

**The Week That Was: 2014-04-26 (April 26, 2014)**  
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**The Science and Environmental Policy Project**

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**Quote of the Week:** *Science is not concerned only with things that we understand. The most exciting and creative parts of science are concerned with things that we are still struggling to understand. Wrong theories are not an impediment to the progress of science. They are a central part of the struggle.* Freeman Dyson

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**Number of the Week:** 156,500 to 205,300

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**9th International Conference on Climate Change**

July 7 – 9 -- Las Vegas, Nevada

Includes the Findings of the New Report by the Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC) *Climate Change Reconsidered II*, Volumes 1, 2, and 3

<http://climateconference.heartland.org/>

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**SEPP'S APRIL FOOLS AWARD**  
**THE JACKSON**

SEPP is conducting its annual vote for the recipient of the coveted trophy, a piece of coal, The Jackson. Readers are asked to nominate and vote for who they think is most deserving following these criteria:

- The nominee has advanced, or proposes to advance, significant expansion of governmental power, regulation, or control over the public or significant sections of the general economy.
- The nominee does so by declaring such measures are necessary to protect public health, welfare, or the environment.
- The nominee declares that physical science supports such measures.
- The physical science supporting the measures is flimsy at best, and possibly non-existent.

The first two recipients, Lisa Jackson and Barack Obama, are not candidates. Due to the late announcement, the voting will close on May 16. Please send your nominee and a brief reason why the person is qualified for the honor to [Ken@Haapala.com](mailto:Ken@Haapala.com). Thank you.

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**THIS WEEK:**

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

**Blunders:** The Quote of the Week is from Freeman Dyson's review of the book, **Brilliant Blunders: From Darwin to Einstein—Colossal Mistakes by Great Scientists That Changed Our Understanding of Life and the Universe** by Mario Livio. Dyson writes: *Science consists of facts and theories. Facts and theories are born in different ways and are judged by different standards. Facts are supposed to be true or false. They are discovered by observers or experimenters. A scientist who claims to have discovered a fact that turns out to be wrong is judged harshly. One wrong fact is enough to ruin a career.*

*Theories have an entirely different status. They are free creations of the human mind, intended to describe our understanding of nature. Since our understanding is incomplete, theories are provisional. Theories are tools of understanding, and a tool does not need to be precisely true in order to be useful. Theories are supposed to be more-or-less true, with plenty of room for disagreement. A scientist who invents a theory that turns out to be wrong is judged leniently. Mistakes are tolerated, so long as the culprit is willing to correct them when nature proves them wrong.*

The critical issue is correcting the blunders to advance knowledge. In his book, **The Great Global Warming Blunder**, Roy Spencer details his view that the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and the scientists and organizations that support it, blundered by confusing cause with effect in establishing climate feedbacks from the slight amount of warming that increased atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) may cause.

Some may disagree Spencer's views. But, as presented by Nir Shaviv and discussed numerous times in TWTW (e.g. April 12, 2014) the Climate Establishment has not advanced the knowledge of the impact on earth's temperatures from a doubling of CO<sub>2</sub> in 35 years. Since the 1979 Charney et al. report to the US National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences through 5 IPCC Assessment Reports, the estimate remains 1.5°C to 4.5°C, (3 to 8°F), except for bump in the lower bound in 2007, since withdrawn,

The failure to advance knowledge is not from the lack of funding. According to reports to Congress from Federal government entities, since 1993 the US, alone, has spent over \$35 Billion on what the government entities classify as climate science. Herein is a problem. The Climate Establishment has become a bureaucracy that cannot admit it has greatly overestimated the impact of increasing CO<sub>2</sub>. To do so would undermine the justification for the funding of the bureaucracy. See links under Seeking a common ground and <http://www.sciencebits.com/AR5-FirstImpressions>  
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**NIPCC:** The latest report of the Nongovernmental Panel International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC), **Climate Change Reconsidered II: Biological Impacts**, continues to receive press coverage, to include comparisons between the reports from NIPCC and from the UN- IPCC. See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy -- NIPCC  
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**Climate Models:** On the Global Warming Policy Foundation blog, David Whitehouse discusses the failure of the IPCC to discard models that clearly have no predictive value. The average of the models used greatly overestimate the increase in temperatures from additional CO<sub>2</sub>. The continued use of these models illustrates a failure in IPCC methodology – procedures. Discarding models that greatly overestimate warming would result in a significant reduction in the upper bound of climate sensitivity estimates. Such action would render many climate issues, such as species extinction, moot. The huge amounts of money provided by climate alarm would shrink, endangering many climate researchers.

Climate modelers have evaded the issue by discussing the number of years of no significant warming that are necessary before the models are shown to be invalid. Their interpretation of the issue assumes that which must be proven, is true. It is classic example of the logical fallacy *petitio principii*.

The right question is: what is the predictive power of the models? The answer is climate models have no predictive power. The models greatly overestimate the warming from increasing CO2. Why should the public accept IPCC reports when the IPCC relies on long-term projections from models that clearly fail in the short-term and have been failing for over a decade? The public would not trust an investment advisor with such a track record. Why should it trust the UN-IPCC or any organization with such a track record?

The insistence by the Climate Establishment that they are correct, without being able to scientifically demonstrate why they are correct, will undermine the public's trust in science. Betraying this trust is a great disservice to science. See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy – NIPCC and Challenging the Orthodoxy.

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**IPCC Challenges:** Representatives of some developing countries are expressing anger at the full UN-IPCC mitigation report from Working Group III, which was released on April 15. The Summary for Policymakers was released on April 13. According to reports the anger stems from the full report classifying countries into three categories: low-level income, middle-level income and high-level income countries, rather than two categories developing countries and developed countries, which were previously used. Representatives of Bolivia, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Iraq, Egypt, Venezuela, the Maldives, Bahamas, Syria, and Jordan are saying the income-based grouping of countries is not consistent with the longstanding practice of IPCC. If the effort to control CO2 emissions is successful, these countries may be subject to CO2 emissions restriction.

*“Therefore, the report is giving undue emphasis on emissions from developing countries and negating the huge contribution of developed countries in causing climate change”, according to Chandra Bhushan, deputy director general of the Delhi-based Centre for Science and Environment. He stated the report is an attempt “to negate historical responsibility for causing climate change and, therefore, the Working Group III report has not taken into account adequately the emissions before 1970.”*

Another comment in an article discussing this issue states: *The report was a dishonest attempt to divert attention from the current high level of emissions from rich countries, according to Shreekanth Gupta, an associate professor in the department of economics at Delhi School of Economics and lead author of a chapter on risk and assessment of climate change policies. “IPCC is a pseudo-scientific body and its only purpose to include income-based classification is to bring attention to emerging economies like Brazil, China, India and South Africa, which are trying to lift their people out of energy poverty,” Gupta said. “It wrongly focuses on growth in emissions and not the absolute high levels of emissions or per capita emissions. SPM is totally silent on per capita emissions.”*

It appears that at least one lead author of the UN IPCC report agrees with the views expressed in TWTW that the IPCC is a politically-driven, pseudo-scientific organization. See links under Problems in the Orthodoxy.

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**Military-Industrial-Climate-Complex:** One old joke about the Pentagon is that it is always preparing for the last war. According to reports, the Pentagon is preparing for a war on global warming/climate change. Since global warming has stopped, though it may pick-up again, and climate change has been occurring for hundreds of millions of years, it is not clear what the military strategy will be in fighting this war.

According to reports, retired Navy Rear Adm. David Titley co-wrote an op-ed for Fox News stating: *The parallels between the political decisions regarding climate change we have made and the decisions that led Europe to World War One are striking – and sobering. The decisions made in 1914 reflected political policies pursued for short-term gains and benefits, coupled with institutional hubris, and a failure to imagine and understand the risks or to learn from recent history. In short, climate change could be the Archduke Franz Ferdinand of the 21st century.*

Apparently, Adm. Titley is so concerned with climate change he has not bothered to study climate history. If he had, he would find there is nothing unusual about recent global warming/climate change and modern hurricanes, tornados, floods, droughts, etc.

On another note, the Army announced the planned development of the largest solar array on a military installation to be on Fort Huachuca, Ariz. The location in southern Arizona makes some sense. Tucson Electric Power will fund, own, maintain and operate the project, and contract with the German firm, E.ON Climate and Renewables, for the design, engineering, procurement and construction. E.ON has found that its optimism about the success of solar and wind in Germany was excessive, now it is spreading its talents. At one point E.ON declared that, with 10% market penetration, wind power would not need backup. As electricity prices soar, the German government and public are realizing the error in believing such claims.

Fort Huachuca is home of the U.S. Army Intelligence Center and the U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command (NETCOM)/9th Army Signal Command. The announcement stated the facility is expected to provide 25% of the Fort's electricity. What will the Intelligence Center and Signal Command be doing at night? What are subsidies to Tucson Electric Power? The reports did not say.

This is being done in the name of national energy security. Apparently, news of the shale oil and gas revolution has not reached the halls of the Pentagon, even though it is discussed in such staid publications as *Foreign Affairs*. See links under Expanding the Orthodoxy.

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**Political Comment:** Generally, TWTW avoids political comments such as sources of campaign financing. However, certain politicians, such Senators Boxer and Whitehouse, have belittled the religious beliefs of climate realists such as John Christy and Roy Spencer in feeble attempts to discredit their scientific testimony. These senators, and others, have embraced the promised campaign contributions of \$100 Million by Tom Steyer, an ardent opponent of expansion of the Keystone pipeline.

John Hinderaker of Power Line has explored the sources of Steyer's wealth. Steyer founded and headed, until recently, Farallon Capital Management LLC and its subsidiaries. Farallon is private company with limited public records. According to Hinderaker, Farallon was a major financier of the expansion of coal mines and coal-fired power plants in Australia and Asia. Certain politicians may rail against CO2 emissions but do not object to benefiting from profits derived from them. See links under Questioning Green Elsewhere.

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**Number of the Week:** 156,500 to 205,300. According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics employment in the oil and gas extraction industry grew from a January recession low of 156,500 in January 2010 to 205,300 in January 2014. This growth of 31% in four years, 48,800 jobs, does not include the growth of tens of thousands of jobs that are occurring other industries that are benefiting from the expansion of oil and gas. This growth is occurring in areas not controlled by

Washington. No wonder the environmental industry bitterly opposes modern techniques for extracting oil and gas. See links under Non-Green Jobs and [http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CES1021100001?data\\_tool=XGtable](http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CES1021100001?data_tool=XGtable)

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### **ARTICLES:**

For the numbered articles below, please see this week's TWTW at: [www.sepp.org](http://www.sepp.org). The articles are at the end of the pdf.

#### **1. California's Carbon Spending Rush**

Sacramento proves that cap and trade is about income redistribution.

Editorial, WSJ, Apr 22, 2014

<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702303626804579507840884336078?mg=reno64-wsj&url=http%253A%252F%252Fonline.wsj.com%252Farticle%252FSB10001424052702303626804579507840884336078.html>

#### **2. Book Review: 'A Climate of Crisis' by Patrick Allitt**

Before climate change, 'alarmists' and 'deniers' had it out over hazardous waste, acid rain, the ozone layer and rain forests.

By James Huffman, WSJ, Apr 23, 2014

[http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702304512504579496060586409076?mod=ajemMER\\_h&mg=reno64-wsj](http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702304512504579496060586409076?mod=ajemMER_h&mg=reno64-wsj)

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### **NEWS YOU CAN USE:**

#### ***Science: Is the Sun Rising?***

**New paper finds solar UV is correlated to global mean temperature**

By Staff Writer, The Hockey Schtick, Apr 22, 2014 [H/t WUWT]

<http://hockeyschtick.blogspot.com/2014/04/new-paper-finds-solar-uv-is-correlated.html>

Link to paper: gIUV: a global UV-B radiation data set for macroecological studies

By Michael Beckmann, et al. Methods in Ecology and Evolution, Mar 27, 2014

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/2041-210X.12168/abstract>

[SEPP Comment: A testable causal mechanism needs to be established.]

#### ***Commentary: Is the Sun Rising?***

**Svensmark's Cosmic Theory and Cloud Cover Depictions in Little Ice Age Art.**

By Tim Ball, WUWT, Apr 24, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/04/24/svensmarks-cosmic-theory-and-cloud-cover-depictions-in-little-ice-age-art/>

#### **New paper finds solar activity correlated to hydrological cycle in China**

By Staff Writer, The Hockey Schtick, Apr 24, 2014

[http://hockeyschtick.blogspot.com/2014/04/new-paper-finds-solar-activity\\_24.html](http://hockeyschtick.blogspot.com/2014/04/new-paper-finds-solar-activity_24.html)

Link to paper: Imprint of long-term solar signal in groundwater recharge fluctuation rates from North West China.

By R.K. Tiwari1, and Rekapalli Rajesh Geophysical Research Letters, Apr 24, 2014

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/2014GL060204/abstract>

### ***Climategate Continued***

## **Turney in the Climategate Dossier**

By Steve McIntyre, Climate Audit, Apr 23, 2014

<http://climateaudit.org/2014/04/23/turney-in-the-climategate-dossier/>

Turney appears to have applied the quality control lessons learned at the University of East Anglia to his planning of the Ship of Fools.

## ***Challenging the Orthodoxy -- NIPCC***

### **Dueling Climate Reports as We Celebrate Earth Day**

By H. Leighton Steward, Townhall, Apr 22, 2014

[http://townhall.com/columnists/hleightonsteward/2014/04/22/dueling-climate-reports-as-we-celebrate-earth-day-n1827162?utm\\_source=thdaily&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=nl](http://townhall.com/columnists/hleightonsteward/2014/04/22/dueling-climate-reports-as-we-celebrate-earth-day-n1827162?utm_source=thdaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=nl)

### **High-profile scientists rebut climate change threat**

By Peter Westmore, News Weekly, Apr 26, 2014

<http://www.newsweekly.com.au/article.php?id=56559>

### **Guest Opinion: 'Noble lies' damaging environmentalism**

Over the past few weeks, we've been subjected to a barrage of catastrophic climate change forecasts. To avoid “death, injury, and disrupted livelihoods,” to quote from the recent report of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, we must make costly changes to the way we generate energy.

By Tom Harris, Herald News, Massachusetts, Apr 23, 2014

<http://www.heraldnews.com/article/20140423/OPINION/140428467/2011/OPINION>

### **People and Data Cherry-Picked For the IPCC Political Agenda**

By Tim Ball, WUWT, Apr 20, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/04/20/people-and-data-cherry-picked-for-the-ipcc-political-agenda/>

## ***Challenging the Orthodoxy***

### **7th International Non-Alarmist Climate Conference Sells Out! Yet Not A Single German Media Outlet Shows Up**

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Apr 23, 2014

<http://notrickszone.com/2014/04/23/7th-international-non-alarmist-climate-conference-sells-out-yet-not-a-single-german-media-outlet-shows-up/>

### **Models Behaving Badly,**

By David Whitehouse, GWPF, Apr 23, 2014

<http://www.thegwpf.org/models-behaving-badly/>

### **Scientific Evidence Not A Factor In Decisions To Ignore IPCC Global Warming Threat.**

By Tim Ball, A Different Perspective, Apr 20, 2014

<http://drtimball.com/2014/scientific-evidence-not-a-factor-in-decisions-to-ignore-ipcc-global-warming-threat/>

*[SEPP Comment: The IPCC's 24 years of failure to make correct predictions are as irrelevant to government policy as are the primary interests of the public.]*

### **Can we deduce climate sensitivity from temperature?**

By Christopher Monckton, WUWT, Apr 19, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/04/19/can-we-deduce-climate-sensitivity-from-temperature/>

### **German Interview With Patrick Moore: Greenpeace Living “In An Absolute Dream World”...Poverty Is Biggest Threat**

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Apr 25, 2014

<http://notrickszone.com/2014/04/25/german-interview-of-patrick-moore-greenpeace-living-in-an-absolute-dream-world-poverty-is-biggest-threat/>

### ***Defending the Orthodoxy***

#### **It's the End of the world as We Know It...and He Feels Fine**

By Daniel Smith, New York Times Magazine, Apr 17, 2014

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/20/magazine/its-the-end-of-the-world-as-we-know-it-and-he-feels-fine.html>

“We Are living through the ‘age of ecocide’”...

### ***Questioning the Orthodoxy***

#### **Examiner Editorial: Governments resolved to stop global warming even if it doesn't exist**

Editorial, Washington Examiner, Apr 21, 2014

<http://washingtonexaminer.com/examiner-editorial-governments-resolved-to-stop-global-warming-even-if-it-doesnt-exist/article/2547473>

### **Why Life in the 21st Century Will Be Nasty, Brutish, and Short**

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Apr 24, 2014

<http://joannenova.com.au/2014/04/why-life-in-the-21st-century-will-be-nasty-brutish-and-short/>  
*[SEPP Comment: Discussion of David Archibald's book **Twilight of Abundance**. A global cooling from a decline in solar output will cause grain-growing conditions to move south, resulting in severe shortages in the Mid-East. The two other issues are energy, the author advocates thorium reactors, and Pakistan's continued nuclear program.]*

### ***Social Benefits of Carbon***

#### **Researchers find arid areas absorb unexpected amounts of atmospheric carbon**

By Staff Writers, Pullman WA (SPX), Apr 09, 2014

[http://www.terraily.com/reports/Researchers\\_find\\_arid\\_areas\\_absorb\\_unexpected\\_amounts\\_of\\_atmospheric\\_carbon\\_999.html](http://www.terraily.com/reports/Researchers_find_arid_areas_absorb_unexpected_amounts_of_atmospheric_carbon_999.html)

Greater ecosystem carbon in the Mojave Desert after ten years exposure to elevated CO<sub>2</sub>

By R.D. Evans, et al, Nature Climate Change, Apr 6, 2014

<http://www.nature.com/nclimate/journal/vaop/ncurrent/full/nclimate2184.html>

### **CO<sub>2</sub> makes growing seasons longer**

Elevated greenhouse gas levels, not just rising temperatures, are extending annual plants' life cycles.

By Nicola Jones, Nature, Apr 23, 2014 [H/t Ron Sundelin]

<http://www.nature.com/news/co2-makes-growing-seasons-longer-1.15081>

### **Health Promoting Effects of Elevated CO<sub>2</sub> on Common Food Plants**

By Staff Writers, CO<sub>2</sub> Science and SPPI, Apr 15, 2014

[http://scienceandpublicpolicy.org/originals/health\\_promoting\\_effects\\_of\\_elevated\\_co2\\_on\\_common\\_food\\_plants.html](http://scienceandpublicpolicy.org/originals/health_promoting_effects_of_elevated_co2_on_common_food_plants.html)

### ***Problems in the Orthodoxy***

#### **Climate policy targets revisited**

By Richard S J Tol, VOX, Apr 25, 2014

<http://www.voxeu.org/article/climate-policy-targets-revisited#.U1nwRQrxBxQ.twitter>

#### **Scientists Licking Wounds After Contentious Climate Report Negotiations**

By Eli Kintisch, Science Insider, Apr 22, 2014 [H/t Toshio Fujita]

<http://news.sciencemag.org/climate/2014/04/scientists-licking-wounds-after-contentious-climate-report-negotiations>

#### **‘Censored’ IPCC summary reveals jockeying for key UN climate talks**

By David Stern, The Conversation, AU, Apr 23, 2014

[http://theconversation.com/censored-ipcc-summary-reveals-jockeying-for-key-un-climate-talks-25813?utm\\_source=Weekly+Carbon+Briefing&utm\\_campaign=8each3162a-Carbon+Brief+Weekly+18+7+137+18+2013&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_3ff5ea836a-8each3162a-215218249](http://theconversation.com/censored-ipcc-summary-reveals-jockeying-for-key-un-climate-talks-25813?utm_source=Weekly+Carbon+Briefing&utm_campaign=8each3162a-Carbon+Brief+Weekly+18+7+137+18+2013&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3ff5ea836a-8each3162a-215218249)

#### **Developing nations criticize IPCC report**

IPCC report could force some developing nations, including India, to adhere to binding pollution reductions targets

By Neha Sthi, Live Mint, Apr 22, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.livemint.com/Politics/9FkqOoUn2WhyxHgdI9sHQP/Developing-nations-criticize-IPCC-report.html>

#### **After IPCC Report, What's Next for Climate Groups**

By Alan Neuhauser, US News, April 23, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2014/04/23/after-un-ipcc-report-whats-next-for-climate-advocates>

### ***Seeking a Common Ground***

#### **Skeptical Arguments that Don't Hold Water**

By Roy Spencer, His Blog, Apr 25, 2014

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2014/04/skeptical-arguments-that-dont-hold-water/>

#### **The Case for Blunders**

By Freeman Dyson, New York Review of Books, Mar 6, 2014 [H/t Climate Etc.]

<http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/2014/mar/06/darwin-einstein-case-for-blunders/?pagination=false>

#### **The case for blunders**

By Judith Curry, Climate Etc. Apr 21, 2014

<http://judithcurry.com/2014/04/21/the-case-for-blunders/>

#### **American Thinker Publishes a Stinker**

By Roy Spencer, His Blog, Apr 24, 2014

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2014/04/american-thinker-publishes-a-stinker/>

#### **Can Infrared Radiation Warm a Water Body?**

By Roy Spencer, His Blog, Apr 21, 2014

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2014/04/can-infrared-radiation-warm-a-water-body/>

### ***Review of Recent Scientific Articles by NIPCC***

***For a full list of articles see [www.NIPCCreport.org](http://www.NIPCCreport.org)***

#### **Wheat Production in a CO<sub>2</sub>-Enriched World of the Future**

Reference: Wilcox, J. and Makowski, D. 2014. A meta-analysis of the predicted effects of climate change on wheat yields using simulation studies. *Field Crops Research* 156: 180-190.

<http://www.nipccreport.org/articles/2014/apr/22apr2014a1.html>

#### **Evaluating CFSv2 Seasonal Hindcasts for the Period 1983-2010**

Reference: Silva, G.A.M., Dutra, L.M.M., da Rocha, R.P., Ambrizzi, T. and Leiva, E. 2014. Preliminary analysis on the global features of the NCEP CFSv2 seasonal hindcasts. *Advances in Meteorology* 2014: 10.1155/2014/695067.

<http://www.nipccreport.org/articles/2014/apr/22apr2014a2.html>

#### **The Real Human Impacts on the Corals of Almirante Bay, Panama**

Reference: Seemann, J., Gonzalez, C.T., Carballo-Bolanos, R., Berry, K., Heiss, G.A., Struck, U. and Leinfelder, R.R. 2014. Assessing the ecological effects of human impacts on coral reefs in Bocas del Toro, Panama. *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment* 186: 1747-1763.

<http://www.nipccreport.org/articles/2014/apr/22apr2014a3.html>

#### **Four Centuries of Reconstructed Streamflow Data for a Utah River**

Reference: Allen, E.B., Rittenour, T.M., DeRose, R.J., Bekker, M.F., Kjelgren, R. and Buckley, B.M. 2013. A tree-ring based reconstruction of Logan River streamflow, northern Utah. *Water Resources Research* 49: 8579-8588.

<http://www.nipccreport.org/articles/2014/apr/22apr2014a4.html>

### ***Measurement Issues***

#### **Krypton-dating technique allows researchers to accurately date ancient Antarctic ice**

Press Release, NSF, Apr 21, 2014

[http://www.nsf.gov/news/news\\_summ.jsp?cntn\\_id=131136&WT.mc\\_id=USNSF\\_51&WT.mc\\_ev=click](http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=131136&WT.mc_id=USNSF_51&WT.mc_ev=click)

#### **Ice dating from Krypton**

By Anthony Watts. WUWT, Apr 21, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/04/21/ice-dating-from-krypton/>

[SEPP Comment: Further explaining the link immediately above.]

#### **Clean air: Fewer sources for self-cleaning**

By Staff Writers, Julich, Germany (SPX), Apr 22, 2014

[http://www.terraily.com/reports/Clean\\_air\\_Fewer\\_sources\\_for\\_self\\_cleaning\\_999.html](http://www.terraily.com/reports/Clean_air_Fewer_sources_for_self_cleaning_999.html)

Link to paper: Missing Gas-Phase Source of HONO Inferred from Zeppelin Measurements in the Troposphere

By Xin Li et al. Science, Apr 18, 2014

<http://www.sciencemag.org/content/344/6181/292.abstract>

### ***Changing Weather***

**What a winter - media instead focuses on bogus UN IPCC model fiction and the hollywood ignorati**

By Joseph D'Aleo, ICECAP, Apr 17, 2014  
[http://icecap.us/index.php/go/joes-blog/what\\_a\\_winter/](http://icecap.us/index.php/go/joes-blog/what_a_winter/)

### **Tornado season so far may be the slowest in a century**

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Apr 21, 2014  
<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/04/21/tornado-season-so-far-may-be-slowest-in-a-century/>

### **Tornado Op-Ed in the WSJ**

By Roger Pielke Jr, His Blog, Apr 25, 2014  
<http://rogerpielkejr.blogspot.com/2014/04/tornado-op-ed-in-wsj.html>

Link to WSJ Article: The Decline of Tornado Devastation

Despite what you might have heard about 'extreme weather events,' damage and loss of life from twisters is in retreat.

By Roger Pielke Jr, WSJ, Apr 24, 2014  
<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702303603904579495581998804074>

Uncertain if the link will work for those without a subscription

### ***Changing Climate***

#### **Today's Antarctic region once as hot as California, Florida**

By Staff Writers, New Haven CT (SPX), Apr 23, 2014  
[http://www.terraily.com/reports/Todays\\_Antarctic\\_region\\_once\\_as\\_hot\\_as\\_California\\_Florida\\_999.html](http://www.terraily.com/reports/Todays_Antarctic_region_once_as_hot_as_California_Florida_999.html)

Link to paper: Pronounced zonal heterogeneity in Eocene southern high-latitude sea surface temperatures.

By Peter M.J. Douglas, et al. PNAS,  
<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2014/04/16/1321441111.abstract?sid=416fb7a8-dbf3-43d0-9dba-8b4bbcf0c1a0>

*[SEPP Comment: This is not news to geologists who are skeptical about human caused global warming.]*

#### **Air temperature influenced African glacial movements**

By Staff Writers, Hanover NH (SPX), Apr 19, 2014  
[http://www.terraily.com/reports/Air\\_temperature\\_influenced\\_African\\_glacial\\_movements\\_999.html](http://www.terraily.com/reports/Air_temperature_influenced_African_glacial_movements_999.html)

*[SEPP Comment: During the last glaciation.]*

### ***Changing Seas***

#### **Slowing sea level rise**

By Judith Curry, Climate Etc. Apr 24, 2014  
<http://judithcurry.com/2014/04/24/slowing-sea-level-rise/>

#### **New paper finds natural Pacific Decadal Oscillation controlled Myanmar climate during 20th century**

By Staff Writer, The Hockey Schtick, Apr 23, 2014  
<http://hockeyschtick.blogspot.com/2014/04/new-paper-finds-natural-pacific-decadal.html>

Link to paper:

The climate of Myanmar: evidence for effects of the Pacific Decadal Oscillation

By Rosanne D'Arrigo, and Caroline C. Ummenhofer, International Journal of Climatology, Apr 4, 2014

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/joc.3995/abstract>

**Claim: Odds of storm waters overflowing Manhattan seawall up 20-fold, new study shows**

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Apr 23, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/04/23/claim-odds-of-storm-waters-overflowing-manhattan-seawall-up-20-fold-new-study-shows/>

*[SEPP Comment: The claimed odds are highly suspicious. What if the 1938 Long Island hurricane had hit New York City under the same tidal conditions as Sandy?]*

**Most Of The World's Coastal Population Is In Fact Personally Experiencing Very Little Sea Level Rise**

Sea Level As We Experience It

By Ed Caryl, No Tricks Zone, Apr 22, 2014

<http://notrickszone.com/2014/04/22/most-of-the-worlds-coastal-population-is-in-fact-personally-experiencing-very-little-sea-level-rise/>

**Corals use multiple tricks to adapt to hotter seas**

Genes and physiological acclimation contribute equally to heat resistance.

By Amanda Mascarelli, Nature, Apr 24, 2014

<http://www.nature.com/news/corals-use-multiple-tricks-to-adapt-to-hotter-seas-1.15104>

**Study predicts sea levels in India will rise only 1.57 inches over next 100 years**

By Staff Writer, The Hockey Schtick, Apr 21, 2014

<http://hockeyschtick.blogspot.com/2014/04/study-predicts-sea-levels-in-india-will.html>

Link to newspaper article: Mean sea level along Mumbai to rise by 4 cm in 100 yrs: Study

By Anjali Lukose, Indian Express, Apr 25, 2014

<http://indianexpress.com/article/cities/mumbai/mean-sea-level-along-mumbai-to-rise-by-4-cm-in-100-yrs-study/99/>

*[SEPP Comment: Questionable!]*

***Changing Cryosphere – Land / Sea Ice***

**Current ice conditions don't bode well for Beaufort Sea polar bears**

By Susan Crockford, Polar Bear Science, Apr 18, 2014

<http://polarbearscience.com/2014/04/18/current-ice-conditions-dont-bode-well-for-beaufort-sea-polar-bears/>

*[SEPP Comment: The ice may be too thick for breeding ringed seals to maintain their breathing holes. With no seal pups to eat, what will bears do?]*

**My interview with CNS News: “Alaskan Polar Bears Threatened...By Too Much Spring Ice”**

By Susan Crockford, Polar Bear Science, Apr 25, 2014

<http://polarbearscience.com/2014/04/25/my-interview-with-cns-news-alaskan-polar-bears-threatenedby-too-much-spring-ice/#more-4945>

**New paper finds Alpine glaciers were of similar size during the Medieval Warm Period**

By Staff Writer, The Hockey Schtick, Apr 22, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://hockeyschtick.blogspot.co.uk/2014/04/new-paper-finds-alpine-glaciers-were-of.html>

Link to paper: Little Ice Age climate reconstruction from ensemble reanalysis of Alpine glacier fluctuations

By M. P. Lüthi, Cryosphere, Apr 14, 2014  
<http://www.the-cryosphere.net/8/639/2014/tc-8-639-2014.html>

### ***Changing Earth***

#### **Earth Week: Bark beetles change Rocky Mountain stream flows, affect water quality**

What happens when millions of dead trees, killed by beetles, no longer need water?

By Cheryl Dybas, NSF, Apr 21, 2014

[http://www.nsf.gov/discoveries/disc\\_summ.jsp?cntn\\_id=130951&WT.mc\\_id=USNSF\\_1](http://www.nsf.gov/discoveries/disc_summ.jsp?cntn_id=130951&WT.mc_id=USNSF_1)

### ***Un-Science or Non-Science?***

#### **Florida is 'Ground Zero' for sea level rise**

By Staff Writers, Miami Beach, United States (AFP), April 22, 2014

[http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Florida\\_is\\_Ground\\_Zero\\_for\\_sea\\_level\\_rise\\_999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Florida_is_Ground_Zero_for_sea_level_rise_999.html)

*[SEPP Comment: How did the undisturbed limestone and coquina rock get above sea level?*

*Answer: sea levels higher in the past, without human caused CO2.]*

#### **Is Global Warming a Giant Natural Fluctuation? (Op-Ed)**

By Shaun Lovejoy, Live Science, Apr 22, 2014 [H/t Tom Sheahan]

<http://news.yahoo.com/global-warming-giant-natural-fluctuation-op-ed-013715546.html>

*[SEPP Comment: The author dismisses past warming periods during the Holocene as taking too long. What would he say to the warming after the Younger Dryas? Early 20<sup>th</sup> century warming without much CO2?]*

#### **Lovejoy Global Warming Paper 100% Wrong to Omit Previous Natural Warm Periods Say Friends of Science**

By Staff Writers, ICECAP, Apr 21, 2014

<http://icecap.us/index.php/go/joes->

[blog/lovejoy\\_global\\_warming\\_paper\\_100\\_wrong\\_to\\_omit\\_previous\\_natural\\_warm\\_period/](http://icecap.us/index.php/go/joes-blog/lovejoy_global_warming_paper_100_wrong_to_omit_previous_natural_warm_period/)

*[SEPP Comment: See link immediately above.]*

#### **The Empire of the Viscount Strikes Back!**

By Christopher Monckton, WUWT, Apr 23, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/04/23/the-empire-of-the-viscount-strikes-back/>

*[SEPP Comment: More on the Lovejoy paper.]*

#### **Some Coral May Be Resistant to Climate Change, Researchers Say**

By John Roach, NBC News, Apr 24, 2014 [Clyde Spencer]

<http://www.nbcnews.com/science/environment/some-coral-may-be-resistant-climate-change-researchers-say-n88351>

"If that is true, then perhaps corals around the world have a slightly longer period of time before global ocean warming completely does them in. ... As the oceans warm, they will pick up some of the slack, but we don't know what the limits of that are. We don't know when they are going to get maxed out,"

#### **Wildlife response to climate change is likely underestimated**

By Staff Writers, Amherst MA (SPX), Apr 24, 2014

[http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Wildlife\\_response\\_to\\_climate\\_change\\_is\\_likely\\_underestimated\\_999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Wildlife_response_to_climate_change_is_likely_underestimated_999.html)

*[SEPP Comment: The conclusions are not supported by the observations.]*

### ***Lowering Standards***

#### **The BBC's great confidence trick**

By Andrew Montford, Bishop Hill, Apr 19, 2014

<http://bishophill.squarespace.com/blog/2014/4/19/the-bbcs-great-confidence-trick.html>

So the BBC persists in the great confidence trick that it plays on the public, refusing to define the "science" that is alleged to be settled.

#### **Celebrating bad science**

By Andrew Montford, Bishop Hill, Apr 20, 2014

<http://bishophill.squarespace.com/blog/2014/4/20/celebrating-bad-science.html>

*[SEPP Comment: To bureaucrats in the Climate Establishment, Mr. Mann's hockey stick will never be retired as can be seen in this photo of the President of Yale with the Chairman of the IPCC.]*

#### **Is Asian Pollution Intensifying Pacific Storms? Separating the Hype from Reality.**

By Cliff Mass, Weather Blog, Apr 20, 2014

<http://cliffmass.blogspot.com/2014/04/is-asian-pollution-intensifying-pacific.html>

*[SEPP Comment: A global warming supporter expressing the scientific shortcomings of a paper published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS).]*

#### **Delusions Climatic & Otherwise @ the New York Times**

By Donna Laframboise, NFC, Apr 22, 2014

<http://nofrackingconsensus.com/2014/04/22/delusions-climatic-otherwise-the-new-york-times/>

### ***Communicating Better to the Public – Exaggerate, or be Vague?***

#### **Running Out of Time**

Editorial, NYT, Apr 20, 2014

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/21/opinion/running-out-of-time.html?hp&rref=opinion>

#### **Earth Day 2014: Why the public isn't warming to the climate change debate**

By Karlyn Bowman and Jennifer K. Marsico, Forbes, Apr 17, 2014

<http://www.aei.org/article/politics-and-public-opinion/polls/earth-day-2014-why-the-public-isnt-warming-to-the-climate-change-debate/>

#### **One in Four in U.S. Are Solidly Skeptical of Global Warming**

By Lydia Saad, Gallup Politics, Apr 22, 2014 [H/t WUWT]

<http://www.gallup.com/poll/168620/one-four-solidly-skeptical-global-warming.aspx>

#### **RAHN: The global-warming apocalypses that didn't happen**

The defining moment for climate change has come and gone, again

By Richard Rahn, Washington Times, Apr 21, 2014

[http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/apr/21/rahn-the-world-did-not-end/#.U1Xk\\_D2fKak.gmail](http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/apr/21/rahn-the-world-did-not-end/#.U1Xk_D2fKak.gmail)

### ***Communicating Better to the Public – Make things up.***

#### **No One Cares How Many Predictions Earth Day Founders Got Wrong**

By Chriss Street, Breitbart, Apr 22, 2014

[http://www.breitbart.com/Big-Peace/2014/04/22/No-One-Cares-IF-Earth-Day-Founders-Got-it-Wrong?utm\\_source=e\\_breitbart\\_com&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=Breitbart+News+Roundup%2C+April+23%2C+2014&utm\\_campaign=20140423\\_m120098647\\_Breitbart+News+Roundup%2C+April+23%2C+2014&utm\\_term=More](http://www.breitbart.com/Big-Peace/2014/04/22/No-One-Cares-IF-Earth-Day-Founders-Got-it-Wrong?utm_source=e_breitbart_com&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Breitbart+News+Roundup%2C+April+23%2C+2014&utm_campaign=20140423_m120098647_Breitbart+News+Roundup%2C+April+23%2C+2014&utm_term=More)

*[SEPP Comment: A list of false predictions by those many consider to be prophets.]*

### **Renewable Lies**

By Seldon B. Graham, Jr., American Thinker, Apr, 24, 2014 [H/t Timothy Wise]

[http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2014/04/renewable\\_lies.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2014/04/renewable_lies.html)

### **Why climate deniers are winning: The twisted psychology that overwhelms scientific consensus**

There's a reason why overwhelming evidence hasn't spurred public action against global warming  
By Paul Rosenberg, Salon, Apr 19, 2014

[http://www.salon.com/2014/04/19/why\\_climate\\_deniers\\_are\\_winning\\_the\\_twisted\\_psychology\\_that\\_overwhelms\\_scientific\\_consensus/](http://www.salon.com/2014/04/19/why_climate_deniers_are_winning_the_twisted_psychology_that_overwhelms_scientific_consensus/)

*[SEPP Comment: What **physical** evidence? The author cannot be bothered to honestly state the position of most skeptics.]*

### ***Communicating Better to the Public – Use Propaganda on Children*** **Common Core's Climate Indoctrination**

By James Rust, Master Resource, Apr 21, 2014

<http://www.masterresource.org/2014/04/common-core-climate-indoctrination/>

### **Climate Brainwashing of Children: a rough guide to spotting it happening.**

By John Shade, Climate Lessons, Apr 15, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://climatelessons.blogspot.co.uk/2014/04/climate-brainwashing-of-children-rough.html>

### **Climate Change: A Warming Planet**

By Staff Writers, National Park Service, No Date [H/t David Kreutzer]

<http://www.nps.gov/npsa/forteachers/a-warming-planet.htm>

### ***Expanding the Orthodoxy***

#### **\$3 Mil for Philippine Project to Combat Global Warming in Pacific Rim**

By Staff Writers, Judicial Watch, Apr 17, 2014 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://www.judicialwatch.org/blog/2014/04/3-mil-philippine-project-combat-global-warming-pacific-rim/>

*[SEPP Comment: Spreading tax money around. Part of the \$22.5 Billion in FY 2013 expenditures?]*

### **“Climate Change War” Is Not a Metaphor**

The U.S. military is preparing for conflict, retired Navy Rear Adm. David Titley says in an interview.

By Eric Holthaus, Slate, Apr 18, 2014

[http://www.slate.com/articles/technology/future\\_tense/2014/04/david\\_titley\\_climate\\_change\\_war\\_an\\_interview\\_with\\_the\\_retired\\_rear\\_admiral.single.html](http://www.slate.com/articles/technology/future_tense/2014/04/david_titley_climate_change_war_an_interview_with_the_retired_rear_admiral.single.html)

### **Largest solar array on U.S. military installation to be developed**

By U.S. Army News Release, US Army, Apr 17, 2014

[http://www.army.mil/article/124009/Largest\\_solar\\_array\\_on\\_U\\_S\\_military\\_installation\\_to\\_be\\_developed/](http://www.army.mil/article/124009/Largest_solar_array_on_U_S_military_installation_to_be_developed/)

### ***Questioning European Green***

#### **More Germans Getting Their Power Cut Off Because They Can't Afford Paying Sky-High Green Electric Bills**

By P. Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Apr 19, 2014

<http://notrickszone.com/2014/04/19/more-germans-getting-their-power-cut-off-because-they-cant-afford-paying-sky-high-green-electric-bills/>

#### **Will the wind in Spain blow slower on the plain?**

By Matthew Wall, BBC, Apr 21, 2014 [H/t Scientific Alliance]

<http://www.bbc.com/news/business-27032797>

*[SEPP Comment: The industry feels it is being punished for its success in taking subsidies that are bleeding the government's coffers dry.]*

### ***Questioning Green Elsewhere***

#### **The Epic Hypocrisy of Tom Steyer**

By John Hinderaker, Power Line, Apr 20, 2014 [H/t Rick Phelps]

<http://www.powerlineblog.com/archives/2014/04/the-epic-hypocrisy-of-tom-steyer.php>

#### **Putting People First on Earth Day**

By Anthony J. Sadar, American Thinker, Apr 22, 2014

[http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2014/04/putting\\_people\\_first\\_on\\_earth\\_day.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2014/04/putting_people_first_on_earth_day.html)

#### **The Rise and Fall of Earth Day, a Day No One Notices Anymore**

By Patrick J. Michaels, CATO, Apr 22, 2014

<http://www.cato.org/publications/commentary/rise-fall-earth-day-day-no-one-notices-anymore>

#### **Greenbait**

By Andrew Montford, Bishop Hill, Apr 23, 2014

<http://bishophill.squarespace.com/blog/2014/4/23/greenbait.html>

*[SEPP Comment: On an upcoming book by Ian Plimer.]*

#### **“Happy Earth Day” (Julian Simon 25th anniversary essay speaks to us today)**

By Robert Bradley Jr., Master Resource, April 22, 2014

<http://www.masterresource.org/2014/04/simon-happy-earth-day/>

#### **Happy Earth Day**

By Steven Hayward, Power Line, Apr 22, 2014

<http://www.powerlineblog.com/archives/2014/04/happy-earth-day-3.php>

#### **In observance of the ‘green holy day’ Earth Day: The science of economics versus the religion of environmentalism**

By Mark Perry, AEIdeas, Apr 20, 2014

<http://www.aei-ideas.org/2014/04/in-observance-of-the-green-holy-day-earth-day-the-science-of-economics-versus-the-religion-of-environmentalism/>

#### **Paul Krugman's Solar Delusions**

Solar's getting cheaper, but it can never be a big reducer of carbon emissions.

By Robert Bryce, National Review, Apr 22, 2014 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://www.nationalreview.com/article/376236/paul-krugmans-solar-delusions-robert-bryce>

### **The Richer We Get, The Greener We'll Become**

By Matt Ridley, The Times, Via GWPF, Apr 21, 2014

<http://www.thegwpf.org/matt-ridley-the-richer-we-get-the-greener-well-become/>

### ***Non-Green Jobs***

#### **Labor Shortage Threatens to Bust the Shale Boom**

By Isaac Arnsdorf, Dan Murtaugh and Jack Kaskey, Bloomberg, Apr 17, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-04-17/midnight-welding-picks-up-slack-that-imperils-shale-boom.html>

*[SEPP Comment: This is bad? Many other parts of the country would like to have this problem.]*

#### **Environmental groups cringe as some trade unions support oil and gas drilling, pipelines**

By Kevin Begos, AP, Apr 20, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.startribune.com/business/255929381.html>

In 2008, LIUNA members worked about 400,000 hours on such jobs; by 2012, that had risen to 5.7 million hours.

### ***Litigation Issues***

#### **€2.2 billion owed to German nuclear utilities**

By Staff Writers, WNN, Apr 15, 2014

<http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/NP-2point2-billion-owed-to-German-nuclear-utilities-1504141.html>

### ***Cap-and-Trade and Carbon Taxes***

#### **Green Taxes May Doom Britain's Energy-Intensive Industry**

Brian Groom, Andy Sharman and Alex Barker, Financial Times, Via GWPF, Apr 21, 2014

<http://www.thegwpf.org/green-taxes-may-doom-britains-energy-intensive-industry/>

### ***Subsidies and Mandates Forever***

#### **China carbon cash party over as U.N. credit stream dries up**

By Stian Rekev and Kathy Chen, Reuters, Apr 22, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/04/22/china-carbon-idUKL3N0N725A20140422>

#### **The government giveth and the government taketh away...**

By Martin Livermore, Scientific Alliance, Apr 25, 2014

<http://scientific-alliance.org/scientific-alliance-newsletter/government-giveth-and-government-taketh-away>

#### **Wind Industry Produces Little Energy, Lots Of Hot Air**

Editorial, IBD, Apr 22, 2014

<http://news.investors.com/ibd-editorials/042214-697939-wind-industry-in-trouble-despite-massive-subsidies.htm?p=full>

#### **Exelon's Von Hoene discusses impact of wind energy incentives on nuclear's competitiveness**

By Staff Writers, EETV, Apr 24, 2014

<http://www.eenews.net/tv/videos/1816/transcript>

### **Obama launches measures to support solar energy in US**

By Staff Writers, Washington (AFP), April 17, 2014

[http://www.solardaily.com/reports/Obama\\_launches\\_measures\\_to\\_support\\_solar\\_energy\\_in\\_US\\_999.html](http://www.solardaily.com/reports/Obama_launches_measures_to_support_solar_energy_in_US_999.html)

### **State of wind energy 2014: Desperately seeking subsidies**

By Marta Noon, Midland Reporter-Telegram, TX, Apr 25, 2014 [H/t Cooler Heads]

[http://www.mrt.com/business/oil/top\\_stories/article\\_73d62216-cc99-11e3-a9ab-0019bb2963f4.html](http://www.mrt.com/business/oil/top_stories/article_73d62216-cc99-11e3-a9ab-0019bb2963f4.html)

### ***EPA and other Regulators on the March***

#### **'EPA Caught!'**

By Charles Battig, American Thinker, Apr 19, 2014

[http://americanthinker.com/blog/2014/04/epa\\_caught\\_.html](http://americanthinker.com/blog/2014/04/epa_caught_.html)

### **EPA's Downward Revision of Cellulosic Target Reminds Us (again) That Government Can't Create Viable Green Energy Industries**

By William Yeatman, Global Warming.org, Apr 23, 2014

<http://www.globalwarming.org/2014/04/23/epas-downward-revision-of-cellulosic-target-reminds-us-again-that-government-cant-create-viable-green-energy-industries/>

### **EPA chief: Fighting climate change is top priority**

By Laura Barron-Lopez, The Hill, Apr 22, 2014

<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/204027-epa-chief-fighting-climate-change-is-top-priority>

### **Fracking for bigger budgets,**

By Benjamin Zycher, The Hill, Apr 21, 2014

<http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/economy-budget/203892-fracking-for-bigger-budgets>

### **Farm Bureau pledges to fight EPA's water rule**

By Timothy Cama, The Hill, Apr 22, 2014

<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/204096-farm-bureau-pledges-to-fight-epas-water-rule>

### ***China's Pollution Battle***

#### **Coal's continuing dominance in Chinese energy supply makes clean-air campaign an uphill battle**

By Gerard Burg, South China Morning Post, Apr 25, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.scmp.com/comment/insight-opinion/article/1496542/coal-continuing-dominance-chinese-energy-supply-makes-clean>

*[SEPP Comment: By adopting western pollution control devices on coal-fired power plants, China can significantly clean the air in the cities without reducing coal consumption.]*

### **China Takes On Pollution With Biggest Changes in 25 Years**

By Staff Writers, Bloomberg, Apr 25, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-04-24/china-enacts-biggest-pollution-curbs-in-25-years.html>

*[SEPP Comment: Does not mention if CO2 is considered a pollutant.]*

### **60% of China underground water polluted: report**

By Staff Writers, Beijing (AFP), April 23, 2014

[http://www.terradaily.com/reports/60\\_of\\_China\\_underground\\_water\\_polluted\\_report\\_999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/60_of_China_underground_water_polluted_report_999.html)

*[SEPP Comment: Much of the water in developed countries is too “polluted” to drink without treatment.]*

### **China says massive area of its soil polluted**

By Staff Writers, Beijing (AFP), April 17, 2014

[http://www.seeddaily.com/reports/China\\_says\\_massive\\_area\\_of\\_its\\_soil\\_polluted\\_999.html](http://www.seeddaily.com/reports/China_says_massive_area_of_its_soil_polluted_999.html)

### ***Energy Issues – Non-US***

#### **Europe Braces For Gas Showdown With Russia As Japan Restarts Its Nuclear Power Plants**

By Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, The Daily Telegraph, Via GWPF, Apr 23, 2014

<http://www.thegwpf.org/europe-braces-for-gas-showdown-with-russia-as-japan-restarts-its-nuclear-power-plants/>

#### **Baltic states lead push to cut Russia gas reliance**

By Monika Scislowska and Jari Tanner, AP, Apr 25, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/ap/article-2612906/Baltic-states-lead-push-cut-Russia-gas-reliance.html>

#### **Poland Pushes Coal on Europe as Putin Wields Gas Weapon**

By Ladka Bauerova, Bloomberg, Apr 24, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-04-23/poland-pushes-coal-on-europe-as-putin-wields-gas-weapon.html>

#### **How Britain is wasting its real shale gas potential**

By Benny Peiser, City A.M. Apr 24, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.cityam.com/article/1398365112/how-britain-wasting-its-real-shale-gas-potential>

#### **Putin’s Achilles heel: oil and gas**

By Eric Reguly, The Globe and Mail, Apr 24, 2014

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/rob-magazine/putins-soft-underbelly/article18124303/?cmpid=rss1>

#### **Security blanket**

By Andrew Montford, Bishop Hill, Apr 24, 2014

<http://bishophill.squarespace.com/blog/2014/4/24/security-blanket.html>

### ***Energy Issues -- US***

#### **High-Voltage Transmission Lines to Act as Antenna in First-of-its-Kind NASA Space-Weather Project**

By Lori Keesey for Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD (SPX), Apr 25, 2014

[http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/High\\_Voltage\\_Transmission\\_Lines\\_to\\_Act\\_as\\_Antenna\\_in\\_First\\_of\\_its\\_Kind\\_NASA\\_Space\\_Weather\\_Project\\_999.html](http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/High_Voltage_Transmission_Lines_to_Act_as_Antenna_in_First_of_its_Kind_NASA_Space_Weather_Project_999.html)

*[SEPP Comment: A step towards securing the grid from solar storms – coronal mass ejections?]*

### **Earth Day: Hail Fossil Fuels, Energy Of The Future**

By Mark Perry, IBD, Apr 21, 2014 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://news.investors.com/ibd-editorials-brain-trust/042114-697802-earth-day-fossil-fuels-will-remain-main-energy-source.htm>

### **Why Destroy The Grid?**

By Donn Dears, Power For USA, Apr 16, 2014

<http://dddusmma.wordpress.com/2014/04/26/why-destroy-the-grid/>

### **America's power grid at the limit: the road to electrical blackouts**

By Steve Goreham, Communities Digital News, Apr 23, 2014

<http://www.commdiginews.com/life/americas-power-grid-at-the-limit-the-road-to-electrical-blackouts-15826/>

*[SEPP Comment: Natural gas is not stored as conveniently as coal, which can be stored at the coal-fired plants. The net effect of shutting down coal-fired plants is less flexibility when resources are strained.]*

### **DOE to Open \$4B More in Loan Guarantees for Renewables, Energy Efficiency Projects**

By Sonal Patel, Power News, Apr 17, 2014

[http://www.powermag.com/doe-to-open-4b-more-in-loan-guarantees-for-renewables-energy-efficiency-projects/?hq\\_e=el&hq\\_m=2871176&hq\\_l=24&hq\\_v=5e660500d0](http://www.powermag.com/doe-to-open-4b-more-in-loan-guarantees-for-renewables-energy-efficiency-projects/?hq_e=el&hq_m=2871176&hq_l=24&hq_v=5e660500d0)

### **Report: US not ready for Arctic drilling**

By Laura Barron-Lopez, The Hill, Apr 23, 2014

<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/204199-report-us-not-ready-for-arctic-drilling>

Link to Report: Oil Spill Clean Up in U.S. Arctic Waters Requires Increased Infrastructure to Use Full Range of Response Methods

By Staff Writers, National Research Council, Apr 23, 2014

<http://www8.nationalacademies.org/onpinews/newsitem.aspx?RecordID=18625>

### ***Washington's Control of Energy***

#### **How Obama Shocked Harper as Keystone's Frustrator-in-Chief**

By Edward Greenspon, Andrew Mayeda, Rebecca Penty and Theophilos Argitis, Bloomberg, Apr 25, 2014

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-04-24/how-obama-shocked-harper-as-keystone-frustrator-in-chief.html>

#### **Stalling On Keystone Shows President Couldn't Care Less**

By Lawrence Kudlow, IBD, Apr 25, 2014

<http://news.investors.com/ibd-editorials-perspective/042514-698491-obama-panders-to-tom-steyer-delays-keystone.htm?p=full>

#### **From 'Prudent' to 'Shameful,' Latest Keystone Delay Irks Both Sides of the Aisle Despite calls for the shovel-ready jobs and GDP boost to get moving, State Department defends kicking the can.**

By Bill Straub, PJ Media, Apr 23, 2014 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://pjmedia.com/blog/from-prudent-to-shameful-latest-keystone-delay-irks-both-sides-of-the-aisle/>

#### **Obama Seeks To Delay Keystone Pipeline To Death**

Editorial, IBD, Apr 21, 2014 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://news.investors.com/ibd-editorials/042114-697793-obama-finds-new-reason-to-delay-big-job-creating-pipeline-project.htm>

### ***Oil and Natural Gas – the Future or the Past?***

#### **The United States of Gas**

Why the Shale Revolution Could Have Happened Only in America

By Robert A. Hefner III, Foreign Affairs, Via GWPF, May/June 2014

<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/141203/robert-a-hefner-iii/the-united-states-of-gas>

#### **A story of ice and fire: how methane hydrates could change the world**

By Gabriel Camus, Energy Post, Apr 23, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.energypost.eu/story-ice-fire-methane-hydrates-change-world/>

*[SEPP Comment: The claim of methane release from Arctic warming is questionable.]*

#### **Welcome to the Revolution**

Why Shale Is the Next Shale

By Edward Morse, Foreign Affairs, May/June 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/141202/edward-l-morse/welcome-to-the-revolution>

#### **When Oil Spiked In 2008, IBD Told The Country Why**

Editorial, IBD, Apr 24, 2014

<http://news.investors.com/ibd-editorials-perspective/042414-698323-ibd-didnt-sit-idle-when-oil-prices-spiked.htm?p=full>

#### **How to avoid water wars between ‘fracking’ industry and residents**

By Staff Writers, Phys.org, April 23, 2014

<http://phys.org/news/2014-04-wars-fracking-industry-residents.html>

Link to paper: Regional Variation in Water-Related Impacts of Shale Gas Development and Implications for Emerging International Plays

By Meagan Mauteer, et al. Environmental Science & Technology, Mar 31, 2014

<http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/es405432k>

*[SEPP Comment: It is largely a local issue.]*

#### **Sinopec leads China's shale gas revolution with successful drilling**

Drilling at Chongqing field is significant but now the industry needs to try to emulate the United States' fracking success in recent years

By Eric Ng, South China Morning Post, Apr 24, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.scmp.com/business/commodities/article/1495391/sinopec-leads-chinas-shale-gas-revolution-successful-drilling>

### ***Return of King Coal?***

#### **Coal and the IPCC**

By Dave Rutledge, Climate Etc. Apr 22, 2014

<http://judithcurry.com/2014/04/22/coal-and-the-ipcc/>

### ***Nuclear Energy and Fears***

#### **ScienceShot: Some Birds Thrive in Chernobyl's Radioactive Glow**

By Thomas Summer, Science, Apr 25, 2014 [H/t Toshio Fujita]

<http://news.sciencemag.org/biology/2014/04/scienceshot-some-birds-thrive-chernobyls-radioactive-glow>

### **Tiny power plants hold promise for industry under scrutiny, new global nuclear chief says**

By Lori Hinnant, AP, Apr 17, 2014

<http://www.newser.com/article/afa46fdecb3f4bb385ac4af63c0dcb3e/tiny-power-plants-hold-promise-for-industry-under-scrutiny-new-global-nuclear-chief-says.html>

### **IPCC calls for energy transformation**

By Staff Writers, WNN, Apr 17, 2014

<http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/EE-IPCC-calls-for-energy-transformation-170414JC.html>

*[SEPP Comment: The nuclear industry should know by now it is not included in the green definition of alternative energy.]*

### **Alternative, Green (“Clean”) Solar and Wind**

#### **AWEA's Kiernan discusses impact of utility evolution on wind industry**

Transcript by Staff Writers, EETV, Apr 16, 2014

<http://www.eenews.net/tv/videos/1813/transcript>

“Utilities are, you know, use wind energy as kind of a fundamental energy source for them. So we're part of the grid right there with utilities.”

*[SEPP Comment: The sentence makes no sense. Wind is not a base-load energy source. It is unreliable. The comment is another example how the wind industry distorts language to plead for subsidies.]*

### **Pakistan plans huge desert solar park to fight energy crisis**

By Staff Writers, Badaiwani Wala, Pakistan (AFP) April 20, 2014

[http://www.solardaily.com/reports/Pakistan\\_plans\\_huge\\_desert\\_solar\\_park\\_to\\_fight\\_energy\\_crisis\\_999.html](http://www.solardaily.com/reports/Pakistan_plans_huge_desert_solar_park_to_fight_energy_crisis_999.html)

### **Cape Wind's unlucky 13 years**

By Audra Parker, Cape Cod Online, Apr 21, 2014 [H/t ICECAP]

<http://www.capecodonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20140421/OPINION/404210315>

*[SEPP Comment: Green energy is great, but not in my swimming pool.]*

### **Can Europe’s grid take on its offshore power?**

By Staff Writers, Wind Energy, Apr 24, 2014

[http://social.windenergyupdate.com/offshore-wind/can-europe%E2%80%99s-grid-take-its-offshore-power?utm\\_source=e-](http://social.windenergyupdate.com/offshore-wind/can-europe%E2%80%99s-grid-take-its-offshore-power?utm_source=e-)

[brief2404&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=2404&utm\\_campaign=WEU&gator\\_td=%2f0rLP\\_hSguM7q9sv0KhB3Mlfd8ZttcMJenwfykM2g3bLx9RBn1ZUHRFLX1wQe2dlXPqmrMtf16uW1eSCI%2f1tHaM3pElIowVLosvk%2b1f%2bCTf%2boljqBEOl5bUrO5ycFA6kO8%2bRCOCvrgO8%2fllKfXhbiXFiA3SHuWOArntk9pY%2f3cc79pXDVJvfHYhsvv7iy6w%2feYUBmCNIAY%2fjva52d6SJQccCZBCKqyEJ6yhyppff%2fdM%3d](http://social.windenergyupdate.com/offshore-wind/can-europe%E2%80%99s-grid-take-its-offshore-power?utm_source=e-brief2404&utm_medium=email&utm_content=2404&utm_campaign=WEU&gator_td=%2f0rLP_hSguM7q9sv0KhB3Mlfd8ZttcMJenwfykM2g3bLx9RBn1ZUHRFLX1wQe2dlXPqmrMtf16uW1eSCI%2f1tHaM3pElIowVLosvk%2b1f%2bCTf%2boljqBEOl5bUrO5ycFA6kO8%2bRCOCvrgO8%2fllKfXhbiXFiA3SHuWOArntk9pY%2f3cc79pXDVJvfHYhsvv7iy6w%2feYUBmCNIAY%2fjva52d6SJQccCZBCKqyEJ6yhyppff%2fdM%3d)

### **Alternative, Green (“Clean”) Energy -- Other**

#### **Only the Right Kind of Hydroelectricity Need Apply**

By Peter Wilson, American Thinker, Apr 19, 2014 [H/t Timothy Wise]

[http://www.americanthinker.com/2014/04/only\\_the\\_right\\_kind\\_of\\_hydroelectricity\\_need\\_apply.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2014/04/only_the_right_kind_of_hydroelectricity_need_apply.html)

### **Study: Fuels from Corn Waste Not Better than Gas**

By Dina Cappiello, AP, Apr 21, 2014 [H/t Paul Redfern]

[http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US\\_BIOFUELS\\_GLOBAL\\_WARMING?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2014-04-21-04-02-59](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_BIOFUELS_GLOBAL_WARMING?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2014-04-21-04-02-59)

### **U.S. to fund cutting-edge renewable energy programs**

By Daniel J. Graeber, Washington (UPI), Apr 17, 2013

[http://www.biofueldaily.com/reports/US\\_to\\_fund\\_cutting-edge\\_renewable\\_energy\\_programs\\_999.html](http://www.biofueldaily.com/reports/US_to_fund_cutting-edge_renewable_energy_programs_999.html)

U.S. Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz said existing loan guarantee projects helped fund programs that are now commonplace in the U.S. renewable energy portfolio.

"We want to replicate that success by focusing on technologies that are on the edge of commercial-scale deployment today," he said in a statement Wednesday.

*[SEPP Comment: Has the heard of the failures Spain, Germany, the UK?]*

### ***Carbon Schemes***

#### **Backdoor Carbon Taxation in Saskatchewan**

By Sierra Rayne, American Thinker, Apr 22, 2014 [H/t Timothy Wise]

[http://www.americanthinker.com/2014/04/backdoor\\_carbon\\_taxation\\_in\\_saskatchewan.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2014/04/backdoor_carbon_taxation_in_saskatchewan.html)

### ***Health, Energy, and Climate***

#### **Study: Global Warming Enhances Output and Health, Helps Poor**

By Matthew Vadum, NewsMax, Apr 22, 2014 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/global-warming-climate-change-NCPA/2014/04/22/id/567032/>

### ***Oh Mann!***

#### **Climate scientist's privacy victory may prove a loss for journalists**

Court ruling limits access to public information in Virginia

By Alexis Sobel fits, The Kicker, Apr 23, 2014 [H/t Cooler Heads]

[http://www.cjr.org/the\\_kicker/climate\\_scientists\\_privacy\\_vic.php](http://www.cjr.org/the_kicker/climate_scientists_privacy_vic.php)

### ***Environmental Industry***

#### **We Need A New Earth Day To Correct The Old One**

By Edward Calabrese, IBD, Apr 21, 2014 [H/t Cooler Heads]

<http://news.investors.com/ibd-editorials-perspective/042114-697790-we-need-a-new-earth-day.htm>

### ***Other Scientific News***

#### **Diet and cancer: little evidence of a direct link**

By Staff Writers, ACSH, Apr 22, 2014

<http://acsh.org/2014/04/diet-cancer-little-evidence-direct-link/>

### ***Other News that May Be of Interest***

#### **BPA now A-OK?**

By Staff Writers, ACSH, Apr 21, 2014

<http://acsh.org/2014/04/bpa-now-ok/>

**Five Anthropogenic Factors That Will Radically Alter Northern Forests in 50 Years**

By Staff Writers, Columbia MO (SPX), Apr 22, 2014

[http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Five\\_Anthropogenic\\_Factors\\_That\\_Will\\_Radically\\_Alter\\_Northern\\_Forests\\_in\\_50\\_Years\\_999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Five_Anthropogenic_Factors_That_Will_Radically_Alter_Northern_Forests_in_50_Years_999.html)

*[SEPP Comment: According to the article less than 5% of the forests in the northern quadrant of the US are more than 100 years old. The forests were logged for building material and (biomass) energy, now considered a renewable fuel?]*

**Giant lasers could control the weather**

By Brooks Hays, Orlando, Fla. (UPI), Apr 19, 2013

[http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Giant\\_lasers\\_could\\_control\\_the\\_weather\\_999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Giant_lasers_could_control_the_weather_999.html)

*[SEPP Comment: Will this enrage the Environmental Industry?]*

**Significant baseline levels of arsenic found in soil throughout Ohio are due to natural processes**

By Staff Writers, Richland WA (SPX), Apr 22, 2014

[http://www.seeddaily.com/reports/Significant\\_baseline\\_levels\\_of\\_arsenic\\_found\\_in\\_soil\\_throughout\\_Ohio\\_are\\_due\\_to\\_natural\\_processes\\_999.html](http://www.seeddaily.com/reports/Significant_baseline_levels_of_arsenic_found_in_soil_throughout_Ohio_are_due_to_natural_processes_999.html)

*[SEPP Comment: Will the EPA order that the soils of Ohio be removed?]*

**New report calls U.S. a 'rising star' of global manufacturing**

By James Kelleher, Reuters, Apr 25, 2014

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/04/25/us-usa-manufacturers-costs-idUSBREA3O0AW20140425>

*[SEPP Comment: In spite of actions in Washington.]*

**The Pacific's Salmon Are Back — Thank Human Ingenuity**

Geoengineering could turn our long-barren oceans into a bounty.

By Robert Zubrin, National Review, Apr 22, 2014 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://www.nationalreview.com/article/376258/pacific-salmon-are-back-thank-human-ingenuity-robert-zubrin>

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**BELOW THE BOTTOM LINE:**

**Earth Day – A Time to Reflect on Greenland's Destruction**

By Roy Spencer, His Blog, Apr 22, 2014

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2014/04/earth-day-a-time-to-reflect-on-greenlands-destruction/>

*[SEPP Comment: A bit of humor.]*

**Going nuts? Turkey looks to pistachios to heat new eco-city**

By Staff Writers, Ankara (AFP), April 18, 2014

[http://www.biofueldaily.com/reports/Going\\_nuts\\_Turkey\\_looks\\_to\\_pistachios\\_to\\_heat\\_new\\_eco-city\\_999.html](http://www.biofueldaily.com/reports/Going_nuts_Turkey_looks_to_pistachios_to_heat_new_eco-city_999.html)

**PRUDEN: Putting the 'pee' in Portland**

No reservoir of good will in Oregon water supply

By Wesley Pruden, Washington Times, Apr 21, 2014

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/apr/21/pruden-in-portland-a-bureaucracy-unbound/>

**Too funny. Roy Spencer invented [co-developed] satellite temperature analysis, gets called “a blogger”**

By Jo Nova, Her blog, Apr 23, 2014

<http://joannenova.com.au/2014/04/too-funny-roy-spencer-invented-satellite-temperature-analysis-gets-called-a-blogger/>

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**ARTICLES:**

**1. California's Carbon Spending Rush**

Sacramento proves that cap and trade is about income redistribution.

Editorial, WSJ, Apr 22, 2014

<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702303626804579507840884336078?mg=reno64-wsj&url=http%253A%252F%252Fonline.wsj.com%252Farticle%252FSB10001424052702303626804579507840884336078.html>

California seems to be the place where bad ideas go to live—and reproduce. Behold Senate president Darrell Steinberg's brainstorm to spend cap-and-trade revenues on income redistribution and the state's bullet train, among other boondoggles.

The Senate leader last week proposed a "long-term investment strategy" to divvy up the revenues from California's cap-and-trade program, which requires businesses that emit more than 25,000 carbon metric tons annually to purchase permits for the privilege. The state is now giving away about 90% of permits for free and auctioning off the rest.

So far the auctions have generated \$1.5 billion, but cash will start to pour in next year when the cap is applied to fuel suppliers, which account for nearly 40% of the state's greenhouse gas emissions. Revenues will balloon as the California Air Resources Board reduces both the cap and the free allowances. The state legislative analyst predicts that cap and trade will raise between \$12 billion and \$45 billion in toto by 2020.

While state law requires that these cap-and-trade "fees" fund programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, Governor Jerry Brown last year seized, er, "borrowed" nearly all of the auction proceeds for general-fund expenses. Mr. Steinberg now plans to raise Mr. Brown by spending future cashflows on his personal favorites: 40% for "sustainable communities" (i.e., affordable housing in urban areas); 30% for mass transit; 20% for high-speed rail; and 10% for roads and bike paths.

To appease green groups and Tesla CEO Elon Musk, he also wants an additional \$200 million each year for "natural resource, waste, and water" (e.g., wetland development, recycling and "clean vehicles"), and \$200 million for "electric vehicle deployment." Another \$10 million in "green bank funding" would go toward bolstering the \$200 million the state spends annually subsidizing electric cars and "alternative fuel" dreams. In case these investments don't pan out, the Senate leader suggests a \$200 million "climate dividend for transportation consumers."

This rebate would come on top of the \$750 million "climate credit" that the California Air Resources Board has required utilities to pay electricity consumers annually to compensate for the soaring cost of renewables. Mr. Steinberg's "climate dividend," as he calls it, is likewise intended to offset rising gas prices caused by the state's green policies.

California gas prices are the nation's second highest after Hawaii and about 55 cents more than the national average. Lo, the Western States Petroleum Association estimates that cap and trade will cost consumers 12 cents more per gallon next year, and Mr. Steinberg has warned that gas prices could spike by 40 cents per gallon.

Neither estimate accounts for the impact of the state's low-carbon fuel standard, which kicks into high gear next year. The Boston Consulting Group in 2012 figured that the one-two punch will slap an extra \$0.49 to \$1.83 per gallon onto the price of gas by 2020.

The kicker is that Mr. Steinberg's spending plans would all be subject to annual legislative appropriations except for high-speed rail, whose revenue stream would be guaranteed. The Senate leader suggests that the cap-and-trade revenues could be securitized to finance the \$68 billion bullet train.

Just one problem: The cap-and-trade revenues must be used to reduce carbon emissions, and as the state legislative analyst has noted, the train's construction will increase emissions. The state Air Resources Board has endorsed the high-speed rail authority's plan to circumvent this annoying legal requirement by recycling concrete and steel from demolition, planting thousands of trees as well as purchasing "farmland conservation easements" and low-polluting school buses—which merely demonstrates the board's farcical carbon-accounting rules.

We've written for years that cap and trade's real purpose was to create another revenue stream for politicians, and California businesses are suing the board for illegally imposing a tax disguised as a regulatory fee. Mr. Steinberg's "investment strategy" proves their case.

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## **2. Book Review: 'A Climate of Crisis' by Patrick Allitt**

Before climate change, 'alarmists' and 'deniers' had it out over hazardous waste, acid rain, the ozone layer and rain forests.

By James Huffman, WSJ, Apr 23, 2014

[http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702304512504579496060586409076?mod=djemMER\\_h&mg=reno64-wsj](http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702304512504579496060586409076?mod=djemMER_h&mg=reno64-wsj)

Climate change has been the dominant environmental concern of the 21st century. Public discussion of the topic is less an informed exchange of ideas than a strident debate pitting alarmists against deniers—at least that is how each side labels the other. Both are secure in the knowledge that truth, reason and the moral high ground undergird their positions.

And thus it has always been with environmental policy. There was a brief period of productive collaboration during the Johnson and Nixon administrations, but thereafter "green" politics settled into a stark polarization as issues like hazardous waste, environmental racism, acid rain, the ozone layer and the Amazonian rain forest each came to the fore. Climate change is just the latest chapter.

It is this larger story that Patrick Allitt tells in "A Climate of Crisis: America in the Age of Environmentalism." In recounting partisan battles, Mr. Allitt's objectivity is refreshing.

His account begins with the environmental initiatives inspired by Rachel Carson's "Silent Spring" (1962) and more apocalyptic writings, like Paul Ehrlich's "The Population Bomb" (1968) and Barry Commoner's "The Closing Circle" (1971). In Mr. Allitt's telling, these books

inspired such strong public responses because the public was already attuned to the existential threats of the Cold War and the nuclear arms race. In the 1960s and early 1970s, there was broad national support for the Wilderness Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Air Act, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency.

There were dramatic reductions in pollution, expansions of national parks and wilderness areas, and the restoration of several threatened species. Even so, environmentalists continued to cry wolf and were undeterred when their doom-saying forecasts of global famine and ecological ruin failed to materialize. The consensus collapsed, and the public grew skeptical, especially the people bearing the significant and often unintended costs of regulation. The acid-rain and environmental-racism scares, writes Mr. Allitt, "turned out to be evanescent." Yet companies had spent hundreds of millions on regulatory compliance. Many apple farmers were put out of business in 1989 by what proved to be baseless claims that the chemical Alar was causing cancer in schoolchildren.

And numerous Northwest communities were devastated in the 1990s by a 90% cut in public-land timber harvests, which crippled the timber industry to save the Northern Spotted Owl. Scientists later found that the greatest threat to this owl was its cousin, the Barred Owl.

The environmental lobby seldom acknowledged its failures—or even its successes. Since 1990, there has been a 90% reduction in automobile emissions (and a 99% reduction since 1960), yet the car remains public enemy No. 1. Despite widespread recognition that ethanol has few if any environmental benefits, subsidies and mandated use persist—and food prices have been driven higher by the diversion of corn from food to fuel production.

Environmentalism has grown into an industry of interest groups, lobbyists, litigators, impact assessors and bureaucrats who rely on warnings of impending disaster to sustain and expand their enterprises. It is much the same with their opponents, for whom the wolf is always at the door— notwithstanding numerous examples of their somehow surviving what they had vehemently insisted were business-killing regulations. Both sides reacted in predictable ways when climate change reared its political head in the early 1990s.

Mr. Allitt covers this ground well and fairly presents the views of everyone from "Deep Ecologist" Arne Naess, who believed that humans must regard plants and animals as our equals, to Helen Chenoweth, the Idaho congresswoman who called environmentalism "a cloudy mixture of New Age mysticism, Native American folklore, and primitive earth worship." Mr. Allitt's critique of the relentless crisis mentality will lead many environmentalists to dismiss the book as anti-environmental, while anti-environmentalists will object to his conclusion that much conservation has been achieved at little cost to ordinary Americans.

Yet for all its balance, Mr. Allitt's account falls short in two important respects. He misunderstands "free-market environmentalists" and bundles them with the "Sagebrush Rebellion" of the late 1970s and the "Wise Use" movement of the late 1980s. There is little that connects them. While the last two, like today's protesters at Cliven Bundy's ranch in Nevada, advocated for state rather than federal control of the vast public lands of the West, they were dependent on the largess of a friendly public landlord. Free-market environmentalists urged property-based solutions, spurring tradable emission permits, congestion pricing on roadways, volume-based trash-collection fees, transferable ocean-fisheries quotas, and numerous other

market approaches. Even EPA administrators "eventually realized," in Mr. Allitt's words, "that it would be better to allow manufacturers to trade in the right to pollute."

Mr. Allitt also pays little heed to the large role that environmental litigation (as well as the threat of litigation) has played over the past half-century. Nowhere has our divisive environmental politics been more apparent and influential. Thanks to bipartisan legislation of the 1960s and '70s, which opened the courthouse doors to both sides of the environmental divide, scarcely a timber sale or urban-development plan moves forward without courts being asked to assess whether the developer or the government has properly weighed the pros and cons. The judge as policy maker is thus a central part of the story.

Given the uncertainties of climate-change forecasting and the urgency portrayed by "alarmists," expect the "deniers" to hold their ground—and our environmental politics to remain in a climate of crisis.

*Mr. Huffman, dean emeritus of the Lewis & Clark Law School, is a visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution. He is the author of "Private Property and State Power" and "Private Property and the Constitution."*

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