<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EVx5R2c-a1k&ab_channel=FoxNews>

**Hume: Trump's imposed media blackout at EPA is great idea**

**Fox News (Youtube Channel), Tucker Carlson interviews Brit Hume, Jan 24 2017**

Summary: Recently, Donald Trump ordered the EPA to award no new contracts and imposed a media blackout on employees. The decision has been met with much resistance, so Carlson asks Hume, Fox’s Senior Political Analyst, whether this was a good decision. Hume agrees with Trump’s decision because most government workers are currently opposed to Trump, and Trump has yet to establish leadership in the agency whom he trusts.

Relationship to Environmental Biology: The EPA is the largest agency in the U.S. government to directly influence environmental policy and decisions. The decision to stop all new contracts and silence the agency could be viewed as a step towards taking the agency’s power away. This in turn could lead to there being less governmental help protecting the environment.

Controversy in Content: Hume takes Trump’s side in his argument, which in and of itself is controversial to many. He looks at the decision from Trump’s point of view and says that it is merely a decision to stabilize Bureaucracy while Trump takes control, and that it is just a temporary measure. The other side of the argument is not portrayed here. Many people view this decision as a move towards silencing and disarming those who disagree with Trump, and are fearful of future environmental decisions in the wake of removing all references to climate change from the white house website.

Personal Opinion: I disagree with Hume for a few reasons. First and foremost, he is merely speculating as to why Trump made this decision, there is no concrete evidence supplied. I believe that Trump is likely trying to reverse regulations designed to combat climate change. Trump’s true intentions aside, the decision is bound to receive heavy criticism in the way it was made. If Hume is correct about Trump’s intentions, then Trump could have shared them and most likely relieve pressure from the decision, but instead it was made silently, making people much more skeptical about it. This video provides a valid possible reasoning for Trump’s decision, but it is not backed by any facts, and thus should not be taken as absolute truth.