

The Week That Was: 2011-09-24 (September 24, 2011)
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The Science and Environmental Policy Project

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Climate Change Reconsidered: 2011 Interim Report

[S. Fred Singer](#), [Craig Idso](#), [Robert M. Carter](#) – August 29, 2011 Published by [Heartland Institute](#)

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

Chapter Review and Full Report <http://www.nipccreport.org/reports/2011/2011report.html>

[Note: These links work as of now – we apologize for any inconvenience from previous failure.]

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Quote of the Week:

“Can We Really Call Climate Science A Science?” Paul Roderick Gregory

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Number of the Week: 140 decades

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THIS WEEK:

By Ken Haapala, Executive Vice President, Science and Environmental Policy Project (SEPP)

Videos from the Sixth International Conference on Climate Change (ICCC) sponsored by Heartland Institute are available on the web. Go to: <http://climateconference.heartland.org/watch-live/>

Save the Date: October 22 from 11 am to 1 pm. SEPP and VA-SEEE will be hosting a forum in Richmond at Virginia Commonwealth University. Details to follow.

Climate Science: *Forbes* carried an article by economist Paul Gregory that asks the provocative question “Can We Really Call Climate Science A Science?” The author cites three recent events that prompted this question: 1) the resignation of Nobel laureate in physics Ivar Giaever from the American Physical Society for its declaration that “the evidence (on warming alarmism) is incontrovertible;” 2) the amateurish resignation of the editor of *Remote Sensing* who approved the Spencer-Braswell article suggesting more heat is being lost into space than calculated by the global warming models; and, 3) the ridiculing in the press of any politician who questions “global warming.”

The work of many of the practitioners of climate science is that of physical science. But the interpretation of the work by political bodies, such as the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), is not physical science because, among other reasons, it emphasizes the results of unverified computer models and claims a certainty that simply is not credible. The physical evidence of carbon dioxide being the major cause of global warming is lacking. The support that the leadership of some science societies give to the IPCC exacerbates the problem. If climate science is to advance as a physical science, the deference to the IPCC cannot continue.

Ross McKittrick, who along with Steve McIntyre exposed the hockey-stick for what it was, has proposed a good start for climate science to become more rigorous. Climate journals follow the lead of the journal for the American Economic Association (AEA) and publish differing views and require that the computer code and data for articles accepted be available for other researchers. Please see link under “Questioning the Orthodoxy.”

Arctic Sea Ice: Last week, TWTW linked to an article by Joe D’Aleo stating that the Arctic sea ice has stopped melting short of the observed record made in 2007. He was challenged on several blogs including claims of cherry picking data, but appears to be correct. As typical, with the fall equinox, Arctic daily

average temperatures are falling and, as measured by the Centre for Ocean and Ice of the Danish Meteorological Institute, are more than 10K below freezing.

The graph of 2011 temperatures shows that the late winter (Jan to March) was above the 1958 – 2002 average, but the summer temperatures were about normal. These measurements contradict news reports of sweltering Arctic summer temperatures. Those who enjoy small bets over cocktails may wish to check the link to the Centre for Ocean and Ice.

The Times *Atlas of the World* published a map of Greenland showing much more green than many researchers thought appropriate. The publishers have issued an apology of sorts. Perhaps they were using an old Norse map from time the Vikings settled in Greenland. As the Danish Centre for Ocean and Ice maps show, circumnavigation of Greenland may be a bit difficult this time of year. Please see links under “Changing Sea Ice” and “Communicating Better to the Public – Exaggerate?”

Climate Treaty: The next major international gathering of global warming promoters will be in Durban, South Africa, on November 28. Pessimism has come over the industry. Now some are proposing extending the current Kyoto Treaty which expires in December 2012. Others are calling for a new treaty in 2015 – apparently after the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) by the IPCC comes out. An interesting question is will there be an AR5? Please see links under “Problems within the Orthodoxy.”

Spencer-Braswell: The study by Spencer-Braswell suggesting that more heat is being lost into space than calculated by models resulted in a rebutting study by Gerald Meehl, et al, of the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) suggesting the missing heat is hiding in the deep oceans. Roger Pielke, Sr, questions the latter study by pointing out that instruments should be detecting the transfer of heat from the sea surface to the deep sea and that it devalues the use of sea surface temperatures as the major data set to monitor global warming. See links under “Challenging the Orthodoxy” and “Defending the Orthodoxy.”

Alternative Energy: According to reports, the government of Scotland has embarked on a plan to produce the equivalent of 100% of its electricity from wind, wave, and tidal resources by 2020 and 7 times this amount by 2050. No doubt, Scotland desires to become the largest exporter of such power in Europe. The costs of such a program will be staggering. Please see links under “Alternative, Green (“Clean”) Energy and “Questioning European Green.”

Linear No-threshold Model: Toxicologist Edward Calabrese states that Nobel laureate Hermann Muller knowing mislead the public in claiming there is no safe level of exposure to radiation. This claim has led to the development of the linear no-threshold model which is a favorite of regulators such as the EPA in claiming public health benefits of intensified regulations. The model presumes that if a large amount of a substance is harmful, then any amount, no matter how small, is harmful. The model is in contrast to the dose-response model of toxicology which depends upon observations, not statistics; in establish the potential harm of a substance. The dose-response model appears to be more consistent with life than the linear no-threshold model. For example, a large dose of arsenic may be lethal, but small doses are essential for health. Please see link under “Other Scientific News.”

Oil and Gas from Shale: The technological developments of extracting oil and gas from shale continue to bedevil politicians and government officials who have made their careers by opposing the use of fossil fuels. Now, a major gas find has been reported in England. The government is exploring ways to stop the development of these resources. In addition, bureaucrats of the European Union are exploring methods of controlling the development of oil

and gas from shale. After all, these discoveries make it more difficult to justify expensive and unreliable wind and solar power. Please see articles under “Questioning European Green” and “EPA and other Regulators on the March.”

Number of the Week: 140 decades. A criticism of Spencer-Braswell is that they cherry picked the climate models used in their study of heat loss to space (see Spencer-Braswell above). Cherry picking has become a common charge by global warming alarmists against those who challenge their science. In a post entitled “The Rest of the Cherries” how the comparison of satellite data to all 140 10-year periods for the 14 climate models they analyzed. The graph looks more like a well mixed bowl of spaghetti than a bowl of cherries. Please see link under “Models v. Observations.”

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ARTICLES:

For the numbered articles below please see this week’s TWTW at: www.sepp.org. The articles are at the end of the pdf.

1. 'High School Physics'

Another Nobel laureate breaks from the climate change pack.

Editorial, WSJ, Sep 18, 2011

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111903927204576572842778437276.html?mod=djemEditorialPage_h

2. Salazar's Priorities

A case study in green limits on job creation.

Editorial, WSJ, Sep 23, 2011

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111904060604576573000173005420.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_AboveLEFTTop

3. Offshore Drilling Hasn't Recovered

Rep Jeff Landry (R.La.) Letter, WSJ Sep 22, 2011

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111904106704576582633285896572.html?mod=ITP_opinion_1

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NEWS YOU CAN USE:

Climategate Continued

Brian Hoskins and the Times Atlas

By Steve McIntyre, Climate Audit, Sep 22, 2011

<http://climateaudit.org/2011/09/22/brian-hoskins-and-the-times-atlas/>

Appeal of UEA’s Yamal FOI Refusal

By Steve McIntyre, Climate Audit, Sep 19, 2011

<http://climateaudit.org/2011/09/19/appeal-of-ueas-yamal-foi-refusal/>

[SEPP Comment: Seeking the missing tree ring data and why it disappeared.]

Challenging the Orthodoxy

Torpedoing Of the Use of the Global Average Surface Temperature Trend as The Diagnostic For Global Warming

By Roger Pielke, Sr, Pielke Climate Science, Sep 20, 2011

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

How to get expelled from school — Ian Plimer's new book

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Sep 24, 2011

<http://joannenova.com.au/2011/09/how-to-get-expelled-from-school-ian-plimers-new-book/#more-17306>

Dr David Evans: Four fatal pieces of evidence

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Sep 21, 2011

<http://joannenova.com.au/2011/09/dr-david-evans-four-fatal-pieces-of-evidence/>

The New Deniers

By Richard Haddad, American Thinker, Sep 17, 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/the_new_deniers.html

[SEPP Comment: If there is a consensus of scientists, as the US National Research Council claims, then why does it not precisely define what this consensus agrees to?]

Defending the Orthodoxy

Uncertain climate models impair long-term climate strategies

By Staff Writers, SPX, Sep 20, 2011

http://www.terraviva.com/reports/Uncertain_climate_models_impair_long_term_climate_strategies_999.html

[SEPP Comment: Continuing failure to test the most basic assumption: is the net feedback positive or negative. If it is negative, the uncertainty of climate models is moot – they are all wrong.]

Boulder scientists: Climate's 'missing heat' locked deep in the ocean

NCAR study explains context of controversial email

By Laura Snider, Daily Camera, Sep 19, 2011 [H/t Paul Chesser]

http://www.dailycamera.com/boulder-county-news/ci_18932226

“Missing” Global Heat May Hide In Deep Oceans

By Deborah Zabarenko, World Environment News, Sep 19, 2011 [H/t Hugh Sharman]

<http://planetark.org/wen/63311>

[SEPP Comment: According to our computer models it is there, therefore it must be hiding where we cannot find it. Heat is so clever!]

Welcome to the Carbon Cult

Hot-headed they may be, but the Thomas Friedmans of our world aren't exactly "on fire."

By Ross Kaminsky, American Spectator, Sep 19, 2011 [H/t Warren Wetmore]

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/09/19/the-carbon-cults-price-signal>

Questioning the Orthodoxy

Can We Really Call Climate Science A Science?

By Paul Roderick Gregory, Forbes, Sep 18, 2011 [H/t Anthony Watts, WUWT]

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/paulroderickgregory/2011/09/18/can-we-really-call-climate-science-a-science/>

Questioning European Green

Wind power: a policy spinning out of control

Telegraph View: The Government's policy on renewable energy is based on dogma not evidence.

Editorial, Sunday Telegraph, UK, Sep 18, 2011 [H/t Gordon Fulks]

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/telegraph-view/8771172/Wind-power-a-policy-spinning-out-of-control.html>

Wind farm paid £1.2 million to produce no electricity

A wind farm has been paid £1.2 million not to produce electricity for eight-and-a-half hours.

By Edward Malnick and Robert Mendick, Telegraph, UK, Sep 17, 2011 [H/t Gordon Fauks]

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/energy/windpower/8770937/Wind-farm-paid-1.2-million-to-produce-no-electricity.html>

Foreign firms reap £500m a year in subsidies from UK wind farms

Two thirds of wind turbines in the UK are owned by foreign companies, raking in half a billion pounds in subsidies added to household bills.

By Edward Malnick and Robert Mendick, Telegraph, UK, Sep 18, 2011

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/energy/windpower/8770620/Foreign-firms-reap-500m-a-year-in-subsidies-from-UK-wind-farms.html>

Watermelons v the Shale Gas Miracle

By James Delingpole, Telegraph, UK, Sep 23, 2011 [H/t GWPF]

<http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/jamesdelingpole/100106839/watermelons-v-the-shale-gas-miracle/>

Expanding the Orthodoxy

Obama Signed Exec Order Mandating US Comply With Kyoto

Howard Dean, Audio Recording, [H/t Bill Readdy]

<http://www.breitbart.tv/howard-dean-obama-signed-exec-order-mandating-us-comply-with-kyoto/>

[SEPP Comment: If correct, a more accurate statement would be that US government agencies must comply with Kyoto, even though it is not a treaty recognized by the US government – it has never been approved by the US Senate as required by the Constitution.]

Problems within the Orthodoxy

US sees global discord on climate action

By Staff Writers, AFP, Sept 19, 2011

http://www.terradaily.com/reports/US_sees_global_discord_on_climate_action_999.html

Delay climate treaty until 2015?

By Staff Writers, UPI, Sep 21, 2011

http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Delay_climate_treaty_until_2015_999.html

Tinkering with climate

Geoengineering would remake the atmosphere with tons of particulates

By Lawrence Solomon, Financial Post, Sep 23, 2011

<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/09/23/lawrence-solomon-tinkering-with-climate/>

Seeking a Common Ground

State Climatologist of Georgia Ousting: Was It Justified? ('Skepticism', not only alarmism, can get political)

By Chip Knappenberger, Master Resource, Sep 19, 2011

<http://www.masterresource.org/2011/09/state-climatologist-of-georgia-ousted/>

Communicating Better to the Public – Exaggerate?

World Atlas ice loss claim exaggerated: scientists

By Nina Chestney, Reuters, Sep 19, 2011 [H/t Bud Bromley]
<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/09/19/us-atlas-ice-idUSTRE78I4UG20110919>

Times Atlas publishers apologise for 'incorrect' Greenland ice statement

HarperCollins says it stands by the accuracy of the maps, but the media release suggesting 15% of Greenland's permanent ice cover had melted was incorrect

By Fiona Harvey, Guardian, UK, Sep 20, 2011 [H/t Anthony Watts, WUWT]
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/sep/20/times-atlas-incorrect-greenland>

Exaggerations about climate change

Scientists claim that the new Times Atlas has got it wrong on the melting of the Greenland icesheet. What other exaggerations have been made about climate change?

By Louise Gray, Telegraph UK, Sep 19, 2011
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/earthnews/8774818/Exaggerations-about-climate-change.html>

Models v. Observations

The Rest of the Cherries: 140 decades of Climate Models vs. Observations

By Roy Spencer, His Blog, Sep 22, 2011
<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2011/09/the-rest-of-the-cherries-140-decades-of-climate-models-vs-observations/>

Changing Weather

Deaths From Extreme Weather Events Have Fallen 98 Percent Since the 1920s

By Staff Writers, SPX, Sep 23, 2011
http://www.terraily.com/reports/Deaths_From_Extreme_Weather_Events_Have_Fallen_98_Percent_Since_the_1920s_999.html

[SEPP Comment: Economic development, with great improvements in agriculture, including pesticides, and transportation, have been a boon to human welfare. Great improvements in weather prediction, communication, and reporting have contributed significantly. The statement that extreme weather events are increasing is highly questionable.]

La Nina's Reprise has important implications globally

By Joe Bastardi and Joe D'Aleo, WeatherBell Analytics, Sep 19, 2011
http://icecap.us/images/uploads/La_Nina_Reprise_Implications_on_Upcoming_Winter_Globally.pdf

Changing Climate

New Paper "Land Use/Land Cover Changes And Climate: Modeling Analysis And Observational Evidence" By Pielke Sr Et Al 2011

By Roger Pielke, Sr, Pielke Climate Science, Sep 19, 2011
<http://pielkeclimatesci.wordpress.com/2011/09/19/new-paper-land-use-land-cover-changes-and-climate-modeling-analysis-and-observational-evidence-by-pielke-sr-et-al-2011/>

50-million-year-old clam shells provide indications of future of El Nino phenomenon

By Staff Writers, SPX, Sep 22, 2011
http://www.terraily.com/reports/50_million_year_old_clam_shells_provide_indications_of_future_of_El_Nino_phenomenon_999.html

Changing Seas

Sea Level: Another Thing the IPCC Got Wrong

By David Whitehouse, GWPF, Sep 22, 2011

<http://www.thegwpf.org/the-observatory/3943-sea-level-another-thing-the-ipcc-got-wrong.html>

Aquarius Yields NASA's First Global Map of Ocean Salinity

By Staff Writers, JPL, Sep 23, 2011

http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Aquarius_Yields_NASA_First_Global_Map_of_Ocean_Salinity_999.html

Changing Sea Ice

Daily Mean Temperatures in the Arctic 1958 – 2011

Centre for Ocean and Ice, Danish Meteorological Institute, Accessed Sep 23, 2011

<http://ocean.dmi.dk/arctic/meant80n.uk.php>

Changing Earth

Farmers flee as world's deadliest volcano rumbles

By Nasrullah Roa, AP, Sep 20, 2011 [H/t Gordon Fulks]

<http://news.yahoo.com/farmers-flee-worlds-deadliest-volcano-rumbles-100259369.html>

Agriculture Issues & Fear of Famine

Corn (i.e., CO2RN) v. Drought

By Patrick Michaels, World Climate Report, Sep 23, 2011

<http://www.worldclimaterreport.com/index.php/2011/09/23/corn-ie-co2rn-v-drought/#more-507>

In Scramble for Land, Group Says, Company Pushed Ugandans Out

By Josh Kron, NYT, Sep 17, 2011 [H/t Marc Morano, Climate Depot]

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/22/world/africa/in-scramble-for-land-oxfam-says-ugandans-were-pushed-out.html?_r=2&scp=3&sq=uganda&st=cse

[SEPP Comment: Consequences of multibillion-dollar market in carbon-credit trading. Throw the natives off their land – to prevent global warming and to protect the environment.]

The Political Games Continue

House passes bill forcing analysis, delay of pending EPA rules

By Ben Geman and Pete Kasperowicz, The Hill, Sep 23, 2011

<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/677-e2-wire/183605-house-passes-bill-forcing-analysis-delay-of-epa-regulations>

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar jabs GOP on San Joaquin River pact

By Bettina Boxall, LA Times, Sep 19, 2011

http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/greenspace/2011/09/ken-salazar-san-joaquin-river-restoration.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+GreenspaceEnvironmentBlog+%28Greenspace%29

Cap-and-Trade and Carbon Taxes

Labor censors Dr Dennis Jensen — denies peer reviewed science

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Sep 23, 2011

<http://joannenova.com.au/2011/09/labor-censors-dennis-jensen-denies-peer-reviewed-science/#more-17301>

Subsidies and Mandates Forever

Green dream jobs

Pursuing make-believe green jobs while losing real jobs

By Peter Smith, Quadrant, Sep 22, 2011

<http://www.quadrant.org.au/blogs/doomed-planet/2011/09/green-dream-jobs>

Energy Department finalizes three loan guarantees totaling \$623.9 million

By Andrew Restuccia, The Hill, Sep 23, 2011

<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/677-e2-wire/183641-energy-department-finalizes-three-loan-guarantees>

[SEPP Comment: To government, failure is no obstacle.]

EPA and other Regulators on the March

Gasping for common sense

By Staff Writers, ACSH, Sep 23, 2011

http://www.acsh.org/factsfears/newsID.3028/news_detail.asp

[SEPP Comment: As EPA is justifying its new regulations on the energy industry by making highly questionable claims of health benefits about asthma, Washington is banning cost effect relief for asthma sufferers.]

Unlearned Cap-and-Trade Lessons: EPA's Problematic Cross-State Air Pollution Rule

By Roger Calazza, Master Resource, Sep 22, 2011

<http://www.masterresource.org/2011/09/epa-cross-state-rule-cap-trade/#more-16748>

[SEPP Comment: In establishing a cap-and-trade program in its new regulations of dubious value, EPA ignored its own lessons learned.]

Victory is Sweet, but the War Continues

By Paul Driessen, Townhall, Sep 19, 2011

<http://townhall.com/columnists/pauldriessen/2011/09/19/victory-is-sweet-but-the-war-continues/print>

EPA Indefinitely Delays Power Plant Greenhouse Gas Rules

By Staff Writers, POWERnews, Sep 21, 2011

http://www.powermag.com/POWERnews/4055.html?hq_e=el&hq_m=2287397&hq_l=4&hq_v=5e66050d0

Hearing Finds Little Consensus on Impact of EPA Rules

By Staff Writers, POWERnews, Sep 21, 2011

http://www.powermag.com/POWERnews/4053.html?hq_e=el&hq_m=2287397&hq_l=6&hq_v=5e66050d0

[SEPP Comment: EPA stated benefits are highly questionable.]

EU Studying If Current EU Enviro Laws Apply To Shale Gas

By Alessandro Torello, Dow Jones, Sep 22, 2011

<http://www.foxbusiness.com/markets/2011/09/22/eu-studying-if-current-eu-enviro-laws-apply-to-shale-gas/>

Scientists find holes in Klamath River dam removal plan

\$1.4-billion project — dismantling four hydroelectric dams to restore Chinook salmon runs in the upper Klamath River — amounts to an experiment with no guarantee of success, independent report says.

By Bettina Boxall, Los Angeles Times, Jun 24, 2011

<http://articles.latimes.com/2011/jun/25/local/la-me-klamath-20110625>

[SEPP Comment: No evaluation of the destruction of agriculture or value of the power produced.]

The Return of the Elwha River

Editorial, NYT, Sep 21, 2011

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/22/opinion/the-return-of-the-elwha-river.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=tha211>

[SEPP Comment: In its claimed race against China to be the leader in renewable power, the US government is tearing down dams while China is building them.]

Energy Issues

The great energy debate

By Martin Livermore, Scientific Alliance, Sep 22, 2011

<http://www.scientific-alliance.org/scientific-alliance-newsletter/great-energy-debate>

EIA: World Generation to Increase 84% in 25 Years

By Staff Writers, POWERnews, Sep 21, 2011

http://www.powermag.com/POWERnews/4046.html?hq_e=el&hq_m=2287397&hq_l=7&hq_v=5e66050d0

Why CO2 Remains a Major Concern

By Donn Dears, Power For USA, Sep 23, 2011

<http://dddusmma.wordpress.com/>

The greening of China a mirage

By John Lee, The Australian, Sep 19, 2011 [H/t Gordon Fulks]

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/opinion/the-greening-of-china-a-mirage/story-e6frgd0x-1226140342005>

[SEPP Comment: *The difference between what China states and what it does.*]

Oil and Natural Gas – the Future or the Past?

New Fields May Propel Americas to Top of Oil Companies' Lists

By Simon Romero, NYT, Sep 19, 2011

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/20/world/americas/recent-discoveries-put-americas-back-in-oil-companies-sights.html?_r=1&nl=todaysheadlines&emc=tha2

[SEPP Comment: *The NYT report ignores the large discoveries in the Gulf of Mexico.*]

A Tragic Tale Of Two States On Shale Gas

By Bernard Weinstein, IBD, Sep 21, 2011

<http://www.investors.com/NewsAndAnalysis/Article.aspx?id=585600&p=1>

Polish Shale Gas Flares

By Marynia Kruk, WSJ, Sep 19, 2011

<http://blogs.wsj.com/emergingeuropa/2011/09/19/polish-shale-gas-flares/>

[SEPP Comment: *May be behind a pay wall.*]

Administration's Control of Oil and Gas

Drill, Cuba, Drill

Editorial, IBD, Sep 22, 2011

<http://www.investors.com/NewsAndAnalysis/Article.aspx?id=585768&p=1>

Return of King Coal?

EIA Projections Confirm the Cornerstone Role of Coal

By Frank Clemente, Energy Facts Weekly Sep 22, 2011

<http://us1.campaign-archive1.com/?u=29bc7d5d85828d574f86c157a&id=47d82cf8b1&e=>

Nuclear Energy and Fears

IAEA Projects Slower Nuclear Growth After Fukushima

By Alan McDonald & Holger Rogner, IAEA, Sep 22, 2011

<http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/2011/nuclgrowth.html>

Nuclear pull-out to cost Germany 250 billion euros: study

By Staff Writers, AFP, Sept 19, 2011

http://www.nuclearpowerdaily.com/reports/Nuclear_pull-out_to_cost_Germany_250_billion_euros_study_999.html

[SEPP Comment: Emotional decisions by political leaders can cost a nation dearly.]

Siemens to quit nuclear industry

By Staff Writers, BBC News, Sep 18, 2011 [H/t Michael Schlesinger]

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-14963575>

[SEPP Comment: What a waste!]

Japan promises 'safer nuclear future'

By Staff Writers, AFP, Sept 19, 2011

http://www.nuclearpowerdaily.com/reports/Japan_promises_safer_nuclear_future_999.html

China to restart nuclear projects in 2012: report

By Staff Writers, AFP, Sept 21, 2011

http://www.nuclearpowerdaily.com/reports/China_to_restart_nuclear_projects_in_2012_report_999.html

Despite Fukushima, India bullish on nuclear

By Staff Writers, AFP, Sept 21, 2011

http://www.nuclearpowerdaily.com/reports/Despite_Fukushima_India_bullish_on_nuclear_999.html

Alternative, Green (“Clean”) Energy

Scotland's sweeping green energy ambitions

If it is up to the Scottish government, the waters around Scotland will become the green energy powerhouse of Europe. The country has formulated highly ambitious renewable energy targets. These will have to be met by an offshore wind power revolution in the rough Scottish waters. The Scottish Green European Energy Centre gives an overview of the plans.

By Staff Writers, Scottish Green European Energy Centre, Sep 19, 2011

http://www.europeanenergyreview.eu/site/pagina.php?id_mailing=205&toegang=eae27d77ca20db309e056e3d2dcd7d69&id=3222

Promise from green jobs overstated, harms ignored

By Gabriel Calzada, Daily Caller, Sep 19, 2011 [H/t John Droz, Jr.]

<http://dailycaller.com/2011/09/05/promise-from-green-jobs-overstated-harms-ignored/#ixzz1YQczuuHs>

Biomass vs. Fossil Fuels: Thinking of CO2 Emissions in Terms of Nature’s “Battery”

By Indur Goklany, Master Resource, Sep 21, 2011

<http://www.masterresource.org/2011/09/biomass-vs-fossil-fuels-co2-battery/>

[SEPP Comment: Amusing take on biomass.]

The Broken Planet Fallacy

The Solyndra boondoggle illustrates the folly of treating global warming as an economic blessing.

By Jacob Sullum, Reason, Sep 21, 2011

<http://reason.com/archives/2011/09/21/the-broken-planet-fallacy>

[SEPP Comment: Global Warming may be an economic blessing, but not as viewed by the author.]

Blame China for Solyndra's Downfall?

By Marlo Lewis, Global Warming.org, Sep 22, 2011

<http://www.globalwarming.org/2011/09/22/blame-china-for-solyndras-downfall/>

[SEPP Comment: Poor financial planning is poor financial planning no matter who does it.]

Solar circa 1994: What Has Really Changed? (Remembering Enron's hoodwink in the age of Solyndra)

By Robert Bradley Jr, Master Resource, Sep 20, 2011

<http://www.masterresource.org/2011/09/solar-circa-1994-enron/>

[SEPP Comment: How soon they forget.]

Market Risks Are Seen in Energy Innovations

By Matthew Wald, NYT, Sep 15, 2011

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/16/science/earth/16loan.html?ref=science>

[SEPP Comment: When in doubt, equivocate.]

Review of Recent Scientific Articles by NIPCC

For a full list of articles see www.NIPCCreport.org

A 2300-Year History of the South American Summer Monsoon

Reference: Bird, B.W., Abbott, M.B., Vuille, M., Rodbell, D.T., Stansell, N.D. and Rosenmeier, M.F. 2011. A 2,300-year-long annually resolved record of the South American summer monsoon from the Peruvian Andes. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* 108: 8583-8588.

<http://www.nipccreport.org/articles/2011/sep/21sep2011a3.html>

“In conclusion, there is yet more evidence pointing to the likelihood that the Medieval Warm Period of a thousand or so years ago was equally as warm as, or maybe even a little warmer than, the Current Warm Period has been to date.

The Little Ice Age in East Antarctica

Reference: Li, Y., Cole-Dai, J. and Zhou, L. 2009. Glaciochemical evidence in an East Antarctica ice core of a recent (AD 1450-1850) neoglacial episode. *Journal of Geophysical Research* 114: 10.1029/2008JD011091.

<http://www.nipccreport.org/articles/2011/sep/20sep2011a5.html>

A Review of Global Warming and Malaria

Reference: Reiter, P. 2008. Global warming and malaria: knowing the horse before hitching the cart. *Malaria Journal* 7 (Supplement 1): 10.1186/1475-2875-7-S1-S3.

<http://www.nipccreport.org/articles/2011/sep/20sep2011a4.html>

Surviving the Warmth of the Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum

Reference: McInerney, F.A. and Wing, S.L. 2011. The Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum: A perturbation of carbon cycle, climate, and biosphere with implications for the future. *Annual Review of Earth and Planetary Sciences* 39: 489-516.

<http://www.nipccreport.org/articles/2011/sep/20sep2011a3.html>

Other Scientific News

Nobel Laureate may have suppressed evidence on radiation effects in 1946

By Staff Writers, SPX, Sep 22, 2011

[http://www.spacemart.com/reports/Nobel Laureate may have suppressed evidence on radiation effects in 1946 999.html](http://www.spacemart.com/reports/Nobel_Laureate_may_have_suppressed_evidence_on_radiation_effects_in_1946_999.html)

[SEPP Comment: The linear no-threshold model may have been based on suppression of contradicting data.]

A big step towards the redefinition of the kelvin

By Staff Writers,SPX, Sep 22, 2011

[http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/A big step towards the redefinition of the kelvin 999.html](http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/A_big_step_towards_the_redefinition_of_the_kelvin_999.html)

Scientists reconstruct evolutionary history of mollusks

By Staff Writers, SPX, Sep 19, 2011

[http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Scientists reconstruct evolutionary history of mollusks 999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Scientists_reconstruct_evolutionary_history_of_mollusks_999.html)

[SEPP Comment: Apparently the branch of mollusks that are considered the most intelligent, octopi and squids, are lower in the evolutionary tree than clams and oysters. Could humans have evolved from a lower branch of the evolutionary tree?]

Understanding methane's seabed escape

By Staff Writers, SPX, Sep 21, 2011

[http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Understanding methane seabed escape 999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Understanding_methane_seabed_escape_999.html)

[SEPP Comment: What happened when the earth was warmer than today?]

Tree resin captures evolution of feathers on dinosaurs and birds

By Staff Writers, SPX, Sep 19, 2011

[http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Tree resin captures evolution of feathers on dinosaurs and birds 999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Tree_resin_captures_evolution_of_feathers_on_dinosaurs_and_birds_999.html)

Other News that May Be of Interest

Journey to the lower mantle and back

By Staff Writers, SPX, Sep 19, 2011

[http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Journey to the lower mantle and back 999.html](http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Journey_to_the_lower_mantle_and_back_999.html)

[SEPP Comment: A new view of the carbon cycle?]

Cities to grab lands equaling size of Mongolia In next 20 years

By Staff Writers, SPX, Sep 19, 2011

[http://www.seeddaily.com/reports/Cities to grab lands equaling size of Mongolia In next 20 years 999.html](http://www.seeddaily.com/reports/Cities_to_grab_land_equaling_size_of_Mongolia_in_next_20_years_999.html)

[SEPP Comment: Urbanization of world will continue. Ignored in the study is population movement from rural areas to urban areas reduces population in rural areas. With a given population number, this shift should be beneficial.]

TUM scientists document aquatic species decline at dams and weirs

By Staff Writers, SPX, Sep 19, 2011

[http://www.terradaily.com/reports/TUM scientists document aquatic species decline at dams and weirs 999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/TUM_scientists_document_aquatic_species_decline_at_dams_and_weirs_999.html)

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BELOW THE BOTTOM LINE:

At CIA, Climate Change is a Secret

By Steven Aftergood, Secrecy News, Sep 22, 2011

<http://www.fas.org/blog/secretcy/>

[SEPP Comment: Could it be they have a secret agreement not to reveal the IPCC data and models they use?]

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ARTICLES:

1. 'High School Physics'

Another Nobel laureate breaks from the climate change pack.

Editorial, WSJ, Sep 18, 2011

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111903927204576572842778437276.html?mod=djemEditorialPage_h

That's how Al Gore described the science of climate change this week, by which we suppose he meant it's elementary and unchallengeable. Well, Mr. Vice President, meet Ivar Giaever, a 1973 physics Nobel Laureate who resigned last week from the American Physical Society in protest over the group's insistence that evidence of man-made global warming is "incontrovertible."

In an email to the society, Mr. Giaever—who works at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute—wrote that "The claim (how can you measure the average temperature of the whole earth for a whole year?) is that the temperature has changed from ~288.0 to ~288.8 degree Kelvin in about 150 years, which (if true) means to me . . . that the temperature has been amazingly stable, and both human health and happiness have definitely improved in this 'warming' period."

Mr. Giaever was an American Physical Society fellow, an honor bestowed on "only half of one percent" of the members, according to a spokesman. He follows in the footsteps of University of California at Santa Barbara Emeritus Professor of Physics Harold Lewis, a former APS fellow who resigned in 2010, calling global warming "the greatest and most successful pseudoscientific fraud I have seen in my long life as a physicist."

Other dissenters include Stanford University physicist and Nobelist Robert B. Laughlin, deceased green revolution icon and Nobelist Norman Borlaug, Princeton physicist William Happer and World Federation of Scientists President Antonino Zichichi. Our point is not that all of these men agree on climate change, much less mankind's contribution to it, only that to one degree or another they maintain an open mind about warming or what to do about it.

One of the least savory traits of climate-change advocates is how they've tried to bully anyone who keeps an open mind. This is true of many political projects, but it is or ought to be anathema to the scientific method. With the cap-and-trade movement stymied, Mr. Gore and the climate clan have become even more arch in their dismissals of anyone who disagrees. Readers can decide who they'd rather study physics with—Professor Giaever, or Mr. Gore's list of politically certified instructors.

2. Salazar's Priorities

A case study in green limits on job creation.

Editorial, WSJ, Sep 23, 2011

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111904060604576573000173005420.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_AboveLEFTTop

These columns have described the plight of Keystone XL, a proposed oil pipeline that could become an artery carrying Canadian oil to refineries in the Gulf of Mexico, as well as a source of thousands of U.S. jobs—if the Obama Administration didn't have to fend off the President's environmentalist supporters.

Now comes word of a similar saga in Arizona over uranium, in which Administration officials seem to be disregarding their own staff scientists' conclusions.

At issue are uranium-mining rights in about one million acres of federal land bordering Grand Canyon National Park. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) estimates that the area contains some 375 million pounds of high-grade uranium ore. That's the energy equivalent of 13 billion barrels of oil—the amount of recoverable oil in Alaska's Prudhoe Bay, the largest oil field in North America.

An independent industry report found that producing the entire uranium endowment of these lands would have a total economic impact of \$29.4 billion over the project's 42-year duration. The boon would be welcome in a sparsely populated area of Arizona where skilled jobs are scarce. The USGS says the land has "the potential of becoming the second most important uranium-producing region in the United States."

But the Department of Interior needs to give its blessing before mining can go forward. In response to concerns raised by environmental groups, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar announced in July 2009 that he was considering withdrawing the land from mineral entry for 20 years. New mining claims were put on hold for two years while Mr. Salazar's staff studied the issue.

And studied, and studied. After months of consultation with federal, tribal and local authorities, thousands of comments, and dozens of public meetings, the Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) issued its verdict this February, in a draft environmental impact statement of more than 1,000 pages. The conclusion? Mining would do little irreparable harm.

That didn't sway Mr. Salazar, who announced in June that he intended to go ahead with the 20-year withdrawal. "Cautious development with strong oversight could help us answer critical questions about water quality and environmental impacts of uranium mining in the area," he said. The BLM's final impact statement is due by the end of October, after which Mr. Salazar will issue his final decision.

The Interior Secretary's doggedness would almost be admirable if it didn't fly so clearly against his own staff's environmental analysis. Mr. Salazar cited "water quality concerns raised by downstream water users" in his June announcement. Ensuring a safe water supply should be a primary consideration; the Colorado River provides drinking water for one in 12 Americans and feeds some 15% of the nation's crops. But the draft impact statement finds "none to negligible" effect on ground- and surface water from uranium mining.

Mr. Salazar is disregarding the law as much as the science. Some 10% of the lands being considered for withdrawal were set aside in a 1984 agreement between government and industry for "multiple use," which includes uranium mining. That agreement has ensured that northern Arizona's abundant mineral resources are put to economic use without endangering the Grand Canyon or residents' livelihoods. Mr. Salazar threatens to cast it aside.

For decades the U.S. political system has tried to balance the interests of the environment against the need for economic growth and jobs. The Arizona fiasco is one more example of how the Obama Administration has tilted that balance at the cost of jobs.

3. Offshore Drilling Hasn't Recovered

Rep Jeff Landry (R.La.) Letter, WSJ Sep 22, 2011

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111904106704576582633285896572.html?mod=I TP_opinion_1

Your article "Oil Drilling Rebounds in Gulf After Spill" (page one, Sept. 15) paints a picture that offshore drilling has returned to "near-normal" levels and that a burst of activity is occurring in the Gulf Coast region. That depiction isn't a reflection of the reality facing companies here.

As a result of the Obama administration's moratorium, 11 offshore rigs scheduled to drill in the Gulf have relocated to countries like Brazil, Nigeria, Egypt, Congo, French Guiana and Liberia. There were more than 500 American jobs associated with each rig. According to an FBR Capital Markets report, approximately 20 deep-water drilling rigs could also exit the Gulf if the federal government doesn't accelerate the permitting process.

Greater New Orleans Inc. reports that deep-water permit issuance is 39% below the monthly averages observed over the past three years. Furthermore, the current "de facto" moratorium stifles shallow-water operations that weren't to be affected by the original deep-water moratorium. Reports indicate that new shallow-water permit issuance is 80% lower than historical averages.

It is great news that several companies recently have made significant natural resource discoveries in the deep water of the Gulf. However, potential resource finds don't necessarily equate to activity. In fact, tapping into these newfound resources may not occur in a timely manner because of the federal government's inability to properly permit all the necessary facets of the entire oil and gas operation in the Outer Continental Shelf.

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