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2011-11-30

Climategate 2.0: New Emails Rock the Global Warming Debate

Nearly two years to the day after similar emails ignited the Climategate scandal, a new batch of 5,000 emails among climate scientists was anonymously released to the public. Three themes emerge from the latest batch: (1) prominent scientists central to the global warming debate are taking measures to conceal rather than disseminate underlying data and discussions; (2) these scientists view global warming as a political “cause” rather than a balanced scientific inquiry and (3) many of these scientists frankly admit to each other that much of the science is weak and dependent on deliberate manipulation of facts and data.

Forbes and the *Daily Mail* summarize selected emails and comment on the importance of the release. Roy Spencer points out the bias in scientific research revealed by the emails. *Watts Up With That* has numerous links to selected emails, the FOIA2011.zip file – which can be downloaded to extract all 5,292 emails – as well as to an Excel spreadsheet listing them.

<<http://www.forbes.com/sites/jamestaylor/2011/11/23/climategate-2-0-new-e-mails-rock-the-global-warming-debate/>>

<<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-2066240/Second-leak-climate-emails-Political-giants-weigh-bias-scientists-bowing-financial-pressure-sponsors.html>>

<<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/11/climategate-2-0-bias-in-scientific-research/>>

<<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/11/22/climategate-2-0/>>

Ross McKittrick: Fix the IPCC or Fold It

Prof. McKittrick has published a report *What is Wrong with the IPCC? A Proposal for Radical Reform*. The report is not about the science, but rather the policies, procedures and administrative structures of the IPCC. A third of the report explains how the IPCC works. The assessment process has material defects sufficient to put into question its claims. Among the flaws are cherry-picking the writing teams by a secretive bureau in Geneva, overrepresentation by environmental campaigners, and authors reviewing both their own work and that of their critics. The chief obstacle to fixing the IPCC is that it is governed by an unwieldy 195-member plenary panel, overly deferential to the bureau it is supposed to oversee.

<<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/11/22/fix-it-or-fold-it/>>

<http://www.rossmckittrick.com/uploads/4/8/0/8/4808045/mckittrick-ipcc_reforms.pdf>

Climate Summit Opens in Durban

On November 28 the summit opened with major rifts emerging on the first day. The EU said it would sign up for a second term of the Kyoto Protocol only if the US and China agreed to legally-binding cuts before 2015. The latter two insist that the other “go first.” The Canadian environment minister told reporters that “Kyoto is the past” while endorsing the non-binding commitments made at the 2009 conference in Copenhagen.

The US and Canadian governments raised objections to the planned \$100 billion/year climate fund intended to help developing countries cope with climate change. Both countries cited the lack of a commitment from major emerging countries, such as China, to emissions reductions.

<<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/environment/climatechange/8921445/Rifts-emerge-at-talks-as-UN-climate-change-conference-opens.html>>

<<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-11-28/eu-demand-for-road-map-to-climate-treaty-complicates-talks.html>>
<<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/canada-adds-its-objections-to-100-billion-climate-fund/article2252782/>>

Canadian Environment Minister Rejects “Guilt Payment” to Poorer Countries

As he prepared to leave for the Durban climate conference, Environment Minister Peter Kent said that the Kyoto Protocol is built on an outdated view that developed countries bear the primary responsibility for the build-up of greenhouse gases and, therefore, should carry the burden of emissions reductions, while transferring hundreds of billions of dollars to poor countries. He noted that major emitters such as China and India insist on being treated the same as the poorest African countries.

China, meanwhile, accused Canada of “setting a bad example,” due to its failure to deny that it is about ditch the Kyoto Protocol.

<<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/kent-rejects-climate-guilt-payment-to-poorer-countries/article2254368/>>
<<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/china-decries-canadas-bad-example-in-climate-talks/article2254577/>>

Peter Foster: The Moral Climate

In this two-part series, the *National Post*'s Peter Foster takes on the matter of climate change as a moral issue, as espoused by Al Gore, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and prominent left-liberals such as Paul Krugman. To Mr. Foster, climate change is not a moral issue; it's a scientific one with moral implications. Putting the moral issues first risks corrupting the science. However, due to the strong left-liberal bias in the academic community the corruption can be neglected. In conclusion Mr. Foster writes “After all, who wants to admit that he is not merely a slave to his passions, but inclined to science-bending demonization because he has an irrational hatred of capitalism, and is sitting on a subconscious elephant motivated by a lust for power?”

<<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/11/28/peter-foster-the-moral-climate/>>
<<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/11/29/peter-foster-leftist-moralizing/>>

UAH Global Temperature Update for October 2011: +0.11°C

The University of Alabama at Huntsville's lower tropospheric temperature anomaly for October 2011 was +0.11°C, as the two hemispheres and the tropics cooled substantially with the onset of another La Niña.

<<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/11/uah-global-temperature-update-for-october-2011-0-11-deg-c/>>

2011-11-05

Obama's Green Obsession: The Democrats' Blue Collar Blues

One of the biggest threats to President Obama's re-election is his governing philosophy that puts green priorities ahead of blue collar workers. Rather than courting the latter he has been waging war on them for three years through the Environmental Protection Agency and the environmental lobby: the ozone rule (estimated 7.3 million jobs lost), power plant rules (1.4 million), boiler rule (789,000), coal-ash rule (316,000), cement rule (23,000) and greenhouse gas rules (unknown). The Administration has blown up

the deepwater drilling industry, forced Detroit to build cars no one wants to buy and is moving to clamp down on the natural gas industry. While, according to a poll, 59% of union households want someone other than Barack Obama in the White House, the President courts the green lobby, the staple of the liberal, educated, affluent base that the Obama team is convinced it's going to need in 2012.

<<http://www.thegwpf.org/international-news/4275-obamas-green-obsession-the-democrats-blue-collar-blues.html>>

Another Government-picked Power Company Buried in the Green Graveyard

Beacon Power Corp. became the second company (after Solyndra – see FoS Extracts 2011-09-03) backed by the US Government's loan guarantee program, to file for bankruptcy. The White House announced that it is launching a 60-day review of the Department of Energy's loan portfolio while reiterating President Obama's commitment to investing in clean energy. As this article in the *Foundry* blog notes, market-driven energy choices, namely growth in gas-fired electricity generation, have done more to reduce CO2 emissions in the past decade than the hugely-subsidized wind and solar industries.

<<http://blog.heritage.org/2011/10/31/another-government-picked-power-company-buried-in-the-green-graveyard/>>

Australian Archbishop: Carbon Credits Like Medieval Indulgences

George Pell, Catholic Archbishop of Sydney, uses his experience as one who preaches to diverse congregations, to understand “the propaganda achievements of the climate extremists.” His suspicions of them have deepened over the years because of their opposition to the publication of opposing views, even in scientific journals, and their apocalyptic scenarios for the future resulting from human irresponsibility. In particular, Archbishop Pell compares the financial costs that the true believers would impose on economies through the sale of carbon credits to the pre-Reformation practice of selling indulgences.

<<http://www.financialpost.com/news/Carbon+credits+like+medieval+indulgences/5613046/story.html>>
<http://www.thegwpf.org/images/stories/gwpf-reports/pell-2011_annual_gwpf_lecture.pdf>

Scientist Who Said Climate Skeptics Had Been Proved Wrong Accused of Hiding Truth by Colleague

Professor Richard Muller, of Berkeley University in California, and his colleagues from the Berkeley Earth Surface Temperatures project team (BEST) claim to have shown that the planet has warmed by almost a degree Celsius since 1950 and is warming continually. Their work was published last month, just ahead of the Durban climate summit, and was cited uncritically around the world as irrefutable evidence that only the most stringent measures to reduce CO₂ emissions can save civilization as we know it. However, Judith Curry points out that Prof. Muller's own data refutes his claim that global warming has not leveled off since the end of the 1990s. Faced with this criticism, Prof. Muller insisted that neither his claims that there has not been a standstill in global warming, nor his temperature graph, were misleading because the BEST project had made its raw data available on its website. He admitted that the data suggested that world temperatures have not risen in 13 years, which might or might not be statistically significant.

<<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-2055191/Scientists-said-climate-change-sceptics-proved-wrong-accused-hiding-truth-colleague.html>>
<<http://judithcurry.com/2011/10/25/best-of-the-best-critiques/#more-5460>>
<<http://judithcurry.com/2011/10/30/mail-on-best/>>

<<http://www.thegwpf.org/the-climate-record/4239-pat-michaels-a-few-observations-on-the-latest-best-kerfluffle-and-recent-trends.html>>

Britain's New Energy Revolution

Cuadrilla Resources recently announced a shale-gas field containing 200 trillion cubic feet of reserves in its Lancashire license area. If only 10% of this were commercially recoverable, it would be enough to supply Britain's gas needs for 15 years. This find, and others from similar shale formations, could turn Britain into a major energy exporter for many decades. Nevertheless, there is a large and vociferous body of opinion – citing hazards from the “fracking” required to extract shale gas, fear of earthquakes and climate change – that wants the Lancashire gas to stay in the ground, forever.

In an interview, the Global Warming Policy Foundation's Benny Peiser recalls that the environmentalists were initially in favour of natural gas, until they realized that cheap and abundant gas would compete with renewables.

<<http://www.thegwpf.org/energy-news/4229-britains-new-energy-revolution.html>>

<<http://www.thegwpf.org/opinion-pros-a-cons/4242-benny-peiser-the-greens-have-been-trumped.html>>

<<http://www.naturalgaseurope.com/the-greens-have-been-trumped-3147>>

Why the World is Burning More Coal

The Guardian offers a gloomy assessment of what it calls “the inconvenient truth” – that coal remains the cheapest fuel for electricity generation and industrial heat and power, and is generating a growing proportion of the world's energy. When the UN climate talks began 25 years ago, 25% of the global primary energy came from coal. Now it is 29.6%, and grew by almost 8% between 2009 and 2010. *The Guardian* excoriates South Africa (host of this year's climate conference, a big coal user and third largest exporter), China (the world's biggest producer of wind turbines and solar panels while responsible for 48% of the coal burned last year) and India (doubling its coal consumption in 12 years), the US (second-largest coal burner after China), Japan (largest coal importer) and Germany (biggest producer of brown coal.)

<<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/oct/31/why-world-burning-coal>>

Review of Donna Laframboise' New Book on the IPCC

The title of the book is *The Delinquent Teenager Who Was Mistaken for the World's Top Climate Expert*. According to the *London Book Review.com*, it is impossible not to feel angry when reading the book, not just because of the IPCC's bad practices, bad faith and outright lies, but the painful lack of objectivity from the world's media, which continues to treat the IPCC as an impartial scientific body. The book is available as a pdf download for \$4.99.

A *Fox News* piece on the book says that it names nearly half a dozen IPCC lead authors who were barely out of college when tapped to author the final word on the effects of climate change.

<<http://www.londonbookreview.com/lbr0061.html>>

<<http://nofrackingconsensus.com/my-book/>>

<<http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/2011/11/02/un-hired-grad-students-to-author-major-climate-reports/>>

2011-10-14

Green Jobs Brown Out

Three years ago President Obama promised that by the end of the decade America would have five million green jobs. This is belied by a report from the US Labor Department on a \$163 million expenditure to train 53,000 workers for green jobs. Of these, 8,035 found employment and only 1,033 were still on the job after six months, which works out to \$157,000 per job. The good news from the Labor Department is that \$327 million of the \$500 million allocated under the green jobs program remains unexpended, and the department's Inspector General recommends that all funds be recouped as soon as practicable.

<<http://www.thegwpf.org/opinion-pros-a-cons/4076-green-jobs-brown-out.html>>

Green Europe Imperiled as Debt Crisis and Kyoto Lapse Threaten Carbon Market

The European sovereign debt crisis that's spread from Greece to Italy, threatening the region's banks, now has another potential victim: green energy policy. EU emission permits slumped to their lowest price in 2-1/2 years at €9.82/tonne on October 4, 46% below the high of last May. The economic slowdown is adding to the carbon permit supply as manufacturers, power generators and countries like Greece, sell unneeded allowances. Lower carbon prices discourage utilities from investing in wind farms and solar power plants that don't need permits, but do need a high carbon floor price. A vice president of Future Fuels and CO2 at Royal Dutch Shell said that Europe must take "urgent action" to prevent further price declines by withholding some carbon permits from the market.

At a UN meeting in Panama, the EU and China were at odds over the future of the UN carbon market and the Kyoto Protocol. The EU, fearing that failure to agree on new Kyoto limits, would dry up the future of the UN's carbon market via the Clean Development Mechanism, wants a successor to the Protocol to include enforceable carbon reductions from major developing countries like China, India and Brazil. China, the world's biggest emitter of CO2 and also generator of 57% of the CDM credits since 2003, is resisting the European effort.

<<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-10-09/green-europe-imperiled-as-debt-crisis-triggers-46-carbon-market-collapse.html>>

<<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-10-07/china-says-un-carbon-credits-should-end-if-kyoto-targets-lapse.html>>

Gas against Wind

In *The Rational Optimist*, blogger Matt Ridley succinctly argues why, in the UK, wind energy must give way to (shale) gas before it ruins everyone and the landscapes. He examines all aspects in his comparison: rural esthetics, bird kills, use of the rare element neodymium, subsidies vs taxes paid, backup power, and especially the shale gas revolution. Recently a company announced finding a field in Lancashire holding a potential 200 trillion cubic feet, enough to keep the entire British economy going for decades.

<<http://www.rationaloptimist.com/blog/gas-against-wind>>

New Climate Scare: Europe May Be Facing Return of "Little Ice Age"

Benny Peiser of the *Global Warming Policy Foundation* has compiled a series of news bites indicating that Britain should brace itself for another freezing winter, due to a return of La Niña. Even the

UK's Met Office is suggesting that Europe could be facing a return to the "little ice age" of 300 years ago, causing decades of bitter winters. The prediction, soon to be published in *Nature*, is based on observations of a slight fall in the Sun's emissions of ultraviolet radiation.

<<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/10/10/new-climate-scare-europe-may-be-facing-return-of-little-ice-age/#more-48994>>

<<http://www.thegwpf.org/science-news/4057-la-nina-throws-cold-water-on-global-warming-.html>>

Map: The Climate Change Scare Machine

As Joanne Nova reports, two professors of sociology think they can explain why "climate deniers" are winning. But to Ms. Nova the real question sociologists should be asking is how an exaggerated scare, based on little evidence, poor reasoning and petty name-calling, was kept alive for two decades. To help explain why, she provides a diagram of the Climate Change Scare Machine Cycle, showing how the interest groups (industrials, financial houses, green foundations, green groups, government-funded activists and the media) – all paid for by the duped public – keep it going.

<<http://joannenova.com.au/2011/10/map-the-climate-change-scare-machine-the-perpetual-self-feeding-cycle-of-alarm/>>

James Hansen: Climate Skeptics Are Winning the Battle

Dr. Hansen, widely thought of as the "father of global warming" due to his July 1988 testimony at the US Senate, gave a briefing to the Royal Society where he was frank about the public opinion success of what he calls the "climate contrarians." He said that the climate skeptic lobby employed communication professionals, whereas "scientists are barely competent at communicating with the public and don't have the wherewithal to do it." Lacking recent temperature trends to show that global warming still persists, Dr. Hansen cited three weather events from 2003, 2010 and 2011 as evidence that the world is still heating up.

<<http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/climate-change/global-warming-climate-sceptics-are-winning-the-battle-2368617.html>>

<<http://wmbriggs.com/blog/?p=4459>>

How the WWF Infiltrated the IPCC

Donna Labframboise's blog details the infiltration of the IPCC by the World Wildlife Fund, an entity with a staff of 5,000 and operating revenues of €525 million in 2010. The WWF openly admits that it's trying to increase the public's sense of urgency about climate change. In 2004 the WWF launched a recruitment drive to establish a 130-member body, the *Climate Witness Scientific Advisory Panel*. In a 2008 document the WWF said its panel was mostly, but not exclusively from the IPCC. In the IPCC's 2007 report, 28 out of 44 chapters had at least one WWF-affiliated individual on the roster.

<<http://nofrackingconsensus.com/2011/09/23/how-the-wwf-infiltrated-the-ipcc-%E2%80%93-part-1/>>

<<http://nofrackingconsensus.com/2011/09/26/how-the-wwf-infiltrated-the-ipcc-part-2/>>

2011-10-07

Wind Energy Firm Sues Ontario

Trillium Power Wind Corp. spent \$5.3 million planning its wind projects and had the rug pulled out from under its feet when the Ontario government put a stop to offshore development pending more scientific studies. Trillium has filed a statement of claim in Ontario Superior Court alleging that the decision was made for purely political reasons and is asking for damages of \$2.25 billion, to cover future loss of profits.

<<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/industry-news/energy-and-resources/wind-energy-firm-trillium-power-sues-ontario/article2183816/>>

Climate Change to Cost Canada Billions

The National Roundtable on the Environment and Economy has released a report *Paying the Price* that, based on global economic modelling, calculates that Canada would face climate-related costs equivalent to 1% of its economy by 2020 and 2% by 2080. These costs would be in the form of changes in timber supply, flooding in coastal areas and increased storminess across the country. The NTREE's four recommendations are that the Canadian government "invest in growing our country's expertise in the economics of climate change impacts and adaptation," together with three other modelling, research and data sharing initiatives – all of which means more work for the NTREE's modelers.

<<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/economy/economic-costs-of-climate-change-will-be-high-panel-warns/article2183729/>>

<<http://nrtee-trnee.ca/climate/climate-prosperity/the-economic-impacts-of-climate-change-for-canada/paying-the-price>>

US Green Energy Industry Staggers

The US Energy Department hustled to get another \$4.7 billion in loan guarantees for green tech companies out the door before the fiscal year ended on September 30. Yet another solar panel manufacturer in California filed for bankruptcy, the result of falling prices and a glut of solar panels from Asia that have hammered manufacturers. As this article in *The American Interest* relates, alternative energy generation is so expensive and inefficient, it requires some combination of subsidies, high energy prices and forced investments to make the investments pay off. Cap-and-trade was supposed to increase prices in the US to the point where demand for alternative energy would grow. A global climate treaty would provide a permanent source of demand for green energy.

Neither of these two political assumptions has come true. Worse – from the green point of view – have been discoveries and technological advances that have increased the supply of oil and gas in the western hemisphere. As a result millions more Americans are going to be economically tied to domestic energy production and will not support congressional and presidential candidates who threaten their jobs.

<<http://blogs.the-american-interest.com/wrm/2011/10/01/green-energy-industry-staggers/>>

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/solar-projects-get-funding-as-deadline-approaches/2011/09/30/gIQA8iWCBL_story.html?tid=wp_ipad>

EPA's Endangerment Finding is Itself Endangered

The US Environmental Protection Agency's Inspector General has believes that the agency broke the law in preparing its landmark 2009 "Endangerment Finding" for CO₂ and other greenhouse gases. According

to the IG, the EPA ignored a two-line rider to an appropriations bill that requires any “highly influential science assessment” to undergo rigorous peer review. The EPA’s finding relied on the IPCC’s 2007 report and a summary from a panel of 12 federal climatologists, one of whom was an EPA employee, on climate change impacts to the US.

<<http://www.forbes.com/sites/patrickmichaels/2011/09/30/the-epas-endangerment-finding-is-very-endangered/>>

<<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/sep/28/watchdog-epa-cut-corners-global-warming-decision/>>

<<http://factsnotfantasy.blogspot.com/2011/10/epa-gets-caught-in-big-fat-lie.html>>

Kill CO₂ Regulations

While CO₂ is essential for photosynthesis, on which all life depends, for the past six years the Canadian government has included it in the “List of Toxic Substances” under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*. CEPA’s website admits that CO₂ is not toxic, but is on the list in order to enable the government “the use of a variety of preventive and control actions.” Only recently has the government availed itself of this CEPA enabler: CO₂ rules on new cars and light trucks and plans to phase out coal-generated electricity. While CO₂ regulation has no scientific justification, now with US being less aggressive on its CO₂ reductions, it makes no political sense even for Canada.

<<http://www.financialpost.com/news/Kill+regulations/5509239/story.html>>

Wikileaks: Major UN Climate Program “Basically a Farce”

Nature magazine has published a story revealing that a cornerstone of the Kyoto Protocol, the Clean Development Mechanism, is seriously flawed. A 2008 diplomatic cable from the US consulate in Mumbai, published last month by Wikileaks, states that most of the CDM projects in India should not have been certified because they did not reduce emissions beyond those that would have been achieved without foreign investment. According to Eva Filzmoose, program director of CDM Watch, a Brussels-based watchdog organization, this leak confirms their view that the CDM is basically a farce.

<<http://www.powerlineblog.com/archives/2011/09/major-un-climate-program-%E2%80%9Cbasically-a-farce%E2%80%9D.php>>

<http://www.nature.com/news/2011/110928/full/477517a.html?WT.ec_id=NATURE-20110929>

2011-09-27

Al Gore’s 24 Hours of Reality

On September 14-15 Al Gore hosted “24 Hours of Reality,” a multi-media presentation featuring one hour of programming in sequence from each time zone. As *Climate Depot* reports, many of Mr. Gore’s fellow global warming activists gave his effort negative reviews or avoided it altogether. On the *Sun News Network* Charles Adler, in a 13:34 video, pokes fun at the presentation, comparing the mega-churches of disgraced televangelist Jimmy Swaggart and Al Gore, complete with clips of both preachers in action. One shows Mr. Gore claiming he took the initiative in creating the internet. *Ustream TV* has links to videos of the full 24 Hours of Reality.

<<http://www.climatedepot.com/a/12848/Greens-Give-Gore-2-Thumbs-Down-Gores-climate-reality-show-faces-strongly-negative-reviews-from-his-fellow-global-warming-activists>>

<http://www.sunnewsnetwork.ca/video/featured/prime-time/867432237001/cult-of-personality/1160119418001>>

<http://www.ustream.tv/climatereality/videos>>

Warmed Right Over

According to Lawrence Solomon the global warming theory is nearing its end as evidence against it mounts. He names some of the growing list of eminent scientists who have dismissed concerns over global warming. He notes that no scientist has won a Nobel Prize for work on global warming, because no piece of science in the field has achieved a major breakthrough. Had James Hansen's 1988 projections – which brought the climate issue to the popular press – proved true, he would have won a Nobel.

<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/09/16/lawrence-solomon-warmed-right-over/>>

Clouds of Climate Change and Maurice Strong

Indian journalist Deepak Lal summarizes two competing theories of global warming – the CO₂ theory propagated by the IPCC and Henrik Svensmark's linking of sunspots and cosmic rays to the Earth's climate. The latter has recently been supported by the CLOUD experiment at the CERN laboratory, showing a physical link between cosmic rays and cloud formation. In hoping that Professor Svensmark's work will end the myth of AGW, Mr. Lal reviews how it all started with Maurice Strong and his belief in the UN as an embryo world government through environmentalism. Mr. Strong's greatest triumph, and his swansong, was the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the precursor to the Kyoto Protocol. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Strong was implicated in corruption related to the UN's "food for oil" program and retired to Beijing.

<http://www.business-standard.com/india/news/deepak-lal-cloudsclimate-change/449438/>>

Arctic Ice Refreezing after Falling Short of 2007 Record

In early September the arctic ice extent bottomed out at a level 6.4% higher than the 2007 record. As Joseph D'Aleo points out in *Watts Up With That?* Arctic temperatures and ice cover follow a 60-70 year cycle related to ocean cycles.

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/09/16/arctic-ice-refreezing-after-falling-short-of-2007/>>

Prominent Scientist Tells US Congressional Committee: Earth in CO₂ "Famine"

Princeton Physicist William Happer declared that man-made global warming fears were mistaken and the Earth is currently in a CO₂ "famine." In most of geological time CO₂ levels have been at least 1000 ppm (they are currently 390 ppm), and plants, animals and the oceans were fine. Dr. Happer compares the "consensus" over a climate crisis with the one created by the temperance movement of 100 years ago.

http://epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Minority.Blogs&ContentRecord_id=AF8F5B20-802A-23AD-49FB-8A2D53F00437>

Deep-Sixing Global Warming

IPCC lead author Kevin Trenberth is best known for his Climategate email lament: "The fact is that we can't account for the lack of warming at the moment and it is a travesty that we can't ... Our observing system is inadequate." As the *International Business Times* reports Dr. Trenberth and

colleagues, through computer simulations, have finally managed to account for the lack of warming in the form of missing heat buried deep in ocean layers below 300 m. The results were published in the September 18 issue of *Nature Climate Change*. According to the simulations, global warming will go through hiatus periods of a decade or so – like the present – before resuming.

The *National Post* dissects the story, noting that the paper contains a reluctant admission that global temperatures have indeed stalled, but its conclusions don't come from advances in the "observing system" – only from computer models. Roger Pielke Sr. points out a problem with the Trenberth et al hypothesis: if heat is being sequestered in the deep ocean it must transfer through the upper ocean and should have been detected by the Argo network of buoys, but wasn't.

<<http://www.ibtimes.com/articles/216528/20110919/global-warming-deep-oceans-greenhouse-gas-emissions-missing-heat-earth-s-temperature-community-clima.htm>>

<<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/Deep+sixing+global+warming/5433152/story.html>>

<<http://pielkeclimatesci.wordpress.com/2011/09/20/torpedoing-of-the-use-of-the-global-average-surface-temperature-trend-as-the-diagnostic-for-global-warming/>>

2011-09-15

Britons Question Global Warming More than Canadians and Americans

According to an Angus Reid online survey, half the respondents in the two North American countries (52% of Canadians and 49% of Americans) think climate change is a fact and is caused by emissions, fewer Britons concurred (43%.) The survey was conducted on 1,001 Canadians, 1,000 Americans and 2,005 Britons. The respective changes since the last survey in October 2010 are: -8%, +7% and -4%. The report includes tables showing polling results for the last five surveys on the subject.

<http://www.angus-reid.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/2011.09.12_Climate.pdf>

Obama's Energy Policy Raises Costs, Limits Jobs

Two weeks before the bankruptcy of solar panel manufacturer Solyndra [FoS Extracts 2011-09-03] the White House announced that the Departments of Agriculture, Energy and Navy will "invest up to \$510 million during the next three years" to develop "advanced aviation and marine biofuels to power military and commercial transportation." Advanced biofuels has proved to be a colossal failure. Despite decades of hype and tens of millions of dollars in subsidies, the US still doesn't have any substantive biofuel production, other than the corn-ethanol boondoggle, which now consumes 40% of US corn production, and soy-based diesel.

While residential electricity costs have increased 30% since 2005, the possible EPA-enforced closure of coal-fired power plants, which could begin in January, will mean even higher cost to consumers. President Obama regularly includes anti-oil-industry rhetoric in his speeches, referring to oil as "yesterday's energy." While the average member of Big Oil has a profit margin of 7.9% and electric utilities earn 7.2%, the Obama administration's subsidies to GE and its partners, including Google and Sumitomo Corp., will enable them to reap an estimated 30% return on equity for the Shepherds Flat wind project in Oregon.

Latest statistical data show that 16.3% of US workers are either unemployed or underemployed. Yet, during the past 18 months, 48,000 people were hired in Pennsylvania by companies drilling in the Marcellus Shale. The American Petroleum Institute sent a letter to the President saying that the oil industry could create more than 1 million jobs if it were allowed to drill in more areas.

<<http://edition.cnn.com/2011/09/09/opinion/bryce-obama-energy-jobs/>>

Natural Gas Climate War Heats Up

Cheap and abundant natural gas is anathema to some environmental activists because it threatens to undercut the case for wind and solar electricity generation. Burning natural gas produces about 50% less CO₂ than coal, which should make it more appealing for AGW believers. However, establishment scientist Tom Wigley of the National Center for Atmospheric Research ran computer simulations and found that not burning coal means not having the cooling effects of sulphates and other particles. He reported that a 50% reduction in coal generation, replacing it with gas, would mean only a 0.1°F change in global warming over the next 40 years. Part of the reason is methane leakage.

The author of *Consumer Energy Report's* story contacted Dr. Wigley, who told him that even switching from coal to zero-emissions sources of electricity would cause a short-term rise in temperatures, due to the cooling effect from coal's particulate emissions. The Wigley study got wide coverage in the media.

<<http://reason.com/blog/2011/09/09/natural-gas-climate-war-heats>>

<<http://www.consumerenergyreport.com/2011/09/12/bombshell-solar-and-wind-power-would-speed-up-not-reduce-global-warming/>>

Extreme Measures

Climate researchers in the US and Britain have formed a loose coalition under the banner ACE – Attribution of Climate-related Events – designed to lay the foundations for attributing extreme weather events to climate change. *Nature* has joined in by publishing a news feature called *Climate and Weather: Extreme Measures*, with the subtitle “Can violent hurricanes, floods and droughts be pinned on climate change? Scientists are beginning to say yes.” The ACE group is employing climate models to assess the fraction of a climate event that might be attributed to global warming. Judith Curry objects to using climate models for this exercise.

<<http://judithcurry.com/2011/09/08/extreme-measures/>>

Nobel Prize Winner Ivar Giaever Resigns from American Physical Society for its Global Warming Alarmism

Dr. Giaever won a Nobel Prize for physics in 1973 and was an Obama supporter in 2008. When he avoided renewing his membership in the APS, the Society asked why. Dr. Giaever replied that he cannot live with the APS' stance that the evidence of AGW is “incontrovertible.” In his email Dr. Giaever says the fact that the average global temperature has increased by 0.8°C over 150 years means that the temperature has been amazingly stable, and both human health and happiness have definitely improved over this “warming” period.

<<http://motls.blogspot.com/2011/09/nobel-prize-winner-ivar-giaever-resigns.html>>

<<http://www.climatedepot.com/a/12797/Exclusive-Nobel-Prize-Winning-Physicist-Who-Endorsed-Obama-Dissents-Resigns-from-American-Physical-Society-Over-Groups-Promotion-of-ManMade-Global-Warming>>

The Good, The Bad and The Ugly: Roy Spencer's Initial Comments on the New Dessler 2011 Study

The controversy over the Spencer-Braswell paper and the resignation of the editor that published it [FoS Extracts 2011-07-29 and 2011-09-03] continues with Andy Dessler's critique, which was quickly accepted for publication. The issue between the two scientists is cloud feedback: whether and if so, how much, clouds affect temperature or vice-versa. Dr. Spencer's initial reactions to the Dessler paper: Good (Dr. Dessler accepts the "potential" of a problem in diagnosing radiative feedbacks – if non-feedback cloud variations were to cause temperature variations); Bad (Dr. Dessler gets a ratio of 20:1 for non-cloud temperature changes versus mostly-cloud forced variations; and Ugly (Dr. Dessler misrepresents the Spencer-Braswell position that causation works in both directions.)

Judith Curry comments on the Dessler paper, pointing out that Spencer and Braswell used the three most- and three least-sensitive IPCC models to compare with satellite data, whereas Dr. Dessler used the ones that best fitted the data. She finds that none of the papers are useful to determining the sign or the magnitude of the cloud feedback.

For a simple explanation on the cloud-temperature issue, see Roy Spencer's primer on the subject.

<<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/09/the-good-the-bad-and-the-ugly-my-initial-comments-on-the-new-dessler-2011-study/>>

<<http://judithcurry.com/2011/09/06/spencer-braswell-part-iii/#more-4834>>

<<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/09/a-primer-on-our-claim-that-clouds-cause-temperature-change/>>

2011-09-03

Power Sector Objects to Canadian Government's Emission Rules

The Federal Government has published proposed new regulations in the *Canada Gazette* – subject to a 60-day comment period – that set a CO₂ emission limit of 375 t/GWh for any new or refurbished coal-fired power plant after 2015. This limit is equivalent to that of a high efficiency gas-fired station. Power companies argue that the new regulations will reduce the reliability of the electricity system while driving up power costs to consumers in provinces that largely depend on coal-fired electricity (e.g., Alberta, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia.)

The *Canada Gazette* notice begins with an extensive Regulatory Impact Analysis based on the premise that greenhouse gases, especially anthropogenic ones, are primary contributors to climate change. In a cost-benefit analysis, the present value of the proposed regulations is calculated at \$8.2 billion, largely due to increased natural gas costs of \$4.8 billion. The present value of the benefits is estimated at \$9.7 billion, of which the "avoided social cost of carbon" is \$4.3 billion. The SCC was calculated assuming a cost of \$25/t for CO₂, escalating at 2%/year. Environment Canada considers the \$25/t "consistent" with the expected US price for carbon and the trading value for permits on the European Climate Exchange. Last year the Chicago climate change closed as permits were trading for \$0.05/t, and last June they fell to €11.71/t in Europe.

Until October 26, 2011 comments on the proposed regulations can be sent to caroline.blais@ec.gc.ca.

<<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/industry-news/energy-and-resources/power-sector-objects-to-proposed-federal-emission-rules/article2147729/>>

<<http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2011/2011-08-27/html/reg1-eng.html>>

Obama's Enron

President Obama visited the California-based, solar-panel maker Solyndra in May 2010 calling it “a testament to American ingenuity and dynamism.” The company got a half-billion dollar federal loan guarantee, the first in the Department of Energy’s green-jobs program. The showcase firm is now filing for Chapter 11, the third solar company to declare bankruptcy in a month, an embarrassing blow to Obamanomics. According to a Department of Energy spokesman: “The company was considered extraordinarily innovative as recently as 2010.” Innovative maybe, but Solyndra never turned a profit since its founding in 2005. President George Bush was flayed for his close ties to Enron following its bankruptcy. President Obama gave \$527 million in a federal loan to Solyndra, a major backer of which is a prodigious Obama-Biden fundraiser. House Republicans are investigating whether Solyndra received favorable treatment because of its political ties.

In a related story, President Obama overruled the Environmental Protection Agency’s controversial smog regulation, which would have cost industry between \$19 billion and \$90 billion.

<<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/276119/obama-s-enron-rich-lowry>>

<<http://www.suntimes.com/news/otherviews/7430403-417/obamas-green-dream-hurting-us-taxpayers.html>>

<<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/09/02/peter-foster-scorched-by-%C2%ADsolar/>>

<<http://news.yahoo.com/obama-halts-controversial-epa-regulation-143731156.html>>

Top Economist Warns that Green Jobs “Creation” Will Undermine Recovery

Professor Gordon Hughes of Edinburgh University has written a report, *The Myth of Green Jobs*, dispelling the UK Government’s promise that green energy policies will create tens of thousands of jobs and stimulate competitive industries. Among the points he makes: the capital cost of renewable energy is 9-10 times that of conventional power plants; the £120 billion of extra investment in renewable energy could be put to more productive uses; increased energy costs mean that manufacturers will either go bankrupt or relocate; the UK cannot acquire a long-term comparative advantage in the manufacture of renewable energy equipment; policies to promote renewable energy could add 0.6-0.7 percentage points to core inflation between now and 2020; the cumulative impact of these policies could amount to a loss of 2-3% of potential GDP for 20 years or more.

<<http://www.thegwpf.org/press-releases/3773-top-economist-warns-green-jobs-creation-will-undermine-recovery.html>>

<http://www.thegwpf.org/images/stories/gwpf-reports/hughes-green_jobs.pdf>

<<http://af.reuters.com/article/commoditiesNews/idAFL5E7K22I820110902?sp=true>>

Diplomacy ahead of UN Climate Conference in Durban Augurs Little Progress

The staunchly pro-AGW *Economist* begins its gloomy assessment with “Never has the UN’s Kyoto protocol looked sorrier.” Of the important rich countries, only the Europeans with 13% of global emissions, will consider a second go. Quitting the scheme is a way to avoid the punitive burden for countries with shortfalls in the first round that would be carried into a second one (e.g., Canada and Japan.) But Kyoto, supported by the BASIC group (Brazil, South Africa, India and China), refuses to die. These countries’ attachment is rooted in self-interest: as major emitters, but developing ones, they need undertake no mitigation commitment. Even the most ardent European believers in a Kyoto-style, top-down, legally-binding mitigation effort realize that the US and China won’t participate. In that case, according to *The Economist*, “the world’s climate problem would remain unsolved.”

<<http://www.economist.com/node/21528247>>

Journal Editor Resigns over “Problematic” Climate Paper

The editor of the journal *Remote Sensing* has resigned over the publishing of Spencer and Braswell’s paper claiming that computer models inflated projections of future temperature rise [see FoS Extracts – 2011-07-29.] The paper became a cause célèbre in skeptical blogs and magazines like *Forbes*, but was swiftly attacked by mainstream climate scientists. Then the editor, Wolfgang Wagner, accepted the scientists’ criticism, perceived that the paper was “fundamentally flawed and therefore wrongly accepted by the journal” and resigned.

Roy Spencer and Judith Curry offer their views on the resignation. Dr. Spencer claims that once again the IPCC gatekeepers have put pressure on a journal for daring to publish anything that might hurt the IPCC’s “politically immovable position” on climate change. Dr. Curry says that there are flaws in the paper, but not outrageous ones. She interprets the “overhyping” of the paper as backlash against the “consensus” that routinely trivializes any skeptical paper. She notes that consensus scientists are in charge of most of the editorial boards of the most relevant journals.

<<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-14768574?print=true>>

<<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/sep/02/journal-editor-resigns-climate-sceptic-paper?INTCMP=SRCH>>

<<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/09/editor-in-chief-of-remote-sensing-resigns-from-fallout-over-our-paper/>>

<<http://judithcurry.com/2011/09/02/update-on-the-spencer-braswell-paper/>>

Henrik Svensmark: The Cosmic-Ray/Cloud Seeding Hypothesis is Converging with Reality

The *Global Warming Policy Foundation* interviewed Henrik Svensmark about the recently-published results of CERN’s CLOUD experiment [see FoS Extracts – 2011-08-29.] Dr. Svensmark says that the CLOUD experiment confirmed his experimental results since 2006 and seems to say that ions are fundamental for the nucleation of new aerosols. He notes that, when the Sun became quiet after its intensification of activity during the 20th Century, global warming stopped about 10-15 years ago and sub-surface ocean temperatures seem to be declining. The Sun’s importance, due to current lack of solar activity, will become evident in the near future.

Lawrence Solomon considers the 20-year global warming debate to be in its final stages. The doomsayers lost the first argument over dangerous AGW in the court of public opinion, then they lost the economic argument over renewable energy, and now with the CERN results they’ve lost their pretended monopoly on the official science.

<<http://www.thegwvf.org/the-observatory/3779-henrik-svensmark-the-cosmic-raycloud-seeding-hypothesis-is-converging-with-reality.html>>

<<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/09/02/lawrence-solomon-our-cosmic-climate/>>

UAH Temperature Update for August 2011: +0.33°C

The University of Alabama Huntsville’s global temperature anomaly for last month was +0.33°C, down from +0.37°C in July due to cooling in the tropics from La Niña conditions, as shown by the sea-surface temperature graphs.

<<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/09/uah-global-temperature-update-for-august-2011-0-33-deg-c/>>

2011-08-29

Britain's Wind Farm Scam Threatens Economic Recovery

Watts Up With That? has compiled some recent articles about the UK's commitment to generate nearly a third of its electricity from "renewable" sources in nine years. They deal with the "madness" of spending £140 billion (or £1,500 for every household) on wind farms; how the nation's wealthiest aristocrats are blighting the countryside by cashing in on the wind farm subsidies for their estates; how green taxes will make up more than a third of the price of electricity by the end of the decade; and why the government should force energy companies to make their electricity bills fully transparent.

<<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/08/22/britains-wind-farm-scam-threatens-economic-recovery/#more-45663>>

Hopes Low before South African Climate Change Talks

Three months before the next climate summit in Durban, South Africa's foreign minister said that she is hoping for compromise, but expects only incremental progress. Developing countries in Africa and elsewhere expect her to champion their calls from industrialized nations to deliver money and technology to develop clean industries and cope with disruptions of global warming. However, she admitted that the talks can't be just about the environment: "People need to eat first."

<<http://www.kcautv.com/story/15305870/hopes-low-before-south-africa-climate-change-talks>>

Flogging a Dead Horse: EU Pondering Extension of Kyoto Protocol

If all its 27 members agree the EU could propose, at the Durban climate summit, an extension to the Kyoto Protocol until 2018. An agreement at the summit could bolster confidence in the clean development mechanism, which is underpinned by the protocol. Last year new investment in the CDM fell to a fifth of its peak due to fears that the protocol will expire at the end of 2012.

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/climate-environment/eu-may-propose-kyoto-protocol-extension-news-507084?utm_source=EurActiv+Newsletter&utm_campaign=02789e47cc-my_google_analytics_key&utm_medium=email>

New Report on Global Warming Contradicts UN's IPCC

The Heartland Institute, the Center for the Study of Carbon Dioxide and Global Change and the Science and Environmental Policy Project have produced a 430-page report co-authored and edited by three climate science researchers. According to the new report, *Climate Change Reconsidered: 2011 Interim Report*, "natural causes are very likely to be [the] dominant" cause of climate change that took place in the twentieth and at the start of the twenty-first centuries. "We are not saying anthropogenic greenhouse gases cannot produce some warming or have not in the past. Our conclusion is that the evidence shows they are not playing a substantial role."

The authors of the new report go on to say "the net effect of continued warming and rising carbon dioxide concentrations in the atmosphere is most likely to be beneficial to humans, plants, and wildlife."

<<http://www.nipccreport.org/reports/2011/pdf/pressrelease.pdf>>

CERN Experiment Confirms that Cosmic Rays Influence Cloud Seeds

Results published in *Nature* about CERN's CLOUD (Cosmics Leaving OUtdoor Droplets) experiment appear to confirm that cosmic rays – modulated by the Sun's magnetic variations – create cloud condensation nuclei in the Earth's atmosphere. This finding adds support for Henrik Svensmark's controversial thesis that the Sun and cosmic rays significantly affect cloud formation and thus the planet's climate. With low solar activity, as we have now, more cosmic rays penetrate the atmosphere and create condensation nuclei which increase cloud cover and cooling.

In the GWPF article, the author includes a graph – omitted from the *Nature* paper – that depicts more rapid formation of particles once the electric field was shut off, allowing natural cosmic rays into the experimental chamber. The *Physics World* report contains a link to a seven-minute video interview with CLOUD team leader Jasper Kirkby.

RealClimate, an establishment climate scientists' blog, admits that the CLOUD results are a treasure trove for understanding aerosol processes in the atmosphere. To forestall damage to the AGW cause, it predicts that the published results will be “wildly misconstrued by the contrarian blogosphere” in proving the link between cosmic rays and cloud formation.

<<http://www.thegwgf.org/science-news/3699-cern-experiment-confirms-cosmic-rays-can-influence-climate-change.html>>
 <<http://physicsworld.com/cws/article/news/46953>>
 <<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/story.html?id=975f250d-ca5d-4f40-b687-a1672ed1f684>>
 <<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/08/26/lawrence-solomon-science-now-settled/>>
 <<http://www.realclimate.org/index.php/archives/2011/08/the-cerncloud-results-are-surprisingly-interesting/>>

2011-08-22

Rex Murphy: Global Warming Runs Out of Gas

As an example of the global warming crusade running out of gas, Mr. Murphy recommends listening to Al Gore's rant captured at a global warming conference in Aspen where he raged about conspiracy, media manipulation and pseudo scientists paid to put out false messages. In Canada five years ago the Liberal Party chose a leader who pledged to build a “green” country and then lost an election and his job. President Obama who, at his inauguration, promised that “the rise of the oceans will start to slow and the planet begin to heal,” now gives the Gore campaign the barest of rhetorical support. Mr. Murphy speculates that hard economic times, Climategate and the sanctimony of the high-profile environmentalists signal to most observers that the “science” isn't as certain as pretended.

<<http://fullcomment.nationalpost.com/2011/08/20/rex-murphy-global-warming-runs-out-of-gas/>>

David Suzuki Insults, but Won't Debate

As the climate scare fizzles, Canada's celebrity environmentalist resorts to ad hominem attacks. Scientist Willie Soon, who has done brilliant research into the Sun's role in climate change, was the subject of a Suzuki attack that wrongly implied that Dr. Soon had lied to a US Senate committee about \$1 million in funding from energy companies. Yet the Suzuki Foundation spends \$7 million each year on “educational” and pressure campaigns. Climate catastrophe researchers share over \$6 billion annually in US and Canadian taxpayer money, as well as millions more in corporate cash to link every natural phenomenon to global warming while promoting renewable “alternatives” to fossil fuels.

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/08/16/david-suzuki-insults-but-wont-debate/>

In the US, the Party's Over for Big Wind

Thirteen months ago the head lobbyist for the American Wind Energy Association declared that the industry was in distress. If 2010 was bad, 2011 looks worse due to cheap natural gas, growing resistance to wind-turbine installations and the inability of governments to continue hefty subsidies. In 2009 the industry added 10,010 MW of capacity and 5,100 MW last year. This year it may install less than any year since 2006.

The backlash against industrial wind is growing, with 170 anti-wind groups organized in the US. The wind lobby is desperate to downplay the problem of infrasound from wind turbines. Published in August 2011, a peer-reviewed paper in the *Bulletin of Science, Technology & Society* found that there is “overwhelming evidence that wind turbines cause serious health problems in nearby residents, usually stress-disorder type diseases, at a non-trivial rate.”

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/robert-bryce/wind-industry-backlash_b_923906.html

<http://www.windturbinesyndrome.com/news/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Phillips-1.pdf>

Energy in America: Dead Birds Unintended Consequence of Wind Power Development

California supports about 2,500 golden eagles, and the state's largest wind farms kill more than 80 of them each year, on average. The state is set to triple its wind capacity as it tries to become the first state in the nation to generate 33% of its electricity from renewable sources by 2020. If someone shoots an eagle, the penalty is a \$10,000 fine or one to five years in a federal pen. PacifiCorp, an Oregon utility paid \$10.5 million in fines after 232 eagles were killed by running into its power lines. However, the wind industry gets a pass from the US Fish and Wildlife Service, which won't act on the wind farm kills.

<http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/2011/08/16/energy-in-america-dead-birds-unintended-consequence-wind-power-development/>

US States Begin Dismantling the Green Energy Sector

In Pennsylvania the administration is de-emphasizing renewable energy as it eliminates programs created by previous Democratic and Republican administrations as it focuses on natural gas energy from the state's Marcellus Shale. It is also shutting down state agencies dealing with “green energy.”

Environmental lobby groups such as PennFuture claim that the changes will put 100,000 “green jobs” at risk. Other states that are reassessing or reducing sustainable energy, energy conservation and renewables include Connecticut, Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Oklahoma and Wisconsin, according to the Pew Research Center.

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/11226/1167245-454.stm>

Climate Forecasting Models Aren't Pretty, and They Aren't Smart

In its 2001 report the IPCC acknowledged: “In climate research and modeling, we should realize that we are dealing with a coupled non-linear chaotic system, and therefore that the long-term prediction of future climate states is not possible.” In its 2007 assessment the IPCC wrote: “...climate models are based on well-established physical principles and have been demonstrated to reproduce observed features of recent climate...and past changes.” Yet Kevin Trenberth, a lead author for the climate model chapters in both

reports wrote in *Nature.com*: “None of the models used by the IPCC are initialized to the observed state and none of the climate states in the models correspond even remotely to the current observed state.”

Other scientists quoted in the *Forbes* article say that the IPCC models cannot duplicate observed Arctic temperatures, use simplistic cloud feedback descriptions, exhibit huge discrepancies over the oceans, use the same “parameterization” assumptions, and fudge climate projections by exaggerating CO₂ influences and underestimating oceanic shifts. A forecasting audit of the 2007 IPCC report found that the forecasts in the report were not the outcome of scientific procedures, but opinions of scientists “... transformed by mathematics and obscured by complex writing.”

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/larrybell/2011/08/09/climate-forecasting-models-arent-pretty-and-they-arent-smart/>

http://blogs.nature.com/climatefeedback/2007/06/predictions_of_climate.html

Deep Ocean Temperature Change Spaghetti: 15 Climate Models vs Observations

Roy Spencer compared 20th Century runs from 15 of the climate models used in the 2007 IPCC report with observations of ocean warming during 1955-1999. The purpose was to find if the climate sensitivity for a doubling of CO₂ is low (~1.3°C) or high (~3°C according to the IPCC.) He found that the models themselves suggest that the observed ocean warming has been too weak to be consistent with a sensitive climate system.

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/08/deep-ocean-temperature-change-spaghetti-15-climate-models-versus-observations/>

2011-08-14

In Ontario, Gloomy Skies for Solar Power

Delays in the approvals process for solar power in Ontario have brought the industry almost to a standstill. Entrepreneurs, trying to cash in on lucrative 20-year contracts guaranteeing 44.3 to 80.2 ¢/kWh, are being stymied by the success of the program (over 22,000 applications are in the queue). While projects await assurance of connections to the grid, installers and suppliers are laying off employees. The CEO of Calgary-based Sustainable Energy Technologies, which makes solar inverters, claims that the industry has been “sucker-punched.” Farmers who installed solar panels have been waiting up to a year to hear if they will be hooked up to the grid. Some have been told that their installations can’t be connected because of capacity constraints.

The provincially-owned Hydro One Networks is asking its regulator for an extra six months to deal with the influx of applications for small (<= 10 kW) projects. The utility has been unable to meet the mandatory deadlines for assessing the projects since last November. The Ontario Energy Minister says that his government is working with Hydro One on “creative ways” to address the delays facing proponents of solar projects.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/in-ontario-gloomy-skies-for-solar-power/article2125904/singlepage/#articlecontent>

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/hooking-up-with-ontarios-hydro-one-not-so-easy/article2127342/>

EU Challenges Ontario's Green Power Rules at the WTO

The European Union has launched a legal challenge against Canada at the World Trade Organization to protest against provincial (i.e., Ontario) backing for domestic content in solar and wind energy projects. The EU says that the backing, under the *Green Energy Act*, is illegal under global trade rules because it gives an unfair advantage to local producers. As this is an international matter, the Federal Government is the party responding to the EU challenge. However, a spokeswoman for the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade noted that the Federal Government is not responsible for the actions of Ontario and that any specific questions on the dispute should be directed to the province.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/economy/eu-challenges-canadian-green-power-rules-at-wto/article2127009/>

Climate Wars: European Airlines May Be Banned from the US

After January 1, 2012 airlines that fly into or out of the EU will have to get emissions certificates from the EU's Emissions Trading System. These would cover the whole of each flight, even if the majority of the emissions-miles fell outside EU airspace. Opponents of the scheme suspect that the program has more to do with cash-strapped European governments scrambling for money than getting airlines to reduce their carbon footprints. The US has joined China, Australia, Canada and the United Arab Emirates in protesting the move, saying it violates international law.

The House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure is considering a bipartisan bill to make it illegal for US airlines to participate in the ETS scheme. If enacted the legislation could force domestic airlines out of the EU and expel European airlines from the US.

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/aug/11/no-friendly-skies-between-us-eu/>

The Lack of Recent Warming and the State of Peer Review

Patrick Michaels, a Senior Fellow in Environmental Studies at the Cato Institute (and a contributing author/reviewer for the 2007 IPCC report), critiques a recent paper by Kaufmann et al in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* [FoS Extracts 2011-07-05] that blames lack of recent global warming on sulphates from Chinese coal burning. He presents graphical evidence showing that for the 1998-2008 period in question: (1) temperatures rose in the Northern Hemisphere while they fell in the Southern – the opposite to what should have happened if the Kaufmann hypothesis were correct; (2) in 2009-2010 both Chinese coal consumption and global temperatures rose – again contrary to the Kaufman hypothesis.

Dr. Michaels then describes his efforts since 2008 to publish a paper similar to the Kaufmann one, except that it attributes the lack of warming to the combined natural variations in El Niño-Southern Oscillation, volcanoes and solar activity offsetting any anthropogenic forcing. Dr. Michaels notes the glib acceptance of the Kaufmann paper by PNAS and the rejection letters he got from five journals.

http://www.cato.org/pub_display.php?pub_id=13510

Pause in Upper Ocean Warming Explained

The UK Met Office comments on two research papers, one from the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute and the other from the Met Office, that shed light on why the upper layer (700 m) of the oceans has seen a recent (2003-2010) pause in warming, despite continued increases in greenhouse gases. The

papers claim that the pause is due to variations in the El Niño-Southern Oscillation and changes in the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Oscillation.

Roy Spencer considers these papers a step forward for the “skeptics” side of the global warming debate as climate modelers finally admit that nature can have a role in global warming and cooling episodes, even if they seem to be limiting that role to 10-year time scales. He then wonders why the modelers waited until warming stopped to mention nature’s role in the process.

<<http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/news/releases/archive/2011/ocean-warming>>

<<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/08/a-step-in-the-right-direction-backing-off-of-anthropocentrism-in-climate-research/>>

<<http://europa.agu.org/?view=article&uri=/journals/gl/gl1114/2011GL048417/2011GL048417.xml&t=katsman>>

<<http://europa.agu.org/?view=article&uri=/journals/gl/gl1113/2011GL047835/2011GL047835.xml&t=gl,2011,palmer>>

Worldwide CO₂ Emissions and the Futility of Any Action in the West

In *Watts Up With That*, Ed Hoskins divides the world’s nations into seven groups according to their attitudes towards CO₂ control measures: China; the US; India; Russia, Japan and Canada which have opted out of an extension to the Kyoto Protocol; larger developing nations (Iran, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Mexico, South Africa, Brazil and Indonesia); the EU, Australia and New Zealand (isolated in their continued adherence to AGW and CO₂ control); and the Rest of the World.

Graphs showing historic emissions for each of the groups for 1965 to 2010 and more recent percentage and annual rates of increase show that China, India and the “rest of the world” are clearly not joining in the action on CO₂ reduction. Their increases in emissions will negate any efforts in the developed world.

<<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/08/07/worldwide-co2-emissions-and-the-futility-of-any-action-in-the-west/>>

Judith Curry’s New Paper: Reasoning about Climate Uncertainty

Dr. Curry’s paper argues that the IPCC has oversimplified the issue of uncertainty in its assessment reports, which can lead to misleading overconfidence. In its reports the IPCC uses “judgmental estimates of confidence”, and its defenders say that subjective consensus expressed using simple terms is more easily understood by policy makers. When attributing 20th Century climate change in its last report, the IPCC dismissed natural multi-decadal variability and conducted no assessment of the impact of uncertainty in solar variability.

Dr. Curry concludes that improved characterization of uncertainty and ignorance, with a more realistic portrayal of confidence levels, could reduce the “noise” and animosity portrayed in the media that fuels the public distrust of climate science. She also warns against falling into the trap of acceding to inappropriate demands for certainty from policy makers and communicators.

<<http://www.springerlink.com/content/gg28390v311876w4/fulltext.pdf>>

2011-08-05

Ontario Government Makes It Hard to Cancel Green Energy Programs Ahead of Election

On August 2 the Ontario Government announced steps to protect its flagship job creation program by making it more difficult for a future government – if the Liberals lose the October 6 election – to cancel hundreds of clean-energy projects in various stages of development. A directive signed by the Energy Minister means that the Ontario Power Authority can no longer cancel a project before a company secures financing, environmental approval and connection to the electricity grid.

<<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/mcguinty-liberals-make-it-harder-to-cancel-green-energy-programs-ahead-of-election/article2117778/>>

<<http://www.financialpost.com/news/Energy+rules+change+wind/5202325/story.html>>

Ontario Wind Farm Shutdown Urged During Migration Season

Conservation group Nature Canada is calling on TransAlta Corp. to turn off the turbines at its Wolfe Island wind farm during late summer/early fall to cut down on the number of birds and bats being killed. According to Nature Canada, the 86 turbines kill about 1,500 birds and 3,800 bats per year, but TransAlta considers the mortality rates within ranges reported for other wind farms across North America. The Wolfe Island facility is located on a migratory route at the eastern end of Lake Ontario.

<<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/globe-investor/transalta-urged-to-shut-down-wind-farm-during-migration-season/article2117615/>>

Ottawa Bureaucrats Offer Up Green Misinformation

Briefing notes prepared by departmental bureaucrats for Environment Minister Peter Kent last January claim that climate change is the most serious environmental issue facing the world today and that Canada is lagging the US in reducing pollution from industry that is causing the problem. After the government won a majority last May, climate change featured less prominently in ministerial announcements, and someone obtained the briefing notes under an access-to-information request. Then the Pembina Institute started questioning why the minister is not listening to the bureaucrats' plea to make global warming a priority.

On August 3 Environment Canada announced plans to eliminate 776 positions, or 11% of its workforce.

<<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/Bureaucrats+offer+green+misinformation/5196314/story.html>>

<<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/Canada+lagging+climate+Kent+warned/5190436/story.html>>

<<http://www.calgaryherald.com/business/Major+cuts+Environment+Canada/5209924/story.html>>

Report on Dead Polar Bears Gets Biologist Suspended

The US Government suspended wildlife biologist Charles Monnett pending an investigation into “integrity issues.” After spotting four dead bears in 2004 during an aerial survey of whales, Dr. Monnett and a co-author published a report in 2006 for the journal *Polar Biology* which, with images of drowned or marooned polar bears, became a staple for global warming activists. The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, Dr. Monnett's employer, had him interviewed, and a transcript indicates that the focus of the interview was on Dr. Monnett's calculations of a 75% mortality rate among bears caught in a mid-September storm in the open sea and the fact that no dead bears had been seen in aerial surveys prior to the 2004 sighting.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/07/29/science/earth/29polar.html?_r=1>

<<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/technology/science/arctic-scientist-suspended-after-awarding-research-project-to-university-of-alberta/article2117704/>>

<http://www.peer.org/docs/doi/7_28_11_Monnett-IG_interview_transcript.pdf>

UAH Global Temperature Update for July 2011: +0.37°C

The global temperature anomaly for July 2011 increased to +0.37°C. Roy Spencer notes that large month-to-month temperature changes are caused by natural variations in the rate at which the ocean loses heat to the atmosphere, as evidenced by a drop in the sea surface temperature last month.

<<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/08/uah-global-temperature-update-july-2011-0-37-deg-c/>>

New Hypothesis: Planetary Temperature Controls Atmospheric CO₂ Level – Not Humans

Murry Salby, Chair of Climate Science at Australia's Macquarie University, has been looking at C₁₂ to C₁₃ ratios and CO₂ levels around the world and has concluded that man-made emissions don't even control the global CO₂ levels, let alone the climate. Normally, atmospheric CO₂ contains C₁₃ and C₁₂ isotopes in about a 1/99 ratio, which has been falling. Both fossil fuels and plants contain more C₁₂ than the atmosphere. Humans emit 5 Gt/a of CO₂ (which is reasonably well known), but natural emissions of CO₂ are an order or magnitude greater and less well determined. These are approximately 150 Gt/a (~90 from the ocean and ~60 from land plants.) Photosynthesis and ocean absorption nearly balance the total emissions of CO₂ thus completing the carbon cycle.

Recently-available global distributions of CO₂ from satellites, and C₁₂-C₁₃ analyses, show that more net CO₂ is being produced in the Amazon basin, tropical Africa and southeast Asia than in industrialized areas. Over the past 30 years, CO₂ in the atmosphere has been growing by an average of 1.5 ppmv/a, but this has varied between 0 and 3 ppmv/a, far greater than could be accounted for from variations in human emissions. Low rates of increase correspond to cool years and high rates to warm years. According to Dr. Salby, temperature accounts for about 80% of the variation in CO₂ levels. That is, natural sources – not human – are the biggest drivers of increasing CO₂ in the atmosphere.

There is a 32-minute audio podcast (plus 25 minutes of Q&A) of Dr. Salby's speech *Global Emissions of Carbon Dioxide: The Contribution from Natural Sources* given to the Sydney Institute. He makes frequent references to graphs, which are not available now, but should be included in his new paper, which has been peer-reviewed and is due to come out in about six months. After listening to the podcast, Judith Curry's conclusion: "Wow ... If Salby's analysis holds up, this could revolutionize AGW science."

<<http://joannenova.com.au/2011/08/blockbuster-planetary-temperature-controls-co2-levels-not-humans/>>

<<http://www.thesydneyinstitute.com.au/podcast/global-emission-of-carbon-dioxide-the-contribution-from-natural-sources/>>

<<http://judithcurry.com/2011/08/04/carbon-cycle-questions/>>

2011-07-29

Scientific Peer-Reviewed Journal Publishes Special Edition on Wind Turbines, and Global Backlash against Wind Energy

The August 2011 edition of SAGE Publication's *Bulletin of Science, Technology and Society* is the first peer-reviewed scientific journal devoted solely to the impacts of wind turbines on communities. This special edition, called *Windfarms, Communities, and Ecosystems Part I*, includes ten articles documenting adverse health effects caused by wind turbine installations. The SAGE link below allows free access to the abstracts, but requires payment to view any of the articles.

Ontario Wind Performance has published excerpts from an *Energy Tribune* story about T. Boone Pickens and the global backlash against wind energy. The *Energy Tribune* link contained in the OWP story is unreliable, but the *Global Warming Policy Foundation* has posted a copy of the ET article.

<<http://windconcernsontario.wordpress.com/2011/07/20/leading-scientific-peer-reviewed-journal-publishes-special-edition-on-windturbines/>>

<<http://bst.sagepub.com/content/31/4.toc>>

<<http://ontariowindperformance.wordpress.com/2011/07/29/t-boone%e2%80%99s-windy-misadventure-and-the-global-backlash-against-wind-energy/>>

<<http://www.thegwvf.org/energy-news/3535-the-global-backlash-against-wind-energy-.html>>

Fight Brews over Offsets in California Climate Law

California's Air Resources Board is expected to unveil proposed rules for enforcing A.B.32, the law ordering reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. Together with these rules the CARB will issue guidelines for the first economy-wide cap-and-trade program in the US, which is being watched as a litmus test for climate policy.

Under the legislation industries emitting more than 25,000 t/a of CO₂ equivalent will be allowed to buy "offset credits" for up to 8% of their emissions. To ensure that the offsets are real, the CARB proposes renewal of permits for sequestration projects every 30 years, but an industry group wants this extended to 100 years. Then there is the question of who is liable if a business invests in, for example, a forest preservation project and the owner later cuts down the trees. CARB argues that it's a case of buyer beware.

<<http://www.nytimes.com/gwire/2011/07/25/25greenwire-fight-brews-over-offsets-in-calif-climate-law-6837.html>>

UN Countries Divided over Security Council's Climate Role

On July 20 the UN Security Council debated whether climate change is a security matter. Western nations, led by Germany and the US, together with Nauru representing the small island nations, asserted that it was. However, Russia, India and Brazil, together with developing countries, thought that the issue should belong with the UN agencies devoted to climate change. *Fox News* reports that the US ambassador to the UN delivered a blistering rebuke to the countries blocking Security Council action.

<<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/jul/21/un-security-council-climate-change>>

<<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2011/07/21/rice-lashes-out-at-russia-for-blocking-un-council-from-tackling-climate-change/#ixzz1SmhPhiOI>>

Carbon Offsets Have Already Run Out of Credit

A key element of Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard's policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 5% by 2020 is the purchase of carbon credit offsets from other countries. In effect this means that, in order to burn their own coal Australians will be paying people overseas for the right to do so. (This is also consistent with Ms. Gillard's commitment that her country's coal industry has a "bright future.") However, the PM seems to be unaware that the international carbon market is collapsing, due to concerns that the Kyoto Protocol will expire at the end of 2012, without any further commitments. Furthermore, volumes on the European emissions trading system have dropped by 90% following police investigations of extensive defrauding of the system.

<<http://www.nationaltimes.com.au/opinion/blogs/the-bishops-gambit/carbon-offsets-have-already-run-out-of-credit-20110720-1hnmv.html>>

<<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-07-22/un-emission-traders-start-abandoning-2012-credits-on-price-surplus.html>>

Sea-Level Rises Are Slowing, Tidal Gauge Records Show

One of Australia's foremost experts on the relationship between climate change and sea levels has written a peer-reviewed paper concluding that rises and sea levels are "decelerating." Phil Watson studied century-long tide gauge records at four locations in Australia and New Zealand and found a "consistent trend of weak deceleration" from 1940 to 2000.

<<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/sea-level-rises-are-slowing-tidal-gauge-records-show/story-fn59niix-1226099350056>>

<<http://joannenova.com.au/2011/07/australian-sea-levels-are-not-accelerating/>>

Roy Spencer's New Paper Shows Discrepancy Between Climate Models and the Real World

Dr. Spencer and William Braswell have published a paper (*On the Misdiagnosis of Surface Temperature Feedback Variations in Earth's Radiant Energy Balance*) in the journal *Remote Sensing*. According to the University of Alabama's press release – contained in Roger Pielke's blog – data from NASA's Terra satellite shows that when the climate warms, Earth's atmosphere is apparently more efficient at releasing energy to space than what the IPCC's climate models have been programmed to "believe." Dr. Spencer's team used surface temperature data from the Hadley Climate Research Unit in the UK and radiant energy data collected from the Terra satellite, then compared the results with those calculated by six climate models – the three least sensitive and the three most sensitive.

According to James Taylor's *Forbes* magazine blog, this paper shows a huge discrepancy between alarmist climate models and real-world facts. In his blog Dr. Spencer comments on the *Forbes* article and reports on reaction to his paper from "mainstream" climate scientists.

<<http://www.mdpi.com/2072-4292/3/8/1603/pdf>>

<<http://pielkeclimatesci.wordpress.com/2011/07/26/new-paper-on-the-misdiagnosis-of-surface-temperature-feedbacks-from-variations-in-earth%E2%80%99s-radiant-energy-balance-by-spencer-and-braswell-2011/>>

<<http://blogs.forbes.com/jamestaylor/2011/07/27/new-nasa-data-blow-gaping-hole-in-global-warming-alarmism/>>

<<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/07/fallout-from-our-paper-the-empire-strikes-back/>>

2011-07-21

Ontario's Power Trip: Power Dumping

In Ontario during the spring months the winds blow a lot, which is good for wind power companies, but a financial disaster for the province's electricity consumers. The bulk of this wind power is surplus to requirements and is exported to the US at rock-bottom prices. Last May wind power producers collected \$38 million for 284,000 MWh at \$135/MWh, and the same power was sold at below market price, which this *Financial Post* article calculates was \$21.62/MWh, creating a \$32 million subsidy. Since 2006 Ontario has lost \$905 million exporting 45.9 TWh of wind and solar power. According to a study prepared for the Ontario wind industry, net exports will soar to 20 TWh in 2013, up from 12.7 TWh this year.

Other related *Financial Post* articles examine the Ontario Government's cozy relationship with environmental NGOs and their industrial allies fighting to avoid its defeat in the October 6 election; lack of enforceable standards for wind-power noise; and forecasted higher power prices.

<<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/07/20/ontarios-power-trip-power-dumping/>>

<<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/07/20/the-big-green-surge-to-fend-off-critics-of-ontarios-renewable-energy-strategy/>>

<<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/07/08/ontarios-power-trip-bring-in-da-noise-bring-in-da-facts/>>

<<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/06/10/ontario-power-trip-todays-forecast-higher-power-prices/>>

Carbon Capture Hopes Dim in the US

In West Virginia, American Electric Power Co. Inc. operates a 1,300 MW coal-fired power plant with an experimental carbon capture and storage facility that removes part of the CO₂ produced and pumps it underground. On July 14, after two years of operation, AEP pulled the plug on its CCS efforts citing a weak economy and the uncertain status of US climate policy. Other CCS projects in North Dakota, Illinois and Indiana have been cancelled or are facing opposition from regulators and the public due to the high costs of the power produced.

The problem with CCS is "parasitic load", the energy consumed in the process of removing CO₂ from the exhaust gases. This is estimated to be \$60 to \$95 per tonne of CO₂ captured, adding 81% or more to power bills. Storage costs are much less of a factor.

<<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-07-21/carbon-capture-hopes-dim-as-aep-says-it-got-burned-at-coal-plant.html>>

Wind Turbines Deadly to Bats, Costly to Farmers

The 420 wind turbines in use across Pennsylvania killed 10,000 bats last year, according to a survey by the state's Game Commission. Death is caused by barotrauma, a drop in pressure around the blades that ruptures the bats' lungs. Bats are nature's pesticide, each consuming nearly 3,000 insects per night. In all of Pennsylvania, bats are estimated to save farmers \$278 million/year. Wind turbine operators are being forced by the state to invest in technology to deter bats.

<<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/11198/1160977-28.stm>>

Why Hasn't the Earth Warmed in Nearly 15 Years?

According to the University of East Anglia, monthly surface temperature records since November 1996 show no significant warming trend. The reason why, according to news stories surrounding a recent paper in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* [FoS Extracts – 2011-07-05], it's China's fault for burning more coal and emitting sulphate aerosols which reflect solar radiation. If true, then the warmists can claim "it's worse than we thought" because when the aerosols disappear warming will return with a vengeance. A simpler, alternative explanation is that the modelers have overestimated the gross sensitivity of temperature to CO₂ in their models.

Even the IPCC admits that our "Level of Scientific Understanding" of sulphate effects ranges between "low" and "very low," with possible cooling effects between zero and 3.5°C. In the PNAS paper the test of the sulphate hypothesis was that when "modeled-in" it fit the data well; i.e., correlation, not causation. Moreover, there is little exchange of air between the northern and southern hemispheres, as attested by climate establishment luminaries Ben Santer and James Hansen.

<http://blogs.forbes.com/patrickmichaels/2011/07/15/why-hasnt-the-earth-warmed-in-nearly-15-years/>

Manufacturing Consensus

Judith Curry comments on a paper *The authority of the IPCC and the manufacture of consensus* by Jean Goodwin, associate professor of English at Iowa State University. Dr. Goodwin notes that, upon establishment of the IPCC in 1988, its first chairman of Working Group 1, John Houghton, was quoted as saying "we must arrive at a general consensus" – in order to sell the IPCC's product to the general public as an "appeal to authority." This was codified by a 1991 rule: "in taking decisions, drawing conclusions, and adopting reports, the IPCC Plenary and Working Groups shall use all best endeavours to reach consensus." To achieve this, the IPCC and its defenders were obliged to distinguish between those qualified to contribute to the scientific consensus from those who were not (i.e., by attacking their credibility and labeling them "denialists".)

Dr. Curry concludes: "The IPCC needs to lose the emphasis on consensus and pay far more attention to understanding uncertainty and to actual reasoning."

<http://judithcurry.com/2011/07/16/manufacturing-consensus/>

<http://goodwin.public.iastate.edu/pubs/goodwinipcc.pdf>

Der Spiegel: Projecting Sea Levels Has Become a Bazaar – Who Can Bid the Most?

When the next IPCC report is issued in two years, it will include a forecast of sea-level rise by 2100. With 146 million people living within 1 m above sea level, this forecast will be used to determine how much governments will have to spend on protecting people from rising waters. The job of deciding which sea level rise the IPCC should bank on in its next report rests on 18 scientists from 10 countries.

At a recent meeting of 4,000 experts in Melbourne for the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, *Der Spiegel* reported: "The haggling over results is like dealing at a bazaar. On one hand scientists have published alarming sea level prognoses, which surpass those given by the last IPCC report [59 cm]. And on the other hand the actual sea level measurements indicate no detectable extreme increase." NASA alarmist junkie James Hansen appears to have been the highest bidder at 5 m. Currently sea levels are rising at 3 mm/year, or 0.27 m over 90 years.

<http://notrickszone.com/2011/07/15/der-spiegel-projecting-sea-levels-has-become-a-bazaar-who-can-bid-the-most/>

<<http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/0,1518,774706,00.html>>

CERN Gags Physicists in Cosmic Ray Experiment

The chief of the world's leading physics lab at CERN in Geneva has prohibited scientists from drawing conclusions from a major experiment. The CLOUD (“Cosmics Leaving Outdoor Droplets”) experiment is examining the role that energetic particles from deep space play in cloud formation. CLOUD uses CERN's proton synchrotron to examine nucleation. CERN Director General Rolf-Dieter Heuer told his colleagues to present the results clearly, but not interpret them because “That would go immediately into the highly political arena of the climate change debate. One has to make clear that cosmic radiation is only one of the parameters.”

<http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/07/18/cern_cosmic_ray_gag/>

<<http://www.thegwpf.org/science-news/3468-cern-chief-forbids-interpretation-of-cloud-results.html>>

2011-07-14

Harper Faces Green Caliphate

Canadian federal and provincial energy ministers will meet next week to discuss a “national energy strategy.” Peter Foster writing in the *National Post* considers Prime Minister Harper and his Natural Resources Minister Joe Oliver to be more market inclined and to have more ideological backbone than industry. For example, the Canadian Council of Chief Executives prepared a submission for the meeting (*Building an Agenda for a Sound Energy Future*) that states: “Canada is very well placed to be a leader in the global transition to cleaner energy and advanced technologies that can deliver superior energy services with much less environmental impact” (page 2). While stressing its commitment to a market-based policy framework (p. 3), the CCCE wants government help via loan guarantees (p. 4), subsidies and channeling money from carbon taxes to public-private partnerships dedicated to fuels of the future (p. 6).

<<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/Harper+faces+green+caliphate/5093007/story.html>>

<http://www.ceocouncil.ca/publications/pdf/test_e7841c457a3ce73fd82318352ded68eb/Kananaskis_2011_Building_an_Agenda_for_a_Sound_Energy_Future_Final_July2011.pdf>

Pembina Institute Report: Impact of Renewables on Ontario Power Costs Minimal

The Pembina Institute's report (*Behind the Switch – Pricing Ontario's Electricity Options*) claims that higher power prices due to renewables will be minimal over the next 15 years and that, over the long term, adding green power to the mix could actually lower electricity costs. The report compares two scenarios, one where wind and solar reach 22% of power capacity by 2030 and the other scenario where less renewables are added after 2011, with natural gas providing most of the growth. In both cases nuclear continues to supply close to 50% of Ontario's power.

The study is very pro *Green Energy Act*, cites local opposition to siting gas power plants (but not to wind turbines) and assumes a carbon tax of \$30/tonne of CO₂ by 2013, rising to \$60/tonne by 2030 (Fig. 15). The Pembina Institute expects the IPCC's 5th Assessment Report to highlight increasing risks from climate change and focus public attention on the need for urgent action to reduce emissions. While wind energy declines modestly from 13.5 ¢/kWh to 12.5 ¢/kWh by 2030, solar drops from 53.5 ¢/kWh to under 20 ¢/kWh. Mainly due to investment of \$294 billion to upgrade/replace infrastructure by 2030, the average consumer price increases from 10.7 ¢/kWh in 2011, peaking at 13.5 ¢/kWh in 2022.

<<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/industry-news/energy-and-resources/impact-of-renewables-on-higher-power-costs-minimal-report-says/article2087782/>>
<<http://pubs.pembina.org/reports/behind-the-switch-final.pdf>>

New York Times Profiles Richard Lindzen

The NYT is firmly in the warmist camp, but here it does a mostly sympathetic profile on skeptic Richard Lindzen, professor of meteorology at MIT, as his career winds down at age 71. In the 1990s Dr. Lindzen fought against the computer modelers' message that man-made greenhouse gases would dangerously warm the Earth (the "prevailing wisdom" of distinguished scientific bodies around the world according to the NYT.) Dr. Lindzen accepts that humans have caused some warming – 0.7°C in the 20th century – but disputes the modelers' assertion that clouds and water vapour amplify the effect.

In a *Watts Up With That* interview Dr. Lindzen criticizes politicians for thinking they can fool people into accepting carbon taxes to save the Earth.

<<http://www.nytimes.com/cwire/2011/07/06/06climatewire-a-climate-change-dissenter-who-has-left-his-76048.html>>
<<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/07/11/transcript-of-andrew-bolts-carbon-sunday-interview-with-richard-lindzen/#more-43247>>

UN Security Council Takes Up Climate Change

On July 20th the Security Council, led by Germany with the full backing of several developing countries, will debate climate change for the second time in four years. The German ambassador hopes that the debate will be focused on security implications of climate change with a focus on possible threats to small island and coastal states of rising sea levels.

<<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=un-security-council-to-take-up-climate-change>>

The Climate Wars Myth

Bruno Tertrais, a Senior Research Fellow at the *Fondation pour la recherche stratégique* (Foundation for Strategic Research) has written an essay slamming predictions of conflict caused by a warming world. He begins by noting that, historically, warmer eras have meant fewer wars, and there is a clear correlation between increased warfare and cold periods. Mr. Tertais argues that, contrary the much speculation, the Darfur conflict, and this year's Arab Spring were not caused by climate change, but rather by political and human factors. Also, there have been no wars over water, nor any of the predicted climate refugees.

In contrast, Britain's Energy Minister, Chris Huhne, who has a green agenda for his country, gave a speech in which he said global warming threatens his country's security, even if it avoids the worst direct effects.

<http://twq.com/11summer/docs/11summer_Tertrais.pdf>
<<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-2012349/Wars-food-shortages-mass-immigration-How-global-warming-poses-dire-threat-Britains-security.html?ito=feeds-newsxml>>

Al Gore Returns with New Climate Campaign

Five years after *Inconvenient Truth* came out, Al Gore will host a 24-hour live streamed event on September 14. This will include a multimedia presentation by Mr. Gore that will “connect the dots” between extreme weather events and climate change. This event will be streamed as a one-hour program from 24 locations, one in each time zone, and will begin with the same 30-minute slide show. The second 30 minutes of the hour will include a panel discussion focused on the particular location.

<<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/jul/12/al-gore-climate-change>>

2011-07-05

Carbon Tax Finds Plenty of Supporters in BC

British Columbia is the sole North American jurisdiction with a carbon tax, which went from \$25/tonne to \$30/tonne on July 1. A poll conducted for the Pembina Institute of 830 BC residents showed that 74% believe that the tax has been positive for the environment or are neutral. A 69% majority are worried about climate change and 70% want BC to continue showing leadership without waiting for other jurisdictions to take similar steps.

<<http://www.vancouversun.com/technology/Carbon+finds+plenty+green+supporters/5034570/story.html#ixzz1QsEod8A4>>

<<http://www.pembina.org/media-release/2234>>

<<http://pubs.pembina.org/reports/measuring-the-appetite-for-climate-action-in-bc.pdf>>

Fears Grow over European Commission’s Ability to Support Emissions Trading

In early May EU Allowances were trading for €17 and in late June they fell to €11.71, prompting concerns that the European Commission is either unwilling or unable to support a robust carbon market. Internecine spats within the EU include the Directorate-General for Climate Action (which develops and implements the EU trading system), the DG for Transport and Energy (which has issued an energy efficiency directive that will undermine the ETS by reducing demand for EUAs), and Poland (which vetoed the EU’s 2050 Low Carbon Roadmap.)

<<http://www.environmental-finance.com/news/view/1819>>

EU Parliament Votes Down Tougher Emissions Cuts

On July 5 MEPs voted 347-258 against a proposal to reduce emissions 30% below 1990 levels, instead of the current goal of 20%. It now appears that any change to the 20% target will be shelved until there is an international agreement including major economies like the US and China. Opposition to the 30% proposal was led by Poland, which has just taken over the EU presidency, and energy commissioner Günther Oettinger.

In a related story, Poland’s EU budget commissioner was forced to recant after he claimed that climate change was exaggerated and argued that the EU’s CO₂ emissions targets would hurt his country’s economy. In his recantation statement the commissioner said “In order to clarify misunderstandings, I acknowledge the fact that the overwhelming majority of scientific studies confirm the phenomenon of global warming.”

<<http://www.businessgreen.com/bg/news/2084105/meps-reject-tougher-european-emissions-cuts>>

<<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/environment/climatechange/8610998/Polands-EU-budget-commissioner-in-climate-change-controversy.html>>

Oxford Academic Wins Right to Read UEA Climate Data

Jonathan Jones, professor at Oxford University, and self-confessed climate change agnostic, successfully used the freedom-of-information law to get access to the data at the University of East Anglia that is the life's work of Phil Jones. This data was used to generate a map of world temperatures going back more than 160 years. Skeptics have long demanded access to the data, arguing that it is being interpreted too generously by climate researchers eager to show that the world's atmosphere is warming. The university has been fighting FOI attempts for the data since 2009, which featured in some of the Climategate emails.

<<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/jul/01/climate-data-uea>>

<<http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/story/2011/07/01/science-climategate-data.html>>

Linking Extreme Weather Events to Climate Change

IPCC Chairman Rajendar Pachauri announced that his panel will release a new report in November (just before the Durban climate summit) examining the link between climate change and extreme events such as floods and drought. The contents of this report can be predicted from a white paper published by the Pew Center on Global Climate Change (*Extreme weather and climate change: understanding the link, managing the risk*). The 13-page white paper relies on anecdotes of selected events in 1993, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2008, especially 2010 (an El Niño year) and early 2011, as well as two 50-year statistics of heavy rainfall and ratios of max./min. temperatures for the US. While acknowledging researchers' inability to attribute specific events to climate change, the paper devotes much qualitative discussion to rising risks caused by climate change. The world's largest re-insurer, Munich Re (which stands to benefit from belief in increased climate risk) is mentioned on page 3 and appears twice in the bibliography.

The Pew Center also sponsored a three-part series in *Scientific American* (see links contained in the article referenced in the third link below) that expands the white paper theme, relying heavily on specific weather events in the US, including an interview with victims of the 2010 Nashville flood, to drive home the point that AGW effects are here and now, not far away and in the future.

The Independent ran a story about scientists, in particular Kevin Trenberth, ending their 20-year reluctance to link climate change with extreme weather by forming a new international alliance. The story quotes Munich Re as finding 2010 one of the worst years for natural disasters, nine-tenths of them related to extreme weather.

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/06/29/un-climate-panel-ipcc-extreme-weather_n_886758.html>

<<http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/white-paper-extreme-weather-climate-change-understanding-link-managing-risk.pdf>>

<<http://www.pewclimate.org/publications/extreme-weather-and-climate-change>>

<<http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/climate-change/extreme-weather-link-can-no-longer-be-ignored-2305181.html>>

Climate Scientists Confirm Global Warming Standstill (but insist that it does not contradict AGW doctrine)

A paper in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (*Reconciling anthropogenic climate change with observed temperatures 1998-2008*) by four climate scientists begins with "Given the widely noted increase in the warming effects of rising greenhouse gas concentrations, it has

been unclear why global surface temperatures did not rise between 1998 and 2008.” Relying on their climate model simulations, they attribute this anomaly to rapid growth in sulfur emissions caused by increased burning of coal in Asia, as well as some natural variability, which offset the effect of rising greenhouse gases. They are thus able to confirm that the recent warming hiatus is driven by natural factors and does not contradict the establishment hypothesis that most of the global warming since the mid 20th century is due to anthropogenic greenhouse gases.

Judith Curry finds the sulfate emissions explanation unconvincing, because the increase occurs only since 2004 and the effect should be regional, not global. She says that the authors appear to know little about atmospheric aerosols and attribution. A notable JC quote: “The political consequence of this article seems to be that the simplest solution to global warming is for the Chinese to burn more coal, which they intend to do anyways.”

<http://wattsupwiththat.files.wordpress.com/2011/07/pnas-201102467.pdf>>

<http://judithcurry.com/2011/07/04/an-explanation-for-lack-of-warming-since-1998/>>

<http://www.thegwpf.org/the-observatory/3373-global-warming-standstill-confirmed-but-how-long-will-it-last.html>>

2011-06-30

Ottawa to Regulate Emission Technology

Facing criticism from the US and Europe over the oil sands’ carbon footprint, the Canadian Government is to release formal notice of “performance rules” for large industrial emitters this summer. These rules will start with refineries and oil sands upgraders, eventually covering bitumen production. They will govern the technology used in new plants and give bureaucrats responsibility for approving the specific design and equipment employed.

The government is also expected to release this summer final regulations covering new coal-fired power plants.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/ottawa-to-step-in-on-emissions-technology/article2076326/>>

Al Gore: Climate of Denial

To Al Gore, writing in the *Rolling Stone*, the contest over global warming is like a wrestling tag-team match: in one corner are Science and Reason; in the other are Poisonous Polluters and Right-wing Ideologues. The news media play the role of referee and fail to notice that the bad guys are trampling over the rules of democratic discourse. Mr. Gore excoriates President Obama for failing to use the bully pulpit to make the case for bold action on climate change.

Walter Russell Mead calls Al Gore, despite his skills, “one of the most consistent losers in American politics.” This includes his failure to win an election on his own since 1990 and the shambolic state of the green movement that he leads. In particular he points to Mr. Gore’s “carbon pig” lifestyle and his enrichment through investments in companies that will profit from the policies that he advocates. Regarding the green movement, Dr. Russell Mead says: “Let anyone attack the cretinous and rickety construct of policies, trade-offs, offsets and bribes by which the greens plan to govern the world economy in the twenty first century, and they attack you as an anti-science bigot.”

<http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/news/climate-of-denial-20110622>>

<<http://blogs.the-american-interest.com/wrm/2011/06/24/the-failure-of-al-gore-part-one/>>
<<http://blogs.the-american-interest.com/wrm/2011/06/27/the-failure-of-al-gore-part-deux/>>

DeSmogBlog: Why the Biggest Problem with Climate Skeptics May Be their Confidence

DeSmogBlog reports on a recent study (*The tragedy of the risk-perception commons: culture conflict, rationality conflict, and climate change*) by researchers at Yale and elsewhere who investigated (and hoped to confirm) the conventional explanation for controversy over climate change: that it is due to limited popular knowledge of science. In fact the study, a survey of 1540 US adults, had the surprising outcome: the most scientifically literate and numerate subjects were less likely to see climate change as a serious threat.

To *DeSmogBlog* this is bad news for anyone who thinks that more math and science education will help solve the problem of climate change. It remarks on the scientific and mathematical literacy of the skeptics' blogs and especially their confident ability to challenge the (consensus) science. *DeSmogBlog* considers this an example of the aphorism "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing." This overlooks the fact that the blogs frequently quote, or are written by, knowledgeable scientists (e.g., Spencer, Christy, Curry, Lindzen, Pielke Sr., Dyson, Ball, Plimer, Carter, Harris, Charvátová, Mörner, Happer, Svensmark, Scafetta, Courtillot, Eschenbach, Rancourt, Archibald, Ziegler, van Andel, et al.)

Judith Curry notes that supporters of the IPCC consensus, such as Al Gore, like to dismiss skeptics as anti-science deniers, something that this study reveals as inappropriate.

<<http://www.desmogblog.com/little-knowledge-why-biggest-problem-climate-skeptics-may-be-their-confidence>>
<<http://judithcurry.com/2011/06/28/mooney-on-kahan-on-skeptics/>>
<<http://noconsensus.wordpress.com/2011/06/29/456-4/>>

American Tradition Institute Sues NASA to Produce James Hansen's Ethics and Outside Employment Records

The ATI's Law Center filed a lawsuit in federal court on June 21 to force NASA to release ethics records for taxpayer-funded, global-warming activist Dr. James Hansen – specifically records that pertain to his outside employment, revenue generation, and advocacy activities. ATI claims that, based on public disclosures and other documents, Dr. Hansen's outside employment brought him at least \$1.2 million over the past four years, in addition to his NASA employment. This would violate federal statutes and NASA rules.

<<http://www.atinstitute.org/ati-law-center-asks-court-to-force-nasa-to-produce-ethics-and-outside-employment-records-of-dr-james-hansen/>>
<<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2011/06/22/nasa-scientist-accused-using-celeb-status-among-environmental-groups-to-enrich/>>
<<http://www.thegwpf.org/best-of-blogs/3344-climate-science-disclosures-freedom-of-information-or-chilling-effect.html>>

Saving the Planet Will Destroy the Economy

Nigel Lawson, former UK chancellor of the exchequer and energy secretary, will be in Sydney debating against the proposition "We need a carbon tax to help stop global warming" in six weeks. While conceding that increased CO2 emissions will warm the planet, he is uncertain about the amount and any harm it would do. However, he urges governments "to consider the damaging economic impact of blindly

following the climate change agenda". Mr. Lawson dismisses as economic illiteracy claims that a low-carbon economy will create a green jobs boom to offset the structural adjustment required. In fact the total economy will be harmed.

<<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/saving-the-planet-will-destroy-the-economy/story-fn59niix-1226080796233>>

Roger Pielke Sr.: *Washington Post's* Continued Bias Reporting on the Climate System

The *Washington Post* published an article titled *Climate change study: More than 300 months since the planets temperature was below average* with quotes from scientists about "unequivocal" warming. The story is based on the 2010 climate study that will be published in the *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*. Dr. Pielke points out that the quotes in the article are misleading. They focus on surface temperatures, which have a systematic warm bias, as reported in peer-reviewed papers. According to Dr. Pielke warming has stalled since about 2003.

<<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/06/29/pielke-senior-on-ncdcs-recent-state-of-the-climate-rehash/#more-42450>>

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/climate-change-study-more-than-300-months-since-the-planets-temperature-was-below-average/2011/06/28/AGd57UpH_story.html>

2011-06-23

Canadian Government Misleads on Climate Change

The Canadian Government appears to be trying to have it both ways on this issue. At the recent Conservative Party convention, grassroots members overwhelmingly endorsed a resolution dropping earlier support for greenhouse gas regulation. Nevertheless the government's new budget allocates \$252 million "to support regulatory activities to address climate change and air quality."

<<http://www.thestarphoenix.com/health/misleads+climate+change/4962312/story.html>>

Climate Talks in Bonn End, Dominated by Economics and Politics

Negotiators from 180 nations concluded two weeks of climate talks in Bonn on June 17 with agreement on sharing green technologies, but little else. The two elephants in the room were the US, which is hobbled by President Obama's inability to get any climate bill through Congress, and rapidly industrializing countries like China which resist having their climate plans reviewed by outsiders. The EU is not prepared to go it alone on any renewal of the Kyoto Protocol, which appears doomed to non-renewal. There was similar lack of progress on the \$100 billion/year Green Climate Fund.

At Bonn, the Canadian representative said that the Harper government has a plan to meet its target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions 17% below 2005 levels (providing the US does the same.) It will be introducing regulations to govern emissions in the oil industry.

<<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/economics-politics-cloud-future-of-world-emission-talks/article2066197/>>

<<http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,15169103,00.html?maca=en-rss-en-all-1573-rdf>>

<http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/sci/2011-06/18/c_13936494.htm>

<<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2011/06/17/uk-climate-idUKTRE75G2SW20110617>>

<<http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/world/2011/06/18/1224299152884.html>>

US Supreme Court Blocks States' Global Warming Suit against Power Companies

In an 8-0 decision the court rejected a federal lawsuit brought by eight states and some conservation groups trying to force cuts in greenhouse gas emissions from power plants. The court said that authority to see emissions reductions rests with the Environmental Protection Agency, not the courts. However, if the plaintiffs object to the EPA's regulations on GHG emissions (expected next year), they may go to the federal courts under the *Clean Air Act*.

The blog *GlobalWarming.org* points out a footnote on page 3 of the decision referring to a *New York Times* article ("The Civil Heretic") about eminent physicist Freeman Dyson and stating: "The Court, we caution, endorses no particular view on the complicated issues related to carbon dioxide emissions and climate change."

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/courts-law/supreme-court-blocks-states-global-warming-suit-against-power-companies/2011/06/20/AGKBJpcH_story.html>

<<http://www.globalwarming.org/2011/06/21/that-footnote-in-yesterday%E2%80%99s-global-warming-ruling/>>

<<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/29/magazine/29Dyson-t.html>>

On the Hijacking of the American Meteorological Society

Bill Gray is Professor Emeritus at Colorado State University and a Fellow of the AMS, which has been an advocate of the AGW hypothesis over the past 10-15 years. In this essay, he takes the AMS leadership to task for capitulating to the lobby of climate modelers and outside environmental and political pressure groups who wish to use the AMS to promote their special interests.

<http://icecap.us/images/uploads/AMS_Hijacking_paper_Gray.pdf>

Pachauri: No Conflict of Interest Policy for AR5

Last summer the InterAcademy Council, in its report, noted that the IPCC does not have a conflict-of-interest or disclosure for its leaders and Lead Authors, and drew specific attention to the problem of authors reviewing their own work. At its 33rd plenary session last May the IPCC adopted a new policy on conflict of interest. In an interview on June 17 IPCC Chairman Rajendra Pachauri told an interviewer that the policy does not apply to the authors of the next assessment report, AR5, since they have already been selected and it wouldn't be fair to impose it on them retroactively.

<<http://climateaudit.org/2011/06/18/pachauri-no-conflict-of-interest-policy-for-ar5/>>

The United Nations States Environmental Protection Agency

The US Environmental Protection Agency, with 20,000 employees and a budget of \$10 billion/year, has a big stake in the IPCC and its climate models. Former EPA officials (non-scientists) have been heavily involved with IPCC reports, with funding from the EPA. These former employees are also consultants to the EPA and have major input into its regulatory findings, including the controversial endangerment finding that is central to its current efforts to regulate greenhouse gases. The EPA is seen by the UN and its supporters as the Trojan horse for controlling CO2 emissions in the US, leaving the way out for global control by the UN.

The EPA funds one of the core models (Model of the Assessment for Greenhouse-gas Induced Climate Change or MAGICC) that drives a spatial climate-change scenario generator (SCENGEN.) The 81-page MAGICC user's manual describes how the model was changed to fit the conclusions of the IPCC's 2007 assessment report. Some of the inputs to the model are known to be false, but continue to be used anyway. IPCC scientist Kevin Trenberth has expressed four damning indictments of the climate models, throwing major doubts on the modeling claims of the IPCC.

<http://scienceandpublicpolicy.org/images/stories/papers/originals/the_un_states_envrio_protection_agency.pdf>

Peer Review and “Pal Review” in Climate Science

In publishing scientific literature, peer review is supposed to mean submitting a manuscript to a reputable journal and then the editor sending it for comment by other experts who have no apparent conflicts of interest in reviewing the work. The author(s) and the reviewers should not know who each other are (i.e., “double blind.”) In climate science, where billions of dollars of government money support the research, and professional advancement is often dependent on this funding, there is no “double blindness.” Here, all major journals leave the authors' names on the manuscripts sent out for review.

For the many journals of the American Geophysical Union – the world's largest publisher of academic climate science – peer review has become “pal review” as authors can suggest five reviewers. The Climategate emails showed Phil Jones and his colleagues getting the *International Journal of Climatology* to keep out a paper they didn't like while they prepared a counter-manuscript.

The National Academy of Sciences allows members to submit four papers a year where the authors do the “peer review” themselves (i.e., send it to two friends and then mail the paper along with their comments.) For non-consensus scientist Richard Lindzen, an NAS member, a recent paper submitted to the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* was afforded special treatment because of its “political implications” and rejected. The paper was eventually published in an obscure journal.

In the *National Post*, Rex Murphy says that climate scientists make a mockery of the peer-review process.

<<http://blogs.forbes.com/patrickmichaels/2011/06/16/peer-review-and-pal-review-in-climate-science/>>
<http://www.americanthinker.com/2009/12/a_climatology_conspiracy.html>
<<http://sppiblog.org/news/lindzen-choi-%e2%80%98special-treatment%e2%80%99-is-peer-review-biased-against-nonalarmist-climate-science>>
<<http://fullcomment.nationalpost.com/2011/06/18/rex-murphy-climate-scientists-make-a-mockery-of-the-peer-review-process/>>

2011-06-16

\$500,000 Campaign to Educate Albertans about Carbon Capture

The Alberta Government will spend up to \$500,000 this year for a “public education program” on carbon capture and storage. This is in anticipation of four commercial-scale projects to begin injecting CO₂ underground by 2015. The main objective of the campaign is to “increase Albertans' knowledge about carbon capture and storage and its role in addressing climate change ...” The government has committed \$2 billion to private companies for four commercial-scale CCS projects to remove five million tonnes of CO₂ from the atmosphere annually.

<http://www.calgaryherald.com/technology/campaign+educate+Albertans+about+carbon+capture/4935029/story.html>

UK Faces Job Losses As Businesses Threaten To Flee Abroad To Escape Green Energy Levies

Three articles in *The Telegraph* attack the UK Government's climate policies. According to the President of the Confederation of British Industry, the UK risks seeing businesses relocate abroad unless the government gives support for rising energy costs. He noted that "Not every country in the world has the same commitment to climate change [as the UK] and therefore you may feel commercially disadvantaged." Tata Steel has announced that it was cutting 1500 UK jobs because of the additional costs to the steel industry of EU carbon legislation.

By 2020 the government expects UK residents to pay £100 billion for a further 10,000 windmills and a further £40 billion to connect them to the grid. From an energy point of view, the UK is the worst country in the world in which to invest. While the country may produce less carbon, it consumes more by exporting the production to competitors.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/newsbysector/energy/8570141/UK-faces-job-losses-as-businesses-threaten-to-flee-abroad-to-escape-green-energy-levies.html>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/columnists/christopherbooker/8570158/Industry-begins-to-count-the-true-cost-of-climate-change.html>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/columnists/charlesmoore/8569280/Why-vote-blue-go-green-doesnt-sound-quite-so-clever-any-more.html>

Brussels In Disarray over Energy Directive

The chief of staff to the EU Climate Commissioner has broken with protocol to warn that the European Commission's draft Energy Efficiency Directive could undermine the bloc's carbon market. This directive would apply not just to buildings and vehicles, but also to industries already covered by the EU's Emissions Trading Scheme. The resulting duplication would depress carbon prices as efficiency measures cancel out the need for pollution permits, leading to a market glut. Two internal EU studies predict that carbon prices would fall from €25/tonne to €14/tonne, or close to zero.

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/energy-efficiency/brussels-disarray-energy-directive-news-505654>
<http://news.stv.tv/environment/257680-eu-climate-chief-confronts-riddle-of-deeper-co2-cut/>

IPCC in Hot Water over "Biased" Energy Report

The IPCC issued a recent summary report on renewable energy [FoS Extracts 2011-05-12], which includes a claim – trumpeted in a press release – that renewable sources could provide 77% of the world's energy supply by 2050. With release of the full report and supporting documents, it turns out that this part of the report was authored by a Greenpeace employee who opposes nuclear power and used the most optimistic of 164 modeling scenarios.

In *Climate Audit*, Steve McIntyre digs into the details of the story, concluding that everyone in IPCC Working Group III should be terminated.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/climate-change/climate-change-panel-in-hot-water-again-over-biased-energy-report-2298055.html>
<http://climateaudit.org/2011/06/14/ipcc-wg3-and-the-greenpeace-karaoke/>

<http://www.marklynas.org/2011/06/new-ipcc-error-renewables-report-conclusion-was-dictated-by-greenpeace/>

Earth May Be Headed to Mini Ice Age in a Decade

Scientists at the US National Solar Observatory and the US Air Force Research Laboratory announced on June 14 that the Sun appears to be headed into a lengthy spell of low activity. This could mean that the Earth is going into a mini Ice Age. The Sun normally follows an 11-year cycle, and the current one, Cycle 24, is supposed to be approaching maximum strength. However, the increased number of sunspots and other indications that ought to be happening, aren't. According to the NSO: "An immediate question is whether this slowdown presages a second Maunder Minimum, a 70-year period with virtually no sunspots [which occurred] during 1645-1715." The NSO announcement is confirmed by the American Astronomical Society.

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/06/14/ice_age/
<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/06/14/the-major-aas-solar-announcement-suns-fading-spots-signal-big-drop-in-solar-activity/>

The Great Sea-Level Humbug

Renowned oceanographic expert Nils-Axle Mörner contends that "While the IPCC and its boy scouts present wilder and wilder sea level predictions for the near future, the real observational facts demonstrate that the sea level has remained virtually stable for the last 40-50 years." Citing papers he published in 2007 and 2010, Dr. Mörner says that observed sea levels in the Maldives, Bangladesh, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and French Guyana (all key sites in the sea level debate) are not rising. In Venice and North-west Europe, tide-gauge measurements, after land uplift or subsidence are taken into account, show no rise in sea level for the last 50-60 years.

Most tide gauges are installed on unstable harbor constructions or landing piers, which can exaggerate sea level rise. The IPCC authors select what they call "representative" records to reconstruct centennial trends. Satellite altimetry is a new technique that measures all over the ocean surface, both vertically and horizontally. Even so, these records are subject to "reinterpretation" and "corrections." Dr. Mörner provides examples of how the latter have been used to show that global sea levels are rising.

http://scienceandpublicpolicy.org/images/stories/papers/reprint/the_great_sea_level_humbug.pdf

2011-06-09

Big Wind Pushes Its Case for Ontario Government Support

Facing the prospect that Ontario's feed-in tariffs will be killed if the opposition wins next October's election, the Canadian Wind Energy Association has sponsored a report supporting its case. The report assumes that wind capacity will grow from 1,428 MW at the end of 2010 to more than 7,100 MW by 2018 and claims that this will generate \$16 billion in investment and 80,000 person-years of employment. However, Wind Concerns Ontario disputes the job numbers, since much of the work consists of temporary construction activity, and the higher electricity prices caused by the wind-power subsidies will cut into the job market.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/wind-power-pushes-its-case-for-ontario-government-support/article2050207/>
<http://windconcernsontario.wordpress.com/>

Europe's Climate Revolt

At last week's EU summit in Brussels, seven eastern and central European countries and Italy threatened to veto the Union's climate pact, which is aimed at cutting CO2 emissions 20% by 2020. The final EU summit declaration dropped all reference to legal implementation of climate targets. Instead, implementation will be delayed until completion of a comprehensive cost-effectiveness analysis.

In a related story, the EU indicated on June 6 that it would only renew its Kyoto commitment if there were an agreement covering all the major economies. EU countries are responsible for only 11-12% of emissions and would need to find a solution for the remainder before committing.

<http://network.nationalpost.com/NP/blogs/fpcomment/archive/2008/10/20/europe-s-climate-revolt.aspx>
<http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,15136448,00.html>

After Explosive Growth, Global Carbon Markets Stall and Begin to Shrink

Growing from \$15 billion in 2005 to \$144 billion in 2009, emissions trading activity decreased to \$142 billion in 2010, according to the World Bank. The bank cites a number of reasons for the reversal: failure of cap-and-trade in the US, Japan and Australia; fraudulent activity in the carbon markets; waning government and public interest in cap-and-trade. The EU remains the only significant host to carbon trading through the European Trading System. The ETS accounts for almost 97% of the global carbon market, including trades, EU allowances and Certified Emission Reductions under the UN's Clean Development Mechanism. The value of trading in CERs has been trending downward for three years.

<http://www.nytimes.com/cwire/2011/06/02/02climatewire-after-explosive-growth-global-carbon-markets-64850.html>

European Airlines Fear Trade War over Carbon Emissions Trading

Starting next January, airlines flying through the EU will have to acquire credits to account for carbon emissions generated by their flights. European airlines have warned of a damaging trade war with the US, Russia and China if this goes ahead. US airlines will take legal action against the scheme in the European Court of Justice next month, claiming breach of international law. The International Air Transport Association backs the airlines.

Faced with retaliatory threats of action against Airbus from China, Germany and France have written letters complaining to Brussels about the scheme.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2011/jun/05/theairlineindustry-european-court-of-justice>
<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/06/05/us-airlines-emissions-iata-idUSTRE75410120110605>
<http://www.euractiv.com/en/climate-environment/paris-berlin-blink-aviation-carbon-row-news-505397>

No Climate Debate

Tom Harris, executive director of the International Climate Science Coalition, reports on an end-of-May meeting of a thousand geoscientists from Canada, the US and other countries in Ottawa. The lead symposium was Earth Climate: Past, Present and Future, and though there were many presentations, only one was consistent with IPCC claims of dangerous AGW. According to the symposium chairman, people on the IPCC side will not debate. Mr. Harris has been attempting to get the Canadian Meteorological and Ocean Society to participate in a public, climate-science debate, but the CMOS, and other climate

alarmists, continues to maintain their narrow-mindedness that the science is settled and debate unnecessary.

<http://www.financialpost.com/news/climate+debate/4909390/story.html>

Is Climate Change Caused by Solar Inertial Motion?

Solar Inertial Motion refers to the movement (predictable “wobble”) of the Sun about the centre of gravity of the solar system under the influence of the orbits of the giant planets (mainly Jupiter and Saturn). It forms the basis for a hypothesis by Czech geophysicist Ivanka Charvátová that correlates cycles of solar activity (and thus Earth’s climate) to SIM patterns. She discovered that every 179 years the Sun’s motion returns to a regular “trefoil” pattern (lasting about 50 years) interspersed with 62-90 year periods when the motion is chaotic. During the trefoils sunspot activity (and Earth’s temperature) are maximized, while the reverse is true during the chaotic periods (e.g., Wolf, Spörer, Maunder and Dalton Minima). According to SIM researchers, solar activity and temperatures in the first half of the 21st century should decrease.

http://www.klimaskeptik.cz/news/interview-with-dr-ivanka-charvatova-csc-from-gfu/?sms_ss=facebook&at_xt=4de5c79503a167bb,0

<http://www.suite101.com/content/top-scientist-says-new-solar-wobble-to-prolong-global-cooling-a373733>

UAH Temperature Update for May 2011: +0.13°C

Roy Spencer reports that the global temperature anomaly, based on satellite measurement, for last month was +0.13°C, little changed from April.

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/06/uah-temperature-update-for-may-2011-0-13-deg-c/>

2011-06-03

Kyoto Deal Loses Four Big Nations

During the recent G8 meeting, Russia, Japan and Canada told the other members of the group that they would not join a second round of carbon cuts under the Kyoto Protocol, which expires at the end of 2012. The US confirmed that it would continue to remain outside of the treaty.

<http://www.smh.com.au/environment/climate-change/kyoto-deal-loses-four-big-nations-20110528-1f9dk.html>

Carbon Output Last Year Highest in History – Temperature Prevention Rise Prevention Goal All But Out Of Reach

According to unpublished estimates by the International Energy Agency, greenhouse gas emissions increased by a record amount last year. In 2010 a record 30.6 Gt of CO₂ was emitted, 1.6 Gt more than in 2009. The chief economist of the IEA predicts that the prospects of keeping the global temperature rise below 2°C this century is likely to be “a nice Utopia.” Lord Stern, author the the Stern Report on the economics of climate change, hopes that these emission figures will provide a wake-up call for governments. He sees reducing emissions as an economic growth opportunity, rather than a curb. This announcement came just before the next round of climate talks in Bonn, June 6-17, where little progress is expected. This meeting is a staging post on the road to the year-end conference in Durban.

<http://www.sanfranciscosentinel.com/?p=129923>

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/may/29/record-greenhouse-gases-jolt-bonn-climate-talks>

http://unfccc.int/conference_programme/items/5999.php

Germany “Sliding Head over Heels into Eco-Dictatorship”

Germany’s *Scientific Advisory Council on Global Environmental Change* (WBGU), an influential advisory committee for Chancellor Angela Merkel, has issued a report *World in Transition – Social Contract for a Great Transformation*. According to the report, “The transformation to a climate friendly economy ... is morally as necessary as the abolition of slavery and the outlawing of child labour.” The WBGU experts assert the all nations would have to relinquish their national interests and find a new form of collective responsibility for the climate. They admit frankly that the decarbonization of society can only be achieved by the limitation of democracy, both nationally and internationally.

<http://www.thegwpf.org/international-news/3095-germany-sliding-head-over-heels-into-the-eco-dictatorship.html>

<http://joannenova.com.au/2011/05/only-an-eco-dictatorship-will-save-the-world-democracy-be-damned/>

Australian Climate Commission Report Debunked

Bob Carter and three colleagues have published a rebuttal to the Australian Climate Commission’s report *The Critical Decade*. That report begins with: “Over many decades thousands of scientists have painted an unambiguous picture: the global climate is changing and humanity is almost surely the primary cause. The risks have never been clearer and the case for action has never been more urgent.”

The rebuttal notes the politicized nature of the global warming debate since the first UN-convened conference in 1985, where it was decided that computer modeling was to be relied on more than past climate data. This was followed by the creation of the IPCC in 1988, which has become a political advocacy organization more than an impartial scientific advisory body. The *Critical Decade* reworks the IPCC’s dated and alarmist assertions while ignoring any sound scientific criticism of those assertions. It is an inadequate, flawed and misleading basis on which to set national policy.

<http://joannenova.com.au/2011/05/climate-commission-report-debunked/#more-15045>

Increasing Evidence that Green Growth Strategies Are Job Killers: On the Road to Rio+20

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, created 50 years ago to encourage peaceful European co-existence and reconstruction, has signed on to sustainable development, as evidenced by its new report “Towards Green Growth.” The report makes clear that it is designed to support next year’s Rio+20 conference. In his article Peter Foster has two problems with the green growth’s rationalist Utopia: the increasing evidence that climate science may have been manipulated; and that green growth is based on a model of government-promoted industrial strategy that has consistently failed.

<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/05/26/peter-foster-on-the-road-to-rio20/>

http://www.oecd.org/document/4/0,3746,en_21571361_44315115_48034436_1_1_1_1,00.html

Washington Post and The Guardian: Freedom of Information Act Not for Skeptics’ Use

The *Washington Post*, in an editorial, is dismayed that the American Tradition Institute successfully used freedom-of-information laws to force the University of Virginia to turn over thousands of emails and

other documents written by Michael Mann. Since the ATI's motives (challenging environmental regulations and global warming threats) are clear, the newspaper deems that the ATI is misusing the law. *The Guardian* reports that Sir Paul Nurse, president of the Royal Society, also thinks that freedom-of-information laws are used to harass scientists, though he suggests that the best way for scientists to respond is with more openness.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/harassing-climate-change-researchers/2011/05/27/AG1xJMEH_story.html

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2011/may/25/freedom-information-laws-harass-scientists>

2011-05-26

Ian Plimer at the FoS Annual Luncheon

Dr. Plimer spoke at the May 16 annual luncheon of the Friends of Science. Mike Byfield, in the *Oilpatch Report*, describes his talk. Dr. Plimer began with the May 10 clash of opposing groups of scientists at Cambridge University (described in more detail in Judith Curry's blog.) One of the main points of his speech was that subsea volcanic activity is the dominant factor in generating atmospheric CO₂, something ignored by the IPCC. Dr. Plimer contends that the IPCC relies on the longest (200 years) out of 23 methods for assessing the lifetime of CO₂ in the atmosphere and focuses on only the last 100 years of the earth's history, while ignoring geological time scales.

http://oilpatchreport.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=68:aussie-geologist-claims-political-tide-is-turning-against-climate-alarmists&catid=52:friends-of-science

<http://judithcurry.com/2011/05/24/what-we-agree-on/#more-3296>

Alberta Wildrose Party Vows to Kill \$2 Billion Carbon Capture Plan (but wants to reduce CO₂ emissions anyway)

Danielle Smith, leader of Alberta's Wildrose party, released the party's energy policy which includes a promise to kill the government's \$2-billion carbon capture scheme. Rather than have the government provide direct grants to companies to reduce CO₂ emissions, she would use tax incentives to accomplish that goal.

<http://www.calgaryherald.com/business/Wildrose+Leader+Smith+targets+Tories+multibillion+dollar+carbon+capture+power+line+schemes/4834470/story.html>

Virginia and Texas Go Forth with Climategate Challenge

On May 20 the two states filed a suit in the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia contending that the Environmental Protection Agency illegally delegated the work of researching its endangerment finding to the IPCC instead of conducting its own research. The Texas Attorney General said that the IPCC is a purely political body and its science was spiked with cover-ups and the suppression and destruction of scientific evidence.

<http://washingtonexaminer.com/blogs/opinion-zone/2011/05/virginia-texas-go-forth-climate-gate-challenge>

Court Orders University of Virginia to Produce Michael Mann's Documents

The American Tradition Institute has obtained a court order, under the Freedom of Information *Act*, for the University of Virginia to disgorge documents and emails sent and received by Michael Mann during his tenure at UVA. These relate to climate alarmism and Dr. Mann's 1000-year "hockey stick" temperature reconstruction.

<http://www.atinstitute.org/court-orders-university-of-virginia-to/>

IPCC: Half of Renewable Energy is Wood, Charcoal and Animal Dung

The IPCC recently released a summary of a report on renewable energy. For 2008 the summary states that renewables made up 12.9% of global primary energy supply, of which biomass is 10.2% (the remaining 2.7% being solar, wind, hydropower, geothermal and ocean energy.) However, most of that biomass energy, or 8.2% of the global supply, is from "traditional" sources (wood, charcoal, agricultural residues and animal dung for cooking and heating.) Even *Scientific American* magazine, a strong supporter of the climate "consensus," is taken aback by this, as the traditional sources cause indoor pollution and contribute to deforestation.

<http://climatequotes.com/2011/05/11/ipcc-half-of-renewable-energy-is-wood-charcoal-and-animal-dung/>
<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=can-renewables-power-the-world-ipcc-thinks-so>

The IPCC Goes Closed and Opaque

Without fanfare, following its 33rd session on May 10-13, the IPCC decided that its draft reports will be confidential ("IPCC considers that its draft reports, prior to acceptance, to be pre-decisional, provided in confidence to reviewers, and not for public distribution, quotation or citation.") In other words, nobody outside the IPCC process will see anything until the report is issued, at which point it will be too late to change anything.

<http://www.bishop-hill.net/blog/2011/5/23/the-ipcc-goes-closed-and-opaque.html>
http://www.ipcc.ch/meetings/session33/ipcc_p33_decisions_taken_procedures.pdf

The Truth about Greenhouse Gases

William Happer, professor of physics and Princeton University, discusses what he calls a "contemporary moral epidemic: the notion that increasing atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases, notably carbon dioxide, will have disastrous consequences for mankind and the planet." In this essay Dr. Happer discusses the role of CO₂ and its limits in the atmosphere to sustain life (150 to 5,000 parts per million); the new definition of CO₂ as a "pollutant"; the faulty argument that CO₂ must be responsible for the 0.8°C warming in the past 150 years; earth's climate changes over geological times; the efforts of the IPCC to expunge the Medieval Warm Period, from its reports; quotations from the Climategate emails; what peer review means in climate science; the alarmists' frightening warnings based on climate models that are "tuned" to give the right answers; the abandonment of the scientific method through these models; funding for climate studies (Pushkin quote: "If there happens to be a trough there will be pigs"); the impugnation of skeptics' motives; how management of most scientific societies (including the author's American Physical Society) have enthusiastically signed on to the global warming bandwagon.

In Dr. Happer's opinion, we can choose to invest in technology and scientific research to address real problems, or we can be caught up in a crusade to suppress energy use, economic growth and the benefits that come with them.

<http://www.firstthings.com/article/2011/05/the-truth-about-greenhouse-gases>

2011-05-20

Green Energy Failure

Economist Ross McKittrick applauds the pledge by Ontario PC leader Tim Hudak to roll back key provisions of the *Green Energy Act*. According to Dr. McKittrick the GEA was proposed as both environmental and job-creation policy, and is a failure on both scores. Any industry that depends on subsidies for its survival is not a net source of jobs. Countries such as Spain and the UK launched their own versions of the GEA a decade ago, and the resulting job losses have been confirmed by independent analyses (2.2 private sector jobs lost for every green one in Spain and 3.7 for the UK.) Dr. McKittrick points out absurdities in particulate matter calculations for deaths claimed from coal-fired power plants.

<http://www.financialpost.com/news/Green+energy+failure/4794461/story.html>

Ottawa Finds Some Climate Sanity

While accepting an award from the World Wildlife Fund, Environment Minister Peter Kent confirmed that the newly-elected Conservative government will not impose a cap-and-trade system in the near or medium future. Nevertheless, he said the government would continue with other means to reach its greenhouse gas reduction target of 17% below 2005 levels by 2020.

The government has also issued regulations delaying the phase-out of incandescent light bulbs by two years, from 2012 to 2014.

<http://www.sunnewsnetwork.ca/sunnews/canada/archives/2011/05/20110519-133514.html>

<http://www.ottawacitizen.com/news/decision-canada/Government+delays+pulling+plug+fashioned+light+bulbs/4806638/story.html#ixzz1Mpio25v6>

Solar-Powered Miseducation

The Toronto District School Board, the largest in Canada, hoping to beat possible ending of the feed-in tariffs after the October 6 election, signed a 20-year, \$455 million deal with AMP Solar to install solar panels on hundreds of school roofs. Under the FIT the power produced would cost 71.3¢/kWh, more than 10 times that of conventional electricity.

The TDSB's 54-page *Climate Change Action Plan* (p. 34) relies on the alarmist musings of Nicholas Stern, author of a much-criticized and highly politicized report that was designed to justify the UK's now-crumbling climate policy. The TDSB document includes scary factoids, such as the Arctic being ice free by 2013 and the rain forests in danger of "collapse." According to the TDSB, Canada's failure to reduce its emissions under the Kyoto Protocol jeopardizes the future quality of life for today's youth (p. 37).

<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/Solar+powered+miseducation/4813827/story.html>

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/wwwdocuments/programs/ecoschools/docs/FINAL%20Go%20Green%20WEB%20-%202.pdf>

The Really Inconvenient Truth

Lord Andrew Turnbull, a former senior civil servant in the UK Government, has written a critique of that government's unilateral undertaking, enshrined in law, to reduce CO₂ emissions by 80% from 1990 levels by 2050. This undertaking is based on the IPCC's assertion that projected anthropogenic emissions of CO₂ will cause global temperatures to rise by 3°C by 2100 (actually derived from a range of scenarios of 1.0°C to 6.0°C) whereas there is huge controversy about the relative contribution of anthropogenic CO₂ versus natural causes to climate change. According to Lord Turnbull the really inconvenient truth is that the propositions of the IPCC do not bear the weight of certainty with which they are expressed.

Lord Turnbull shows how the IPCC tried to eliminate the Medieval Warm Period through the hockey stick graph, how recent temperatures fail to correlate with CO₂ in the atmosphere, the lack of proof that a doubling of CO₂ will produce the claimed 3°C temperature rise, problems with temperature measurement, the IPCC's downplaying of natural forces while emphasizing the negative impacts of warming. In particular, the IPCC's *Summary for Policy Makers* is drafted by a core group of 40-50 who ensure they get what their political masters want while ignoring any caveats appearing in the main reports written by the scientists.

<http://www.thegwpc.org/images/stories/gwpc-reports/lord-turnbull.pdf>

<http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/jamesdelingpole/100088183/lord-turnbull-the-ipcc-is-useless/>

Global Warming Fraud Creates Third World Food Crisis

While the climate crisis melts away, a global food shortage is the legacy of the foolish rush to biofuels. Today, 6.5% of the world's grain has been stripped from the global fuel supply to serve as feedstock for 85 billion liters per year of ethanol. The US makes 39.7% of the world's ethanol from food. Quotes from geophysicist Norm Kalmanovich explain the history of global warming fraud and point out that the only evidence for a relationship between CO₂ emissions and global warming is climate models, which even James Hansen admits.

<http://co2insanity.com/2011/05/12/global-warming-fraud-creates-third-world-food-crisis/>

Evidence that Cosmic Rays Seed Clouds

According to a new paper in *Geophysical Research Letters*, physicists in Denmark and the UK have fired a particle beam into a cloud chamber and shown how cosmic rays could stimulate the formation of water droplets in the Earth's atmosphere. This is the best experimental evidence yet that the Sun influences climate by altering the intensity of the cosmic-ray flux reaching the Earth's surface, a hypothesis promoted by Henrik Svensmark.

Roy Spencer, who has been skeptical of Dr. Svensmark's theory, now accepts that the evidence is becoming too strong for him to ignore. In his blog Dr. Spencer provides supporting graphs and calculations, based on satellite observations, suggesting that direct and indirect (i.e., cosmic ray) solar forcing is 3.5 times that due to changing solar irradiance alone.

<http://physicsworld.com/cws/article/news/45982>

<http://science.au.dk/en/news-and-events/news-article/artikel/forskere-fra-au-og-dtu-viser-at-partikler-fra-rummet-skaber-skydaekke/>

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/05/indirect-solar-forcing-of-climate-by-galactic-cosmic-rays-an-observational-estimate/>

2011-05-12

Ontario Tories Vow to Cancel Green Subsidies

Tim Hudak, leader of the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party vowed, that if elected, he would end the sweetheart deal with Samsung to install 2,000 MW of wind and 500 MW of solar power, and to end the feed-in-tariff program under the province's *Green Energy Act*. He promised to treat energy as an economic policy, rather than a green one. The Ontario election will take place on October 6.

<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/Ontario+Tories+cancel+green+subsidies/4761240/story.html>

<http://www.financialpost.com/news/cancel+sweetheart+Samsung+deal/4761367/story.html>

<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/05/10/ontarios-power-trip-the-end-of-fit/>

Peter Foster: Green Revolution Set to Follow Red

Achim Steiner, head of the UN Environmental Program, visited the editorial boards of two Toronto newspapers, urging Ontario to stick with its green program the same day that Tim Hudak made the above announcement. Peter Foster contends that Mr. Steiner's rearguard action will fail to prevent retreat of the new green order, which is doomed follow the old red one. The UNEP was set up by Maurice Strong to use global taxpayers' money to further his political agenda of creating a World Environmental Organization with disciplinary powers.

The *Globe and Mail* reports Mr. Steiner's views factually, without comment, but the *Toronto Star* is enthusiastic about the UNEP's "2% solution (invest 2% of global output to a green economy.) According to the *Star*, Mr. Steiner calls Ontario's *Green Energy Act* "one of the boldest moments in history."

<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/Green+revolution+follow/4761368/story.html>

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/industry-news/energy-and-resources/ontario-urged-to-stick-with-green-energy-program/article2015925/>

<http://www.thestar.com/opinion/editorials/article/988388--the-un-s-2-solution>

Terence Corcoran: Greens "Lost" as Growth Prevails

Mr. Corcoran comments on a column that climate alarmist George Monbiot wrote for *The Guardian*, in which he declared that his environmental movement colleagues "are lost" in a world that believes in growth and prosperity. The problem that the greens face, not too little fossil fuel, but too much. The CEO of General Electric, Jeff Immelt, formerly an outspoken climate-change activist, is ending his activism to focus on job creation.

<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/05/05/terence-corcoran-greens-%E2%80%98lost%E2%80%99-as-growth-prevails/>

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/may/02/environmental-fixes-all-greens-lost>

IPCC Report: Renewables Can Never Meet Energy Demand (unless most people die or remain miserably poor)

An upcoming report by the IPCC says that close to 80% of the world's energy supply could be met by renewables by mid-century. In order to achieve this, world energy use would have to go from its present 490 EJ/year (of which 13% is renewable), to 407 EJ. However, a world population of 7 billion people, each using as much energy as 2/3 of a present European, will need 770 EJ. According to

Lewis Page of the blog *The Register*, renewables will only provide more than half the world's energy in some grim future where the majority of the human race is wiped out or remains in miserable poverty.

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/05/10/ipcc_srren_pre_release/
<http://srren.ipcc-wg3.de/press>

UAH Temperature Update for April 2011: +0.12°C

Further evidence that La Niña is fading comes from the University of Alabama at Huntsville's satellite-based temperature of the global lower atmosphere. Last month it was +0.12°C, compared to +0.40°C for April 2010.

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/05/uah-temperature-update-for-april-2011-0-12-deg-c/>

2011-05-05

Canada Turns Away from Climate Policy

Time magazine's blog *Ecocentric* comments on the results of the Canadian federal election, in which climate change and energy policy weren't issues for voters. The new Conservative majority means that Prime Minister Harper can continue to avoid dealing with climate change. *Time* points to the Conservative position on carbon pricing as a possible example of Roger Pielke Jr.'s "iron law of climate policy": When policies on emissions growth collide with policies focused on economic growth, the latter wins every time.

<http://ecocentric.blogs.time.com/2011/05/03/canada-turns-away-from-climate-policy/>

Canada Should Get Out of Kyoto While It's Still Possible

Tom Harris, Executive Director of the *International Climate Science Coalition*, argues that Canada can avoid a black eye if it gets out of the Kyoto Protocol before it expires at the end of 2012, when the country's gross violation of its emission limits will be highlighted to the world. Also, the government should (a) stop the CO₂ rhetoric and prepare for real climate change (i.e., likely cooling); (b) have scientists from both sides testify before a Commons subcommittee; (c) freeze spending on campaigns oriented toward furthering the climate scare and supposed "solutions;" (d) reign in Environment Canada's activism (see next story); (e) separate "clean air" and climate change in the federal budget.

<http://www.financialpost.com/news/Kyoto+while+still+possible/4729150/story.html>

Canadian Researchers Say UN Climate Goals Impossible

A team of nine researchers from Environment Canada at the University of Victoria have published a modeling-based study in *Geophysical Research Letters* that concludes that meeting the UN's goal of keeping warming to 2°C by the end of this century is unlikely. To do so would require an immediate ramp down of emissions followed by ongoing CO₂ sequestration in the second half of this century. In its comment on the paper, the blog *Resilient Earth* says "Setting aside the questionable accuracy of yet another CO₂ driven computer climate model, the more interesting thing here is that climate change alarmists seem to have resigned themselves to the catastrophic future envisioned in their own fevered dreams."

<http://theresilientearth.com/?q=content/researchers-say-un-climate-goals-impossible>

<http://www.agu.org/pubs/crossref/2011/2010GL046270.shtml>

Climate Activists Sue US Government for Failing to Protect the Earth for Generations Unborn

Our Children's Trust, a coalition of groups concerned about climate change, sued the Federal Government on May 4, claiming that key agencies have failed in their duty to protect the earth's atmosphere as a public trust to be guarded for future generations. Similar lawsuits are to be filed against states around the country. Most of the individual plaintiffs in the suit are teenagers, a decision apparently made to underscore the intergenerational nature of the trust that the earth's atmosphere represents.

Legal experts comment that, in view of the Supreme Court's preference to defer to the Environmental Protection Agency on environmental "nuisance" lawsuits, this latest initiative may not go far. Even so, it serves to keep the issue alive by having the courts react to it.

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/05/science/earth/05climate.html?_r=2&scp=8&sq=climate+change&st=nyt
http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5ikWyxvpAxAkCO0i8S89fTF_L8M2mQ?docId=6758466

Cash Drought: No Progress in UN Green Climate Fund Talks

A two-day meeting of climate change science negotiators in Mexico City resulted in little progress for the Transnational Committee of the UN's Green Climate Fund. The \$100 billion/year (from 2020) fund, to aid developing countries in coping with climate change, was one of the agreements reached at last December's climate summit in Cancún. Officials are desperate to fulfill the pledges made in Cancún to set the stage for a binding agreement next December in Durban.

<http://au.ibtimes.com/articles/140011/20110502/little-progress-in-un-green-climate-fund-meet.htm>

Tornadoes and Global Warming

Warmists, such as Brad Johnson of the blog *Wonk Room* have been quick to point to the outbreak of tornadoes and flooding storms hitting the US South as linked to climate change; i.e., it is present in every single meteorological event. An editorial in the *Washington Times* notes that tornadoes fit well with the notion of "global climate disruption" being pushed by White House science advisor John Holdren. However, it finds no evidence that America is facing increased risk from tornadoes based on human activity or CO₂ emissions.

Roy Spencer points out that severe thunderstorms and tornadoes are not evidence of global warming, but rather the opposite. They happen when cool air persists over the Midwest and Ohio Valley, resulting in collisions of cold and warm air masses.

<http://wonkroom.thinkprogress.org/2011/04/29/tornadoes-irresponsible-denial/>
<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/apr/28/tornadoes-spinning-global-warming/>
<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/04/more-tornadoes-from-global-warming-thats-a-joke-right/>

2011-04-28

US Supreme Court Indicates It Will Dismiss 6-State Global Warming Suit

In a setback for environmentalists, the Supreme Court signaled on April 19 that it will throw out a huge global warming lawsuit brought by California and five other states (Connecticut, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont and Iowa) that seeks limits on carbon pollution from coal-fired power plants in the South and Midwest. The issue debated was not whether greenhouse gases are causing global climate change, but who should regulate them. During the hearing the justices said that the problem of regulating greenhouse gases should be left to the Environmental Protection Agency, as it is too complex and unwieldy to be handled by a single federal judge acting on a “public nuisance” lawsuit.

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-court-warming-20110420,0,5463771.story>

Outlook Dim for Climate Agreement by Year’s End

Following a two-day meeting of the Major Economies Forum on Energy and Climate in Brussels, the US Special Envoy for Climate Change said that no one expects a legally-binding agreement in Durban. The US wants any agreement to cover all countries with significant economies. Even the EU Climate Commissioner agreed that a climate deal was highly unlikely.

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/28/world/europe/28iht-climate28.html?_r=1

<http://www.france24.com/en/20110427-no-binding-deal-durban-climate-summit-warns-eu>

Blame Game: Has the Green Movement Been a Miserable Flop?

Matthew Nisbet, a communications professor at American University has written an 84-page report trying to figure out why climate activism flopped so miserably in the past few years. In his report he says that, contrary to popular belief, the greens weren’t outspent by industry groups and that media coverage of climate science wasn’t a problem. The report also questions whether greens have been backing the wrong policy measures all along. Dr. Nisbet argues that in 2007, when Al Gore was the figure most associated with global warming awareness and George Bush was unpopular, tackling climate change became a Democratic cause, and thus a partisan issue since then.

http://www.tnr.com/article/politics/87140/environmental-green-movement-al-gore-nisbet?utm_source=Editors+and+Bloggers&utm_campaign=08a0971a7c-Edit+and+Blogs&utm_medium=email

Climategate: What Really Happened

Kate Sheppard, who covers energy and environmental politics for the blog *Mother Jones*, describes “How climate science became the target of the best-funded, best-organized smear campaign by the wealthiest industry that the Earth has ever known.” Despite this headline, Ms. Sheppard traces the Climategate history, from Michael Mann’s hockey-stick graph, how Stephen McIntyre set the stage for Climategate, the release of the emails after November 12, 2009 and subsequent reactions, failure at Copenhagen, and political events in the US. According to Dr. Mann, if anything good came out of Climategate, it’s the realization that scientists need a better communication and crisis-management strategy. The next IPCC report is expected to include even more urgent warnings than the last one.

<http://motherjones.com/environment/2011/04/history-of-climategate?page=1>

Climategate Inquiry: Whitewash or Greenwash?

Last year an inquiry headed by Lord Oxburgh exonerated the scientists at the University of East Anglia in connection with the Climategate affair. According to Ted Larkin, a research fellow at the Australian Institute for Public Affairs, Lord Oxburgh, an outspoken global warming activist, had more than simple ideological bias. He has been chairman of D-1 Oils, an “alternative energy crop company” since 2007 and in 2009 headed Falk Renewables, a major European solar and wind producer. Furthermore, Lord Oxburgh failed to disclose his involvement with Globe International, a powerful, low-profile network for international climate-change advocacy.

<http://www.abc.net.au/unleashed/387130.html>

Wind Turbine Wakes

Wind turbines produce invisible ripples that can affect the atmosphere and influence downstream wind turbines. This is the subject of research (*Turbine Wake and Inflow Characterization Study*) being conducted in the US. While the wake effect has been modeled in wind tunnels and numerically, the real atmosphere is more variable and complicated. Therefore, the researchers will use lasers, sonic detectors and meteorological towers for field measurements. The second link contains photo of wake turbulence.

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/04/26/wakey-wakey/>

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/04/28/the-wind-turbine-albedo-effect/#more-38857>

On the Celestial Origin of Climate Oscillations

Nicola Scafetta, a research scientist at the Duke University Physics Department who has written papers on a wide variety of disciplines (astronomy, biology, climatology, medicine, physics and sociology), has published an important paper in the *Journal of Atmospheric and Solar-Terrestrial Physics* in which he investigated whether or not decadal and multi-decadal climate oscillations have an astronomical origin. He found empirical evidence that cycles with periods of 10-11, 12, 15, 20-22, 30 and 60 years are present in all major surface temperature records since 1850. The IPCC claims that their climate models cannot explain the observed warming since 1970 with any known natural mechanism, and therefore human-emitted greenhouse gases must be the cause. Dr. Scafetta’s paper is critical of the models.

Judith Curry’s blog contains a link to the paper and provides a lively discussion.

<http://judithcurry.com/2011/04/14/scafetta-on-climate-oscillations/>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicola_Scafetta

2011-04-22

Terence Corcoran: Climate Non-Issue in a Cold Election

According to Mr. Corcoran, climate issues and carbon controls are non-issues in the current Canadian election campaign because the science is a shambles and voters do not see global warming as an imminent threat to their welfare, or even that of the next generation. Part of the reason is that the election is taking place during a cold spring.

<http://www.thegwpf.org/opinion-pros-a-cons/2865-terence-corcoran-climate-non-issue-in-a-cold-election.html>

The Climate Refugee Hoax

It's been said that when you make a prediction and provide a date, never give a number, and vice-versa. That way you can never be wrong. In 2005 the UN Environmental Program did both when it predicted that by 2010 the world would have to cope with 50 million environmental refugees. When 2010 came and went with no climate refugees, the UNEP removed the claim from its website and pretended that it had never made such a prediction. The original was preserved in a Google cache, but even that has been deleted, so the link in *der Spiegel's* story no longer works. Fortunately, Patterico's Pontifications managed to save an image of the original UNEP webpage.

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/0,1518,757713,00.html>
<http://patterico.com/2011/04/15/un-caught-scrubbing-embarrassing-climate-refugee-prediction>

Rendering Our Sanity unto the Earth Goddess

Rex Murphy offers his comments on the current initiative by Bolivia's President Evo Morales to enshrine the "rights of Mother Nature" in legislation. In Rex' view the number one threat to the health, safety and future of the planet is the "assortment of fanatics who are proposing to save it."

The Friends of Science, together with the Frontier Centre for Public Policy, are sponsoring a talk by Rex Murphy on September 29 at the University of Calgary's McEwen Hall.

<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/Rendering+sanity+unto+Earth+goddess/4626055/story.html>

Science without Method

John Nicol's essay asks, in global warming research, what happened to the scientific method (i.e., formulate a hypothesis, then conduct measurements, analyses or observations to test it rigorously.) For example, through most of the 20th century there were extensive experiments, adversarial debate and free sharing of information over conflicts between the theories of relativity and quantum mechanics. In contrast leading climate scientists believe they have the right to deny provision of their data to other credentialed scientists. Despite the enormous expenditure on climate science, no one has attempted the check, by experimentation, the veracity of the numerous assumptions involved in greenhouse theory. Instead of investigating and comparing the many natural influences on climate compared to the "human signal," the IPCC scientists rely on their consensus.

<http://www.quadrant.org.au/blogs/doomed-planet/2011/04/scientific-method>

When Scientists Confuse Cause and Effect

The *Wall Street Journal* uses some simple, sociological examples to illustrate how easy it is to confuse cause and effect. In climate science a classic example is the correlation between temperatures and atmospheric CO₂ concentrations over 400,000 years; careful analysis later revealed that the former preceded the latter by about 800 years. Currently, the dispute is over the cloud-temperature relationship. The conventional view is that changes in temperature cause changes in cloud cover. Roy Spencer argues from satellite data that cloud cover changes occur spontaneously for reasons still unclear, and that alters the global temperatures.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703385404576258783367180312.html#articleTabs%3Darticle>

DeSmogBlog: “Motivated Reasoning” Explains Climate Denial

DeSmogBlog is trying to explain to its readers how “... climate deniers can reject the overwhelming evidence that humans are causing the earth to warm.” Previously it linked such thinking to conservative and libertarian politics. In this piece *DeSmogBlog* pins it on “motivated reasoning,” which is reasoning suffused with emotion, a way of pushing threatening information away while pulling friendly information close. As a result, *DeSmogBlog* concludes that refuting skeptics scientifically might not always work. *DeSmogBlog* fails to explain how believers in AGW are immune to motivated reasoning.

<http://www.desmogblog.com/understanding-climate-denial-continued-motivated-reasoning>

Warmists’ View on Democratic Government

Andrew Bolt’s blog in the *Melbourne Herald Sun* describes the views of three warmists (*Sydney Morning Herald* columnist Elizabeth Farrelly, Green candidate Prof. Clive Hamilton, and IPCC assessor David Shearman) who propose dispensing with Western-style democracy in favour of a more authoritarian system, guided by an elite, to overcome unfavorable public opinion on global warming.

http://blogs.news.com.au/heraldsun/andrewbolt/index.php/heraldsun/comments/warmist_sighs_for_the_freedom_of_a_dictatorship

2011-04-14

Cap-and-Trade Buried in Liberal Party Platform

Deep in the Liberal Party’s election platform (starting at page 46) the party sets out its *Climate Change Action at Home and Abroad*. This includes a cap-and-trade system and commits Canada to a greenhouse gas reduction target of 80% below 1990 levels by 2050. A Liberal government would ask the National Round Table on Environment and Economy to recommend a series of science-based, achievable, mid-term targets. According to the *Vancouver Sun*, NRTEE puts the trading price of the emissions permits at \$75/tonne. If 60% of the 2020 emissions were subject to cap-and-trade, the 400 million tonnes would be worth \$30 billion.

http://cdn.liberal.ca/files/2011/04/liberal_platform.pdf

<http://www.vancouversun.com/technology/Liberal+environmental+policy+will+erode+living+standards/4586604/story.html>

US Says UN Climate Talks Make Treaty “Not Doable”

Todd Stern, head of the US delegation at the April 3-8 climate talks in Bangkok, said that the negotiations are based on “unrealistic” expectations and a binding treaty is “not doable”. He noted that rich and developing nations remain too divided to make progress on establishing worldwide agreements on CO₂ emissions. Instead, national laws and regulations should bind nations to reduce their emissions. Next December’s climate conference in Durban should focus on writing the rulebook for institutions that monitor agreements on aid and forest protection.

The Bangkok talks ended with delegates finally agreeing on an agenda for the rest of the year, but still deadlocked on the future of the Kyoto Protocol. The next meeting before Durban is scheduled for June in Bonn.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-04-06/u-s-envoy-says-global-warming-treaty-not-needed-to-combat-climate-change.html>

<http://www.trust.org/alertnet/news/climate-agenda-agreed-in-bangkok-but-kyotos-future-remains-uncertain>

<http://ca.news.yahoo.com/deep-divisions-loads-nations-move-toward-climate-change-20110408-231547-580.html>

Gloomy Greens Miss Bright Global Future

Walter Russell Mead, writing in *The American Interest*, reminisces on his visit to Rio for the 1992 environmental summit, the disastrous meeting that focused the world's attention on the first giant misstep of the climate change movement: the misbegotten Kyoto Protocol that has consumed two decades of green political energy around the world. While believing that the climate is trending warmer and accepting that human activity bears some responsibility for it, Dr. Mead sees new evidence every week of the "clueless green lobby" that is its own worst enemy. During a recent trip to Brazil he saw evidence, from innovations in tropical agriculture, that global warming may increase the world's food supply.

<http://blogs.the-american-interest.com/wrm/2011/04/13/gloomy-greens-miss-bright-global-future/>

More on Tim Ball's Legal Battle

Anthony Watts has published on his website an interview between lawyer John O'Sullivan and Dr. Ball on the two libel suits filed by Andrew Weaver and Michael Mann. These are apparently connected to well-funded environmentalists intent on using the law to kill free speech in the climate debate. Dr. Ball is confident that if it comes down to a science debate, he can carry the day.

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/04/08/help-asked-for-dr-tim-ball-in-legal-battle-with-dr-mann/>

900+ Peer-Reviewed Papers Supporting Skepticism of "Man-Made" Global Warming Alarm

PopularTechnology.net has compiled a list of more than 900 peer-reviewed papers to provide a resource that supports skepticism and prove that these papers exist, contrary to widely-held beliefs.

<http://www.populartechnology.net/2009/10/peer-reviewed-papers-supporting.html>

Separating Natural and Anthropogenically-Forced Decadal Climate Variability

The issue of natural vs anthropogenically-forced climate variability/change has been a key issue of contention between the climate establishment and skeptics. Judith Curry comments on a recent paper on this subject by 16 members of the establishment, who discuss modeling uncertainties and conclude that distinguishing between natural and forced variations is a difficult problem that is nevertheless key to any assessment of decadal predictability and prediction skill. With this, Dr. Curry says that there should be no more "unequivocal" or "very likely" attribution of climate change to anthropogenic causes in the next IPCC report.

In a related article, David Whitehouse of the Global Warming Policy Foundation points out the contradiction between the above problem and the claims that we understand the climate of the last 50 years and can reproduce it with computer models.

<http://judithcurry.com/2011/04/07/separating-natural-and-anthropogenically-forced-decadal-climate-variability/#more-2834>

<http://www.thegwpf.org/the-observatory/2795-inadequate-models-inadequate-conclusions.html>

One Million Brainwashed Children to March Next Month to Highlight Climate Change

From May 7-14 one million young people from all over the world are to participate in the iMatter March in an attempt to convince us that trace amounts of a natural, harmless, invisible gas will kill them all.

<http://www.fouryearsago.org/2011/04/06/allied-organization-stories/million-kid-march-climate-change-imatter/>

<http://www.350.org/en/about/blogs/youth-prepare-global-imatter-march>

2011-04-06

Annual Lunch by Friends of Science – Monday, May 16

The Friends of Science will be holding its eighth annual luncheon on May 16, 2011, at 11:30 am in the Metropolitan Conference Centre, 333 – 4th Avenue SW, Calgary. The featured speaker will be Ian Plimer, Professor of Geology at the University of Adelaide, Australia, and his topic is *Human Induced Global Warming: Why I Am Skeptical*. For tickets please see the enclosed notice.

Friends of Science Advisor Tim Ball Subject of Warmists' Lawsuits

Dr. Ball has been the subject of two lawsuits, filed on behalf of two well known "warmers", Michael Mann and Andrew Weaver by the lawyer who routinely does that sort of work for *DeSmogBlog* and the David Suzuki people. These suits could be a golden opportunity to get some of the alleged scientific misdeeds out in the open, but it takes money. For background details on the cases and the outlook for legal action, please read the enclosed summary by lawyer John O'Sullivan.

Dr. Ball has been a mentor to Friends of Science since the early days of our group's activities and is not a wealthy man. His friends have therefore been instrumental in starting a Defense Fund to allow him to put up a good fight. This Defense Fund has been set up at the office of Tim's lawyer. Donations for Tim's defense can be made by PayPal, by hitting the DONATE button on Tim's website (it goes directly to his lawyer) or by cheque made out as follows:

Pearlman Lindholm
#201, - 19 Dallas Road
Victoria, BC
V8V 5A6

with the notation:
Attention: Mr Kevin Benn
for Dr. Tim Ball Defense Fund

Psychologists: Fight Global Warming with Communication Science

As climate scientists face shifting public opinion and lack of support from political leaders for ambitious climate policies, psychologists Nick Pigeon of Cardiff University and Baruch Fischhoff of Carnegie-Mellon propose a new "science of communicating science." In their opinion climate science deserves the strongest possible communications science to convey the practical implications of large, complex, uncertain physical, biological and social processes. This would require an ambitious, interdisciplinary initiative modeled on the RAND Corporation, which of course would have to be properly funded and staffed.

<http://www.nature.com/nclimate/journal/v1/n1/full/nclimate1080.html#f1>
http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/04/01/psychohistory_to_fight_climate_change/

Climate Testimony before the US Committee on Science, Space and Technology

On March 31 this House of Representatives committee heard testimony from six expert witnesses in marketing, physics, climate science (John Christy from the University of Alabama and Kerry Emmanuel from MIT), law and economics. The Committee Chairman, Ralph Hall, noted in his opening remarks that the Climategate emails were evidence that the trust in the underlying process was misplaced.

Judith Curry's blog summarizes the punch lines of each witness. John Christy's written testimony contains an insider's description of the IPCC process and how the hockey stick made it into the 2001 assessment report when Dr. Christy and Michael Mann were co-chairs of the relevant chapter.

<http://science.house.gov/press-release/witnesses-highlight-flawed-processes-used-generate-climate-change-science-inform>
<http://judithcurry.com/2011/03/31/congressional-hearing-on-climate-change-part-ii/>
http://science.house.gov/sites/republicans.science.house.gov/files/documents/hearings/ChristyJR_written_110331_all.pdf

Japan and Germany Face Increased Greenhouse Gas Emissions over Nuclear Crisis

On April 3 Japan signaled that, in view of the Fukushima crisis and the earthquake disaster, it may review its pledge to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 25% from 1990 levels by 2020. The reactor accident prompted Germany to shut down its seven oldest nuclear plants until at least June, and maybe permanently. Replacing most of the lost 7,000 MW of generating capacity with coal-fired power, which is more attractive than gas, will increase Germany's greenhouse gas emissions, which are already up 6% over last year.

http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hkY2mcn_JeLmD96SZx9YcShPYKHA?docId=CNG.3d99b443b15130c2e8940c31d981a03e.321
<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/04/04/us-germany-energy-coal-idUSTRE7331BF20110404>

After Kyoto: A World Without Climate Agreement

The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change is holding six days of talks (April 3 – 8) in Bangkok. There, Climate Chief Christiana Figueres conceded that there will now be a gap between the expiry of the Kyoto Protocol in December 2012 and adoption of any new climate treaty. She said that all parties that signed and ratified the protocol would meet their commitments, "with the exception of Canada." She also called on parties to deliver on their pledges to the Green Climate Fund, which is currently empty. According to Reuters, the Bangkok conference is not going well.

<http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/world/2011/0405/1224293868862.html>
<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFL3E7F62DE20110406?sp=true>

UAH Temperature Update for March 2011: -0.10°C

Roy Spencer's temperature update for last month shows a global temperature anomaly of -0.10°C, with cooling in the Northern and Southern Hemispheric extra tropics, while the tropics stayed the same as in February.

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/04/uah-temperature-update-for-march-2011-cooler-still-0-10-deg-c/>

2011-03-31

Carbon Tax Kills Labor Government In Australia's New South Wales

Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard faces a fight over her plans to tax carbon emissions and mining profits after her Labor party was defeated in elections in New South Wales, the country's most populous state. The Liberal-National coalition, running a campaign that opposed a carbon tax, ended 16 years of Labor rule in the state. In 2008, Western Australia and Victoria voted in governments that also oppose carbon taxes. With three states contributing 67% to Australia's economy opposed, Ms. Gillard will have difficulty implementing her climate program.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-03-26/gillard-faces-tax-fight-as-labor-loses-new-south-wales-ballot.html>

Carbon Accounting Modeler Says It's a Scam

On March 23, over 3,000 Australians protested in Canberra against Prime Minister Julia Gillard's carbon tax. One of the speakers at the rally was mathematician and engineer David Evans. He admits that he is a scientist who was once on the gravy train (as a consultant for the Australian Greenhouse Office from 1999 to 2010), was once an alarmist but now is a skeptic. Though the idea that CO₂ is the main cause of global warming was proved false during the 1990s, the gravy train is too big, so now governments and their tame scientists cheat and lie outrageously to maintain the fiction. The cheating comes about in the way they measure temperature.

Joanne Nova, a former Green, also spoke at the rally.

<http://joannenova.com.au/2011/03/david-evans-carbon-modeler-says-its-a-scam/#more-14022>

<http://joannenova.com.au/2011/03/we-are-being-deceived/#more-14004>

"Hide the Decline" Deconstructed

In this five-minute video, Prof. Richard Muller, who does believe that CO₂ causes significant global warming, uses Michael Mann's hockey stick graph to describe how the people behind it resisted providing the supporting data. When they did release it, three sets of data showing steady or declining temperatures after 1961 were found to have been erased and replaced them with one set of data giving the illusion that all three temperature sources agreed on a sharp rise in the late 20th century (the "blade" of the stick.)

Dr. Mann continues to insist, wrongly, that the National Academy of Sciences affirmed the work behind his graph.

<http://dailybayonet.com/?p=8041>

<http://hockeyschtick.blogspot.com/2011/03/there-he-goes-again-mann-claims-his.html>

Americans Least Concerned about Global Warming

During March 3-6, Gallup polled Americans about nine major environmental issues, i.e., did they worry about each issue a great deal, a fair amount, only a little or not at all. Contamination of soil and water by toxic waste was the most worrisome (79% in the first two categories, 20% in the last two.) Global

warming was the least worrisome (51% to 48%) of the nine. In Gallup's analysis, Americans are becoming most concerned about environmental issues linked to their daily survival.

<http://www.gallup.com/poll/146810/Water-Issues-Worry-Americans-Global-Warming-Least.aspx>

Prof. Vincent Courtillot Speaks with Clarity

Prof. Courtillot is a geophysicist, a member of the French Academy of Sciences and is known for his controversial views on a connection between the earth's magnetic field and climate. In a 32-minute video, he notes that in climate science, numerical modeling has overshadowed observation. In his view regional temperatures (e.g., Europe or the US) make sense, but not global ones. The regional temperatures for the past century show characteristics of chaotic changes from one state to another, rather than rising trends correlated with CO₂. Prof. Courtillot discusses an M-shaped curve of solar activity that correlates with regional temperatures, oceanic oscillations, winds, length of the earth's day, low cloud cover and electrical fields in the atmosphere.

<http://joannenova.com.au/2011/03/prof-vincent-courtillot-speaks-with-clarity/>

2011-03-23

Willis Eschenbach: An Open Letter to Google

Google is funding 21 "Google Science Communication Fellows" to focus on communicating the science on climate change. In an open letter to Google, Willis Eschenbach critiques Google for taking sides in a scientific debate, accusing it of putting in place a public relations campaign for the CO₂ hypothesis. He notes that Al Gore, who stands to make big money if the hypothesis can be sold to the public, sits on Google's board. The side that Google picked has conned the public and refused to admit it. As Google's business is everyone's information and secrets, it has no business involving itself in anything partisan.

<http://blog.google.org/2011/02/making-sense-of-science-introducing.html>
<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/03/19/an-open-letter-to-google/>

Throwing a FIT

Faced with risk of rapid and unforeseen expansion of larger scale photovoltaic projects posing a threat to the UK Government's budget for 2014-15, the Department of Energy and Climate Change has published a *Consultation on Fast-Track Review of Feed-in Tariffs for Small-Scale, Low Carbon Electricity*. DECC proposes to reduce the FIT for new, large-scale (> 50kW) solar projects from 30p/kWh to 8.5p/kWh. The Solar Trade Association said that this review would be a big disaster for the industry. France, Spain, Germany and Italy have all slashed their FIT subsidies to stop rising energy costs before the damage becomes too great to undo. Ontario, on the other hand, continues to offer solar and wind subsidies at far higher rates than any of the European nations.

<http://dailybayonet.com/?p=8046>
<http://www.decc.gov.uk/assets/decc/Consultations/fits-review/1438-condoc-fasttrack-review-fits.pdf>

Judge Places California's Global Warming Program on Hold

A San Francisco superior court judge has ruled that the California Air Resources Board failed to consider public comments regarding alternatives to cap-and-trade in its sweeping program to curb greenhouse gases before adopting the plan. The lawsuit was filed by six environmental groups representing low-

income communities which contend that the CARB's cap-and-trade program would allow industries located in poor neighborhoods to avoid cutting both greenhouse gases and traditional pollutants. CARB is appealing the decision.

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/greenspace/2011/03/california-global-warming-program-put-on-hold.html>
http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20110322/ap_on_re_us/us_california_greenhouse_gases

Global Warming and Sunspots Explained

In this 9:35 video, Australian scientist David Archibald describes past global warming and cooling periods (Medieval Warming and Little ice Age) and the solar driver of these events. Mr. Archibald believes that there is a better correlation between the earth's temperature and solar cycle length, rather than amplitude: the longer the cycle the colder the temperature. Based on his prediction for Solar Cycles 24 and 25, temperature declines to 2030 (-1.5°C) should be as steep as those of the 1970s, but will go on for longer. Faced with colder temperatures and the need to improve agricultural productivity, Mr. Archibald welcomes increased CO₂ in the atmosphere.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DbAe_g41Zl4&NR=1&feature=fvwp
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_solar_cycles

Climate Change during Geological and Recent Times: Causes, Speculations and IPCC Postulates

Swiss geologist Peter Ziegler's 47-slide presentation extensively traces the history (both human and geological) and causes for past climate change. This includes correlation between global temperature and CO₂, anthropogenic CO₂, solar variations, the greenhouse effect and feedbacks. References are provided for each statement and slide illustration. Clicking the icon in the upper left-hand corner of the slides opens the speaker's notes.

http://www.friendsofscience.org/assets/documents/Global.Warming_Ziegler.pdf

Left-Wing Physicist Denis Rancourt: On the Gargantuan Lie of Climate Change Science

Dr. Rancourt's piece is based on a public event organized by the geography association at Université du Québec à Montréal. He traces the climate science fairy tale in five story-element steps: [1] combustion of fossil fuels produces CO₂; [2] this large amount of CO₂ from fossil-fuel burning goes into the atmosphere (a detailed analysis concluding that the post-industrial CO₂ in the atmosphere is much smaller than environmental scientists claim); [3] post-industrial atmospheric CO₂ produces an increased planetary greenhouse effect (here Dr. Rancourt goes into the "amplification hypothesis"); [4] the increased planetary greenhouse effect causes planetary warming (effectively refuted by Dr. Rancourt); [5] climate chaos and melting glaciers. Dr. Rancourt backs his assertions with a list of 29 references.

<http://activistteacher.blogspot.com/2011/03/on-gargantuan-lie-of-climate-change.html>

2011-03-17

Gas Burning Bright as Nuclear Renaissance Melts Down

Following two decades of stagnation, the nuclear industry's hoped-for renaissance faces melt down from the disaster at Fukushima Daiichi in Japan. Worldwide, power utilities had launched proposals for more than 300 new reactors, most of them in Asia. On March 14, two days after thousands of nuclear protesters gathered in Stuttgart, German Chancellor Angela Merkel suspended her government's decision to extend

the lifespan of her country's aging nuclear power stations. The events at Fukushima have put a damper on Ontario's long-term plan to replace some of its nuclear facilities (which supply about half of the province's power), as well as US nuclear plans.

The CEO of Exelon Corporation said in a speech that new nuclear, coal with carbon capture and sequestration, wind and solar are not economic. Instead, domestically-abundant natural gas is queen and a bridge to the future. Exelon has 17 nuclear plants and a broad portfolio of hydro, wind and solar facilities, and boasts of its commitment to low-carbon energy to meet the challenge of global climate change.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/industry-news/energy-and-resources/nuclear-renaissance-melts-down-over-japan-disaster/article1941961/>
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/adam-radwanski/japans-nuclear-crisis-dampens-ontarians-enthusiasm-for-new-reactors/article1941934/>
<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-15/quake-prone-pacific-rim-atomic-plants-may-hold-keys-to-u-s-nuclear-plans.html>
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/commentary/eric-reguly/nuclears-loss-not-a-worry-the-new-world-power-is-gas/article1944482/>
<http://www.exeloncorp.com/environment/overview.aspx>

The New Impossible Energy No-Fly Zone

According to Terence Corcoran of the *Financial Post*, the world is about to enter a no-fly zone for energy policy, a period where nothing gets off the ground. Nuclear power, in the wake of the Japan nuclear disaster, is a global pariah. Fossil fuels are cheap, but subject to carbon taxes and regulations to cut back their use. Wind and solar offer crippling costs to energy users and cannot replace nuclear or fossil power. Hydro power is cheap but ruins ecosystems. In Mr. Corcoran's opinion, the most likely winner will be the cheapest energy source: the fossil fuels we know and trust.

<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/03/16/terence-corcoran-the-new-impossible-energy-no-fly-zone/>

Peer into the Heart of the IPCC, Find Greenpeace

In her blog Donna Laframboise examines the close relationships between Greenpeace and the IPCC. Rajendra Pachauri, in his capacity of IPCC Chairman, wrote a forward to a Greenpeace publication in 2007. Richard Klein worked as a Greenpeace campaigner at age 23, before becoming an IPCC lead author at 25. Bill Hare, a Greenpeace spokesman since 1992 and its chief climate negotiator in 2007, has filled senior IPCC roles as expert reviewer, lead author (for the 2007 and 2013 reports), and a member of the select core writing team for the important Synthesis Report. Maite Meinshausen, whose Greenpeace ties stretch back to 2001, was a contributing author for three chapters of the 2007 IPCC report.

<http://nofrackingconsensus.wordpress.com/2011/03/14/peer-into-the-heart-of-the-ipcc-find-greenpeace/>

EU May Need to Tighten Supply of Emission Permits to Avoid Slump

The EU's emissions trading system, or ETS, the cornerstone of Europe's plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, imposes limits on more than 11,000 utilities and manufacturing companies. However the European Commission, the EU regulator, said last week that it planned to oblige governments and businesses to make energy efficiency a higher priority, in order to meet its 2020 goal of emissions 20% below 1990 levels, and to boost security of energy supplies. However, the planned energy-efficiency targets may depress the price of the ETS' emission allowances. To avoid this, the EU could withhold

permits starting in the next trading period, from 2013 to 2020. The EU gave away the majority of the permits since it started the program six years ago.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-14/eu-may-need-tighter-supply-to-avoid-co2-slump-adviser-says-1-.html>

What Caused the Spotless Sun?

A paper published in the March 3, 2011 edition of *Nature* by an international team of scientists funded by NASA, may explain why solar activity dropped to a hundred-year low starting in 2008. Since the Little Ice Age, there has been much speculation about the link between solar activity, sunspots and the earth's climate. The authors of the *Nature* paper believe that they have developed a computer model that accurately simulates the physics of the three factors driving the solar environment: the magnetic dynamo, the conveyor belt and the evolution of sunspot magnetic fields. Beginning in the late 1990s (during Solar Cycle 23) the conveyor belt sped up, dragging sunspots down to the inner dynamo, and they never reappeared. When the conveyor belt slowed down in the 2000s, sunspots were in short supply, delaying the onset of Solar Cycle 24. The conditions were right for a deep and prolonged solar minimum.

<http://theresilientearth.com/?q=content/what-caused-spotless-sun>

DeSmogBlog Paradox: The More Americans Understand the Climate Issue, the More Skeptical They Become

DeSmogBlog comments on a new Gallup poll of US public opinion on global warming and is staggered to contemplate the difference between what scientists and the public think about the issue. As time passes, Americans are professing to know more about and better understand the climate issue. In *DeSmogBlog*'s opinion, they obviously "misunderstand" it, because of the declining numbers that worry significantly about global warming (from 66% in 2007 to 51% now.) Faced with a public that is quite comfortable with its misguided views, *DeSmogBlog* takes comfort that summer is coming and people may care more about global warming when it's hot outside.

<http://www.desmogblog.com/us-public-global-warming-been-there-done-no-big-issue>

2011-03-12

Wind Power Foes Lose Legal Challenge

Anti-wind power activists in Ontario suffered a legal setback when a panel of three judges from the Superior Court of Justice ruled that the province has the right to determine how closely wind turbines may be placed to homes, namely 550 m. Lawyers for Ian Hanna of Prince Edward County had argued during a hearing in January that regulations in Ontario's *Green Energy Act* governing how far turbines must be from dwellings are illegal [see FoS Extracts 2011-01-27.] If the court had agreed, new wind development in the province could have come to a standstill. The judges said that "the health concerns for persons living in proximity to wind turbines cannot be denigrated, but they do not trump all other considerations." Mr. Hanna said that he will consider an appeal of the decision.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/industry-news/energy-and-resources/wind-power-foes-lose-legal-challenge/article1928912/>

The Myth of Green Energy Jobs: The European Experience

The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy has published a report that uses European experiences with green energy to attack the Obama Administration's and its allies' championship of the benefits of green energy and the creation of green jobs to alleviate unemployment. The report found that green jobs merely replace jobs in other sectors and actually contribute less to economic growth. Beginning with the "broken window" fallacy, the report supports its conclusions with summaries of the green energy experiences of Spain, Italy, Germany and Denmark.

<http://www.aei.org/outlook/101026>

Green, Except when It Costs

The OECD report *Greening Household Behaviour: The Role of Public Policy* is based on a survey of 10,000 OECD citizens from 10 countries and looks at what factors most influence people's decisions about what works in getting them to consume less water and energy, drive less, recycle more and eat more organic food. In asking the questions, the OECD assumes that the markets for these various activities have failed and that people are over-consuming. According to the report, when people say that they are concerned about environmental issues, their behavior betrays them. For example, almost half of the 10,000 people surveyed are not willing to pay anything to use only green energy, and the rest are prepared to spend only 5% more for it. Moreover, people's willingness to spend is related to their trust in government. If they don't trust government, and many don't, they don't care to spend.

<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/03/08/william-watson-green-except-when-it-costs/>
http://www.oecd.org/document/23/0,3746,en_2649_201185_47025303_1_1_1_1,00.html

Lawrence Solomon: Don't Count on Constant Electricity in the UK or Ontario

In these two articles Mr. Solomon examines how growing dependence on renewable energy will mean that consumers in the UK and Ontario will have to learn to live with power interruptions. For the UK he quotes the CEO of the National Grid, who says that electricity consumers will need to get used to flicking the switch and finding the power unavailable. Under the so-called "smart grid" that the UK is developing, the government-regulated utility will be able to decide when and where power should be delivered, to ensure that it meets the highest social purpose. In Ontario the government is spending \$1 billion plus to install "smart meters" to encourage consumers to use power at off-peak times through time-of-day pricing. Industrial customers can adapt to this pricing, but people aren't willing to cook their meals at 9 pm to save money. Because voluntary measures won't be enough to save the new Ontario power system, involuntary measures must come in: reaching into the home to switch off appliances whenever required to avert a province-wide power failure.

<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/03/05/lawrence-solomon-don%E2%80%99t-count-on-constant-electricity-under-renewable-energy-says-uk-electricity-ceo/>
<http://www.financialpost.com/news/McGuinty+reality/4428230/story.html>

Testimony at US Congressional Hearing on EPA's Greenhouse Gas Regulations

The US House of Representatives Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Energy and Power held a hearing on March 8 entitled "Climate Science and the EPA's Greenhouse Gas Regulations." Judith Curry's blog describes the hearing, lists the witnesses and summarizes the testimony on extreme weather events, comparing the opposing views of John Christy and Francis Zwiers of the University of Victoria. John Christy's written statement covers extreme events, the underlying temperature trend,

patterns of warming, climate sensitivity and feedback, consensus science and the impact of emission control measures.

<http://judithcurry.com/2011/03/07/congressional-hearing-on-epas-greenhouse-gas-regulations/>
<http://judithcurry.com/2011/03/08/extreme-testimony/>
<http://judithcurry.com/2011/03/09/extreme-testimony-part-ii-floods/>
<http://republicans.energycommerce.house.gov/Media/file/Hearings/Energy/030811/Christy.pdf>

2011-03-02

Unscientific Hype about Flooding Risks from Climate Change Will Cost Us

There are groups with a huge interest in keeping the global warming scare alive: governments wanting an excuse to raise taxes; wind farm developers making fortunes from hidden subsidies; a vast academic industry receiving billions to concoct the bogus science underpinning the scare; carbon traders making billions from corrupt schemes based on buying and selling the right to emit CO₂. Then there is the re-insurance industry with a financial interest in exaggerating the risks of climate change.

On February 17 *Nature* published a paper claiming to show how man-made climate change greatly increases the risk of flood damage. Among the eight authors are two of the most influential scientists at the heart of the IPCC and two from Risk Management Solutions, a world leader in advising the insurance industry on climate change. The *Nature* study was based entirely on computer models, not on historical data about rainfall and river flows.

In *Watts Up With That*, Willis Eschenbach, an experienced computer modeler, dissects the *Nature* paper. His conclusion: "... when your results represent the output of four computer models, which are fed into a fifth computer model, whose output goes to a sixth computer model, which is calibrated against a seventh computer model, and then your results are compared to a series of different results from the fifth computer model but run with different parameters, in order to demonstrate that flood risks have changed from increasing GHGs ... well, when you do that, you need to do more than wave your hands to convince me that your flood risk results are not only a valid representation of reality, but are in fact a sufficiently accurate representation of reality to guide our future actions."

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/columnists/christopherbooker/8349545/Unscientific-hype-about-the-flooding-risks-from-climate-change-will-cost-us-all-dear.html>
<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/02/24/nature-magazines-fole-a-deux-part-deux/>

Ontario's Search for a Solar System

Ontario's solar revolution has been dogged by controversy, backtracking and confusion among manufacturers, power producers and consumers—not to mention the World Trade Organization. This article traces the history of the province's efforts since 2003 to mothball the coal plants, clearing a path for a new era of clean air and power. In 2008 Ontario's then minister of energy and infrastructure went to Europe to figure out how to transform the province into North America's greenest jurisdiction. In Germany he saw how a feed-in tariff kick-started the global solar industry with inducements for manufacturers to source components locally. This resulted in the *Green Energy Act* of 1999, with its link between renewable power and jobs. Since then there has been resistance to increasing power rates, but more worrisome for the government is Japan's WTO challenge, which could gut Ontario's domestic-content rules, laying waste to the pledge to create thousands of green jobs.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/rob-magazine/ontarios-search-for-a-solar-system/article1919546/singlepage/#articlecontent>

Obama's Climate Agenda Faces Imminent Collapse

President Obama may be forced to sacrifice the Environmental Protection Agency's efforts to regulate greenhouse gas emissions. He faces the prospect of a government shutdown by March 4 unless he can reach a deal with Congress Republicans who are demanding \$61 billion in budget cuts. Among these is a reduction in the EPA's budget by 30%. While the White House has threatened to veto any isolated measures to strip the EPA, this reduction is part of a package needed to fund the government to September 30. Commentators speculate that President Obama, facing the need to get re-elected in 2012, has decided to acquiesce to a two-year moratorium on GHG regulation by the EPA.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/feb/28/barack-obama-delay-climate-action>
<http://www.investors.com/NewsAndAnalysis/Article.aspx?id=564497&p=1>
<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/677-e2-wire/146433-ohio-sen-brown-presses-obama-to-reevaluate-climate-rules>

EU Ministers Blow Cold on Tougher Energy Efficiency Targets

Environmentalists criticized EU energy ministers over a decision on February 28 not to set higher energy efficiency targets to achieve a greater than 20% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020. EU Climate Change Commissioner Connie Hedegaard called the 20% lacking in ambition. The energy ministers promised to review the energy efficiency targets again by 2013. EU national governments have been reluctant to accept binding EU energy efficiency targets however until a common methodology to measure gains in efficiency is agreed.

<http://euobserver.com/?aid=31891>

UK-Scottish Study: Green Energy Costs More Jobs than It Creates

A study by consultants Verso Economics (Worth the Candle?) found that for every job created in renewable energy in the UK, 3.7 jobs are lost. In Scotland, due to the greater concentration of renewable energy generation subsidized by electricity consumers and UK taxpayers by £330 million/year, there is a smaller net loss in jobs. Nevertheless, Scotland is still a net loser.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-12597097>
<http://www.versoeconomics.com/verso-0311B.pdf>

UAH Temperature Update for February 2011: -0.02°C

Roy Spencer has issued the University of Alabama at Huntsville temperature update for last month. The global anomaly was -0.02°C, or 0.53°C lower than February 2010 as cool La Niña conditions persist in the tropics.

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/03/uah-temperature-update-for-feb-2011-0-02-deg-c/>

2011-02-27

Ontario Approves 40 Green Energy Projects

Claiming that they will create 7,000 jobs and attract \$3 billion in private-sector investment, on February 24 the Ontario Government announced approval of 40 new large-scale (> 500 kW) renewable power projects with a total capacity of 872 MW. This follows an April announcement of 180 such projects to generate 2,400 MW.

In a commentary (Ontario Burns Up More Green Cash), Terence Corcoran estimates that, even if 27,000 man-years of work were generated over the 20-year life of the projects, ratepayers would subsidize each man-year by \$152,000 to \$207,000. No account is taken of jobs lost in the transfer of money from the pockets of ratepayers to the wind and solar industries. Mr. Corcoran notes that the Ontario Government has never produced a carbon accounting.

<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/Ontario+approves+green+energy+projects/4344395/story.html>
<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/Ontario+burns+more+green+cash/4344426/story.html>
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/as-oil-prices-soar-ontario-responds-with-3-billion-green-plan/article1918679/>

CBC: Climate Change an Issue in Canada

CBC News reports on a survey conducted by the Public Policy Forum (in Canada) and Sustainable Prosperity (in the US) of public opinion on climate change. According to the CBC, in Canada 80% believe the science behind climate change, compared to 58% in the US; actually, this was in response to the question "From what you've read and heard, is there solid evidence that the average temperature on earth has been getting warmer over the past four decades?" Also, 65% of Canadian respondents believed that their national government had a "great deal" of responsibility to address climate change, compared to 43% of the US.

Tom Harris, Executive Director of the International Climate Science Coalition, writing in the *Calgary Herald*, says that the deceptive climate poll should be ignored. He points out some of the leading questions posed by the pollsters. The 9-page report, containing 13 tables listing the results for each question asked, can be downloaded from the PPF website.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/story/2011/02/22/pol-lunn-climate-survey.html>
<http://www.calgaryherald.com/technology/Deceptive+climate+poll+should+ignored/4353635/story.html>
http://www.pforum.ca/sites/default/files/Climate%202011_Report.pdf

The Sad State of the State of California

S. Fred Singer is professor emeritus of environmental sciences at the University of Virginia and formerly lectured in California on energy policy and climate change. In the *American Thinker* he points to evidence of California's decline: outward migration; public employees with secure jobs, higher pay and pensions than private employees; a top-heavy education system; and rapidly-approaching bankruptcy. On top of this California suffers from the activities and malfeasance of CARB, the California Air Resources Board, run by Mary Nichols, a former assistant EPA Administrator in Washington. CARB has worked to impose a cap-and-trade program for CO₂ emissions, a tighter set of automobile efficiency standards, and to top it off, a renewable electricity standard requiring utilities to purchase 20% of their electric power from solar and wind by 2020.

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/02/the_sad_state_of_the_state_of.html

Australia to Impose Carbon Tax

After repeatedly promising no carbon tax during the election campaign last August, Prime Minister Julia Gillard made a deal with the Green Party for support in a minority Parliament and announced a carbon tax to begin in July 2012. Critics accused her of either lying during the campaign or going back on her word.

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/climate/things-have-changed-since-carbon-tax-promise-says-julia-gillard/story-e6frg6xf-1226012682698>

<http://joannenova.com.au/2011/02/does-the-lie-matter-only-if-you-think-democracy-does/>

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/opinion/impossible-to-warm-to-gillards-tax/story-e6frfhqf-1226012249593>

<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/maiden-tax-may-kill-off-gillard/story-fn6bmfwf-1226012431716>

On the House Vote to Defund the IPCC

Roy Spencer comments on the February 18 vote by the US House of Representatives to defund the IPCC, claiming that those who deny *natural* climate change (Al Gore, John Holdren, et al) have only themselves to blame. The IPCC was formed by politicians over 20 years ago with the goal to regulate CO₂ emissions by using the government-funded scientific research establishment to achieve policy goals. Climategate did not prove the science wrong, but did reveal the bias of the scientists, and these religiously stick to the theory that CO₂ is to blame. When Dr. Spencer has pressed scientists on the science, they retreat to the position that getting away from fossil fuels is the “right” thing to do anyway.

In the end Dr. Spencer doubts that the IPCC will ever be defunded, but the House vote was a warning shot across the bow. Unless it changes its ways it risks becoming totally marginalized.

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/02/on-the-house-vote-to-defund-the-ipcc/#comments>

Letters to a Heretic: An Email Conversation with Climate Change Skeptic Prof. Freeman Dyson

World-renowned physicist Professor Freeman Dyson has been described as a “force-of-nature intellect.” He's also one of the world's foremost climate change skeptics. In this email exchange, dogmatic warmist Steve Connor of *The Independent* asks the Princeton scholar why he's one of the few true intellectuals to be so dismissive of the global warming consensus. Dr. Dyson replies that computer models are good at solving equations of fluid dynamics, but poor at describing the real world. The latter contains things like clouds, vegetation, soils and dust, which the models describe poorly. Moreover, there are other CO₂ reservoirs than just the atmosphere and the ocean included in the models. Since more people die of cold in winter than heat in summer, we don't know whether recent climate changes are doing more harm than good. The biological effects of CO₂ in the atmosphere are beneficial to both food crops and vegetation.

Dr. Dyson refused to be pinned down on the question of extra trapped heat claimed by the modelers. His impression is that the experts have been studying climate models for 30 years and have come to believe that they are real. Climate science has become heavily politicized. Predictions on climate change are uncertain, and the remedies proposed by experts are costly and damaging. When Mr. Connor persisted in repeating the “same old party line,” Dr. Dyson ended the discussion with an admonition that skepticism is as important for a journalist as it is for a scientist.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/climate-change/letters-to-a-heretic-an-email-conversation-with-climate-change-sceptic-professor-freeman-dyso-2224912.html>

2011-02-21

Red Flags on Green Energy

Following up on the recent moratorium on offshore wind farms by the Ontario Government, University of Waterloo Professor Jatin Nathwani, identifies the contradiction at the heart of green energy technologies - the large environmental footprint associated with wind, solar and biomass. The low power densities and low efficiency of conversion mean that they require anywhere from 100 to 10,000 times the land area of conventional resources, raising red flags about “green” assertions. To date much of the debate has centered on issues of cost impacts, intermittency, whether renewables can be integrated effectively into the existing power grid, and whether they create jobs. The sleeper issue has been the potential impact of green energy on the environment.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/opinions/opinion/red-flags-on-green-energy/article1908668/>

Ontario's Wind Power Flip-Flop Angers Renewables Industry

Ontario's decision to put the brakes on all offshore wind power is damaging to the province's reputation as a leader in renewable energy. Even though onshore wind and solar projects are unaffected, the sudden change in government policy has shaken the confidence of several companies in the renewables industry, one of which is considering legal action against the province.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/globe-investor/ontarios-wind-power-flip-flop-draws-ire/article1910439/>

House Republicans Fire White House Climate Advisers, Kill US Funding of IPCC and EPA

In the US House of Representatives, Republicans and 13 Democrats passed a measure on February 17 eliminating the salaries of Special Envoy for Climate Change Todd Stern (chief treaty negotiator at the UN global warming talks), as well as several other “czar” positions decried as unaccountable to Congress. The bill still has to be approved by the Senate, where the Democrats have a majority.

At 2:00 am on February 19 the House voted 244-179 to eliminate US funding for the IPCC. On February 21 it voted 244-177 to attach a regulation to a bill funding the government through September 30; this regulation would block the Environmental Protection Agency from using its powers to curb greenhouse gases.

<http://www.nytimes.com/cwire/2011/02/18/18climatewire-house-republicans-fire-white-house-climate-a-41808.html>

<http://www.climatewatch.org/2011/02/19/house-votes-244-179-to-kill-u-s-funding-of-ipcc/>

<http://topnews360.tmcnet.com/topics/associated-press/articles/2011/02/21/146961-house-votes-block-epas-global-warming-power.htm>

Debate between EU Energy and Climate Commissioners over Emissions Cuts

Speaking about emissions cuts to *The Guardian* newspaper on February 10, the EU's Energy Commissioner Günther Oettinger said “If we go alone to 30%, you will only have a faster process of de-industrialization in Europe. We need industry in the UK, and industry means CO₂ emissions.” On February 10, EU Climate Commissioner Connie Hedegaard insisted that tougher greenhouse gas targets would improve the EU's economic performance, rather than push businesses overseas. She was supported by UK Climate Change Secretary Chris Huhne, who says that moving to 30% would give businesses a head-start in new green industries.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/feb/10/hopes-greenhouse-emissions-cuts-dashed?INTCMP=SRCH>

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/climate-environment/percent-greenhouse-gas-emissions-cut-table-news-502133>

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/feb/14/chris-huhne-eu-emissions-targets>

UN: Green Economy Needs 2% of Every Nation's Income

On February 21 the UN unveiled a strategy (Toward a Green Economy: A Synthesis for Policy Makers) to ensure a sustainable future for the planet by investing two percent of wealth generated by the global economy, or some \$1.3 trillion annually, in ten key sectors. The UN Environmental Program claims that the plan would generate growth rates equal to or higher than the business-as-usual approach. That is, it would pay off in terms of jobs, cleaner air and energy use. However, the UNEP acknowledges that reshuffling the global economic mix would challenge vested interests and disrupt employment.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/feb/20/green-economy-energy>

<http://www.mysinchew.com/node/53523>

Was 2010 the Hottest Year Ever?

James Hansen, Director of the Goddard Institute for Space Studies, announced that 2010 was the “hottest year on record,” by 0.01°C and stated that most or all other temperature datasets would concur. In this report Steve Goddard for the Science and Public Policy Institute compares the GISS temperature anomalies for 1998-2010 to those from the HadCRUT (surface-based like GISS), RSS and UAH (both satellite-based). The latter three were all lower than the GISS. One of the biggest problems with the GISS data is that the warmest areas are in locations where there is little or no data: the polar regions.

Starting on page 17 Mr. Goddard recites Dr. Hansen's long history of exaggerated warming forecasts, concluding that he functions in the roles of global warming head coach, cheerleader, referee and scorekeeper.

http://scienceandpublicpolicy.org/images/stories/papers/reprint/the_hottest_year_ever.pdf

2011-02-13

Why Wind Won't Work

The Carbon Sense Coalition has prepared a submission to the Australian Senate Enquiry into Wind Farms, but the facts contained therein are applicable worldwide. Among these: wind power is very dilute, requiring a huge land footprint; only a small part of the wind energy can be captured; wind power is intermittent, unreliable and hard to predict, requiring 100% backup; neighbours hate wind farms and must be paid handsomely to accept them; wind power's cost is far above that of conventional electricity; there is no evidence that wind farms will decarbonize energy generation and reduce global warming.

Page 9 of the submission mentions the current appeal of an industrial wind farm in Canada (presumably the one in Prince Edward County, Ontario - see FoS Extracts - 2011-01-27.) There are links to pictures and videos of wind turbines self-destructing or killing birds. Starting of page 24 are twenty-two alarmist or anti-human statements by notable environmentalists and politicians (e.g., “The extinction of the human species may not only be inevitable but a good thing.”)

<http://carbon-sense.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/why-wind-wont-work.pdf>

Ontario Delays Offshore Wind Power Plans

Citing environmental concerns, the Ontario Government announced a moratorium on building wind power projects on freshwater lakes. While there are no such wind projects operating anywhere in Ontario, one project in Kingston has been accepted, but it will be subject to the moratorium. The issue of offshore wind farms is a political problem in view of the October 6 election with seats in rural areas up for grabs. Anti-wind activists called the reversal a victory.

<http://www.thestar.com/news/ontario/article/937358--ontario-scrap-offshore-wind-power-plans?bn=1>
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/industry-news/energy-and-resources/ontario-stops-offshore-wind-power-development/article1904138/>

UK Government Looks to Scrap Funding of Inefficient Onshore Wind Turbines

The UK Government plans to scrap full subsidies to locate wind turbines in unsuitable locations and provide more democratic accountability for communities affected by wind farm proposals. To policy makers committed to making the current government the greenest ever, the challenge is that one-third of Britons think that the science on climate change has been exaggerated. Moreover, the hectoring approach has not worked, as castigations have led to more entrenched opposition and a lack of consent for local wind farm developments. The Energy Minister said “At present, too often a community can see what it will lose by having a wind farm in its midst [local impact from the turbines], but it cannot see what it gains [less expensive grid connections].”

<http://www.clickgreen.org.uk/news/national-news/121889-uk-looks-to-scrap-funding-of-inefficient-onshore-wind-turbines.html>

The Urban Legend of Climate Change

Tom Harris, director of the International Science Coalition, calls the accepted wisdom of a scientific consensus on dangerous AGW an “urban legend.” He points out that there has never been any global poll of scientists to assess the unanimity of views on the scale and threat of environmental impacts. Even among scientific groups whose leaders endorse the IPCC's findings (e.g., Canadian Geophysical Union, Royal Society), there's no evidence of consensus from their own memberships.

<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/urban+legend+climate+change/4256271/story.html>
<http://www.climate-science-international.org/>

Republicans Propose \$1.6 Billion Cut to Environmental Protection Agency

Republicans have launched an attack on the Obama Administration's powers to act on climate change by proposing a 17% cut to the EPA's budget. They also called for a re-prioritization of NASA so that human space flight, not climate change, remains its primary focus.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/feb/09/republican-environment-protection-agency-cut>
<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/677-e2-wire/143639-house-gop-spending-bill-cuts-funding-for-epa-climate-regs>
<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/02/09/nasa-climate-programs-being-eyed-for-the-budget-axe/>

An Attempt to Create an Unbiased Surface Temperature Record

A group of scientists (called Berkeley Earth) contends that global warming does not deserve the disasters attributed to it and is responsible for only one thing: rising temperatures. According to the group's founder, physicist Richard Muller, without thermometers it is probable that no one would have noticed global warming. Within a month the group intends to release a study (the Berkeley Earth Surface Temperature Study), using data from 39,390 available temperature stations around the world, that will address doubts raised by skeptics with past analyzes of historical temperatures.

http://www.dailycal.org/article/111906/professor_counters_global_warming_myths_with_data

2011-02-08

Businesses Ask Ottawa to Price, Not Regulate Emissions

A new survey finds that an overwhelming majority of Canadian industrial companies want the Harper government to put a price on greenhouse gas emissions rather than impose strict regulations. Not all industries agree on this: the Canadian Electricity Association did not endorse a carbon price, while the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers favours the Alberta policy of setting limits on individual facilities while allowing companies to purchase credits or pay into a technology fund if they exceed. The Environment Minister has rejected calls for a cap-and-trade system or carbon tax, saying that the government will instead follow the US lead and impose regulated limits on emissions from major industries.

For some companies a straight carbon tax has a certain appeal: they can pay the tax (passing the cost on to their customers), claim virtue, and lobby the government to offset the carbon tax with lower corporate tax rates, which would really help the bottom line. Whether or not reducing CO₂ emissions is good policy doesn't matter.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/industry-news/energy-and-resources/businesses-ask-ottawa-to-price-not-regulate-emissions/article1890953/>

Climate War Continues Despite Reconciliation Meeting

The Lisbon Workshop on Reconciliation in the Climate Change Debate between warming scientists and skeptics took place January 26-28. The meeting was conducted under the Chatham House Rule (participants can reveal what was said, but not who said what.) In November the initiators of the meeting, Jerome Ravetz and Angela Pereira, published a two-page rationale for it. After the meeting Der Spiegel Online (translation by GWPF) published its assessment: no reconciliation, the war continues. The New Scientist agrees and provides Gavin Schmidt's reasons for not attending.

One of the principle participants, Judith Curry has published in her blog, a three-part series on the workshop. The first covers the context and her expectations; the second her impressions during the meeting; the third is a summary of a paper given in a public session by Jeroen van der Sluijs that addresses paradigms of uncertain risk and how to act under conditions of uncertainty.

<http://wattsupwiththat.files.wordpress.com/2011/01/reconciliation-rationale-ws2011.pdf>
<http://www.thegwgf.org/science-news/2361-climate-war-continues-despite-reconciliation-meeting.html>
<http://www.newscientist.com/blogs/shortsharpsscience/2011/02/climate-sceptics-scientists-at.html>
<http://judithcurry.com/2011/01/24/lisbon-workshop-on-reconciliation-in-the-climate-change-debate/>
<http://judithcurry.com/2011/01/29/lisbon-workshop-on-reconciliation-part-ii/>
<http://judithcurry.com/2011/01/31/lisbon-workshop-on-reconciliation-part-iii/>

What They Said about the Climate Models

In her blog Donna Laframboise writes about what respondents to a questionnaire on the IPCC said about the IPCC's climate models. She notes some of the respondents' comments, e.g.: all it takes is one important process to be wrong for the models to be seriously in error; they do not begin to describe the real world we live in; the IPCC airbrushes their deficiencies; they should undergo a formal validation and verification process; unreasonably high precision and confidence is accorded to the models' outcomes, the modelers have a particular feeling that their models are the truth. Because of these models, governments around the world are convinced that CO₂ emissions are dangerous and that drastic steps must be taken to curtail them.

The IPCC has its own definition for climate models, considering them "... the most advanced tools currently available for simulating the response of the global climate system to increasing greenhouse gas concentrations" and has listed five criteria for them to be useful in climate scenarios. The first one is that they be consistent with global projections (i.e., show a temperature rise of 1.5°C to 4.5°C for a doubling of atmospheric CO₂ concentration.)

<http://nofrackingconsensus.wordpress.com/2011/02/02/what-they-said-about-the-climate-models/>
http://www.ipcc-data.org/ddc_gcm_guide.html
http://www.ipcc-data.org/ddc_scen_selection.html

UAH Update for January 2011: Global Temperatures in Freefall

In his blog, Roy Spencer reports that the University of Alabama Huntsville's global temperature anomaly for last month was -0.009°C, compared to +0.181°C for December and +0.411°C for all of 2010. The main reason for January's drop was La Niña's effect on the tropics. After La Niña goes away the anomaly should increase.

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/02/uah-update-for-january-2011-global-temperatures-in-freefall/>

Self-Regulation of the Climate System by Deep Cumulus Convection

Roger Pielke Sr. et al have published a set of papers that discuss an under-recognized climate feedback which constrains how warm and cold the troposphere can become. These papers present a constraint based on the temperatures of the sea surface and the deep cumulus response to these temperatures. When cold air masses travel over unfrozen ocean, vertical mixing through deep cumulus convection mixes the air through the troposphere such that temperatures at the 500 mbar level, for example, hardly ever become colder than -40°C to -50°C. In other words, this is the coldest that the troposphere can achieve, a self-regulation of the climate system.

In the tropics tropospheric temperatures cannot become warmer than about -5°C at 500 mbar as deep convection over the warmest oceans results in that level. The latest sea surface temperature and temperature anomaly maps show that large enough changes have not yet occurred to alter this self-regulation of the climate system - as illustrated below. The 2007 IPCC, and more recent pronouncements have ignored assessing the role of this self-regulation of the climate.

<http://pielkeclimatesci.wordpress.com/2011/02/03/self-regulation-of-the-climate-system-by-deep-cumulus-convection/>

2011-02-01

The Great Carbon Trading Scandal

Within a few clicks of a computer mouse, stolen goods worth €28 million bounced from the Czech Republic to Poland, Estonia and Liechtenstein before disappearing. Distracting local regulators with a fake bomb scare, thieves behind the heist made off with 500,000 carbon allowances – intangible products worth around €14 each that are the European Union’s main weapon against climate change. This is the fourth time that the European carbon market has been hit with a major scandal (the previous ones being the carbon carousel, recycling of credits and phishing scams to persuade participants to divulge their passwords.) With this latest theft from the Czech Republic, the European Commission finally closed the entire spot-trading market indefinitely.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/newsbysector/energy/8290533/The-great-carbon-trading-scandal.html>

In China, the True Cost of Britain’s Wind Power Experiment: Pollution on a Disastrous Scale

Vast fortunes are being made in Inner Mongolia, the region that has 90% of the world’s legal reserves of rare earth metals, specifically neodymium, the element needed to make the magnets in the most striking of green energy producers, wind turbines. In the city of Batou, hidden out of sight behind smoke-shrouded factory complexes and patrolled by platoons of security guards lies a five-mile wide tailing lake that has killed farmland for miles around and made thousands of people ill. The lake’s radiation levels are ten times that of the surrounding countryside.

Neodymium is commonly used as part of a Neodymium-Iron-Boron alloy (NdFeB) which, thanks to its tetragonal crystal structure, is used to make the most powerful magnets in the world. Electric motors and generators rely on the basic principles of electromagnetism, and the stronger the magnets they use, the more efficient they can be. It’s been used in small quantities in common technologies for quite a long time – hi-fi speakers, hard drives and lasers, for example. But only with the rise of alternative energy solutions has neodymium really come to prominence, for use in hybrid cars and wind turbines. A direct-drive permanent-magnet generator for a wind turbine could use 4,400 lb of neodymium-based permanent magnet material.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/moslive/article-1350811/In-China-true-cost-Britains-clean-green-wind-power-experiment-Pollution-disastrous-scale.html>

***The Economist’s* Online Debate on Natural Gas vs Renewables**

The Economist is conducting an online debate on the proposition “The house believes that natural gas will do more than renewables to limit the world’s carbon emissions.” Defending the motion is Robert Bryce of the Center for Energy Policy and the Environment at the Manhattan Institute. Against it is Steve Sawyer, Secretary general of the Global Wind Energy Council. The moderator is Oliver Morton, Energy and Environment Editor of *The Economist*. Besides statements from the three principals, there are numerous comments from the floor.

The debate has been underway since January 25 and will conclude on February 4. Readers can vote on the motion (currently 37% for, 63% against.)

One of Mr. Bryce’s arguments refers to a paper regarding “noise numbers” for wind farm noise assessment. This paper was presented at the First International Symposium on Adverse Health Effects from Wind Turbines last October. Among the conclusions is a recommendation that no large-scale wind

turbine be installed within 2,000 m of any dwelling or noise sensitive place without approval of the landowner. The paper includes a list of 187 references for recommended reading on the subject of noise.

<http://economist.com/debate/debates/overview/193>

http://www.windvigilance.com/downloads/symposium2010/swv_symposium_paper_problems_with_noise_numbers.pdf

Extra UN Climate Meeting Set for April in Bangkok

Having failed to agree on an extension to the Kyoto Protocol last December in Cancún, UN officials have scheduled an extra meeting for the full membership (nearly 200) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Bangkok April 3-8. After Bangkok there will be one more meeting in Bonn for June before the climate summit next December in Durban.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/01/28/us-climate-talks-idUSTRE70R1WK20110128>

The Oceans and Clouds Drive the Climate, Not CO₂

Speaking at the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI) Noor van Andel concludes that there is no observational evidence for the influence of CO₂ on past or present climate. He uses empirical evidence to determine that the most recent climate variability is due to the Pacific Decadal Oscillation and the effects of cosmic rays on cloud formation. With oceans covering 70% of the planet and clouds covering over 60% of the sky, water in its various forms dominates our climate. Dr. van Andel illustrates his talk with slides showing temperatures and cosmic rays for the past 1000 years, cloud cover since 1984, and outgoing long-wave radiation and humidity since 1950. He also covers Miskolczi's theory on an infrared window and humidity.

<http://joannenova.com.au/2011/02/the-oceans-clouds-and-cosmic-rays-drive-the-climate-not-co2/>

http://climategate.nl/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/KNMI_voordracht_VanAndel.pdf

2011-01-27

Solar Fades as Shale Gas Flares

According to the *National Post's* Peter Foster, China has two-thirds of the \$39 billion global market for solar panels and subsidizes their manufacture, while Western governments, through feed-in tariffs, subsidize the energy they produce. Mr. Foster compares feed-in tariffs, which the Chinese assiduously avoid at home, to the medieval scam of coin-clipping in reverse. Governments hope that if a small amount of expensive electricity is loaded onto consumers' bills, they might not notice. However, good news for consumers, but bad for climate bureaucrats, the International Energy Association's chief economist estimates that shale gas supplies could last for 250 years. The shale gas boom has already contributed to a sharp drop in US renewable investments. The Chinese, never dumb enough to support solar energy at home, have lots of shale gas.

<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/01/20/peter-foster-solar-fades-as-shale-gas-flares/?like=1>

Taking the Green Energy Act to Court

In a two-part video (filmed on June 30, 2010 with a total time 14:35), lawyer Eric Gillespie explains a class action lawsuit initiated by his client Ian Hanna against the Ontario Government over wind farms in Prince Edward County in particular and Ontario in general. The suit is based on the concern that the 550

m setback regulation under the *Green Energy Act* is not sufficient and that health issues may occur. The suit also alleges that the Ministry of the Environment has not respected the "precautionary principle" in promulgating this regulation. Mr. Gillespie mentions a September 30 court date. In fact, the hearing took place on January 24 before a panel of three Divisional Court judges, who have reserved written judgment.

<http://windaction.wordpress.com/2010/07/01/eric-gillespie-explains-the-ian-hanna-lawsuit/>
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/industry-news/energy-and-resources/wind-power-case-clouds-industrys-future/article1880165/>
<http://business.financialpost.com/tag/ian-hanna/>

Austerity Pulling Plug on Europe's Green Energy Subsidies

In this article the *Globe and Mail's* Eric Reguly notes that three European countries (Spain, Germany and France) have discovered that they can no longer afford to continue subsidizing photovoltaic energy production. The real victims of this are the investors who bought into the dream of endless, clean energy financed by the taxpayer. They forgot that governments often change their minds. Mr. Reguly suggests that the next Ontario government will do the same.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/commentary/eric-reguly/austerity-pulling-plug-on-europes-green-subsidies/article1883888/>

New Study: Cosmic Rays Contribute 40% to Global Warming

Indian physicist U.R. Rao has calculated that the impact of cosmic ray intensity on climate change has been largely ignored by the mainstream scientific consensus. Increasing solar activity over the past 150 years has caused less cloud cover, thereby raising earth's surface temperature. According to the IPCC human activity contributes 1.6 W/m² to global warming, while non-human factors such as solar irradiance contribute 0.12 W/m². However, Dr. Rao's paper calculates the effect of cosmic rays to be 1.1 W/m², meaning that the total non-human contribution is 1.22 W/m².

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/article1107174.ece>
<http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/article1118874.ece>
<http://www.hindustantimes.com/Ramesh-backed-paper-questions-another-IPCC-claim/Article1-652754.aspx>

Energy and Climate "Czar" Leaves White House

Carol Browner is leaving her position as White House assistant to the President for energy and climate change, and the post will be eliminated. She had been a lightning rod for critics of the President's environmental-policy agenda and a heroine to environmentalists who cheered her decisions when she led the Environmental Protection Agency in the 1990s. Ms. Browner had been charged with coordinating policy among multiple government agencies, a function that some members of Congress thought should be left to agency directors who are confirmed by the Senate and are subject to congressional scrutiny.

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703555804576102810159169324.html?mod=djemTMB_h
<http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0111/48186.html>
http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703555804576102810159169324.html?mod=djemTMB_h

2011-01-20

Queensland Floods. Climate Scientists 2010: Less Moisture Over Australia. Climate Scientists 2011: More Moisture Over Australia

In what is sure to be yet further embarrassment for advocates of the theory of man-made global warming, it has emerged that climate scientists pinning the blame for the Queensland floods on global warming have been contradicting a report published by other climate scientists just weeks earlier. On October 11, 2010 the *Science Daily* website reported on an international study published in *Nature* magazine claiming loss of moisture over the entire southern hemisphere, with Australia one of the worst affected areas. CO₂ emissions were blamed for the drying. Following the Queensland floods activist scientists rushed to link them to global warming, with one reason for the severe floods being *increased* moisture in the atmosphere.

Another story speculates that Queensland officials, believing that water conservation should be a priority in a warming world, allowed local dams to get dangerously full.

<http://hauntingthelibrary.wordpress.com/2011/01/15/queensland-floods-climate-scientists-2010-less-moisture-over-australia-climate-scientists-2011-more-moisture-over-australia/>
<http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/brendanoneill2/100072049/did-australias-obsession-with-global-warming-contribute-to-the-brisbane-floods/>

Richard Lindzen: A Case Against Precipitous Climate Action

In this essay, Richard Lindzen deplores the fact that the developed world went into hysterics over a few tenths of a degree in the global temperature anomaly. This, he says represents the scientific illiteracy of the public and its susceptibility to the substitution of repetition for truth. Dr. Lindzen goes on to discuss the shortcomings of the global climate models; explanations offered by the warmists when the climate doesn't behave according to prediction; the interests of the environmental movement in acquiring more power; the bureaucrats to whom control of CO₂ is a dream come true; businesses hoping to capitalize on carbon trading and ethanol. He suspects that there is a sense of urgency in the global warming movement as the case for AGW disintegrates..

<http://www.thegwpf.org/opinion-pros-a-cons/2229-richard-lindzen-a-case-against-precipitous-climate-action.html>

How Much Money Does the US Government Waste on Climate Change? \$10.6 million/day

The US federal debt has reached \$14 trillion, but the government spends about \$4 billion/year on global warming research, despite the fact that there has been no warming since 1998. The American Meteorological Society, claiming that greenhouse gases will almost certainly contribute to widespread climate disruption, prepared the chapter on climate change requests for the Administration's 2011 budget. These include \$1,616 million for the National Science Foundation, \$627 million for the Department of Energy, \$438 million for NASA (plus \$809 million for satellites), \$437 for NOAA and \$244 million for the Department of the Interior.

<http://pajamasmedia.com/blog/how-much-of-your-money-wasted-on-climate-change-try-10-6-million-a-day/?singlepage=true>

China-Style Dictatorship of Climatologists

In an article published while in China, head of the Goddard Institute for Space Studies James Hansen is blaming democracy for the US Congress' failure to pass a bill limiting CO₂ emissions. Dr. Hansen said that the US is a "fossil-money democracy," making it impossible to legislate on climate change. In contrast, the Chinese leadership takes a long view and can implement policy decisions rapidly. To circumvent democracy he proposes that China and the EU impose rising internal carbon fees and use World Trade Organization rules to collect rising border duties from nations without the fees. Then the US would be forced to make a choice: either address fossil-fuel addiction, or accept descent into second- or third-rate economic well being.

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/jan/17/china-style-dictatorship-of-climatologists/>

EU Halts Carbon Market as Permits Feared Stolen

The European Commission halted its emissions trading scheme on January 19 until at least January 26 after allegations that permits worth €6.7 million had been stolen. Austria, the Czech Republic, Greece, Estonia and Poland closed their carbon registries the same day. In the past two years the EU ETS has had to contend with the resale of used carbon credits, a phishing scam and VAT fraud.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSLDE70I0Y020110119>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-12241846>

Experts: Food and Fuel Shortages Imminent as New Ice Age Dawns

Scientists in the disciplines of geology, ecology, meteorology, astrophysics and heliology are predicting that two major cooling cycles are converging: the short- and the long-term Ice Ages as the sun enters an extended "hibernation period." John L. Casey, Director of the Space and Science Research Center, warns that people in the coming decades are facing food and fuel shortages. During the next 30 months the world's temperatures should drop even more dramatically than the plunge recorded during 2007 to 2008 (see UAH graph.)

Supporting these predictions are two solar cycle reports from NASA. We are currently two years into Solar Cycle 24, and NASA says that it will reach a smoothed peak of 59 sunspots in June/July of 2013. This compares with a smoothed peak of about 118 in 2000 during the previous cycle. NASA's long-term forecast for Cycle 25 is even weaker. (Lower numbers of sunspots generally mean more clouds and cooler temperatures, due to an increase in cosmic rays hitting the atmosphere and ionizing atoms, which facilitate condensation of water vapor.)

<http://www.helium.com/items/2051424-food-and-fuel-shortages-imminent-as-new-ice-age-dawns>

http://www.drroyspencer.com/wp-content/uploads/UAH_LT_1979_thru_Dec_102.gif

<http://solarscience.msfc.nasa.gov/predict.shtml>

http://science.nasa.gov/science-news/science-at-nasa/2006/10may_longrange/

2011-01-14

Angry Discussion Erupts as New Research Says that Oceans are Cooling

R.S. Knox and D.H. Douglass of the University of Rochester have published a paper in which they used ARGO ocean buoy data for 2003-2008 to conclude that the oceans are cooling. This contradicts assertions by Kevin Trenberth of the National Center for Atmospheric Research that the earth's climate system has been accumulating missing energy for the last 10 years. Dr. Trenberth has called the Knox and Douglass

study "rubbish." As Roger Pielke comments, this says a lot about the subset of the climate science community that has been elevated to control much of the climate assessment process and the funding of related research.

<http://www.thegwpf.org/the-observatory/2200-global-warming-missing-energy-row-erupts-as-new-research-says-oceans-are-cooling.html>

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/01/06/new-paper-on-argo-data-trenberths-ocean-heat-still-missing/>

<http://judithcurry.com/2011/01/07/wheres-the-missing-heat/>

<http://pielkeclimatesci.wordpress.com/2011/01/10/research-issues-on-the-missing-heat/>

Kevin Trenberth's Upcoming AMS Talk

Dr. Trenberth has submitted a preprint of his talk to a meeting of the American Meteorological Society (Jan. 23-27 "Joint Presidential Session on Communicating Climate Change") in which he uses the word "denier" six times. The introduction deals with Climategate and his famous quote ("The fact is that we can't account for the lack of warming at the moment and it is a travesty that we can't,") which he insists does not question the link between anthropogenic greenhouse gases and global warming. Dr. Trenberth claims that the media have been complicit in the disinformation campaign of the deniers, giving unwarranted attention to the view that there are two sides. His most significant point is that, since global warming is "unequivocal" according to the IPCC, the null hypothesis should be reversed, thereby placing the burden of proof on showing that there is no human influence.

Czech physicist Luboš Motl rips Dr. Trenberth's views in his blog *The Reference Frame*, in particular the "mindless worshiping" of the IPCC. He also refers to a 6:29 video *Global Warming Explained*, one of those computer-narrated animated dialogues that is funny and realistic as it parodies the warmist arguments (e.g., "How would you disprove global warming? You can't, that's how you know it's true.")

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/01/13/trenberths-upcoming-ams-meeting-talk-climategate-thoughts/>

<http://motls.blogspot.com/2011/01/kevin-trenberths-weird-opinions-about.html>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cdxaxJNs15s>

US Supreme Court Won't Hear Global Warming Case

The US Supreme Court decided not to review a pivotal global warming case brought by coastal residents seeking damages under nuisance law for property losses caused by Hurricane Katrina. The plaintiffs sued Murphy Oil USA, alleging that its greenhouse gas emissions contributed to climate change and furthered the property damage caused by the hurricane. A federal district court in Mississippi dismissed the case on the grounds that it was a political question that could not be decided by the courts. This was appealed successively by both sides at the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals which eventually upheld the district court's ruling, leading to the Supreme Court application.

However, as noted in FoS Extracts (2010-12-12) the Supreme Court has agreed to hear another global warming case brought under nuisance law by several US States against American Electric Power and others.

<http://www.businessinsurance.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110110/NEWS/110119986>

The Coming Green Car Pileup

Despite the media hype from the Detroit auto show on the ever-proliferating range of hybrids and plug-in vehicles, they wouldn't exist but for Washington's leaden foot on the policy accelerator. Given the lack of

political will for climate legislation in the US, there are even more reasons to doubt President Obama's Soviet-style objective of putting one million plug-in vehicles on the roads by 2015. For these cars, the price premium compared to gasoline-powered vehicles is 50% - 100%, which is not likely to shrink in five years. Since demand for the alternative vehicles will depend on unpredictable government policy, the result is likely to be an eventual crash.

<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/01/13/peter-foster-the-coming-green-car-pileup/>

Bankrupt Ireland Plans More Green Lunacy

The Irish Parliament is debating the *Climate Change Response Bill* with the goal of cutting greenhouse gases by 28% over the next decade. Groups representing farmers and meat processors say that cattle herds would have to be reduced to meet the target, due to the methane these animals produce. This would threaten the country's €4 billion in agri-food exports. An environmental group claims that the legislation is inadequate to halt climate change.

<http://www.rte.ie/news/2011/0113/climate.html>

2011-01-10

Met Office Confirms Confidential Weather Advice to the UK Government

According to separate internal documents released under the *Freedom of Information Act*, in October the Met Office gave the UK Government confidential weather advice to expect "an exceptionally cold winter," while publicly predicting a "milder than average" winter. The Met Office deems that "intelligent" customers, such as the Cabinet Office, should be given the three-month, probabilistic outlook available from the research pages of its website. However, it finds that "the task of educating the UK public in interpreting probabilistic information will be neither a short-term, nor simple task." In 2009 the Met Office was ridiculed for forecasting a "barbecue" summer which turned out to be one of the wettest in the past century.

<http://www.thegwpf.org/uk-news/2175-met-office-confirms-secret-winter-advice.html>

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1343863/Met-Office-knew-Decembers-big-freeze-coming-hushed-up.html>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/blogs/opensecrets/2010/12/met_office_seasonal_forecasts.html

Someone Who Forecasts Better than the Met Office: Interview with Piers Corbyn

You Tube has posted a 4-minute video of an interview with Piers Corbyn, meteorologist-astrophysicist and owner of the business Weather Action, maker of weather forecasts up to a year in advance. Weather Action's website includes reports on the accuracy of these forecasts, which are based on particle and magnetic effects from the sun and lunar modulations. The November forecast covering December-February for Britain and Europe was "exceptionally cold and snowy." Mr. Corbyn says that the world has just passed the peak of a temperature rise, and temperatures will fall for the next 25 years.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkzNmWICig8>

<http://www.weatheraction.com/>

New Climategate FOIA Request Targets Hockey Stick Documents

Virginia's Attorney General, Ken Cuccinelli, has been trying to get the University of Virginia to turn over documents on taxpayer-funded global warming research used by IPCC scientists, including Michael Mann, to produce the hockey stick graph. Mr. Cuccinelli submitted his request under the *Freedom of Information Act* as part of his action against Dr. Mann pursuant to Virginia's *Fraud Against Taxpayers Act*. The UVA initially denied that the records existed, but now admits they are on a backup server, yet still is arguing before the Virginia Supreme Court to deny Mr. Cuccinelli's request.

UVA responded favorably when Greenpeace requested the records of high-profile skeptic Patrick Michaels.

<http://washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/op-eds/2011/01/yes-virginia-you-do-have-produce-those-global-warming-documents#ixzz1AEpT11dZ>
<http://thenewamerican.com/index.php/tech-mainmenu-30/environment/5792-university-of-virginia-to-finally-release-climategate-documents>

BC's Climate Ardor Cooling

Candidates in the race to replace British Columbia's outgoing Premier Gordon Campbell are raising questions about whether the province should rethink its aggressive climate-change program. One of them suggested a referendum on a legislated increase in the carbon tax after 2012, when no other jurisdictions in North America have followed BC's lead. The climate-change file was a Campbell-driven, top-down initiative. The Business Council of British Columbia has urged the government to "pause and reset" its climate policy, which aims to achieve a 33% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020.

BC is finding out that leading the way on climate change only makes sense if there are followers.

<http://www.financialpost.com/climate+ardour+cooling/4078646/story.html>

Modeling Climate Change to the Year 3000

A team of Canadian researchers, including Shawn Marshall of the University of Calgary, have carried out the first full-scale climate model simulation to make a predictions out to 1000 years from now. According to the model, even if people completely stopped using fossil fuels now (zero emission scenario), global warming would continue and lead to a collapse of the West Antarctic ice sheet by the year 3000 with a sea level rise of at least 4 m. The Northern Hemisphere would fare better than the south, with climate change patterns reversing in Canada and Russia, while Africa gets worse.

Prof. Marshall hopes that the study will make people take serious efforts to cut greenhouse gases to mitigate the damage.

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/01/10/abandon-all-hope-ye-who-read-this/#more-31299>
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/prairies/new-study-suggests-climate-change-would-continue-even-without-greenhouse-gases/article1863311/>

2011-01-05

Battle Brewing over EPA's Emissions Regulations

Time magazine, the *Dallas County News Examiner* and *Fox News* provide their views on forthcoming battle between the incoming Congress and the Administration over carbon emission limits announced by

the Environmental Protection Agency. A dozen states have filed suit to block the EPA's ability to regulate greenhouse gases, and Texas is outright refusing to comply with the new rules.

Pajamas Media, in a reasoned argument, asserts that the EPA is attempting an end-run around democracy by using the 1970 *Clean Air Act*, with non-elected bureaucrats, trial lawyers and activist judges determining the content and direction of national policy.

<http://www.time.com/time/health/article/0,8599,2040485,00.html>
<http://www.examiner.com/county-environmental-news-in-dallas/new-congress-set-to-cut-epa-funding>
<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2010/12/28/white-house-plans-push-global-warming-policy-gop-vows-fight/>
<http://pajamasmedia.com/blog/the-environmental-protection-agency%E2%80%99s-end-run-around-democracy/?singlepage=true>

New Mexico Threatens a U-Turn on Environmental Regulation

New Mexico is the only state besides California which has moved forward on comprehensive global warming regulations. The two states joined three Canadian provinces (British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec) in the Western Climate Initiative. Now, the new Republican Governor, Susana Martinez, has removed all members of New Mexico's Environmental Improvement Board because of its "anti-business" policies. The Governor also issued an executive order halting all pending regulations by executive branch agencies, to determine whether they hurt businesses in New Mexico.

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/greenspace/2011/01/cap-and-trade-new-mexico-global-warming-climate-change.html>

Dust Study Raises Questions Concerning Climate Models

A new study published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* concludes that that ratio of small dust particles (clay), which cool the atmosphere, to large dust particles (silt), which may heat or cool depending on size, is much lower than previously thought. This means that the current global circulation models used to model climate change may be overstating the net cooling effect of dust. Also, the larger particles tend to precipitate and accelerate glacier melting. Thus, atmospheric dust may warm the earth more than previously estimated and also lead to one of the observed effects associated with climate change: glacial melting. While the new findings do not devalue the idea of using computer models to study the earth's climate, they are an important reminder that the models are only as good as their inputs.

<http://www.dailytech.com/Dust+Study+May+Invalidate+Most+Warming+Modeling+Work+Done+to+Date/article20516.htm>

Satellite-based Global Temperature Anomaly for 2010

Roy Spencer has released the University of Alabama Huntsville's global temperature anomaly for December, which was +0.18°C, compared to an average of +0.41°C for all of last year. Thus, 2010 was barely cooler than 1998 (+0.42°C). Dr. Spencer's report includes a chart of temperatures from January 1979 through December 2010, which shows a downward trend over the past three months. Also, the temperature anomalies have been re-calibrated from a 20-year base period (1979-1998) to a more traditional 30-year one (1981-2010).

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/01/dec-2010-uah-global-temperature-update-0-18-deg-c/>

Why Most Published Research Findings Are False

Dr. Spencer uses a 2005 article, that employed probability theory to “prove” that most claimed medical research findings are false, to argue the same for the central theory of the climate change debate (that adding greenhouse gases to the atmosphere significantly warms the climate.) One problem with the theory is that anthropogenic global warming is a one-of-a-kind event. In fact, proxy reconstructions of temperature variations over the past two millennia suggest that periods of global warming and cooling are the rule, not the exception. A second problem is that the earth is not a laboratory in which to run controlled experiments. A third problem is the difficulty of separating cause from effect, which is particularly relevant to atmospheric feedbacks, such as clouds.

The fourth and biggest problem is the source of the funding: the US Government has a virtual monopoly on climate research in that country and has a vested interest in AGW theory being true, in order to justify increasing regulation and legislation. This, coupled with the UN’s desire to find reasons to move toward global governance, lead to an inherent bias in climate research.

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/01/why-most-published-research-findings-are-false/>
