From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Sun 3/11/2018 7:18:42 PM
Subject: Ben Zycher demolishes carbon tax (again)

At least one guy at AEI is right thinking. Good think it's the smartest one.

Joe

https://www.aei.org/publication/carbon-taxes-and-my-friends-aparna-mathur-adele-morris-and-zilly/

Benjamin Zycher

March 1, 2018 | *AEI.org*

Carbon taxes and my friends Aparna Mathur, Adele Morris, and Zilly

The phrase "carbon tax," however solidly embedded in the public discourse, is a misnomer in that carbon dioxide is not "carbon" and it is not a pollutant.

Let us now recall the blessed memory of Godzilla, King of the Monsters. I know him as Zilly, as we have grown close over the years and the 30-plus movies that bear his name. Anyway, at the end of that original timeless classic of the silver screen, an "oxygen destroyer" reduced Zilly to a skeleton at the bottom of Tokyo Bay, as Raymond Burr and other immortals looked on.

An oxygen destroyer sounds vaguely similar to the greenhouse gas (GHG) climate change monster now purportedly wreaking havoc, for which proposition there is virtually no evidence, and the reverse is more likely to be true, at least in the immediate term. Moreover, even the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in its Fifth Assessment Report is deeply dubious (see Table 12.4 and attendant discussion) about the various horror stories popularized as looming effects of increasing atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases.

But never mind. The point to be observed here is that former skeleton Zilly has returned repeatedly to do battle with such beasts as Biollante, Mothra, Ghidorah, Gigan, King Kong, and a long list of other threats to civilized life. (Sadly for ardent fans of Zilly, Harvey Weinstein seems to have arrived too late to the monster mash to take his place on this particular red carpet; oh, what I would give to see Zilly's contract negotiation scene in Harvey's office. But I digress.)

Consider now the ever-evolving case for a "carbon" tax, that is, a tax on GHG emissions. Note that carbon dioxide is not "carbon," to which point I return briefly below. Just as Zilly returned from the deep time and again to confront an increasingly terrifying parade of grotesqueries, the policy problems that the carbon tax promises to solve have expanded as well. Originally, it was a textbook Pigouvian externality tax designed (ostensibly) to reduce GHG emissions to socially efficient levels. Revenues per se decidedly were not the goal, and many proposals for a Pigouvian carbon tax incorporated reductions in other taxes so as to achieve approximate revenue neutrality. This rationale implies that the tax would be set at the marginal "uninternalized" social cost of GHG emissions; that government has perverse incentives (and poor information) with respect to determining the efficient tax is a topic for another day.

That secondary goal of revenue neutrality through tax offsets led to a very different objective for a carbon tax: Why not use those revenues to fund a reduction in other distortionary taxes to increase aggregate economic performance? In many economic models—including prominent work from my AEI colleague Aparna Mathur and Adele Morris of Brookings—it is reductions in taxes on capital that yield the greatest benefit in terms of improved investment and growth. This rationale implies a very different carbon tax per ton of emissions, one chosen to optimize a complex mix of higher energy costs, carbon-tax revenues, and reduced capital taxation implemented in pursuit of higher permanent economic growth.

Alas, revenue neutrality is so yesterday. Mathur and Morris now argue that a carbon tax ought to be used to fund an increase in the earned income tax credit (EITC), thus serving to "directly [help] working families," "fill the deficit hole," and "get Republicans out of the corner they have painted themselves into on climate change." That last is particularly amusing: In 2009–10, the Democrats—while controlling the House of Representatives, 60 votes in the Senate, and the presidency—failed to pass climate change legislation, suggesting that the climate change political "corner" looks rather different than that apparently perceived by Mathur and Morris. Beware economists pretending to be politicians.

Competition of ideas: Read Mathur and Morris's take:

•□□□□□□□□ How to improve tax reform: A carbon tax and expanded benefits for working families

In any event, this different policy goal obviously implies yet a different carbon tax per

ton, one that would yield sufficient revenue to satisfy the first two of those objectives. Given the magnitude of prospective federal budget deficits in the absence of serious reforms of entitlement programs, this third carbon tax, in principle, would maximize revenues (or the present value of the revenue stream) over some time horizon. Note that Mathur and Morris assume implicitly that there would not be a stampede of interests demanding a share of the loot; only working families and deficit reduction would be the funding goals. Seriously?

The specific arguments offered by Mathur and Morris can be summarized as follows:

- The new tax bill (then being negotiated) "will add over a trillion dollars to the deficit over a ten-year window," a problem that "can be solved with a carbon tax paired with an expansion of the EITC."
- A carbon tax of $25 per metric ton, "rising at 5% per year over inflation" would "[reduce] US CO2 emissions . . . over 50% by 2040 relative to a business-as-usual emissions projection," while "benefiting the environment" by "reduc[ing] harmful air pollutants like sulfur dioxide, mercury, particulate matter, and nitrogen oxides."
- "Any carbon tax large enough to fill the GOP's deficit hole would be large enough to deliver on the US commitment to the Paris climate agreement without a single additional regulatory measure."
- "About 11 to 19% of the carbon revenues would keep the poorest 20 to 40% of low-income families whole on average . . . [leaving] at least 80% of revenues to cover the reduction in other taxes."

Where to begin? Since Mathur and Morris do not pretend that their per-ton carbon tax has anything to do with the purported marginal social cost of GHG emissions, it is not quite clear why they need a "carbon" tax at all. Why not a tax on, say, okra, or fat-free ice cream, or argyle socks, or any of the other myriad monstrosities confronting modern mankind? Actually, it is clear: A carbon tax is where the big money (revenue) is. (Willie Sutton would be proud.) So in the rigorous analytic world of Mathur-Morris public finance, efficient taxation is driven no more by considerations of excess burden or deadweight losses (e.g., the Ramsey rule) or by allocating the costs of government outlays in accordance with varying demands for public spending. Instead, an efficient tax is one that fills a "deficit hole" that seems to exist independent of the spending decisions made (or not made) by Congress. As an aside, why is it "the GOP's deficit hole?" Would a Democratic Congress spend less? Why is it not the "Beltway's deficit hole?"

But never mind. Mathur and Morris might respond that the real key to filling the deficit hole—entitlement reform—is unavailable politically, in particular with a president (Mr. Trump) who campaigned against it and whose political coalition includes large numbers of voters who oppose it. So more revenue—lots of it—is the only game in town. Fair enough. But if Mathur and Morris are going to use political reality as a constraint driving their policy proposal, then we must ask what that reality says about their use of the carbon tax revenues to expand the EITC and to replace the revenues lost to a reduction in capital taxation.

Note again their claim that "about 11 to 19% of the carbon revenues would keep the poorest 20 to 40% of low-income families whole on average . . . [leaving] at least 80% of revenues to cover the reduction in other taxes." What about the other 60–80% of low-income families? Will they not also demand to made whole? And the families neither low- nor high-income, that is, the vast middle class: How happy will they be to bear ever-higher energy costs while most or all of the revenues are used to subsidize others? Will their representatives in Congress not respond to their complaints? Would the recent cut in capital taxation—controversial enough all on its own—have passed Congress if it had been tied to an increase in individual taxes, whether on incomes or "carbon?" The question answers itself.

More generally, the implicit Mathur-Morris assumption that a new tax yielding massive new revenues somehow would not create a life-or-death tug-of-war over (new) spending simply is not credible. In other words, the real problem with the Mathur-Morris analytic framework is the implicit assumption—so very prevalent in academic public finance—that the magnitude and allocation of public spending are exogenous with respect to the taxes imposed by Congress. That cannot possibly be correct; indeed, it is difficult to believe that a carbon tax would emerge from the congressional bargaining process without an explicit quid pro quo in the form of expanded spending for groups harmed on net by the carbon tax and/or for groups viewed politically as the marginal (or "median") voters. Mathur and Morris seem actually to believe that the majority coalition in Congress enacting a carbon tax will be willing to take the heat for higher energy costs without using the revenues to create some sort of offsetting political benefit. Why then have both Democratic and Republican Congresses refused to enact such a tax, a cap-and-trade system, or any other statutory constraints on the emissions of GHG, that is, a substantial increase in energy costs?

Note that their proposed carbon tax would begin at $25 per metric ton of CO2 (equivalent) and then would rise "at 5% per year over inflation," apparently permanently. So the tax initially would add about 22 cents per gallon to the retail price of gasoline. (Consumption of a gallon of 10 percent ethanol-gasoline blend emits about 18.9 pounds of CO2.) Average household gasoline consumption is about 1,120 gallons per year. If we assume a national average gasoline price of $2.50 per gallon and a demand elasticity of 0.3 (in absolute value), household consumption would decline to about 1,090 gallons. Accordingly, the carbon tax paid by the average household (I assume perfectly elastic supply over the relevant range) would be about $240 per year, which is an underestimate of the economic cost of the gasoline component of the carbon tax imposed on households because the reduced gasoline consumption is a cost in terms of what economists call lost "consumer surplus." In any event, $240 is about a quarter of the average household tax cut just enacted.

Since the tax rises at a real rate of 5 percent annually, it would be 28 cents per gallon after five years, 36 cents after 10 years, and 58 cents after 20 years. These figures shunt aside the increases in the prices of a vast array of goods and services engendered by the Mathur-Morris carbon tax—the tax means automatically that the private sector shrinks while the government sector grows—but even the narrow gasoline component after 20 years would represent, annually, more than half of the recent

income tax cut for households. Mathur and Morris might respond that the carbon tax is merely an offset for reductions in other (corporate) taxes, but as discussed above the assumption that the carbon tax would emerge from Congress without massive new spending is not to be taken seriously.

Let us turn now to the not-very-rigorous analysis of climate and environment policy used as a partial justification for the Mathur-Morris proposal. Their claim that the tax would "[reduce] US CO2 emissions . . . over 50% by 2040 relative to a business-as-usual emissions projection" sounds impressive—if one assumes that increasing GHG emissions are a serious problem, a proposition vastly less obvious than commonly asserted. But Mathur and Morris seem curiously uninterested in the future temperature effect of that reduction in US GHG emissions. After all, is that not the central goal of GHG policy? Put aside the fact that there are many "business-as-usual" emissions scenarios, not all of which are very plausible. If we choose one "low" emissions path and one "high" one and apply to them the EPA climate model under several assumptions (in particular, a climate sensitivity of 4.5 degrees for a doubling of GHG concentrations) that exaggerate the future temperature effect of that GHG reduction, we get an average temperature effect in 2100 of 0.07 degrees.

That is smaller than the standard deviation (about 0.11 degrees) of the surface (land-ocean) temperature record. More centrally for policy analysis: How much is that trivial temperature effect—effectively zero—worth? Note that the political cost of the Obama climate action plan—a reduction in US GHG emissions of 17 percent—was perceived to be sufficiently high that it was not even considered by the 2009–10 Democratic Congress. What does that tell us about the politics of a 50 percent reduction, putting aside the differences in timing and other details?

With respect to the ancillary reduction in "harmful air pollutants like sulfur dioxide, mercury, particulate matter, and nitrogen oxides," Mathur and Morris are well-trained economists and clearly understand that such reductions are not free. Accordingly, emissions or levels of pollutants (or ambient air quality) can be too low or too high in a benefit-cost sense. Because the EPA, upon determining that a given effluent endangers the public health and safety, is required to promulgate primary and secondary national ambient standards that "protect the public health" [with] "an adequate margin of safety," we have such standards and emissions limits for all the pollutants noted by Mathur and Morris and for many others. Are Mathur and Morris arguing that the current system of limiting air pollutants fails to satisfy the requirements of the law? Are they arguing that "protect[ion of] the public health" [with] "an adequate margin of safety" is too lax a standard? Are they assuming that any reduction in effluents by definition is efficient? (If so, why are they not living on a pristine desert island?) How much thought have Mathur and Morris given this issue?

The ice beneath their feet is no thicker when they assert that their proposed carbon tax "would be large enough to deliver on the US commitment to the Paris climate agreement without a single additional regulatory measure." Ask not about the utter silliness of the Paris climate agreement; ask instead the central question that any economist should address, again the one ignored by Mathur and Morris: What are the

respective temperature effects in 2100? Assuming the entire Paris agreement is implemented immediately and that every party adheres to it strictly: 0.17 degrees. For the US: 0.015 degrees. Add another 0.01 degrees if you believe that the Obama pseudo-agreement with China is meaningful. (It is not.)

The phrase "carbon tax," however solidly embedded in the public discourse, is a misnomer in that carbon dioxide is not "carbon" and it is not a pollutant. By far the most important GHG in terms of the radiative properties of the troposphere is water vapor; why does no one call it a "pollutant?" Obviously, it is because ocean evaporation is a natural process as are volcanic eruptions, the emissions from which of fluorine, sulfur, mercury, and ash are pollutants by any definition. However cumbersome, the term "GHG tax" would be more accurate and more consistent with rigorous thinking.

Like Zilly, who confronted many threats over the years, so does the Mathur-Morris carbon tax supposedly solve a number of problems at once. That alone is a sound reason to be skeptical. Unlike Zilly, in the beginning a bestial horror show that consumed Japanese cities, the carbon tax instead destroys gobs of other people's money with no environmental benefits whatever and with a notional reduction in budget deficits that is almost certain not to result. Mathur and Morris should rethink their analysis.

Benjamin Zycher is a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute.

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Wed 3/7/2018 4:56:07 PM
Subject: Federal court orders "hearing on the science of climate change" on March 21

FYI. Does anyone know who Exxon, BP, Chevron, et al. are relying on to prepare their case? The Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC) reports ought to be front and center in any presentation they make. A liberal judge is highly unlikely to be able to evaluate the scientific evidence objectively, so this is unlikely to turn out good, regardless of the merits of our case.

Joe

http://www.kansascity.com/news/nation-world/article203842234.html

Federal court will hold first-ever hearing on climate change science

BY STUART LEAVENWORTH

sleavenworth@mcclatchydc.com

March 07, 2018 04:00 AM

Updated 5 minutes ago

WASHINGTON : A federal judge in San Francisco has ordered parties in a landmark global warming lawsuit to hold what could be the first-ever U.S. court hearing on the science of climate change.

The proceeding, scheduled for March 21 by U.S. District Court Judge William Alsup, will feature lawyers for Exxon, BP, Chevron and other oil companies pitted against those for San Francisco and Oakland — California cities that have accused fossil fuel interests of covering up their role in contributing to global warming.

“This will be the closest that we have seen to a trial on climate science in the

United States, to date," said Michael Burger, a lawyer who heads the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law at Columbia University.

Experts on both sides say Alsup's call for a climate change "tutorial" is unlike anything they've heard of before.

"I don't know of any judge who has asked for a tutorial like this," said Steven E. Koonin, a physicist and former Energy Department undersecretary known for his contrarian views on global warming research. "I think it is a great idea. Anybody having to make a decision about climate science needs to understand the full spectrum of what we know and what we don't know."

In the five-hour hearing, both the cities and the oil companies will have a chance to present Alsup with their views on the history of climate change science, and the most important recent findings in the field.

Alsup ordered the tutorial as part of his ruling last week that the San Francisco and Oakland lawsuit would be heard in federal court, as opposed to California state court. The cities had hoped their lawsuit would be heard in state court, since California has an established "public nuisance" law that hasn't been developed in the federal court system.

Supporters of the oil industry seized on Alsup's ruling as a victory against what they call "sham lawsuits." But the judge didn't completely rule in the industry's favor. His ruling created the possibility that oil companies could be liable under federal common law for causing a "nuisance." Environmentalists applauded that part of his ruling, as well as his decision to hold the March 21 tutorial.

"The court is forcing these companies to go on the record about their understanding of climate science, which they have desperately tried to avoid doing," said Marco Simmons, general counsel for EarthRights International, which helps groups worldwide litigate against major industries.

Alsup, appointed to the bench by former President Bill Clinton, has a reputation for immersing himself in the technicalities of legal cases. He famously taught himself the Java programming language in deciding a lawsuit that pitted Silicon Valley giants Oracle against Google. More recently, he asked lawyers for a tutorial on self-driving car technology in a lawsuit that pits Google's Waymo against Uber.

In the upcoming climate change tutorial, Alsup told lawyers he wants a two-part presentation from both sides over roughly five hours.

"The first part will trace the history of scientific study of climate change, beginning with scientific inquiry into the formation and melting of the ice ages, periods of historical cooling and warming, smog, ozone, nuclear winter, volcanoes, and global warming. Each side will have sixty minutes," the judge wrote in his order.

"The second part will set forth the best science now available on global warming, glacier melt, sea rise, and coastal flooding. Each side will again have another sixty minutes," he added.

Science has been on trial before, most famously in the "Scope's Monkey Trial," the 1925 legal case on the teaching of evolution. But it is unlikely the March 21 tutorial will be a pure debate on global climate change. Exxon and other oil companies have already stated that "the risk of climate change is clear and the risk warrants action." The oil industry has mostly accepted scientific findings that increasing carbon emissions are warming the atmosphere.

Instead, the hearing and ongoing trial will focus more on who knew what, when, and what they did in response.

"At the core of the plaintiff's lawsuit is the idea that these companies have long known about risks of their products ... yet they took a course of action that resisted regulation and sought to keep them on the market as long as possible," said Burger, the Columbia climate law expert.

By contrast, the fossil fuels companies will likely emphasize the uncertainty that existed as climate science evolved, and how they needed "to act in the best interests of their shareholders," given the uncertainty, he added.

Koonin, who worked for two years in the Obama administration and now teaches at New York University, has long called for a public debate on climate change science. While he agrees that human-caused carbon dioxide has warmed the atmosphere, he takes issue with some computer models about future impacts, and disagrees with calls for drastic changes in energy use.

Writing in the Wall Street Journal last year, Koonin called for a "Red Team/Blue Team" process to debate and test assumptions and conclusions about climate change. That idea was picked up by EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, a close ally of the fossil fuel industry, who proposed the same thing for his agency, an idea he has apparently put on hold.

Koonin said any federal debate about climate change should involve all the government's science agencies, not just EPA. He doesn't think the U.S. District Court tutorial will substitute for a full public debate, but it could help air some key areas of dispute, he said.

He also expects there will be high public interest in the March 21 court hearing.

"You will probably get many more people than I chiming on the arguments made," he said. "So you might get an effective second road of the red-blue exercise."

Stuart Leavenworth: 202-383-6070, @sleavenworth

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Wed 3/7/2018 4:07:07 PM
Subject: NASA's lies about global warming are still on its website

https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/

This document on NASA's website is pretty much unchanged from three years ago, when Dr. Craig Idso, Dr. Robert Carter, Dr. Fred Singer, and I wrote Chapter 1 of *Why Scientists Disagree about Global Warming,* presenting a very specific and devastating critique of every survey and abstract-counting exercise cited in the footnote on this site purporting to support the fake claim of a "scientific consensus" that climate change is largely due to human activities.

Why is this page still up? It is entirely false, and it directly contradicts what every other department of the Trump administration is saying and doing.

Heartland will soon publish a very hefty volume titled *Climate Change Reconsidered II: Benefits and Costs of Fossil Fuels.* The smaller book, *Why Scientists Disagree about Global Warming,* will be updated, expanded, and appear as one chapter in that book. If you would like to participate in the peer-review of that new volume, please let me know.

If there is any way I can help get NASA to take this page down, please let me know.

Joe

Joseph Bast

Director and Senior Fellow

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Mon 2/26/2018 4:59:06 PM
Subject: Outstanding interview with Dr. Nils-Axel Morner

H/T Bill Balgord, E&RT

Joe

from the Basal Zeitung tranlated for the Global Warming Policy Forum:

Nils-Axel Mörner: "These Researchers Have A Political Agenda"

- Date: 18/02/1
- Basler Zeitung

The oceanographer Nils-Axel Mörner challenges the IPCC and warnings about sinking islands

Mr. Mörner, you have recently visited the Fiji islands in South Pacific several times in order to research changes on the coasts and sea levels. Why Fiji?

Nils-Axel Mörner: I knew there would be a science conference in New York in June 2017 that focused on sea level changes in Fiji. In addition, it was known that the island nation would chair the 23rd World Climate Conference, which took place last November in Bonn. Thus, Fiji moved into the focus of interest. It was said that the rising sea level had done a lot of damage there. I wanted to check with my own eyes if that is true.

What made you sceptical?

I have been researching sea-level changes my entire life, traveling to 59 countries. Hardly any other researcher has so much experience in this field. However, the

IPCC has always misrepresented the facts on this topic. It exaggerates the risks of a sea level rise enormously. The IPCC relies in particular on questionable computer models rather than field research. However, I always want to know what is going on. That is why I went to Fiji.

However, according to ProClim, the Swiss climate research platform, there are a series of measurements in Fiji that show a sharp rise in sea level in recent decades. Specifically, the sea level has increased by 5.4 millimeters annually since 1990, which is twice as much as the global average.

Yes, I know these measurements. These are two series of tide heights, that is, water levels at low tide and high tide. We checked these data – with the result that they are of very poor quality. One series has been influenced by the fact that port facilities were built on loose sediment soil near the measuring station, which could have changed tidal heights. For the other series, the measuring station was even moved. The researchers who rely on such data are office workers. They are not specialized in coastal dynamics processes and sea level changes. Many of them have no idea of the real conditions.

How did you go about getting better data?

On the one hand, we have been following the given examples, where sea level rise is said to have led to coastal erosion. The result was that erosion has been caused by human intervention – such as new coastal structures altering water currents or increased harvests of sea cucumbers, which could have destabilized the seabed. To prove sea level changes over the past 500 years, we have dated sand deposits to see when they came into being. In addition, we have researched the spread of coral in recent centuries. Typically, coral reefs grow in height when sea levels rise and in width when they remain constant. If the level drops, corals die off. Corals do not lie; they are a reliable indicator – much more reliable than tidal measurements.

What was the result?

We were able to prove that the sea level in Fiji from 1550 to about 1700 was about seventy centimeters higher than it is today. Then it sank and was about fifty centimeters lower in the 18th century than it is today. Then it rose to about the current level. In the last 200 years, the level has not changed significantly. For the past 50 to 70 years, it has been stable.

Were you surprised?

Not really. It was not the first time that the claims of the IPCC turned out to be wrong.

Fiji is only a single archipelago. Maybe the situation is different in other places.

There are also data from many other places in the world. These by no means confirm the picture that the IPCC draws. In some places, the sea level is indeed rising, but in other places, it is stable, and elsewhere it is even dropping. For example, sea levels are constant in the Indian Ocean and on the Atlantic coast of South America. On South Pacific islands such as Tuvalu and Kiribati measurements do not confirm the constant warnings about the sinking of these archipelagos. The sea certainly erodes the shores here and there, but islands grow elsewhere as well. It has always been like this.

Why do many climate researchers warn then about sinking islands?

Because they have a political agenda. They are biased towards the interpretation that man is causing climate change, and that it is a threat. The IPCC was founded with the purpose of prove man-made climate change and to warn against it. His goal was thus fixed from the beginning. It sticks to it like a dogma – no matter what the facts are. As a specialist in sea level developments, I have consistently found in recent years that the IPCC team does not include a single expert on this issue.

Is there no problem with the rise of the sea level at all?

No.

No danger that islands could sink?

The doomsday scenarios usually refer to the year 2100. I estimate that the sea level will then rise by five centimeters on average, with an uncertainty of 15 centimeters. The change might go from plus 20 centimeters to minus 10 centimeters. This is not a threat. Anyone who claims that there will be a threat of an increase of one meter or so has no idea of physics.

However, a lot of meltwater from glaciers and ice shields flows into the sea.

Much less than you think. In Antarctica, no ice melts in total. When ice melts in the Arctic, it does not change the sea level – because floating ice does not affect

the water level when melting according to the laws of physics. In essence, only melting ice on Greenland contributes to a level increase. However, this amount is small.

Seawater heats up and expands, increasing sea level.

That is true, but only by a few centimeters, not by decimeters or even meters. There are much more important influences, which affect the sea level, especially solar activity. There are also significant horizontal water shifts, from one ocean to another. Like the data in Fiji, those of the Maldives also show that levels were clearly higher in the 17th century than they are today. Significantly, this was the time when it was cold on the northern hemisphere; this period is called the Little Ice Age. At that time solar activity was lower than today. It was the big solar minimum. It seems that low solar activity is associated with high sea levels in the tropics – and vice versa. The sea levels seem to depend mainly on the oscillation of solar cycles and hardly on melting ice.

You are among the most distinguished critics of the IPCC. Why have you distanced yourself from the warnings of manmade climate change?

In 1991, I gave a scientific presentation at a conference on sea level changes in the U.S. The representative of the IPCC present there responded with great anger to my point of view. This reaction surprised me. Because in science circles, it is usual that you listen to each other and debate about different points of view. Later, I noticed more and more that the IPCC was disseminating false information and adhered to obvious mistakes. I then published a paper on the influence of the sun on the sea level, which was supported by 19 recognized experts. However, the IPCC attacked the paper with outrageous claims and caused the scientific journal, in which it was published, to be discontinued.

So do they want to stop you?

They cannot stop me. I have published about 650 scientific papers to date. However, young colleagues, who think critically, have no chance given these kind of manipulations. In principle, most editors of science magazines no longer accept papers that are contrary to the IPCC's claims, regardless of the quality of the papers.

However, 97 percent of climate researchers are convinced that global warming is man-made?

This is nonsense. This number is based on dubious polls. In fact, the majority of researchers reject the claims made by the IPCC, depending on the field between 50 and 80 percent. Only meteorologists agree almost 100 percent with the IPCC. However, these people are financially dependent on the IPCC.

However, doesn't it make sense to reduce the CO2 in principle?

Why? It is obvious that CO2 is not the main driver of temperatures. It is noteworthy that the IPCC itself has repeatedly reduced the warming trend in recent years. If a temperature increase of only 1.5 degrees Celsius is to be expected, that is not important.

Why do we hear so many warnings about climate change then?

Some people have exposed themselves heavily with their claims and obviously cannot go back now. In addition, public research money flows almost exclusively to climate alarmists. We are dealing here with a quasi-religious movement that claims to protect the environment. The fight against global warming is now set against the fight to alleviate poverty.

Which would be the right priorities?

It would be important to protect people from natural disasters such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and tsunamis. In addition, 25,000 people die every day because they have no access to clean drinking water. The food supply is often just as catastrophic. However, Nigeria, for example, is discouraged from using coal and thus from advancing economic development and prosperity that would reduce hunger and poverty. There are today efficient technologies to filter out air pollutants in coal use. Effectively, the fight against climate change harms people very much.

What will happen next?

Solar activity is expected to decrease over the next few decades and there will be cooling as a result. By then it will probably become clear how wrong the warnings of global warming are.

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Wed 3/7/2018 3:18:01 PM
Subject: This is what winning looks like: Politico documents Trump administration's rejection of AGW alarmism

H/T Roger Bezdek, look past the usual liberal bias.

Personnel is policy, so this is very good news indeed. Note that the only alarmist working for a center-right think tank quoted in this article is a fellow with AEI, which tolerates a range of views on this and other topics, and where Ben Zycher is a leading voice for climate realism. The only global warming alarmists left in the U.S. are Obama administration hold-overs and liberal Democrats, about 20% of the population. That should drop to about 15% after the November 2018 mid-term elections.

Joe

https://www.politico.com/story/2018/03/07/trump-climate-change-deniers-443533

Climate change skeptics run the Trump administration

Agencies including the USDA, CIA, DHS and HUD have leaders who have expressed sentiments at odds with the warnings of the government's own climate researchers.

By **EMILY HOLDEN**

03/07/2018 05:07 AM EST

•□□□□□□□ President Donald Trump is filling the upper ranks of his administration with appointees who share his disbelief in the scientific evidence for climate change — giving them an opportunity to impose their views on policies ranging

from disaster planning to national security to housing standards.

At the Interior Department, decisions about Pacific island territories threatened by rising seas are in the hands of an assistant secretary who has criticized "climate alarmists" for "once again predicting the end of the world as we know it." Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue's top advisers include a former talk radio host who has dismissed much climate research as "junk science." Trump's nominee to head research and technology at the Department of Transportation claimed three years ago that global warming had "stopped" — a position at sharp odds with the findings of federal agencies like NASA.

Trump has chosen at least 20 like-minded people to serve as agency leaders and advisers, according to a POLITICO review of his appointees' past statements on climate science. And they are already having an impact in abandoning former President Barack Obama's attempt to help unite the world against the threat of rising sea levels, worsening storms and spreading droughts.

Most famously, the president and his team have scrubbed mentions of climate change from government websites, kicked scientists off advisory boards, repudiated the Obama administration's greenhouse gas regulations and made the U.S. the only nation on Earth to reject the 2015 Paris agreement on global warming.

More quietly, Trump's White House excluded rising temperatures from the list of threats in its December national security strategy, contradicting the approach of both the Obama and George W. Bush administrations. Last year, just before Hurricane Harvey drowned Houston, the White House rescinded requirements that projects built with federal dollars take into account the way warming temperatures might intensify extreme weather.

People worried about the consequences of climate change say a government that denies the problem is courting danger.

"The analogy could be if somebody's got a heart problem or high cholesterol, you take medicine that helps manage that so you can avoid a heart attack," said Ana Unruh Cohen, the government affairs director at the Natural Resources Defense Council. "Trump taking that away, saying, 'Forget it, I don't believe I have high cholesterol,' is setting up the country for a heart attack."

Aparna Mathur, a resident scholar in economic policy at the conservative American Enterprise Institute, found the trend worrying as well.

Many administration officials "don't seem to believe climate change is real, or if

they believe climate change is real, there's this sort of attitude that there's not much to do about it or it's not caused by human actions," said Mathur, whose AEI colleagues also include people who question the extent of man-made climate change. As a result, she said, the U.S. is falling behind countries that are taking action on the problem.

The doubts are coming from both prominent and little-known Trump appointees, in ways both obscure and subtle.

Some have expressed doubt that the Earth is warming at all, speculated that the trend might be good for humans, or said it's just impossible to know how much of a role humans and their pollution are playing. All these statements fly in the face of findings by the government's own research agencies and the vast majority of climate scientists.

"There are scientists that think lots of different things about climate change," then-Rep. Mike Pompeo (R-Kan.), now Trump's CIA director, said on C-SPAN in 2013. "There's some who think we're warming, there's some who think we're cooling, there's some who think that the last 16 years have shown a pretty stable climate environment." Pompeo dodged the issue in his confirmation hearing last year, saying he would "prefer today not to get into the details of the climate debate and science."

When he was running for president, HUD Secretary Ben Carson scoffed at the idea that strong evidence for human-caused climate change even exists. "I know there are a lot of people who say 'overwhelming science,' but then when you ask them to show the overwhelming science they never can show it," he told the San Francisco Chronicle in 2015.

Few have been as publicly outspoken on the issue as Trump, who more than once has dismissed human-caused climate change as a "hoax" and claimed in January that polar ice isn't melting.

The White House sought to strike a somewhat more moderate tone in a statement to POLITICO on Monday, which said that "the climate has changed and is always changing. The Administration supports rigorous scientific analysis and debate." The statement from principal deputy press secretary Raj Shah added that "the development of modern and efficient infrastructure ... will reduce emissions and enable us to address future risks, including climate related risks."

Some of the administration's climate skeptics have already come and gone.

Former HHS Secretary Tom Price, who had criticized the "allegedly 'settled

science' of global warming" as a member of Congress, resigned in September amid criticism of his expensive travels on government and private planes. Kathleen Hartnett White, Trump's pick to head the White House Council on Environmental Quality, withdrew her nomination earlier this year after she stirred criticism with a long list of controversial statements, including calling the human role in climate change "very uncertain."

Another unsuccessful nominee, former talk radio host and political science professor Sam Clovis, had to pull out of the running to be USDA's chief scientist after critics noted that he has no science credentials — but he remains a top adviser to Perdue. Clovis dismissed much climate research as "junk science" in a 2014 interview, adding that "a lot of this global warming ... is really about income redistribution from rich nations that are industrialized to nations that are not."

Brent Fewell, a conservative environmental lawyer who was an EPA water official under Bush, suggested that some of these officials may privately acknowledge that man-made climate change is real. But he added: "A lot of people on the political right are uninformed about the issue. For whatever reason, it's a lot easier to simply agree with the prominent voices in the political party."

The upshot is the same, however: a 180-degree reversal from Obama's efforts to make the U.S. a leader in addressing the causes and consequences of a warming planet.

The EPA is leading the charge by withdrawing or weakening a host of climate regulations, including a 2015 rule that would have sped the electric power industry's shift away from coal-fired energy. Trump has also approved tariffs for solar panel imports, which will make it harder for green energy to compete with fossil fuels. Agencies have sought to cancel rules meant to limit the oil and gas industry's methane pollution — another major greenhouse gas source — and are reconsidering tougher standards for vehicles, too.

The Energy Department has proposed regulatory changes to prop up coal plants that can't compete in the market, while the White House is seeking buyers for U.S. coal and gas exports.

When Trump's critics seek to challenge these actions in court, the government's defense will be run by the Justice Department — an agency whose leader, Attorney General Jeff Sessions, said during a 2015 Senate hearing that carbon dioxide is "really not a pollutant."

"It's a plant food, and it doesn't harm anybody except that it might include temperature increases," Sessions said.

Some agencies are still continuing to study climate change and factor their findings into their policy decisions. But even there, career staffers may not talk about their work as openly as they once did, and the agencies seldom showcase it the way they did during the Obama years.

Much of the alarm among Trump's critics focuses on EPA, which has replaced dozens of scientists on its key advisory boards with industry or state representatives, and has found other ways to keep researchers from contradicting the administration's message. Last fall, the agency canceled an appearance by three EPA scientists scheduled to speak about climate change at a Narragansett Bay conference. Both EPA and the Energy Department have given extra scrutiny to grant proposals with the words "climate change," and in the case of EPA, it has put a political appointee in charge of signing off on them, The Washington Post has reported.

All this is in line with the public statements of EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, who has suggested that global warming might be a good thing and has spoken about holding a public debate on whether climate change is real.

"Right out of the gate … the administration took any and all mention of climate change off of the White House website," said Jacob Carter, a research scientist who has been tracking the administration's treatment of science for the Union of Concerned Scientists. "It seems like the administration is really trying to undo a lot of the scientific process as a whole and get experts out of the way."

The Environmental Data and Governance Initiative, which has studied the purging and rewording of climate-related documents on government websites, reported at the end of 2017 that it had found a "significant loss of public access to information about climate change."

The State Department's website took down links related to the Paris climate agreement, EPA removed a student's guide to climate change, and the Energy Department got rid of the words "clean energy" on a page with information for investors and businesses looking for projects with national laboratories.

The Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management, which oversees energy development on federal land, cut text about the effects of climate change. Some of the resources are still technically available in archives or in new locations, but they are harder to find because the government sites don't directly link to them, the Environmental Data and Governance Initiative says.

"It's not alarming the public because it's very hard to see each incremental thing," said Andrew Bergman, a co-author of the report.

Some Trump appointees have downplayed the idea that agency leaders' personal views about climate change are critical to making policy, suggesting they can still respond to global warming's effects without addressing why it's happening.

"We continue to take seriously climate change — not the cause of it, but the things that we observe," Tom Bossert, the president's homeland security adviser, told reporters after last year's spree of catastrophic hurricanes that ravaged Houston, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Sarah Hunt, who works in energy policy at the conservative American Legislative Exchange Council, said that "policymaker views on climate science needn't have any bearing on their support for conservative clean energy policies that spur the innovation we need to reduce emissions and promote environmental stewardship while we grow our economy."

But Trump's actions have reflected his views on the science. For example, one of his early executive orders in March 2017 eliminated a number of ways agencies had been required to consider climate change, including in environmental reviews for infrastructure projects.

Because so many of his appointees have questioned the conclusions of climate scientists, they are jettisoning climate change from routine processes. Those include EPA's refusal to consider the global monetary benefits of curbing rising temperatures when it rolled back Obama-era rules for the power sector.

Still, some agencies have continued to issue major reports that warn that climate change is a real and growing problem — even as the president's staffers push the message that the science is uncertain.

In November, the government's 13-agency National Climate Assessment concluded that humans have pushed global temperatures to their highest level in modern times. In January, NASA published data showing that last year was the second-warmest on record, and noted that temperature rises are "driven largely by increased carbon dioxide and other human-made emissions into the atmosphere."

Trump's nominee to run the space agency, Rep. Jim Bridenstine (R-Okla.), criticized "climate change alarmists" on the House floor in 2013 and claimed that "global temperatures stopped rising 10 years ago." (In fact, they haven't.) At his confirmation hearing last year, he acknowledged that humans are a cause of climate change but wouldn't call them the main cause.

“That is a question that I do not have an answer to,” he said.

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Tue 3/6/2018 5:48:21 PM
Subject: Three recent presentations by Willie Soon on YouTube

Friends,

Willie sent some of us the following message on Saturday:

https://m.youtube.com/channel/UCj9j0oxxYaLmAMuRAu2G1jA

In this playlist from our Norwegian Climate Realist Friends you can find my recent three talks, please help spread the videos and let more people know about this

Look under "Willy Soon" — of course there are also other excellent videos on this play list

I hope our Norwegian Friends will also load my public talk in Oslo soon

Please contact Professor Jan-Erik Solheim, Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy if you may have any questions

Joe

Joseph Bast

Director and Senior Fellow

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Mon 3/5/2018 10:14:23 PM
Subject: Heartland Institute examined in "Environmental Politics" journal
image001.emz
Cann and Raymond 2018.pdf

Friends,

This study,

Heather W. Cann & Leigh Raymond, "Does climate denialism still matter? The prevalence of alternative frames in opposition to climate policy," *Environmental Politics*, 2018, DOI: 10.1080/09644016.2018.1439353

...is attached, and is pretty interesting. From the abstract,

This study applies qualitative content analysis to 340 documents [released between April 2014 and June 2015] from the conservative think tank, the Heartland Institute, to test whether certain policy frames have become more common among leading opponents of climate policy in the United States. The results indicate a continued reliance on science framing, with more directed attacks on climate scientists and fewer frames stressing the uncertainty of climate science. An increase in the use of policy frames related to effects on consumers also suggests that opposition to climate policy is taking new forms as the political debate evolves, with ramifications for climate change policy opposition on an international scale.

The authors clearly believe Heartland is the world's leading think tank supporting skepticism of man-made global warming. They write:

"the Heartland Institute, a conservative think tank recognized as a global leader in opposition to climate change policy."

"a leading think tank with global reach opposed to climate change action,"

"The Heartland Institute is especially influential at shaping climate change discourse on a global scale. Internationally, Heartland is recognized as a think tank with some of the strongest networking capabilities (McGann 2017), and one of the highest-impact public policy think tanks in the US (McGann 2015). As noted by *The Economist* (and reported on Heartland's own website), the organization is renowned as 'the world's most prominent think-tank supporting skepticism about man-made climate change' (2012), a finding consistent with prior work in this area (McCright and Dunlap 2003, Pooley 2010)."

"Heartland is one of the most influential think tanks opposing climate change policies on a global scale, with framing strategies that shape and inspire climate-energy discourse around the world. Besides broadcasting its own publications, the organization's website also aggregates documents written by other think tanks, free-market advocates, and climate skeptics, making it a clearinghouse for a broad range of anti-climate policy publications from the United States and beyond."

They produce a "typology of climate policy opposition frames" appearing in Heartland's publications that rather nicely outlines the case against AGW alarmism:

Table 1. Typology of climate policy opposition frames.

Science frames

The evidentiary basis of climate change is weak and even wrong.

S1 The scientific evidence for climate change is highly uncertain.

S1a The nature of climate science is difficult to discern.

S1b Climate change is a function of natural cycles and unrelated to human activity.

S1c Climate change warming is not being observed.

S2 Mainstream climate research is 'junk' science.

S2a Climate change dissenters are unfairly persecuted.

S3 The IPCC intentionally alters its reports to create 'scientific consensus' on climate change.

S4 Climate change is merely a myth or scare tactic perpetuated by environmentalists, bureaucrats,

and political leaders.

Benefit frames

Climate change would be beneficial if it were to occur.

B1 Climate change would improve our quality of life and health.

B2 Climate change would improve our agriculture (including natural systems).

Policy design frames

Climate change policies would do more harm than good.

E1 Policy would economically harm consumers.

E1a Low income or elderly consumers.

E1b Minority consumers.

E2 Policy would economically harm industries.

E3 Policy would harm the economy overall.

SO1 Policy would threaten international sovereignty.

SO2 Policy would infringe on sovereignty at the state or local level.

EN Policy would actually harm the environment.

DW Policy would harm countries in the developing world.

UE Policy would promote unreliable energy systems, leading to energy shortages or blackouts.

NE Policy would be futile with no measurable effect, is not possible, and is ultimately unrealistic.

LP Policy would be unnecessary, because climate change is not a priority compared to other issues.

Their "qualitative analysis" finds the "policy design frames" appear in 65.9% of all documents in our sample, whereas 74.1% of all documents contain at least one of the four anti-science frames, making it the most dominant type of frame in our sample." They summarize the "top 5 climate change opposition frames" in the table below.

Table 3. Top 5 climate change opposition frames, 2014–2015.

Frame type		N	%
Science	S4 Climate change is a myth or scare tactic perpetuated by environmentalists, bureaucrats, and political leaders.	194	57.1
Science	S2 Mainstream climate research is 'junk' science.	170	50.0

They noticed and report an increase in the number of references to the *benefits of carbon dioxide* over time, though not enough to rise above scientific and public policy frames: "Although they are not part of our major hypotheses, we note that 'benefit' frames are slightly more prevalent in our 2014–2015 sample than in previous studies such as McCright and Dunlap (2000) research, occurring in 15.6% of documents. The most common benefit frames discussed apparent evidence of ecosystems and species coping with or even thriving under new climate conditions – an interesting variation, perhaps, on the growing political interest in promoting 'resilience' strategies toward climate change."

They conclude:

"In sum, although we find continued use of many science frames, we find the greatest emphasis in 2014–2015 to be on the lack of integrity of climate scientists and the bureaucrats, political leaders, and environmental advocates who support them, rather than on the uncertainty of climate science. We discuss the possible implications of this greater reliance on *ad hominem* attacks on climate scientists and their supporters, rather than the more moderate 'scientists are uncertain' framing below."

Hmm.

Science, benefits, and policy probably do capture most of the lines of argument we use. We have tried to increase our focus on benefits lately, with prompting from our friends at the CO2 Coalition, so this study may document some success in that area. We probably have shifted from emphasizing uncertainty to accusing alarmists of just plain dishonesty. That reflects our fatigue with pointing out the falsehoods and outright fraud over and over again, and the other side's refusal to admit they are wrong.

So, FYI, for what it is worth.

Joe

Joseph Bast

Director and Senior Fellow

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

the message and deleting it from your computer.

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Mon 3/5/2018 9:24:30 PM
Subject: Dr. Tom Walton's submission to the EPA and NHTSA
D4 to EPA HQ OAR 2015 0827.pdf

Attached is a fine piece of economic reasoning by a fine economist, Dr. Thomas Walton, former senior economist for GM, former member of the board of directors of The Heartland Institute, now retired. He submitted this comment to EPA last October, at that time a decision was due on April 1 regarding how EPA should include opportunity costs in its cost-benefit analysis of raising CAFÉ standards.

Do you know if that decision is still expected on or before April 1? As Tom explains, including opportunity cost in CBA would be a huge victory for regulatory reform and common sense.

Tom can be reached at **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**

Joe

Joseph Bast

Director and Senior Fellow

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

Defour Group LLC

October 4, 2017

Subject: *"Request for Comment on Reconsideration of the Final Determination of the Mid-Term Evaluation of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards for Model Year 2022–2025 Light-Duty Vehicles; Request for Comment on Model Year 2021 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards"*

Requested in the Federal Register, Vol. 82, No. 160, Monday, August 21, 2017, Proposed Rules, Pages 39551 - 39553

Comments Submitted to Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OAR–2015–0827

In its request for comments, EPA requested information *on "The extent to which consumers value fuel savings from greater efficiency of vehicles."* Dr. Thomas Walton has written the following paper, "Opportunity Cost, Willingness to Pay, and Affordability of the MY 2016-2025 Fuel Economy Standards," that addresses this very question.

To have the environmental impact anticipated by EPA, vehicles built to comply with more stringent standards must ultimately appeal to and be bought by consumers. Without question, the 2022 – 2025 Light Duty Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission standards will increase the cost of new vehicles. All other things being equal, an increase in the cost of a product or service will result in reduced sales. GHG emission standards, however, not only reduce emissions but also generally improve a vehicle's fuel economy. As a result, the increase in the up-front cost of the vehicle also results in reduced costs for fuel over the lifetime of the vehicle.

Consumers must weigh these multiple factors when deciding how much fuel savings to purchase. Consumer behavior often appears at odds with the simple cost/benefit analyses done by regulatory agencies at the time new standards are promulgated. To fully assess the impact of new rules on the automotive industry specifically and the economy, more needs to be known about how consumers value fuel economy against the many other factors involved in a vehicle purchase decision.

Thomas F. Walton's background makes him uniquely qualified to address this issue. He has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of California Los Angeles, is the former Vice Chair of the Business Research Advisory Council to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, and until 2008, was the Director of Economic Policy Analysis at General Motors Corporation. Since 2008, Dr. Walton served as an associate of the Defour Group.

The Defour Group respectfully submits Dr. Walton's extensive paper to EPA to address the question of how consumers value fuel economy when deciding to purchase a new vehicle.

Sincerely,
Dean Drake, President
Defour Group LLC

Opportunity Cost, Willingness to Pay, and Affordability of the MY 2016-2025 Fuel Economy Standards

Abstract

The EPA and NHTSA appear ready to remedy a severe and on-going deficiency in their estimates of the benefits, costs, and affordability of their proposed fuel economy standards for model years 2017 to 2025. The agencies' "engineering" models fail to account for the *opportunity costs* they impose on auto buyers when the agencies' mandates preclude consumers from acquiring vehicle attributes they value more highly than increased fuel economy. Vehicle buyers can use the very same technologies that vehicle manufacturers must develop in order to comply with fuel efficiency technology mandates to instead achieve greater vehicle size, performance, safety and a myriad of other vehicle attributes of much greater value than increased fuel economy. At today's fuel prices, there is *zero willingness to pay* for mandated fuel economy increases and the *opportunity costs* of the standards substantially exceed the agencies' estimates of gross benefits, defined as net present value of fuel savings less vehicle hardware and maintenance costs.

Consumers would incur substantial net negative benefits even at the much higher fuel prices assumed in the agencies' *engineering* models. These models do not and cannot account for the complex *economic* trade-offs auto manufacturers must make to successfully satisfy consumer demand in the intensely competitive, dynamic and ever-changing automotive market. Several studies have shown that the high and exponentially increasing costs of the MY 2017 to MY 2025 standards will be disproportionately borne by those least able to afford them.[1]

> OMB Circular A-4
> September 17, 2003
> TO THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE AGENCIES AND ESTABLISHMENTS
> ...
> **The Key Concepts Needed to Estimate Benefits and Costs**
>
> "Opportunity cost" is the appropriate concept for valuing both benefits and costs. The principle of "willingness-to-pay" (WTP) captures the notion of opportunity cost by measuring what individuals are willing to forgo to enjoy a particular benefit. In general, economists tend to view WTP as the most appropriate measure of opportunity cost . . . "[1]

[1] See Defour/Alliance September 21 and December 30 submissions regarding the impact of vehicle fuel economy standards on low-income households.

Introduction

Inside EPA reports that the National Highway Traffic Administration's July 26 notice soliciting comments on the mid-term review of fuel economy rules for MY22-25 "added a new wrinkle to the process, indicating plans to consider as part of related review of potential changes to MY21 requirements." In so doing, the NHTSA further requested that, among other issues, commenters specifically address "the role consumer preferences play in automakers' ability to meet the environmental requirements, including consumer receptivity to specific technologies." [2] The EPA recently indicated that it will soon issue a similar request.

This suggests the agencies will solicit comments on how their economists should reconstruct their Regulatory Impact Analyses (benefit–cost analyses) to include the *opportunity costs* of the standards as they are impacted by consumers' *willingness to pay*, together with the impact of these adjustments on vehicle *affordability*. The National Research Council (NRC) emphasizes and the NHTSA admits that NHTSA and the EPA have failed to adequately address these concepts and that addressing them is *critical* to a valid assessment of the benefits and costs of the fuel economy standards for model years 2017 to 2025.[3]

Opportunity Cost, Willingness to Pay, and the Net Benefits of Fuel Economy Regulation

Economists define:

- "Opportunity cost," as the value of the best alternative or set of non-mutually exclusive alternatives a consumer or producer must forego in order to buy or sell a particular good or service.[4] "Opportunity costs" are not only a central concept in the discipline of what economists call "welfare economics," they are critical to the successful execution of a cost-benefit or Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA). Yet the agencies make no attempt to incorporate them into their analyses as required by the afore-mentioned OMB guidelines.
- "Willingness to pay" (WTP) as the measure of the value of any option. This includes the value of mandated option as well as that of the best alternative or set of alternatives to the one under consideration.

The economist's definition of net benefits in general and net benefits of fuel economy standards in particular includes an offset for the opportunity costs that mandates impose on consumers and manufacturers. This leads to the following standard equation for benefit-cost analyses.

---

[2] Inside EPA, "EPA Appears Poised To Broaden Scope Of Reopened Vehicle GHG Review," at

https://insideepa.com/daily-news/epa-appears-poised-broaden-scope-reopened-vehicle-ghg-review

[3] National Resource Council, "COST, EFFECTIVENESS,AND DEPLOYMENT OFFUEL ECONOMY TECHNOLOGIES FOR LIGHT-DUTY VEHICLES." At https://www.nap.edu/catalog/21744/cost-effectiveness-and-deployment-of-fuel-economy-technologies-for-light-duty-vehicles

[4] See, e.g., https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Opportunity_cost

Fundamental Equations

Equation 1: Net Benefits Equal Gross Benefits Less Opportunity Costs[5]. The agencies' *engineering* models fall short because they fail to include the latter deduction for opportunity costs as all *economic* models/analyses require. To quote Paul Portney, former head of Resources for the Future, and colleagues: "The true economic cost [of a fuel economy standard] is probably larger than the engineering cost estimates . . . for two reasons. First, it ignores the possible opportunity cost of not using fuel saving technologies for other vehicle enhancements. That is, by forcing automakers to apply their technical expertise to more fuel-efficient engines, tighter CAFE standards could mean fewer of the improvements to which consumers have responded enthusiastically in the past – including such things as enhanced acceleration, towing capacity and so on. ***It is the implicit value of these foregone improvements that ought to be compared with the fuel economy savings that tighter CAFE standards would bring.***"[6]

Equation 2: Restatement of Equation 1 as it applies to fuel economy standards. Note that *gross benefits* equal C (the sum of hardware costs plus the present value (PV) of lifetime maintenance costs) + PV Fuel Savings. *Net benefits* equal gross benefits less opportunity costs (OC) imposed by a standard, just as in equation 1.

> **Equation 2:** Net Fuel Economy Benefits Equal C (Upfront Vehicle Hardware and PV Maintenance Costs) + Plus PV Fuel Savings (Present Value Stream of Fuel Savings) Less OC (Opportunity Costs of Foregone Vehicle Attributes)

Equation 3: The most direct and easiest way to estimate the net benefits of a fuel economy standard (even though it does not explicitly net out opportunity costs).

> **Equation 3:** Net Fuel Economy Benefits Equal C
>
> + WTPFE (Willingness to Pay for Fuel Economy Benefits)

Equation 3 is simply the sum of vehicle hardware and maintenance costs and the consumers' willingness to pay for the attendant fuel economy savings. If consumers are wiling to pay more than what it costs them net benefits are positive. If not, they are negative. Equation 3 does not equal the sum of C and PV fuel economy savings because when mandates are binding, auto buyers will value fuel savings less than the benefits they could obtain by using fuel efficiency technologies to achieve those other vehicle attributes they prefer. Equation 3 is a common sense way of deriving the net benefits of a standard. All that is needed are the vehicle costs and what consumers are willing to pay for the attendant fuel economy savings. As we will see, there are numerous sources for obtaining the latter information.

---

[5] See, e.g.,

https://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/publications/tm/tm119/tm119gloss.htm .

[6] Paul Portney, Ian Parry, and Winston Harrington, "Reply," Journal of Economic Perspectives (Spring 2004), page 274. The other cost that engineering studies ignore relates to the various expenses manufacturers and their dealers incur when implementing the new technologies in the field.

The attendant opportunity costs of being denied those options are not deducted from equation 3 because they are already netted out of vehicle buyers' willingness to pay for fuel economy. However, the value of the opportunity costs (OC) can be found by setting equation 2 equal to Equation 3. Thus, C + PV Fuel Savings + OC = C + WTPFE, so that PV Fuel Savings + OC = WTPFE, which leads to equation 4.

Equation 4: The opportunity cost of a binding fuel economy standard. When the fuel economy standard is binding, the opportunity cost equals consumers' willingness to pay for the attendant fuel economy savings less the present discounted value of the fuel savings. We have shown that mandates impose opportunity costs because they force consumers to go without services they value more highly than increased fuel economy. The opportunity costs of these foregone services will then offset some or all of the value of fuel savings.

Equation 4: OC = WTPFE – PV Fuel Savings

Implications

Note that in the absence of binding regulations, consumers will be free to choose the size, performance, and safety of the vehicles they want. This means that the value of each dollar they invest in increased fuel savings will equal that of each dollar invested in improvements in all other vehicle attributes – the economist's condition for the maximization of consumer welfare. In that case, willingness to pay for fuel economy just equals the present value of fuel savings, opportunity costs fall to zero and gross benefits equal net benefits in equations 1 and 2.

However, as the mandate becomes binding, consumers' willingness to pay begins to fall short of the (present) value of fuel savings in equation 2. As the mandate becomes more and more severe, willingness to pay declines as a fraction of the value of fuel savings and, depending on the level of stringency, can even fall to less than zero, as happened in the 18 years following the collapse of the OPEC oil cartel in 1986. (See text below accompanying Table 1 and figures 1 and 2.) At that point, further fuel economy increases become what economists call an "inferior good": as incomes rise, less of that good is demanded, not more as is the case with a "normal good."[7]

While *engineering* models such as those utilized by the agencies may find positive gross benefits and thus increased "income" to be derived from fuel efficiency technologies, *economic* models – models that are used by business people in the real world -- net out the opportunity costs imposed by vehicle fuel economy mandates. They necessarily show negative net benefits from binding fuel economy mandates. That's because spending the "income" provided by the mandated fuel efficiency gains on enhanced performance, carrying capacity, safety (e.g., lane control, automatic braking, parking, etc.), and numerous other vehicle attributes provides still greater value to consumers who are bound by the mandates.

[7] See, e.g., "Income elasticity of demand," at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Income_elasticity_of_demand

The consumer's opportunity cost of being forced to spend the value of increased fuel efficiency technology on fuel economy rather than on these other attributes shows up as a reduction in their willingness to pay for fuel economy increases in equations 3 and 4. The same is true for vehicle manufacturers themselves as they consider the option of spending their also limited budgets on developing new technologies to enhance the performance, carrying capacity, safety and other vehicle services consumers prefer instead of the mandated fuel efficiency technologies.

There are thus two levels – manufacturer and consumer -- at which economic tradeoffs and the attendant opportunity costs of fuel economy standards come into play. But, once again, even if a fuel efficiency technology achieves a positive net present value for both consumers and manufacturers – a positive *gross* benefit for each, this does not mean it will have a positive *net* benefit after the opportunity costs are deducted in equations 1 and 2. A positive net present value (*gross* benefit) in the agencies' engineering models is a necessary, but not a sufficient condition for positive *net* benefits of the regulation.[8]

We know that at current fuel prices and with binding standards auto buyers' willingness to pay for increases in fuel economy is less than or equal to zero. Table 1 shows that fuel efficiency (ton-mpg) rose by 19% over the 16-year period (1988 to 2004) of low fuel prices, or 1.1% per year, while fuel economy fell by 0.7%, or 0.005 % per year. Consumers were willing to spend less than zero % of the value of enhancements to fuel efficiency technology on fuel economy when fuel prices were at or below today' levels, and binding standards forced consumers to sacrifice, power, performance, and safety for fuel economy increases of lesser value.

Values

Year	Fuel Economy MPG	Fuel Efficiency Ton-mpg
1988	25.9	36.2
2004	24.0	42.1
Change	-1.9	1.1

Percent Increase

Year	Fuel Economy MPG	Fuel Efficiency Ton-mpg
1988 – 2004	-7.3%	16.3%
% per Year	-0.45%	1.1%

Table 1. Historical Energy Efficiency and Fuel Economy

[8] **Donald Warren MacKenzie, "Trends and Drivers of the Performance – Fuel Economy Tradeoff in New Automobiles,"** Submitted to the Engineering Systems Division on May 14, 2009 in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science in Technology and Policy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology at http://web.mit.edu/sloan-auto-lab/research/beforeh2/files/MacKenzie-SM%20Thesis-TPP-2009.pdf; see also, Bandivake et al, On the Road in 2035 Reducing Transportation's Petroleum Consumption and GHG Emissions, Laboratory for Energy and the Environment, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, July , 2008 at pages 59 and 83,

Formal studies by MIT economists also estimate near-zero willingness to pay for fuel economy increases at current fuel prices and find that willingness to pay rises above zero only if fuel prices rise above present levels. Consider Figure 1, drawn from one such study.[9] It shows that during the period of low fuel prices from 1986 to 2004, fuel economy for new cars remained flat even as performance rose sharply[10].

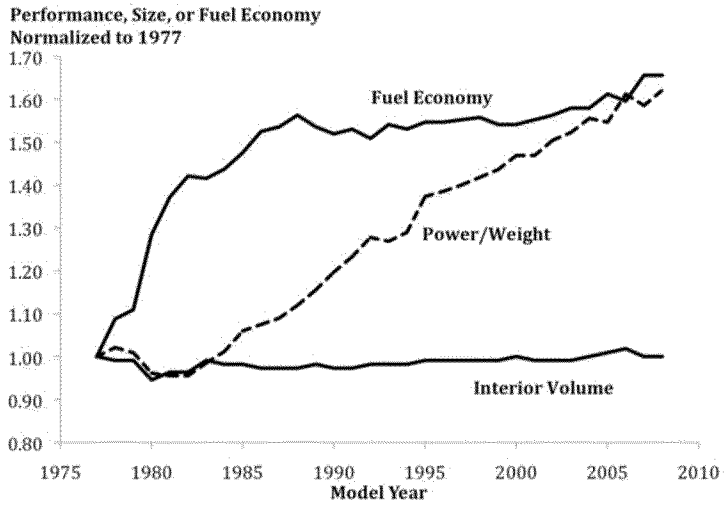


Figure 1. Average performance, size and fuel economy of new U.S. cars, 1977-2008. Values are indexed to 1977 averages. (U.S. EPA, 2008)

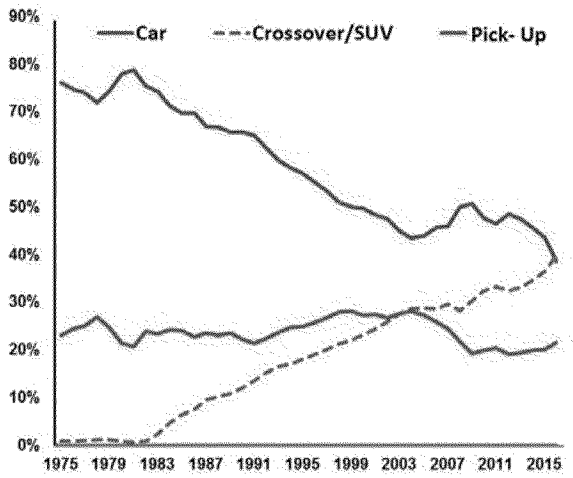


Figure 1. Historical Trends in Vehicle Type Market Share

While interior volume for the CAFE-constrained cars addressed in the figure remained constant, overall volume for the light-duty fleet rose sharply as many buyers switched to mini-vans and other crossovers as shown in Figure 2. In his formal analysis, the MIT author found a zero willingness to pay for fuel economy at today's fuel prices.

See also, Energy Information Administration (EIA), "Increasing light-duty vehicle greenhouse gas and fuel economy standards for model years 2017 to 2025" : "***if fuel prices in the future are relatively low, it may be difficult to convince consumers to pay for fuel economy improvements if the savings from improving fuel economy have only a small impact on their annual fuel***

[9] For an extensive discussion of this point, please see Defour/Alliance September 21 and December 30 submissions regarding the impact of vehicle fuel economy standards on low-income households.

[10] It should be noted that the baseline year, 1977 represents the nadir of vehicle power/weight ratios and vehicle performance. In the years immediately prior to 1977, vehicle weights increased significantly in part to safety standards and a loss of horsepower with emission standards that demanded the switch to unleaded gasoline. Both trends adversely impacted the average power/weight ratio and vehicle performance. Much of the increase in the power to weight ratio seen in Figure 1 reflects consumers' efforts to recover this lost performance.

expenditures. The willingness of consumers to purchase vehicles with higher fuel economy could also affect both new vehicle sales and scrappage rates."[11]

Contrast these trends and analyses to the agencies' "preferred" CAFE alternatives – alternatives that incorporate technologies they say will achieve annual fuel efficiency gains – gains in ton-mile mpg -- of nearly 5 % per year for cars and trucks during model years 2022 through 2025, and nearly 4% for cars and 3% for trucks for the model years 2017 through 2021.[12]

At today's fuel prices this is highly dubious. Either they have severely overestimated the fuel savings benefits, or grossly underestimated the up front hardware costs, or some combination of the two.

Clearly the net cost of the fuel economy standards rises as they become more stringent and it rises exponentially. Also, there are many earlier papers on the net consumer welfare looses associated with increases from much lower levels of mpg. For example, Carolyn Fischer, Winston Harrington, and Ian Parry found a net consumer welfare loss of $11 billion ($2017) from a still lower base. At 17 million annual unit sales this would come to more than $800 per new car and truck.[13]

Given today's auto buyers' zero or less willingness to pay for mandated fuel economy increases above MY 2016 levels, and given an adjusted EPA estimate of $3808 as shown in Appendix 1 in the incremental hardware and maintenance costs for MY 2025 standards, Equation 3 shows that the net benefits from the 2025 fuel economy standards equal negative $3808 per vehicle – the EPA cost estimate adjusted for the more realistic 2.0 retail price markup.

The opportunity costs of forcing fuel economy increase on unwilling consumers come to $6,250 based on Equation 4. That is, OC = wtp for fuel economy less present value of fuel savings, or $0-$6,241, which equals a negative $6,250 per vehicle. Math check: net benefits equals hardware costs plus present value fuel savings less opportunity costs or -$3,800 + $6,241 - $6,241 = -$3,808.

These are very conservative estimates because **they assume $4.00 per gallon fuel prices** and because some of the agencies' essential technologies are economically feasible when they are not.

For example, consider the case of strong hybrids. Economists at Purdue, Western Illinois, and Binghamton Universities and other academic institutions found that at $3.76 regular ($2016) – a much higher level that today's fuel prices --consumers would be willing to pay just $2000 per

---

[11] Energy Information Administration, *2011 Annual Economic Outlook* at, http://www.eia.gov/outlooks/archive/aeo11/pdf/0383(2011).pdf at page 20

[12] NHTSA and EPA Set Standards to Improve Fuel Economy and Reduce Greenhouse Gases for Passenger Cars and Light Trucks for Model Years 2017 and Beyond

[13] Carolyn Fischer, Winston Harrington, and Ian Parry, "Should Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards (CAFE) be tightened?" *Energy Journal* (2007) at http://www.rff.org/documents/RFF-DP-04-53-REV.pdf

See, in particular, Table 4, page 30.

vehicle on average for a strong hybrid,[14] which EPA projects to be 2% of the fleet in 2025, with another 2% in plug-in hybrids, 3% in all electric vehicles, and 18% in mild hybrids.[15] This compares to a manufacturing cost of $2,500 to $3,000 per vehicle for strong hybrids,[16] which comes to $5500 to $6,000 per vehicle at Defour's 2.0 Retail Price Equivalent for a net consumer cost of between $2,500 and $3,500 per vehicle at the $3.76 per gallon gasoline – again, much higher than today's fuel prices.

Willingness to pay for the strong hybrids comes to no more than 40% of the technology cost – and that is for consumers who are predisposed towards buying green for green's sake.

Or consider the trend towards crossovers and SUVs, shown in figure 2 above. Auto buyers are much more willing to pay for SUVs and crossovers built off the same vehicle platform at roughly the same body and chassis cost.[17]

For example, consumers are willing to pay roughly $8,000 per vehicle more for a powerful and roomy, but less fuel-efficient gasoline-powered Ford Escape getting 29 mpg highway mpg with 245 cubic inches of displacement and 67.8 cubic feet of cargo space than a less powerful and less roomy, but more fuel efficient gasoline-powered Ford Focus at 38 highway mpg, 123 inches of cubic displacement, and 44.8 cubic feet of cargo space.

Both are built off the same vehicle platform and cost roughly the same to build out. Consumers have the alternative of either spending their scarce fuel efficiency technology dollars on either the Escape or the Focus. Yet, following the study by economists at Purdue and elsewhere, they would, at $3.83 gasoline be willing to pay $810 per vehicle more for the Focus' 9 extra highway mpg, but $3367.50 less for its lower horsepower and cargo space relative to the Escape – and that only scratches the surface of the extra features they are able to get by spending the value of fuel efficiency technology increases on other attributes they prefer over fuel economy.

Still: just considering the tradeoff between fuel economy and performance plus cargo space, the opportunity cost of forcing buyers' to buy a Ford Focus when they prefer a Ford Escape built off the same vehicle platform is at least $3367.50, equal to their willingness to pay for the greater horsepower and cargo space available on the Escape, less $810, willingness to pay for the greater fuel economy of the Focus, or $2,362 at fuel prices of $3.83 per gallon.

---

[14] "The Value of Environmental Status Signaling," Michael S. Delgado, Department of Agricultural Economics Purdue University; Jessica L. Harriger, Department of Economics and Decision Sciences Western Illinois University; Neha Khanna‡, Department of Economics and Environmental Studies Program Binghamton University, May 1, 2014 at http://web.ics.purdue.edu/~delgado2/DHK%202014.pdf

[15] **Proposed Determination on the Appropriateness of the Model Year 2022-2025 Light-Duty Vehicle Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards under the Midterm Evaluation, EPA**-420-R-16-020, November 2016 at https://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPDF.cgi?Dockey=P100Q3DO.pdf

[16] **John German,** "Hybrid Vehicles Technology Development and Cost Reduction," 2015 at http://www.theicct.org/sites/default/files/publications/ICCT_TechBriefNo1_Hybrids_July2015.pdf

[17] "Crossovers and SUVs Fatten Profit Margins: Sit-High Vehicles' Transactions Price Dwarf Those of Cars," Automotive News, July 24, 2017 at http://www.autonews.com/article/20170724/RETAIL01/170729911/crossovers-suvs-fatten-profit-margins

Of course, vehicle buyers have many more options to buy still other vehicle attributes they value more highly on the Escape than on the Focus so that the total opportunity cost is much greater than that the $2,362 per vehicle. Indeed, at today's much lower fuel price of less than $2.30 per gallon regular gasoline, consumers are willing to shell out $8,000 per vehicle on all of the other alternatives to then buy a Ford Escape rather than a Ford Focus – an amount equal to the difference in overall willingness to pay and thus the per vehicle opportunity cost of forcing consumers to spend all their money on Ford Focuses in order to comply with the nation's fuel economy standards.

There is a similar, roughly $8,000 per vehicle price premium of the Toyota RAV-4 over the Toyota Corolla, also in the compact vehicle class. "Subcompact crossovers, which include such vehicles as the Honda HR-V and Chevrolet Trax, averaged $24,461, or 46 percent more than the $16,779 average for subcompact cars such as the Honda Fit and Chevy Sonic" – again a difference in willingness to pay equal to about $8,000 per vehicle at today's fuel prices.

The premium rises to $13,000 per vehicle in the midsize segment.

Opportunity Cost, Willingness to Pay and Vehicle Affordability

Advocates of increased fuel economy mandates argue that when, as EPA and NHTSA claim, fuel efficiency mandates have positive gross benefits – when the net present value of the fuel efficiency technology is shown to be positive -- this necessarily means that the vehicles are more affordable even if the opportunity costs convert gross benefits into net costs. A new-vehicle buyer with a budget say of $35,000 to spend on a new vehicle is now able to spend less than the $35,000 because, say, an extra $3,000 or so spent on fuel efficiency hardware is more than offset by the greater present discounted value savings on fuel consumption that the mandated fuel efficiency technology renders possible.

This line of reasoning fails for at least two reasons. First it assumes that the 5% annual hypothesized advances in fuel efficiency technology in fact are economically feasible: that they have positive net present values; i.e. positive gross benefits before deduction of opportunity costs. This is patently absurd given the just over 1% annual advance in fuel efficiency technology in the earlier period at today's fuel prices from 1986 to 2004. It's patently absurd given the near-zero uptake of hybrid (and electric) vehicles that will be essential to meeting the MY 2025 and earlier year standards.

Second, even if some of the technologies have positive net present values – positive gross benefits before deducting opportunity costs -- the relevant baseline is what could have been achieved in 2021 or 2025 had consumers been allowed to spend the money associated with positive npv fuel efficiency technologies instead on attributes preferred over fuel economy enhancements, attributes such as improved performance, carrying capacity, and enhanced

safety features that enjoy still much-higher net present values and rates of return on investment.

The National Research Council emphasizes and the NHTSA appears to acknowledge that the baseline or reference case must "[reflect] ***technological progress over time" [and thus must attempt]*** to account for costs and benefits that might be left out of the analysis. ***The reference case with no fuel economy changes should instead include some attempt to measure improvements in other vehicle attributes likely to occur over time. Then, with the introduction of the rule, and all improvements going toward fuel economy, there will be opportunity costs in terms of the other attributes that are forgone. NHTSA acknowledges this issue in the Final Rule when they state, "the true economic costs of achieving higher fuel economy should include the opportunity costs to vehicle owners of any accompanying reductions in vehicles' performance, carrying capacity, and utility, and omitting these will cause the agency's estimated technology costs to underestimate the true economic costs of improving fuel economy"*** (EPA/NHTSA 2012a, 62988)."

In other words, the baseline is a forward-looking concept that focuses on what happens at the endpoint of the analysis, whether model year 2025, model year 2021 or some other model year post-2016. It is a *future-oriented* concept. As such, it must take into account the ever-compounding opportunity costs of failing to invest the money on vehicle attributes that are more highly valued and that could make households still better off than when constrained to spend all their limited budgets on increased fuel economy.

Even if spending the money on fuel economy improvements might in some sense make consumers better off today [though they're still not as well off as they could be if they could spend the money on attributes of greater value] it will leave them worse off tomorrow relative to a world in which they could have made themselves much better off by spending their money on vehicle attributes other than increased fuel economy. This is especially relevant for many families still struggling to make a living and pay off the bills. This is a *reduction*, not an increase in vehicle affordability.

To repeat: the NRC's "reference case" refers to the baseline for fuel economy levels that would occur in *future* years in the absence of an increase in the standard and that reflects future "technological progress over time." It is a *future-oriented* concept that is crucial to understanding the implications of impacts on consumer choice (willingness to pay), opportunity costs, and thus affordability.

Indeed, a nation that is content with failing to achieve the maximum potential growth in its income and wealth is destined to have an economy that is much less able to deal with the environmental, social, and economic challenges that it faces. This is especially so for the lowest income households who are disproportionately harmed by the highly regressive fuel economy standards as shown in Defour's December 2016 submission to the docket.

Appendix 1: Costs and Fuel Savings Benefits of MY 2025 Fuel Economy Mandate Relative to MY 2016 Baseline

EPA Methodology

	At 1.25 Markup to Retail		
	Purchase Cost	Maintenance	Total (2016 dollars)
Delta Costs (2010 dollars) $2,530	$1937	$254	$2,300
At Defour 2.0 Markup	$3,099	$254	$3,462 $3,808
Delta Fuel Svgs at 7% Discount Rate			$5,674 $6,241
Gross Benefits Before Deduction of Opportunity Costs			$2,433
Net Benefits at Zero Willingness to Pay for Fuel Economy Increase			-$3,808

Memo: **Assumes $4.00+ gasoline ($2016);** Excludes Benefits from increased VMT and reduced refueling times

EPA estimates these benefits at 20% of fuel savings benefits; **NHTSA Estimates them at 6% of fuel savings benefits; See Gayer and Viscusi, "Overriding Consumer Preferences With Energy Regulations," J Regul Econ (2013) 43:248–264 DOI 10.1007/s11149-013-9210-2 , February 12, 2013**

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Wed 2/21/2018 8:27:18 PM
Subject: He's Right! Scott Pruitt Hits Ball Out of the Park on Climate Change

Friends,

The American Spectator carried my commentary on EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt's terrific performance on a Nevada TV show a couple weeks ago.

Joe

American Spectator
https://spectator.org/hes-right-scott-pruitt-hits-ball-out-of-the-park-on-climate-change/

He's Right! Scott Pruitt Hits Ball Out of the Park on Climate Change

Not only can he take the heat but he can explain it.

By Joseph Bast

February 21, 2018, 12:05 am

On February 6, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Scott Pruitt was interviewed by Gerard Ramalho on Nevada's KSNV-TV. What he said about climate change produced the usual cat calls and hisses from liberal environmentalists and their stable of paid pseudo-scientists, but the rest of us recognized it as being a solid-gold presentation.

Pruitt began by acknowledging Earth's climate is constantly changing and that "we contribute to it." But measuring the human impact, he said, is very difficult, and whether it constitutes an "existential threat" or a possible benefit to humanity is still unknown.

Surveys and petitions show most scientists and the general public agree with Pruitt, not environmental activists. Elections show most voters in the United States agree with Pruitt, too. His summary of the situation is absolutely correct.

Liberal pundits — most of whom never took a science course in their life (or, like Al Gore, flunked the one course they did take) — dismiss anyone who dissents from their forecasts of environmental catastrophes as ignorant "climate change deniers." They have it exactly backwards: Climate change skeptics understand the science far better than the alarmists. It's why they are skeptical.

"We know that humans have most flourished during times of… warming trends," Pruitt also said, adding, "I think there's assumptions made that because the climate is warming, that that necessarily is a bad thing."

Again, this is absolutely correct. Historically, warmer periods have been accompanied by higher crop yields and rates of population growth, rising prosperity, and even less conflict and fewer wars. Cold periods or periods with falling temperatures, in contrast, are often accompanied by extreme weather, crop failures, starvation, and armed conflicts.

Environmentalists either know "warmer is better" and seek to hide this inconvenient truth from the public, or the only research they've done is reading the fundraising letters of silly alarmist groups such as Greenpeace and Union of Concerned Scientists. They need to get up to speed on this issue before they claim moral and intellectual superiority over climate change "deniers."

Administrator Pruitt then hit a whopping home run when he asked, "Do we really know what the ideal surface temperature should be in the year 2100 in the year 2018?" The obvious answer is "of course not." Why assume today's temperature is ideal or magically perfect when we know human populations (and wildlife) have flourished in other, often warmer conditions? This answer blows away all the groundless speculation about the "social cost of carbon" and what ought to be done today to affect the weather a century from now.

Pruitt's interview demonstrates he is the best EPA administrator the agency has ever had, and arguably the best cabinet pick President Donald Trump has made in his still-young administration. That Pruitt has the courage to confront environmental activists regarding their lies and misinformation on this key issue is a gift to all the "forgotten Americans" who voted for Donald Trump for president.

Keep it up, Mr. Pruitt! We love you, man!

Joseph Bast (think@heartland.org) is a director and senior fellow with The Heartland Institute, a nonprofit organization he cofounded in 1984 and led as CEO until retiring earlier this year.

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Mon 3/19/2018 4:18:01 PM
Subject: Larry Bell: Coal Cuts Dangerously Clip Texas Power Capacity

Excellent piece by Prof. Larry Bell at Newsmax. You can reach Bell at *lsbell@central.uh.edu*.

Joe

Coal Cuts Dangerously Clip Texas Power Capacity

 By **Larry Bell**
Monday, 19 Mar 2018 10:55 AM

As reported in the Hoston Chronicle (chron.com), "Texas' electricity grid operator expects the state's power demand to hit an all-time high this summer, possibly requiring customers to reduce power consumption and triggering emergency measures to keep electricity flowing through the grid." Titled "A Summer Bummer Looms," the article goes on to say that the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) estimates that it will have just enough power to meet demand forecasts provided that temperatures don't get excessively hot or the wind doesn't blow strong enough to breeze by the deficit.

But wait just a minute. Is this really the same Texas I live in that they are referring to? Isn't Texas the country's petroleum and gas energy capital? And hasn't the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) bragged that Texas leads the nation in that wind power production which is making evil petroleum obsolete and unnecessary anyway?

Reading more deeply into the article, they give the reason after all, " . . . following the shutdown of three of the state's largest coal-fired plants, planned outages and project delays, the state's summer power reserves are at their lowest in more than a decade."

Who could possibly have imagined that shutting down a few coal plants would make any real difference, leading to what they project as an expected "spike in wholesale electricity prices." Not to worry, however, if demands exceed supply, ERCOT may ask customers to "raise their thermostats to cut power consumption," or failing that, they may "cut off power to large customers — such as industrial plants," or will "trigger rolling outages."

Even more remarkable, this is all reported in a newspaper that makes The New York

Times and The Washington Post look like shills for climate-cooking SUV salesmen. Where is that electricity going to come from to recharge all the plug-in Obamacars, including nifty Teslas that mostly only Texas oil barons can afford?

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) reported that coal's share of the market fell from 50 percent in 2008, to around 31 percent in 2017. True, abundant and relatively less expensive natural gas resulting from a fracking revolution hastened coal's competitive decline in the U.S. energy market.

Nevertheless, the eight-year tenure of the previous White House administration may well have dealt a final death blow to the industry, fulfilling a 2008 campaign promise.

Candidate Obama pledged, "So if somebody wants to build a coal-powered plant, they can. It's just that it will bankrupt them because they're going to be charged a huge sum for all that greenhouse gas that's being emitted . . . That will also generate billions of dollars that we can invest in solar, wind, biodiesel and other alternative energy approaches."

The Obama Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) wasted no time crafting a signature Clean Power Plan (CPP), a suite of regulations intended to dramatically reduce CO2 emissions from the existing electricity generation fleet by 2030. This unprecedented interpretation of the agency's regulatory powers forced states to build new generating facilities, rather than allowing upgrades at individual plants to achieve reductions in the most feasible and cost-effective ways.

Although the U.S. Supreme Court stayed CPP even before it was enacted, great industry damage had already been accomplished as many states scrambled to comply.

Texas may be The Lone Star State, but it doesn't stand alone in this "free renewable energy" nonsense that provides costly, unreliably intermittent, anemic power.

According to the Center on Global Energy Policy, more than 250 coal-fired plants have been retired since 2010, taking more than 34,000 megawatts of power generation capacity off line. Bloomberg New Energy Finance reported that 33 coal plants were shuttered during President Obama's second term. A dozen are slated for closure in 2018, rivaling a record high of 15 which were shut down in 2015.

Last year, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt announced plans to rescind CPP which various analyses estimate would otherwise have cost customers about $39 billion annually through 11 percent to 14 percent electricity bills increases. EIA data has indicated that CPP would also have reduced manufacturing production by $45.billion annually — costing 68,000 jobs in the process.

The benefit of all of this would be to avert only .019 degrees C of future warming over nearly a century, a highly speculative amount far too low to be accurately measured with even the most sophisticated scientific equipment.

Thanks in large part to coal power generation, the U.S. has had the most reliable and affordable supply of electricity in the world. Gratefully, the Trump administration is committed to policies and actions that will perpetuate and expand this global advantage.

Any notions that generously subsidized solar and wind will significantly compensate capacity losses from shuttered coal plants and overregulated oil and natural gas suppliers are scientifically and economically delusional assaults which will leave America's families and industries powerlessly impoverished.

We have witnessed a canary in the coal mine — and it is dying.

Larry Bell is an endowed professor of space architecture at the University of Houston where he founded the Sasakawa International Center for Space Architecture (SICSA) and the graduate program in space architecture. He is the author of "Scared Witless: Prophets and Profits of Climate Doom" (2015) and "Climate of Corruption: Politics and Power Behind the Global Warming Hoax" (2012). He is currently working on a new book with Buzz Aldrin, "Beyond Footprints and Flagpoles." Read more of his reports — Click Here Now.

To: Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]
From: Jim Lakely
Sent: Tue 10/10/2017 7:30:19 PM
Subject: Re: Online Resources

Thanks, John. We'll share some of that with our social media accounts.

While I've got you, Heartland has invited Scott Pruitt to be a keynote speaker at our America First Energy Conference on November 9 in Houston. I think it would be a great venue for the administrator to deliver a major address talking about the end of the Clean Power Plan. Do you know the status of our invitation and the chances of him accepting it?

Best,

Jim Lakely
Director of Communications
The Heartland Institute
3939 North Wilke Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
o: 312-377-4000
f: 312-377-5000
c: 312-731-9364
Twitter: @HeartlandInst

From: "Konkus, John" <konkus.john@epa.gov>
Date: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 2:24 PM
To: "Konkus, John" <konkus.john@epa.gov>
Subject: Online Resources

Here are some official EPA online resources promoting today's action on CPP. Feel free to repost and share.

EPA Homepage: https://www.epa.gov/

EPA Twitter: https://twitter.com/EPA/status/917806465062260738

EPA Air Office Twitter: https://twitter.com/EPAair/status/917809327599181825

Administrator Pruitt Twitter: https://twitter.com/EPAScottPruitt/status/917802478845988864

EPA Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/EPA/?hc_ref=ARSr6RzCgQ0tB23ZzO-5z0iW-mlKLlZMzissW0s3FCtjh3iIDw2wkvU_0MkV3DUb3Kc&fref=nf

Administrator Pruitt Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ajax/sharer?appid=586254444758776&s=100&u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.epa.gov%takes-another-step-advance-president-trumps-america-first-strategy-proposes-repeal

EPA YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OpIAkmEWEYg&sns=tw

EPA Instagram: https://instagram.com/p/BaE8Q4QFvLs/

John Konkus

Environmental Protection Agency

Deputy Associate Administrator for Public Affairs

Mobile: **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Mon 10/9/2017 9:46:42 PM
Subject: "War on coal is over"

Well, it isn't as easy as that, but this is a big victory nevertheless. Congratulations to everyone who had a hand in it.

Joe

Fake News Warming: The article below is not from a reliable media source and may contain deliberate falsehoods. Reader discretion is advised.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/10/09/pruitt-tells-coal-miners-he-will-repeal-power-plan-rule-tuesday-the-war-on-coal-is-over/?hpid=hp_rhp-more-top-stories_ee-pruitt-1149am%3Ahomepage%2Fstory&utm_term=.87634fead8b5

EPA chief Scott Pruitt tells coal miners he will repeal power-plan rule Tuesday: 'The war against coal is over'

By Juliet Eilperin and Brady Dennis October 9 at 4:07 PM

Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt told coal miners in Kentucky on Monday that he will move to repeal a rule limiting greenhouse-gas emissions from existing power plants, assuring them, "The war against coal is over."

Speaking at an event in Hazard, Ky., with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), Pruitt said his agency will publish the new proposed rule Tuesday.

"Tomorrow, in Washington, D.C., I'll be a signing a proposed rule to withdraw the so-called Clean Power Plan of the past administration, and thus begin the effort to withdraw that rule," Pruitt said.

A 43-page draft of the proposal, which was obtained by The Washington Post and other news outlets last week, argues that the agency overstepped its legal authority in seeking to force utilities to reduce carbon emissions outside their actual facilities to meet federal emissions targets. It does not offer a replacement plan for regulating emissions of carbon dioxide, which the Supreme Court has ruled that the EPA is obligated to do. Rather, the agency said it plans to seek public input on how best to cut emissions from natural-gas and coal-fired power plants.

EPA spokeswoman Liz Bowman said in an interview Monday that Pruitt chose to speak about his plans in Kentucky because coal workers have a direct economic stake in policies aimed at curbing emissions from coal burning. "He's speaking directly to people in coal country about how the rule negatively affected the whole industry," Bowman said.

Reaction to the announcement was sharply divided, with environmental and public health advocates decrying it, and industry groups welcoming the move.

"With this news, Donald Trump and Scott Pruitt will go down in infamy for launching one of the most egregious attacks ever on public health, our climate, and the safety of every community in the United States," Michael Brune, the executive director of the Sierra Club, said in a statement. "He's proposing to throw out a plan that would prevent thousands of premature deaths and tens of thousands of childhood asthma attacks every year."

National Rural Electric Cooperative Association chief executive Jim Matheson, one of the utility groups that challenged the Obama-era rule, said rescinding the regulation would provide his members with the flexibility to use their existing plants to provide "reliable, affordable power" to local customers. Sixty-two percent of coop-owned generation is coal-fired, according to the association, while natural gas accounts for 26 percent, nuclear power 10 percent and renewables

2 percent.

"That's what we're really looking for, is flexibility so they can meet their individual consumers' needs," Matheson said Monday.

Some critics of the rule said Monday that they were open to a more limited regulation aimed at addressing carbon emissions from power plants.

Ross Eisenberg, vice president of energy and resources policy at the National Association of Manufacturers, said in a statement that his group "agrees with the EPA's conclusion that this regulation was broader than what the law allows, which is why we joined 28 states in challenging it in federal court."

"At the same time, we recognize the need for a policy to address greenhouse gas emissions," Eisenberg added, saying "The NAM supports a greenhouse gas policy going forward that is narrowly tailored and consistent with the Clean Air Act."

President Trump and many of his top aides have expressed skepticism about climate change, while others say human activity is to blame for global warming. So what's the administration's real position? (Peter Stevenson/The Washington Post)

The Clean Power Plan, which aimed to decrease the nation's carbon pollution by about one-third by 2030, compared with 2005 levels, has long been subject to intense legal fights — and that much is unlikely to change.

During his time as Oklahoma attorney general, Pruitt joined other opponents in suing the Obama administration, arguing that it did not have legal authority to force states to form detailed plans to reduce CO2 emissions from such sources as coal-fired power plants. Pruitt sided with industry officials who insisted that EPA's regulations would unfairly force power-plant owners to shut down or essentially subsidize competing clean-energy industries.

Environmental groups and other supporters argued on the side of the Obama White House, saying the administration had standing under the Clean Air Act to put in place the effort, which they called a much-needed measure to help nudge the nation toward cleaner sources of energy and improve public health.

Early last year, the Supreme Court blocked the regulation's implementation after 27 states and a host of other opponents challenged its legality. Its 5 to 4 decision, which did not address the merits of the lawsuit, came just days before the death of Justice Antonin Scalia. Meanwhile, a 10-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit in September 2016 heard oral arguments on the case, but did not issue a ruling before the Trump administration took office and requested time to reconsider the rule.

Monday's announcement that the EPA would seek to rescind the Clean Power Plan, with no promise of replacing it, brought promises of even more legal fights ahead. Attorneys general multiple states — California, New York and Massachusetts among them — vowed to challenge the Trump administration's decision. A 2009 EPA determination is still in place finding that carbon dioxide constitutes a pollutant under the Clean Air Act, so the agency will have to justify how it is complying with that finding as it rolls back the existing regulation.

"Along with our partners, Massachusetts fought for years to put this rule in place, and we will be suing to protect the Clean Power Plan from the climate change deniers in this administration who are trying to move us backwards," Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey said in a statement Monday.

The EPA's latest proposal to repeal the Clean Power Plan comes months after President Trump issued a directive instructing the Environmental Protection Agency to begin rewriting the controversial 2015 regulation, as part of a broader effort to obliterate his predecessor's efforts to make combating climate change a top government priority.

A central piece of Obama's environmental legacy, the Clean Power Plan aims to slash the greenhouse-gas emissions that scientists agree are fueling the planet's rapid warming. It also was an integral part of the commitment U.S. officials made as part of a historic international climate accord signed in late 2015 in Paris, from which Trump has said he intends to withdraw.

The revocation of rule is sure to draw a legal challenge from the existing rule's proponents. In a statement Monday, former EPA administrator Gina McCarthy, who shepherded the rule during Obama's second term, said in a statement that a proposal to repeal it "without any timeline or even a commitment to propose a rule to reduce carbon pollution, isn't a step forward, it's a wholesale retreat from EPA's legal, scientific and moral obligation to address the threats of climate change."

"The Supreme Court has concluded multiple times that EPA is obligated by law to move forward with action to regulate greenhouse gases, but this administration has no intention of following the law," McCarthy said.

Michael Greenstone, a professor of economics at the University of Chicago who worked on climate policy for Obama, said in an interview Friday that the EPA had deliberately downplayed the benefits of curbing carbon to justify revoking the power-plant regulation.

"It does not feel like an effort to refresh the cost-benefit analysis to make sure it's on the frontiers of science," Greenstone said about the leaked proposal. "It seems like an effort to find the levers that will make the benefits go down."

Chris Mooney contributed to this report.

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Mon 10/9/2017 1:39:49 PM
Subject: WSJ on "Pruitt's Clean Power Plan"

A good editorial in today's WSJ, reciting all our talking points. I especially like the reference to "dismantling Obama's regulatory attempt to kill fossil fuels." Note, this was not Obama's attempt to "stop global warming" or any other Obama-era language and assumptions. Climate is mentioned only once or twice in passing. And that is as it should be.

Joe

Wall Street Journal, October 9, 2017

Pruitt's Clean Power Break

Dismantling Obama's regulatory attempt to kill fossil fuels.

By The Editorial Board

Oct. 8, 2017 3:03 p.m. ET

74 COMMENTS

The Trump Administration is giving the economy a boost with its deregulatory agenda, and the latest example comes Tuesday when Environmental Protection Agency chief Scott Pruitt will propose to repeal the Obama Administration's Clean Power Plan. Ending this power grab will uphold the letter of the law and restore cooperative federalism with the states.

The Obama EPA imposed the rule in 2015 to regulate carbon emissions nationwide and force the retirement of coal-fired electric power plants. Former EPA chief Gina McCarthy took creative license by reinterpreting Section 111 of the Clean Air Act, which directs the agency to implement the "best system of emission reduction" for pollutants.

EPA had previously applied this provision narrowly to single sources of emissions (e.g., individual power plants), but Ms. McCarthy broke with decades of precedent to dictate a systemic shift in power generation. The Clean Power Plan initially requires new efficiency at coal-fired plants, but over time it impels states to substitute coal with natural gas and ultimately solar and wind.

This usurped the regulatory role of states and contradicted the Clean Air Act text, which says that "air pollution control at its source is the primary responsibility of States and local governments." The Clean Power Plan would have forced states to scramble to alter their electric-power mix, shutting down coal plants long before the end of their useful life regardless of whether substitutes were on hand and affordable. Higher electricity costs and brownouts were likely.

The Supreme Court stayed the rule in February 2016 after 27 states and 37 electric co-ops sued. In March Mr. Pruitt launched a formal review of the rule, and a draft of the EPA's new analysis that we've seen estimates that rescinding the carbon rule would save $33 billion in compliance costs by 2030.

It also finds that the Obama EPA rigged the cost-benefit calculations. For example, the McCarthy EPA claimed tangential benefits from reductions of other emissions like particulate matter that could have been achieved with less heavy-handed regulation. U.S. social costs were compared against *global* climate benefits.

Ms. McCarthy also assumed linear health benefits from emissions reductions notwithstanding diminishing returns. In violation of the Office and Management and Budget's longstanding practice, energy efficiency was cited as an avoided cost rather than as a benefit. This allowed the Obama Administration to low-ball the rule's cost estimate.

Mr. Pruitt's proposed rule-making starts the 60-day window for public comments. EPA notes that it hasn't decided whether it will follow its repeal of the Clean Power Plan with a new rule that regulates greenhouse gases from existing power plants and is considering "whether it is appropriate to propose such a rule." The decision in part will depend on how well Mr. Pruitt thinks EPA can defend any new rule under the inevitable legal challenges from the environmental left.

But repealing the regulatory overreach of the Obama Administration is the first crucial step that is already paying dividends in less economic uncertainty and more confidence in the reliability of the future electric grid.

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Fri 10/6/2017 6:33:10 PM
Subject: Russell Cook on why alarmist law suits fail

Nice work by the country's leading investigator of the left's attacks on climate scientists who disagree with Al Gore. See www.gelbspanfiles.com for more.

Joe

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2017/10/the_greens_vs_big_oil.html

October 6, 2017

The Greens versus 'Big Oil'

By Russell Cook

If you are an enviro-activist with access to lawyers and mega-money who believes that catastrophic anthropogenic global warming (CAGW) is caused by evil fossil fuel industries who ignore this harm to humanity to protect their profits, you don't simply whine about this problem, you file giant lawsuits against those industries.

This already happened in three major global warming nuisance cases: *Connecticut v. American Electric Power*, *Comer v. Murphy Oil*, and *Kivalina v. Exxon*. More recently, New York state attorney general Eric Schneiderman joined with 19 or so other state attorneys general to hold ExxonMobil accountable for supposedly knowing about the harm of it for decades while failing to tell its shareholders about it.

However, Schneiderman has suffered setbacks ranging from faulty evidence to withdrawn subpoenas, and the three global warming nuisance cases have fallen apart. The Supreme Court dismissed *Connecticut v. AEP* on June 20, 2011; *Comer v. Murphy Oil* came to its final end on March 20, 2012; and the 9th District Court put the final nail in the coffin of *Kivalina v. Exxon* on September 21, 2012, prompting some legal pundits to wonder if this was the end of climate tort litigation.

But if at first you don't succeed with winning your global warming nuisance lawsuits, try, try again.

So it was no surprise last week when nearly identical complaints were filed separately in San Francisco and Alameda Counties, *People of the State of California v. British Petroleum P.L.C. et al.*, by San Francisco city attorney Dennis Herrera and Oakland city attorney Barbara J. Parker.

These latest twin cases are predictably plagued with the same problems as the previous CAGW court cases. Courtrooms are not the right places to decide whether scientific conclusions are sound, and the far bigger problem

is that in order to marginalize any input from skeptic scientists, they must be portrayed as paid shills of the fossil fuel industry. This is arguably political suicide, as it involves reliance on a literally unsupportable accusation promulgated by a small clique of people who've been involved in pushing the accusation over the last two decades.

Two of them, reappear – directly and indirectly – in these newest cases: attorney Matt Pawa, who cited this same set of memos in his *Kivalina v. Exxon* case, and Kert Davies, whose old Ozone Action organization claimed it had "obtained" them back in 1996.

- A New York Times article used as evidence in the complaints, about Harvard-Smithsonian scientist Dr. Willie Soon being paid $1.2 million, cites Kert Davies.
- The complaints cite a report from the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) regarding the accusation that Dr. S. Fred Singer was paid Exxon money to "attack mainstream science." However, consideration must be given to the facts that 1) UCS revealed their own enslavement to the "reposition global warming" memos in 2015; 2) the UCS report cited in the complaints thanks Kert Davies while citing Ross Gelbspan's website twice; and 3) the complaints' wording about "attacks on mainstream science" in regard to Dr. Singer sounds eerily similar to what Ross Gelbspan said in his March 2006 presentation at the Earthlands Retreat Center in Petersham, Massachusetts:

Western Fuels, which is a 400 million dollar coal operation, it was very candid in its annual report. It said **it was out to attack mainstream scientists**, it hired three scientists who were skeptical of this, phenomenon, Pat Michaels, Bob Balling, Fred Singer. It turned out they paid these three scientists more than a million dollars under the table[.] ... [T]hey sent these scientist[s] all over the country to do a lot of media interviews and lectures and appearances, and so forth. We got a copy of the strategy papers for that campaign. And it says specifically that the campaign is designed to "reposition global warming as theory rather than fact[.]"

That statement wildly inaccurate. Western Fuels is a non-profit co-op, it had no such declaration in its annual reports, Dr. Singer was never part of that campaign, Michaels and Balling were not sent all over the country, and the so-called strategy statement Gelbspan speaks of was never part of Western Fuels' short-lived pilot project public relations campaign.

There aren't just one or two questionable assertions within the "industry-corrupted skeptic climate scientists" accusation; it is besieged with fatal problems. Start with these California cases and work backwards from there; it soon becomes evident that it isn't "Big Oil" that should be investigated over racketeering to keep their industry alive, but a small clique of enviro-activists facing disappearing income flow if the public lost all faith in the idea of catastrophic man-caused global warming because of what skeptic climate scientists have to say.

Russell Cook's blog GelbspanFiles.com is a forensic examination of faults in the corruption accusation against skeptic climate scientists, an outgrowth of his original articles here at American Thinker. Facebook and Twitter.

Read more:
http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2017/10/the_greens_vs_big_oil.html#ixzz4ukoqPw6e
Follow us: @AmericanThinker on Twitter | AmericanThinker on Facebook

To: Craig Idso[cidso@co2science.org]
From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Thur 10/5/2017 7:26:19 PM
Subject: New CO2 Science video: Carbon Dioxide is Benefitting the Biosphere

Friends,

Dr. Craig Idso and his Center for the Study of Carbon Dioxide and Global Change have produced an excellent three-minute video making the point that CO2 is "the elixir of life." You can view it here:

https://youtu.be/GTeIkNud25I

Please do what you can to promote this video in your own efforts to tell policymakers and the public that man-made climate change is not a crisis.

Craig also wrote up a summary of a new peer-reviewed study comparing the IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report to the third volume in the *Climate Change Reconsidered* series produced by the Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC):

Are Skeptical Science Reports Good for Science? (5 October 2017)

This is important validation of the NIPCC project, of which Craig is a lead author, coming on top of about 100 previous references and citations to CCR in peer-reviewed journal articles, making NIPCC the only Red Team effort comparable to the IPCC in pure scientific heft. That's an amazing accomplishment, and a key to why we are winning the national and international debate over climate change.

Craig Idso is in pretty urgent need of your financial support. His organization is tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, so contributions are tax-deductible. If you can help him out, please contact him at cidso@co2science.org, make a gift via Paypal, or send your check payable to the Center for the Study of Carbon Dioxide and Global Change to me and

I will forward it to Craig.

Feel free to forward this email to friends and foes alike, thank you for your own efforts on this most important issue, and have a great weekend!

Joe

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Wed 10/4/2017 6:29:35 PM
Subject: This is what victory looks like: Draft FY 2018-2022 EPA Strategic Plan
EPA Transformation Strategy at a Glance - 20170927.pdf

Try to find "global warming" in this overview.

Joe

From: Dewey, Amy [mailto:Dewey.Amy@epa.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 04, 2017 10:05 AM
Subject: Draft FY 2018-2022 EPA Strategic Plan

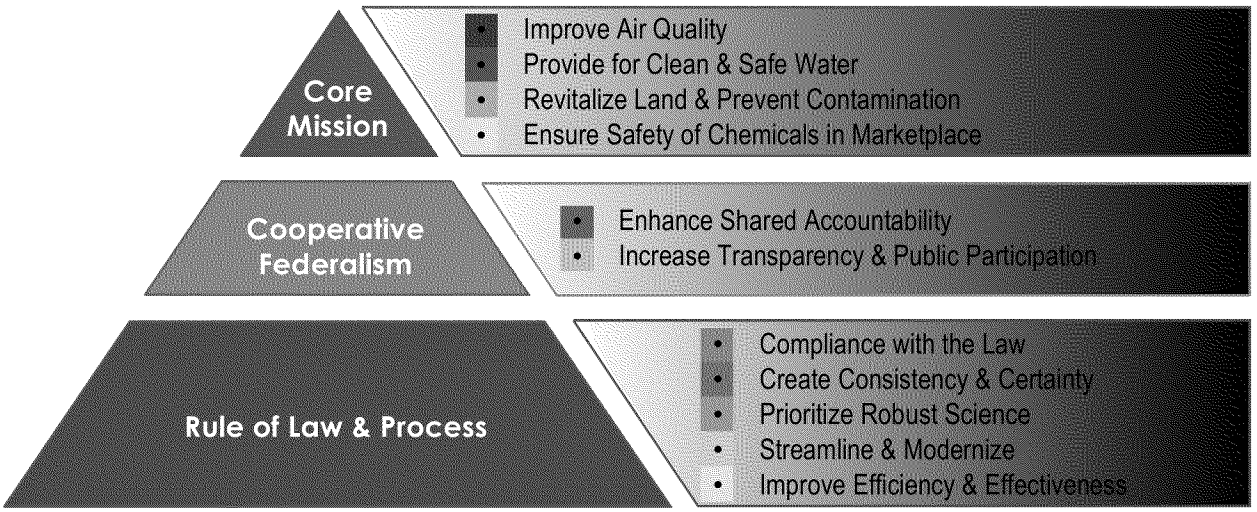
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 9:00 AM
To: Message from the Administrator <messagefromtheadministrator@epa.gov>
Subject: Draft FY 2018-2022 EPA Strategic Plan

I am pleased to provide the draft FY 2018-2022 EPA Strategic Plan, which is out for public comment through October 31. Consistent with government-wide requirements, the Strategic Plan establishes the goals, objectives, and measures for achieving positive environmental outcomes over the next four years. This draft Plan is designed to refocus the agency back to its core mission, restore power to the states through cooperative federalism, and lead the agency through process and the rule of law. It captures the key areas I will emphasize as EPA Administrator to transform the way the agency does business.

I believe this draft Plan provides the foundation for a more efficient and effective agency, enabling us to accelerate progress and deliver real, tangible results for the American people. The measures that accompany the Plan highlight the areas of emphasis we will focus on to achieve environmental results that will make a difference for the country. The attached chart illustrates this transformation strategy at-a-glance.

I look forward to engaging with you as we implement the Plan, once it is finalized in early February and issued along with EPA's FY 2019 Budget.

FY18-22 Transformation Strategy



Strategic Measures (FY18-22)

- **Reduce the number of non-attainment areas ***
- Reduce the number of community water systems out of compliance with health-based standards
- **Increase the percentage of water infrastructure projects funded through EPA grants, loans, or public-private partnerships that achieve or maintain compliance ***
- Reduce the number of square miles of watershed with surface water not meeting standards
- **Make additional Superfund sites Ready for Anticipated Use (RAU) site-wide ***
- **Make additional Brownfields sites RAU ***
- Make additional Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) corrective action facilities RAU
- Complete additional Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) cleanups that meet risk-based standards for human exposure and ground water migration
- **Complete EPA-initiated Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) risk evaluations for existing chemicals in accordance with the timelines set forth in the statute ***
- **Complete TSCA risk management actions for existing chemicals in accordance with the timelines set forth in the statute ***
- **Complete TSCA Pre-Manufacture Notice final determinations in accordance with the timelines set forth in the statute ***
- Complete all cases of Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)-mandated decisions for pesticides registration review program
- Improve the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA) registration decision time frames for new pesticides

- Increase the number of grant commitments achieved by states, tribes, and local communities
- Increase the use of alternate joint governance approaches to address state, tribal, and local community reviews
- **Increase the amount of non-EPA resources leveraged by projects receiving EPA infrastructure investments ***
- Reduce the backlog and meet statutory deadlines for responding to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests and appeals
- Eliminate unnecessary or duplicative reporting burdens to the regulated community

- Reduce the time between the identification of an environmental law violation and its correction
- Increase environmental law compliance rate
- Meet legal deadlines imposed on EPA
- Increase the percentage of decisions using EPA research and scientific analysis
- **Accelerate permitting-related decisions ***
- Reduce unnecessary/unused office, warehouse, and lab space
- Reduce procurement processing time
- Improve operational processes
- Increase enterprise adoption of shared services

*** signifies Agency Priority Goals for FY18-19**

current as of September 27, 2017

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Tue 10/3/2017 3:47:02 PM
Subject: Justin Haskins and H. Sterling Burnett in Townhall

https://townhall.com/columnists/justinhaskins/2017/10/03/reasons-why-climate-alarmism-and-the-fear-it-is-meant-to-generate-is-unjustified-n2389772

Reasons Why Climate Alarmism and the Fear it is Meant to Generate is Unjustified

By: Justin Haskins and H. Sterling Burnett, the Heartland Institute

In the world of science, debates rarely end. Only after years of careful analyses, rigorous scientific studies, and the replication of findings can scientists safely declare they believe a theory has likely been proven. And even then, real scientists know virtually every scientific conclusion is subject to further debate and experimentation as additional insights are discovered.

On the topic of the science of climate change, including the causes and potential dangers, the debate is still very much alive and well. But the current climate-change debate held in most public forums, including in Washington, D.C., has never been particularly scientific (that is, adhering to the scientific method), and after three decades of debating the claims made repeatedly by climate alarmists such as Al Gore, it's clear the debate is over, and the alarmists have lost.

What Alarmists Believe

The current climate alarmist debate involves only two groups: alarmists and skeptics. The alarmists are those who say climate change is happening, that it is now and has for decades been caused by humans' greenhouse-gas emissions, that the warming is causing or will soon cause catastrophic problems, and, most importantly, that the evidence is overwhelming and beyond dispute. Anyone who doesn't believe in *all four* of those assertions falls, whether they realize it or not, into the "climate skeptic" camp, a rather large tent.

If this description of the debate surprises you, it's only because for 30 years alarmists have consistently and improperly been claiming climate-change skeptics are "deniers" — a name that was deliberately chosen because of its link to Holocaust "deniers" — who are stupid, corrupt, or both. They've spread countless falsehoods about what global warming actually is and have repeatedly made untrue claims about what skeptics believe.

Is the Science Settled?

One thing is abundantly clear, however: For alarmists, anyone who doesn't accept the climate-change dogma, which, again, includes all four of the claims made above, is dangerous.

"This is scary stuff, above and beyond everything else that scares us about Republicans," Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) said in 2016. "You have a major political party which has turned its back on science regarding climate change. … It is caused by human activity. And it is already, not tomorrow but today, causing massive problems all over this country."

So certain are the climate alarmists of their position that many of them have suggested it could be appropriate to imprison climate-change skeptics. Pop-culture scientist Bill Nye suggested as much in an April 2016 interview.

"Was it appropriate to jail the guys from Enron?" Nye said. "We'll see what happens. … In these cases, for me, as a taxpayer and voter, the introduction of this extreme doubt about climate change is affecting my quality of life as a public citizen. So, I can see where people are very concerned about this, and they're pursuing criminal investigations as well as engaging in discussions like this."

The climate-alarmism debate is clear, so the only question is: Are the alarmists right? On this point, the facts are apparent: Although there is still a debate over whether the climate is still warming significantly, what the causes of the warming are, and whether warming will cause more harm than good, it is now certain that the evidence is not anywhere near overwhelming enough for Gore, Sanders, and Nye to make their most important claim: that the debate is over and that the theory of human-caused climate change has unquestionably been resolved in climate alarmists' favor.

The Evidence: Climate Models

Let's start with the basics. If climate alarmists are correct that the debate is over, why can't they prove it using scientific data? Because climate is incredibly complex, climate scientists can't run laboratory experiments to test hypotheses in the same way they might in other areas of research. Instead, they are forced to rely on computer climate models, which have been remarkably bad at proving a link between humans and carbon-dioxide emissions, as David Henderson and Charles Hooper noted for the Hoover Institution in April.

"The ultimate test for a climate model is the accuracy of its predictions," Henderson and Hooper wrote. "But the models predicted that there would be much greater warming between 1998 and 2014 than actually happened. If the models were doing a good job, their predictions would cluster symmetrically around the actual measured temperatures. That was not the case here; a mere 2.4 percent of the predictions undershot actual temperatures and 97.6 percent overshot, according to Cato Institute climatologist Patrick Michaels, former MIT meteorologist Richard Lindzen, and Cato Institute climate researcher Chip Knappenberger. Climate models as a group have been 'running hot,' predicting about 2.2 times as much warming as actually occurred over 1998–2014."

Numerous other studies have been conducted showing the failure of most climate models. Earlier in 2017, a paper in *Nature: Geoscience* found climate models have failed to explain the global warming pause experienced in the early 21st century.

"In the early twenty-first century, satellite-derived tropospheric warming trends were generally smaller than trends estimated from a large multi-model ensemble," lead author Benjamin Santer and his team wrote.

"Over most of the early twenty-first century ... model tropospheric warming is substantially larger than observed … partly due to systematic deficiencies in some of the post-2000 external forcings used in the model simulations," they added.

The authors of a September paper in Nature Geoscience recently admitted what those following the scientific method have long discussed; climate models have grossly overestimated the amount of warming the earth has experienced due to human carbon dioxide emissions. As Oxford's Myles Allan, one of the authors told *The Times*, "We haven't seen that rapid acceleration in warming after 2000 that we see in the models. We haven't seen that in the observations."

The most likely reason for this is because the earth simply isn't as sensitive as models assume to carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions, primarily because they grossly overstate feedback effects built into the models.

If climate models don't get the most basic prediction they make, that of global temperatures, correct, one could reasonably ask why people should trust their predictions concerning climate changes purported to result from rising temperatures.

The Evidence: Alleged Dangers of Warming

Climate alarmists' numerous predictions about extreme weather have also been utterly incorrect.

Authors of a paper in the August 2016 edition of the journal Theoretical and Applied Climatology found "stronger storms are not getting stronger," and the researchers also noted changes in the strength, seasonality, and the increase in the amount of heavy rainfall events could be explained by natural variability.

Alarmists can't even definitively prove warmer temperatures are causing more harm than good. Increased carbon dioxide and warmer temperatures have scientifically been proven to help plant growth, which means there is more food for humans and animals. In fact, it is widely known that historically, cooler conditions are much more dangerous than warmer conditions for life on Earth.

A 2015 article in the influential journal The Lancet examined health data from 13 countries, accounting for more than 74 million deaths, and found relatively cold weather, directly or indirectly, kills 1,700 percent more people than warm weather.

Alarmists' Response

Of course, climate alarmists refuse to accept any of these well-established facts, because it would undermine the foundation of everything they've claimed for three decades. In the face of facts, they hurl unjustifiable accusations and insults in an attempt to sway readers.

Writing for Forbes in July, climate alarmist Ethan Siegel, like many other of Gore's disciples, claimed similar arguments we had made in the past are "lies" and distortions.

"The only reason to write about validating climate skepticism is to reinforce pre-existing beliefs," Siegel wrote.

Then, to bolster his assertion, Siegel provided a number of alleged proofs of skeptics' "lies," some of them laughable. For instance, in response to a claim made about there being fewer hurricanes (despite alarmists' many predictions that there would be more hurricanes and more-intense storms), Siegel pointed to a study that admitted there were fewer hurricanes, and he acknowledged that fewer large hurricanes had made landfall in the United States in recent years, but he insisted alarmists were right because of a single study that reported "wind speeds in tropical cyclones" increased from 1984 to 2012. By how much, you may ask? Three mph, a paltry figure that's within the margin of error for such measurements, thus proving absolutely nothing.

Siegel also claimed, "The effects of ocean acidification, rising sea levels and the severe economic consequences, among many others, show that the negative consequences of global warming for humanity will far outweigh the positives," but then provided absolutely no proof that would undermine the findings of the article in The Lancet, to which he was attempting to respond, that shows cold weather is much more dangerous.

The scientific debate over the causes and possible problems related to climate change is far from over, but the debate over the argument made repeatedly by climate alarmists that the evidence is overwhelming is now settled, and alarmists such as Gore and Siegel have lost.

The only reason we continue to hear these outlandish, unscientific assertions is because radical environmentalists depend on them to continue their push for extreme economic, political, and social changes — many of which were also made in the 1970s, when numerous alarmists predicted a new ice age was just around the corner.

*This is a modified version of an article that first appeared in The Blaze

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Tue 10/3/2017 2:03:41 PM
Subject: Dennis Avery article: EPA endangerment finding endangers USA

Excellent piece on the endangerment finding…

Joe

From: Paul Driessen [mailto: **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
Sent: Monday, October 02, 2017 8:35 PM
To: 'Paul Driessen'
Subject: Dennis Avery article: EPA endangerment finding endangers USA

The Obama EPA's infamous "Endangerment Finding" declared that carbon dioxide and methane from fossil fuel operations cause global warming and climate change that pose imminent dangers to the health and wellbeing of every American. In this insightful article, climate history author Dennis Avery explains why this finding is based on bad science and should not be the basis for bureaucratic regulations or court decisions.

As Avery notes, computer climate models have predicted far more warming than has actually occurred in the Real World. Contrary to EPA claims, hurricanes, tornadoes, floods and droughts have not become more frequent or severe. Natural forces and phenomena explain the various climate and weather fluctuations we have observed over the centuries – and demonstrate that CO2 is only a "bit player" in determining these changes. Moreover, new research convincingly shows that solar activity determines the number of cosmic rays hitting the Earth, and thus the extent of low-lying clouds that periodically cool the planet … and at the other end of the cycle bring sunnier skies that warm it.

Thank you for posting Dennis's article, quoting from it, and forwarding it to your friends and colleagues.

Best regards,

Paul

EPA endangerment finding endangers USA

Trump must reverse EPA's climate change "Endangerment Finding"

Dennis T. Avery

Nine years ago, the Obama Environmental Protection Agency issued an "Endangerment Finding." It claimed that methane leaks from natural gas production and pipelines, and manmade carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels, cause dangerous global warming that poses an imminent danger to the health and wellbeing of Americans. However, the Finding was based on computerized climate models that couldn't even successfully hind-cast the weather we'd had over the past century – much less forecast Earth's climate 100 years into the future. In fact, Earth's climate has changed frequently, often abruptly.

EPA essentially asserted that the 80% of our energy that comes from coal, oil and natural gas caused all our planet's recent warming and any more warming is a long-term threat. Obama's team thus bet in 2009 that Earth's warming from 1976–98 would continue. But it didn't. Never mind all those recent NOAA and NASA claims that 2016 was our "hottest year" ever. Satellites are our most honest indicator, and they say our planet's temperature has risen an insignificant 0.02 degrees C (0.04 degrees F) since 1998.

That 20-year non-warming clearly shows that the models are worthless for prediction. But the Federal Appeals Court in Washington nevertheless recently cited methane emissions to block regulatory approval for a new natural gas pipeline. The ruling will encourage radical greens to keep thinking they can regulate gas and oil production and transport into oblivion. Alarmists across the country are already citing the new precedent in other cases, in effect demanding re-hearings on Trump's entire energy plan.

If the courts decree that pipelines cause dangerous methane emissions, the U.S. will be forced to generate electricity increasingly via the infamous whimsies of wind and sunshine. But the models' prediction of dangerously rising temperatures have proven wrong. The disparity between the models' predictions and the thermometer readings is growing wider by the day. We should not base regulations on them.

In science, if your theory doesn't take account of all the relevant data, you need a new theory.

Meanwhile, thousands of new coal-fired power plants are being built around the world – even in Europe. (Many Third World power plants are being built with Chinese financing.) The CO_2 from this new coal-fired power will dwarf whatever emissions the judges hope to prevent in America.

The President now risks losing the economic growth and millions of new jobs that abundant, affordable energy could and should create. Without new pipelines, our "miraculous" fracked gas will be trapped in the semideserts and mountains where the gas is found.

What danger can today's EPA find in earth's current 20-year non-warming? What ice-melt will that trigger? What sea level rise? World food production has just set a new record, in large part because higher CO_2 levels in the atmosphere act like fertilizer for crop plants (as well as for forests and grasslands).

Justice Neil Gorsuch's confirmation to the Supreme Court should strongly encourage a Trump Endangerment reversal. Gorsuch stated in a 2016 opinion that the so-called Chevron Precedent is "difficult to square with the Constitution." Chevron says courts should defer to federal judges on laws that are ambiguous. He believes it shifts too much power from Congress to unelected bureaucrats.

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt will need to build a strong case for the reversal, however, because the Supreme Court still does not have a reliable 5–4 conservative majority. Pruitt's current approach of setting up competing red-teams vs. blue teams must help convince Justice Kennedy that the world today looks much different from when the EPA rubberstamped the IPCC and its failed climate models.

The science was not settled in 2009; and, fortunately, the weight of evidence has since shifted importantly toward the skeptics. It starts with the still-continuing 20-year non-warming. The best "answer" the alarmists can find is that "extra" CO_2 heat is hiding in the deep ocean depths. But cold water is heavier than warm water, so the warm water would have warmed the depths on its way down. NASA's newer and more-accurate data comes from ARGO floats that periodically dive to sample water temperatures 2100 feet below the surface. They find no hidden heat.

Moreover, Earth has been warming, erratically but persistently, since 1715. How much of this warming was due to natural cycles, and how much was man-made? Of any manmade portion, how much was due to CO2, and how much to expanding Urban Heat Islands and cutting down forests? Climate realists say CO_2 added barely one degree C; alarmists claim it will increase temperatures by up to 12 degrees C!

How did hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria destroy so much property with only 0.02 degrees C of warming? Britain's wooden-ship logbooks from 1700 to1850 confirm that there were *twice* as many major landfalling Caribbean hurricanes per decade during the cold Little Ice Age as during the far warmer years from 1950 to 2000. Nor has the post-1998 weather produced more frequent to intensive storms, longer droughts, or any of the other climate impacts that Obama's EPA insisted would happen.

The simple truth is that the Pacific Decadal Oscillation has given the world a climate scare every 25 to 30 years since we got thermometers around 1850 (even though the PDO wasn't even recognized until 1996). In 1845, the ships of Sir John Franklin's Arctic expedition were crushed by ice. Just 64 years later, in 1909, Roald Amundsen sailed through a relatively warm, ice-free Northwest Passage. In the 1970s, we were warned urgently of a new Ice Age. And then came the "overheated" Al Gore years, 1976–1998.

The huge Pacific Ocean's 60-year oscillation raises ocean temperatures – and thus the world's – by 1 to 2 degrees C (1.8 to 3.6 degrees F) for about 30 years, then shifts back

again for another 30 years. Every time it shifted in the past, alarmists extended the latest reading in a straight line for five or 20 years and screamed: " Global Disaster!" This time, the alarmists claim the non-warming isn't real!

Today, there's no doubt the models have predicted more than twice as much warming as we've observed. Given the high number of official thermometers that are located in urban areas and near airport tarmac, the models may be overpredicting by three-fold!

Another major new scientific finding also goes against the alarmists. Last year CERN (the multi-billion-dollar Institute for European Nuclear Research) told *CERN Courier* subscribers that all the climate models must be re-done. CERN reported that its CLOUD experiment had used its huge particle accelerator and a giant cloud chamber to demonstrate that the sun and cosmic rays are the real "mystery factors" in earth's climate. The research supports the contention that CO_2 is only a bit player.

CERN says the sun was weak during the Little Ice Age (indeed, during all the "little ice ages"). This allowed far more cosmic rays to hit our atmosphere. Those extra hits shattered millions more molecules into zillions of tiny "cloud seeds." Each cloud seed carried an electric charge that attracted other molecules to form clumps – and gave us up to ten times as many low clouds. Earth cooled for centuries under overcast skies, as if under a giant awning. Then the sun became more active, there were fewer cosmic rays, the skies got sunnier, and Earth warmed – for centuries.

History says the Modern Warming is likely to last at least another two centuries. The Medieval Warming (350 years long) was the shortest past warming we can find. But first, CERN says, we will have to go through a *60-year Solar Sunspot Minimum* that will *drop Earth's temperatures* even lower than today for the next 60 years. The Minimums are another recently-recognized cycle: up to 200 years long.

How will a century of non-warming possibly endanger Americans? Trump should be eager to take on Obama's outdated and ill-informed Endangerment Finding.

Dennis Avery is a former U.S. State Department senior analyst and co-author with astrophysicist Fred Singer of *Unstoppable Global Warming: Every 1,500 Years*.

To: Jim Lakely[JLakely@heartland.org]
From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Tue 10/3/2017 1:30:39 PM
Subject: FW: Climate change deniers, science always wins in the end | TheHill

Two know-nothings take aim at "climate change deniers," perhaps in response to Sterling Burnett's recent piece in The Hill. Who wants to take a shot at replying to this?

http://thehill.com/opinion/energy-environment/353481-climate-change-deniers-science-always-wins-in-the-end

Joe

Joseph Bast
Chief Executive Officer
The Heartland Institute
3939 N. Wilke Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
Phone 312/377-4000
Email jbast@heartland.org
Web site http://www.heartland.org

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Mon 1/22/2018 7:37:46 PM
Subject: Webcast: Jan. 25 Event: Holding Fossil Fuel Companies Liable for Climate Change Harms in California

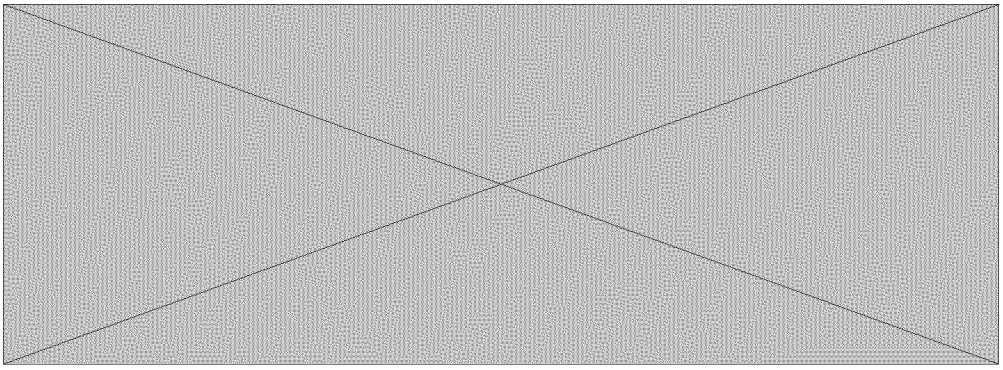
If you have time and interest, you can sign up for a free webcast of what is likely to be an awful event explaining why fossil fuel companies, not governments or consumers, should be held responsible for the hypothetical damages caused by changes in the weather that even computer models say will probably be too-small-to-see against background variability, a century from now, when the average street beggar will have a net worth of more than $2 million.

Still interested? Details below. Send me a write up and I'll share it with others.

H/T Donald Nanney

Joe

From: UCLA Emmett Institute on Climate Change and the Environment [mailto:envirolaw@law.ucla.edu]
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2018 7:21 AM
To:
Subject: UPDATE: Bill McKibben Joins Jan. 25 Event: Holding Fossil Fuel Companies Liable for Climate Change Harms in California



Upcoming Event

News & Events

January 2018

Update: Bill McKibben to deliver keynote address via Skype

Please join the Union of Concerned Scientists and the Emmett Institute for:

Holding Fossil Fuel Companies Liable for Climate Change Harms in California: Law, Science, and Justice

Reception and Panel Discussion

Thursday, January 25, 2018

Opening Reception: 5:15 P.M. PST

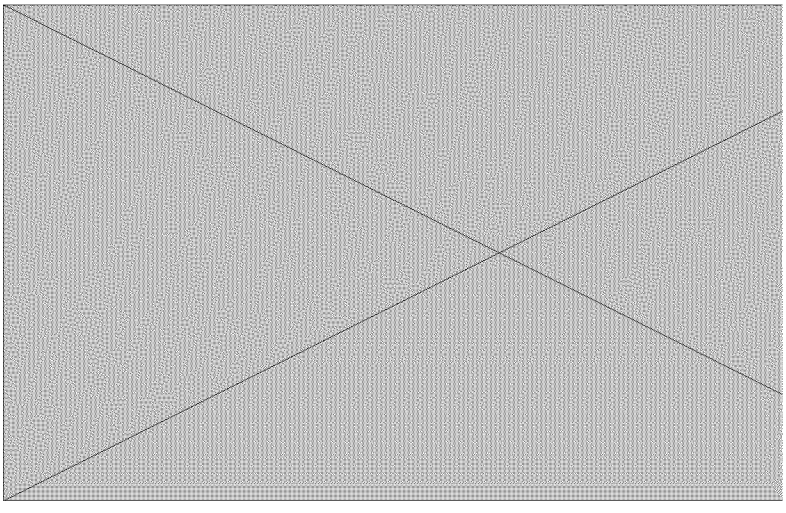
Program Begins: 6:00 P.M. PST

Fowler Museum at UCLA

308 Charles E Young Dr. N.

Los Angeles, CA 90024

Register Here



The Union of Concerned Scientists and the Emmett Institute on Climate Change and the Environment at UCLA School of Law invite you to a stimulating conversation exploring whether and how the fossil fuel industry can be held liable for the harms climate change is inflicting on communities.

Bill McKibben, author and environmentalist, founder of 350.org, and Schumann Distinguished Scholar in Environmental Studies at Middlebury College, VT, will deliver a keynote address via Skype.

The event is free, but registration is required. Please register today to attend in person or to receive more information on joining the live webcast.

Panelists:

- **Peter Frumhoff**, Director of Science and Policy, Union of Concerned Scientists;
- **Ann Carlson**, Shirley Shapiro Professor of Environmental Law, and inaugural Faculty Director of the Emmett Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, UCLA School of Law;
- **Honorable Serge Dedina**, Mayor of Imperial Beach, California, and Executive Director of the nonprofit organization Wildcoast;
- **Alex Hall**, Professor in the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences and Director of the Center for Climate Change Solutions at the UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability;
- **Gladys Limon**, Executive Director of the California Environmental Justice Alliance;
- **Cara Horowitz (moderator)**, Andrew Sabin Family Foundation Co-Executive Director of the Emmett Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, Co-Director, UCLA Environmental Law Clinic.

Ken Kimmell, President of the Union of Concerned Scientists, will deliver closing remarks.

About the Emmett Institute

The Emmett Institute on Climate Change and the Environment is the country's leading law school center focused on climate change and other critical environmental issues. Founded in 2008 with a generous gift from Dan A. Emmett and his family, the Institute works across disciplines to develop and promote research and policy tools useful to decision makers locally, statewide, nationally and beyond. Our Institute serves as a premier source of environmental legal scholarship, nonpartisan expertise, policy analysis and training.

For more information on our work and programs, contact Cara Horowitz (horowitz@law.ucla.edu) or Sean Hecht (hecht@law.ucla.edu). We look forward to hearing your thoughts!

Notice: This communication, including attachments, may contain information that is confidential and protected by the attorney/client or other privileges. It constitutes non-public information intended to be conveyed only to the designated recipient(s). If the reader or recipient of this communication is not the intended recipient, an employee or agent of the intended recipient who is responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, or you believe that you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately by return e-mail and promptly delete this e-mail, including attachments without reading or saving them in any manner. The unauthorized use, dissemination, distribution, or reproduction of this e-mail, including attachments, is prohibited and may be unlawful. Receipt by anyone other than the intended recipient(s) is not a waiver of any attorney/client or other privilege.

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Mon 1/22/2018 5:26:21 PM
Subject: John Coleman RIP

Friends,

It is with a sad heart that I report that John Coleman passed away on Saturday evening. Below is a message posted on Facebook by his daughter.

John was a pioneer in meteorology, a wonderful communicator who millions of people welcomed into their homes every night to learn about the weather. He was an outspoken and brilliant critic of the anthropogenic global warming scam and spoke often at Heartland's International Conferences on Climate Change (ICCCs).

John attended our most recent Red Team briefing, held here in Arlington Heights, Illinois, on September 28, towing an oxygen tank, and inspired us all with his continued passion for speaking the truth. He will be truly missed.

Joe

From Facebook:

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Joe

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Mon 1/22/2018 3:16:47 PM
Subject: Another major victory: Climate change droppedfrom National Defense Strategy

https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/01/20/pentagon-erases-climate-change-from-the-national-defense-threat-list/

Pentagon erases "climate change" from the National Defense threat list

Anthony Watts / 1 day ago January 20, 2018

The Pentagon released a National Defense Strategy that for the first time in more than a decade does not mention manmade global warming as a security threat.

An 11-page summary of the new National Defense Strategy makes no mention of "global warming" or "climate change". The document makes no mention of "climate," "warming," "planet," "sea levels" or even "temperature." All 22 uses of the word "environment" refer to the strategic or security landscape.

The document is here:

https://www.defense.gov/Portals/1/Documents/pubs/2018-National-Defense-Strategy-Summary.pdf

The National Defense Strategy, signed by Defense Secretary James Mattis, doesn't have much to say about energy issues, except that the U.S. would "foster a stable and secure Middle East" and "contributes to stable global energy markets and secure trade routes."

The Pentagon released the strategy document Friday, and officials were clear that it would make no mention of global warming. The Bush administration added global warming to the defense strategy in 2008, but the issue gained top-tier status during the Obama administration.

The Trump administration released its "America First" security strategy in December, which called for "[u]nleashing these abundant energy resources— coal, natural gas, petroleum, renewables, and nuclear" to boost the economy and aid U.S. allies.

That plan de-emphasized policies aimed at fighting manmade global warming, a complete u-turn from national security under the Obama administration.

"Climate policies will continue to shape the global energy system," reads the National Security Strategy, released in December.

"U.S. leadership is indispensable to countering an anti-growth, energy agenda that is detrimental to U.S. economic and energy security interests," reads the plan. "Given future global energy demand, much of the

developing world will require fossil fuels, as well as other forms of energy, to power their economies and lift their people out of poverty."

The Daily caller and the Huntington Post were used as sources for this story.

This cartoon got it right:

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Fri 1/19/2018 7:02:59 PM
Subject: Wall Street Journal reporters can't get "the scientific consensus" thing right

Friends,

Some of you called my attention to a *Wall Street Journal* "news" story about EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, in which the reporters made a stupid statement about the "scientific consensus." Below is the email I sent to the reporters this morning. Just FYI, but feel free to use this language or source citations in your own efforts.

Joe

Dear Mr. Stokols and Mr. Puko,

I see from the comments posted following your article in yesterday's WSJ that I'm not the only one surprised to read your opinion about a "scientific consensus" on climate change so boldly expressed in a news story. You wrote,

Mr. Pruitt has long questioned the scientific consensus that human activities are a significant factor in rising global temperatures and severe weather, and pose a potential existential threat to life on Earth in decades to come.

While there is near consensus that human activities have some effect on global temperatures, there is considerable debate and uncertainty over the size of that effect, its relationship to "severe weather," and whether it poses a benefit or a threat to "life on Earth." The few surveys and article-counting exercises cited on NASA's website have been expertly debunked many times, a story told well in Chapter 1 of *Why Scientists Disagree about Global Warming*, published recently by The Heartland Institute for the Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC).

Criticism of the consensus claim doesn't only come from a small group of "skeptics." Sandrine Bony *et al.* wrote in 2015, "Fundamental puzzles of climate science remain unsolved because of our limited understanding of how clouds, circulation and climate interact." See Bony, S., Stevens, B., Frierson, D.M.W., Jakob, C., Kageyama, M., Pincus, R., Shepherd, T.G., Sherwood, S.C., Siebesma, A.P., Sobel, A.H., Watanebe, M., and Webb, M.J. 2015. Clouds, circulation and climate sensitivity. *Nature Geoscience* 8: 261–268. doi: 10.1038/ngeo2398.

Reporting in *Nature* on Bony's study, Quirin Schiermeier wrote, "There is a misconception that the major challenges in physical climate science are settled. 'That's absolutely not true,' says Sandrine Bony, a climate researcher at the Laboratory of Dynamic Meteorology in Paris. 'In fact, essential physical aspects of climate change are poorly understood.'" Schiermeier goes on to write, "large uncertainties persist in 'climate sensitivity,' the increase in average global temperature caused by a given rise in the concentration of carbon dioxide," citing Bjorn Stevens, a director at the Max Planck Institute for Meteorology in Hamburg, Germany. See Schiermeier, Q. 2015. Physicists, your planet needs you. *Nature* 520 (7546 April): 140–141. doi: 10.1038/520140a.

Bony also reported the extensive uncertainty in climate science in *Science*. See Stevens, B. and Bony, S. 2013. What are climate models missing? *Science* 340 (6136 May): 1053-1054. doi: 10.1126/science.1237554.

With *Nature* and *Science* – arguable the top two science journals in the world -- both reporting there is no scientific consensus on major aspects of the anthropogenic climate change hypothesis, shouldn't reporters for *The Wall Street Journal* hesitate before repeating the myth?

More recently, just last year, a team of leading climate scientists admitted there was more "art" than "science" in the creation and interpretation of climate models, saying the models can be "tuned" to produce pretty much whatever outcomes their sponsors wish. See Hourdin, F. et al., The art and science of climate model tuning. *BAMS,* March 2017, 589-602.

The first two volumes in the *Climate Change Reconsidered II* series cite thousands of peer-reviewed articles and studies revealing the extensive uncertainty surrounding claims that climate change is man-made, can be accurately forecast, and is likely to cause significant harm to the environment or to mankind. Those volumes have been highly praised by climate scientists and cited more than 100 times in peer-reviewed articles. It's simply wrong to pretend this literature

doesn't exist.

A couple years ago, I worked with Roy Spencer on an op-ed on this subject that appeared in the WSJ. While exchanging emails with Howard Dickman, I composed a list of links to some articles challenging the claim of a scientific consensus. I've copied and pasted that same list below my signature.

In light of all this, I hope you don't repeat the consensus myth in future news stories. Better to refer to it as an "alleged consensus," or best not to dignify the false claim at all by reporting it.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me, or any of the individuals on the cc line of this message. If you have any reservations about the credibility of my organization, The Heartland Institute, I hope you will visit our "Reply to Critics" page to learn the truth about us.

Joe

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

The UN Climate Change Numbers Hoax
http://heartland.org/policy-documents/un-climate-change-numbers-hoax
In this 2007 article, climate researcher John McLean and International Climate Science Coalition Executive Director Tom Harris systematically take apart the claim that "2,500 scientist reviewers" support the IPCC's claim that man-made global warming is a serious problem.

1350+ Peer-Reviewed Papers Supporting Skeptic Arguments Against ACC/AGW Alarm
http://www.populartechnology.net/2009/10/peer-reviewed-papers-supporting.html
PopularTechnology.net presents a bibliography of more than 1,350 peer-reviewed papers that support arguments skeptical of alarmism over anthropogenic climate change (ACC) or anthropogenic global warming.

Scientific Consensus on Climate Change?

http://www.landandwaterusa.com/GlobalWarming/2008GlobalWarming/3-19SchulteEnergyEnviron.pdf

Medical researcher Klaus-Martin Schulte used the same database and search terms as Oreskes to examine papers published from 2004 to February 2007 and found fewer than half endorsed the "consensus" and only 7 percent did so explicitly. Schulte counted 31 papers (6 percent of the sample) that explicitly or implicitly rejected the "consensus." His findings were published in the peer-reviewed journal *Energy & Environment*, 19 (2) (2008).

Modelling the Effects of Subjective and Objective Decision Making in Scientific Peer Review
http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/vaop/ncurrent/abs/nature12786.html
A 2014 paper published in *Nature* explains how scientists converge on false

conclusions, summarizing research on publication bias, careerism, data fabrication, and fraud. The authors also find "a mismatch between the claims made in the abstracts, and the strength of evidence for those claims based on a neutral analysis of the data, consistent with the occurrence of herding."

The Myth of the 98 Percent
http://heartland.org/policy-documents/myth-98-percent
Heartland Institute President Joseph Bast critiques articles by Doran and Zimmerman (2009) and Anderegg *et al.* (2010) and explains why global warming alarmists publish more than skeptics, rendering abstract-counting exercises unreliable and misleading.

"Consensus?" What "Consensus"? Among Scientists, the Debate is Not Over

http://scienceandpublicpolicy.org/images/stories/papers/monckton/consensus.pdf

This 2007 report published by the Science and Public Policy Institute rebuts Naomi Orestes and the IPCC as reliable sources of the alleged "consensus" of scientists.

AMS Survey Shows No Consensus on Global Warming
http://heartland.org/policy-documents/ams-survey-shows-no-consensus-global-warming
In this September 2013 *Heartland Institute Policy Brief*, Heartland Institute President Joseph Bast examines an American Meteorological Survey of its members that revealed only 39.5 percent of those who responded said they believed manmade global warming is dangerous.

You Call This Consensus?
http://heartland.org/policy-documents/you-call-consensus-0
Heartland Institute President Joseph Bast, in a 2011 paper, examines the claim of a scientific "consensus" that humans are the primary cause of catastrophic climate change. Bast traces the origins of such claims and finds they are often conflicted, disingenuous, and patently false.

Consensus? What Consensus?
http://heartland.org/policy-documents/consensus-what-consensus-0
This 2013 report by Andrew Montford, published by the Global Warming Policy Foundation, examines the paper by Cook *et al.* and concludes "the consensus referred

to is trivial" since the paper "said nothing about global warming being dangerous" and that "the project was not a scientific investigation to determine the extent of agreement on global warming, but a public relations exercise."

97 Percent Consensus? No! Global Warming Math Myths & Social Proofs
http://heartland.org/policy-documents/97-consensus-no-global-warming-math-myths-social-proofs
This 2014 paper from Friends of Science, a Canadian public policy group, closely examines five studies that seek to establish a scientific consensus on the causes and consequences of climate change and finds mathematical errors and in some cases, manipulation. "The deconstruction of the surveys that follow shows the claim of a 97 percent consensus is pure spin and 'statisticulation' – mathematical manipulation."

97% Study Falsely Classifies Scientists' Papers, according to the scientists that published them

http://www.populartechnology.net/2013/05/97-study-falsely-classifies-scientists.html

The author contacted a sample of scientists whose papers were used in the report by Cook et al. (2013) and asked them if their papers were accurately represented. Craig Idso, Nils-Axel Morner, Nicola Scafetta, and Nir J. Shaviv protested that their work had been misrepresented.

IPCC Lead Author Reports Flaws in Asserted 97-Percent Consensus
http://news.heartland.org/newspaper-article/2013/08/28/ipcc-lead-author-debunks-asserted-97-percent-consensus
Richard Tol, a lead author of the United Nations' IPCC reports, says the study by Cook *et al.* claiming 97 percent of peer-reviewed studies on climate agree "humans are causing global warming" is riddled with procedural errors.

Analysis: New International Survey of Climate Scientists
http://heartland.org/policy-documents/analysis-new-international-survey-climate-scientists-0
In a September 2010 *Heartland Institute Policy Brief,* Heartland Institute President Joseph Bast examines the latest international survey of climate scientists conducted by German scientists Dennis Bray and Hans von Storch, and finds scientific opinion to be deeply divided on some two-thirds of the questions asked about the underlying science. Approximately half of scientists dissent from the assumptions and predictions presented in the reports of the United Nations' IPCC.

Scientific Consensus on Global Warming

http://heartland.org/policy-documents/scientific-consensus-global-warming

Heartland Institute senior fellow James Taylor and President Joseph Bast calculated and reported the average responses to every question in international surveys of climate scientists conducted by Bray and von Storch in 1996 and 2003 and then singled out 18 questions from the 2003 survey and presented the answers here in a simplified and less academic style. The results reveal a lack of consensus on the most important questions in the climate change debate.

31,072 American Scientists Say There Is No Climate Crisis
http://heartland.org/media-library/pdfs/CCR-2009/Appendix%204%20Petition.pdf

The Petition Project, an independent initiative to identify the amount of support for or opposition to claims that man-made global warming is a serious problem, has collected more than 31,000 signatures by American scientists on a petition stating, "there is no convincing scientific evidence that human release of carbon dioxide, methane, or other greenhouse gases is causing or will, in the foreseeable future, cause catastrophic heating of the Earth's atmosphere and disruption of the Earth's climate." This 2009 document presents background on the Petition Project and a directory of the signers.

Q&A: Prof. Phil Jones

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/8511670.stm?oo=102541

In the wake of the Climategate scandal in February, 2010, the BBC's environment analyst Roger Harrabin put a series of questions to Professor Phil Jones, director of the Climatic Research Unit (CRU) at the University of East Anglia (UEA). Jones confessed "for the two periods 1910-40 and 1975-1998 the warming rates are not statistically significantly different," that "from 1995 to the present there has been no statistically-significant global warming," and when asked, "When scientists say "the debate on climate change is over", what exactly do they mean - and what don't they mean?" he replied, "I don't believe the vast majority of climate scientists think this. This is not my view. There is still much that needs to be undertaken to reduce uncertainties, not just for the future, but for the instrumental (and especially the palaeoclimatic) past as well."

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Thur 1/18/2018 9:49:09 PM
Subject: Op-ed Burnett: President Trump on Energy and the Environment: An Assessment of His First Year

This will soon appear online at a friendly site.

Joseph Bast

CEO

The Heartland Institute

Phone 312/377-4000

President Trump on Energy and the Environment: An Assessment of His First Year

By H. Sterling Burnett, Ph.D.

Elections have consequences, and in the energy and environmental policy areas, the consequences resulting from the election of Donald Trump have been profound.

When it comes to being president, ideas and vision are in many cases just as important as the policies implemented. In this regard, there has been a radical shift in the goal driving energy policy since Barack Obama left the White House. Under Trump, energy policies are no longer formulated based on the false narrative humans' fossil-fuel use is causing dangerous climate change.

Trump views climate change as non-threat to the prosperity and health of U.S. residents

and believes the climate policies imposed by Obama are threats to the country's national and energy security. Trump also ran his campaign, and thus far his administration, with the belief those policies have been hindering energy development and job growth. Under Trump, U.S. energy policy is guided by the overarching goal of promoting American energy dominance, a position reflected throughout the Trump administration's America First Energy Plan.

The Heartland Institute assembled an Action Plan for the Trump administration consisting of 34 actions and policies it believes will help, in Trump's words, "make America great again." Trump—with Congress' help, in some instances—has already accomplished in whole or in part eight of the 13 energy and environment recommendations in the Action Plan. For instance, Trump withdrew the United States from the Paris climate agreement and rescinded the Clean Power Plan—thereby partially adopting recommendations two and five on Heartland's list. Trump also approved the Keystone XL Pipeline (recommendation 3), and on November 20, the Nebraska Public Service Commission likewise approved the project—the final major regulatory hurdle needed for the expansion to begin.

With Scott Pruitt at the helm of Trump's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), EPA has ended its use of sue-and-settle agreements, which radical environmentalists and collaborators within EPA have relied on for years to shape energy and environmental policy without legislative oversight and outside of the normal regulatory process. Trump has also cleared Obama holdovers from EPA science advisory committees and issued a directive to ensure advisers serving on EPA Federal Advisory Committees are not receiving EPA grants and have no other conflicts of interest. Many of these positions at EPA and other agencies are now being filled with Heartland policy advisors. Additionally, Trump has dramatically reduced funding for climate programs. (The previous three actions accomplish Action Plan recommendations 10, 11, and 12, in whole or in part.)

As a candidate for president, Trump argued the massive regulatory state headquartered in Washington, DC was one of the key factors destroying jobs, restricting economic growth, and preventing America from becoming great again. To remedy this problem, Trump has committed to rescinding two regulations for every new regulation enacted, a promise he has kept since first entering the White House. In his first 11 months in office, Trump rolled back 22 regulations for every rule enacted.

Neomi Rao, director of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, reports the administration has thus far formally revoked 67 rules, blocked 635 regulations that were

being developed, placed 244 proposed regulations on "inactive" status, and placed a hold on more than 700 regulations. According to White House staff, the regulations the Trump administration has rescinded completely have saved the economy more than $8.1 billion in regulatory costs over their lifetime, or about $570 million per year.

Among the climate and energy policies Trump has changed is the removal of "climate change" as a threat that must be accounted for in the National Security Strategy document. With Congress' help, Trump also rescinded regulations that would have virtually halted many coal mining operations; withdrew federal regulations on fracking and methane emissions on federal and tribal lands; and opened federal lands to new oil, gas, and coal leases, including previously closed areas on the U.S. outer-continental shelf.

Trump's other environmental accomplishments include stopping the implementation of the Waters of the United States rule (recommendation 6 on Heartland's Action Plan)—which had already been placed on hold by federal courts—and reducing the size and changing the management of two enormous national monuments in Utah.

Trump still has much more to accomplish, but any fair assessment conducted by supporters of reasonable energy policies would consider his first-year achievements a tremendous start.

If the stock market, job growth, unemployment decline, business investment, and consumer confidence are any indication, Trump is well on his way to making America great again, and his climate, energy, and environment policy changes are playing no small part in that.

H. Sterling Burnett, Ph.D. (hburnett@heartland.org) *is a senior fellow on energy and the environment at The Heartland Institute, a nonpartisan, nonprofit research center headquartered in Arlington Heights, Illinois.*

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Thur 1/18/2018 4:05:44 PM
Subject: The green empress has no clothes

H/T Ron Rychlak.

Joe

Subject: The green empress has no clothes

Not only no clothes, but also sitting in the dark and freezing.

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2018/01/the_green_empress_has_no_clothes.html

The green empress has no clothes

During December 2017, Germany's millions of solar panels received just 10 hours of sunshine, and when solar energy did filter through the clouds, most of the panels were covered in snow. Even committed Green Disciples with a huge Tesla battery in their garage soon found that their battery was flat and that there was no solar energy to recharge it.

Germany has long supported two incompatible ideas: engineering excellence and green totalitarianism. Angela Merkel's support of climate alarmism while preaching energy efficiency continues this discordant tradition.

But King Winter has exposed the weak underbelly of Germany's energy policy. Empress Merkel now faces a hostile political climate with no clothes.

The green energy retreat has started in the green energy movement's own heartland.

Further Reading:

Germany gets 10 hours of Sunshine for December 2017:
http://notrickszone.com/2018/01/03/dark-days-for-german-solar-power-country-saw-only-10-hours-of-sun-in-all-of-december/#sthash.JBk2C8XQ.dpbs

Germany's climate change hypocrisy:
http://dailysignal.com/2018/01/11/germany-becomes-new-poster-child-climate-change-hypocrisy/

Wind Turbines produce Zero Global Energy:
https://www.spectator.co.uk/2017/05/wind-turbines-are-neither-clean-nor-green-and-they-provide-zero-global-energy/

Mugged by Reality – German Climate Consensus Collapsing:
http://mailchi.mp/thegwpf.org/germanys-climate-consensus-is-collapsing?e=e1638e04a2

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Wed 1/17/2018 10:29:16 PM
Subject: Two pieces by Steve Goreham

Great stuff here, written by Steve Goreham, **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** and published in the past week.

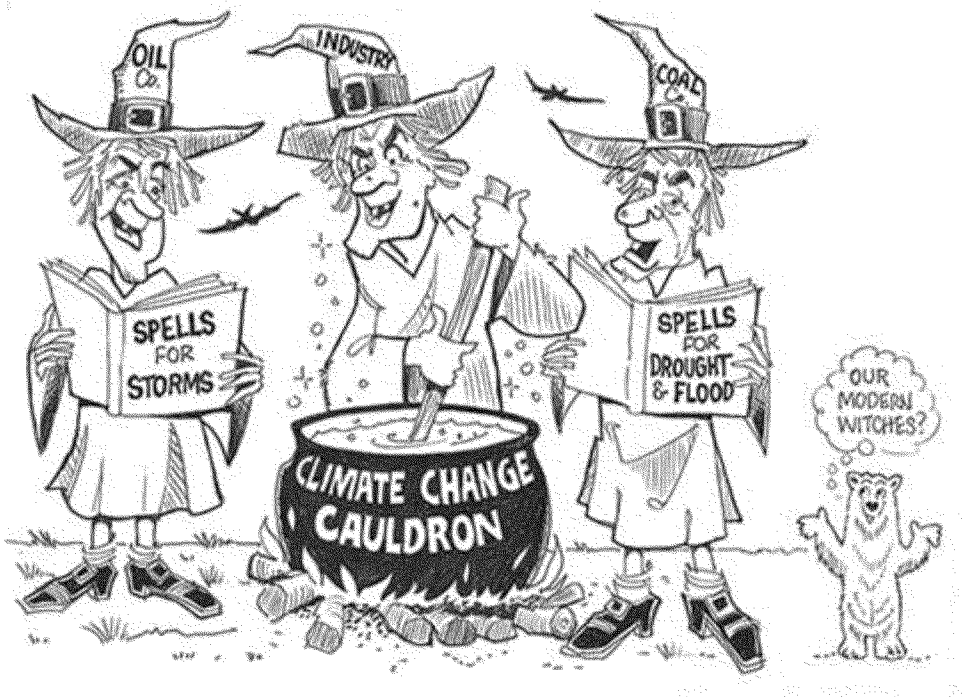
Joe

New York's Silly Climate Suit

By Steve Goreham

On January 10, the city of New York filed suit against BP, Chevron, Conoco-Phillips, ExxonMobil and Royal Dutch Shell. The suit accuses oil companies of causing dangerous climate change and damage to New York City, seeking monetary compensation. But history will rank this action high in the annals of human superstition.

Published in *The Washington Times*, January 14, 2018.



Cartoon by Bob Lynch

California: Legalize Marijuana, But Ban Small Particle Pollution?

By Steve Goreham

On January 1, California began legalized recreational use of marijuana. That same day, a new California law regulating particle emissions from leaf blowers and lawn mowers went into effect. But cannabis users inhale thousands of times more small particles from smoking than they breathe in from outdoor air.

Published in the *Daily Caller*, January 10, 2018.

Image by CoolJuno411

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Wed 1/17/2018 2:11:45 PM
Subject: A correction to: A post-modern critique of the NIPCC

Yesterday, I sent to you an essay about a recent article about the Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC). I erroneously wrote "2017" when I should have written "2007" in this sentence:

Exxon Mobil stopped funding The Heartland Institute and other conservative think tanks in 2007 ~~2017~~, before Heartland joined the Center for the Study of Carbon Dioxide and Global Change and the Science and Environmental Policy Project to produce the first volume in the *Climate Change Reconsidered* series.

I changed it in the message below. Sorry for the mistake.

Joe

On Tue, Jan 16, 2018 at 10:50 AM, Joseph Bast <JBast@heartland.org> wrote:

Adam Wildavsky kindly sent this link to an article about the Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC):

https://www.academia.edu/34621648/When_good_arguments_do_not_work_post-_dialectics_argument_assemblages_and_the_networks_of_climate_skepticism

This is the "peer reviewed" article it describes and links to:

Nicholas S. Paliewicz & George F. (Guy) McHendry Jr., "When good arguments do not work: post-dialectics, argument assemblages, and the networks of climate skepticism," *Argumentation and Advocacy,* 2017. http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00028533.2017.1375738

Warning: Reading this bizarre piece of post-modern commentary may cause permanent brain damage. The language, vocabulary, and reasoning are so twisted and congested that you will grip you head and want to turn away after the first page. It is possible the article is a fake, another demonstration of the failure of peer review by obscure online journals created to pad the resumes of assistant professors at little state colleges, but I haven't seen any reports admitting this yet.

The authors, assistant professors at colleges in Kentucky and Nebraska, advance the thesis that "the NIPCC is an example of how private corporations build intransigent networks to forcefully compel public advocacy on issues already settled by established scientific communities of argument. As this paper will demonstrate, it is through these assemblages, not well-reasoned arguments, that skepticism serves as an impasse to climate policy."

The wheels fall off this thesis by the second paragraph (!) of the article, when the authors incorrectly claim NIPCC has received funding from Exxon Mobil and Koch Industries. It has not. In fact, to my knowledge NIPCC has received no corporate funding whatsoever.

Exxon Mobil stopped funding The Heartland Institute and other conservative think tanks in 2017, before Heartland joined the Center for the Study of Carbon Dioxide and Global Change and the Science and Environmental Policy Project to produce the first volume in the *Climate Change Reconsidered* series.

Koch Industries has never funded Heartland or NIPCC. A Koch family foundation gave small grants to Heartland in the past but never for our work on climate change.

The rest of the article is therefore either nonsensical or comical. It is too poorly written to be comical.

Still, I persevered and found a raisin in the oatmeal on page 14:

The NIPCC is undoubtedly the most forceful, and popular, assembled actor in the campaign for climate skepticism. Not only is this private organization spending the most time and money to upend the climate thesis, but it is also directly engaging with the IPCC's argumentative style. ... the NIPCC is perceived as an equally qualified body of experts on the topic of climate change that has met thresholds of doubt and uncertainty on the climate thesis years ago.

One page later, another raisin, as the authors accurately describe the impact of the first NIPCC report:

In sowing doubt about climate change, the NIPCC has helped block action on a host of climate change linked environmental policies by acting as a valid counterpart to IPCC conclusions. ... The skeptical assemblage was integral to the defeat of the Waxman–Markey Bill.

Alas, these are the only accurate statements in this 24-page train wreck of postmodern nonsense. We will put these quotations to good use in our fundraising letters and proposals this year, and for that, we thank the authors.

Joe

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

computer.

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Tue 1/16/2018 4:50:31 PM
Subject: A post-modern critique of the NIPCC

Adam Wildavsky kindly sent this link to an article about the Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC):

https://www.academia.edu/34621648/When_good_arguments_do_not_work_post-_dialectics_argument_assemblages_and_the_networks_of_climate_skepticism

This is the "peer reviewed" article it describes and links to:

Nicholas S. Paliewicz & George F. (Guy) McHendry Jr., "When good arguments do not work: post-dialectics, argument assemblages, and the networks of climate skepticism," *Argumentation and Advocacy,* 2017. http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00028533.2017.1375738

Warning: Reading this bizarre piece of post-modern commentary may cause permanent brain damage. The language, vocabulary, and reasoning are so twisted and congested that you will grip you head and want to turn away after the first page. It is possible the article is a fake, another demonstration of the failure of peer review by obscure online journals created to pad the resumes of assistant professors at little state colleges, but I haven't seen any reports admitting this yet.

The authors, assistant professors at colleges in Kentucky and Nebraska, advance the thesis that "the NIPCC is an example of how private corporations build intransigent networks to forcefully compel public advocacy on issues already settled by established scientific communities of argument. As this paper will demonstrate, it is through these assemblages, not well-reasoned arguments, that skepticism serves as an impasse to climate policy."

The wheels fall off this thesis by the second paragraph (!) of the article, when the authors incorrectly claim NIPCC has received funding from Exxon Mobil and Koch Industries. It has not. In fact, to my knowledge NIPCC has received no corporate funding whatsoever.

Exxon Mobil stopped funding The Heartland Institute and other conservative think tanks in 2017, before Heartland joined the Center for the Study of Carbon Dioxide and Global Change and the

Science and Environmental Policy Project to produce the first volume in the *Climate Change Reconsidered* series.

Koch Industries has never funded Heartland or NIPCC. A Koch family foundation gave small grants to Heartland in the past but never for our work on climate change.

The rest of the article is therefore either nonsensical or comical. It is too poorly written to be comical.

Still, I persevered and found a raisin in the oatmeal on page 14:

The NIPCC is undoubtedly the most forceful, and popular, assembled actor in the campaign for climate skepticism. Not only is this private organization spending the most time and money to upend the climate thesis, but it is also directly engaging with the IPCC's argumentative style. ... the NIPCC is perceived as an equally qualified body of experts on the topic of climate change that has met thresholds of doubt and uncertainty on the climate thesis years ago.

One page later, another raisin, as the authors accurately describe the impact of the first NIPCC report:

In sowing doubt about climate change, the NIPCC has helped block action on a host of climate change linked environmental policies by acting as a valid counterpart to IPCC conclusions. ... The skeptical assemblage was integral to the defeat of the Waxman–Markey Bill.

Alas, these are the only accurate statements in this 24-page train wreck of postmodern nonsense. We will put these quotations to good use in our fundraising letters and proposals this year, and for that, we thank the authors.

Joe

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Tue 1/16/2018 2:49:25 PM
Subject: Why bother lobbying when you can HIRE state government officials?

The environmental left is so awash in cash, has so much access to politicians (mostly Democrats), and is so seldom held accountable for its scandals that it thinks it can hire state government officials to work for it... and then lie about it. Just amazing...

Joe

https://www.wsj.com/articles/climate-of-unaccountability-1515717585

Wall Street Journal, Friday, January 12, 2018

Climate of Unaccountability

Are foundations running state energy policy without transparency?

By The Editorial Board

Jan. 11, 2018 7:39 p.m. ET

278 COMMENTS

With President Trump putting economic growth above climate alarums, green activists are turning to progressive states to press their regulatory agenda. Governors from 15 states have formed the U.S. Climate Alliance, for example, to enforce the Paris Climate Agreement despite Mr. Trump's withdrawal. Fair enough if it's all above board, but records we've obtained suggest that foundations are steering policy behind the scenes without transparency or clear public accountability.

***

A leading example is Washington Governor Jay Inslee's office, which seems to have subcontracted some of its work and budget to two foundations pushing an activist climate agenda. An environmental nonprofit, the World Resources Institute, actually hired Washington's state government as a contractor last July.

Under this remarkable arrangement, the state agreed to perform a "scope of work" for the nonprofit that includes "activities and deliverables" to advance a green agenda. The special-interest tail is officially wagging the democratic dog, given that the contract provides the job framework for Mr. Inslee's senior policy adviser for climate and sustainability, Reed Schuler.

According to Mr. Schuler's official job description, his duties include working to "identify policy ideas," "draft policy proposals and briefs for communication to Policy Director and Governor's executive team," and "prepare letters, executive orders, and other directives for the Governor's signature." Beyond the executive branch, Mr. Schuler is also involved in "monitoring progress of clean energy legislation" and representing Washington "among multi-state and international efforts."

In other words, he holds an influential policy position. And it's funded through a grant from the World Resources Institute, which reimburses Washington for Mr. Schuler's salary, benefits and expenses. Under its contract, Washington State sends progress reports alongside its $33,210 quarterly invoices to the nonprofit.

Tara Lee, the Governor's spokeswoman, says Mr. Schuler is "a Washington state employee with the same scope of work, review process and accountability as any other state employee. The only difference is the funding source." She adds the World Resources Institute's largesse amounts to "general support for expanding the Inslee Administration's work to combat climate change," but that "they do not decide or dictate the details of this work, nor do they have input on any employee's work plan." And she says such arrangements are "not unusual."

World Resources Institute spokesman Michael Oko says that "public-private partnerships enable governments to hire experts to advise them on policies that benefit their constituents," adding that they are "common across the political spectrum." Oh?

If this is common practice, Washingtonians deserve more details about which outside groups fund Mr. Inslee's policy team. Substitute the Koch brothers for the World Resources Institute, and the outrage would be predictable. This setup creates real concerns about accountability and interest-peddling. Mr. Schuler knows who pays him, and it's not Washington taxpayers.

The money trail also extends to the Hewlett Foundation, which pledged in December to devote $600 million to climate advocacy in the U.S. and abroad between 2018 and 2023. Hewlett calls this its "single largest commitment to date in any area of its philanthropic work," and it is overseen by Jonathan Pershing, Mr. Schuler's former colleague at Barack Obama's State Department.

In one of many emails obtained by the Competitive Enterprise Institute's Chris Horner, Mr. Inslee's Morocco-based climate adviser, Chris Davis, called Mr. Schuler "our refugee from Kerry's office at State" and said that "Pershing at Hewlett is paying him to work in our shop for 12 months." In another email, Mr. Davis said that Mr. Schuler is "here through support from the Hewlett Foundation."

The Governor's office claims it's transparent, but our records request about Mr. Schuler's hiring and employment documents yielded no mention of Hewlett. When we inquired about the foundation's role, spokeswoman Tara Lee copied the executive director of policy, Keith Phillips, and answered: "I have confirmed that Hewlett Foundation made a grant to WRI. No direct relationship to WA."

But the same Mr. Phillips sent out a July 18 email that internally announced Mr. Schuler's hiring. He explicitly stated, "Reed's position is being supported by the Hewlett Foundation and the World Resources Institute." Hewlett spokeswoman Vidya Krishnamurthy told us that while "we didn't have the capacity to be the state's partner," it made the World Resources grant "so that WRI could provide support to Washington state to hire an expert analyst to help the state achieve its climate goals."

The implications of all this extend beyond Washington. Mr. Inslee is working with New York's Andrew Cuomo and California's Jerry Brown on the U.S. Climate Alliance, a multistate effort. Where else are such special interest groups paying to influence policy?

Appeared in the January 12, 2018, print edition.

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Tue 1/16/2018 2:41:20 PM
Subject: Steve Milloy in the weekend WSJ: EPA Bureaucrats Go Rogue

Nice piece.

Joe

EPA Bureaucrats Go Rogue on 'Glider Truck' Emissions

If you put a rebuilt engine in a fresh chassis, does it become a 'new' vehicle subject to tighter rules?

By Steve Milloy

Jan. 12, 2018 6:39 p.m. ET

229 COMMENTS

Tommy Fitzgerald Sr. was an experienced mechanic and truck driver with his own one-bay Tennessee service center in 1989, when a customer who couldn't afford a new truck asked Mr. Fitzgerald to salvage, rebuild and transplant the drivetrain from a wrecked truck into a new cab-chassis. His innovation—the "glider kit truck"—took off. Selling for about 25% less than the cost of a new truck, gliders have proved a godsend to smaller trucking companies. Fitzgerald Truck Sales is now a $700 million company.

Success has enabled Mr. Fitzgerald to become an angel investor for local businesses in rural Kentucky and Tennessee. But instead of encouraging—or even celebrating—his accomplishments, the Obama administration's environmental regulators tried to kill the glider-truck industry, along with the thousands of jobs it has created nationwide.

The glider market is tiny—only about 5,000 are sold annually, compared with 300,000 new trucks—yet some in the new truck industry see gliders as a threat. Volvo urged the Environmental Protection Agency in 2016 to regulate gliders for their greenhouse-gas emissions. But the Clean Air Act authorizes EPA to regulate only emissions from new trucks. Old engines don't have to meet new standards.

Most gliders are not, technically speaking, new. Their cab-chassis are new, but their engines aren't. The EPA nevertheless claimed gliders could be considered new vehicles because Mr. Fitzgerald had once placed an ad in a trade magazine offering customers the opportunity "to purchase a brand new 2016 tractor." (The EPA conveniently omitted the ad's next sentence, which read: "The end result is a brand new glider with an engine and transmission that has been completely rebuilt from the ground up.")

In October 2016, the agency issued its rule classifying gliders as new trucks, effectively signing the glider industry's death warrant. While gliders can outperform new trucks on some emissions tests, they underperform on others. Most would violate the strict new EPA standards.

In July 2017, Mr. Fitzgerald and other glider-truck manufacturers petitioned the Trump EPA to reverse the Obama-era rule. This prompted a new round of lobbying by anti-glider forces, including Volvo. By October an EPA laboratory in Ann Arbor, Mich., was running two glider trucks through an emissions testing protocol. The resulting report concluded the tested gliders exceeded new truck emissions of nitrogen oxide, particulate and other conventional pollutants.

Staff at EPA headquarters told me that administrator Scott Pruitt had no knowledge of these tests and never authorized them. The renegade report that the tests produced wasn't peer-reviewed, as is customary. It also wasn't printed on official EPA letterhead or assigned an internal EPA document number. It is not even available on the EPA lab's website. Yet it mysteriously found its way into the hands of glider opponents at the early December public hearing on the proposed rollback.

The effort to destroy the glider-truck industry is a shining example of the regulatory state gone rogue. One hopes the Trump administration's commitment to deregulation will check the impulses of federal bureaucrats who think they are above the law.

"In the business world, employees who actively seek to undermine are usually terminated for insubordination," Mr. Fitzgerald told me in December. "Why should it be different for government?"

Mr. Milloy was on the Trump EPA Transition Team and is the author of "Scare Pollution: Why and How to Fix the EPA" (Bench Press, 2016).

Appeared in the January 13, 2018, print edition.

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Thur 10/19/2017 3:52:50 PM
Subject: H. Sterling Burnett in American Spectator: Fossil Fuels Protect the World's Poor Against Natural Disasters

https://spectator.org/fossil-fuels-protect-the-worlds-poor-against-natural-disasters/

American Spectator
10/18/17

Fossil Fuels Protect the World's Poor Against Natural Disasters

By: H. Sterling Burnett, the Heartland Institute

Natural disasters kill thousands of people around the world annually, and they are not equal-opportunity killers. In a typical year, only hundreds of people are likely to die in Europe and the United States from floods, hurricanes, and earthquakes, but these events kill thousands of people each year in Asia, South and Central America, and on small island nations.

Earthquakes and hurricanes/cyclones are no stronger when they hit developing nations than they are when they affect developed countries, and flooding occurs in Europe and the United States every year, causing billions of dollars in damage but taking relatively few lives. In Asian countries, however, thousands drown during floods annually.

Why is there such a stark difference? It is not because of climatic factors or the presence of harsher natural disasters; it's almost entirely because there is a difference in wealth.

Property rights and market economics — defended by strong but delimited governing institutions — existing alongside voluntary, dispersed self-help networks, have created wealth beyond what many people dreamed possible just one century ago. It has been this wealth that has fostered and been enhanced by the development of modern infrastructure; strong, disaster-resistant structures; improved building materials, techniques, and standards; the creation of new technologies, including early warning systems and emergency response systems; and modern medical treatment and facilities. Each has contributed to making industrialized societies more resilient.

In 1900, Galveston, Texas was a relatively large, modern city. Yet when the Great Galveston Hurricane (a Category 4 storm) hit the city, it claimed more than 8,000 lives. By contrast,

Hurricane Ike caused just 84 deaths in 2008. And for all the talk about Hurricane Harvey (a Category 5 storm), it has resulted in a total of 70 deaths in the 23 counties harmed the most by the storm. Although millions more people live along Texas' coasts now than in 1900, the present generation is much wealthier than it was then, so the people are safer.

As deadly as Hurricane Katrina was in 2005 (it caused the death of more than 1,200 people), it pales in comparison to the 300,000–500,000 lives lost in Bangladesh because of the Great Bhola Cyclone in 1970, or the 138,000 killed in Myanmar by Cyclone Nargis in 2008.

Though earthquakes are hard to compare (due to magnitude and location), differences in mortality across location and time are still telling. The Great San Francisco earthquake and associated fire caused between 700 and 3,000 deaths. By comparison, the magnitude 6.9 earthquake that hit the San Francisco Bay region in 1989 only claimed 67 lives. There were vastly more people living in San Francisco in 1989 than in 1904, yet modern San Franciscans were much wealthier, and their city's infrastructure and emergency response system was thus substantially better.

Despite the fact Taiwan is 600 percent more densely populated than Turkey, the 7.6 magnitude earthquake that hit Taiwan in September 1999 killed approximately 2,500 people, significantly fewer than the number killed by the 7.4 magnitude earthquake that struck Turkey just one month earlier. (It killed more than 17,000 people in just two cities.) In 1999, Taiwan's per-capita income was more than double that of Turkey's.

Compared to poorer communities, wealthier societies are more resilient, better prepared for natural disasters when they occur, and better able to respond quickly and effectively in the aftermath of disasters.

Fossil fuels are critical to wealth creation. Their use has helped nations thrive in the face of an ever-changing and often capricious climate. The use of oil, coal, and natural gas has allowed billions to live freer, healthier, more prosperous, and longer lives than at any time in human history.

Although ancient kings controlled armies and untold riches, I have a car, microwave, indoor plumbing, and safe drinking water. I can eat almost any fruit or vegetable without regard to season, and I can travel across the world in mere hours. All the wealth and power ancient emperors had couldn't buy any one of these things, and they were all made possible through the use of fossil fuels.

The rise from penury didn't happen under tyranny or feudalism; it happened under capitalism. And the world's most powerful capitalistic societies haven't been powered by animal dung, animal power, or wind turbines; they have been driven by fossil fuels and the technologies they power.

Today's poor deserve the chance to live as I do and not as our ancestors did for millennia, toiling in poverty, constantly threatened with disease and malnourishment. Only fossil fuels can deliver them from this fate.

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Wed 10/18/2017 9:59:42 PM
Subject: New Mexico's proposed science standards leave out climate change

From Jim Lakely...

Joe

From: Jim Lakely
Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 4:55 PM
To: Joseph Bast; Tim Huelskamp; John Nothdurft; Lennie Jarratt; Teresa Mull; Veronica Harrison
Subject: New Mexico's proposed science standards leave out climate change

Heartlanders,

This is good news. Think Progress thinks we had a hand in it thanks to our WSD book mailing. (See highlighted section below.)

I imagine New Mexico lawmakers and bureaucrats will be under intense pressure to put climate alarmism back into the state's curriculum, so we should reach out to them and buck them up.

https://thinkprogress.org/new-mexicos-proposed-science-standards-7c1a436bee13/

-Jim

New Mexico's proposed science standards leave out climate change

NATASHA GEILING

OCT 18, 2017, 12:45 PM

The New Mexico Public Education Department has proposed changes to the state's science curriculum that cast doubt on the consensus on climate change and evolution, changes that have prompted stiff opposition from scientists, public school teachers, and Democratic lawmakers.

The standards, known as Next Generation Science Standards, were developed by a consortium of states and the National Academy of Sciences and have been adopted by 18 states as well as the District of Columbia. New Mexico's proposed revisions, however, include several unique changes proposed by the Public Education Department, such as replacing references to the "rise in global temperatures" with "fluctuations." The curriculum would also teach students about the benefits of New Mexico's oil and gas industry, while downplaying the role that fossil fuels play in global warming.

At a hearing on Monday, scientists, educators, and New Mexico legislators took turns decrying the proposed changes, arguing that teaching students false or incomplete science would put them at a disadvantage later in their educational or professional careers.

"They delete or diminish key concepts," William Pockman, a professor and chairman of the biology department at the University of New Mexico, said during a hearing held at the state capitol. "Students trained to these standards may not be ready to keep up with their peers from states following more rigorous standards."

Pockman also presented a letter criticizing the standards signed by nearly 150 faculty members and department heads from the University of New Mexico.

Public school employees also testified against the proposed changes, describing them as politically-motivated.

"I am appalled that the state of New Mexico would choose to disregard research-based standards in place of politically motivated and scientifically

inaccurate information. By excluding scientific facts, educators would be asked to purposefully obstruct preparation for college, careers," Melissa DeLaerentis, coordinator of a math and science learning center for Las Cruces Public Schools, said at the hearing. Los Alamos and Santa Fe school districts have also formally announced their opposition to the standards.

The Public Education Department has refused to name anyone that it met with in crafting the standards, citing a need to keep the names of those consulted confidential, but opponents fear that the oil and gas industry might have had an outsized-influence in the proposed changes. Public Education Secretary Christopher Ruszkowski, who was appointed in August, did not attend the hearing but released a statement arguing that the standards would give teachers and families "flexibility and local control around science materials, curriculum and content."

The agency has also not said whether it will accept the new standards, and educators in the state have raised doubts that the agency would have the money or personnel to successfully implement the new standards by July — the deadline for which the standards would go into effect if approved. The state has not updated its science guidelines since 2003.

New Mexico is hardly the only state to cause controversy in re-writing its science standards to dismiss climate change. In February, the Idaho House Education Committee voted to approve new science standards for the state that rejected all reference of climate change and man's role in the phenomenon. That vote set off a firestorm of criticism from scientists and educators, and lead the state's education committee to consider reinserting information about climate science back into the curriculum — though the updated proposal simply advises students to "go and look at the evidence" to draw their own conclusions about climate science. In reality, the scientific community is nearly uniform in its consensus that the climate is changing and human activity is the primary cause.

With the Trump administration touting climate denial at the federal level, it seems that conservative organizations have become emboldened to try and sway educators across the country. In February, conservative think tank the Heartland Institute sent out 25,000 packages to educators across the country, which included the organization's book "Why Scientists Disagree About Global Warming", as well as a DVD contradicting the

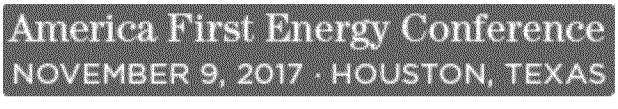
scientific consensus on man-made climate change. The materials came with a cover letter from Lennie Jarratt, project manager of Heartland's Center for Transforming Education, asking teachers to "consider the possibility" that climate science is not settled. That language mirrors statements made by high-level Trump officials, including EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, who has consistently cast doubt on the scientific consensus on climate change.

"It's not science, but it's dressed up to look like science," the National Center for Science Education's executive director Ann Reid told Frontline of the Heartland campaign at the time. "It's clearly intended to confuse teachers."

Jim Lakely
Director of Communications
The Heartland Institute
3939 North Wilke Drive

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

o: 312.377.4000
c: 312-731-9364
Twitter: @HeartlandInst



To: Norman Rogers Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Wed 10/18/2017 2:09:27 PM
Subject: The New York Times Embraces Fake Science, Fake Engineering, and Fake Economics

Norm Rogers takes down the Grey Lady in this nice piece at American Thinker.

Joe

http://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2017/10/the_new_york_times_embraces_fake_science_fake_engineeri

October 18, 2017

The New York Times Embraces Fake Science, Fake Engineering, and Fake Economics

By Norman Rogers

The Oct. 16, 2017 *New York Times* devotes most of a full page to an editorial promoting "5 Climate Truths Mr. Trump Doesn't Get." They even have graphs to supposedly illustrate their five truths. As someone who has studied climate change and renewable energy I immediately understood that their editorial was very simplistic and does not engage with economic or engineering realities.

The *Times*' view is that it is important to reduce CO2 emissions and that wind and solar energy are the way to do that. They also imagine that batteries storing power are the solution for the erratic nature of wind and solar generation. They particularly dislike coal because it emits more CO2 when burned compared to natural gas.

I have to assume the editors of the *New York Times* are not stupid. Probably they have a very weak grasp of science and engineering and probably ideology blinds them, preventing objective study of the issues.

Global warming is now called climate change because the globe has not warmed for two decades. The "science" behind predictions of global warming due to emissions of CO2 has clearly collapsed. The promoters of the catastrophe are most charitably described as bad scientists and less charitably as snake oil salesmen. The predictions are based on computer models that don't agree with each other and that have failed miserably in predicting the actual global temperature. There is no shortage of distinguished scientists screaming that global warming is a fraud.

Even if you believe the junk science of climate change, the CO2 emissions are concentrated in Asia. Reducing CO2 emissions in the U.S. at great cost makes no sense because the supposed problem is in Asia. The way to really reduce CO2 emissions is to replace fossil fuel electricity generation with nuclear generation. Nuclear power does not emit CO2 and it works at night when the sun is not shining and it works when the wind is not blowing. Further, there are great prospects for improving the cost and safety of nuclear power. The *Times* and the promoters of wind and solar ignore or demonize nuclear power.

The globe is not warming in the face of rapidly increasing CO2 levels, giving lie to the theory that CO2 will create a catastrophe, or create any problem at all. It is beyond question that increasing the amount of CO2 in the atmosphere enhances agricultural productivity and greens deserts. Plants are hungry for CO2 and don't need as much water if they have more CO2.

The *Times* makes the point that natural gas emits less CO2 than coal and is cheaper than coal. There is some truth in this but there are other issues that should be taken into account. Natural gas is a premium fuel of many uses. It burns cleanly, it is easily transported by pipeline, and due to fracking it has become very cheap. It is feasible to power automobiles with compressed natural gas, the main problem being a lack of refueling stations. Coal, on the other hand, is mainly useful for generating electricity. Modern coal plants are non-polluting because they have elaborate pollution controls. Our reserves of coal are vast, enough for many centuries, and are much greater than the reserves of natural gas. Natural gas is cheap, often nearly as cheap as coal per unit of energy. But the low price may be temporary because we will become an exporter of liquefied natural gas to lucrative markets in Asia and Europe. Natural gas now is used sparingly in transportation, but may be used more in the future due to its cost and clean burning advantages. The price of natural gas may increase substantially as supply and demand equalize.

A terrible danger is being ignored in the rush to make the electrical grid "green." The grid is vulnerable to a catastrophic attack that could take the grid down for months or years. Our deadly enemies in Iran and North Korea understand this. The electrical grid is powered by large machines: turbines, generators and transformers. These devices are as big as a house, cost millions of dollars, and have to be ordered many months in advance. The most vulnerable devices are the large transformers that step voltage up and down to enable the transport of electricity over longer distances. Vast energy passes through these transformers. If something goes wrong, the energy flow is sufficient to destroy the transformer in seconds. The transformer will melt or explode. The easiest way to destroy the few thousand of these large transformers is by electromagnetic pulse attack. Such an attack may be performed by exploding a small nuclear weapon 200 miles above the Earth, over the central U.S. Interaction between the gamma rays emitted by the weapon, the atmosphere and the Earth's magnetic field creates an electromagnetic pulse (EMP). One of the effects of EMP is to cause a modulation of the Earth's magnetic field that in turn induces direct current flow in long transmission lines. The direct current causes saturation of the magnetic core of the transformers that results in catastrophic deposit of energy in the transformer. Such an EMP can also be caused by natural storms on the Sun that eject charged particles that strike the Earth. Such a solar storm in 1989 crashed the Quebec grid and destroyed a transformer in New Jersey. The nuclear EMP also has the capacity to damage computer controls throughout the economy and even automobile engine controls. (Military systems have long been hardened against EMP.)

Coal generation of electricity has a resiliency advantage because a month's supply of coal is typically on hand. Natural gas plants depend on just in time deliveries of natural gas, with perhaps limited backup supplies of fuel oil, an alternative fuel that some plants can use. Natural gas pipelines are susceptible to sabotage. For example California is highly dependent on a handful of pipelines that bring gas into the state.

The *Times* compares the cost of wind and solar energy by comparing the cost of the electricity at the plant fence and by ignoring the substantial government subsidies and mandates. Since wind and solar generate electricity unpredictably, depending on clouds, nighttime and the wind velocity, there must be a backup source of power. Typically the backup will be a natural gas plant. The only cost saving from introducing wind and solar into the grid is the reduced consumption of fossil fuel when the wind and solar are actually generating electricity. This avoided cost amounts to 2-3 cents per kilowatt hour while the cost of the electricity from wind or solar is about three times as much as the saving in fuel for the backup plant.

The *Times* suggests that lithium ion batteries costing $273 per kilowatt-hour of capacity could be used store electricity as backup to wind and solar. That idea is just dumb. Take for example a solar plant with a nameplate capacity of 400 megawatts and capable of generating an average of 100 megawatts in a sunny location. Such a plant would cost about $600 million. A lithium battery system capable of storing 2400 megawatts, or one day's output, would cost approximately another $600 million. However even the sunniest city in the U.S. has about 50 cloudy days a year. One or two cloudy days and the plant would fail to deliver electricity. The batteries would also have to be replaced every 5 or 10 years. Grid scale battery systems may be useful for smoothing short peaks in demand, but not for backing up wind or solar.

Trump gets the truths far better than the *Times* does.

Norman Rogers writes often about climate, energy and politics. He has a website.

Read more:
http://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2017/10/the_new_york_times_embraces_fake_science_fake_engineeri
Follow us: @AmericanThinker on Twitter | AmericanThinker on Facebook

To: John Robson[jr@johnrobson.ca]
From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Tue 10/17/2017 6:52:19 PM
Subject: "The Environment: A True Story" -- a new documentary on climate change

Please see the email from John Robson, below, about a new documentary about climate change. I haven't had a chance to view this in its entirety, but the first part I watched is excellent.

I hope you will watch it, comment on it, and perhaps write a review for your own blogs, websites, or for us to share with others.

Joe

P.S. As you all surely know, I am not a "Dr."

From: John Robson [mailto:jr@johnrobson.ca]
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 1:15 PM
To: Joseph Bast
Subject: My documentary on climate change

Dear Dr. Bast,

When I was at Heartland's excellent climate change conference this spring I mentioned to you that I was working on a documentary on climate change alarmism.

That documentary, called The Environment: A True Story, is now done and a free version is available on YouTube (at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HDdB2wXzyvo). If you think it worthwhile, please share it as widely as possible.

Of course if you would like a high-res digital download I'd be happy to send you a link. But I would ask you not to share it because that version is only for backers, friends, colleagues and buyers.

Thanks.

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Tue 10/17/2017 5:55:52 PM
Subject: CEI submits petition to EPA to repeal endangerment finding

Great job by our friends at CEI.

Joe

Greenwire

CEI-led petition urges Pruitt to ditch endangerment finding

Arianna Skibell, E&E News reporter

Published: Tuesday, October 17, 2017

A conservative think tank urged U.S. EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt again today to reconsider the 2009 endangerment finding, the science that underpins his agency's climate rules.

The Competitive Enterprise Institute's letter to Pruitt is signed by more than 60 scientists and health professionals in support of a petition to reconsider the finding for greenhouse gases.

In April, CEI along with the Concerned Household Electricity Consumers Council petitioned EPA to take a hard look at the finding that greenhouse gases endanger public health and welfare (*Greenwire*, April 10).

"The Endangerment Finding is the basis for a host of incredibly burdensome and wide-ranging regulations, ranging from auto fuel economy standards to the Clean Power Plan," wrote CEI General Counsel Sam Kazman. "These threaten access to affordable energy, as well as millions of jobs, and countless lives around the world."

Kenneth Haapala, president of the Science and Environmental Policy Project, echoed CEI's calls in an addendum to the letter, which includes the names of scientists who question the validity of the endangerment finding.

"We the undersigned are individuals who have technical skills and knowledge relevant to climate science and the GHG Endangerment Finding," Haapala wrote. "We each are convinced that the 2009 GHG Endangerment Finding is fundamentally flawed and that an honest, unbiased reconsideration is in order."

Among those who signed the letter are economist James Wallace III and climatologist Joseph D'Aleo, who predicted "global cooling" in the 2008 edition of *The Old Farmer's Almanac*. While the pair have consistently criticized EPA's authority in court battles, the Supreme Court has decided three times that EPA has the authority to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act.

While EPA has said it will repeal the Clean Power Plan, Obama's signature climate regulation, agency officials have remained quiet about their plans for the endangerment finding (*E&E News PM*, Oct. 10).

Twitter: @AriannaSkibell Email: askibell@eenews.net

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Tue 10/17/2017 2:46:46 PM
Subject: Donn Dears on why the Endangerment Finding has to go

Donn Dears has a new piece on the importance of repealing the endangerment finding, linked below.

He also reminds us of some of the provisions of the Waxman-Markey Cap and Trade legislation, HR 2454, which passed the House but died in the Senate. It would have done to energy what Obamacare has done to health care. Many of us were roaming the halls of the Senate at the time of that vote, handing out copies of *Climate Change Reconsidered* and a directory of signers of the Oregon Petition, urging Senators to not fall for the fake science of the day.

Joe

From: Donn Dears [mailto: **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 9:07 AM
To: Joseph Bast
Subject: Endangerment Finding

Here is link to my article published today: **Endangerment Finding Must Go** http://bit.ly/2pHToKB

Donn

Note: Sent to all Red team attendees

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Tue 10/17/2017 2:35:39 PM
Subject: H. Sterling Burnett in Breitbart on CPP repeal

http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2017/10/16/h-sterling-burnett-trump-cuts-clean-power-plan-boosts-americas-prospects/

Breitbart

10/16/17

Trump Cuts Clean Power Plan, Boosts America's Prospects

By: H. Sterling Burnett, the Heartland Institute

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) filed a notice in the *Federal Register* that it is rescinding former President Barack Obama's Clean Power Plan (CPP). This action serves as further evidence the gridlock in the Washington, DC swamp has not slowed President Donald Trump's efforts to roll back ineffective and extremely costly climate programs and regulations.

The EPA's decision was not unexpected. During the 2016 presidential campaign, Trump said the United States faces numerous problems more important than climate change, and he pledged to eliminate environmental policies hampering economic growth and domestic energy development, targeting the CPP by name. As part of Trump's March 28 "Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth" executive order, Trump directed EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt to review CPP and rescind or revise it, if necessary, to promote the wise development of natural resources, unencumber energy production, and increase jobs.

The EPA based the decision to rescind CPP on three main principles: CPP is inconsistent with the 1970 Clean Air Act; CPP violated states' authority to decide the best mix of power generation within their borders and eroded longstanding federal/state partnerships necessary to achieve environmental improvement; and enforcement of CPP would have had a devastating effect on jobs and raised energy costs for consumers—all while having virtually no effect on climate change.

CPP was the centerpiece of the Obama administration's effort to move the United States away from the use of fossil fuels, beginning with coal, to fight climate change. CPP would require states to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 32 percent below 2005 levels by 2030, on

average.

To comply with the plan, states would have to force utilities to shutter dozens of coal-fired power plants prematurely. The Energy Information Administration projected CPP would result in $1.23 trillion in lost gross domestic product (GDP), in 2014 dollars, from 2020 to 2030, with an average annual GDP loss of $112 billion. Estimates indicate CPP would boost people's electric bills 11–14 percent per year and cost more than 100,000 jobs in manufacturing and other sectors annually.

Despite these substantial harms, the Obama administration acknowledged in testimony before the U.S. House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology on July 9, 2015, that if the United States met CPP's emission reductions targets, it would prevent, at best, one one-hundredth of one-degree Celsius of temperature rise by 2100. Talk about all pain and no gain!

Twenty-seven states, led by West Virginia, and several industry groups and trade associations challenged CPP's legality in federal court. In February 2016, the U.S. Supreme Court took the unprecedented step of ordering a nationwide stay on implementation of CPP before it went into effect, pending the outcome of the legal challenges.

CPP would have dramatically raised energy costs in United States, harming the poorest among us more than the rest and putting U.S. industries at a competitive disadvantage in the global economy. By rescinding it, Trump is doing what he promised to do and what any president should do: putting America first. Bravo!

Having said this, unless Trump wants these gains to unravel, he has at least one more step to take. Environmental groups and some state government officials have already announced that if the CPP rescission is finalized, they will sue to block the Trump administration's action to keep CPP on the books. In truth, this presents a problem for Trump.

CPP and the other climate regulations imposed by the Obama administration were justified based on the EPA's determination carbon dioxide poses a threat to human health and the environment, a concept known as the "endangerment finding." Relying on unsubstantiated projections produced by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the EPA determined carbon dioxide emissions from cars and industry threaten human welfare.

To solidify his CPP action and other climate deregulatory efforts, Trump must direct the EPA to reconsider the endangerment finding by forcing the agency to demonstrate—through independent, validated research—carbon dioxide emissions are toxic (they aren't at any foreseeable levels) or that global warming is causing measurable amounts of sea level rise, increased hurricane numbers or intensity, the spread of disease, or other harms attributable directly to carbon dioxide emissions in the United States. If the EPA can't directly link such problems to U.S. carbon dioxide emissions (it can't) or can't show that such problems can be dramatically reduced by cutting U.S. carbon dioxide emissions (they won't), the EPA should withdraw the endangerment finding.

Withdrawing the endangerment finding would eliminate the legal justification that has been used to impose a wide range of climate regulations. In the process, it would also end radical environmental activists' ability to use the courts to impose policies on an unwilling public—one whose elected representatives have repeatedly rejected climate alarmism.

H. Sterling Burnett, Ph.D. (hburnett@heartland.org) is a research fellow on energy and the environment at The Heartland Institute, a nonpartisan, nonprofit research center headquartered in Arlington Heights, Illinois.

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Tue 10/17/2017 1:57:28 PM
Subject: E&E News: Some groups want more CO2

Now the fake reporters at E&E News are pretending to be scientists!! The real scientific findings on the effects of CO2 on plants overwhelmingly support the conclusion that the benefits surpass the harms. See *Climate Change Reconsidered II: Biological Impacts* for the best survey of the literature.

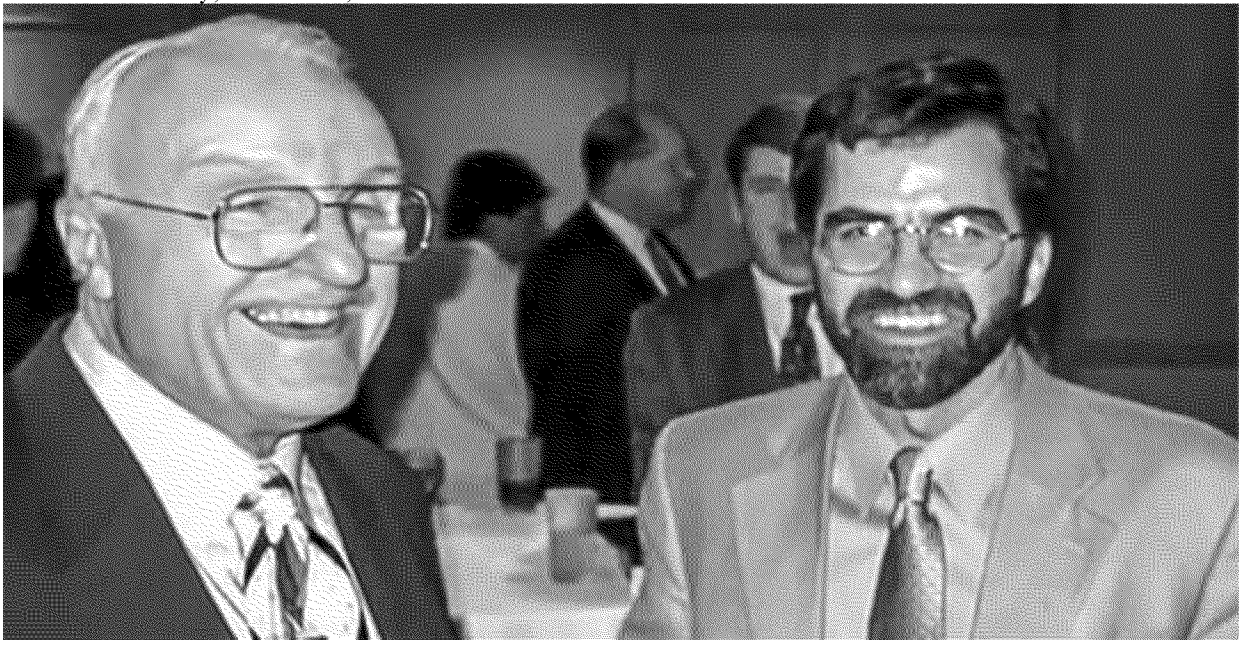
Joe

Climatewire

Some groups want *more* CO2. Here's what that means

Chelsea Harvey and Scott Waldman, E&E News reporters

Published: Tuesday, October 17, 2017



The Heartland Institute questions the credibility of climate science by pointing to the benefits of carbon dioxide. Founders David Padden (left) and Joseph Bast (right) are pictured. Heartland Institute/YouTube

A key argument used by climate skeptics to downplay the consequences of anthropogenic climate

change is resurfacing: the idea that carbon dioxide emissions are a net positive for the planet's vegetation.

The line of reasoning is being used to push back on the underlying science of global warming. The Heartland Institute, which has sought to place climate contrarians on science advisory councils at U.S. EPA, even suggested that it might sue companies for not emitting *more* CO2 *Climatewire*, Oct. 16).

The idea that carbon has benefits has been used before. As the argument goes, plants rely on carbon dioxide to survive, and if the atmosphere contains more of the gas it could stimulate plant growth. That's a good thing for humans, who rely on them for oxygen and food, they say.

Researchers are still trying to fully understand the effects of rising CO2 levels on plants around the world. But while CO2 may indeed be a boon for vegetation in some ways, climate scientists have repeatedly pointed out that other effects of climate change may outweigh these benefits.

An old argument resurfaced

Focusing on the benefits of increased atmospheric CO2 has long been a talking point among those who question the mainstream science of climate change. The Heartland plan, in particular, calls for funding to be directed to Craig Idso, who heads the Center for Carbon Dioxide and Global Change. He has long promoted the benefits of carbon dioxide. Idso's work has been supported by Heartland as well as energy companies.

Idso, who was a featured speaker at this year's Heartland conference in Washington, regularly calls CO2 the "elixir of life" and claims that the planet is headed toward explosive growth in plant life. His work frequently downplays the effect of carbon dioxide on the planet. He has claimed that increased crop yields sparked by rising CO2 levels could create an economic boost of $10 trillion by 2050.

Idso did not return a request for comment.

Those talking points can also be found in Congress. Rep. Lamar Smith, the Texas Republican who chairs the House Science, Space and Technology Committee, argued in an essay for the Heritage Foundation that people should focus more on the benefits of rising temperatures. His piece, published in July, was named "Don't Believe the Hysteria Over Carbon Dioxide."

"While crops typically suffer from high heat and lack of rainfall, carbon enrichment helps produce more resilient food crops, such as maize, soybeans, wheat, and rice," Smith wrote. "In fact, atmospheric carbon dioxide is so important for plant health that greenhouses often use a carbon dioxide generator to increase production."

The flaws in the argument

It's true that an increase in available carbon dioxide can be a boon for plants, which need it to make the food they turn into energy. In fact, recent research published in *Nature Climate Change* has suggested that rising CO2 levels have contributed to a global "greening" over the last few decades, or an increase in the leaves on trees and other plants, particularly in the rapidly warming Arctic.

But the idea that increasing CO2 will be a pure advantage for plants everywhere ignores the negative side effects that human-induced climate change may have on vegetation. In fact, research suggests that plants in some parts of the world — including some staple food crops for people — may actually come out the worse for it.

"There really is this fundamental tug of war between rising CO2 concentrations benefiting plants and then the effects of climate change harming plants," said William Anderegg, an expert on forests and climate change at the University of Utah.

The most obvious problem is that rising CO2 concentrations also lead to rising global temperatures — and this is not always a good thing for plants, particularly in regions that already have warm or dry climates. Plants tend to lose more water through their leaves in warmer temperatures, which can offset the benefits they enjoy from more carbon dioxide. And scientists believe that in many parts of the world, climate change will bring about an increase in extreme events, including drought, severe storms and wildfires — all of which can harm plant life.

In the last few years, multiple studies have found that rising CO2 levels — and particularly their climatic side effects — are not necessarily all good for plants, and particularly for agriculture.

Several long-term studies of grasslands, including one in California and another in Yellowstone National Park, suggest that the productivity of these ecosystems may suffer under the effects of climate change, such as increases in temperature or dryness, despite the advantages of higher CO2 levels.

Another 2016 paper in *Nature Communications*, focusing on agriculture in the United States, suggested that high temperatures may cause severe reductions in the production of certain major crops, including corn and soybeans. And the research indicated that higher CO2 concentrations would not be enough to significantly offset these losses.

Some research has also suggested that rising CO2 concentrations may even affect the nutritional value of crops, Anderegg pointed out, with potential health consequences for the humans who rely on them for food. A 2014 paper in *Nature* suggested that some beans and grains have lower concentrations of zinc and iron when they're grown under elevated CO2 concentrations.

And all of these climate-related factors aside, some scientists also believe that the advantages of rising carbon dioxide may not last forever — that, in fact, plants may eventually adjust to the higher concentrations, and the growth benefits will taper off over time.

Until that point, though, studies do indicate that more CO2 is still a boon for plants, all other factors being equal. And while plants may suffer under rising temperatures in some parts of the world, it's possible they may thrive in others (the greening in the world's northern region is an example). Scientists are now increasingly working to determine exactly how all these factors fit together and what the world's vegetation will look like in the future.

"It's still a major scientific research area to figure out when and where the CO2 effects versus the climate change effects will dominate," Anderegg said.

Of course, climate change will hardly affect the planet through its influence on vegetation alone. Even if plants do perform better in some places, the argument ignores myriad negative climate consequences caused by rising carbon emissions, from warming temperatures to severe weather events to rising sea levels.

But as far as plants are concerned, Anderegg also noted that while the science is still emerging, "on the whole, I think there's a general understanding that the impacts of climate change are materializing sooner and are more severe than they were a decade or two ago."

"The rosy optimistic scenarios where CO2 'wins' do exist, but there are also plenty of scenarios where drought and temperature and disturbances combined basically push global plants into accelerating climate change," he added.

Twitter: @chelseaeharvey Email: charvey@eenews.net

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Mon 10/16/2017 3:41:37 PM
Subject: Another victory: Administrator Pruitt Issues Directive to End EPA "Sue & Settle"

FYI.

Joe

From: EPA Press Office [mailto:press=epa.gov@cmail20.com] **On Behalf Of** EPA Press Office
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 10:35 AM
To: Joseph Bast
Subject: Administrator Pruitt Issues Directive to End EPA "Sue & Settle"

CONTACT: press@epa.gov

Administrator Pruitt Issues Directive to End EPA "Sue & Settle"

"The days of regulation through litigation are over," – EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt

WASHINGTON (October 16, 2017) – In fulfilling his promise to end the practice of regulation through litigation that has harmed the American public, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt issued an Agency-wide directive today designed to end "sue and settle" practices within the Agency, providing an unprecedented level of public participation and transparency in EPA consent decrees and settlement agreements.

"The days of regulation through litigation are over," said EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt. "We will no longer go behind closed doors and use consent decrees and settlement agreements to resolve lawsuits filed against the Agency by special interest groups where doing so would circumvent the regulatory process set forth by Congress. Additionally, gone are the days of routinely paying tens of thousands of dollars in attorney's fees to these groups with which we swiftly settle."

Over the years, outside the regulatory process, special interest groups have used lawsuits that seek to force federal agencies – especially EPA – to issue regulations that advance their interests and priorities, on their specified timeframe. EPA gets sued by an outside party that is asking the court to compel the Agency to take certain steps, either through change in a statutory duty or enforcing timelines set by the law, and then EPA will acquiesce through a consent decree or settlement agreement, affecting the Agency's obligations under the statute.

More specifically, EPA either commits to taking an action that is not a mandatory requirement under its governing statutes or agrees to a specific, unreasonable timeline to act. Oftentimes, these

agreements are reached with little to no public input or transparency. That is regulation through litigation, and it is inconsistent with the authority that Congress has granted and the responsibility to operate in an open and fair manner.

"Sue and settle" cases establish Agency obligations without participation by states and/or the regulated community; foreclose meaningful public participation in rulemaking; effectively force the Agency to reach certain regulatory outcomes; and, cost the American taxpayer millions of dollars.

With today's directive, Administrator Pruitt is ensuring the Agency increase transparency, improve public engagement, and provide accountability to the American public when considering a settlement agreement or consent decree by:

1. Publishing any notices of intent to sue the Agency within 15 days of receiving the notice;

2. Publishing any complaints or petitions for review in regard to an environmental law, regulation, or rule in which the Agency is a defendant or respondent in federal court within 15 days of receipt;

3. Reaching out to and including any states and/or regulated entities affected by potential settlements or consent decrees;

4. Publishing a list of consent decrees and settlement agreements that govern Agency actions within 30 days, along with any attorney fees paid, and update it within 15 days of any new consent decree or settlement agreement;

5. Expressly forbidding the practice of entering into any consent decrees that exceed the authority of the courts;

6. Excluding attorney's fees and litigation costs when settling with those suing the Agency;

7. Providing sufficient time to issue or modify proposed and final rules, take and consider public comment; and

8. Publishing any proposed or modified consent decrees and settlements for 30-day public comment, and providing a public hearing on a proposed consent decree or settlement when requested.

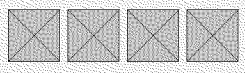
The full directive and memo can be read here.

The video of the signing can be found here. A downloadable b-roll version can be found here.

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt signs an Agency-wide directive to end "sue and settle" practices within the Agency.

http://usenvironmentalprotectionagency.cmail20.com/t/d-l-utjdirl-azdlhkuj-t/

Visit The EPA's Newsroom



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20004

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Mon 10/16/2017 3:10:23 PM
Subject: Our Red Team briefings discussed in E&E News

Friends,

This is annoying, but perhaps inevitable. The main purpose of articles like this is to sow dissent in our ranks. Our best response is no response.

Joe

Climatewire

Skeptics suspicious of Pruitt plan to press him on red team

Niina Heikkinen and Robin Bravender, E&E News reporters

Published: Monday, October 16, 2017

Heartland Institute CEO Joe Bast's organization has been hosting "red team" climate science briefings.
@HeartlandInst/Twitter

Climate skeptics have been holding closed-door meetings to identify candidates for U.S. EPA's "red team" exercise aimed at poking holes in mainstream science and to discuss ways to prevent agency Administrator Scott Pruitt from reneging on his promise to do it.

The conservative think tank Heartland Institute has hosted climate scientists, economists and lawyers in recent months to formulate their vision of the red team, according to an email obtained by E&E News. It contains a meeting description that offers a broad look at skeptics' policy playbook under the Trump administration while exposing stark suspicions about Pruitt.

"EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt's proposal for a Red Team-Blue Team exercise is vague, probably would not be effective, and is unlikely to come about," Heartland CEO Joseph Bast wrote in an email last week that summarized a Sept. 28 meeting at the group's headquarters just outside of Chicago.

"More likely to occur," he wrote, "is a similar exercise directed by the head of another department" — like NASA, NOAA or the White House science office — "with more interest than Pruitt has shown in the scientific debate and more likely to stick around to see the results."

Pruitt is widely rumored to be seeking elected office in his home state of Oklahoma, and many speculate he won't serve out Trump's full term.

Bast declined to comment on the meeting or the contents of the email.

The conservative strategy sessions come as EPA has shown little progress toward setting up the controversial idea after Pruitt floated it earlier this year. Last month, Pruitt suggested the debate could take several months and involve numerous federal agencies (*E&E News PM*, Sept. 19).

Pruitt is planning to brief conservatives on a "forthcoming policy announcement from the EPA" at the White House tomorrow, and one invitee speculated that it might involve rolling back EPA's endangerment finding, a scientific determination that greenhouse gases threaten public health and welfare. Repealing that finding has been another central topic at the briefings organized by Heartland, and some climate skeptics are hoping the red team's findings will support a reversal of that key determination.

The September gathering was the second briefing hosted by Heartland on the red team. The first took place on June 14 in Washington, D.C., and a third is planned for Houston on Nov. 8, the day before a Heartland energy conference. The invitation list consists of around 150 climate experts. Bast said in the email obtained by E&E News that he sent those names to EPA officials for feedback.

Among the approximately 45 participants at the most recent Heartland meeting were climate scientists, statisticians, meteorologists, engineers, biologists, lawyers and individuals familiar with how the federal government works.

Speakers included EPA transition member David Schnare; former Rep. Tim Huelskamp (R-Kan.), who is now Heartland's president; David Legates, a geography professor at the University of Delaware; Harry MacDougald, an Atlanta-based attorney; and Jim Lakely, director of communications at Heartland, according to the email.

The focus of the event was to inform would-be red team participants of how the debate could work in the federal government and to synthesize ideas about countering mainstream scientific arguments.

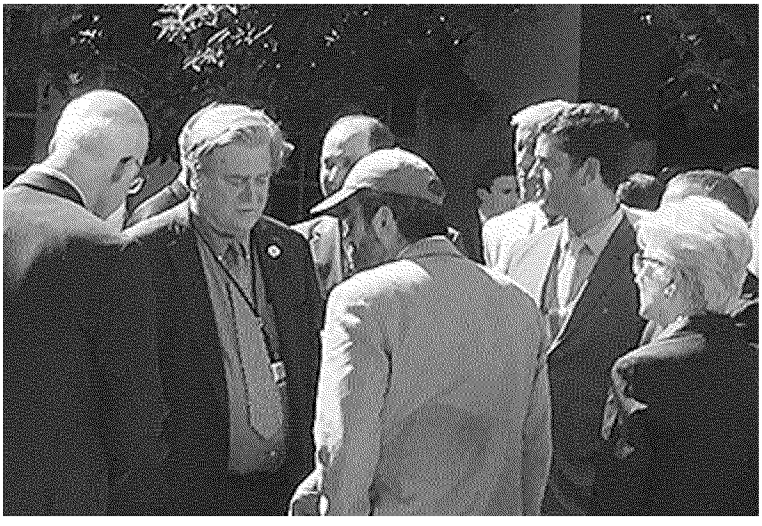
Endangerment, CO2 benefits, tweeting at Trump

Conservatives appear anxious to get Pruitt to take action on EPA's endangerment finding, which triggers climate rules under the Clean Air Act. Many climate skeptics would like to see that finding revoked.

One idea expressed at the meeting, Bast wrote, is to "push Pruitt to start a proceeding for reconsideration of the Endangerment Finding ... he won't do it without pressure."

Participants also suggested that "we need to be able to say 'EPA is reconsidering whether CO2 is a pollutant,'" according to the summary. Also floated was using the White House petition process — by submitting 100,000 signatures, "the administration will issue a statement on why it isn't reconsidering the Endangerment Finding."

Another central theme among speakers at the meeting was that climate skeptics should play up the benefits of carbon dioxide.



Bast talking with then-White House chief strategist Steve Bannon after President Trump announced his withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Agreement. Evan Lehmann/E&E News

Ideas floated, according to Bast's email, included, "Stop chasing the other side's latest argument and focus instead on the benefits of CO2" and "sue a company for *not* increasing CO2 emissions, force a court to consider the evidence on CO2 benefits."

Michael Mann, a climatologist at Pennsylvania State University, called those talking points a "'kinder, gentler' form of climate change denialism" in an email.

"It is becoming increasingly difficult for climate contrarians to deny that something is happening, because the impacts of climate change are no longer subtle," he said. "So the critics are instead retreating to a softer form of climate change denialism, i.e. that something is happening, and that humans 'might have some role,' but the impacts are going to be good for us!"

Bast's email summary included other key talking points, such as emphasizing that those skeptical of climate science are pro-science and pro-environment and speakers should simplify the issues by focusing on a few key arguments. Ideas included reaching out to Fox News reporters and tweeting about the "red team" in order to get President Trump's attention.

The document went so far as to outline specific phrases that experts could use.

"Never use the phrases 'windmill farms,' 'all of the above,' 'carbon pollution,' 'social cost of carbon,' or 'air pollution,'" according to Bast's meeting notes. "Use 'industrial windmills,' 'reliable and affordable,' 'carbon dioxide emissions,' 'benefits and costs of fossil fuels' and 'air quality.'"

Participants also warned against being "led astray" by reporters. "Deliver your headlines first," the email said.

In Bast's opinion, he wrote, conservative groups should be more transparent about their strategies.

"We tend to hide, or at least not advertise, our playbooks for fear the other side will use them to launch counter-offenses, which we are sure would be far better funded and more warmly received by the media than our own efforts," he wrote. "But we ought to find a way to communicate our plans to our friends."

Reporter Evan Lehmann contributed.

Twitter: @nhheikkinen Email: nheikkinen@eenews.net

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Mon 10/16/2017 1:39:41 PM
Subject: WSJ: Steve Milloy on Clean Power Plan/PM2.5

Great piece by Steve Milloy in today's WSJ. Please add your comments. See www.junkscience.com for more details.

Joe

https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-clean-power-plans-counterfeit-benefits-1508104504

•□□□□□□□□ OPINION

•□□□□□□□□ COMMENTARY

The Clean Power Plan's Counterfeit Benefits

The Obama EPA claimed its regulation would have a $55 billion payoff. You'll never believe how.

By Steve Milloy

Oct. 15, 2017 5:55 p.m. ET

2 COMMENTS

The Environmental Protection Agency's proposed repeal of the Obama administration's Clean Power Plan is a milestone. No Republican administration has ever mustered the courage to roll back a major EPA regulation. In a clever twist, the Trump administration has done so by directly challenging the plan's purported health benefits.

Although the Clean Power Plan was pitched as a way to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases from coal-fired power plants, averting climate change was not how the Obama EPA justified the rule. In 2015 House Science Committee Chairman Lamar Smith forced Obama's EPA administrator, Gina McCarthy, to acknowledge that the plan would produce no change to global temperatures. Instead, the EPA justified the net benefit of the rule based on collateral reductions in power plants' emissions of fine particulate matter. In regulatory parlance, this soot is called PM2.5.

While the compliance costs to industry of the Clean Power Plan could be as high as $33 billion a year, the Obama EPA claimed that the economic benefits from reducing PM2.5 emissions would be even larger—as much as $55 billion a year.

What are the supposed $55 billion in economic benefits? That sum is intended to represent the value of thousands of premature deaths allegedly prevented every year by the Clean Power Plan via the co-benefit of reduced PM2.5 emissions. The EPA values lives "saved" at around $9 million each. Thousands times millions equal billions.

EPA staff invented this calculus in 1996 to justify the agency's first effort to regulate PM2.5, although there's no scientific evidence, then or now, to support the notion that particulates in outdoor air kill people. The EPA regulated them anyway, stiff-arming not only the Republican-controlled Congress's demands for proof of the danger of PM2.5 emissions but the objections of then-Vice President Al Gore, who thought the rule too costly.

The Clean Air Act requires air-quality standards for pollutants such as PM2.5 be set at a "safe" level. The EPA has long claimed that there is no safe level of exposure to PM2.5 and that inhalation can cause death within hours. But the EPA could never lower the PM2.5 standard to zero because such a standard could not be attained even if the economy was entirely shut down.

The Trump EPA has now largely jettisoned the notion that PM2.5 is a killer by slashing the supposed economic benefits of reduced emissions by $29 billion per year. That nets out favorably against the rule's anticipated annual costs of as much as $33 billion.

A robust body of scientific literature—from large epidemiologic studies to clinical research to historical air-quality data—supports the EPA's reversal. Standing against it are a few decades of dubious agency-funded studies, the underlying data for which the agency has kept well hidden in order to prevent independent analyses. The Obama EPA even defied a congressional subpoena in order to keep its PM2.5 epidemiologic secret.

EPA chief Scott Pruitt has hailed repeal of the Clean Power Plan as the end of the Obama administration's "war on coal." It's more like the beginning of the end. New York's Democratic Attorney General Eric Schneiderman and green groups have already announced they will sue. Good luck. When the Supreme Court voted to stay the Clean Power Plan in February 2016, it was a clear signal that the coal industry and red-state plaintiffs would prevail on the merits in any future legal challenge. The EPA's acknowledgment that the Clean Power Plan has no economic or climate benefits is the final nail in the regulation's coffin.

Mr. Milloy served on the Trump EPA transition team and is the author of "Scare Pollution: Why and How to Fix the EPA" (Bench Press 2016).

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Sun 10/15/2017 4:52:33 PM
Subject: Trump & coal

An important article:

http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2017/10/15/trumps-love-affair-with-coal-215710

So far, coal is continuing its slump despite Trump's support. Utilities have announced the retirements of 12 more coal-fired power plants since he took office, including two massive ones in Texas added to the closure list on Friday. That announcement marked a milestone: Half of America's coal fleet has been marked for mothballs since 2010, a total of 262 doomed plants. And as jobs go, coal mining is now a tiny sliver of the U.S. economy, employing about 52,000 Americans last month, down 70 percent over three decades. (The count is up about 4 percent since Trump took office, but mostly because a snafu in China's steel industry temporarily boosted U.S. exports.) By contrast, the solar and wind industries employed almost 10 times as many Americans last year, and they're both enjoying explosive growth.

The last three sentences are false; Roger Bezdek provides more accurate counts of employment and, like other analysts, finds coal plays a much bigger role and wind and energy, much smaller, in local and the national economies.

The article links to another important article,

http://www.politico.com/agenda/story/2015/05/inside-war-on-coal-000002

which begins,

The war on coal is not just political rhetoric, or a paranoid fantasy concocted by rapacious polluters. It's real and it's relentless. Over the past five years, it has killed a coal-fired power plant every 10 days. It has quietly transformed the U.S. electric grid and the global climate debate.

Later in that article,

The Sierra Club can't claim full credit for the coal bust. It didn't ratchet down the prices of gas, wind and solar or enact the flurry of EPA rules ratcheting up the price of coal, although its lobbyists and lawyers have pushed hard for government support for renewables while fighting in court over just about every coal-related regulation. It didn't produce the energy efficiency boom that has reined in electricity demand, either. Still, a Bloomberg Philanthropies analysis found that at least 40 percent of U.S. coal retirements could not have happened without Beyond Coal's advocacy. The status quo wields a lot of power in the heavily regulated power sector, where economics and mathematics don't always beat politics and inertia. The case for change keeps getting stronger, but someone has to make the case.

When Mary Anne Hitt, Beyond Coal's national director, first visited Indianapolis to fight an inner-city plant, the headline in the Star was: "Beyond Coal's Director Faces Tough Sell in Indiana." But after two years of door-knocking, phone-banking and educating officials on the new realities of electricity, the Sierra Club and its local partners helped shut down the plant. Hitt has seen the same kind of miracle in Chicago, in Omaha, alongside a Paiute tribe reservation in Nevada, even in coal strongholds like Kentucky. It's starting to feel more like a pattern than a miracle.

That is what we are up against.

Joe

To: Paul Driessen **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Sun 10/15/2017 4:31:40 PM
Subject: The Obama EPA's crooked prosecution of CO2
Driessen - Obama EPA's crooked prosecutors.docx

The attached essay by Paul Driessen provides an accurate overview of how EPA justified its endangerment finding and why it must be repealed.

Joe

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

The Obama EPA's crooked prosecutors

The agency's carbon dioxide climate "endangerment finding" was a kangaroo court process

Paul Driessen

Suppose a crooked prosecutor framed someone and was determined to get a conviction. So he built an entire case on tainted, circumstantial evidence, and testimony from witnesses who had their reasons for wanting the guy in jail. Suppose the prosecutor ignored or hid exculpatory evidence and colluded with the judge to prevent the defendant from presenting a robust defense or cross-examining adverse witnesses.

You know what would happen – at least in a fair and just society. The victim would be exonerated and compensated. The prosecutor and judge would be disbarred, fined and jailed.

What you may not know is that the Obama EPA engaged in similar prosecutorial misconduct to convict fossil fuels of causing climate chaos and endangering the health and wellbeing of Americans.

EPA then used its carbon dioxide "Endangerment Finding" to justify anti-fossil fuel regulations, close down coal-fired power plants, block pipeline construction, and exempt wind and solar installations from endangered species rules. It put the agency in control of America's energy, economy, job creation and living standards. It drove up energy prices, killed numerous jobs, and sent families into energy poverty.

EPA's egregious misconduct inflicted significant harm on our nation. Having acted to repeal the Obama Clean Power Plan, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt must reverse carbon dioxide's conviction and scuttle the Endangerment Finding that serves as the foundation and justification for the agency's war on coal, oil and natural gas. Any harm from fossil fuels or carbon dioxide is minuscule, compared to the extensive damages inflicted by the decision and subsequent regulations.

President Obama and EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson took office determined to blame carbon dioxide for "dangerous" and "unprecedented" manmade global warming and climate change. They then used that preordained decision to justify closing coal-fired power plants and dramatically restricting fossil fuel use. Mr. Obama had promised to "bankrupt" coal companies. Ms. Browner wasted no time in decreeing that CO2 from oil, natural gas coal burning "endanger" human health and welfare. It was a kangaroo court.

Their Environmental Protection Agency did no research of its own. It simply cherry-picked UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports and wrote a Technical Support Document to make its case. The TSD ignored studies that contradicted its predetermined Endangerment Finding – and relied on circumstantial evidence of climate and extreme weather disasters generated by computer models.

The models were programmed on the assumption that rising atmospheric CO2 levels are the primary or sole factor determining climate and weather. They assumed more carbon dioxide meant more planetary warming and worsening climate chaos. The role of the sun, cosmic rays, changing ocean currents and numerous other powerful, interconnected natural forces throughout Earth's history was simply ignored.

The models predicted steadily increasing global temperatures and more frequent and intense storms. Instead, even as atmospheric carbon dioxide levels continued to rise, except for a noticeable temperature spike during the 2015-2016 super El Niño, there has been no planetary warming since 1998. Harvey finally ended a record 12-year drought in Category 3-5 hurricanes making landfall in the USA.

Tornado deaths are far less frequent than in the 1950s. Floods and droughts differ little from historic trends and cycles. Antarctic land ice is at record highs, and Arctic sea ice is again within its "normal" levels for the past 50 years. Seas are rising at just seven inches per century, the same as 100 years ago.

The models also assumed more warming meant more clouds that trapped more heat. They ignored the fact that low-lying clouds trap heat but also reflect solar heat back into the atmosphere. Humans might be "contributing" to temperature, climate and weather events, at least locally. But there is no real-world evidence that "greenhouse gases" have replaced natural forces to cause climate chaos or extreme weather – and no evidence that humans can control Earth's fickle climate by controlling emissions.

In fact, with every passing year, climate model temperature forecasts have been increasingly higher than those actually observed over most of the lower atmosphere.

The EPA approach amounted to saying, if reality conflicts with the models, reality must be wrong – or to deciding that real world evidence should be homogenized, adjusted and manipulated to fit model results.

Indeed, that's exactly what EPA, the IPCC and other alarmist researchers have done. Older historic records were adjusted downward, modern records got bumped upward a bit, and government-paid scientists ignored satellite data and relied increasingly on measurements recorded near (and contaminated by) airport jet exhaust, blacktop parking lots, and urban areas warmed by cars, heating and AC vents.

The IPCC also claimed its referenced studies were all peer-reviewed by experts. In reality, at least 30% were not; many were prepared by graduate students or activist groups; and some of its most attention-getting claims (of rapidly melting Himalayan glaciers, for example) were nothing more than brief email messages noting that these were "possible" outcomes. Moreover, most IPCC peer reviewers were scientists who fervently promote catastrophic manmade climate change perspectives, receive government and other grants for writing reports confirming this thesis, and take turns reviewing one another's papers.

Despite these inconvenient facts, a steady barrage of Obama EPA press releases and statements from alarmist regulators and "experts" insisted that fossil fuels were causing planetary cataclysms. Anyone who tried to present alternative, realistic data or views was ridiculed, vilified and silenced.

Even one of EPA's most senior experts was summarily removed from the review team. "Your comments do not help the legal or policy case for this decision," Alan Carlin's supervisor told him.

Two additional facts dramatically underscore the kangaroo court nature of EPA's 2009 proceedings.

First, oil, natural gas and coal still provide over 80% of America's and the world's energy. The International Energy Agency says they will be at least this important 25 years from now. Indeed, fossil fuels are the foundation for modern industries, transportation, communication, jobs, health and living standards. Emerging economic powerhouses like China and India, developing countries the world over, and even industrialized nations like Germany and Poland are using more of these fuels every year.

The Obama EPA studiously ignored these facts – and the tremendous benefits that fossil fuels bring to every aspect of our lives. Those benefits outweigh any asserted dangers – by orders of magnitude.

Second, carbon dioxide is not a pollutant, as defined by the Clean Air Act – and was never listed in any legislation as a pollutant. It was turned into an alleged pollutant by dishonest, ideological EPA prosecutors, who needed to justify their anti-fossil fuel regulatory agenda.

In reality, carbon dioxide is the miracle molecule without which most life on Earth would cease to exist. It enables plants of all kinds to convert soil nutrients and water into the fibers, fruits and seeds that are essential to humans and animals. The more CO2 in the air, the faster and better plants grow, and the more they are able to withstand droughts, disease, and damage from insects and viruses. In the process, crop, forest and grassland plants, and ocean and freshwater phytoplankton, exhale the oxygen we breathe.

In rendering its endangerment decision, EPA ignored these incalculable CO2 benefits. It ignored experts and studies that would have provided vital information about the tremendous value to our planet and people from fossil fuels and carbon dioxide.

Finally, having a slightly warmer planet with more atmospheric CO2 would be hugely beneficial for plants, wildlife and humanity. By contrast, having a *colder* planet, with *less* carbon dioxide, would be seriously harmful for arable land extent, growing seasons, crops, people and wildlife habitats.

The EPA Endangerment Finding is the foundation for the Obama era Clean Power Plan and other rules. Reversing it is essential to moving forward with science-based energy and climate policies.

Paul Driessen is senior policy analyst for the Committee For A Constructive Tomorrow (www.CFACT.org), and author of *Eco-Imperialism: Green power - Black death* and other books on public policy.

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Fri 10/13/2017 8:24:18 PM
Subject: Profile of Art Robinson at a website that calls itself "538"

Heartland board member and scientist extraordinaire Art Robinson is the subject of a lengthy profile on a website that calls itself "538," here:

https://fivethirtyeight.com/features/the-grandfather-of-alt-science/

The article is titled "The Grandfather Of Alt-Science," and it quotes me a few times, accurately, praising Art for being a pioneer in the climate change debate and godfather to skeptics in a wide range of fields. The article is about as good as we could hope for from a liberal establishment reporter.

The article is sometimes disrespectful, as when referring to Art's organization as "what Robinson calls the Oregon Institute of Science and Medicine," and samples of urine collected for chemical analysis as "pee," and calling Art himself "an extremely well-connected crank." (I can hear Art saying, "well yes, I guess I am cranky.") He stoops really low when he "reports" that "Robinson's ties to Heartland connect him to big business, at least indirectly." Yeah… *very* indirectly, as in "not at all," but thanks for pointing that out.

With those shortcomings called out, enjoy the article… and congratulations, Art!

Joe

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Mon 1/15/2018 3:05:54 PM
Subject: Another perfect op-ed by Ben Zycher in Investor's Business Daily

https://www.investors.com/politics/commentary/the-childrens-climate-lawsuit-against-the-children/

The Children's Climate Lawsuit Against The Children

Investor's Business Daily

1/12/2018

By Benjamin Zycher

Litigation may be as American as apple pie, but some lawsuits are so destructive that they stand out even among the hugely expensive wreckage wrought by our legal system. The most prominent current example is the "children's" climate lawsuit (Juliana v U.S.): A group of kids, including "future generations, through their guardian Dr. James Hansen," claim that the government's actions and failures to act have caused climate change, thus violating the youngest generation's constitutional rights to life, liberty and property, and have failed to protect essential public trust resources.

I leave the numerous legal issues to the lawyers, although precisely how the ineffable Hansen came to be the "guardian" for future generations is a question both fascinating and amusing. Instead, it is crucial to recognize first that the fundamental policy assumption underlying this lawsuit — we can make "the children" better off by making them poorer — is preposterous.

More generally, the lawsuit is a blatant attempt to circumvent democratic processes, in terms of both the Congressional power to make policy and the authority of the president to implement it.

Climate policies — mandated reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions — by and large are energy policies, and the constitution is silent on which such policies would serve the interests of future generations, or on the appropriate tradeoffs between the interests of "the children" and the adults alive in the here and now.

Those are policy questions, and this attempt to induce judges to interfere with Congress' legislative powers is deeply destructive of our constitutional institutions. Should "the children" not be concerned about that? Why are "the children" not suing about, say, the national debt?

Second, the claim about the protection of "essential public trust resources" boils down to an

assertion that carbon dioxide is a "pollutant." No, it is not: A certain minimum atmospheric concentration of it is necessary for life itself. (Merely look at NASA's time-lapse photo of the earth's greening over the last 30-plus years.) By far the most important GHG is water vapor; does anyone claim that it is a "pollutant?" Obviously not, and not because ocean evaporation is a natural process; so are volcanic eruptions, and the massive amounts of effluents emitted by volcanoes are pollutants by any definition.

Third, consider a *homo sapiens* baby born in a cave some tens of thousands of years ago, in a world with environmental quality effectively untouched by mankind. That child at birth would have had a life expectancy on the order of ten years; had it been able to choose, it is obvious that it willingly would have given up some environmental quality in exchange for better housing, food, water, medical care, safety, *ad infinitum*. That is, it is obvious that people willingly choose to give up some environmental quality in exchange for a life both longer and wealthier.

In other words, the children's lawsuit is inconsistent *with actual interests of future generations*, as the obvious underlying assumption is that future generations would prefer the purest possible environmental quality. That is not correct: Future generations want to inherit the most valuable possible capital stock in all of its myriad dimensions, among which environmental quality is one important component among many, and among all of which there are tradeoffs that cannot be avoided.

Is it the position of the attorneys representing "the children" that making energy more rather than less expensive unambiguously would make future generations better off? In order for future generations to receive the most valuable possible capital stock, the current generation must consume and invest resources most productively.

If regulatory and other policies implemented by the current generation yield less wealth now and a smaller total capital stock for future generations, then more resource consumption and more emissions of effluents currently would be preferred from the viewpoint of those future generations.

That is only the beginning of the problematic factual assertions and assumptions underlying the children's lawsuit. The measureable effects of increasing GHG concentrations are far smaller than the climate models would lead one to believe. The degree to which recent warming has been anthropogenic is unsettled in the scientific literature; and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in its fifth assessment report (AR5) has reduced its estimated range of the effect in 2100 of a doubling of GHG concentrations from 2.0–4.5 to 1.5–4.5 degrees C.

There actually is little evidence of strong climate effects attendant upon increasing GHG concentrations, in terms of sea levels; Arctic and Antarctic sea ice; tornado activity; tropical cyclones; U.S. wildfires; drought; and flooding. IPCC in the AR5 is deeply dubious (Table 12.4) about the various severe effects often hypothesized (or asserted) as future impacts of increasing GHG concentrations.

One might assume that the facts underlying a lawsuit ought to be consistent with its central claims; one would be wrong. And wrong again if one assumes that the policy objective would

make an actual difference: The Paris agreement with full U.S. participation would reduce temperatures by 2100 by seventeen one-hundredths of a degree. The U.S. contribution would be fifteen one-thousandths of a degree. Add another one one-hundredth of a degree if you believe that the Obama pseudo-agreement with China is meaningful. (It is not.)

Precisely what is the children's climate lawsuit trying to achieve? It cannot be protection of our constitutional principles, or protection of future generations, or environmental improvement. Only one possibility remains: It is part of the long-term effort by the environmental left to use any means possible to exert control over other people's property, economic choices, and lifestyles. The plaintiff attorneys are happy to participate in a litigation process in which "the children" are irrelevant.

Zycher is a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute.

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Sun 1/14/2018 3:33:30 PM
Subject: Paul Driessen: Blatant Blue State hypocrisy

Another great piece by Paul Diressen, calling out liberal politicians for using global warming for "virtue signaling" and the left's infiltration of Google, Facebook and Twitter to promote fake news and hide the truth.

Joe

From: Paul Driessen [mailto: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Sent: Saturday, January 13, 2018 10:09 PM
To: 'Paul Driessen'
Subject: commentary: Blatant Blue State hypocrisy

This wide-ranging discussion of economic, energy, climate and free speech – as practiced by Blue State governments and activist allies – explains why America is lucky it's governed by President Trump, a Republican Congress, and mostly Red State governors and legislators, instead of by certain potential alternatives. Those alternative entities are presiding over tax and regulatory regimes, mountains of debt, intransigent public sector unions, and anti-nuclear, anti-fossil fuel energy policies that are anything but business friendly. Worse, they show no signs of abating.

These politicians are desperate for scapegoats – anything to deflect attention away from their failures and incompetence.

So New York City Mayor Bill De Blasio has resurrected the Superstorm Sandy zombie. "I remember how desperate it was," he railed at a recent press conference, where he announced he's suing oil companies for changing Earth's climate. "This tragedy was wrought by the actions of fossil fuel companies," and the $20 billion he expects from the litigation will help NYC "build resilience against rising seas, more powerful storms and hotter temperatures." Nice try, Mr. Mayor. But not many people are buying this nonsense anymore.

Thank you for posting my article, quoting from it, and forwarding it to your friends and colleagues.

Best regards,

Paul

Blatant Blue State hypocrisy

From energy and spending, to climate and debate – silencing all dissenting voices is essential

Paul Driessen

You've got to admire the full frontal audacity of New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, New York City Mayor Bill De Blasio, and their union and pressure group comrades in arms. Their hypocrisy, fraud and tyranny are boundless, especially on fiscal, energy and climate change issues.

Amid the seventh year of a "New York is open for business" advertising campaign that has spent $354 million thus far, they are presiding over tax and regulatory regimes, mountains of debt, intransigent public sector unions, anti-nuclear, anti-fossil fuel energy policies that are anything but business friendly – and press conferences that promise more of the same for state businesses, taxpayers and pensioners.

As *Wall Street Journal* columnist William McGurn notes, Cuomo and his fellow warriors against Trump and Republicans will do almost anything – "except address the root problem by lowering their taxes and spending. Because to do so would require taking on the public unions that drive much of state spending and debt, and are the key constituency of the 21st-century Democratic Party."

Across the river in New Jersey, unions resist any reforms to their payrolls or pensions just as fiercely. The NJ pension system is already $90-*billion* short of what it needs to pay future benefits, says the Manhattan Institute. The state will collect some $35 billion in 2018 taxes, but any new revenue will go to pension payouts and spending on new government programs. Connecticut is in the same boat.

Meanwhile, electricity prices continue to climb: In New York 18.8 cents per kilowatt-hour for families, 15.0 cents for the businesses the state is so eager to attract, and 6.2 cents for its few industries. In Jersey, 14.7, 11.4 and 9.6 cents, respectively. In Connecticut, a whopping 21.3, 16.8 and 13.5 cents per kWh!

On the Left Coast, similarly exorbitant electricity rates pummel California businesses, families, factories, farms, hospitals and schools – while neighborhoods confront monstrous mudslides, resulting from winter rains in the wake of fiery hillside-denuding conflagrations. The fires and floods have destroyed nearly 9,000 homes, killed over 60 people, and devastated entire forests and neighborhoods.

Golden State forests have *129 million dead trees*, and enough dry brush to fill LA Memorial Coliseum several times. But state regulators, environmentalists and judges make it impossible to remove any. It's more "natural," "sustainable" and "climate friendly" to have it erupt in 1,400 to

2,200 degree F infernos.

Compare those fiscal and environmental train wrecks to results thus far of the deregulation, tax reduction, pro-fossil fuel policies of President Trump and congressional Republicans: new jobs, higher wages, nice bonuses, a coming repatriation of trillions of now overseas dollars to fuel new investment and innovation, the lowest black unemployment since recordkeeping began, and the DJIA stock market reaching a record high of 25,575 January 11, following a record 92 closing highs since President Trump was elected.

Compare that to Nobel Prize winning Blue economist Paul Krugman's dire prediction after the election: the markets will crash and "never" recover, amid a long "global recession." Meanwhile, multi-multi-millionaire Nancy Pelosi belittled the $1,000 bonuses as "crumbs." Tell that to families bringing in $25,000 to $50,000 a year. The House Minority Leader is completely out of touch with average families.

The Democrats need bogeymen, scapegoats, distractions – to deflect attention away from this lunacy. That's the best way to explain the Cuomo and De Blasio press stunts this past week.

Rather than confronting public sector unions and rabid greens – or supporting onshore and offshore drilling and fracking that would create jobs and improve economies in poor counties far from Albany and Manhattan, generate tax revenues, and reduce electricity prices – the gov railed against the new $10,000 cap on how much of their state and local taxes "the rich" NY residents can deduct on their federal forms.

Mr. Cuomo proposes to transform personal income taxes into corporate payroll taxes, or even charitable deductions! California is trying the same ploy. Friendly IRS auditors will be busy shutting that down.

Meanwhile, Mayor De Blasio went on a rant against fossil fuels – announcing that the city is suing five major oil companies for billions of dollars in "climate damages," and insisting that the Big Apple must divest its police, teacher and other public pensions from any and all fossil fuel stocks.

Energy stocks are leading the latest US stock market rally, fossil fuels will continue providing 75-80% of US and global energy for decades to come, resurgent economies overseas are booming thanks to coal, oil and natural gas, and forecasters are predicting $80-per-barrel oil in 2018, as demand surges. So Liberal Logic says it's time to *divest* from fossil fuels – and maybe switch to ideologically sympatico holdings, like subsidized wind turbines or booming economies like Argentina, Venezuela and North Korea.

Greenhouse gas emissions produced disasters like Superstorm Sandy, De Blasio railed. "I remember those days. I remember how desperate it was, how much fear and confusion there was. This tragedy was wrought by the actions of fossil fuel companies." Now New York needs $20 billion "to build resilience against rising seas, more powerful storms and hotter temperatures."

Nice try, Mr. Mayor. But blaming sub-hurricane-strength Sandy for the actions and

incompetence of city and state officials won't cut it. As environmental consultant Pat Moffitt and I explained in great detail in a three-part series (here, here and here) several months after the storm pounded the NYC area, fossil fuels and GHGs had zero to do with the damages – any more than they did for Harvey, Irma or other storms.

They likewise played no role in California's wildfires and mudslides, despite Governor Jerry Brown's scapegoating insistence that GHG emissions are responsible for that too. It's all self-serving fraud.

Fuel oil and natural gas got millions of New Yorkers and New Englanders through the recent record cold snap, while wind turbines froze up, solar panels went AWOL, and Al Gore blamed the cold on global warming! But who are we to argue with Hizzoner da Mare about fossil fuels, dangerous manmade climate change, Sandy or divestment? He might sic his RICO attack dogs on us again.

Indeed, such prosecutions are part and parcel of the new leftist-fascist world order, under which partisans, politicians and professors shut down debate, impose uniform thinking, decree corporate policy, and even punish intolerable contrarian views with physical violence when those views threaten their "safe spaces."

It's not yet as dicey as getting into a Moscow elevator. But one climate doomsayer wants to ship climate chaos skeptics to a Kerguelen Island gulag off Antarctica, where he probably assumes they could watch the entire continent melt – from GHG emissions, if not from the volcanoes and magma beneath its ice.

Antifa leftist-fascists have learned well from their predecessors and contemporaries, but are now employing their technological prowess as well. Google and Facebook use clever algorithms to steer searches and help liberal news and views reach audiences, while conservative perspectives get shunted to the "back pages." Google now displays "fact checks" next to Daily Caller and other conservative views, though not with liberal leaning stories; Snopes says its fake news, but others say it's absolutely true.

Twitter allegedly uses "shadow banning" algorithms to make users think their tweets have been posted, when in fact they've been sent to cyber oblivion. And talk show host Dennis Prager is suing YouTube for using "restricted mode filtering" to keep PragerU educational videos from reaching audiences. The LA Times and other liberal papers won't even publish letters to the editor challenging climate alarmism.

Former Colorado Democratic Governor Richard Lamm would instantly recognize these tyrannical tactics. In 2005, Mr. Lamm said they were integral parts of an eight-step program to "destroy America." (This audio of the talk on YouTube must have escaped their censors.)

The future of our free speech and other democratic safeguards and institutions is at stake. So is the future of sound, evidence-based science, on climate and other topics – and of reliable, affordable energy.

Blue State officials, unions and activists may be delighted with how their agenda is "progressing." The rest of the United States … and world … are not so happy.

Paul Driessen is senior policy analyst for the Committee For A Constructive Tomorrow (www.CFACT.org), and author of articles, reports and books on public policy.

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Fri 1/12/2018 2:53:17 PM
Subject: Tom Harris on Townhall.com

More great writing by Tom Harris on why attention must now turn to protecting the nation's coal-powered electric generation fleet.

Joe

https://townhall.com/columnists/tomharris/2018/01/12/cold-reminds-us-of-importance-of-dependable-energy-n2433573

Cold Reminds Us of Importance of Dependable Energy

Tom Harris

|

Posted: Jan 12, 2018 12:01 AM

Following the recent record-setting low temperatures, the importance of reliable, abundant, and inexpensive energy is now more obvious than ever. It was certainly appropriate that the 2017 National Security Strategy (NSS), released on December 18, three days before the start of winter, emphasized energy security.

To "Promote American prosperity" and "Advance American influence," two of the four vital national interests identified in the NSS, the Trump administration asserts that "our Nation must take advantage of our wealth in domestic resources." And one of the most important of its domestic resources, one America is no longer taking full advantage of, are its vast coal reserves, the largest of any nation on Earth.

Testifying on Nov. 28 at the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) public hearing on the

withdrawal of the Clean Power Plan in Charleston, W.Va., Robert E. Murray, president and CEO of Murray Energy Corp., summarized the bleak state of affairs:

"Prior to the election of President Obama, 52% of America's electricity was generated from coal, and this rate was much higher in the Midwest. That percentage of coal generation declined under the Obama Administration to 30%. Under the Obama Administration, and its so-called Clean Power Plan, over 400 coal-fired generating plants totaling over 100,000 megawatts of capacity were closed with no proven environmental benefit whatsoever."

Much of this was driven by Obama's determination to be seen to be contributing to "arresting climate change," to quote from his 2015 NSS, by mandating severe reductions of carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions from power plants. Unbelievably, Obama's 2015 NSS listed "Climate change" ahead of "Major energy market disruptions" in its "list of top strategic risks to our interests." That made no sense. Climate is, and always will be, variable. There is nothing we can do to stop it. And many scientists do not support the hypothesis that our CO_2 emissions will cause dangerous climate change.

Regardless, recent climate change has been unremarkable and clearly does not constitute a national security threat in comparison with a lack of affordable, reliable energy to power the nation and export into world markets. President Donald Trump was right to make only passing reference to climate change in the 2017 NSS.

Even in the unlikely event that CO_2 emissions were a problem, developing countries, the source of most of the world's emissions (China currently emits about twice as much as does the U.S.), are not following Obama's lead. They understand that they must continue to aggressively build coal-fired power plants to meet their growing electricity needs. The New York Times admitted ("As Beijing Joins Climate Fight, Chinese Companies Build Coal Plants," July 1, 2017):

"Chinese corporations are building or planning to build more than 700 new coal plants at home and around the world, some in countries that today burn little or no coal, according to tallies compiled by Urgewald, an environmental group based in Berlin…Over all, 1,600 coal plants are planned or under construction in 62 countries, according to Urgewald's tally, which uses data from the Global Coal Plant Tracker portal. The new plants would expand the world's coal-fired power capacity by 43 percent."

Similarly, India's heavy reliance on coal will continue even in 2047, according to the June 16, 2017 report, "Energizing India," by National Institute for Transforming India (NTTI) and the Institute of Energy Economic Japan (IEEJ). Coal is forecast to rise from its current (2012) 46% of India's total energy mix to 50% in 2047 in Business as Usual scenario. Even in an "ambitious" scenario in which renewables supply 12% of India's primary energy (in 2012 it was 3%), coal still accounts for 42% of India's energy mix.

The authors of the NTTI/IEEJ report state, "India would like to use its abundant coal reserves as it provides a cheap source of energy and ensures energy security as well."

They are right, of course, so it is a welcomed development that Trump is promoting a resurgence of the American coal industry.

Obama's dedication to the climate scare contributed significantly to coal's tragic decline in America. Besides the impact of his Clean Power Plan, a rule that will hopefully soon be

withdrawn, coal has been hammered as a result of a 2015 EPA rule that limits CO2 emissions on new coal-fired power stations. The result is that the U.S. can no longer build modern, clean, and efficient coal plants to replace older stations, as is happening in Europe, China, and India. Here's why:

The 2015 EPA rule, entitled "Standards of Performance for Greenhouse Gas Emissions From New, Modified, and Reconstructed Stationary Sources: Electric Generating Units," limits CO2 emissions on new coal-fired stations to 1,400 pounds per megawatt-hour of electricity generated. When releasing the new standard, the EPA asserted that it "is the performance achievable by a [supercritical pulverized coal] unit capturing about 20 percent of its carbon pollution."

This is irrational. CO2 is no more pollution than is water vapour, the major greenhouse gas in the atmosphere. By calling the gas "carbon," the Obama EPA encouraged the public to think of it as something dirty, like graphite or soot, which really are carbon. Calling CO2 by its proper name, carbon dioxide, would have helped people remember that it is an invisible, odourless gas essential to plant photosynthesis, clearly not a perspective Obama encouraged.

Also, the technology of CO2 capture on a full-scale power plant is still a technological fantasy. So, in reality, the EPA was actually banning even the most modern, very efficient, supercritical coal-fired stations because their CO2 emissions are at least 20% above the EPA limit.

Speaking at the Nov 9 America First Energy Conference in Houston, Texas, keynote speaker Joe Leimkuhler, vice president of drilling for Louisiana-based LLOG Exploration, showed that America has 22.1% of the world's proven coal reserves, the greatest of any country and enough to last for 381 years at current consumption rates. So, it is a tragedy that America can no longer build modern coal-fired power stations to replace its aging fleet. Clearly, the rule limiting CO2 emissions from new coal-fired power stations must be cancelled as soon as possible.

The climate scare has also impeded coal's development in the U.S. by restricting its exports. In particular, Asia would be a huge market for inexpensive American coal if sufficient U.S. export facilities were available. But, again, thanks largely to the climate scare contributing to the blocking of construction of coal export terminals, the U.S. exports only about as much coal as does Poland.

To ensure energy security, especially when demand soars during bitterly cold spells and heat waves, and to "restore America's advantages in the world and build upon our country's great strengths," to quote from the NSS fact sheets, the U.S. must expand its fleet of coal-fired power stations and build coal export facilities as quickly as possible. And to make that possible, the Trump administration must do everything in its power to thoroughly debunk the climate alarm that has so crippled coal's development.

Tom Harris is executive director of the Ottawa, Canada-based International Climate Science Coalition. He writes from a province, Ontario, that seriously damaged its economy by banning all coal-fired power generation.

Tom Harris, B. Eng., M. Eng. (Mech.)

Executive Director

International Climate Science Coalition (ICSC)

28 Tiverton Drive

Ottawa, Ontario K2E 6L5

Canada

www.climatescienceinternational.org

613-728-9200

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Thur 1/11/2018 3:29:22 PM
Subject: Why is it so cold right now in a warmer world? - CBS News

Right.... I think I follow this. No, not really.

Joe

https://www.cbsnews.com/news/why-is-it-so-cold-right-now-global-warming-and-cold-weather/

Why is it so cold right now in a warmer world?

WASHINGTON -- Anchorage, Alaska, was warmer Tuesday than Jacksonville, Florida. The weather in the U.S. is that upside down.

That's because the Arctic's deeply frigid weather escaped its regular atmospheric jail that traps the worst cold. It then meandered south to the central and eastern United States. And this has been happening more often in recent times, scientists say.

Why is it so cold right now?

Super cold air is normally locked up in the Arctic in the polar vortex, which is a gigantic circular weather pattern around the North Pole. A strong polar vortex keeps that cold air hemmed in.

"Then when it weakens, it causes like a dam to burst," and the cold air heads south, said Judah Cohen, a winter storm expert for Atmospheric Environmental Research, a commercial firm outside Boston.

"This is not record-breaking for Canada or Alaska or northern Siberia, it's just misplaced," said Cohen, who had forecast a colder than normal winter for much of the U.S.

Is this unusual?

Yes, but more for how long -- about 10 days -- the cold has lasted, than how cold it has been. On Tuesday, Boston tied its seven-day record for the most consecutive days at or below 20 degrees that was set exactly 100 years ago.

More than 1,600 daily records for cold were tied or broken in the last week of December, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). For Greg Carbin of the National Weather Service's Weather Prediction Center, the most meaningful statistics are how last week's average temperature was the second coldest in more than a century of record-keeping for Minneapolis, Chicago, Detroit and Kansas City, third coldest in Pittsburgh and fifth coldest in New York City.

Global warming and cold weather

While the United States has been in the deep freeze, the rest of the globe has been toastier than normal. The globe as a whole was 0.9 degrees warmer than normal Tuesday and the Arctic was more than 6 degrees warmer than normal, according to the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's analysis.

"If you look at the temperature map for the climate as a whole right now, the entire rest of the planet is warmer than the historical average with the exception of the Eastern United States and Canada, and the last three years -- 2014, 2015 and 2016 -- have been consecutively the warmest years on record," atmospheric scientist and Columbia University professor Adam Sobel told CBS News last week.

What's next?

A brutal winter storm dumped snow, sleet and freezing rain from normally balmy Florida up the Southeast seaboard Wednesday, delivering a white coating that some cities hadn't seen in decades. Cars spun out of control on icy overpasses from Texas to Georgia. Forecasters warned that conditions could worsen, especially in the Northeast.

In the southern U.S., a wind chill advisory was in effect Wednesday from Orlando down to Boca Raton as a "bomb cyclone" storm was expected to swirl up the East Coast, said CBS News weather producer David Parkinson. He said when a storm system "loses 24 millibars of pressure, which is to say it gets that much stronger, in under 24 hours, you have what's called a 'weather bomb,' and so that's where you get the term 'bombogenesis' – that's where we talk about storms 'bombing out.'"

"Much sort of like a Sandy or a hurricane or something like that, it gets really strong really quickly, and when that happens you have these bursts of intense snow," he said.

If the storm moves just 25 miles in one direction or the other when it gets to the Northeast, that could be the difference between four and eight inches of snow, Parkinson said.

There is a blizzard concern along the coast – in Cape Ann, Mass., and along the state's southern coast. Winds are expected to be 40-70 mph.

"We're not going to have ridiculous snow totals that we've never seen before … But what we are gonna have is a lot of wind, a lot of low visibility and what I suspect will be a lot of traffic accidents," Parkinson said.

Forecasters warned of frost bite and hypothermia in Chicago, where wind chills of minus 35 degrees were predicted. According to CBS Chicago, many homeowners are already facing the consequences of frozen or broken pipes due to bone-chilling temperatures.

What makes the polar vortex move?

This is an area of hot debate and research among scientists and probably is a mix of human-caused climate change and natural variability, said Furtado. Climate change hasn't made the polar vortex more extreme, but it probably is making it move more, which makes the weather seem more extreme, he said.

A recent study by Potsdam Institute climate scientist Marlene Kretschmer found the polar vortex has weakened and meandered more often since 1990, but that study focused more on Europe. Ongoing

research shows that there seems to be a similar connection for more frequent Arctic cold snaps like what the U.S. is now experiencing, Kretschmer said.

How can it be so cold with global warming?

Don't confuse weather -- which is a few days or weeks in one region -- with climate, which is over years and decades and global. Weather is like a person's mood, which changes frequently, while climate is like someone's personality, which is more long-term, Furtado said.

"A few cold days doesn't disprove climate change," Furtado said. "That's just silly. Just like a couple down days on the stock market doesn't mean the economy is going into the trash."

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Wed 1/10/2018 10:05:34 PM
Subject: Report: 485 Scientific Papers Published in 2017 Undermine Supposed 'Consensus' on Climate Change

Nice!

http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2018/01/10/report-485-scientific-papers-published-in-2017-undermine-supposed-consensus-on-climate-change/

Joe

To: Stan Young[stan.young@omicsoft.com]; James E. Enstrom[jenstrom@ucla.edu]
From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Tue 1/9/2018 5:54:37 PM
Subject: "No dose response" letter to editor
Young 2018 no dose response DR.pdf

This letter brilliantly summarizes the state of play in the PM 2.5 debate, complete with footnotes, and published in a peer-reviewed academic journal. (Of course, letters to the editor are not peer-reviewed, so don't make the mistake of mis-labeling this letter.)

John Dunn and Steve Milloy repeatedly urge us to call out the PM 2.5 fraud with just as much energy and erudition as we do the CO2 fraud, and he is right. If the AGW campaign ended today, coal-powered plants would still be shut down tomorrow under the fake PM 2.5 science.

Our goal should be energy freedom, not winning an increasingly obscure and irrelevant science debate. Ending EPA's war on fossil fuel requires repeal of Obama-era regulations, taxes, and subsidies that were justified by appeals to CO2 *and* PM 2.5. This letter and the articles it cites helps us achieve that goal.

Joe

From: Stan Young [mailto:stan.young@omicsoft.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 09, 2018 6:59 AM
To: Jim Enstrom; Steve Milloy; John Dunn
Cc:

Subject: "No dose response" letter to editor

All:

A letter to the editor in response to Jim's paper in Dose Response is now available.

"Thank you for choosing to publish **Evidence supporting no dose response of mortality to air quality** in *Dose-Response*! Your article is now published online and fully available to all readers at journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/1559325817750485."

Letter to the Editor

Dose-Response:
An International Journal
January-March 2018:1

DOI: 10.1177/1559325817750485
journals.sagepub.com/home/dos
SAGE

Evidence Supporting No Dose Response of Mortality to Air Quality

S. Stanley Young[1,2]

Enstrom[1] does a reanalysis of a large national cohort study and, unlike the original authors, finds no effect of small particulate matter, PM2.5, on total mortality. This result, if true, calls into question the current U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, paradigm that PM2.5 is causal of increased mortality. Logically it takes only one valid negative study to invalidate all association studies. In a response to a request from the EPA to suggest regulations in need of examination,[2] Young[3] points to 21 studies, including Enstrom,[1] that find no evidence of an association PM2.5 with mortality. Two of these studies are essentially experiments that directly negate causality.[4-5] Also, Young[6] analyzed a very large time series data set from California, years 2000 to 2012, 8 air basins, over 37 000 days of exposure, and found no effect of PM2.5 on mortality. Young[6] provides their analysis code and their analysis data set. Anyone asserting a causal relationship should make their data sets public. Logically, the game is over. Enstrom drives an important stake into the heart of EPA asserted causality.

References

1. Enstrom JE. Fine Particulate Matter and Total Mortality in Cancer Prevention Study Cohort Reanalysis. Dose Response. 2017:1-12.
2. Federal Register. EPA–HQ–OA–2017–0190; FRL–9961–60– OP: Evaluation of Existing Regulations. 2017. Accessed February 2017. The EPA has removed pointers to this area.
3. Young SS. EPA-HQ-OA-2017-0190-36647. Tracking Number: 36647. 2017. https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D¼EPA-HQ-OA-2017-0190. View all documents and comments in this Docket, Search for 36647. Accessed February 2017. The EPA has removed pointers to this area. Contact author for comments.
4. Chay K, Dobkin C, Greenstone M. The Clean Air Act of 1970 and Adult Mortality. Journal of Risk and Uncertainity. 2003;27(3):279-300.
5. Zu K, Tao G, Long C, Goodman J, Valberg P. Long-range fine particulate matter from the 2002 Quebec forest fires and daily mortality in Greater Boston and New York city. Air Quality, Atmosphere & Health. 2016;9(3):213-21.
6. Young SS, Smith RL, Lopiano KK. Air quality and acute deaths in California, 2000-2012. Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology. 88(2017):173-184.

[1] American Statistical Association, Raleigh, NC
[2] American Association for the Advancement of Science, Raleigh, NC

Corresponding Author:
S. Stanley Young, Fellow of the American Statistical Association and Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Raleigh, North Carolina.
Email: genetree@bellsouth.net

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Fri 1/5/2018 11:28:13 PM
Subject: Christopher Monckton's letter to EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt
epa-cleanpower-pruitt.docx

Perhaps you can help Christopher Monckton get his letter to Administrator Pruitt's attention? It's much shorter than Monckton's usual work product, and very well done.

Happy New Year!

Joe

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

Hobbit Court, Dyrham, Chippenham, SN14 8HE
07814 556423 monckton@mail.com 0117 937 4155
From: The Viscount Monckton of Brenchley

5 January 2017

The Hon. Scott Pruitt
Administrator
Environment Protection Agency

a-and-r-docket@epa.gov

Dear Administrator Pruitt,

EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0355
Proposed repeal of the "Clean Power Plan"

It has been suggested that I should write to let you know of the results of my team's scientific research establishing that worldwide concern about Man's influence on global temperature arose from an elementary and substantial error of physics first perpetrated some decades ago when climate scientists borrowed feedback theory from its originators in electronic network analysis but without sufficiently understanding it.

In response to doubled CO_2 concentration global warming will not be up to 10 Celsius degrees, as some have suggested, and will not even be the 3.3 C° that is the current mid-range prediction of the fifth-generation models of the Climate Model Inter-comparison Project. We have formally demonstrated that it will be only 1.25 C°.

This result was reached by three distinct methods – one by measurement, two by mathematics. The empirical method and the two theoretical methods cohere in their results, which have also been confirmed by independent tests at the National Physical Laboratory.

For four decades since 1979, when Dr Jule Charney wrote a report for the U.S. National Research Council predicting that for every doubling of CO_2 concentration there would be 1.5 to 4.5 C° global warming with a best estimate of 3 C°, the error of physics has misled climatologists into exaggerating their predictions of global warming. The error was built into five generations of computer models of the climate. Fixing it slashes the official global-warming estimate. There will be some global warming, but it will be small, harmless and beneficial. Global-warming mitigation is now demonstrated to be entirely unnecessary.

The error arose because climate scientists mistakenly thought that the entire difference (usually estimated at 33 C°) between the Earth's surface temperature with and without greenhouse gases was caused entirely by direct warming driven by greenhouse gases and by the knock-on effects of that direct warming, known as temperature feedbacks.

In reality, two-thirds of the 33 C° difference between what is called "emission temperature" and today's surface temperature arose not from greenhouse gases but from feedbacks consequent upon the emission temperature itself. Climatologists had used a version of the feedback loop that omitted the emission temperature from the input to the calculation. As a result, the feedbacks induced by emission temperature had hitherto been wrongly counted as part of the feedbacks induced by the direct warming from greenhouse gases.

Our paper demonstrates that feedbacks (though mentioned 1000 times in IPCC's 2013 *Fifth Assessment Report*) cannot add much more than about a sixth of a degree to the 1.1 C° global warming directly caused by doubling CO_2 concentration, so that the total warming of little more than 1.25 C° in response to doubled CO_2 concentration, little more than a third of the models' mid-range estimate, will be small, harmless and beneficial. No action of any kind need be taken to prevent it.

I should also report an economic analysis of global-warming mitigation policy that I carried out for the World Federation of Scientists some years ago. You will recall that the Stern Review of the economics of mitigation conducted in 2006 for the then Socialist government in the U.K. concluded that, owing to the possibility that there might be as much as 11 C° warming in the 21st century, there was a 10% probability that global warming would bring the world to an end by 2100 (Dietz *et al.,* 2007). For this reason, Stern chose an artificially low discount rate of only 1.4% for the intertemporal investment appraisal of mitigation policies. Using that rate, and based on his mid-range estimate of 3 C° manmade warming by 2100, he concluded that the centennial welfare cost of global warming would be 3% of global GDP.

However, Stern's notion of up to 11 C° warming by 2100 is now universally recognized as fanciful. Therefore, his assumption of a 10% probability of warming-driven extinction by 2100 and his derivation therefrom of his 1.4% intertemporal discount rate are unjustifiable. At the U.S. Treasury's central discount rate of 7%, Stern's welfare cost of 3% of GDP falls by nine-tenths to just 0.3% of GDP, even if Stern is right that there will be 3 C° warming this century rather than the 1.25 C° that is the current trend and that is consistent with our result.

Taking into account the fact that global warming in response to doubled CO_2 will not be 3.3 C° but only 1.25 C°, and that anthropogenic warming this century will be about the same, there is a considerable net welfare benefit in burning coal, oil and gas. Therefore, there was never any economic case for the Clean Power Plan and there is now no scientific case either.

The moral dimension should also be considered. Some 2 million of the 1 billion worldwide who have no electricity die of particulate emissions from smoke in their cooking fires. Many millions more die of other factors arising from lack of access to affordable, continuous, reliable, low-tech, base-load power from coal-fired power stations. It is very likely that a Holocaust of such deaths is occurring every year. Unnecessary global-warming mitigation policies are now the main reason for this invisible genocide.

Agree to send the attached papers to reliable scientists and economists outside the EPA for independent review, and to let the scientists and economists know that their reviews will be sent to me?

Yours truly,

Monckton of Brenchley

Viscount Monckton of Brenchley

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Fri 1/5/2018 11:12:03 PM
Subject: This is why we are in the global warming debate.

Friends,

Willie Soon just called my attention to this wonderful but also sad blog post:

https://realclimatescience.com/2018/01/celebrating-sues-88th-birthday/

The post is by Tony Heller, who attended and spoke at our ICCCs, and features an earlier post by Bill Gray, a gentle giant in the field of hurricane forecasting, also a speaker at our events, who passed away almost a year ago. Gray's post was written last January and describes the discrimination, insults, and harassment climate skeptics face every day.

It shouldn't be that way. It's hard not to feel bitter, but someone once said "hatred corrodes the vessel that carries it," so tolerance and good humor are our best defenses.

Did I leave out forgiveness? Well... I'm reminded of a country tune that includes the line, "Jesus might forgive, but a father never forgets." We won't forget Bill, or the many gentlemen of science like him, who bravely stood up and spoke truth to power.

Joe

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

To: Christopher Monckton Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Fri 1/5/2018 9:47:27 PM
Subject: Christopher Monckton's letter to EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt
epa-cleanpower-pruitt.docx

This is really nicely done...

Please wish Christopher a happy new year! What a wonderful friend and ally he has been.

Joe

The Viscount Monckton of Brenchley
Hobbit Court, Dyrham, Chippenham, SN14 8HE
Tel. 0117 937 4155: cell Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Hobbit Court, Dyrham, Chippenham, SN14 8HE
07814 556423 monckton@mail.com 0117 937 4155
From: The Viscount Monckton of Brenchley

5 January 2017

The Hon. Scott Pruitt
Administrator
Environment Protection Agency

a-and-r-docket@epa.gov

Dear Administrator Pruitt,

EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0355
Proposed repeal of the "Clean Power Plan"

It has been suggested that I should write to let you know of the results of my team's scientific research establishing that worldwide concern about Man's influence on global temperature arose from an elementary and substantial error of physics first perpetrated some decades ago when climate scientists borrowed feedback theory from its originators in electronic network analysis but without sufficiently understanding it.

In response to doubled CO_2 concentration global warming will not be up to 10 Celsius degrees, as some have suggested, and will not even be the 3.3 C° that is the current mid-range prediction of the fifth-generation models of the Climate Model Inter-comparison Project. We have formally demonstrated that it will be only 1.25 C°.

This result was reached by three distinct methods – one by measurement, two by mathematics. The empirical method and the two theoretical methods cohere in their results, which have also been confirmed by independent tests at the National Physical Laboratory.

For four decades since 1979, when Dr Jule Charney wrote a report for the U.S. National Research Council predicting that for every doubling of CO_2 concentration there would be 1.5 to 4.5 C° global warming with a best estimate of 3 C°, the error of physics has misled climatologists into exaggerating their predictions of global warming. The error was built into five generations of computer models of the climate. Fixing it slashes the official global-warming estimate. There will be some global warming, but it will be small, harmless and beneficial. Global-warming mitigation is now demonstrated to be entirely unnecessary.

The error arose because climate scientists mistakenly thought that the entire difference (usually estimated at 33 C°) between the Earth's surface temperature with and without greenhouse gases was caused entirely by direct warming driven by greenhouse gases and by the knock-on effects of that direct warming, known as temperature feedbacks.

In reality, two-thirds of the 33 C° difference between what is called "emission temperature" and today's surface temperature arose not from greenhouse gases but from feedbacks consequent upon the emission temperature itself. Climatologists had used a version of the feedback loop that omitted the emission temperature from the input to the calculation. As a result, the feedbacks induced by emission temperature had hitherto been wrongly counted as part of the feedbacks induced by the direct warming from greenhouse gases.

Our paper demonstrates that feedbacks (though mentioned 1000 times in IPCC's 2013 *Fifth Assessment Report*) cannot add much more than about a sixth of a degree to the 1.1 C° global warming directly caused by doubling CO_2 concentration, so that the total warming of little more than 1.25 C° in response to doubled CO_2 concentration, little more than a third of the models' mid-range estimate, will be small, harmless and beneficial. No action of any kind need be taken to prevent it.

I should also report an economic analysis of global-warming mitigation policy that I carried out for the World Federation of Scientists some years ago. You will recall that the Stern Review of the economics of mitigation conducted in 2006 for the then Socialist government in the U.K. concluded that, owing to the possibility that there might be as much as 11 C° warming in the 21st century, there was a 10% probability that global warming would bring the world to an end by 2100 (Dietz *et al.,* 2007). For this reason, Stern chose an artificially low discount rate of only 1.4% for the intertemporal investment appraisal of mitigation policies. Using that rate, and based on his mid-range estimate of 3 C° manmade warming by 2100, he concluded that the centennial welfare cost of global warming would be 3% of global GDP.

However, Stern's notion of up to 11 C° warming by 2100 is now universally recognized as fanciful. Therefore, his assumption of a 10% probability of warming-driven extinction by 2100 and his derivation therefrom of his 1.4% intertemporal discount rate are unjustifiable. At the U.S. Treasury's central discount rate of 7%, Stern's welfare cost of 3% of GDP falls by nine-tenths to just 0.3% of GDP, even if Stern is right that there will be 3 C° warming this century rather than the 1.25 C° that is the current trend and that is consistent with our result.

Taking into account the fact that global warming in response to doubled CO_2 will not be 3.3 C° but only 1.25 C°, and that anthropogenic warming this century will be about the same, there is a considerable net welfare benefit in burning coal, oil and gas. Therefore, there was never any economic case for the Clean Power Plan and there is now no scientific case either.

The moral dimension should also be considered. Some 2 million of the 1 billion worldwide who have no electricity die of particulate emissions from smoke in their cooking fires. Many millions more die of other factors arising from lack of access to affordable, continuous, reliable, low-tech, base-load power from coal-fired power stations. It is very likely that a Holocaust of such deaths is occurring every year. Unnecessary global-warming mitigation policies are now the main reason for this invisible genocide.

Agree to send the attached papers to reliable scientists and economists outside the EPA for independent review, and to let the scientists and economists know that their reviews will be sent to me?

Yours truly,

Monckton of Brenchley

Viscount Monckton of Brenchley

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Fri 1/5/2018 6:25:51 PM
Subject: New graphic from Heartland: "Impact of Fossil Fuels on Human Health"
Fossil fuel graphic.pdf

What do you think of this?

It's based on a piece of propaganda in a PowerPoint from an environmental group. Spoiler alert: I gotta say, I love it...

How can we get this in front of a million people?

Joe

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

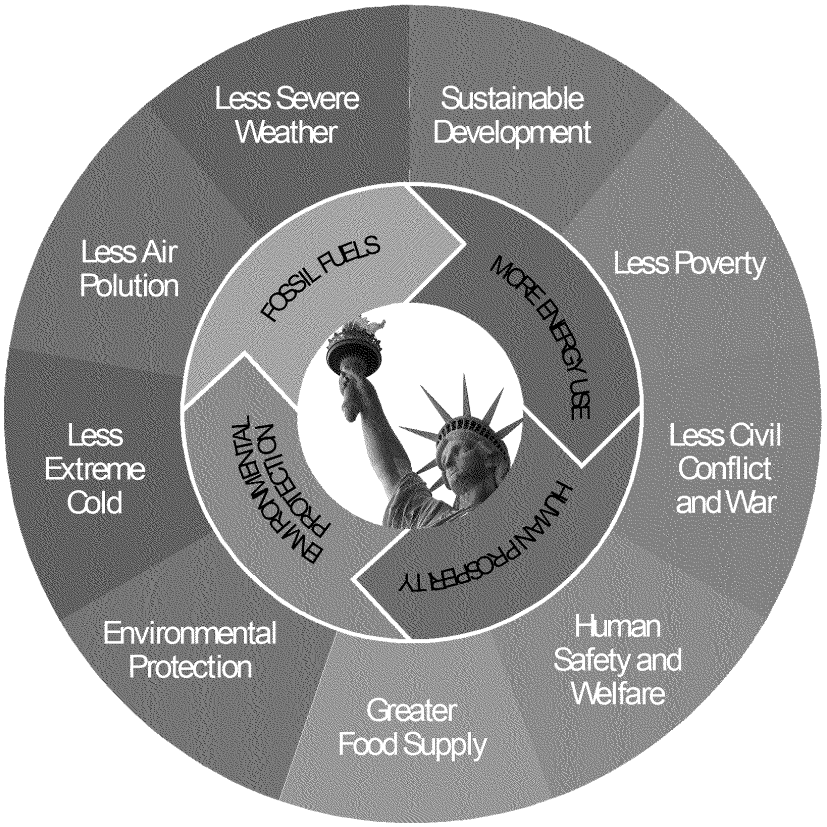
Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

Impact of Fossil Fuels on Human Health



From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Fri 1/5/2018 6:22:33 PM
Subject: Tom Harris: Cold is coal reminder

This is the right way to frame the climate debate today:

To ensure energy security and "restore America's advantages in the world and build upon our country's great strengths," (re-NSS fact sheet), the Trump administration must continue to promote coal. And to effectively boost coal, the climate alarm must be thoroughly debunked.

Joe

http://thetandd.com/opinion/columnist/cold-is-coal-reminder/article_ffd0bec2-1cdd-53c9-9a53-2fd8af16b834.html.

Cold is coal reminder

- By Tom Harris

Following a week of record-setting low temperatures, the importance of reliable, abundant and inexpensive energy is now more obvious than ever. It was certainly appropriate that the 2017

National Security Strategy, released on Dec. 18, three days before the start of winter, emphasized energy security.

To "Promote American prosperity," one of the vital national interests identified in the NSS, the strategy asserts that "our Nation must take advantage of our wealth in domestic resources." One of the most important of its domestic resources, which America is no longer taking full advantage of, is its vast coal reserves.

Testifying on Nov. 28 at the Environmental Protection Agency's public hearing on the withdrawal of the Clean Power Plan in Charleston, West Virginia, Robert E. Murray, president and CEO of Murray Energy Corp., summarized the situation: "Prior to the election of President Obama, 52 percent of America's electricity was generated from coal, and this rate was much higher in the Midwest. That percentage of coal generation declined under the Obama administration to 30 percent. Under the Obama administration, and its so-called Clean Power Plan, over 400 coal-fired generating plants totaling over 100,000 megawatts of capacity were closed with no proven environmental benefit whatsoever."

Former President Barack Obama's dedication to the climate scare contributed significantly to coal's decline. Besides the impact of the Clean Power Plan, coal has been hammered as a result of a 2015 EPA rule that limits carbon dioxide emissions on new coal-fired power stations. The result is that the U.S. can no longer build modern, clean and efficient coal plants to replace older stations, as is happening in Europe, China and India. Here's why:

The 2015 EPA rule, entitled "Standards of Performance for Greenhouse Gas Emissions From New, Modified, and Reconstructed Stationary Sources: Electric Generating Units," limits CO2 emissions on new coal-fired stations to 1,400 pounds per megawatt-hour of electricity generated. The EPA maintained that supercritical pulverized coal stations could achieve this standard if they captured "about 20 percent of its carbon pollution."

By calling CO2 "carbon pollution," the Obama EPA encouraged the public to think of the gas as dirty, like graphite or soot, which really are carbon. Calling CO2 by its proper name, carbon dioxide, would have helped people remember that it is actually beneficial, an invisible, odorless gas essential to plant photosynthesis. And many scientists do not support the hypothesis that our CO2 emissions will cause dangerous climate change.

Regardless, the technology of CO2 capture on a full-scale power plant is still a technological fantasy. So the EPA regulation was actually banning the construction of even the latest, very clean coal-fired stations because their CO2 emissions are at least 20 percent above the EPA limit.

Considering that the U.S. has 22.1 percent of the world's proven coal reserves, the greatest of any country and enough to last for 381 years at current consumption rates, it is a tragedy that America can no longer build modern coal-fired power stations to replace its aging fleet. Clearly, the rule limiting CO2 emissions from new coal-fired power stations must be canceled as soon as possible.

The Obama administration's 2015 NSS listed "Climate change" ahead of "Major energy market disruptions" in its "list of top strategic risks to our interests." That made no sense. "Arresting climate change," to quote from Obama's NSS, is not possible. Climate is, and always will be, variable. There is nothing we can do to stop it. President Donald Trump was right to make only passing reference to climate change in the 2017 NSS.

To ensure energy security and "restore America's advantages in the world and build upon our country's great strengths," (re-NSS fact sheet), the Trump administration must continue to promote coal. And to effectively boost coal, the climate alarm must be thoroughly debunked.

Tom Harris is executive director of the Ottawa, Canada-based International Climate Science Coalition.

Tom Harris, B. Eng., M. Eng. (Mech.)

Executive Director

International Climate Science Coalition (ICSC)

28 Tiverton Drive

Ottawa, Ontario K2E 6L5

Canada

www.climatescienceinternational.org

613-728-9200

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Fri 1/5/2018 5:06:52 PM
Subject: Lomborg in today's WSJ: How Climate Change Absurdities Punish Poor People

H/T Joe Morris. A good piece, as usual, from Bjorn Lomborg, but see the unnecessary and inaccurate surrendering of the whole narrative to the left in the paragraph I've highlighted near the end, a Lomborg staple.

If we are to have a Red Team-Blue Team exercise, let's hope Lomborg is on the help line for members of the Red Team. But also that he isn't asked to lead it.

Joe

https://www.wsj.com/articles/climate-change-policies-can-be-punishing-for-the-poor-1515110743

Climate-Change Policies Can Be Punishing for the Poor

America should learn from Europe's failure to protect the needy while reducing carbon emissions.

By Bjorn Lomborg

Freezing temperatures in the U.S. Northeast have pushed up heating costs, creating serious stress for many Americans. Although the rich world's energy poor are largely

forgotten in discussions about climate policies, they bear an unfair burden for well-meaning proposals. That reality is being laid bare this icy winter as energy and electricity prices surge.

When we think about energy poverty, we imagine a lack of light in the world's worst-off nations, where more than one billion people still lack electricity. This is a huge challenge that the world can hope to address as it reduces poverty and expands access to grid electricity, largely powered by fossil fuels.

But there is a less visible form of energy poverty that affects even the world's richest country. Economists consider households energy poor if they spend 10% of their income to cover energy costs. A recent report from the International Energy Agency shows that more than 30 million Americans live in households that are energy poor—a number that is significantly increased by climate policies that require Americans to consume expensive green energy from subsidized solar panels and wind turbines.

Last year, for the first time, the International Energy Agency tried to calculate the global scale of this problem. The IEA estimates that in the world's rich countries—those that are members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development—200 million people are in energy poverty. That includes 1 in 10 Americans, although the IEA notes that the highest estimates for the U.S. approach 1 in 4.

People of modest means spend a significantly higher share of their income paying for their energy needs. One careful study of energy usage in North Carolina found that a lower-income family might spend more than 20% of its income on energy. Among people with incomes below 50% of the federal poverty line, energy costs regularly consumed more than a third of their budgets.

Europe, where renewable subsidies are about three times as high as in the U.S., provides a window into America's possible energy future. Higher costs from policies like stringent emissions caps and onerous renewable-energy targets make it even harder for the poorest citizens to afford gas and electricity. In Germany, more than 30% of the population spends at least one-tenth of income on energy. Some estimates show that half of Greeks are in energy poverty, according to the IEA.

Calls for government to take ever stronger action on climate change can seem like selfless appeals to democracy and shared responsibility: The gist is that everyone should carry the burden and pay more. But that isn't what happens. Policies aimed at addressing climate change can easily end up punishing the poor.

Around the world, subsidies to homeowners for erecting solar panels or installing insulation overwhelmingly go to the better-off. When the costs jump for electricity, heating a home, or filling up a car, the people most affected are those already struggling.

Think of a retiree living in a chilly house or a minimum-wage worker driving to work every day.

In the U.K., the cost of electricity has increased by 36% in real terms since 2006, while the average income has risen only 4%. Environmentalists point out that energy usage has fallen as a result. But they ignore the fact that the poorest households cut back their consumption much more than average, while the richest have not reduced electricity consumption at all. Meanwhile, the share of income the bottom tenth of Britons spend on energy has increased rapidly, to almost 10%, while the share of income spent by the top tenth is still under 3%.

One 2014 poll shows that one-third of British elderly people leave at least part of their homes cold, and two-thirds wear extra layers of clothing, because of high energy costs. According to a report in the Independent, 15,000 people in the U.K. died in the winter of 2014-15 because they couldn't afford to heat their homes properly.

Climate change is a real challenge for every country, [why is that? What does this even mean?] but we need to maintain some perspective. The United Nations' climate-change panel estimates that global warming could cause damage amounting to 2% of global gross domestic product toward the end of the century. [why on Earth would he quote the IPCC on this? What is the net cost or benefit?] That makes it a problem, but not the Armageddon produced by some feverish imaginations. [why not name someone who has these "feverish imaginations"? That crunching sound you hear is every AGW skeptic in the world except for Lomborg being thrown under the bus]

The best macroeconomic estimates suggest that meeting the energy commitments reflected in the Paris Agreement on climate change would cost the world about $1 trillion a year in slower growth and higher energy prices. When environmental campaigners claim that more draconian cuts are needed, they aren't thinking of the people who will be most affected by sharply increasing energy bills.

Instead of trying to slow growth, governments should accelerate spending in green-energy research so that alternative energy becomes cheaper and more efficient than fossil fuels. The solution to climate change need not punish the poor.

Mr. Lomborg is president of the Copenhagen Consensus Center and author of "The Skeptical Environmentalist" and "Cool It."

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Thur 1/4/2018 12:42:01 AM
Subject: When does Joe retire?

Since some folks are asking (again),

I plan to remain as CEO of The Heartland Institute until a board meeting on January 25, at which Tim Huelskamp is expected to ascend to the throne, and then Diane and I will work from home (in Wisconsin) for three more months, until May 1, title TBD, mostly on finishing the final volume of *Climate Change Reconsidered.*

And only then....

Joe

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

To: Diane Bast[DBast@heartland.org]
Cc: Peter Ferrara[**Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**]
From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Wed 1/3/2018 11:26:03 PM
Subject: Can you review Heartland's comments on repeal of the Clean Power Plan?

Friends,

Heartland Senior Fellow for Legal Affairs Peter J. Ferrara has written a 60-page comment supporting repeal of the Clean Power Plan, to submit to EPA by its deadline of January 16. We would like to submit it in the next few days, rather than wait until the deadline.

If you can quickly review this and catch errors or improve it, please contact Diane Bast and Peter Ferrara, on the to and cc lines above, and they will send you the comments.

Thank you in advance for your time and help.

Joe

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Tue 1/2/2018 5:58:41 PM
Subject: Yes, it was a great year for climate realists. The Washington Post says it was!

Myron Ebell sent this article to me, and commented that the first 6 items are each victories for climate realists. He's right... it was a great year. Thank you all for making it possible.

Joe

Washington Post

January 1 at 10:06 PM

The most consequential environmental stories of 2017

By Brady Dennis and Darryl Fears

President Trump made his mark in the energy and environment world during his first year in Washington. Many of his actions aimed to undo work from the Obama era. Trump all but abandoned the nation's efforts to combat climate change, and he shrank national monuments that President Barack Obama had established or sought to preserve. Trump scaled back regulations on the fossil fuel industry and pushed for more drilling on land and at sea.

And in turn, much of the world pushed back. Protesters descended on Washington to oppose his policies and campaign against what they saw as an attack on science. Other nations denounced his decision to back out of an international climate agreement, leaving the United States at odds with the rest of the globe.

Meanwhile, extreme weather nationwide wrought devastation. Hurricanes leveled homes, triggered floods and upended lives from Puerto Rico to Texas. Wildfires ravaged California, burning entire neighborhoods to ashes. It was a tumultuous year. Here are some of the most consequential environmental stories we covered along the way.

1. Withdrawal from the Paris climate accord. "I was elected to represent the citizens of Pittsburgh, not Paris," Trump proclaimed from the Rose Garden in June. With those words, he declared his intention to withdraw the nation from a global effort to cut greenhouse gas emissions in an attempt to fend off the worst effects of climate change. The Obama administration had led the charge for the landmark deal in late 2015, helping to persuade other world powers — and major polluters — such as China and India to pledge to reduce their emissions in coming years.

Trump reversed course, despite widespread criticism from world leaders, claiming that the Paris accord was a bad deal for the United States that would disadvantage American workers. The United States is now the only nation in the world to reject the deal. While the U.S. withdrawal from the Paris agreement cannot officially be finalized until late 2020, the action sent a clear message: Climate action has little place in the Trump administration.

2. A sea change at the Environmental Protection Agency. "The future ain't what it used to be at the EPA," the agency's administrator, Scott Pruitt, is fond of saying. That's certainly true. In nominating Pruitt to head the agency that Trump once promised to reduce to "little tidbits," the president chose a man who had long been one of its most outspoken adversaries. As Oklahoma attorney general, Pruitt sued the EPA 14 times, challenging its authority to regulate toxic mercury pollution, smog, carbon emissions from power plants and the quality of wetlands and other waters.

Now, as EPA's leader, he has acted aggressively to reduce the agency's reach, pause or reverse numerous environmental rules, and shrink its workforce to Reagan-era levels. He has begun to dismantle Obama's environmental legacy, in part by rolling back the Clean Power Plan — a key attempt to combat climate change by regulating carbon emissions from the nation's power plants. Along the way, Pruitt has become one of Trump's most effective Cabinet members, as well as a lightning rod for criticism from public health and environmental groups.

3. The fight over national monuments. Trump issued an executive order in April to review 27 land and marine monuments. But it was clear that two particular monuments were in his crosshairs: Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante. Utah's congressional delegation and its governor had lobbied Trump's inner circle to reverse the monument designations of these parks in their state even before he was elected.

Utah Republicans called the designations by Obama and President Bill Clinton overzealous land

grabs, and shortly after he took office, Trump adopted some of the same language. He promised to end what he called presidential "abuses" and give control of the land "back to the people." In the end, Trump shrank both monuments by nearly 2 million acres last month, and Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke said the borders of other monuments in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, as well as in the West, are being reviewed. Native American groups that had requested a Bears Ears designation are leading a wave of lawsuits against the Trump administration's decision.

4. Drill, baby, drill. Drilling platforms already dot the Gulf of Mexico, where the fossil fuel industry has extracted oil and gas for decades. But the Trump administration wanted to make history. In early November, it did so by announcing the largest gulf lease offering for oil and gas exploration in U.S. history: 77 million acres.

The move was consistent with Trump's push for "energy dominance." He and Zinke are also opening more land to coal excavation in the West. One of Zinke's first acts as interior secretary was to remove a bright and colorful picture of a western landscape from the Bureau of Land Management's website and replace it with a black wall of coal. Oil prices are climbing after reaching record lows in recent years, but coal is struggling to make a comeback after the rise of natural gas. The Gulf of Mexico promises more oil, but it also might promise disaster. It's the scene of one of the nation's worst environmental disaster, the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, which fouled beaches and killed untold numbers of marine animals when oil spewed into the water for months.

Is drilling in the pristine Arctic National Wildlife Refuge next? The Republican-controlled Congress greenlighted leases for exploration in the recently passed tax bill completely along party lines. But let the buyer beware. Royal Dutch Shell drilled a $7 billion hole in the Chukchi Sea in 2014 and has nothing to show for it.

5. Action on the Dakota Access and Keystone XL pipelines. As winter began to fade, it became clear that camps of protesters in Canon Ball, N.D., who for months had fought a pipeline that they argued could threaten the drinking water and cultural sites of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe, had lost this particular battle. Days after Trump took office, he signed executive orders to revive two controversial pipelines that the Obama administration had put on hold — the 1,172-mile Dakota Access and the 1,700-mile Keystone XL oil pipeline, which would extend from the Canadian tar sands region to refineries on the Texas Gulf Coast.

Oil is now flowing through the Dakota Access pipeline. And the company behind the Keystone

XL this fall cleared a key regulatory hurdle in its quest to complete the northern half of the pipeline, running from Alberta to Steele City, Neb., when it received approval from the Nebraska Public Service Commission. Opponents of both projects have vowed to continue legal fights, as well as to protest any other pipelines they view as a threat to public health or the environment. But Trump shows few signs of backing down, calling his actions "part of a new era of American energy policy that will lower costs for American families — and very significantly — reduce our dependence on foreign oil, and create thousands of jobs right here in America."

6. Attacks on the Endangered Species Act. It is arguably one of the most powerful environmental laws in the world, credited with saving at least a dozen animal and plant species from extinction. But who will save the Endangered Species Act, which is under attack by political conservatives inside and outside Washington? Led by Rep. Rob Bishop (R-Utah), chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, who said he wants to "invalidate" the 44-year-old act, some Republicans say the law interferes with commercial development, private landowner rights and excavation of natural resources such as coal and natural gas.

Bishop's committee passed five bills that would weaken protections for wolves, force federal workers who enforce the law to consider economic impact when deciding how to save animals and strip away a provision of the law that requires the federal government to reimburse conservation groups that prevail in court. The bills have set up a potentially titanic battle between wildlife advocates and lawmakers supporting farmers, housing developers and the oil and gas industry. It's not the first time that conservatives have attempted to weaken the act, but it is the first time a presidential administration and the department that oversees the act appear willing to go along.

7. Epic hurricanes and wildfires. Last year around this time, a strange wildfire rushed through the Tennessee mountains, killing 14 people, destroying homes and apartment buildings, and threatening a major recreation area in Gatlinburg. The 2017 fire disasters, some of which are still burning, were much more monstrous than that Great Smoky Mountain inferno. Two California fires, the Sonoma fire that burned north of San Francisco and the Thomas fire that burned north of Los Angeles, driven by fierce Santa Ana winds, have combined to kill 45 people, burn more than a half-million acres, destroy nearly 2,000 structures and cost hundreds of millions of dollars to fight. The Thomas fire appears to be finally contained near Santa Barbara after burning the second-most acreage in state history.

But fire wasn't even the costliest disaster this year. Hurricane Harvey's death toll in and around Houston was nearly double the number who perished in the two fires and sent 30,000 people in search of shelter. Miami, Jacksonville and Naples, Fla., were devastated by Hurricane Irma,

which immediately followed Harvey. They were followed by Hurricane Maria, which leveled much of Puerto Rico and left at least 50 people dead, but that is probably a drastic under count and the toll could be as high as 500.

8. Criminal charges mount in the Flint water crisis. In June, Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette charged the director of the state's health department and four other public officials with involuntary manslaughter for their roles in the Flint water crisis, which has stretched into its fourth year. In addition to ongoing worries that thousands of young children were exposed to dangerous levels of lead in the city's contaminated water supply, the crisis has been linked to an outbreak of Legionnaires' disease that contributed to at least a dozen deaths. The manslaughter charges were the latest reckoning.

According to Schuette's office, the investigation into the decisions that led to tainted water for a city of nearly 100,000 people has resulted in 51 criminal charges for 15 state and local officials. It remains unclear how many of the charges will stick. But the cases serve as a reminder of the human toll of the tragedy and how, even today, many residents in the largely low-income, majority-minority city trust neither the water from their taps nor the public officials charged with ensuring it is safe.

9. Climate march on Washington. It didn't draw nearly the crowd that the Women's March did in January. And it didn't get as much national attention as the March for Science that came only a week earlier. Even so, on a sweltering Saturday in April, tens of thousands of demonstrators descended on Washington to mark Trump's first 100 days in office. Their plea: Stop the rollback of environmental protections and take climate change seriously.

Building on a massive demonstration three years earlier in New York, the People's Climate March brought its message — and its many clever signs — to the White House. "Don't destroy the Earth. I buy my tacos here," one read. "Good planets are hard to find," another read. "Make Earth Great Again!" read another. Trump wasn't around that day to witness the protests on his doorstep, and the march's organizers didn't expect to change his mind. But they were gearing up for a long fight ahead. By the next morning, some participants met to discuss how to get more allies to run for public office. "It can't just be a march," one activist said. "It has to be a movement."

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Fri 12/29/2017 8:17:26 PM
Subject: Russell Cook's infographic
SkeptInfoGr.jpg

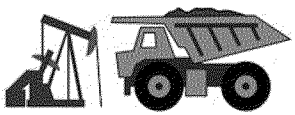
Russell writes,

For my GelbspanFiles Nov 2016 post titled "The Battle for Infographic Reality," I created the infographic below.

It's attached. I love it!

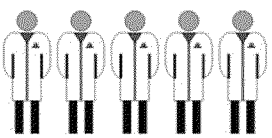
Joe

Are Both Of These Scenarios Totally Implausible?

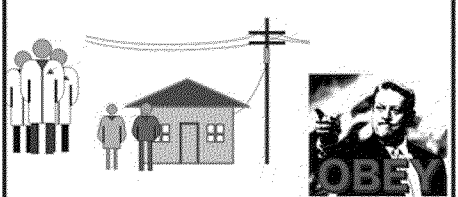


'Big Oil & Coal'...

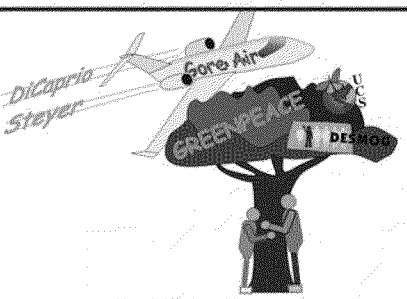
...has alloted tiny amounts of their profits...



...to fund the spread of good news from skeptic climate scientists...

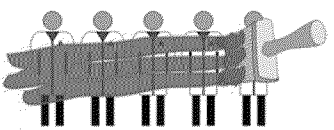


...to inform the public about an anti-science threat to their future.

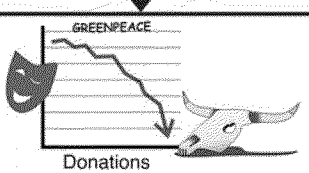


'Big Green'...

...has spent big bucks...



...on efforts to smear skeptic climate scientists...



...to prevent the death of their issue / income flow.

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Fri 12/29/2017 4:32:06 PM
Subject: More climatologists now believe a cooling period may be ahead.

Wouldn't you know, just when Diane and I hope to retire and enjoy some time on the beach, the world would enter a new mini-Ice Age and cause all sorts of weather mayhem. I just can't catch a break...

Bill Balgord's message is below, and he links to Pierre L. Gosselin's excellent summary of 13 recently-published papers forecasting global cooling, where you will also find a link to 120 papers published in 2017 "linking historical and modern climate change to variations in solar activity and its modulators (clouds, cosmic rays)...."

Joe

Guys,

I would be remiss by not informing you of the growing trend in scientific papers (peer reviewed) published by solar researchers during 2017. They follow and interpret the change in sunspot (numbers) and associated percentage of cloud cover. They predict (with some degree of certainty) that with the transition from Sunspot Cycle 24 into Cycles 25 and 26, that the number of sunspots counted will continue to diminish and may reach the very low levels or complete absence as observed during many years in the 17th and 18 Centuries when unusually cold conditions stretched across northern and central Europe and over North America. The earlier extended cold period is referred to as the "Little Ice Age" and was then accompanied by frequent crop failure, famine and disease outbreak, and growth of glaciers.

These reporting scientists are staking their professional reputations on their findings. While in my humble opinion, it is not certain that future events will unfold in exactly the way some are claiming, it is serious enough business (crop failures) to command the attention of agronomists who chart observed and predict future crop yields and how they affect populations around the world.

It might seem that this topic is due for attention by the media that has preoccupied itself with runaway global warming, when the real danger in the decades ahead may come from an abnormally cold climate and curtailed growing seasons.

Bill Balgord, E&RT

Middleton, WI and

Fort Pierce, FL

from NoTricksZone:

7 New (2017) Papers Forecast Global Cooling, Another Little Ice Age Will Begin Soon

By Kenneth Richard on 28. December 2017

Temperatures To Decrease 0.5°C-0.7°C

Due To Low Sunspots, Solar Minimum

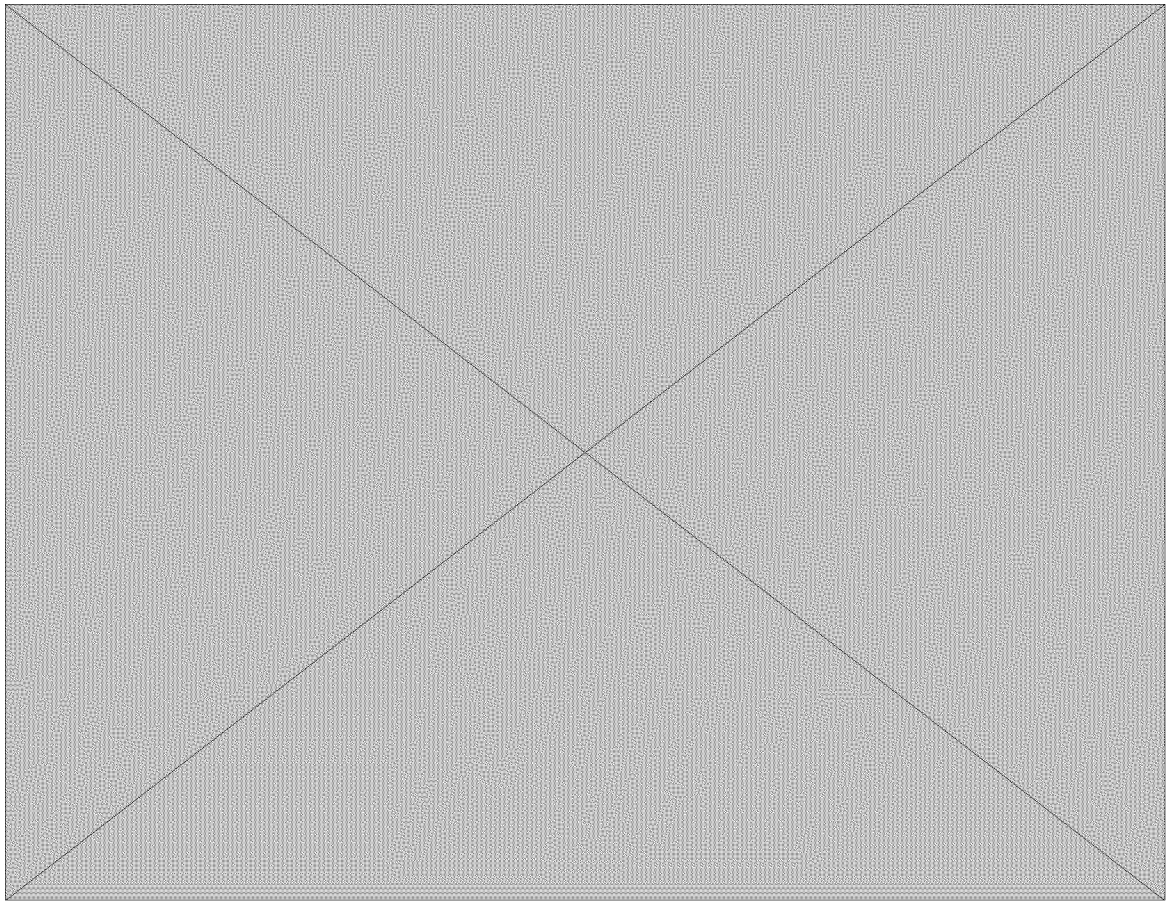


Image Source: Abdussamatov, 2012

During 2017, 120 papers linking historical and modern climate change to variations in solar activity and its modulators (clouds, cosmic rays) have been published in scientific journals.

It has been increasingly established that low solar activity (fewer sunspots) and increased cloud cover (as modulated by cosmic rays) are highly associated with a cooling climate.

In recent years, the Earth has unfortunately left a period of very high solar activity, the **Modern Grand Maximum**. Periods of high solar activity correspond to multi-decadal- to centennial-scale warming.

Solar scientists are now increasingly forecasting a period of very low activity that will commence in the next few years (by around 2020 to 2025). This will lead to climate cooling, even Little Ice Age conditions.

Thirteen recently-published papers forecasting global cooling are listed below.

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Thur 12/28/2017 10:16:33 PM
Subject: Climate Alarmism: The Long Campaign of Misinformation

Friends,

My reply to Neela Banerjee's December 22 article for *Inside Climate News,* titled "How Big Oil Lost Control of Its Climate Misinformation Machine," is now posted here:

https://www.heartland.org/news-opinion/news/heartland-replies-to-inside-climate-news

A pretty neat feature of the *Inside Climate News* report is an infographic titled "Climate Denial: The Long Campaign of Misinformation." It isn't accurate, but it is colorful!

So it occurred to me, could we create alternative infographics, the first one titled "Climate Alarmism: The Long Campaign of Misinformation," featuring such highlights as...

Thomas Malthus

Nazi Greens

Eugenics

Population Control

Rachel Carson

Paul Ehrlich

Limits to Growth

Al Gore *Earth in the Balance*

Rockefeller Brothers

Ozone Action becomes Greenpeace USA

James Hansen's 1988 testimony

IPCC editing scandals

An Inconvenient Truth

2007-2010, Greenpeace accepts millions from Chesapeake Energy to attack coal

Climategate scandal

Phil Jones "missing database" scandal

John Beal scandal

2015 Rajendra Pachauri resigns in sex scandal

NOAA surface temperature "corrections" scandal

climate model "tuning scandal"

PM 2.5 epidemiology scandal

Russian fracking scandal

Culminating with:

Barack Obama, "No challenge poses a greater threat to future generations than climate change," State of the Union speech, 2015. I was watching it on television, members of Congress were laughing out loud! He paused, acknowledged their laughter, *and chuckled too.*

The second new infographic could be titled "Climate Realism: The Long Campaign of Speaking Truth to Power" and feature...

Fred Singer

Art Robinson's Petition Project

Elizabeth Whelan, American Council on Science and Health was founded in 1978

Heartland Institute founded in 1984

NIPCC

SEPP

Craig and Sherwood Idso

Willie Soon

Pat Michaels

Michael Crichton *State of Fear*

First ICCC

First volume of CCR

Withdraw from Paris

Rescind CPP

I'll bet many of you have other people, organizations, or events you could add to these narratives... maybe you even have the artistic or graphic talent to create the infographics yourself? Send me your ideas, let me know.

Joe

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Fri 10/13/2017 1:38:30 PM
Subject: Kathleen Hartnett-White nominated to chair Council on Environmental Quality

This is certainly good news. She is an excellent choice.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/10/13/trump-taps-climate-skeptic-for-top-white-house-environmental-post/?hpid=hp_rhp-more-top-stories_ee-harnettwhite-756am%3Ahomepage%2Fstory&utm_term=.35e579742167

Joe

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Thur 10/12/2017 2:57:31 PM
Subject: Hellofa speech by Former Prime Minister of Australia, Tony Abbott

https://www.thegwpf.org/tony-abbott-daring-to-doubt/?utm_source=CCNet+Newsletter&utm_campaign=24bd6c9cab-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_10_10&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_fe4b2f45ef-24bd6c9cab-36435109

This sure sounds familiar:

We have the world's most powerful upper house: a Senate where good government can almost never secure a majority. Our businesses campaign for same sex marriage but not for economic reform. Our biggest company, BHP, the world's premier miner, lives off the coal industry that it now wants to disown. And our oldest university, Sydney, now boasts that its mission is "unlearning".

Joe

Joseph Bast

Chief Executive Officer

The Heartland Institute

3939 N. Wilke Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Phone 312/377-4000

Email jbast@heartland.org

Web site http://www.heartland.org

Support Heartland today!

From: Joseph Bast
Sent: Wed 10/11/2017 8:35:50 PM
Subject: Where PM2.5 comes from, and why it matters
PM25_monvalue2016.xlsx

A standard talking point in the global warming debate is that most carbon dioxide comes from natural sources, the human contribution is tiny by comparison. A parallel point in the air quality debate is 75% of PM2.5 comes from natural sources (probably much more than this, but this is government numbers). Rich Trzupek provides some illumination in his remarks below.

Joe

From: Richard Trzupek [mailto:rtrzupek@trinityconsultants.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 3:29 PM
To: Joseph Bast
Subject: RE: PM2.5 and CPP repeal

Joe,

I promised to pass the following along to Steve, but totally forgot. Please pass it along to at least him and feel free to share with the whole posse If you like.

There have been subtle, unintended consequences of the 12 ug/M annual standard. People don't understand how incredibly stringent that standard is, nor where PM 2.5 comes from. Here's a table I put together as part of my testimony before the House Energy and Environment Committee a few years back:

NATIONAL EMISSIONS SUMMARY: PM-2.5

EMISSIONS SOURCE (USEPA TIER1 NAME)	EMISSIONS (TONS/YEAR)	% OF TOTAL
FUEL COMB. ELEC. UTIL.	308,738	5.04%
FUEL COMB. INDUSTRIAL	147,494	2.41%
FUEL COMB. OTHER	369,590	6.04%
CHEMICAL & ALLIED PRODUCT MFG	20,678	0.34%
METALS PROCESSING	63,484	1.04%
PETROLEUM & RELATED INDUSTRIES	23,126	0.38%
OTHER INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES	350,472	5.72%
SOLVENT UTILIZATION	3,551	0.06%
STORAGE & TRANSPORT	22,067	0.36%
WASTE DISPOSAL & RECYCLING	205,004	3.35%
HIGHWAY VEHICLES	295,373	4.82%
OFF-HIGHWAY	301,179	4.92%
MISCELLANEOUS	4,012,455	65.53%
TOTAL:	**6,123,211**	100.00%

Total Industrial: 24.73%
Total Non Industrial: 75.27%

The above data comes from USEPA National Emissions Inventory. Clearly, if you think PM 2.5 is a problem, it's not an industry related problem. "Miscellaneous" in this case is code for "Natural Sources", a term they don't want to use because ma nature is supposed to be perfect.

Now let's look at the kind of places that can't meet the PM 2.5 standard. Here's a summary of PM 2.5 concentrations from all 140 monitors in the state of California for 2016, ranked by annual average PM 2.5 concentration:

EPA Region	State	County	City	Weighted Arithmetic Mean (annual)
	9CA	Kern	Bakersfield	16
	9CA	Kern	Bakersfield	15.9
	9CA	Kings	Hanford	15.5
	9CA	Kern	Bakersfield	14.8
	9CA	Kings	Corcoran	14.8
	9CA	San Bernardino	Ontario	14.8
	9CA	Tulare	Visalia	14.7
	9CA	Sacramento	Sacramento	14.6
	9CA	Kern	Bakersfield	14.5
	9CA	Riverside	Mira Loma	14.3
	9CA	Riverside	Mira Loma	14.1

9CA	Plumas	Portola	13.9
9CA	Fresno	Fresno	13.6
9CA	San Joaquin	Stockton	13.6
9CA	Fresno	Fresno	13.5
9CA	Fresno	Fresno	13
9CA	Fresno	Clovis	12.8
9CA	Fresno	Fresno	12.7
9CA	San Bernardino	Fontana	12.7
9CA	Riverside	Rubidoux	12.6
9CA	Riverside	Rubidoux	12.6
9CA	San Bernardino	Fontana	12.6
9CA	Stanislaus	Not in a City	12.6
9CA	Imperial	Calexico	12.5
9CA	Imperial	Calexico	12.5
9CA	Fresno	Fresno	12.4
9CA	Plumas	Portola	12.3
9CA	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	12
9CA	Los Angeles	Long Beach	12
9CA	Madera	Madera	12
9CA	Merced	Not in a City	11.9
9CA	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	11.8
9CA	Los Angeles	Pico Rivera	11.7
9CA	San Joaquin	Stockton	11.7
9CA	Fresno	Clovis	11.6
9CA	Imperial	Brawley	11.3
9CA	Merced	Merced	11.2
9CA	Los Angeles	Compton	11.1
9CA	San Bernardino	San Bernardino	11.1
9CA	Stanislaus	Modesto	11.1
9CA	Riverside	Banning	10.5
9CA	Los Angeles	Long Beach	10.3
9CA	Madera	Madera	10.2
9CA	Los Angeles	Azusa	10.1
9CA	San Diego	El Cajon	9.9
9CA	San Joaquin	Not in a City	9.8
9CA	San Diego	San Diego	9.7
9CA	Los Angeles	Long Beach	9.6
9CA	Riverside	Not in a City	9.6
9CA	Ventura	Thousand Oaks	9.6
9CA	Imperial	El Centro	9.5
9CA	Los Angeles	Pasadena	9.5
9CA	Orange	Anaheim	9.4
9CA	Los Angeles	Reseda	9.2
9CA	Santa Clara	San Jose	9.1
9CA	Ventura	Ojai	9.1

9 CA	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	9
9CA	Plumas	Quincy	8.8
9CA	Alameda	Oakland	8.7
9CA	Alameda	Oakland	8.7
9CA	Sacramento	Arden-Arcade	8.7
9CA	San Diego	Chula Vista	8.7
9CA	Ventura	Simi Valley	8.7
9CA	Stanislaus	Modesto	8.6
9CA	Ventura	Simi Valley	8.6
9CA	Napa	Napa	8.5
9CA	Solano	Vallejo	8.5
9CA	Santa Clara	San Jose	8.4
9CA	Sacramento	Arden-Arcade	8.3
9CA	San Mateo	Redwood City	8.3
9CA	San Luis Obispo	Arroyo Grande	8.2
9CA	Ventura	Piru	8.2
9CA	Calaveras	San Andreas	8.1
9CA	Contra Costa	San Pablo	8.1
9CA	Sutter	Yuba City	8.1
9CA	Ventura	Not in a City	8.1
9CA	Santa Clara	San Jose	8
9CA	Fresno	Not in a City	7.9
9CA	San Diego	San Diego	7.8
9CA	Butte	Chico	7.7
9CA	Fresno	Not in a City	7.7
9CA	Los Angeles	Lancaster	7.7
9CA	Placer	Roseville	7.7
9CA	Riverside	Indio	7.7
9CA	Sacramento	Sacramento	7.7
9CA	San Diego	San Diego	7.6
9CA	Alameda	Livermore	7.5
9CA	San Bernardino	Victorville	7.5
9CA	San Diego	Pala	7.5
9CA	San Francisco	San Francisco	7.5
9CA	Kern	Mojave	7.4
9CA	San Diego	El Cajon	7.4
9CA	Solano	Vallejo	7.4
9CA	Orange	Mission Viejo	7.3
9CA	Alameda	Not in a City	7.1
9CA	Riverside	Not in a City	7.1
9CA	Sacramento	Sacramento	7.1
9CA	Santa Barbara	Goleta	7.1
9CA	Santa Barbara	Santa Maria	7
9CA	Santa Barbara	Lompoc	7

9CA	Placer	Roseville	6.9
9CA	Monterey	Carmel Valley Village	6.8
9CA	Sacramento	Folsom	6.8
9CA	San Bernardino	Big Bear City	6.8
9CA	Inyo	Keeler	6.6
9CA	Marin	San Rafael	6.4
9CA	Mendocino	Ukiah	6.4
9CA	Yolo	Woodland	6.4
9CA	Colusa	Colusa	6.3
9CA	Riverside	Banning	6.3
9CA	San Luis Obispo	Atascadero	6.3
9CA	Nevada	Truckee	6.2
9CA	Alameda	Oakland	6.1
9CA	Colusa	Cortina Indian Rancheria	6.1
9CA	Humboldt	Eureka	6.1
9CA	Mendocino	Willits	6.1
9CA	Monterey	Salinas	6.1
9CA	Contra Costa	Concord	5.9
9CA	Placer	Auburn	5.9
9CA	San Luis Obispo	Nipomo	5.8
9CA	Kern	Ridgecrest	5.7
9CA	Sacramento	Folsom	5.7
9CA	Santa Clara	Gilroy	5.6
9CA	Riverside	Palm Springs	5.5
9CA	Monterey	Salinas	5.3
9CA	Santa Cruz	Live Oak	5.3
9CA	Monterey	King City	5.2
9CA	Santa Cruz	Not in a City	5.2
9CA	Shasta	Redding	5.2
9CA	Inyo	Keeler	5
9CA	San Diego	Boulevard	5
9CA	Siskiyou	Yreka	4.9
9CA	San Bernardino	Victorville	4.7
9CA	Nevada	Grass Valley	4.6
9CA	Sonoma	Sebastopol	4.6
9CA	San Benito	Hollister	4.3
9CA	Tehama	Red Bluff	4.2
9CA	Inyo	Not in a City	4
9CA	Humboldt	Not in a City	3.5
9CA	Lake	Lakeport	3

The exceedences occur in places like Fresno,, Bakersfield and Stockton, cities well distant from the urban sprawl of Los Angeles and San Francisco. These are towns in predominantly rural areas. (Full spreadsheet attached for anyone that wants it).

Contrast that with the three monitors in Long Beach, site of the second busiest container port in the United States. There is ton of ship, rail and truck traffic there, along with heavy equipment. Yet, despite that, one of the Long Beach monitors came in right at 12, while the other two were at 10.3 and 9.6.

This stupid standard needlessly complicates projects. Say you run a hospital and you want to put in a 500 kW natural gas fired stand-by generator. The regulatory authority says "fine, but you have to perform dispersion modeling first to show me you won't violate any NAAQS. You do the modeling and you fail for PM 2.5. Not because you have that much PM 2.5 emissions. Using standard EPA factors, you're generator will emit about 0.07 lbs/hr of PM 2.5. However, 0.07 lbs hr is 3 million micrograms per hour and if that generator is too close the fence line, you'll never get enough dispersion to pass modeling – and that's with a *natural gas fired* generator. This kind of stuff happens all the time with the ridiculous NAAQS set under Obama's EPA. (The short term NO2 standard is goofy as well).

Ultimately this is another case of classic big government: trying to solve a problem that doesn't exist by regulating those who have nothing to do with it!

Cheers,

Rcih

From: Joseph Bast [mailto:JBast@heartland.org]
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 1:07 PM
Subject: PM2.5 and CPP repeal

Friends,

At the most recent Red Team briefing hosted by The Heartland Institute, we talked about how important the air quality debate is to the global warming debate. The Obama administration used exaggerated estimates of the negative health effects of particulate

matter (PM2.5) to make its benefit-cost analysis of the Clean Power Plan come out positive. Indeed, most of the war on fossil fuels was conducted in the name of reducing "criterion pollutants," substances already regulated under the Clean Air Act. Unless we oppose junk science in that field, our victories against AGW alarmism won't change public policy (much).

Only a few brave souls have been opposing EPA's junk science in the air quality arena, among them Steve Milloy, James Enstrom, John Dunn, and Stan Young. (No disrespect meant to others on this list who contributed as well… let me know who you are so I can put you to work.) Repeal of the Clean Power Plan is a tribute to their courage, hard work, and perseverance.

In his message below, one of these heroes, Steve Milloy, explains how Scott Pruitt justified repeal by specifically challenging the alleged health effects of exposure to PM2.5 *below* the already-too-strict air quality standards. As Steve says, it's a clever trick. Steve's explanation is below.

Now go outside and roll around in the grass for a while! It's a good day to celebrate!

Joe

From: Steve Milloy [mailto: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 8:54 AM
To: Joseph Bast
Cc:
Subject: Re: PM2.5 and CPP repeal

Same chart annotated below.

Look at circled numbers as an example.

Ignore the table headers, they are worded correctly but are unnecessarily confusing (no doubt by Obama holdovers).

Cost of rule by 2030 with 3% discount rate is $27.2 billion.

Under assumption that PM2.5 kills, benefits of rule are as much as $55.5 billion. So then net benefits of rule (just from PM2.5) are as much as $28.3 billion ($55.5 billion minus $27.2 billion).

Under assumption that PM2.5 kills no one below existing PM2.5 NAAQS standard, benefits are only $26.5 billion —i.e., $29 billion less than the PM2.5 kills scenario. So then net benefits of rule are turned into a net cost of $0.7 billion ($26.5 billion - $27.2 billion).

The reason there are still any remaining benefits from PM2.5 reductions is because the Pruitt EPA still assumes that PM2.5 kills at levels above the PM2.5 NAAQS. This assumption is wrong, but the Pruitt EPA is only changing its view of PM2.5 to the extent it needs to. It's actually somewhat of a clever trick.

The PM2.5 NAAQS set by Obama in 2012 (at 12 micrograms/cubic meter, down from the previous standard of 15) is by law supposed to represent "safe" air. So if the PM2.5 NAAQS of 12 represents "safe" air, then there are no deaths below 12 — and so no benefits that can be monetized.

Steve

Table 1 - Monetized Forgone Benefits, Avoided Compliance Costs, and Net Benefits based on Rate-Based Approach from 2015 CPP RIA (billions of 2011$)

Year	Discount Rate	Benefit of Repeal: Avoided Costs	Cost of Repeal: Forgone Benefits		Net Benefits of Repeal	
			Low	High	Low	High
Forgone Health Co-Benefits (Full Range of Ambient $PM_{2.5}$ Concentrations)						
2020	3%	$3.7	$2.3	$3.4	$0.3	$1.4
	7%	$4.2	$1.9	$3.0	$1.2	$2.3
2025	3%	$10.2	$18.0	$28.4	($18.1)	($7.8)
	7%	$14.1	$16.2	$25.6	($11.5)	($2.0)
2030	3%	$27.2	$35.8	$55.5	($28.3)	($8.6)
	7%	$33.3	$32.2	$50.2	($16.9)	$1.1
Forgone Health Co-Benefits ($PM_{2.5}$ Benefits Fall to Zero Below LML)						
2020	3%	$3.7	$2.2	$2.8	$0.9	$1.5
	7%	$4.2	$1.9	$2.4	$1.8	$2.3
2025	3%	$10.2	$17.5	$20.7	($10.5)	($7.3)
	7%	$14.1	$15.7	$18.7	($4.6)	($1.6)
2030	3%	$27.2	$34.8	$40.7	($13.5)	($7.6)
	7%	$33.3	$31.3	$36.9	($3.6)	$2.0
Forgone Health Co-Benefits ($PM_{2.5}$ Benefits Fall to Zero Below NAAQS)						
2020	3%	$3.7	$1.7	$2.1	$1.5	$2.0
	7%	$4.2	$1.4	$1.8	$2.4	$2.8
2025	3%	$10.2	$11.4	$13.3	($3.1)	($1.1)
	7%	$14.1	$10.2	$12.1	$2.1	$4.0
2030	3%	$27.2	$23.0	$26.5	$0.7	$4.2
	7%	$33.3	$20.7	$24.1	$9.2	$12.7

Note: Forgone benefits include forgone climate, energy efficiency, and air quality benefits. The range of benefits presented here reflects several alternative assumptions regarding the risk of PM-related premature death, ranging from the assumption that populations are at risk of PM-related premature death at all levels of $PM_{2.5}$ to the assumption that the risk of $PM_{2.5}$-related death falls to zero below the annual NAAQS ($12 \mu g/m^3$).

EPA Regior	State	County	City	Exc Events	Obs	First Max (24 h)	2nd Max (24 h)
9	CA	Kern	Bakersfield	None	35	54.6	46.5
9	CA	Kern	Bakersfield	None	100	51.4	50.7
9	CA	Kings	Hanford	None	361	59.7	51.3
9	CA	Kern	Bakersfield	None	117	53.9	52.7
9	CA	Kings	Corcoran	None	119	56.5	46.4
9	CA	San Bernardino	Ontario	Included	348	49.5	44.1
9	CA	Tulare	Visalia	None	118	48	43
9	CA	Sacramento	Sacramento	None	10	26.6	23.5
9	CA	Kern	Bakersfield	None	327	66.4	63.6
9	CA	Riverside	Mira Loma	Included	58	47.1	39.5
9	CA	Riverside	Mira Loma	Included	351	47.2	45.6
9	CA	Plumas	Portola	None	114	57.2	47.1
9	CA	Fresno	Fresno	None	349	53.8	50.4
9	CA	San Joaquin	Stockton	None	318	40.8	38.1
9	CA	Fresno	Fresno	None	353	53.5	53.5
9	CA	Fresno	Fresno	None	120	48.6	41.8
9	CA	Fresno	Clovis	None	340	50.4	46.2
9	CA	Fresno	Fresno	None	355	52.7	50.7
9	CA	San Bernardino	Fontana	Included	76	58.8	28.9
9	CA	Riverside	Rubidoux	Included	358	51.5	39.1
9	CA	Riverside	Rubidoux	Included	60	51.6	36.2
9	CA	San Bernardino	Fontana	None	36	30.4	22.4
9	CA	Stanislaus	Not in a City	None	351	53.6	52.2
9	CA	Imperial	Calexico	None	339	45.3	42.5
9	CA	Imperial	Calexico	None	31	33.8	28.1
9	CA	Fresno	Fresno	Included	30	47.5	33.8
9	CA	Plumas	Portola	None	31	46.1	44.5
9	CA	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	None	56	42.4	38.8
9	CA	Los Angeles	Long Beach	None	352	33.3	31.1
9	CA	Madera	Madera	None	361	47.7	42
9	CA	Merced	Not in a City	None	356	43	43
9	CA	Los Angeles	Los Angeles	None	355	44.3	39.8
9	CA	Los Angeles	Pico Rivera	None	120	46.5	37
9	CA	San Joaquin	Stockton	None	344	43.7	41.6
9	CA	Fresno	Clovis	None	121	36.1	33
9	CA	Imperial	Brawley	None	123	57.9	40
9	CA	Merced	Merced	None	116	42.8	36.3
9	CA	Los Angeles	Compton	None	115	36.3	28
9	CA	San Bernardino	San Bernardino	Included	114	53.5	32.5
9	CA	Stanislaus	Modesto	None	356	53.3	45.5
9	CA	Riverside	Banning	Included	345	31.5	28
9	CA	Los Angeles	Long Beach	None	356	29.3	28.9
9	CA	Madera	Madera	None	56	33	32.9

9	CA	Los Angeles	Azusa	None	122	32.1	30.3
9	CA	San Diego	El Cajon	None	186	23.9	22
9	CA	San Joaquin	Not in a City	None	356	50.8	39.4
9	CA	San Diego	San Diego	None	209	34.4	29.1
9	CA	Los Angeles	Long Beach	None	350	28.9	28.7
9	CA	Riverside	Not in a City	None	310	18.9	18.7
9	CA	Ventura	Thousand Oaks	None	362	35.2	27.2
9	CA	Imperial	El Centro	None	122	31.3	31.3
9	CA	Los Angeles	Pasadena	None	119	29.2	27.8
9	CA	Orange	Anaheim	None	349	44.4	33.8
9	CA	Los Angeles	Reseda	None	113	30	26.4
9	CA	Santa Clara	San Jose	None	361	26.5	24.4
9	CA	Ventura	Ojai	None	339	28.9	21.7
9	CA	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	None	188	21	20.9
9	CA	Plumas	Quincy	None	352	37.1	34.9
9	CA	Alameda	Oakland	None	327	23.9	22
9	CA	Alameda	Oakland	None	362	20.2	19.7
9	CA	Sacramento	Arden-Arcade	None	346	46.8	37.3
9	CA	San Diego	Chula Vista	None	120	23.9	20.2
9	CA	Ventura	Simi Valley	None	361	34.9	31.4
9	CA	Stanislaus	Modesto	None	31	32.4	18.5
9	CA	Ventura	Simi Valley	None	360	35.3	29
9	CA	Napa	Napa	None	348	24.3	24.2
9	CA	Solano	Vallejo	None	342	22.4	21
9	CA	Santa Clara	San Jose	None	355	22.6	21.8
9	CA	Sacramento	Arden-Arcade	None	30	26.7	22.6
9	CA	San Mateo	Redwood City	None	352	19.5	18.4
9	CA	San Luis Obispo	Arroyo Grande	None	355	32.5	30.2
9	CA	Ventura	Piru	None	360	26.7	22.7
9	CA	Calaveras	San Andreas	None	346	27.6	23.1
9	CA	Contra Costa	San Pablo	None	338	19.5	18
9	CA	Sutter	Yuba City	None	351	40.1	33.8
9	CA	Ventura	Not in a City	None	349	22.7	18.5
9	CA	Santa Clara	San Jose	None	95	22.7	20.3
9	CA	Fresno	Not in a City	Included	306	33.7	32.1
9	CA	San Diego	San Diego	None	58	20.3	12.8
9	CA	Butte	Chico	None	328	37.2	26.8
9	CA	Fresno	Not in a City	None	340	39.7	35.8
9	CA	Los Angeles	Lancaster	None	358	64.8	49.1
9	CA	Placer	Roseville	None	30	20.9	20
9	CA	Riverside	Indio	None	115	25.8	15.1
9	CA	Sacramento	Sacramento	None	116	24.4	24.2
9	CA	San Diego	San Diego	None	122	19.4	13.5
9	CA	Alameda	Livermore	None	359	22.3	19.6
9	CA	San Bernardino	Victorville	None	360	41.5	25.1

9	CA	San Diego	Pala	Included	352	23.5	16.7
9	CA	San Francisco	San Francisco	None	348	19.6	19.3
9	CA	Kern	Mojave	None	353	25.7	23.8
9	CA	San Diego	El Cajon	None	50	19.3	14
9	CA	Solano	Vallejo	None	350	23	21
9	CA	Orange	Mission Viejo	None	117	24.7	18.8
9	CA	Alameda	Not in a City	None	162	17.3	17.1
9	CA	Riverside	Not in a City	None	43	13.5	13.3
9	CA	Sacramento	Sacramento	None	102	22.9	18.7
9	CA	Santa Barbara	Goleta	None	331	26	17.4
9	CA	Santa Barbara	Santa Maria	None	349	19.4	18.9
9	CA	Santa Barbara	Lompoc	None	337	30.9	28.6
9	CA	Placer	Roseville	None	58	21.2	20.2
9	CA	Monterey	Carmel Valley Village	Included	355	104.7	77
9	CA	Sacramento	Folsom	None	348	25.7	23.4
9	CA	San Bernardino	Big Bear City	None	55	28.4	22.1
9	CA	Inyo	Keeler	None	359	56.8	40.8
9	CA	Marin	San Rafael	None	346	15.6	15
9	CA	Mendocino	Ukiah	None	362	17.9	17.9
9	CA	Yolo	Woodland	None	60	16.4	13.3
9	CA	Colusa	Colusa	None	60	14.8	13
9	CA	Riverside	Banning	Included	59	16.6	15.6
9	CA	San Luis Obispo	Atascadero	None	356	28.6	26.2
9	CA	Nevada	Truckee	None	114	22.1	21
9	CA	Alameda	Oakland	None	360	15.5	15.3
9	CA	Colusa	Cortina Indian Rancheria	Included	243	32.6	24.5
9	CA	Humboldt	Eureka	None	118	20	19.3
9	CA	Mendocino	Willits	None	339	19.1	17.9
9	CA	Monterey	Salinas	None	57	26.4	20.9
9	CA	Contra Costa	Concord	None	344	20.7	19.4
9	CA	Placer	Auburn	Included	364	28.6	28.3
9	CA	San Luis Obispo	Nipomo	None	359	23	21.4
9	CA	Kern	Ridgecrest	None	49	25.8	15.9
9	CA	Sacramento	Folsom	None	347	24.6	21.1
9	CA	Santa Clara	Gilroy	None	352	16	15.8
9	CA	Riverside	Palm Springs	None	112	14.7	12.8
9	CA	Monterey	Salinas	None	358	28.7	25
9	CA	Santa Cruz	Live Oak	None	356	12.7	12.5
9	CA	Monterey	King City	None	362	27.9	22.2
9	CA	Santa Cruz	Not in a City	None	358	22.3	18.7
9	CA	Shasta	Redding	None	56	12.6	12.5
9	CA	Inyo	Keeler	None	115	22	22
9	CA	San Diego	Boulevard	Included	350	31.4	23.6
9	CA	Siskiyou	Yreka	None	58	25.1	11.5
9	CA	San Bernardino	Victorville	None	236	37	20.4

9	CA	Nevada	Grass Valley	None	59	11.7	11.7
9	CA	Sonoma	Sebastopol	None	358	18.7	17.8
9	CA	San Benito	Hollister	None	352	20.4	17.2
9	CA	Tehama	Red Bluff	Included	305	32	23.7
9	CA	Inyo	Not in a City	None	362	19.8	18.6
9	CA	Humboldt	Not in a City	None	117	10	10
9	CA	Lake	Lakeport	None	61	9.3	9.2

3rd Max (24 h)	4th Max (24 h)	98th Percentile (24 h)	Weighted Arithmetic Mean (annual)
44	40.3	55	16
47.7	44.5	51	15.9
51	50.9	43	15.5
51.4	48.8	51	14.8
45.9	42.1	46	14.8
41.6	38.5	36	14.8
40.7	39.3	41	14.7
22.8	22.1	27	14.6
55.7	49.8	47	14.5
37.6	29.2	40	14.3
40.1	39	35	14.1
45.6	44.2	46	13.9
50.3	47.7	42	13.6
36.2	34.6	31	13.6
50.6	49.9	43	13.5
40	38.1	40	13
45.2	45	38	12.8
49.4	48.9	43	12.7
26.2	25.6	29	12.7
38.3	37.7	32	12.6
27.4	24.7	36	12.6
20.8	18.8	30	12.6
47.2	42.6	39	12.6
39.5	36.5	34	12.5
24.8	23.8	34	12.5
24.9	22.7	48	12.4
23.7	23.2	46	12.3
26.7	25.6	39	12
30.4	30.2	26	12
38.2	37	36	12
41.7	38.5	33	11.9
34.2	33.2	27	11.8
25.1	20.6	25	11.7
37.6	35.7	33	11.7
31.5	31.2	32	11.6
32.3	31.7	32	11.3
34.6	33.6	35	11.2
26.3	26.3	26	11.1
32.5	27.1	33	11.1
40.5	37.5	36	11.1
26.6	24.9	24	10.5
27.2	26.2	24	10.3
27.6	23.2	33	10.2

29	26	29	10.1
18	17.3	17	9.9
38	37.1	29	9.8
23.9	21.7	21	9.7
28.1	25.9	22	9.6
18.5	18.2	17	9.6
23.8	22.4	19	9.6
25.8	23.4	26	9.5
25.3	22.7	25	9.5
32	27.1	24	9.4
24.5	24.4	25	9.2
22.2	21.2	19	9.1
21.1	21	16	9.1
20.5	19	19	9
33.9	33.3	29	8.8
21.9	21.7	19	8.7
18.2	18	18	8.7
35.6	34.2	28	8.7
17.9	15.1	18	8.7
24.2	21.8	19	8.7
16.2	13.2	32	8.6
23.8	22.9	19	8.6
23.3	22.9	22	8.5
20.1	20	19	8.5
19.7	19.2	19	8.4
15.8	14	27	8.3
18.3	17.7	17	8.3
29.3	27.6	24	8.2
21.5	21.5	19	8.2
21.7	21.5	20	8.1
17.6	16.9	16	8.1
31.4	27.1	22	8.1
18	17	16	8.1
19.4	15.8	20	8
25.9	23.5	21	7.9
12.7	12.3	13	7.8
23.8	23.7	21	7.7
32.1	28.5	27	7.7
33.3	30.1	21	7.7
18.7	13.8	21	7.7
15	14.3	15	7.7
23.7	23.4	24	7.7
13	12.9	13	7.6
18	17	16	7.5
22.8	21.8	18	7.5

16.2	14.8	14	7.5
19.1	17.5	17	7.5
23	22.8	21	7.4
13.1	11.6	19	7.4
20.6	20.1	19	7.4
13.4	13.3	13	7.3
16	15.6	16	7.1
12.5	12.2	14	7.1
17.5	16.5	18	7.1
16.5	16.5	13	7.1
17.1	15.8	15	7
22	20.7	16	7
14.1	13.6	20	6.9
63.7	62.4	57	6.8
22.7	21.5	19	6.8
19.4	15.5	22	6.8
39.8	35.9	25	6.6
14.8	14.8	14	6.4
17	16.7	16	6.4
12.8	12.3	13	6.4
12.3	12.2	13	6.3
12.9	12.8	16	6.3
24.6	23.6	19	6.3
17.1	16.3	17	6.2
15.1	15	14	6.1
20.7	18	18	6.1
16.4	16.3	16	6.1
16.5	15.8	15	6.1
11.9	11.5	21	6.1
18.8	18.7	16	5.9
27.6	26.5	18	5.9
21.2	20.2	18	5.8
12.2	12	26	5.7
21.1	20.3	19	5.7
15.3	14.5	13	5.6
12.4	12.3	12	5.5
19.2	16	13	5.3
12.1	11.6	11	5.3
20.9	19.6	16	5.2
17.8	17.8	13	5.2
11.2	11	13	5.2
19	17	19	5
21.3	20	17	5
10.6	9.1	12	4.9
16.5	14.8	13	4.7

11.2	10.5	12	4.6
16	15.2	13	4.6
16.2	15	13	4.3
20.8	16.4	15	4.2
18.4	14.4	13	4
9.5	8	10	3.5
7.8	5.7	9	3