For Immediate Release February 07, 2017

Media Contact: Kristina Baum (202) 225-6371

Statement of Chairman Lamar Smith (R-Texas)

Adoption of Committee Rules and Approval of Authorization and Oversight Plan

Chairman Smith: The proposed Science Committee Rules for the 115th Congress are nearly identical to the rules that the Committee approved in the 114th Congress. Four minor changes were made to ensure that our rules conform with committee practice and with the House Rules.

The Committee rules are designed to be consistent with House Rules. And they fully preserve the rights of the Minority. These rules will allow the Committee to continue to operate in an effective and efficient manner.

As we saw with the news last weekend, a former NOAA scientist has confirmed the manipulation of climate data at NOAA. This is why subpoenas issued by the Science Committee can be powerful tools for uncovering the truth.

At Ranking Member Johnson's request, I postponed the January 31st Committee organizational meeting to today to accommodate the appointment of more Democratic Members to the Committee.

These rules provide a strong but fair framework for the Committee's work in the new Congress.

###