 7/13/11; 2011 LCV National Environmental Scorecard; OMB Watch, 7/15/11]</p>
<p>A huge pile of money falls into her arms.</p> <p>CG: Took thousands from Big Oil</p> <p>Cite: Center for Responsive Politics</p>	<p>She took thousands in campaign cash from Big Oil...</p>	<p>Exxon Mobil has contributed \$10,500 to Buerkle’s campaigns. Exxon Mobil is among Buerkle’s top 20 political contributors. [Center for Responsive Politics]</p> <p>Buerkle has received \$5,000 from Koch Industries. [Center for Responsive Politics]</p> <p>Buerkle has received \$9,300 from Lukoil Pan Americas. According to their website, the Russian-owned Lukoil is “The 3rd largest private oil company worldwide by proven reserves of hydrocarbons.” [Center for Responsive Politics; Center for Responsive Politics; Lukoil Company Website]</p>
<p>Men in suits with cigars stroll by</p>	<p>...and voted to give them</p>	<p>Buerkle voted to provide taxpayer handouts to oil</p>

<p>her, chuckling, and pull some money off the pile.</p> <p>CG: Voted to give oil companies tax breaks</p> <p>Cite: HJR 44, Vote #153, 3/1/11; H CON RES 112, House Vote #151, 3/29/12</p>	<p>special tax breaks.</p>	<p>companies. Buerkle voted against a measure that would have prohibited the use of funds in a stopgap continuing appropriations bill be used for tax benefit or relief for any major integrated oil company. [HJ Res 44, House Vote 153, 3/1/11]</p> <p>Buerkle voted for the extreme Ryan budget. [H CON RES 34, House Vote 277, 4/15/11; H CON RES 112, House Vote 151, 3/29/12]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ryan budget would protect oil subsidies, slash investments in clean energy. As the Center for American Progress has noted, Ryan’s budget plan “would retain a decade’s worth of oil tax breaks worth \$40 billion ... [and] cut billions of dollars from investments to develop alternative fuels and clean energy technologies.” [Center for American Progress, 3/20/12]
<p>Rush and Palin pop up, sitting on each of Buerkle’s shoulders. Buerkle’s knees begin to buckle</p>	<p>And Buerkle sides with Tea Party extremists...</p>	
<p>A huge tidal wave splashes over Buerkle.</p> <p>CG: Congresswoman Buerkle calls climate change a “myth”</p> <p>Cite: Syracuse Post-Standard, 10/14/10</p>	<p>... calling climate change – quote – a myth...</p>	<p>Buerkle claimed “a lot of the global warming myth has been exposed.” An October 14, 2010 article in the Syracuse Post-Standard reported: “A group of six prominent Central New York scientists and environmental leaders Thursday condemned Republican congressional candidate Ann Marie Buerkle for her comments in a televised debate in which she questioned whether global climate change was real. ... In the debate televised by Your News Now on Wednesday, Buerkle said ‘a lot of the global warming myth has been exposed.’ But on Thursday she said she was referring to a scandal among climate scientists, whose leaked emails suggested they may have had a personal bias. Buerkle, however, said she believes ‘the jury is still out’ on the bigger issue of global climate change.” [Post-Standard, 10/14/10].</p>
<p>Buerkle, wet, staggering under the weight of the detritus she was holding is scattered around her.</p> <p>CG: Anne Marie Buerkle: Wrong for New York.</p>	<p>Ann Marie Buerkle – stretching the limits on bad ideas, and wrong for New York.</p>	

LCV
Ann Marie Buerkle – “Support”
10/10/12

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