

SENATOR KERRY MISFIRES ABOUT GLOBAL WARMING AND NATIONAL SECURITY

by Christopher Monckton



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“The lesson to the world here is — when it comes to science, never blindly accept an explanation from a politician or scientists who have turned political for their own private gain.”

– Bob Ashworth
Chemical Engineer
16 U.S. Patents

“Science is the belief in the ignorance of experts.”

– Richard Feynman

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Summary for Policy Makers

Senator John Kerry's statement in early August 2009 about "global warming" before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which he chairs, was false in every particular, says SPPI, leading him to draw the incorrect conclusion that "global warming" was a threat to national security. The Senator got every fact wrong –

Wilkins Ice Shelf: Senator Kerry said the recent cracking of the thin "ice-bridge" linking the Wilkins Ice Shelf to the Antarctic Ice Shelf was caused by "global warming". It was not: there has been no statistically-significant "global warming" for almost 15 years.

Arctic ice-cap: Senator Kerry said the Arctic ice-cap would vanish in summer by 2013 because of "global warming". It will not, and, even if it does, "global warming" will not be the cause: there has been rapid global cooling for very nearly eight years.

Polar bears: Senator Kerry said polar bears were under threat from "global warming". They are not: their population has increased fivefold since the 1940s, and they survived the last interglacial period 125,000 years ago, when there was no summer ice in the Arctic.

Famine and drought: Senator Kerry said "global warming" would bring more famine and drought. It will not: "global warming", if and when it resumes, would cause the space occupied by the atmosphere to hold more water vapor, reducing drought globally.

Pandemics: Senator Kerry said "global warming" would cause worse pandemics. It will not: so-called "tropical" diseases can flourish even in Arctic temperatures. It is inadequate public-health measures, not rising global temperatures, that spread supposedly "tropical" diseases.

Natural disasters: Senator Kerry said "global warming" would cause more natural disasters. It will not: hurricane activity is now at its lowest in half a century, despite warmer weather worldwide; and patterns of flood and drought are much as they always were.

Climate refugees: Senator Kerry said "global warming would cause human displacement on "a staggering scale". It will not: the only significant cause of human displacement would be rapidly-rising sea level, but this is not happening and is not likely to happen.

Middle East water supply: Senator Kerry said “global warming” would shrink the water supply in the Middle East. It will not: water has been scarce there for 1000 years, and warmer weather is already moistening the atmosphere and greening hundreds of thousands of square kilometers of the Sahara.

Asian water supply: Senator Kerry said “global warming” would melt the Himalayan glaciers, drying up the water supply of a quarter of the planet’s population. It will not: it is Eurasian winter snow cover, not the glaciers, that supplies Asia with its water, and that shows no trend in 50 years.

Sea level rising 3 feet: Senator Kerry said “global warming” would raise sea level 3 feet. It will not: sea level rose 8 inches in the 20th century, is currently not rising at all, and will rise by little more than 1 foot in the 21st century.

However, a series of recent scientific publications have established definitively that the UN has grievously overstated the effect of CO₂ on global temperature. There has been no “global warming” in the upper or mixed layer of the oceans for six years. The model-predicted tropical upper-troposphere “hot spot” is absent in observed reality, because subsidence drying removes the additional water vapor that the models expect to find. And a devastating paper just published demonstrates that far less outgoing long-wave radiation is being trapped in the atmosphere than the models had predicted. The “global warming” scare is now known to be just that – a scare.

The Scare

IN EARLY AUGUST 2009, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, chaired by Al Gore’s close associate Senator John Kerry (D-MA), was told that massive crop devastation, melting glaciers, water shortages, and millions of displaced people would drag the US military into conflict if “global warming” went unchecked.

Senator Kerry recited Al Gore’s well-worn litany of imagined consequences of “global warming” – the recent disintegration of a sea-ice bridge connecting the Wilkins Ice Shelf to the Antarctic continent; the prediction that in 2013 the Arctic will have its first ice-free summer in at least 1000 years; the notion that polar bears are under threat from “global warming”; more famine and drought; worse pandemics; more natural disasters; more resource scarcity; human displacement on what he called “a staggering scale”; a shrinking water supply in the Middle East; the predicted complete disappearance by 2035 of the water from the Himalayan glaciers “which supply water to almost a billion people from China to Afghanistan”; and the predicted immersion of the US naval base at Diego Garcia if sea level rises 3 feet.

Retired Navy Vice-Admiral Lee F. Gunn, president of the “American Security Project”, told the Committee: “Addressing the consequences of changes in the Earth’s climate is not simply about saving polar bears or preserving the beauty of mountain glaciers. Climate change is a threat to our national security.”

Gunn and other military specialists said that “global warming” might expand the Pentagon’s humanitarian missions, and might even change how it deploys its fighting forces. Gunn said that “global warming” would stress already unstable nations, creating “climate conflicts”. He added: “International conflicts over resources, due to migrants, and/or as a means of distraction are not only likely, but likely to exacerbate the underlying climate change problem.”

Senator Kerry described “global warming” as “a grave and growing threat to global stability, human security, and America’s national security ... The threat of catastrophic climate change is not an academic concern for the future. It is already upon us, and its effects are being felt worldwide, right now.”

The facts and data of the past and the present are more than sufficient to demonstrate that every word quoted from Senator Kerry and from the Senate Foreign Relations Committee is baseless and false.

The Truth

Senator Kerry said: “Of course, the future has a way of humbling those who try to predict it too precisely.” As we shall see, the facts and data of the past and the present are more than sufficient to demonstrate that every word quoted above from Senator Kerry and from the Senate Foreign Relations Committee is baseless and false.

Let us begin by examining *seriatim* Senator Kerry’s lurid but long-discredited list of imagined inconveniences, misfortunes, disasters, catastrophes, cataclysms, Armageddons, and Apocalypses.

“The extent of Antarctic sea ice will diminish”

For some decades it has been apparent that the Antarctic Peninsula and the adjacent northern end of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet, where the Wilkins Ice Shelf is to be found,

Studies of the sea-bed beneath one of the largest of these shelves, the Larsen B shelf, show that the shelf had not been present during the medieval warm period. Ice shelves come and go.

share an anomalous climate that is not typical of the rest of Antarctica: indeed, some authorities classify it as a distinct climatic region. In this region, amounting to little more than 2% of the Antarctic continent, seven ice shelves with a combined area equivalent to less than 2% of the land area of Texas have disintegrated over the past decade. However, studies of the sea-bed

beneath one of the largest of these shelves, the Larsen B shelf, show that the shelf had not been present during the medieval warm period. Ice shelves come and go.

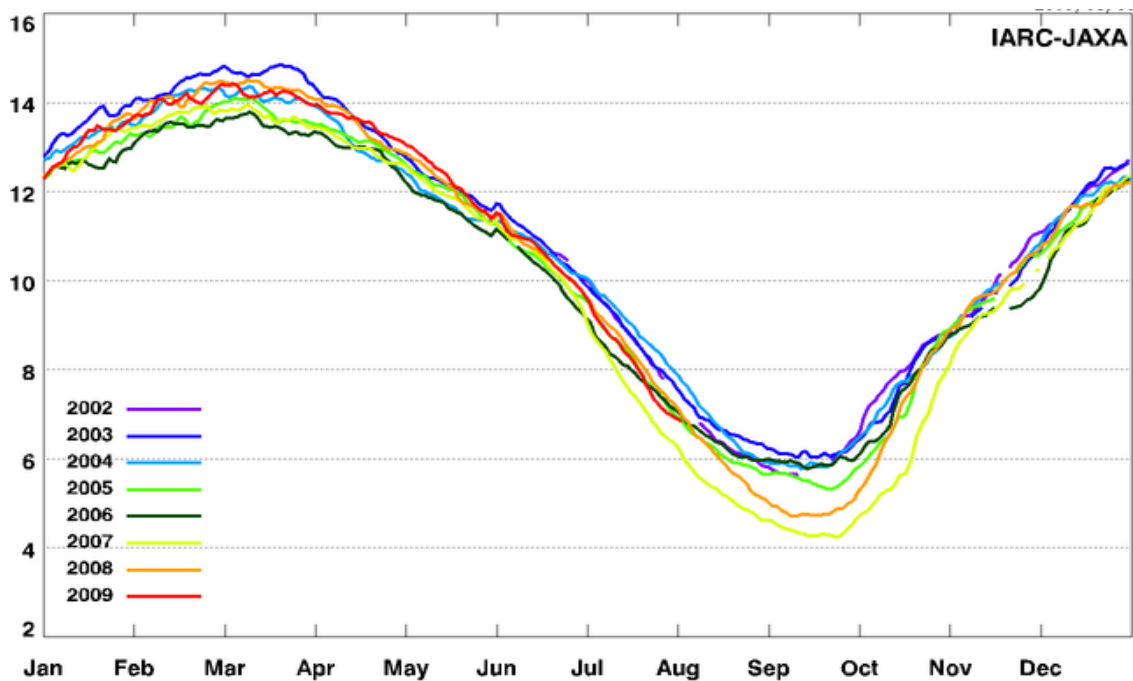


As for the not very substantial Wilkins ice bridge (above) mentioned by Senator Kerry, it re-froze almost as soon as it had disintegrated. Nor can its transitory disintegration be attributed to “global warming”, because there has been no statistically-significant “global warming” for almost 15 years and rapid global cooling for eight years. Furthermore, there has been no statistically-significant *regional* warming in Antarctica for half a century, and the extent of Antarctic sea ice reached a largely-unreported 30-year record high in October 2007, just one month after the extent of Arctic sea ice reached a universally-reported 30-year low. Besides, as even the UN’s climate panel has been compelled to admit, ascribing individual extreme-weather events such as the disintegration of a handful of ice shelves in one tiny region to “global warming” is impossible.

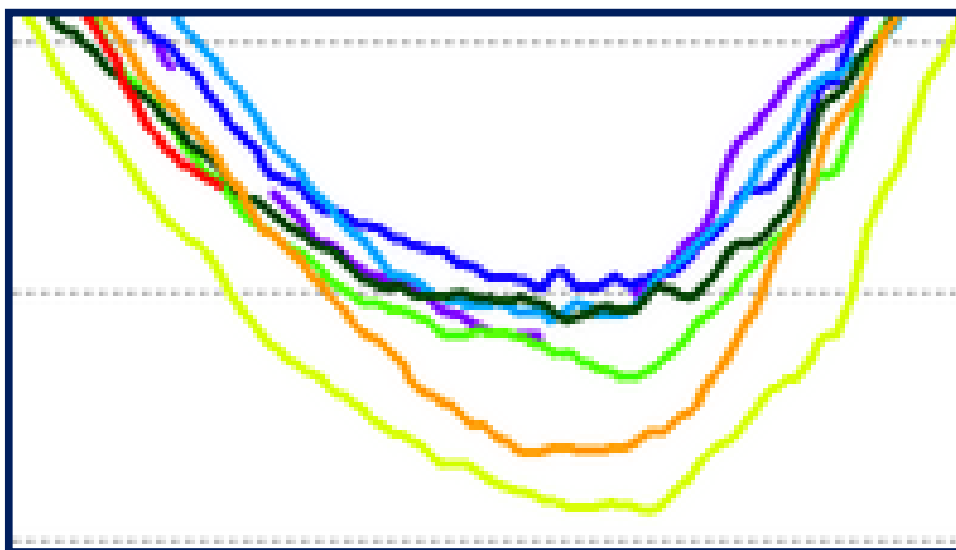
“No Arctic sea ice in summer by 2013”

Nearly all of the alarm about “global warming” arises from predictions that have been self-evidently exaggerated by “global warming” profiteers hoping to gain financial or political advantage by crying “Wolf!” to a largely scientifically-illiterate population. Senator Kerry’s prediction, echoing a similar prediction by Al Gore in late 2007, is that “global warming” will make the Arctic Ocean ice-free in summer in just four years’ time. Faced with such extravagant predictions, a prudent citizen would ask two questions. First, what is the evidence that such a prediction might come true? Secondly, even if the prediction came true, what harm might arise?

We answer the first question definitively by the simple method of looking at the data. The Japanese Meteorological Institute maintains a daily-updated plot of the past ten years’ sea-ice extent in the Arctic, expressed in millions of square kilometers. The plot follows a seasonal sine-wave, with remarkably few deviations –



The red curve representing sea-ice extent in 2009 is broadly coincident with the bright green curve for 2005. It is likely, though not yet definite, that this year’s summer sea-ice minimum (red) will follow a path between that of 2005 (light green) and 2008 (orange) –



Even the sea-ice extent during the summer minima of 2007 and 2008 comfortably exceeded 4 million km². Also, studies by NASA have determined that the sudden decline in summer sea-ice extent in July-October 2007 was caused by a shift in winds and currents, bringing warmer air up from the tropics. This climatic shift owes little or nothing to “global warming” – if only because there has been none for almost a decade and a half. On the evidence, then, there is no realistic likelihood of an ice-free Arctic by 2013 and, even if there were, this regional phenomenon could not be attributed to “global warming” because there has not been any since 1995.

So much for the “Is it true?” question. Now for “If it is true, so what?” It is possible that there was no summer sea ice in the Arctic during the medieval warm period, and also in the Roman and Bronze Age warm periods. It is probable that there was no summer sea ice in the Arctic during the last interglacial temperature optimum 125,000 years ago, when global temperatures were 10° F warmer than the present.

During the last interglacial temperature optimum 125,000 years ago, global temperatures were 10° F warmer than the present.

Finally, it is certain that there was no summer sea ice in the Arctic 850,000 years ago, when the entire land mass of Greenland was free of the ice sheet that is now several thousands of feet thick. The absence of Arctic sea ice in the summer, if and when it comes about, will be good for Arctic wildlife: after all, fewer than 1% of all species live at the Poles, where it is cold, and the vast majority of species thrive in the tropics, where it is hot.

Nor would the absence of summer sea ice accelerate “global warming” by significantly altering the Earth’s albedo, as “global-warming” profiteers such as James Hansen have suggested. The Sun’s rays strike the Arctic at such a low angle that changes in albedo at such high latitudes – and only for a third of the year – make little difference to global albedo. Therefore, even if the sea ice in the Arctic were to disappear altogether (almost certainly from natural rather than anthropogenic causes), the net effect on the planet’s ecosystem would be beneficial.

“Polar bears are at risk”

Here is a fact that has not been reported by most major news media. There are five times as many polar bears on Earth today as there were at the end of the Second World War. That is scarcely the profile of a species imminently menaced with extinction. Yet no major speech by a “global-warming” profiteer is complete without a statutory reference to the supposed threat to polar bears from disappearing Arctic sea ice.



There are five times as many polar bears on Earth today as there were at the end of the Second World War.

As we have already established, Arctic sea ice is not disappearing. Indeed, in the winter its extent has scarcely changed for 30 years. Yet, even if the sea ice were to disappear altogether in the summer, polar bears would come to no harm. They, and the seals on whose blubber they feed, would merely do what they presumably did in the medieval warm period – they would move contentedly on to the land

surrounding the Arctic – Alaska, northern Canada, and Siberia. It is not usually reported that all polar bears are born not on the ice-cap but in dens on the land. Polar bears' favorite delicacy is blueberries, which do not grow on the ice-cap. The land surrounding the Arctic ocean is as much a part of the natural habitat of polar bears as the ocean and the ice-cap themselves.

Polar bears evolved from the land-based brown bear some 200,000 years ago. They have survived all manner of climatic extremes in that long period. They have certainly survived previous absences of the Arctic ice-cap. They would have no difficulty whatsoever in surviving any future absence, whether the melting was natural (as in the past) or anthropogenic.



The constant refrain from the “global-warming” profiteers about the imagined threat to polar bears from warmer weather is an instance of the Aristotelian logical fallacy known as the *argumentum ad misericordiam* – the special instance of the *non sequitur* that is the argument from pity. Polar bears are cuddly, and we feel sorry for them up there in the lonely Arctic as the ice melts beneath them: therefore “global warming” is a real problem. The proposition only has to be stated and its absurdity becomes self-evident.

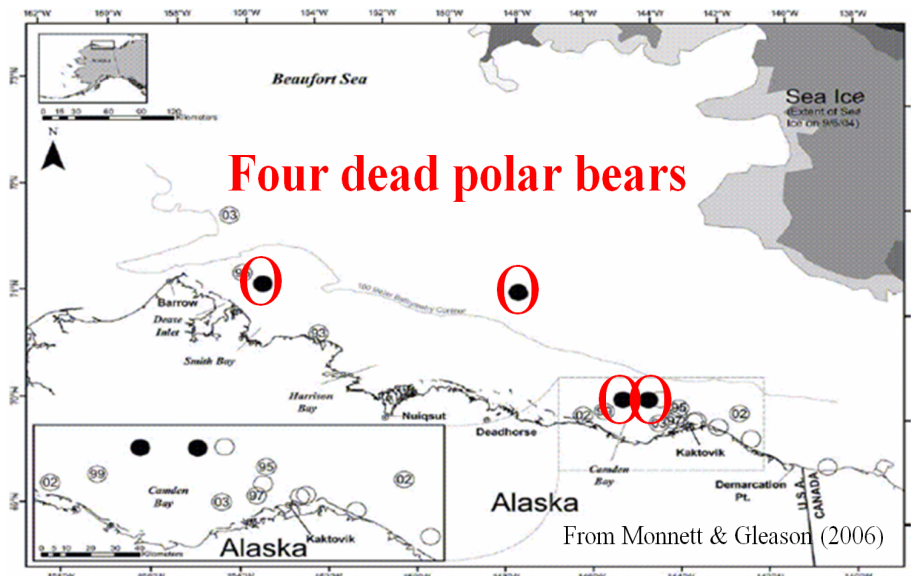
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Al Gore, one of the richest of the new “global-warming” profiteers, devoted a substantial segment of his movie to the fictitious threat posed by “global warming” to polar bears. He showed a photograph of two rather grubby polar bears perching on a disintegrating iceberg –

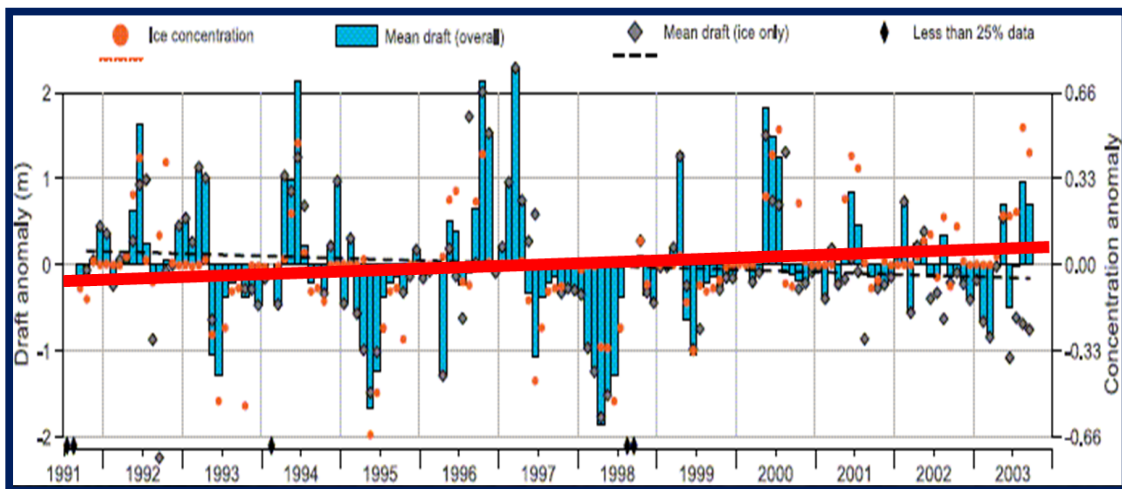
However, that photograph was taken just feet from the shore, and the bears were merely basking as the research ship from which the picture was taken passed them by.



Gore also said that polar bears were dying in large numbers because “global warming” was melting so much sea ice that they were having to swim ever longer distances to reach the land. This was a flagrant misinterpretation of Monnett and Gleason (2006), a scientific paper that had reported the deaths of just four polar bears in the Beaufort Sea. The bears had in fact died in a storm, swamped by “high sea states associated with stormy weather” –



Furthermore, the Beaufort Sea has shown a very slight increase in the mean extent of sea ice over the past 30 years: therefore, there was not and is not any scientific basis for Gore’s suggestion that the bears died because of an anthropogenic scarcity of sea ice in the region where they drowned –



In October 2007, two days before Gore received his share of the Nobel Peace Prize, Mr.

Mr. Justice Burton in the London High Court ruled that nine “errors” in Gore’s movie had to be corrected before innocent schoolchildren could be exposed to it.

Justice Burton in the London High Court ruled that nine “errors” in Gore’s movie had to be corrected before innocent schoolchildren could be exposed to it, requiring the British Government to circulate 77 pages of “corrective guidance” to every school in England. On the polar-bear question, the judge said –

“The only scientific study that either side before me can find in the literature...indicates that four polar bears have recently been found drowned because of a storm. There may in the future be drowning-related deaths of polar bears if the trend of regression of pack-ice and/or longer open water continues, but it plainly does not support Mr. Gore’s description.”

If Senator Kerry’s staff had done their homework more diligently, they would have discovered that the threat to polar bears is minimal, but that there is an organized attempt on the part of certain Arctic researchers to pretend that the bears are under threat from “global warming”. At a recent conference in Copenhagen on the subject, one of the world’s leading researchers on polar bears was excluded from participating, on the ground, stated in writing by the organizer, that his professional opinion to the effect that “global warming” was harmless to polar bears was unacceptable to the group. Not only politicians but also scientists are profiteers by the “global warming” scare, and they did not want one of their number to stand up and point out the truths that we have published here. Polar bears are not at risk from anthropogenic “global warming”.

If Senator Kerry’s staff had done their homework more diligently, they would have discovered that the threat to polar bears is minimal.

“More droughts and famines”

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No such catalogue would be complete without the statutory mention of the droughts and famines which we are invited to imagine as the inevitable consequences of “global warming”. However, famines do not occur in any democratic country: they are always the consequence not of any natural adversity but of the inept despotism of corrupt tyrants. Droughts and floods occur at random, as they always have, ever since the Egyptians first kept

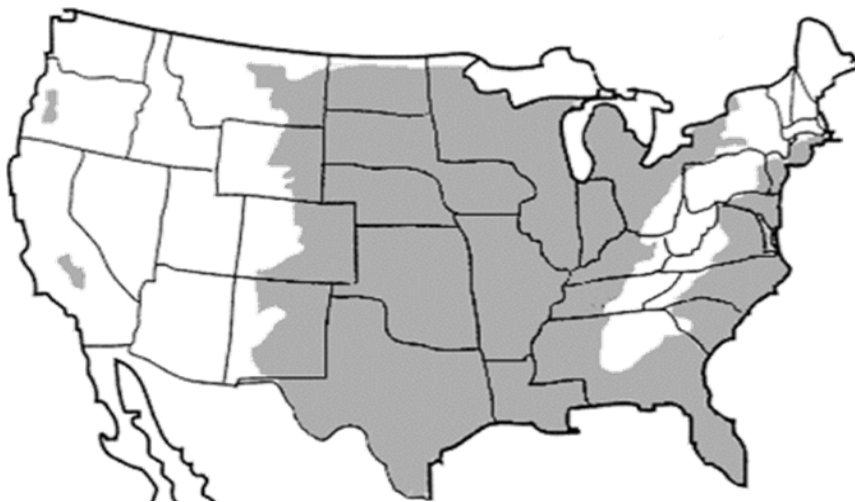
climate records 10,000 years ago. No drought in recent years in the United States has been anything like as severe as the drought in the Great Plains in the 1930s, graphically described in John Steinbeck’s novel *The Grapes of Wrath*. The Sahara Desert has actually shrunk by 300,000 square kilometers in the past 30 years, as vegetation takes hold. So rapid has been this greening of the Saharan margins that it is visible from space, and nomadic tribes have been able to settle in regions uninhabited in living memory.

“Worse pandemics”

Inevitably, John Kerry mentioned the possibility of “worse pandemics” as a result of “global warming”. He ought to have known better. One of the most comprehensively-discredited falsehoods about the imagined effects of “global warming” is that it will spread tropical diseases to subtropical and temperate regions. Yet the diseases that occur most commonly in the tropics do so not because the weather is warmer but because governments in tropical regions are less competent at providing efficient medical care and public health than governments elsewhere.

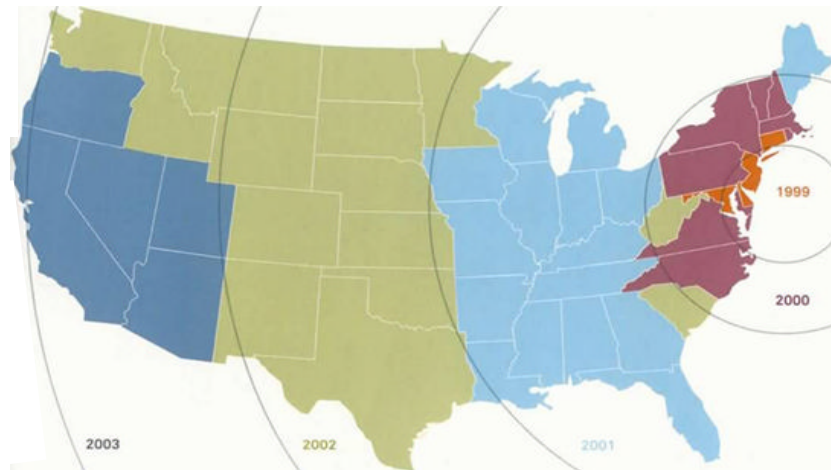
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Malaria, for instance, is not a tropical disease. The worst outbreak in the past century occurred in the 1920s in Siberia, scarcely noted for its tropical climate. Some 13 million people were infected and 600,000 died, 30,000 of them in the port of Arkhangelsk on the Arctic Circle. The *anopheles* mosquito that carries the malaria parasite can survive in temperatures up to -15° F, though it requires temperatures of 60° F or above during its short breeding season. It is not, therefore, tropical. Indeed, it was prevalent throughout most of the United States until it was eradicated by public health measures in 1949 –



The gray areas on the map show the extent of malaria in the United States in 1882.

West Nile Virus is another so-called “tropical” disease that is not in any way tropical. Al Gore mentions it as a disease of “global warming” in his inaccurate book on the climate, but his own map of how it spread throughout the United States demonstrates that its transmission has nothing to do with warmer weather –



The map shows that the vector arrived, probably by ship, on the eastern seaboard of the US in 1999 and then spread westward year by year. If anything, it spread a little more quickly in the colder north than in the warmer south: certainly, there is no evidence that it was warmer weather that facilitated the transmission of the disease.

Disease	Cause
Arena virus	Rats
Avian influenza	Chickens
Dengue hemorrhagic fever	Mosquitoes
Ebola virus	Primates?
Escherischia Coli 0157:H7	Poor hygiene
Hanta virus	Rats
Human immunodeficiency virus	Sexual transmission
Legionella	Air conditioning
Leptospirosis	Rats
Lyme disease	Ticks
Malaria	Anopheles mosquitoes
MDR tuberculosis	Cold weather
Nipah virus	Pigs
SARS	Cold weather
Vibrio Cholerae 0210	Poor hygiene
West Nile Virus	Mosquito
Yellow fever	Anopheles mosquitoes

The table above shows some of the commonest diseases that Al Gore’s book described as “tropical”. However, not one of them is properly described as tropical: therefore, there is no reason to suppose that warmer weather will facilitate their transmission. Indeed, some of the diseases – MDR tuberculosis and SARS for instance – would become less prevalent in generally warmer weather. Though the menace of plagues has a satisfyingly Biblical ring to it, there is no scientific basis for Senator Kerry’s declaration that “global warming” will spread pandemics more rapidly or more frequently than a colder climate.

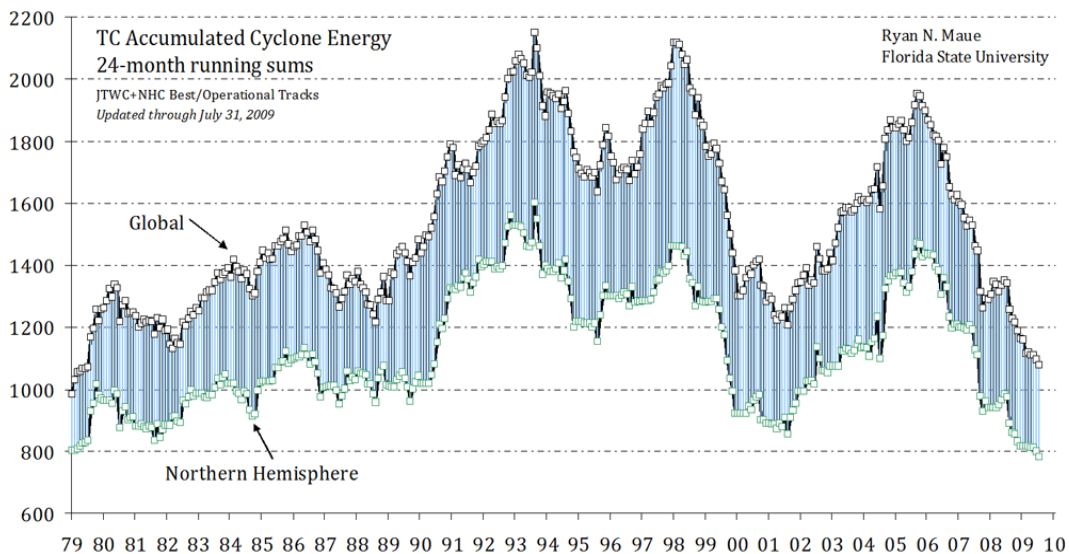
“More natural disasters”

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Among more than 1000 alleged consequences of “global warming” that have been sensationally reported in the mainstream news media during the past eight years of rapid global cooling, few are more likely to win column inches than the notion that natural disasters will increase with warmer weather.

Unfortunately for Senator Kerry, who recites this mantra without having verified whether there is any truth in it, there is no truth in it at all.

Take hurricanes. At present, the accumulated cyclone energy index, which measures the combined frequency, duration, and intensity of all hurricanes, typhoons, and tropical cyclones worldwide, is almost at its least value in half a century, both globally and in the Northern Hemisphere –



What is more, the correlation between trends in hurricane activity and temperature trends is very poor. Lack of correlation necessarily implies lack of causation. Warmer weather is not causing more hurricanes. One of the most reliable long-run climate records is the annual frequency of land-falling Atlantic hurricanes, which has been recorded for 150 years. It shows absolutely no trend throughout the period, even though the world has warmed by around 1 Fahrenheit degree.

Or take floods. The floods in New Orleans were caused not by an exceptional hurricane, for Katrina was only Category 3 when it made landfall, but by failure to maintain the levees.

Likewise, the floods in the Mississippi river basin were caused not by “global warming” (there has not been any for a long time) but by the decision of local authorities to build up the banks of the river, confining it to a narrow channel, preventing the natural flooding of upstream flood-plains that would have reduced the downstream rate of flow. However, far more damage in the US was done by floods earlier in the past century, when the weather was globally cooler than it is today. There is, therefore, very little empirical evidence that “global warming” has made floods either more frequent or more damaging in recent decades.

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In the Johnstown Flood of 1889, 2500 people died –



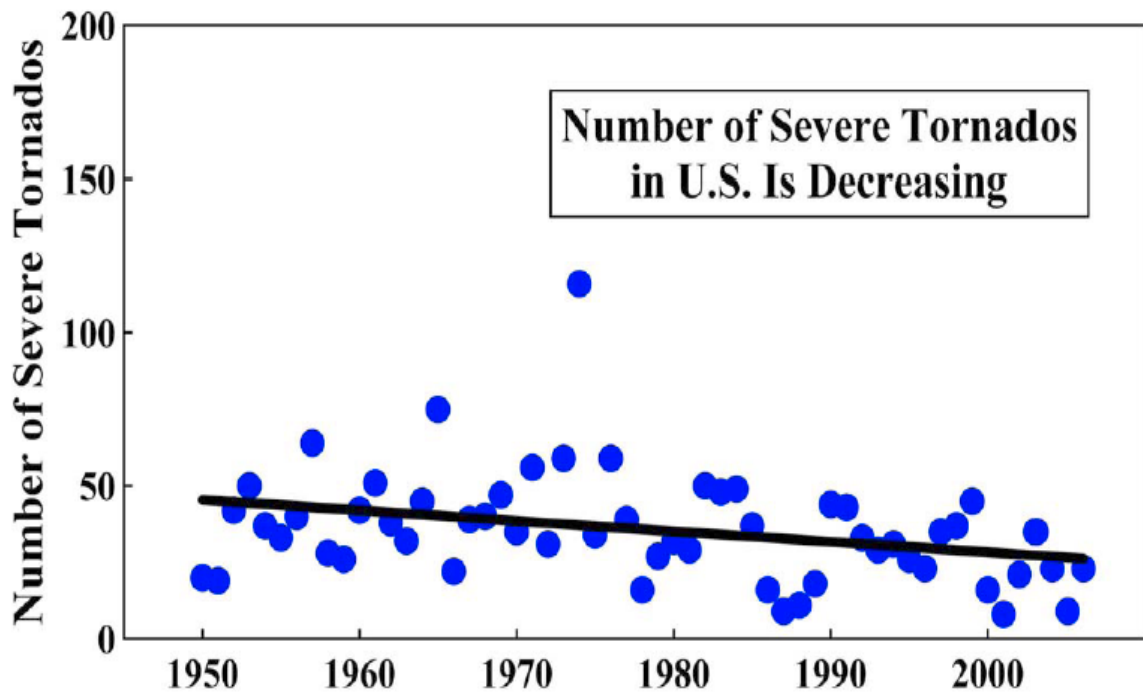
In Dayton, Ohio, a flood killed 527 people in 1913 –



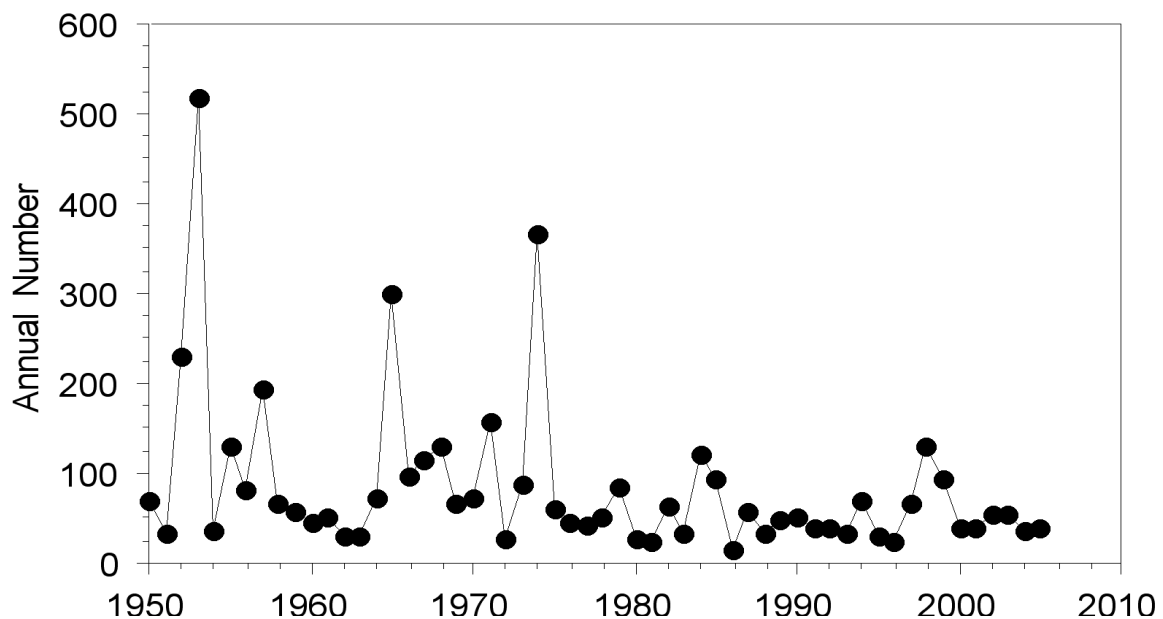
This is a view of Smith's Bridge, North Carolina, in 1916 –



Or take tornadoes. Though better weather monitoring systems are capable of identifying more tornadoes than formerly, the frequency of severe tornadoes has been steadily diminishing, as the data from the National Climatic Data Center's 2006 climate survey show –



Likewise, deaths caused by tornadoes are falling –



There is a good reason why extreme-weather events tend to become rarer as the weather warms. One of the main drivers of climate is the difference between daytime and night-time temperatures: it is this difference, rather than the absolute value of the temperatures, that contributes to storminess. However, in a warmer world the differences between daytime and night-time temperatures tend to diminish, reducing one of the causes of storminess. Once again, on the evidence, there is no basis for Senator Kerry’s apocalyptic notion that “global warming” will increase extreme-weather events.

“More resource scarcity”

Only a politician certain that the news media are sleepily uncritical in their acceptance of anything blamed on “global warming” would have dared to suggest that a change in the weather will alter the quantity of natural resources with which our planet is endowed.

The only resource that is affected by bad weather is agriculture: however, worldwide agricultural yields have continued to increase, as they usually do in warmer weather. If the tundra of northern Siberia were to melt, billions of acres of cultivable land would be created, and the vast northern forests that once existed there would return.

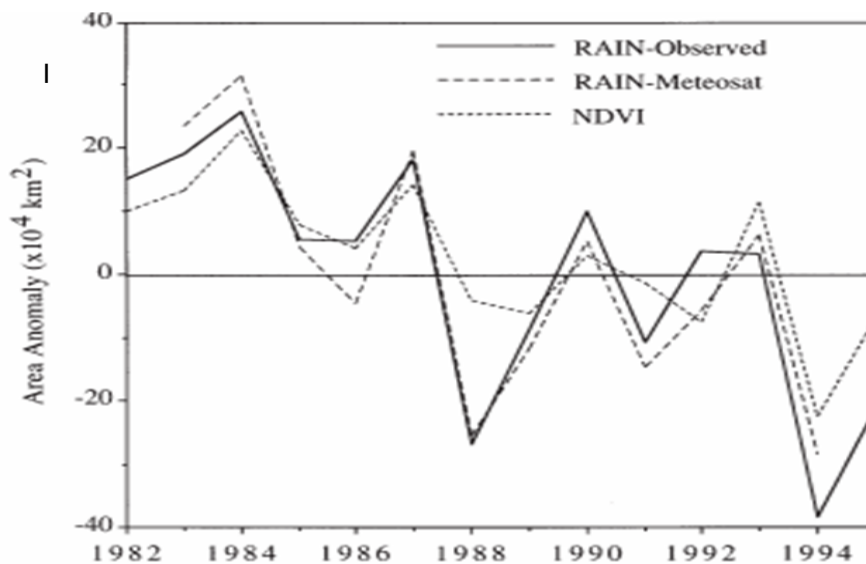
In some parts of the world, as now, shifting patterns of drought and flood would affect agricultural yields in one direction or another, but there is remarkably little evidence of any globally adverse effect on agriculture to date, and most analysts expect that a modest “global warming” – if and when it resumes – would be generally beneficial to agriculture.

“Human displacement on a staggering scale”

Throughout history, shifts in the climate have triggered shifts in population. However, the idea that warmer – as opposed to colder – weather would be likely to cause widespread human displacement is largely unfounded.

The space occupied by the atmosphere can carry near-exponentially more water vapor as the atmosphere warms: accordingly, many of the world’s drier regions, such as the Sahara, can expect moister air and hence a less desert climate than at present.

This gradual restoration of territories dried out by previous climate changes is already leading to a beneficial displacement of population towards the newly-watered regions. The Sahara has shrunk by 300,000 square kilometers in recent decades –



The Sahara has shrunk by 300,000 km² in recent decades, allowing nomadic tribes to return to territories unpopulated in living memory. **Source:** Nicholson (1988, 2001).

It is only possible to posit a “staggering scale” of human displacement if one imagines, as Al Gore fancifully did, that sea level will imminently rise by 20 feet as a result of “global warming”; or, as James Hansen still more absurdly did, that sea level will rise by 246 feet.

There is no scientific reason to imagine that sea level will rise any faster in the 21st century than it did in the 20th.

There is no scientific reason to imagine that sea level will rise any faster in the 21st century than it did in the 20th, and very good scientific reason to conclude that it will not. Since sea level is not going to rise any more spectacularly in the 21st century than it did in the 20th, there is no case for saying that “global warming” is about to displace populations on what Senator Kerry calls “a staggering scale”.

“A shrinking water supply in the Middle East”

The Middle East has been dry since the over-grazing of the vast northern-littoral of the African continent between the 6th and the 14th centuries destroyed the forests. The current water shortage in the region has nothing to do with “global warming” and everything to do with the failure of the nations concerned to replant their forests, and to ensure a balance between their rapidly growing populations and a fixed water supply.

Archaeological excavation of the elaborate system of medieval *qanats*, very long underground tunnels painstakingly dug with vast labour using primitive tools over many generations to bring mountain water down into the arid plains of Araby, shows how long-standing is the problem of water shortage in the Middle East, and how foolish it is of Senator Kerry to blame the current water shortage in the region on “global warming”.



A qanat, showing one of the characteristic wellhead accesses that facilitated construction, ventilation, and water extraction. The English word “canal” is derived from the classical Arabic word “qanat”. **Picture source:** John Baez.

This is one of many instances where “global-warming” profiteers attribute to “climate change” phenomena that are obviously chiefly attributable to other causes. Nuclear-powered and solar-powered desalination would readily bring the current Middle Eastern water shortage to an end.

Cyprus, for instance, was offered two free desalination plants that were surplus to requirements in Hong Kong some years ago, but failed to take advantage of the offer. However, Cyprus – unlike most other Middle Eastern countries – has devoted considerable effort to the replanting of its north-western forest region and, within the next 50 years, can expect to reap some climatic benefit from the exemplary regeneration that has resulted.

Jordan is looking at schemes to generate geothermal power for desalination, but lacks the means to install either the necessary technology or the national piped-water grid to take advantage of it.

Remediation of water shortage is an engineering problem and has little to do with “global warming”. In most regions of the world where water shortage has become a problem, rapidly-growing population and increased agricultural and industrial demand are far more important reasons for scarcity than any shift in the climate.

Remediation of water shortage is an engineering problem and has little to do with “global warming”.

“Complete disappearance of the Himalayan glaciers by 2035”



One of the most sensational of Senator Kerry’s imagined “global-warming” disasters is his prediction of the complete disappearance by 2035 of the water from the Himalayan glaciers, which, he fondly imagines, “supply water to almost a

billion people from China to Afghanistan”.

The ranking expert on the Himalayan glaciers, 9575 of which debouch into India from the high plateau (above), is Professor M. I. Bhat of the Indian Geological Survey, who has the advantage of access to 200 years of observational data compiled by the British Raj and maintained by the indigenous successor administration. Professor Bhat’s view is that there is nothing remarkable in the current pattern of advance and recession of the glaciers. However, that is not the point.

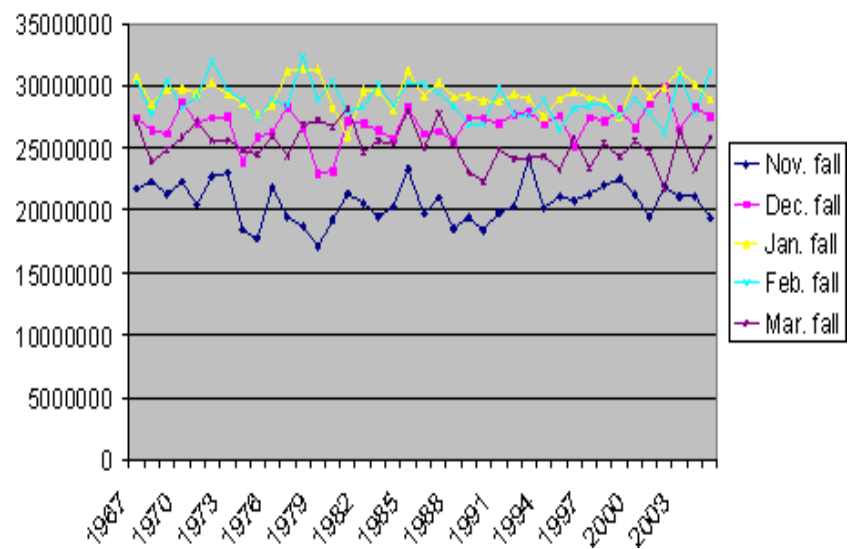
Senator Kerry, like his political ally Al Gore, seems unaware that it is not the mountain glaciers of the

Senator Kerry, like his political ally Al Gore, seems unaware that it is not the mountain glaciers of the Himalayas that provide almost a quarter of the world’s population with their water supply, but the winter snow-cover in the Eurasian region of the northern hemisphere.

Himalayas that provide almost a quarter of the world’s population with their water supply, but the winter snow-cover in the Eurasian region of the northern hemisphere.

The question, then, is this. By how much has the Eurasian winter snow cover diminished in the 30 years since satellites have been capable of monitoring it? The answer – which has not, of course, been published in any mainstream news medium – is that there has been no diminution *at all* in the vital snow cover. It is *exactly* as it has been for 30 years. The Rutgers University Snow and Ice Laboratory compiles graphs showing the snow cover in each of the five winter months –

There is no threat whatsoever to the water supplies of the many nations that depend upon it.



The graphs, in millions of square kilometers, are entirely clear: there is no trend whatsoever in Eurasian snow cover. Therefore, there is no threat whatsoever to the water supplies of the many nations that depend upon it.

“A sea-level rise of 3 feet”

Let us give Senator Kerry some credit for having abandoned Al Gore’s fantasy of an imminent 20ft sea-level rise (and, by implication, his financial beneficiary James Hansen’s dream of a 246ft rise). Senator Kerry’s Foreign Relations Committee has confined its speculation to little more than a 3ft rise, which, the Committee unwisely concludes, would flood the US naval base on the British territory of Diego Garcia.

However, for many centuries humankind has had the capacity to build sea walls. If there were any danger of an imminent 3ft rise in sea level, it would be a comparatively inexpensive matter to build sea walls to keep the rising waves at bay. However, fortunately there is no need for any such intervention.

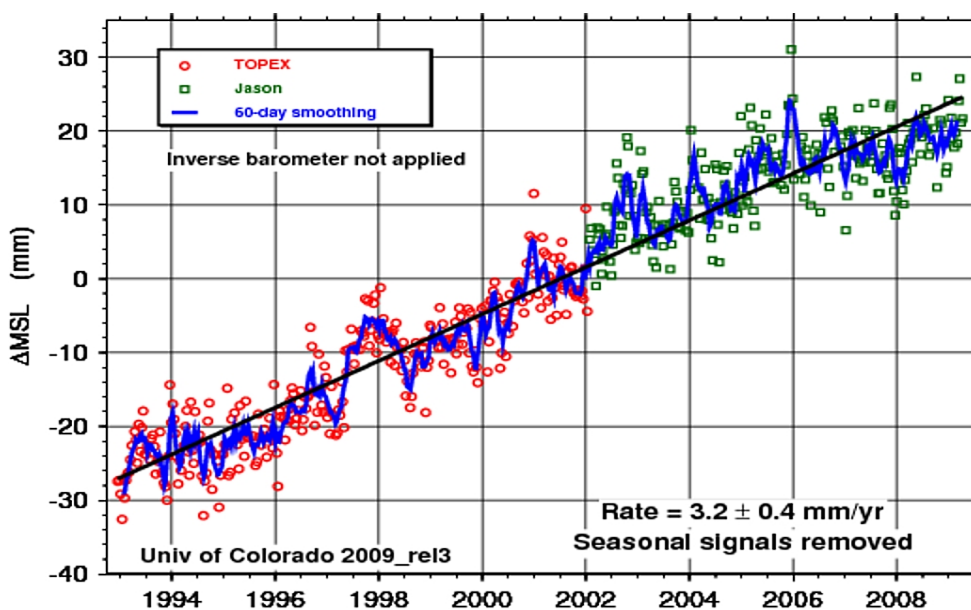
For three full years, since the beginning of 2005, sea level has not been rising at all.

For three full years, since the beginning of 2005, sea level has not been rising at all. Neither the Greenland nor the Antarctic ice-sheets have been melting at an accelerating rate, as is often suggested: the Antarctic has not warmed for half a century, and, though the extent of the Greenland ice sheet has diminished by 0.03% over the past 30 years, the ice gained thickness at a mean rate of 2 inches per year between 1993 and 2003. The DYE-2 DEW-line radar station had to be jacked up by 27 feet during the 22 years of its operation as snow and ice rapidly accumulated around it.

Though there have been numerous suggestions that sea level is rising “faster than expected”, the only reason why sea level appears to have been rising more rapidly since 1993 is that the method of measurement changed. Before 1993, tide-gages were used. After 1993, first the TOPEX and then the JASON satellite were used, and the small apparent increase in the rate of sea-level rise (from 8 inches in the 20th century to a rate equivalent to 12 inches/century since 1993) occurred precisely at the moment of the changeover, and is attributable solely to it.

The only reason why sea level appears to have been rising more rapidly since 1993 is that the method of measurement changed.

Professor Niklas Moerner, who has studied sea level for a third of a century and has written 520 peer-reviewed papers on the subject, says that the scientists at the University of Colorado who processed the sea-level data from the TOPEX and JASON satellites had “reinterpreted” it so as artificially to increase the rate of sea-level rise. When Professor Moerner asked why they had done this, they replied: “If we had not adjusted the data, sea level would not have been shown to be rising.” Even the “adjusted” sea-level data from the satellite show no increase in sea level at all for three full years since the beginning of 2005 –



Nor is there any reason why sea level should be increasing at present. For six years it has been possible to measure the temperature of the upper 400 fathoms of the global ocean with some accuracy, thanks to the 3300 automated bathythermograph buoys of the Argo project. In that time, global sea temperatures have actually fallen. Yet it is absolutely essential to the official theory of “global warming” that they should have risen. Carbon dioxide concentration has been rising near-monotonically throughout the past six years: yet the oceans, where at least 80% of the accumulated heat trapped by the extra “greenhouse gases” is supposed to be stored, are getting cooler.

During the Holocene era – the interglacial period that commenced 11,400 years ago – sea level has risen by at least 400 feet, at a mean rate of 4 feet per century, as great ice sheets that covered North America and Northern Eurasia melted. By contrast, 20th-century sea-level rise was just 8 inches, one-sixth of the mean centennial rate that had obtained since the last Ice Age, because 90% of the world’s remaining land-based ice, in Antarctica, and the 5% in Greenland, is at latitudes and altitudes so high that it would not melt significantly unless global mean surface temperatures remained at least 2 Celsius degrees (4 Fahrenheit degrees) warmer than the present for at least several millennia (IPCC, 2007).

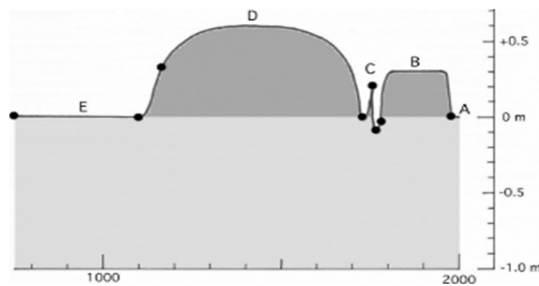
21st-century sea-level rise is predicted to be just 8 inches (Moerner, 2004); or 1 ft 5 in (IPCC, 2007, central estimate). The IPCC’s current high-end estimate of <2 feet was reduced by one-third compared with the 3 feet given in the 2001 report, partly because of Professor Moerner’s papers. Since 1993, sea level has been rising at a rate equivalent to 1 ft/century (Topex/Jason satellite altimetry).

Sea-level data are measured by satellite altimetry across the whole ocean, and are compared to an idealized mean-sea-level spheroid known as the reference geoid. However, some important regional anomalies occur. The tectonic plates that form the Earth’s crust are moving not only laterally but also vertically in relation to one another, so that an island at the mouth of the Hooghly River, India, that was formerly home to 10,000 people disappeared some years ago, not because of rising sea level but because regional tectonic subduction lowered the seabed at that point.

Bangladesh, often forecast to suffer loss of land mass as sea levels rise, has in fact grown by 70,000 km² in recent years through silt deposits in the Ganges delta.

No Pacific atoll has shown any appreciable sea-level rise in the past 30 years: in the Maldives, Professor Moerner has found no sea-level rise in 1250 years –

Bangladesh, often forecast to suffer loss of land mass as sea levels rise, has in fact grown by 70,000 km² in recent years through silt deposits in the Ganges delta.



Sea level in the Maldives today is much as it was 1250 years ago.
Source: Moerner (2004).

Corals are well capable of growing towards the light at a rate ten times the mean Holocene sea-level rise of 4 ft/century. In eastern England, the coastline is sinking as the land mass tilts eastward because of isostatic rebound following the melting of the glaciers of the north-west during “global warming” 9000 years ago.

In late 2008, Professor Moerner told a debate at St. Andrew’s University that sea-level rise, the biggest of the “global warming” scares, was a “non-issue”. The undergraduates duly voted down a motion that “‘global warming’ is a global crisis”.

“Threat of catastrophic climate change”

The supposed “threat of catastrophic climate change”, recited by Senator Kerry, is all but non-existent in the scientific literature.

The supposed “threat of catastrophic climate change”, recited by Senator Kerry, is all but non-existent in the scientific literature. A survey by Schulte (2008) of 539 papers containing the search term “global climate change” and published from the beginning of 2004 to early 2007 revealed not a single paper that offered any evidence that

anthropogenic “global warming” would prove catastrophic, and only one paper that even mentioned the possibility of catastrophe.

Principal results were as follows –

Papers chosen by the search term “global climate change”	1993-2003 (Oreskes)	2004-2007 (Schulte)
Papers published during the period	928	539
Publication rate (papers per year)	84	255
Explicitly supporting “consensus”	Not stated	7% (38)
Explicitly or implicitly supporting	75%	45% (244)
Explicitly rejecting “consensus”	0%	1% (6)
Explicitly or implicitly rejecting	0%	6% (31)
Presenting new data or observations	Not stated	24% (127)
New research about the “consensus”	Not stated	2% (13)
Quantitative evidence for “consensus”	Not stated	0% (0)
Any mention of “catastrophe”	Not stated	0% (1)
Any evidence for “catastrophe”	Not stated	0% (0)

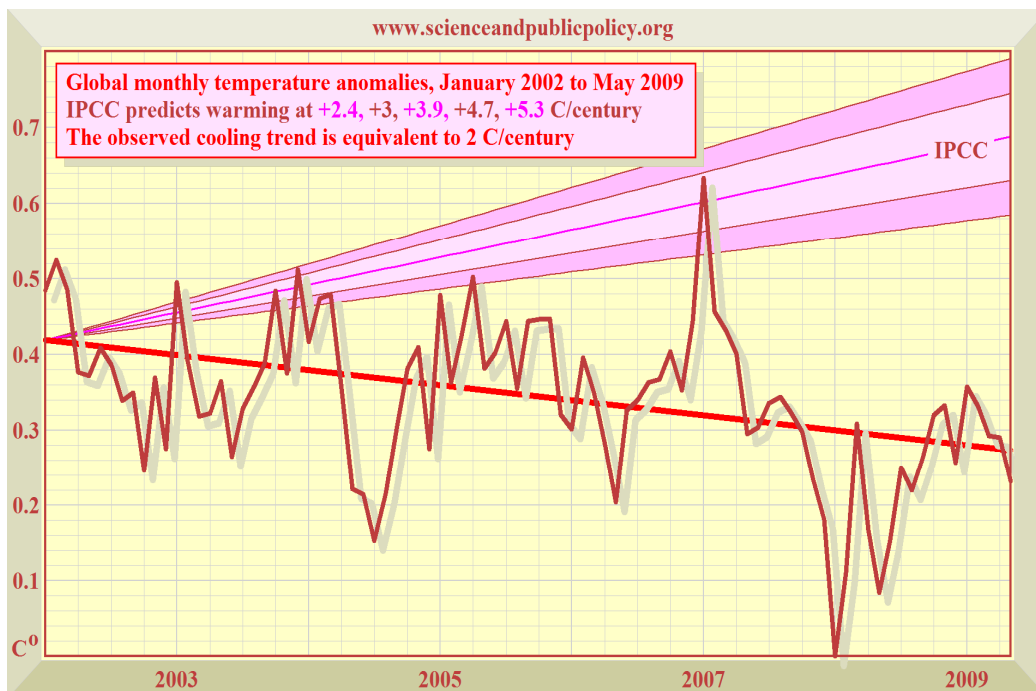
This devastating result demonstrates how little support there is in the scientific literature for the notion that manmade “global warming” may prove catastrophic. In this respect, once again, the UN’s climate assessments, with their generally apocalyptic *Summaries for Policymakers*, do not fairly reflect the consensus in the scientific literature.

“A grave and growing threat to stability and national security”

The mismatch between the apocalyptic language of Senator Kerry and the scientific evidence from the real world is truly startling. First and foremost, a “grave and growing threat to national security” would imply either that global temperature is rising at an ever-more-rapid rate or that atmospheric CO₂ concentration is rising at an ever-more-rapid rate. However, neither proposition is true.

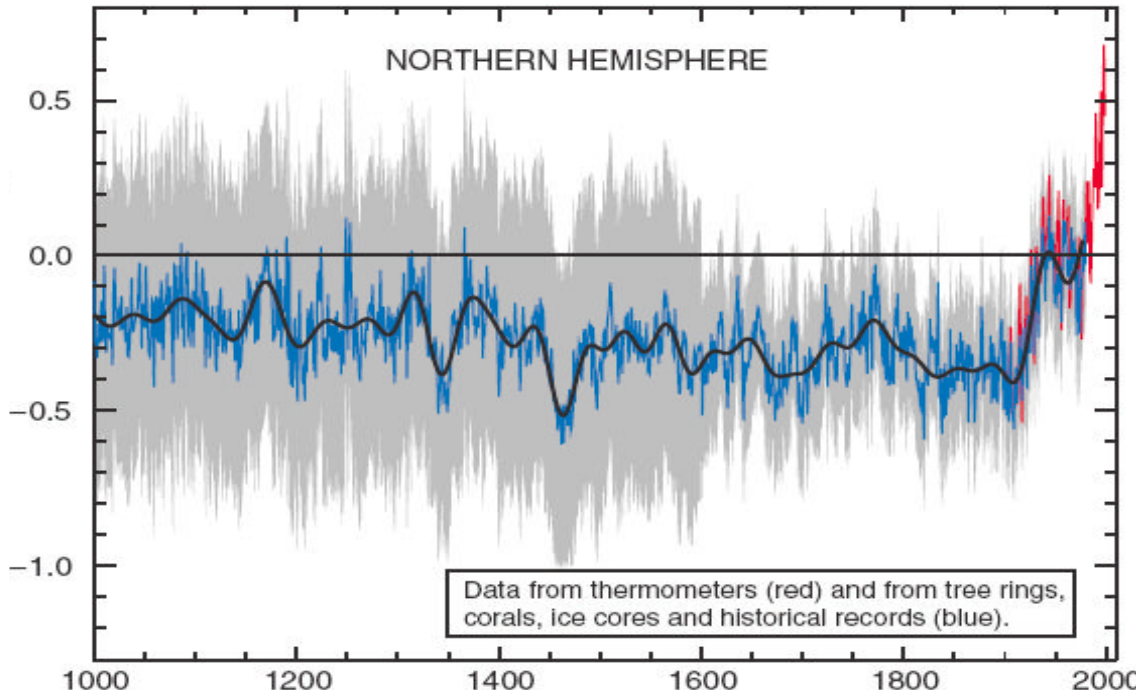
The mismatch between the apocalyptic language of Senator Kerry and the scientific evidence from the real world is truly startling.

Global temperature has been falling for almost eight years –



For almost eight years, global temperatures have been falling rapidly. The IPCC’s predicted warming path (pink region) bears no relation to the global cooling that has been observed in the 21st century to date. **Source:** SPPI global temperature index.

The UN's climate panel has sought to abolish the medieval warm period, so as to make it falsely appear that today's mean global surface temperature is exceptional at least in the past 1000 years –



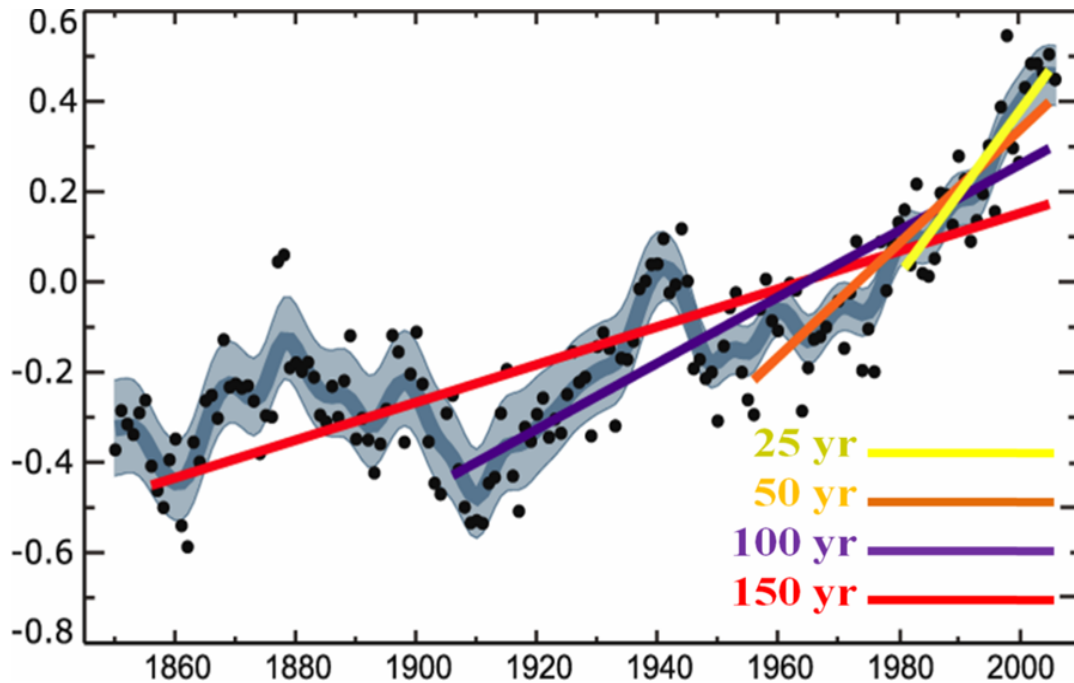
How the medieval warm period was “abolished”: In 2001, the UN placed heavy emphasis on a graph that incorrectly abolished the medieval warm period and also exaggerated the measured temperature change in the 20th century by 50%.

However, the UN's now-notorious graph has long been demonstrated to have been defective. It was incorrectly based on the use of temperature reconstructions based on the breadth of annual tree-growth rings taken from cross-sections of bristlecone pines which the UN itself had previously declared unsuitable on the ground that the pines grow more rapidly and produce broader rings not only when the weather is warmer but also when there is more CO₂ in the atmosphere, and when it is wetter, giving misleading indications of temperature change. Removing the bristlecone-pine temperature reconstructions and relying on all other reconstructions immediately restores the medieval warm period. Also, the compilers of the UN's defective graph had suppressed the actual temperature proxy data for the medieval warm period itself, and had substituted estimates of their own, without saying that they had done so. The restoration of the data also restores the medieval warm period.

Though the UN claims to represent the scientific “consensus”, on the question of the medieval warm period the consensus is that it existed. More than 700 scientists from 400 institutions in 40 countries over 20 years have contributed to peer-reviewed papers providing evidence that the medieval warm period was real, was global, and was warmer than the present – a result that is of course uncongenial to the UN.

Worse, the red portion of the graph, that is said to represent the instrumentally-measured temperature change over the past 150 years, exaggerates the warming since 1900 by 50%, from 1.3 to 2 Fahrenheit degrees.

More recently, the UN has also sought to maintain that over the past 150 years the rate of increase in mean global surface temperature has itself increased –

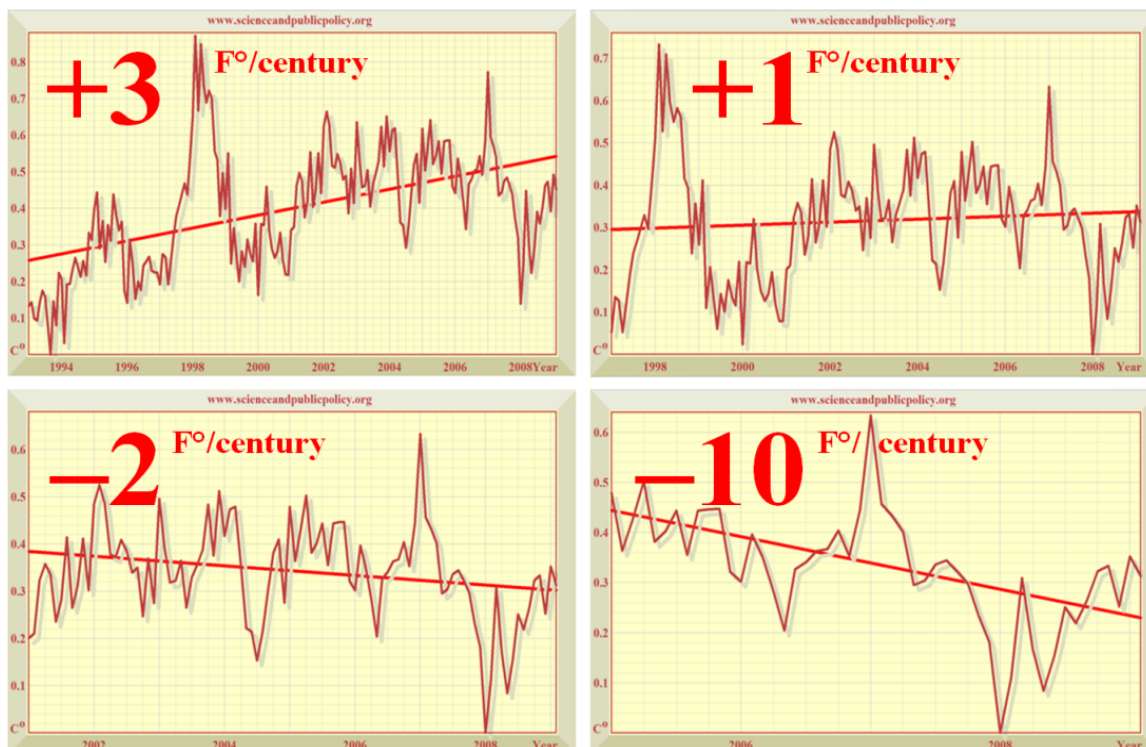


Lies, damned lies, and statistics: Global mean surface absolute temperature (Celsius degrees, right scale) and temperature anomalies (left scale), 1850-2005. The IPCC's 2007 report, cited with approval in a science lecture by Dr. Rajendra Pachauri, the railroad engineer who is chairman of the IPCC's science working group, and in the "Technical Support Document" in justification of the Environment Protection Agency's imminent finding that CO₂ and five other gases are jointly or severally "dangerous" in terms of the Clean Air Act, contains the above graph purporting to show that the rate at which the world is warming is inexorably increasing.

The UN's new graph, published in its 2007 climate assessment, is an egregious instance of the endpoint fallacy, a dishonest and deliberate abuse of statistics by which false trends are demonstrated by careful selection of endpoints or (in the present instance) startpoints when evaluating data trends.

Global temperature is a stochastic dataset – it moves unpredictably up and down rather than following any predetermined pattern. Accordingly, the choice of startpoints and endpoints critically determines the apparent data trend. By carefully choosing successive 25-year decrements, the UN is able to demonstrate, falsely, not only that there is a long-run warming trend (which, incidentally, long predates any possible anthropogenic influence) but also that the warming trend is inexorably increasing, the implication being that humankind's influence is pushing us towards the "catastrophic climate change" of which Senator Kerry has spoken.

However, it is easy to demonstrate that the UN's technique is a serious abuse of statistical method. If we concentrate on the most recent part of the temperature record, and arbitrarily choose successive four-year decrements commencing in 1993, the following four graphs are generated from exactly the same data as those used in the UN's graph –

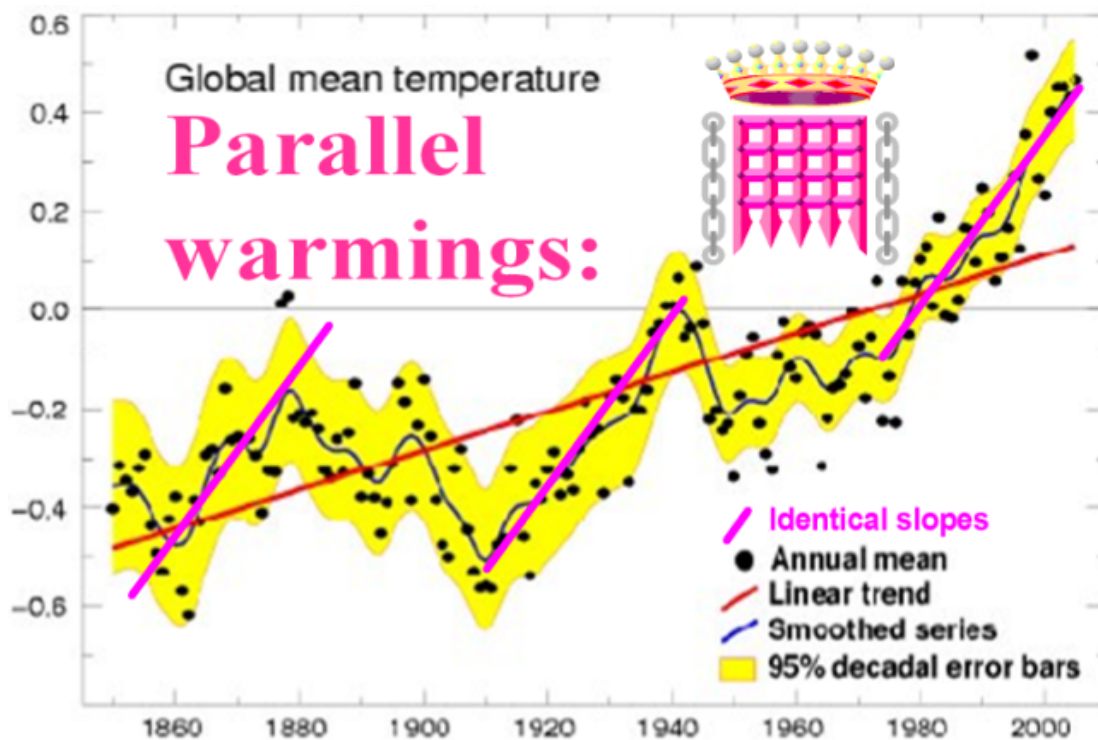


Any result you want: Beginning in 1993 (top left) and advancing the start-date successively by 4 years at a time, the IPCC's own data show the world heading ever more rapidly for an Ice Age. Using the same data as the IPCC, we reach a diametrically opposite (and equally unjustifiable) conclusion, proving the IPCC's abuse of statistical method.

This result, apparently showing an ever-more-rapid *fall* in global temperatures, suggesting the imminent return of the Earth to an ice age, relies upon the same statistical prestidigitation as that of the UN's climate panel. The statistical abuse evident in the UN's graph is a very serious matter. The rate at which global temperature is actually changing is, on any view, central to the debate about the magnitude of anthropogenic "global warming".

The UN's graph is a deliberate attempt falsely to suggest that the non-problem of "global warming" is in fact a real and rapidly worsening crisis. Not one mainstream news medium has yet exposed this and numerous other calculated misrepresentations and deliberate errors in the UN's analysis.

If Railroad Engineer Pachauri's railroad lines are removed from the UN's graph, it can easily be seen that there have been three periods of warming at identical rates over the past 150 years: 1860-1880, 1910-1940, and 1975-1998 –

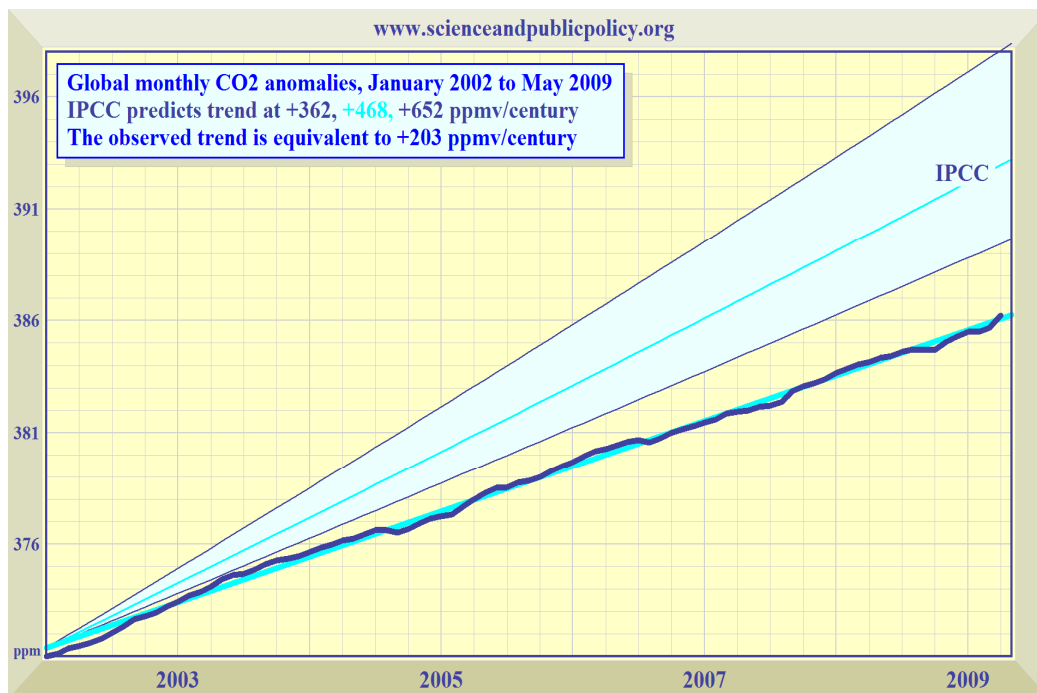


No anthropogenic signal: The world warmed at the same rate from 1860-1880 and from 1910-1940 as it did from 1975-1998 (see the three parallel magenta trend-lines). The former two periods occurred before humankind can possibly have had any significant influence on temperature. Therefore there is no anthropogenic signal in the global temperature record, and no basis for the IPCC's assertion that the warming rate is accelerating.

In short, there has been no acceleration in the rate of “global warming”: the rapid warming rate between 1975 and 1998, a period during which humankind might in theory have had some small influence on global temperature, was identical to that which was measured in two similar previous periods during which we could have had no appreciable influence on temperature whatsoever. Accordingly, and contrary to Senator Kerry’s implication, there is no evidence whatsoever for any anthropogenic signal in the temperature record.

As for CO₂, the UN perpetrates a different but also misleading statistical error. Although the UN predicts that CO₂ concentration will rise exponentially towards 836 ppmv by 2100, and although CO₂ emissions have been running at the high end of the UN’s predictions, the UN has failed to take sufficient account of the fact, mentioned at length in its 2001 assessment report but largely suppressed in its 2007 report, that climate science is currently unable to add up the “carbon budget” in the atmosphere and biosphere to within 50% of the right answer.

There is a “missing sink” of carbon that is taking CO₂ out of the atmosphere far more quickly than the UN’s models predict. Indeed, despite the UN’s prediction of an exponential increase in CO₂ concentration towards 836 ppmv by 2100, for the past eight years CO₂ concentrations have been rising in no more than a straight line towards just 575 ppmv by 2100 –



Observed CO₂ growth is linear, and is also well below the exponential-growth curves (bounding the pale blue region) predicted by the IPCC in its 2007 report. If CO₂ continues on its present path, the IPCC's central temperature projection for the year 2100 must be halved. **Data source:** NOAA.

This single result, on its own, strongly suggests that all of the UN's predictions for anthropogenic warming over the 21st century should be halved. Unless CO₂ concentration begins to rise at a more rapid rate than that which has been observed over the past eight years, the "crisis" imagined by the UN cannot possibly happen. Instead of a 6° F warming over the 21st

This single result, on its own, strongly suggests that all of the UN's predictions for anthropogenic warming over the 21st century should be halved.

century, all we can expect is a harmless 3° F warming – and only then if the effect of CO₂ on temperature as programmed into the UN's computer models is correct.

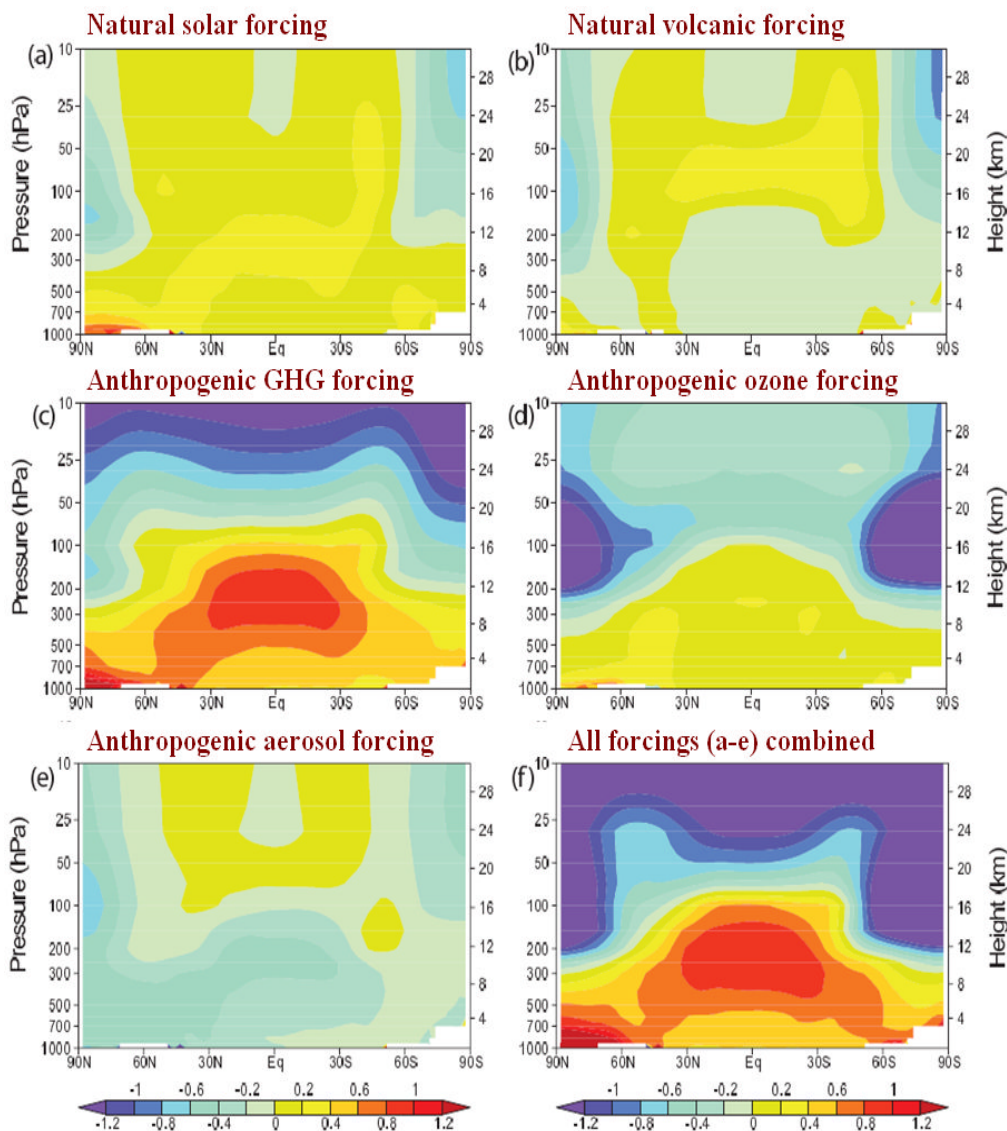
Conclusion

On the latest scientific evidence, the scare is over.

From the failure of the oceans to warm at all in the past six years, it is evident that despite the steadily-increasing concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere the heat that is supposed to be accumulating in the oceans is not accumulating there. Why is the heat not accumulating? Where is all that imagined extra heat going?

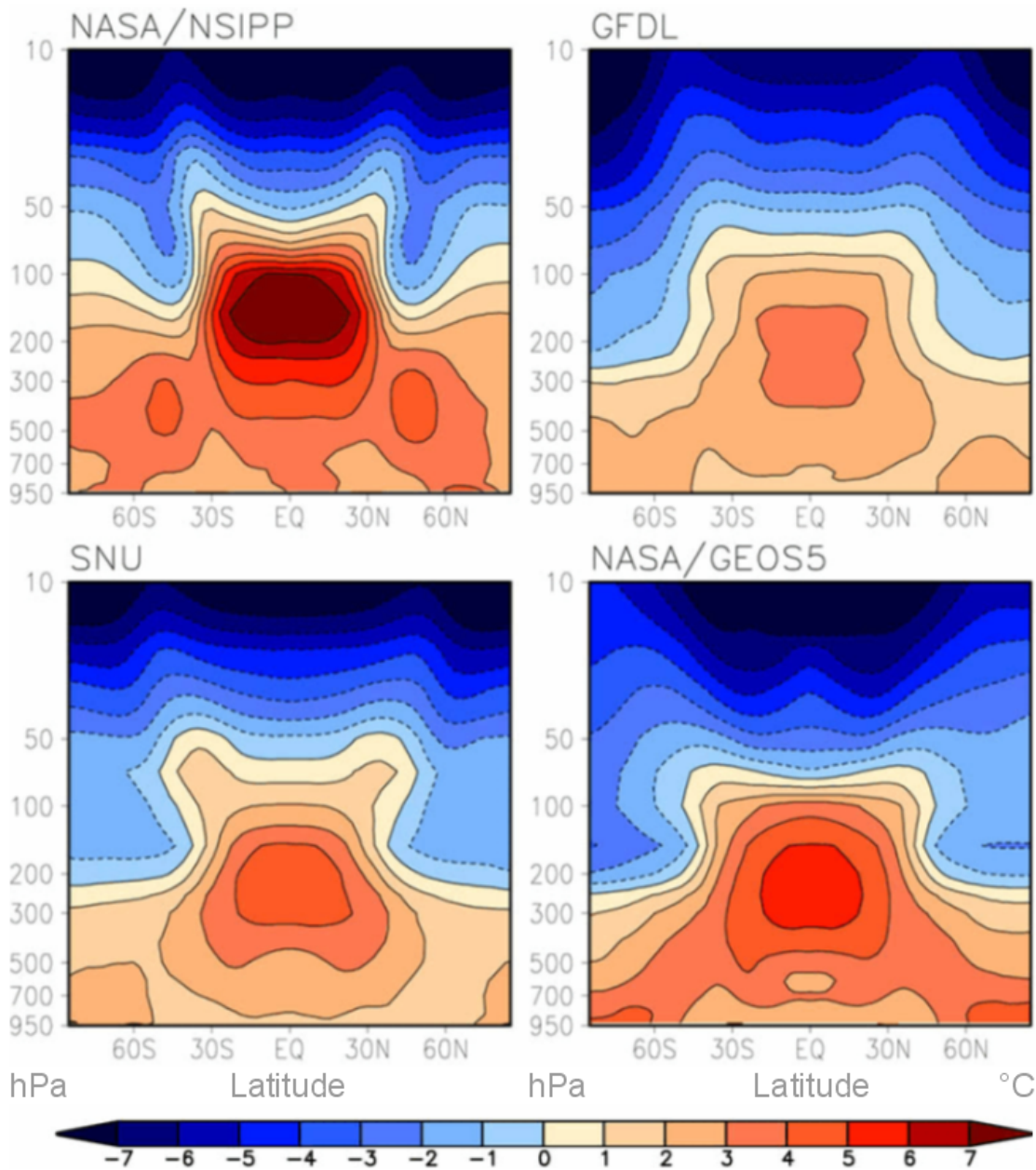
All of the computer models on which the UN relies for its predictions of the future state of the climate predict that, as a result of the “global warming” caused by anthropogenic increases in the concentration of greenhouse gases, temperature at altitude in the tropics will rise at thrice the surface rate. This prediction arises from the fact that the Clausius-Clapeyron relation, one of the very few proven results in climatological physics, mandates that as the atmosphere warms the space it occupies is capable of carrying near-exponentially more water vapor – itself a powerful greenhouse gas which, because of its sheer quantity in the atmosphere, is of far greater significance than carbon dioxide.

The model-predicted tropical upper-troposphere “hot spot” is a characteristic fingerprint of anthropogenic greenhouse warming, readily distinguishable from all other sources of warming –



Modeled zonal mean atmospheric temperature change (°C per century, 1890-1999) in response to five distinct forcings (a-e), and to all five forcings combined (f). Altitude is in hPa (left scale) and km (right scale) vs. latitude (abscissa). **Source:** IPCC (2007).

All of the computer models on which the UN relies predict the differential warming rate in the tropical upper troposphere without which it is not possible to claim that climate sensitivity to additional greenhouse-gas concentrations is high. They are pre-programmed to assume the existence of the “hot spot” –



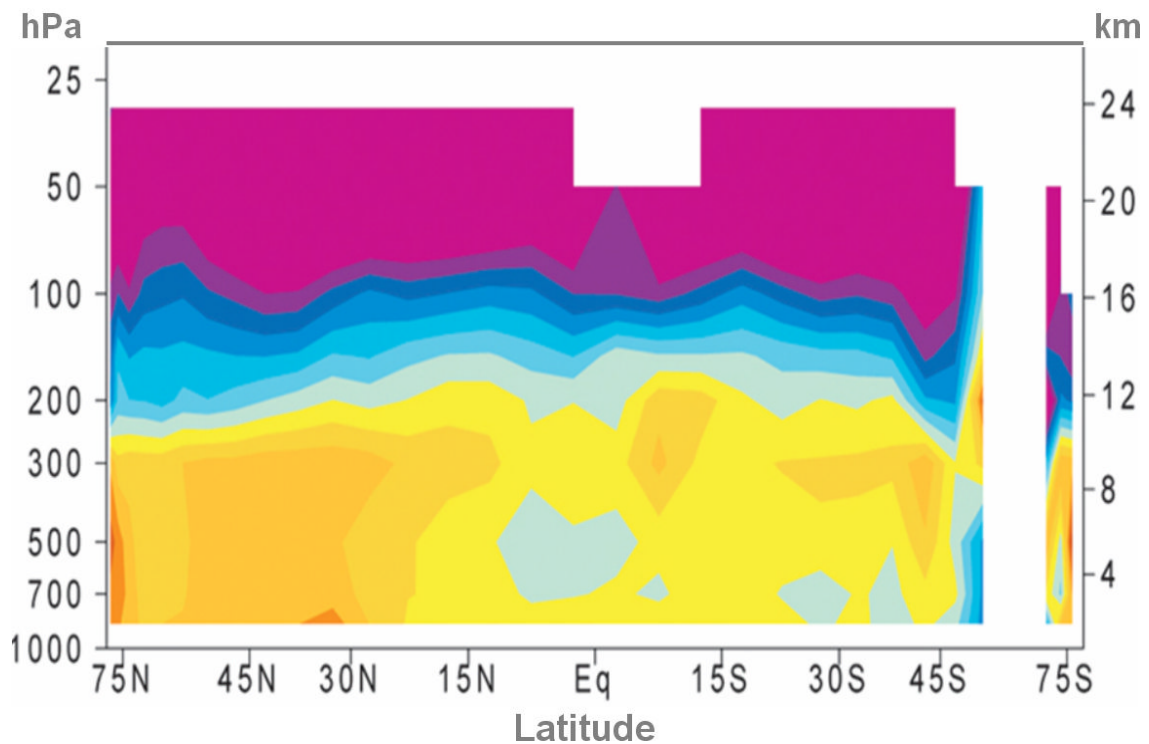
Zonal mean equilibrium temperature change ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) at CO_2 doubling ($2\times \text{CO}_2$ – control), as a function of latitude and pressure (hPa) for 4 general-circulation models. All show the projected fingerprint of anthropogenic greenhouse-gas warming: the tropical mid-troposphere “hot-spot” is projected to warm at twice or even thrice the surface rate. **Source:** Lee et al. (2007).

However, as Douglass *et al.* (2004) and Douglass *et al.* (2007) have demonstrated, the projected fingerprint of anthropogenic greenhouse-gas warming in the tropical mid-troposphere is not observed in reality.

The projected fingerprint of anthropogenic greenhouse-gas warming in the tropical mid-troposphere is not observed in reality.

The plot of real-world, observed tropospheric rates of temperature change from the Hadley Center for Forecasting shows that in the tropical upper troposphere, at approximately 300 hPa pressure, the model-projected fingerprint of anthropogenic greenhouse warming is entirely absent. Indeed, it is absent from all observed records of tropospheric temperature changes in the satellite and radiosonde eras –

approximately 300 hPa pressure, the model-projected fingerprint of anthropogenic greenhouse warming is entirely absent. Indeed, it is absent from all observed records of tropospheric temperature changes in the satellite and radiosonde eras –



No “hot spot”: Altitude-vs.-latitude plot of observed relative warming rates in the satellite era. The greater rate of warming in the tropical mid-troposphere that is projected by general-circulation models is absent in this and all other observational datasets, whether satellite or radiosonde. Altitude units are hPa (left) and km (right). **Source:** Hadley Centre for Forecasting (HadAT, 2006).

What, then, have the modelers gotten wrong? They have assumed – falsely, as it turns out – that the concentration of water vapor will increase at all altitudes in the atmosphere. Their error, as a recent paper by Paltridge *et al.* (2009) demonstrates, is rooted in their obsession with radiative transports in the Earth/troposphere system almost to the exclusion of the significant non-radiative transports. Paltridge explains that one of these non-radiative heat transports – movements of packets of air from one part of the atmosphere to another – is

known as “subsidence drying”: moist air tends to fall from higher to lower altitudes in the troposphere, drying out the upper troposphere.

If Paltridge is right, the subsidence drying removes the main obstacle that might prevent outgoing long-wave radiation from escaping to space almost unimpeded.

Direct evidence that Paltridge is indeed right is now to hand. A recent paper by Professor Richard Lindzen of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology – perhaps the most important paper ever to have been published on the question whether the menace of catastrophic “global warming” might ever prove to be real – has established that the outgoing long-wave radiation from the Earth’s surface is escaping into space, much as it always has.

The tiny additional proportion of the atmosphere that is occupied by greenhouse gases as a result of all of humankind’s enterprises and industries is now proven to be insufficient to retain substantial heat-energy within the Earth/troposphere system. The “greenhouse gases” are simply not trapping as much heat in the Earth’s atmosphere as the UN’s computer models predict.

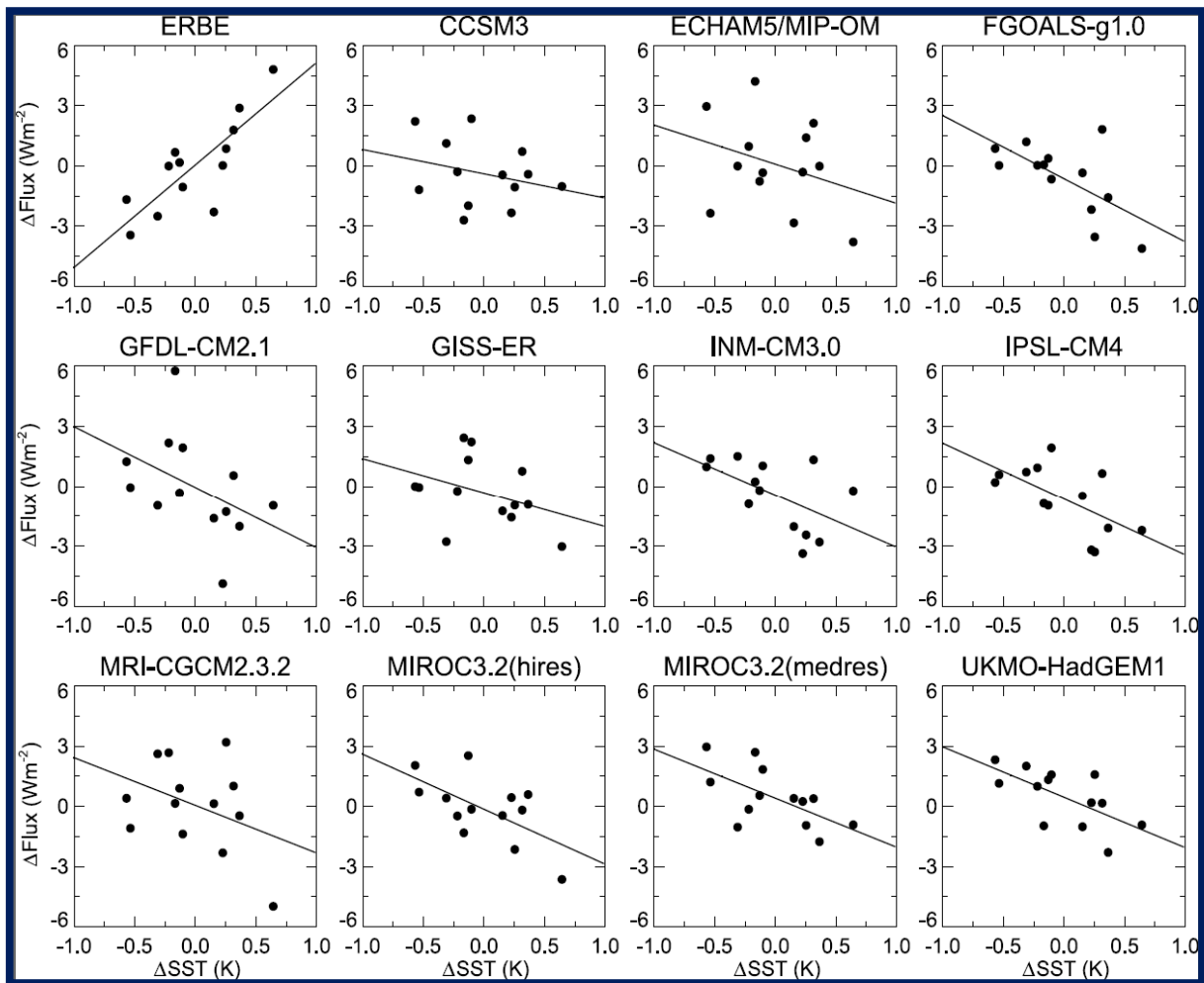
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The subsidence drying removes the main obstacle that might prevent outgoing long-wave radiation from escaping to space almost unimpeded.

Professor Lindzen’s landmark paper demonstrates beyond reasonable doubt that the “global warming” scare is over. Yet his conclusions have not been reported in any major news medium.

and the computer models on which the UN places such heavy and undue reliance is astonishing, and revealing –

The mismatch between observed reality (upper left scatter-plot in the graph below)



Observed reality vs. erroneous computer predictions: Scatter-plots of net flux of outgoing long-wave radiation, as measured by the Earth Radiation Budget Experiment satellites over a 15-year period (upper left panel) and as predicted by 11 of the computer models relied upon by the UN (all other panels), against change in global sea surface temperature over the period. The mismatch between reality and prediction is entirely clear. It is this graph that provides the final evidence that the UN has absurdly exaggerated the effect not only of CO₂ but of all greenhouse gases on global mean surface temperature. **Source:** Lindzen & Choi (2009).

Lindzen’s examination of the glaring discrepancy between observed and predicted data concludes that the “global warming” to be expected from a doubling of atmospheric CO₂ concentration is just 1° F in the real world of observed climatic data, not the 6° F that the UN takes as its central prediction based on mere computer models.

Let us summarize what we now know of the behavior of the climate.

Carbon dioxide now occupies scarcely one-ten-thousandth more of the atmosphere than it did in 1750, before the Industrial Revolution. It is accumulating in the atmosphere, but at only half the rate predicted by the models on which the UN’s climate panel relies. Notwithstanding that continuing accumulation, for a third of a century global surface temperature has risen at less than half the rate the UN predicts for the future; for almost 15

years there has been no statistically-significant “global warming” at all; and for almost eight years there has been statistically-significant global cooling. Tellingly, the oceans have not warmed at all, and may even have cooled a little, over the six years during which accurate observations have been possible. This observation is fatal to the official theory of high climate sensitivity.

We now know why CO₂ is in fact exercising far less effect on temperature than the models predict: the model-predicted tropical upper-troposphere “hot spot” is absent in observed reality. We also know why the “hot spot” is absent: subsidence drying is preventing the accumulation of water vapor in the upper troposphere without which that layer cannot warm at thrice the surface rate.

Moreover, we now know by direct measurement that outgoing long-wave radiation is not being trapped within the atmosphere by additional greenhouse gases to anything like the extent that the UN’s computer models predict. Far more of that radiation is escaping to outer space than had been thought: therefore, it cannot warm the atmosphere to anything like the degree that the UN has predicted.

The bottom line is this. Since CO₂ concentration is now known to be growing at half the predicted rate, and, since climate sensitivity to CO₂ enrichment of the atmosphere is now known to be not more than one-sixth of the UN’s central estimate, anthropogenic “global warming” over the coming century will be comfortably less than one-tenth of the UN’s central estimate. Instead of 6° F by 2100, we are looking at around 0.5° F by 2100. That insignificant warming will be harmless and beneficial.

Senator Kerry, of course, does not read the learned journals. Nor do his staffers do so. Nor do the other members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. They rely upon their friends in the Left-dominated news media for their “science”. Therefore, they are unaware of the chain of evidence in the peer-reviewed, learned journals, culminating in Lindzen’s definitive result. They are unaware of any of the numerous other major papers now being published in the peer-reviewed literature that demonstrate every central aspect of the “global warming” scare to be baseless and exaggerated beyond all science or reason.

Unless the woeful scientific ignorance of our *classe politique* can be corrected in time, its consequences for the people they nominally serve will be dire. The Waxman/Markey climate Bill proclaims the intention of Congress to shut down five-sixths of the US economy over the

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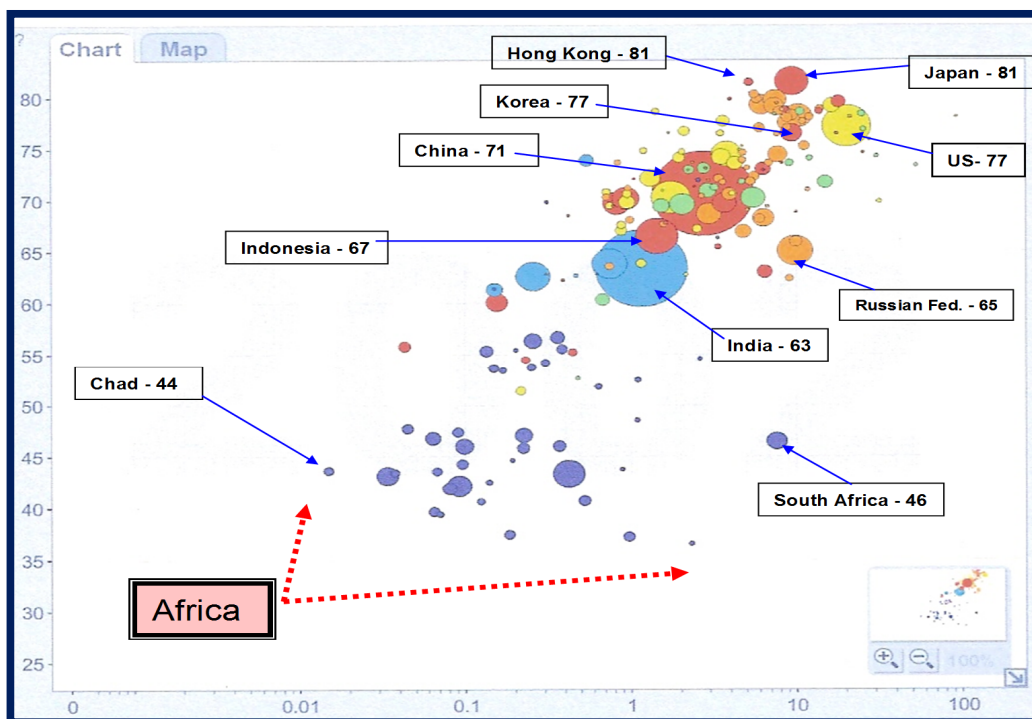
beyond all science or reason.

next few decades, in the specious name of Saving The Planet from an imagined man-made catastrophe that science has definitively dismissed as being without foundation either in climatological theory or in observed reality.

There is a direct correlation between the per-capita consumption of fossil fuels and the prosperity and consequently the life-expectancy of the nation.

Even if there were a “climate crisis” on the scale hoped for by Senator Kerry, shutting down five-sixths of the US economy would not avert that crisis. India and China have now understood that the “crisis” has been manufactured and has no basis in the real world of hard science. They have announced, repeatedly and rightly, that they will continue to burn fossil fuels at an ever-increasing rate, for the sake of lifting their people out of poverty. For there is a

direct correlation between the per-capita consumption of fossil fuels and the prosperity and consequently the life-expectancy of the nation –



Life expectancy (years: left scale) vs. tons of carbon dioxide emitted per capita (log scale), by population (size of circle). The more CO₂ is emitted per capita, the greater the life-expectancy.

Also, it is only when prosperity is available to all that population stabilizes. Requiring China and India to keep their people in poverty for the sake of reducing the world’s “carbon footprint” would, paradoxically, achieve precisely the opposite effect. Continuing poverty would entail continuing population increase, with a consequent increase in carbon emissions.

Worse, making Western nations poor via measures such as the Waxman/Markey Bill would lead to a massive population explosion in the West, compounding the increase in the world's "carbon footprint" that will arise from imprisoning the populations of India, China, and other third-world nations in their current poverty.

The Waxman/Markey Bill supported by Senator Kerry is accordingly a non-solution to a non-problem. Even if there were a problem, the present US administration's solution is calculated to make the problem many times worse.

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However, as we have established, there is no climate problem. Senator Kerry should remember that the correct solution to a non-problem is to have the courage to do nothing.

End of scare.



Appendix

Contrasting Ideas about Climate Change and War

Back in February, the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce held a [hearing](#) entitled “The Climate Crisis: National Security, Economic, and Public Health Threats.” *World Climate Report’s* Pat Michaels [testified](#) that we should be careful when assessing future threats from climate change because our understanding of what climate change the future may bring is grossly uncertain. Dr. Michaels backed up his contention by a demonstration that climate models are having a tough time getting the present and recent past right—which casts a pall on their future forecasts.

Also [testifying](#) at that hearing was General Gordon Sullivan (Ret.), President and Chief Operating Officer, Association of the United States Army who discussed potential national security threats from global warming—primarily from “unrest” in other parts of the world as food and water supplies grow scarce in some regions.

General Sullivan’s support of Nature magazine’s [essay](#), which seeks to understand the details of future climate changes is quite uncertain, expressed this sentiment to the Subcommittee members on February 12, 2009:

Two years ago, I appeared at the first meeting of the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming in my capacity as Chairman of the Military Advisory Board to the CNA report on “National Security and the Threat of Climate Change”...

In summary, what I reported then was that climate change is a national security multiplier. Many areas of the world that will be the hardest hit by climate change impacts are already being stressed by lack of water, lack of food, and political and social unrest. Adding climate change to this mix will only serve to exacerbate the existing instabilities.

- *Third, projected climate change will add to tensions even in stable regions of the world.*
- *And fourth, that climate change, national security and energy dependence are a related set of global challenges.*

In the two years since I appeared before the Committee, we’ve seen no evidence to contradict those findings. In fact, we’ve only seen them reinforced.

Not so fast, according to Wendy Barnaby, editor of [People & Science](#), the magazine published by the British Science Association.

Ms. Barnaby set out to write a book detailing the history of “water wars”—wars fought over water scarcity—with special interest on how climate change may impact such conflicts in the future. Since all sorts of entities, including the United Nations, the World Bank, and General Sullivan, have made grave prognostications about conflicts developing from global warming’s impact on water supply, Ms. Barnaby surely reckoned that a book detailing the history of the subject would be a popular read.

But then she encountered a major roadblock—the more she looked for “water wars” the more it became obvious that there just weren’t any. Instead, she found that nations with water deficits “solve their water shortages through trade and international agreements.”

Ms. Barnaby detailed her investigations which ultimately led to her not writing the book (since there was nothing to write about) in an essay titled “Do nations go to war over water?”

Here is what she concluded: *It is well known that the popular myth of water wars somehow be dispelled once and for all. This will not only stop unsettling and incorrect predictions of international conflict over water. It will also discourage a certain public resignation that climate change will bring war, and focus attention instead on what politicians can do to avoid it: most importantly, improve the conditions of trade for developing countries to strengthen their economies. And it would help to convince water engineers and managers, who still tend to see water shortages in terms of local supply and demand that the solutions to water scarcity and security lay outside the water sector in the water/food/trade/economic development nexus. It would be great if we could unplug our stream of thought about the misleading notions of ‘water wars’.*

Maybe the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment will invite Ms. Barnaby to their next hearing on climate change and national security for that they can get a more rounded briefing on the topic. But, probably they won't, after all Ms. Barnaby includes this pearl of wisdom, “There is something other than water for which shortages, or even the perceived threat of future shortages, does cause war — oil,” which is decidedly not what those in control of the Subcommittee want to hear, after all, this is precisely the type of action (perceived threat of oil shortages) which they are promoting!

Source: <http://www.worldclimatereport.com/index.php/2009/03/24/contrasting-ideas-about-climate-change-and-war/>.

Cover photo of *The Great Seal* courtesy of the National Security Agency.

