

The Week That Was: 2014-09-13 (September 13, 2014)
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The Science and Environmental Policy Project

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Quote of the Week: *The right to search for truth implies also a duty; one must not conceal any part of what one has recognized to be true. —Albert Einstein,*

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Number of the Week: 15% and 23%

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THIS WEEK:

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

WMO - Omits Temperature Trends: In recent years, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has issued the “WMO Greenhouse Gas Bulletin.” Generally, these are issued in November of the year. On September 9, the WMO issued a “Climate Summit edition” referring to the UN Climate Summit scheduled to be held in New York City, September 23, 2014. Some UN officials have declared the Climate Summit to be a “tipping point” meeting. If it is to be a “tipping point” meeting, it will be the abandonment of a key principle of science as expressed by Einstein in the Quote of the Week – Do not omit critical data.

The WMO report omits any discussion of temperature trends. There has been no significant warming trend in the atmosphere for over a decade, and no warming trend on the surface for about 17 years (Based on his statistical analysis, Ross McKittrck puts the periods of no atmospheric warming from 16 to 22 years.) The WMO is one of the parent organizations of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). (The UN Environmental Programme is the other parent organization of the IPCC).

Fred Singer argues that there has been no significant **multi-year warming trend** since 1940. The surface data shows a jump in 1976-77, before satellites. Both the satellite and surface data show a warming spike during the super-El Niño year of 1998. And, the satellite data shows another jump in 2001. These are not the types of warming trends one would expect from greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide.

The IPCC has projected significant future global warming. It is the fear of future global warming that has driven countries to spend enormous sums of money on science and on measures to address it. [From Fiscal Year 1993 to FY 2013, for the US government alone, such expenditures exceeded \$165 billion.] Now, the WMO does not consider it important to discuss the failure of nature to obey the UN IPCC pronouncements?

Instead of discussing actual temperature trends, the WMO bulletin features a detailed discussion on the increase in atmospheric greenhouse gases and their calculated impact on radiative forcing, rather than what actually occurred.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Annual Greenhouse Gas Index shows that from 1990 to 2013 radiative forcing by long-lived greenhouse gases increased by 34%, with CO2 accounting for about 80% of this increase.

The bulletin gives the measurement of greenhouse gases, particular carbon dioxide (CO₂) with great precision; yet, the influences of greenhouse gases, and CO₂, on the earth's temperatures is left to the imagination of the reader.

Writing in Climate Audit, Steve McIntyre reminds us that in its 1999 report, WMO was one of the first to practice the deceptive trick of "hide the decline." In this practice, recent proxy data that showed divergence (a cooling) from instrument data was eliminated from graphs and not used. Such data would indicate that the proxy and the instrument data were not in alignment, as they should be if the proxy data indicates temperatures as accurately as instrument data. Will the elimination of temperature data become the new fad of the Climate Establishment to continue the fear of Anthropogenic (human-caused) Global Warming (AGW)? See links under Climategate Continued and Lowering Standards.

WMO and Acids: Those who took high-school chemistry were taught that the corrosiveness of an aqueous (water based) solution is measured by its pH. If the pH is 7, it is neutral; if it less than less than 7, it is an acid; if it is greater than 7, it is a base (alkaline). Vinegar has a pH of about 2.4 to 3.4 (about the same range as soft drinks) and household ammonia has a pH of about 11. Surface sea water has a pH of about 7.8 to 8.3, depending upon where the measurements were taken and the time of year.

The WMO report (cited above) has a special section on "Ocean Acidification, which states"

"Uptake of anthropogenic CO₂ by the ocean led to increased CO₂ concentrations and increased acidity levels in sea water."

The report contains detailed annual linear trends for pH in certain ocean locations, ranging from -0.0011 +/-0.0001 to -0.0024 +/-0.0007. The degree of the precision is extremely questionable. In the discussion and the table showing these estimates, the value of the pH is not mentioned. It is only in the detail of the graphs that one realizes that the pH values shown remain above 8. If anything, the calculations show a modest reduction in the corrosive effect of an alkaline solution – not an increase in acidity due to additional atmospheric CO₂.

In various locations near the continental shelves, upwelling cold ocean waters are rich in nutrients and CO₂. These upwelling locations are a great benefit to marine life, not destructive to it.

The press made a great deal about another comment in the WMO Bulletin:

The current rate of ocean acidification appears unprecedented at least over the last 300 million years, based on proxy-data from paleo archives.

SEPP doubts that this statement can be substantiated. Do the paleo archives show changes in the ocean pH from great volcanic eruptions such as the Yellowstone Caldera, which occurred a dozen times in the last 18 million years, or the Siberian Traps about 250 million years ago? See links under Lowering Standards.

The Last 97%: In a paper published by the Global Warming Policy Foundation, Andrew Montford has a devastating review of the article by John Cook, et al. 'Quantifying the consensus on anthropogenic global warming in the scientific literature' published in Environmental Research Letters.

Recent reports that 97% of published scientific papers support the so-called consensus on man-made global warming are based on a paper by John Cook et al. Precisely what consensus is allegedly being supported in these papers cannot be discerned from the text of the paper. An analysis of the methodology used by Cook et al. shows that the consensus referred to is trivial:

- *that carbon dioxide (CO₂) is a greenhouse gas*
- *that human activities have warmed the planet to some unspecified extent*

Montford also shows that the Cook paper is intentionally vague, and is a planned, deliberate effort to mislead the public. For example, the classification of papers by Nir Shaviv and Alan Carlin as papers explicitly endorsing, not minimizing, AGW, is misleading. Neither author can be considered an advocate of dangerous AGW. Montford also demonstrates that by their actions executives at the University of Queensland cannot be considered as examples of academic rectitude. See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy.

Blocking Force: Another scientific paper appeared that, at least indirectly, challenges the claim of the IPCC of over 95% certainty in its science. The paper was brought to our attention by Anthony Watts. The paper finds recent winter weather events in the Northern Hemisphere are associated with changing North Atlantic Oscillation, related to the Greenland Blocking Index. The evidence, based on five major data points in the 115 year record, is hardly impressive. But, the abstract states:

These recent observed changes are not present in the current generation of global climate models, although the latest process studies do offer insight into their causes. We invoke several plausible climate forcings and feedbacks to explain the recent NAO changes. [Boldface added.]

In his classic, *Climate, History and the Modern World*, H.H. Lamb discussed the role of blocking forces in creating extreme cold events in Europe, particularly during the Little Ice Age. It now seems such things are being rediscovered by the Climate Establishment. See links under Changing Weather.

The Dance: The Dance of the Missing Heat continues. We now have some 52 explanations why the world is not warming as proclaimed in the climate models and by the IPCC. Since there is little or no evidence any Heat is missing, all this may be an artifact (human made) of the climate models. See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy and Un-Science or Non-Science?

A Different Way: Writing on his web site, Roy Spencer presents a different way of explaining global warming and the role of greenhouse gases in keeping the earth warmer, particularly at night.

Global warming is the predicted result of increasing atmospheric CO₂ causing a very small (~1-2%) decrease in the rate at which the Earth cools to outer space through infrared radiation. And the since temperature change of anything is always the result of net gains and losses of energy, a decrease in energy lost leads to warming.

Spencer goes on to explain that for a long time he, and others such as Richard Lindzen, have argued that the water vapor feedback, which is presumed to be positive, may be negative. Thus the strong warming from increased CO₂ asserted in the climate models and by the IPCC may actually be quite small. Spencer also states;

The important thing to understand is this: the largest control of water vapor feedback is the efficiency of precipitation systems, which controls how much water vapor is detrained into the upper troposphere.

The climate models may be getting better but they cannot address the water vapor feedback, which Richard Lindzen asserted in the 1980s, or the important issue of clouds. See link under Challenging the Orthodoxy.

AU-BOM: Following up on articles published in *The Australian*, Jennifer Marohasy and Jo Nova continue to expose deficiencies in the records kept by the Australian Bureau of Meteorology. At issue is the process called homogenization. This process has led to records at a particular station to show a warming, when the raw data shows a cooling. Marohasy has been undeterred in her detailed criticism, backed by examples, of the results of the process. Perhaps, because the government has changed to one that does not support the claim of dangerous AGW, the Bureau of Meteorology may be backing down.

Joe D'Aleo and Anthony Watts have demonstrated that homogenization in the US has produced less than satisfactory results. By minimizing strong warm periods, such as the 1930s, the mathematical manipulation of the historic data may be introducing a bias in the data record. See links under Measurement Issues.

Natural Gas Prices: In the US, the price of natural gas is falling, in part due to mild weather. However, indications are that the natural gas companies still can make a profit at prices below \$4.00 per million Btu. If so, then the drillers must be improving their techniques in the comparatively new technology of deep-underground horizontal drilling and multiport hydraulic fracturing using sand and small amounts of chemicals. The shale revolution may last a long time. See links under Oil and Natural Gas – the Future or the Past?

Number of the Week: 15% and 23%. In its discussion of increases of greenhouse gases, the WMO report, cited above, brings up NOAA's Annual Greenhouse Gas Index.

NOAA's Annual Greenhouse Gas Index (AGGI) is a yearly report on the combined influence of long-lived greenhouse gases (atmospheric gases that absorb and radiate heat) on Earth's surface temperature. The index compares the warming influence of these gases each year to their influence in 1990...

According to that index, in 2002 the influence of greenhouse gases on surface temperatures was 1.166 of that in 1990. In 2013 the index is 1.338. This represents an increase in the warming index of 0.172, or 15% during a period in which the atmosphere has not warmed. In 1997 the index was 1.089. Thus, in 2013 the index was 0.249 larger than in 1997, or the calculated greenhouse effect was 23% greater than in 1997 – over a period in which the surface has not warmed!

No wonder the Climate Establishment no longer wishes to discuss temperature trends! See links under Lowering Standards and <http://www.climate.gov/news-features/understanding-climate/climate-change-annual-greenhouse-gas-index>

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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. Matt Ridley Replies to His Climate-Change Critics

Jeffrey Sachs blows a gasket, and our contributor cleans up the intellectual mess.

Editorial, WSJ, Sep 9, 2014

<http://online.wsj.com/articles/matt-ridley-replies-to-his-climate-change-critics-1410271012>

2. Poor pay more for renewable energy

Letter By Charles Battig, Richmond Times-Dispatch, Sep 5, 2014

http://www.timesdispatch.com/opinion/your-opinion/letters-to-the-editor/letters-to-the-editor/article_954dbcbd-a1ab-52ae-bc64-e38acace9f40.html

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NEWS YOU CAN USE:

Science: Is the Sun Rising?

New paper finds Indian climate is influenced by solar activity

By Staff Writer, The Hockey Shtick, Sep 9, 2014

<http://hockeyshtick.blogspot.com/2014/09/new-paper-finds-indian-climate-is.html>

Link to paper Study of the influence of solar variability on a regional (Indian) climate: 1901–2007

By O.P.M. Aslam, Badruddin, Advances in Space Research, Oct 15, 2014

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0273117714003810>

Climategate Continued

The Original Hide-the-Divide

By Steve McIntyre, Climate Audit, Sep 6, 2014

<http://climateaudit.org/2014/09/06/the-original-hide-the-divide/>

“Mann knew of CRU’s deletion of the decline, but, as Lead Author of IPCC AR3, Mann willingly and enthusiastically participated in the hide-the-divide scheme, because he didn’t want to “give fodder to the skeptics” or “dilute the message”. But the technique originated with CRU and the “exoneration” of Jones, Briffa and Osborn on hide-the-divide by Muir Russell and Oxburgh was totally undeserved.”

Inventory of Hide-the-Divide

By Steve McIntyre, Climate Audit, Sep 10, 2014

<http://climateaudit.org/2014/09/10/inventory-of-hide-the-divide/>

[SEPP Comment: Not confined to a single incident, but a repeatedly used technique.

Manns rea?

By Andrew Montford, Bishop Hill, Sep 11, 2014

<http://bishophill.squarespace.com/blog/2014/9/11/manns-rea.html>

Challenging the Orthodoxy

New Paper: The 97% ‘Consensus’ And Its Critics

By Andrew Montford, GWPF, Sep 9, 2014

<http://www.thegwpf.org/new-paper-the-97-consensus-and-its-critics/>

Link to paper: Fraud, Bias and Public Relations: The 97% ‘consensus’ and its credits

By Andrew Montford, GWPF, No date

<http://www.thegwpf.org/content/uploads/2014/09/Warming-consensus-and-its-critics1.pdf>

Water Vapor Feedback and the Global Warming Pause

By Roy Spencer, His Blog, Sep 10, 2014

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2014/09/water-vapor-feedback-and-the-global-warming-pause/>

Global Warming and the Feynman test

By Tom Trinko, American Thinker, Sep 11, 2014

http://americanthinker.com/2014/09/global_warming_and_the_feynman_test.html

A look at carbon dioxide vs. global temperature

By Danley Wolfe, WUWT, Sep 12, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/12/a-look-at-carbon-dioxide-vs-global-temperature/>

List of excuses for ‘the pause’ in global warming is now up to 52

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Sep 11, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/11/list-of-excuses-for-the-pause-in-global-warming-is-now-up-to-52/>

UN Global Warming Propaganda Campaign: Return to Perceived Success Indicates Desperation

By Tim Ball, WUWT, Sep 12, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/12/un-global-warming-propaganda-campaign-return-to-perceived-success-indicates-desperation/>

Defending the Orthodoxy

Development of Social Cost of Carbon Estimates

By Staff Writers, GAO, Aug 25, 2014

<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-14-663>

Link to full report: Development of Social Cost of Carbon Estimates

By Staff Writers, GAO, July 2014

<http://www.gao.gov/assets/670/665016.pdf>

[SEPP Comment: The study omitted the social benefits of carbon.]

UN says CO2 pollution levels at annual record high

By John Heilprin, AP, Sep 9, 2014

http://hosted2.ap.org/APDEFAULT/3d281c11a96b4ad082fe88aa0db04305/Article_2014-09-09-EU-United-Nations-Global-Warming/id-4e520ee9492f4e77b961f53402c33509

Go green and prosper, British government says

By Daniel J. Graeber

London (UPI) Sep 9, 2014

http://www.winddaily.com/reports/Go_green_and_prosper_British_government_says_999.html

Globalization threatens benefits of an African 'green revolution'

By Staff Writers

Vancouver, Canada (SPX) Sep 11, 2014

http://www.seeddaily.com/reports/Globalization_threatens_benefits_of_an_African_green_revolution_999.html

[SEPP Comment: Promoting environmental neo-colonialism.]

Questioning the Orthodoxy

One-half of CO2 doubling achieved

By Luboš Motl, The Reference Frame, Sep 11, 2014

<http://motls.blogspot.com/2014/09/one-half-of-co2-doubling-achieved.html>

Once More: Why “Climate Change” Alarmism Is Not Science

By John Hinderaker, Power Line, Sep 7, 2014

<http://www.powerlineblog.com/archives/2014/09/once-more-why-climate-change-alarmism-is-not-science.php>

[SEPP Comment: Quotes from SEPP.]

The problem with climate change? It doesn't exist

By Benny Peiser, PR Week, Sep 9, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.prweek.com/article/1311173/problem-climate-change-doesnt-exist>

[SEPP Comment: Climate change does exist, but is not what has been claimed for about three decades.]

A Guide for Those Perplexed About Global Warming

By Ira Glickstein, WUWT, Sep 10, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/10/a-guide-for-those-perplexed-about-global-warming/>

[SEPP Comment: Includes a section addressing false claims by alarmist about skeptics.]

A marvel and a mystery

By Andrew Montford, Bishop Hill, Sep 11, 2014

<http://bishophill.squarespace.com/blog/2014/9/11/a-marvel-and-a-mystery.html>

[SEPP Comment: Questions the new fad that humans are causing stratospheric cooling as evidence of human caused global warming.]

Do Researchers Really Know Why Global Warming Is On Pause and When It Will End?

By Ronald Bailey, Reason, Sep 9, 2014

<http://reason.com/blog/2014/09/09/global-warming-pause-to-end>

Unsettled Science

By Viv Forbes, American Thinker, Sep 10, 2014 [H/t Timothy Wise]

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2014/09/unsettled_science.html

Global Warming ‘Skeptics’ Hold Political Sway From The UK To India

By Michael Bastasch, The Daily Caller, Sep 10, 2014

<http://dailycaller.com/2014/09/10/global-warming-skeptics-hold-political-sway-from-the-uk-to-india/>

Everybody Knows That about Climate Change

By Anthony J. Sadar, American Thinker, Sep 9, 2014

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2014/09/everybody_knows_that_about_climate_change.html

Study Shows Record-High Increases For Atmospheric CO2 In 2013 – but there’s still no warming

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Sep 9, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/09/study-shows-record-high-increases-for-atmospheric-co2-in-2013-but-theres-still-no-warming/>

Problems in the Orthodoxy

Quote of the week: 'It's a remarkable document'

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Sep 10, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/10/quote-of-the-week-its-a-remarkable-document/>

[SEPP Attempting to side-step the no warming trend.]

Study: Natural Variations Play Key Warming Role

By Staff Writer, Reporting Climate Science, Sep 9, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.reportingclimatescience.com/news-stories/article/study-natural-variations-play-key-warming-role.html>

Link to paper: Contribution of natural decadal variability to global warming acceleration and hiatus

By Watanabe, et al, Nature Climate Change, Aug 31, 2014

<http://www.nature.com/nclimate/journal/vaop/ncurrent/full/nclimate2355.html>

Imagine there's a climate conference, but no one goes

By Sebastian Lüning and Fritz Vahrenholt, Translated by P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Sep 9, 2014

<http://notrickszone.com/2014/09/09/german-scientists-ridicule-new-york-climate-conference-as-major-world-leaders-decline-to-show-up/>

IPCC needs a rethink, say academics

By Staff Writers, The IPCC Report Blog, Jun 11, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://ipccreport.wordpress.com/2014/06/11/ipcc-needs-a-rethink-say-academics/>

Link to paper:

Towards a Reflexive Turn in the Governance of Global Environmental Expertise. The Cases of the IPCC and the IPBES

By Beck, et al. GAIA - Ecological Perspectives for Science and Society, May 2, 2014

<http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/oekom/gaia/2014/00000023/00000002/art00004>

Is Narendra Modi a climate sceptic?

India's PM used to call climate action a moral duty, now he tells students 'climate has not changed, we have changed'

By Suzanne Goldenberg, The Guardian, Sep 9, 2014

<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2014/sep/09/narendra-modi-india-prime-minister-climate-change-sceptic>

UN official: New York climate summit a 'major turning point'

By Laura Barron-Lopez, The Hill, Sep 8, 2014

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/216953-un-official-new-york-climate-summit-major-turning-point>

Oh the irony! Cutting CO2 emissions is harming the ozone layer

By Staff Writers, The Hockey Schtick, Sep 11, 2014

<http://hockeyschtick.blogspot.com/2014/09/oh-irony-cutting-co2-emissions-is.html>

Swiss News Weekly Calls IPCC Lead Author Thomas Stocker “A Butler For Politicians”! Scientists Grow Shriker

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Sep 10, 2014

<http://notrickszone.com/2014/09/10/swiss-news-weekly-calls-ipcc-lead-author-thomas-stocker-a-butler-for-politicians-scientists-getting-shrill/>

Seeking a Common Ground

The role of models in science

By Martin Livermore, Scientific Alliance, Sep 12, 2014

<http://scientific-alliance.org/scientific-alliance-newsletter/role-models-science>

“It is important to realise that pronouncements on the ‘safe’ level of carbon dioxide and the current highly expensive but ineffective policy on decarbonisation are based only on these flawed models.”

[SEPP Comment: A thoughtful essay on the strengths and weaknesses of models and their proper use.]

Rowan Williams falls into the old climate change logical trap

By Tim Worstall, Adam Smith Institute, Sep 11, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.adamsmith.org/blog/energy-environment/rowan-williams-falls-into-the-old-climate-change-logical-trap/>

Study: Conversion Of Forests to Cropland Cooled the Climate

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Sep 8, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/08/study-conversion-of-forests-to-cropland-cooled-the-climate/>

Measurement Issues

Bureau Caught in Own Tangled Web of Homogenisation

By Jennifer Marohasy, Her Blog, AU, Sep 12, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://jennifermarohasy.com/2014/09/bureau-caught-in-own-tangled-web-of-homogenisation/>

Jennifer Marohasy- A real scientist- kicking goals.

By Bob Moore, Just Grounds Community, Aug 23, 2014

<http://justgroundsonline.com/forum/topics/jennifer-marohasy-a-real-scientist-kicking-goals-2>

The lost climate knowledge of Deacon 1952: hot dry summers from 1880-1910

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Sep 12, 2014

<http://joannenova.com.au/2014/09/the-lost-climate-knowledge-of-deacon-1952-australian-summer-were-hotter-from-1880-1910/>

Under pressure, Australian BOM puts up facade of “transparency” — too little, too late

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Sep 12, 2014

<http://joannenova.com.au/2014/09/under-pressure-australian-bom-puts-up-facade-of-transparency-too-little-too-late/>

Matt Ridley: Whatever happened to global warming?

By Mark J. Perry, AEIdeas, Sep 5, 2014 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://www.aei-ideas.org/2014/09/matt-ridley-whatever-happened-to-global-warming/>

Is the atmospheric ozone recovery real, or just for scoring political points?

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Sep 12, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/12/is-the-atmospheric-ozone-recovery-real-or-just-for-scoring-political-points/>

[SEPP Comment: See link immediately below.]

Scientists say the ozone layer is recovering

By Seth Borenstein, AP, Sep 10, 2014 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

http://hosted2.ap.org/APDEFAULT/3d281c11a96b4ad082fe88aa0db04305/Article_2014-09-10-US-SCI-Ozone-Rebounds/id-4e7855230c3644168f90b9aaa32d39f9

Changing Weather

Extreme Winter Claims – Part II

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Sep 10, 2014

<http://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2014/09/10/extreme-winter-claims-part-ii/>

Rising CO2 Concentrations: No Measureable Impact on Floods, Droughts, and Storms

By Marlo Lewis, Global Warming.org, Sep 11, 2014

<http://www.globalwarming.org/2014/09/11/rising-co2-concentrations-no-measureable-impact-on-floods-droughts-and-storms/>

The Alarmist Rains in Phoenix

By Sierra Rayne, American Thinker, Sep 11, 2014

http://americanthinker.com/2014/09/the_alarmist_rains_in_phoenix.html

Warming Defied...Meteorologists Again Pointing To Another “Piercing Cold Winter” Ahead

By P Gosselin No Tricks Zone, Sep 7, 2014

<http://notrickszone.com/2014/09/07/warming-defied-meteorologists-again-pointing-to-another-piercing-cold-winter-ahead/>

Great moments in forecasting – UK winter weather to be ‘ very mild, wet and stormy to extremely cold and snowy’

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Sep 9, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/09/great-moments-in-forecasting-uk-winter-weather-to-be-very-mild-wet-and-stormy-to-extremely-cold-and-snowy/>

Link to paper: Recent seasonal asymmetric changes in the NAO (a marked summer decline and increased winter variability) and associated changes in the AO and Greenland Blocking Index

By Hanna, et al. International Journal of Climatology, Sep 8, 2014

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/joc.4157/abstract>

All Great Lakes water level is at or above normal for first time in 14 years

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Sep 9, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/09/all-great-lakes-at-or-above-normal-for-first-time-in-14-years/>

Changing Climate

Egypt went from wetter to drier three times in Predynastic times with perfect CO2 levels

By Jo Nova, Her Blog Sep 9, 2014

<http://joannenova.com.au/2014/09/egypt-went-from-wetter-to-drier-three-times-in-predynastic-times/#more-38229>

Link to paper: Collapse of an ecological network in Ancient Egypt

By Yeakel, et al. PNAS, Sep 8, 2014

<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2014/09/03/1408471111>

Egyptian art offers clues to mammalian extinctions through history

By Brooks Hays, Cairo (UPI), Sep 9, 2014

http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Egyptian_art_offers_clues_to_mammalian_extinctions_through_history_999.html

[SEPP Comment: What caused the extinctions – the drying of the Sahara as the globe cooled?]

Changing Seas

EPA Takes on the Oyster/Acidification Scaremongers

It's been a convenient story for some.

By Cliff Mass, Weather Blog, Sep 7, 2014

<http://cliffmass.blogspot.com/2014/09/epa-takes-on-oysteracidification.html>

Ocean acidification and GHGs hit record levels

New scientific evidence of the highest greenhouse gas concentrations on record is compounded by the revelation that oceans are acidifying faster than at any time in the last 300 million years.

By Staff Writers, Eco-Business, Sep 10, 2014

http://www.eco-business.com/news/ocean-acidification-and-ghgs-hit-record-levels/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Sep+10+newsletter&utm_content=Sep+10+newsletter+Version+A+CID_ea008be821df2a3a6066eba42bf32592&utm_source=Campaign%20Monitor&utm_term=READ%20FULL%20STORY

Brown Tide Algae Exploit Nutrient-Rich Coastlines

By Staff Writers, New York NY (SPX), Sep 09, 2014

http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Like_Weeds_of_the_Sea_Brown_Tide_Algae_Exploit_Nutrient_Rich_Coastlines_999.html

Claim: Ocean Warming Affecting Florida Reefs

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Sep 10, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/10/claim-ocean-warming-affecting-florida-reefs/>

Link to paper: A Century of Ocean Warming on Florida Keys Coral Reefs: Historic In Situ Observations

By Kuffner, et al. Estuaries and Coasts, Sep 5, 2014

<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs12237-014-9875-5>

Data Reveal Florida Keys Sea Surface Temperatures Haven't Warmed in 80+ Years* [Based on Linear Trend]

By Bob Tisdale, WUWT, Sep 11, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/11/data-reveal-florida-keys-sea-surface-temperatures-havent-warmed-in-80-years/>

[SEPP Comment: See link immediately above.]

Changing Cryosphere – Land / Sea Ice

German Professor: 2014 Arctic Sea Ice Melt Falls Below Long-Term Mean...North Atlantic Heat Content Plummet!

The Latest News On Arctic Ice

By Prof. Fritz Vahrenholt and Frank Bosse, Translated, edited by P. Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Sep 4, 2014

<http://notrickszone.com/2014/09/12/german-professor-2014-arctic-sea-ice-melt-falls-below-long-term-mean-north-atlantic-heat-content-plummet/>

Study resolves discrepancy in Greenland temperatures during end of last ice age

By Staff Writers, Corvallis OR (SPX), Sep 10, 2014

http://www.terraviva.com/reports/Study_resolves_discrepancy_in_Greenland_temperatures_during_end_of_last_ice_age_999.html

[SEPP Comment: Did they adjust the sudden cooling in the Younger Dryas out of existence?]

Agriculture Issues & Fear of Famine

Are greenhouse gas emissions a reason to keep Africa starving?

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Sep 9, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/09/are-greenhouse-gas-emissions-a-reason-to-keep-africa-starving/>

Un-Science or Non-Science?

Last decade's slow-down in global warming enhanced by an unusual climate anomaly

By Staff Writers, EU Joint Research Centre, Sep 10, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/news/climate-anomaly-causes-global-warming-slow-down>

Link to the paper: Application of the Singular Spectrum Analysis Technique to Study the Recent Hiatus on the Global Surface Temperature Record

By Macias, Stips, Garcia-Gorriz, PLOS one, Sep 10, 2014

<http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0107222>

[SEPP Comment: The multidecadal variability was not mentioned in the Summary for Policymakers of AR5. Further evidence that the more than 95% certainty expressed is not substantiated.]

New excuse for 'pause' #52: 'Unusual climate anomaly' of unprecedented deceleration of secular warming trend

By Staff Writer, The Hockey Schtick, Sep 11, 2014

<http://hockeyschtick.blogspot.com/2014/09/new-excuse-for-pause-52-unusual-climate.html>

[SEPP Comment: See link immediately above.]

Climate Change Will Disrupt Half of North America's Bird Species, Study Says

By Felicity Barringer, NYT, Sep 8, 2014

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/09/09/us/climate-change-will-disrupt-half-of-north-americas-bird-species-study-says.html?partner=rss&emc=rss&r=0>

Link to slick web site: 314 Species on the Brink

By Staff Writers, Audubon Climate Report, September/October 2014

<http://climate.audubon.org/>

U.S. bird species dying out amid development : report

By Barbara Goldberg, Reuters, Sep 9, 2014 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/09/09/us-usa-birds-idUSKBN0H422320140909?feedType=RSS&feedName=scienceNews&rpc=76>

Climate change could 'fundamentally alter' US forests

By Staff Writers, Washington (AFP), Sept 10, 2014

http://www.terraily.com/reports/Climate_change_could_fundamentally_alter_US_forests_999.html

[SEPP Comment: Global warming is no longer happening, but it must be stopped!]

Lowering Standards

CO2 levels in atmosphere rising at dramatically faster rate, U.N. report warns

By Joby Warrick, WP, Sep 9, 2014

http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/co2-levels-in-atmosphere-rising-at-dramatically-faster-rate-un-report-warns/2014/09/08/3e2277d2-378d-11e4-bdfb-de4104544a37_story.html?hpid=z1

Link to report: WMO Greenhouse Gas Bulletin

By Staff Writers, WMO, Sep 9, 2014

<http://apps.washingtonpost.com/g/page/national/2013-global-greenhouse-gas-report/1297/>

Debunking the latest UN climate propaganda

By Staff Writer, The Hockey Schtick, Sep 9, 2014

<http://hockeyschtick.blogspot.com/2014/09/debunking-latest-un-climate-propaganda.html>

Big money behind brainwashing effort by NSF, GMU, AMS

By Spencer Adkins, ICECAP, Sep 10, 2014

http://icecap.us/index.php/go/joes-blog/big_money_behind_brainwashing_effort_by_nsf_gmu_ams1/

Meanwhile, back at the BBC

By John Brignell, Number Watch, Sep 10, 2014

http://www.numberwatch.co.uk/2014_september.htm#BBC

The Australian Government Broadcaster asks if we should ditch Democracy to ensure a climate change response

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, Sep 6, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/06/the-australian-government-broadcaster-asks-if-we-should-ditch-democracy-to-ensure-a-climate-change-response/>

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

Andrew Derocher raises the “starving polar bears” issue in DailyMail interview

By Susan Crockford, Polar Bear Science, Sep 11, 2014

<http://polarbearscience.com/2014/09/11/andrew-derocher-raises-the-starving-polar-bears-issue-in-dailymail-interview/#more-5839>

“And did Derocher not read Amstrup’s 2003 “Polar bear” entry in “Wild Mammals of North America” where he pointed out that starvation is probably the leading cause of death for young and old bears alike?”

Is the polar bear a political weapon? Arctic creatures are NOT threatened by climate change, says scientist

By Ellie Zolfagharifard, Mail, UK, Sep 9, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-2748995/Is-polar-bear-political-weapon-Arctic-creatures-NOT-threatened-climate-change-says-scientist.html>

Warmer air caused ice shelf collapse off Antarctica

By Alister Doyle, Reuters, Sep 11, 2014 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/09/11/us-climatechange-antarctica-idUSKBN0H625T20140911?feedType=RSS&feedName=scienceNews&rpc=76>

[SEPP Comment: Science follows Hollywood.]

Avoiding the path to zero

By Amanda D. Rodewald, The Hill, Sep 10, 2014

<http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/energy-environment/217176-avoiding-the-path-to-zero>

[SEPP Comment: Fails to answer an important question: what caused the extinction of the passenger pigeon? Could it have been a disease that prevented it from successfully breeding?]

Communicating Better to the Public – Make things up.

Great moments in climate science: “we could have forecast ‘the pause’ – if we had the tools of the future back then”

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Sep 10, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/10/great-moments-in-climate-science-we-could-have-forecast-the-pause-if-we-had-the-tools-of-the-future-back-then/>

“Democracy hurting our climate response” — closet totalitarians at the ABC again

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Sep 8, 2014

<http://joannenova.com.au/2014/09/democracy-hurting-our-climate-response-closet-totalitarians-at-the-abc-again/#more-38152>

No Trend in UK Rainfall Since Records Began

By Sierra Rayne, American Thinker, Sep 9, 2014 [H/t Timothy Wise]

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2014/09/no_trend_in_uk_rainfall_since_records_began.html

[SEPP Comment: So much for the recent UK rains being the result of human emissions of CO2]

Genesis according to Kerry: you shall save the Muslim world from global warming

What an interesting combination of insanities

By Luboš Motl, The Reference Frame, Sep 6, 2014

<http://motls.blogspot.com/2014/09/genesis-according-to-kerry-you-shall.html>

Hillary: ‘Climate Change Is Most Urgent, Consequential Challenge We Face’

By Robert Wilde, Breitbart, Sep 5, 2014 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://www.breitbart.com/Big-Government/2014/09/05/Hillary-Climate-Change-Is-The-Most-Urgent-Challenge-We-Face>

Communicating Better to the Public – Go Personal.

A saching

By Andrew Montford, Bishop Hill, Sep 6, 2014

<http://www.bishop-hill.net/blog/2014/9/6/a-saching.html>

David Suzuki Must Set Positive Example in Climate Controversy

By Tom Harris, Net News Ledger, Sep 8, 2014

<http://www.netnewsledger.com/2014/09/08/david-suzuki-must-set-positive-example-in-climate-controversy/>

How Not to “Crush and Bury” Climate Sceptics

By Ben Pile, Climate Resistance, Sep 6, 2014

<http://www.climate-resistance.org/2014/09/how-not-to-crush-and-bury-climate-sceptics.html>

Communicating Better to the Public – Use Propaganda on Children

The inescapable urge to indoctrinate

By Andrew Montford, Bishop Hill, Sep 12, 2014

<http://bishophill.squarespace.com/blog/2014/9/12/the-inescapable-urge-to-indoctrinate.html>

“The goal for teachers is to provide the balance between emotion and analytical reasoning to create a situation where students can effectively learn about climate change and feel empowered to act...we need to focus on actions that students can change to mitigate climate change. By promoting the positive, we can leave students with a sense of what they can do.”

‘Climate disruption’ gets a movie

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Sep 8, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/08/climate-disruption-gets-a-movie/>

Expanding the Orthodoxy

Clean coal key to combating climate change: Rio Tinto

By Staff Writers, Sydney (AFP), Sept 09, 2014

http://www.energy-daily.com/reports/Clean_coal_key_to_combating_climate_change_Rio_Tinto_999.html

Mining giant Rio Tinto said Tuesday clean coal was key to tackling climate change and that developing the technology was a challenge greater than the first moon landing.

Do Researchers Really Know Why Global Warming Is On Pause and When It Will End?

By Ronald Bailey, Reason, Sep 9, 2014

<http://reason.com/blog/2014/09/09/global-warming-pause-to-end>

Opportunities to Reduce Federal Fiscal Exposures Through Greater Resilience to Climate Change and Extreme Weather

By Staff Writers, GAO, Jul 29, 2014 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-14-504T>

Link to full report: Opportunities to Reduce Federal Fiscal Exposures Through Greater Resilience to Climate Change and Extreme Weather

Statement of Alfredo Gomez, Director Natural Resources and Environment, Jul 29, 2014

<http://www.gao.gov/assets/670/665089.pdf>

Questioning European Green

Election of Donald Tusk puts EU climate position in doubt

By Aline Robert, EurActiv, Sep 9, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.euractiv.com/sections/sustainable-dev/election-donald-tusk-puts-eu-climate-position-doubt-308291>

Spain’s Canete to Get EU Merged Climate-Energy Chief Role

By Ewa Krukowska, Bloomberg, Sep 10, 2014

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-09-10/spain-s-canete-to-get-eu-merged-climate-energy-chief-role.html>

Brussels Anti-Green Purge – New EU Leaders Neuter Green Lobby

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Sep 12, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/12/brussels-anti-green-purge-new-eu-leaders-neuter-green-lobby/>

Juncker's plan would 'shut down environmental policy', campaigners warn

Business groups have welcomed Juncker's new 'streamlined' Commission structure, but green campaigners have decried the loss of dedicated environment and climate commissioners.

By Dave Keating, European Voice, Sep 11, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.europeanvoice.com/article/is-environment-off-the-commissions-agenda/>

Shame of fake EU climate change "aid" to Third World

It is quite staggering that the EU is "helping" poverty stricken countries in Africa by pumping taxpayers' money into, wait for it, "green energy". The figures have to be seen to be believed

By Luke Stanley, The Commentator, Sep 9, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

http://www.thecommentator.com/article/5215/shame_of_fake_eu_climate_change_aid_to_third_world

Forecast March-2015 Solar Eclipse Has Power Grid Operators Distressed... "Dangerously Destabilized"

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Sep 8, 2014

<http://notrickszone.com/2014/09/08/forecast-march-2015-solar-eclipse-has-power-grid-operators-distressed-dangerously-destabilized/>

[SEPP Comment: At least it is predictable.]

£215 energy smart meters to cut bills by just 2pc, PAC warns

Public Accounts Committee warns that £10.6bn programme may be too costly and may result in customers footing the bill for technology that is already be out of date by the time it is installed

By Emily Gosden, Telegraph, UK, Sep 10, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/energy/11085830/215-energy-smart-meters-to-cut-bills-by-just-2pc-PAC-warns.html>

Questioning Green Elsewhere

Green Energy More Hype Than Benefit

By Larry Bell, Newsmax, Sep 9, 2014

<http://www.newsmax.com/LarryBell/Green-Energy-Hype-carbon/2014/09/09/id/593475/>

Funding Issues

Ocean Acidification: NSF awards \$11.4 million in new grants to study effects on marine ecosystems

Oceans may be acidifying faster today than in the past 300 million years

Press Release, NSF, Sep 9, 2014

http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=132548&WT.mc_id=USNSF_51&WT.mc_ev=click

We can win on climate change - but without the UN

By Assaad Razzouk, Eco-Business, Sep 9, 2014

http://www.eco-business.com/opinion/we-can-win-climate-change-without-un/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Sep+10+newsletter&utm_content=Sep+10+newsletter+Version+A+CID_ea008be821df2a3a6066eba42bf32592&utm_source=Campaign%20Monitor&utm_term=READ%20FULL%20STORY

[SEPP Comment: *The promised cash does not come.*]

The Political Games Continue

15 GOP governors to Obama: Climate rule breaks the law

By Laura Barron-Lopez, The Hill, Sep 10, 2014

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/217300-15-gop-governors-to-obama-climate-rule-breaks-the-law>

Lawmakers clash over transparency at wildlife agency

By Timothy Cama, The Hill, Sep 10, 2014

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/217285-lawmakers-clash-over-transparency-at-wildlife-agency>

EPA and other Regulators on the March

EPA's Phony "Environmental Justice" Caper

By Paul Driessen, Townhall, Sep 7, 2014

http://townhall.com/columnists/pauldriessen/2014/09/07/epas-phony-environmental-justice-caper-n1888249?utm_source=thdaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=nl

EPA tries again to explain water jurisdiction rule

By Timothy Cama, The Hill Sep 8, 2014

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/216968-epa-tries-again-to-explain-water-jurisdiction-rule>

EPA Should Improve Adherence to Guidance for Selected Elements of Regulatory Impact Analyses

By Staff Writers, GAO, Aug 11, 2014

<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-14-519>

Link to full report: EPA Should Improve Adherence to Guidance for Selected Elements of Regulatory Impact

By Staff Writers, GAO, July 2014

<http://www.gao.gov/assets/670/664872.pdf>

EPA puts climate target on airlines

By Timothy Cama, The Hill, Sep 7, 2014

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/216844-epa-puts-climate-target-on-airlines>

EPA Fakes Regulatory Cost-Benefit Calculations

By Diane Katz, The Daily Signal, Sep 5, 2014

<http://dailysignal.com/2014/09/05/epa-fakes-regulatory-cost-benefit-calculations/>

Watchdogs: Agencies obstructing probes

By Timothy Cama, The Hill, Sep 10, 2014

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/217324-inspectors-say-agencies-obstruct-investigations>

Energy Issues – Non-US

Methane – damned if you do, dammed if you don't

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Sep 12, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/12/methane-damned-if-you-do-dammed-if-you-dont/>

Energy Issues -- US

Preparing For A Carrington Event

By Donn Dears, Power For USA, Sep 12, 2014

<https://dddusmma.wordpress.com/2014/09/12/preparing-for-a-carrington-event/>

Hawthorne Redux

By Donn Dears, Power For USA, Sep 9, 2014

<https://dddusmma.wordpress.com/2014/09/09/hawthorne-redux/>

Oil and Natural Gas – the Future or the Past?

Shale gas tops PM Narendra Modi's agenda for US visit

SUMMARY: Two sides expected to talk about exploration of unconventional resources in India

By Siddhartha P Saikia and Huma Siddiqui, The Financial Express, India, Sep 12, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.financialexpress.com/news/Shale-tops-Modi-s-agenda-for-US-visit/1288069>

[SEPP Comment: India's government-owned oil companies have invested large sums in the US.]

Shale gas getting cheaper

By Andrew Montford, Bishop Hill, Sep 9, 2014

<http://bishophill.squarespace.com/blog/2014/9/9/shale-gas-getting-cheaper.html>

Link to report: Raymond James Drops NatGas Price Forecasts on 'Staggering' Onshore Output

By Carolyn Davis, NG Daily, Sep 8, 2014

<http://www.naturalgasintel.com/articles/99628-raymond-james-drops-natgas-price-forecasts-on-staggering-onshore-output>

Return of King Coal?

Coal, There's Just No Alternative

By Tony Thomas, Quadrant, Sep 12, 2014

<http://quadrant.org.au/opinion/tony-thomas/2014/09/coal-theres-just-alternative/>

Coal India planning measures to ease fuel supply The state-owned coal producer plans to augment its output to 615 million tonnes by fiscal 2017

By Staff Writers, Live Mint, India, Sep 7, 2014 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.livemint.com/Industry/TcaqWkDVtYrI3nWh9mBrXL/Coal-India-planning-measures-to-ease-fuel-supply.html>

Nuclear Energy and Fears

Uranium 2014 Report: Red Book Highlights Continuing Growth Trend

Supply and Demand Strong Despite Lower Prices

By Staff Writers, IAEA, Sep 9, 2014

<http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/2014/redbook.html>

Alternative, Green (“Clean”) Solar and Wind

A Government-subsidized Desert Death Ray

By Norman Rogers, American Thinker, Sep 12, 2014

http://americanthinker.com/2014/09/a_governmentsubsidized_desert_death_ray.html

Spiegel: Germany’s Large-Scale Offshore Windpark Dream Morphs Into An Engineering And Cost Nightmare

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Sep 11, 2014

<http://notrickszone.com/2014/09/11/spiegel-germanys-large-scale-offshore-windpark-dream-morphs-into-an-engineering-and-cost-nightmare/>

[SEPP Comment: According to the web site by BARD, the rotor circle diameter is 122m – about 400 feet – and the blades are made of glass-fibre reinforced plastic based on epoxy resin. The mass is 28.5 t (31.4 tons) and the hub mass is about 70 t (77 tons).]

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

GAO Report: Renewable Fuel Standard Costs Outweigh Benefits

By Staff Writers, Taxpayers for Commonsense, Aug 12, 2014 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://www.taxpayer.net/library/article/gao-report-renewable-fuel-standard-costs-outweigh-benefits>

Link to Report: Environmental Regulation: EPA Should Improve Adherence to Guidance for Selected Elements of Regulatory Impact Analysis

By Staff Writers, GAO, July 2014

<http://oversight.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/GAOREport.pdf>

Feds pay \$105M to turn garbage, feces into fuel

By Tim Devaney, The Hill, Sep 5, 2014

<http://thehill.com/regulation/216833-whats-that-smell-usda-pays-105m-to-turn-garbage-feces-into-fuel>

Alternative, Green (“Clean”) Vehicles

Tesla picks Nevada for \$5 bln battery plant

By Staff Writers, Los Angeles (AFP), Sept 05, 2014

http://www.energy-daily.com/reports/Tesla_picks_Nevada_for_5_bln_battery_plant_999.html

Critics slam Nevada’s \$1.3 billion in incentives for Tesla

Lawmakers weigh battery factory deal in special session ordered by Gov. Brian Sandoval

By Scott Sonner, AP, Sep 10, 2014

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/sep/10/nevadas-proposed-13-billion-incentive-package-tesl/>

Mr. Sandoval said the lithium battery factory and its 6,500 workers would generate more than 20,000 construction and other related jobs and up to \$100 billion for Nevada’s economy over the next 20 years — a return on investment he estimated to be \$80 for every \$1 the state spends.

[SEPP Comment: The numbers work out to be about \$200,000 per permanent job.]

California Dreaming

California solar projects plan undergoing major overhaul

By Carolyn Lochhead, SFGate, Sep 10, 2014 [H/t David Kreutzer]

<http://www.sfgate.com/science/article/California-solar-projects-plan-undergoing-major-5739105.php#page-1>

The California High Speed Rail

By Baruch Feigenbaum, NCPA, Sep 8, 2014

<http://environmentblog.ncpa.org/the-california-high-speed-rail/>

Oh Mann!

Another Porky from Mann, Williams and Fontaine

By Steve McIntyre, Climate Audit, Sep 10, 2014

<http://climateaudit.org/2014/09/10/another-porky-from-mann-williams-and-fontaine/#more-19692>

Fraudulent(?) hockey stick

Michael Mann's brief

By Judith Curry, Climate Etc. Sep 11, 2014

<http://judithcurry.com/2014/09/11/fraudulent-hockey-stick/>

Other Scientific News

Microscopic Diamonds Suggest Cosmic Impact Responsible for Major Period of Climate Change [Update]

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Sep 11, 2014

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/09/11/microscopic-diamonds-suggest-cosmic-impact-responsible-for-major-period-of-climate-change/>

Trinity geologists re-write Earth's evolutionary history books

By Staff Writers, Dublin, Ireland, (SPX) Sep 09, 2014

http://www.terraily.com/reports/Trinity_geologists_re_write_Earths_evolutionary_history_books_999.html

Other News that May Be of Interest

China's "National Plan on New Urbanization"

By Xinyuan Zou, NCPA, Sep 10, 2014

<http://www.ncpa.org/pub/ba802>

Canada finds 1 of 2 explorer ships lost in Arctic

By Rob Gillies, AP, Sep 9, 2014 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

http://hosted2.ap.org/APDEFAULT/3d281c11a96b4ad082fe88aa0db04305/Article_2014-09-09-CN--Canada-Arctic%20Ship%20Found/id-ac4fb9d51b3242dbab50a5126635428a

California blue whales rebound from whaling, first of their kin to do so

By Staff Writers, Seattle WA (SPX) Sep 10, 2014

http://www.terraily.com/reports/California_blue_whales_rebound_from_whaling_first_of_their_kin_to_do_so_999.html

How evolutionary principles could help save our world

By Staff Writers, NSF, Sep 11, 2014

http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=132674&WT.mc_id=USNSF_51&WT.mc_ev=click

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BELOW THE BOTTOM LINE:

US offshore wind making progress, but craves policy certainty

A report produced by Navigant Consulting for the Energy Department in the United States has indicated that there is a need to provide policy certainty in order to maximize offshore wind development.

By Ritesh Gupta, Wind Energy Update, Sep 8, 2014

http://social.windenergyupdate.com/offshore-wind/us-offshore-wind-making-progress-craves-policy-certainty?utm_campaign=WIN%2011SEPT14%20Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Eloqua&utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=eshot&utm_campaign=WEU&elq=c42d06843897448b8200ec67ea33a289&elqCampaignId=318

[SEPP Comment: Policy certainty is correctly interpreted as sustained subsidy certainty.]

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ARTICLES:

1. Matt Ridley Replies to His Climate-Change Critics

Jeffrey Sachs blows a gasket, and our contributor cleans up the intellectual mess.

Editorial, WSJ, Sep 9, 2014

<http://online.wsj.com/articles/matt-ridley-replies-to-his-climate-change-critics-1410271012>

Editor's note: Matt Ridley's Sept. 4 op-ed, "Whatever Happened to Global Warming?," stirred a strong response, not least among the enforcers of climate-change orthodoxy. Here is Mr. Ridley's reply to his critics, adapted from his blog:

Post-script. After the article was published, an astonishing tweet was sent by the prominent economist Jeffrey Sachs saying:

"Ridley climate ignorance in WSJ today is part of compulsive lying of Murdoch media gang. Ridley totally misrepresents the science."

Curious to know how I had lied or "totally misrepresented" the science, I asked Sachs to explain. There was a deafening silence.

There then appeared at the Huffington Post an article under Sachs's name. Its style was quite unlike that of Sachs. The piece purported to—in a spin doctor's words—expose:

"The Wall Street Journal Parade of Climate Lies - @JeffDSachs destroys daft @mattwridley article in@WSJ"

However, it does nothing of the sort. It's all bluster and careful misdirection, and contradicts nothing in my article, let alone producing evidence of lies. The sheer inaccuracy of the riposte in its descriptions of what I said or what I think are breathtaking, as are its failure to address any of the issues I raise, let alone contradict them. I had respect for Jeffrey Sachs as a scholar before reading this. Here are some key passages:

"Ridley's "smoking gun" is a paper last week in Science Magazine by two scientists Xianyao Chen and Ka-Kit Tung . . ."

Notice the quote marks around "smoking gun," implying that I used the phrase. I did not. In any case, the Chen and Tung paper was only one of the pieces of evidence I cited.

". . . which Ridley somehow believes refutes all previous climate science."

I said nothing of the sort and I believe nothing of the sort. Chen and Tung is about currents in the Atlantic, not about "all climate science"!

"The Wall Street Journal editors don't give a hoot about the nonsense they publish if it serves their cause of fighting measures to limit human-induced climate change. If they had simply gone online to read the actual paper, they would have found that the paper's conclusions are the very opposite of Ridley's."

In his writing the real Mr. Sachs does not often use phrases like "don't give a hoot."

In any case, he's plain wrong about the contradiction. The quote I gave from the press release is accurate. And I have read the paper and can assure Mr. "Sachs" that its conclusions are not the opposite of what I have said. As further confirmation, how about asking the paper's lead author himself? This is what he wrote to Prof. Judith Curry in response to her questions:

"Dear Judy,

The argument on the roughly 50-50 attribution of the forced vs unforced warming for the last two and half decades of the 20th century is actually quite simple. If one is blaming internal variability for canceling out the anthropogenically forced warming during the current hiatus, one must admit that the former is not negligible compared to the latter, and the two are probably roughly of the same magnitude. Then when the internal cycle is of the different sign in the latter part of the 20th century, it must have added to the forced response. Assuming the rate of forced warming has not changed during the period concerned, then the two combined must be roughly twice the forced warming during the last two and half decades of the 20th century."

In other words, as I said, the warming of 1975-2000 was only half caused by man-made emissions and half by natural causes, according to their conclusions, and natural causes were enough to cancel man-made forcing in the years after 2000.

To continue with the "Sachs" article:

"First, the paper makes perfectly clear that the Earth is warming in line with standard climate science, and that the Earth's warming is unabated in recent years. In the scientific lingo of the paper (it's very first line, so Ridley didn't have far to read!), "Increasing anthropogenic greenhouse-gas-emissions perturb Earth's radiative equilibrium, leading to a persistent imbalance at the top of the atmosphere (TOA) despite some long-wave radiative adjustment." In short, we humans are filling the atmosphere with carbon dioxide from fossil-fuel use, and we are warming the planet."

Mr. "Sachs" did not have far to read in my own article to find this is in complete agreement with what I wrote also:

"I've long thought that man-made carbon-dioxide emissions will raise global temperatures, but that this effect will not be amplified much by feedbacks from extra water vapor and clouds, so the world will probably be only a bit more than one degree Celsius warmer in 2100 than today."

Instead of using words like "unabated" why not give numbers? I did.

The warming during 1975-2000, even if you cherry-pick the end points, was about 0.4 degrees C if you average the five main global data sets, and if half of that was natural, then man-made forcing was going at the rate of less than 1 degree per century, rather less than what I said.

"Second, the total warming is distributed between the land and ocean surface on the one hand and the ocean deep water on the other. The total rise of ocean heat content has continued unabated, while the proportion of heat absorbed at the surface and in the deeper ocean varies over time. Again, in the scientific lingo of the paper, "[T]his forced total OHC [ocean heat content] should be increasing monotonically over longer periods even through the current period of slowed warming. In fact, that expectation is verified by observation . . ." In other words, the ocean has continued to warm in line with predictions of just such a phenomenon seen in climate models."

This is highly misleading. The quote from the paper does not contradict me at all. In any case, remember, the data on ocean heat content is highly ambiguous. As Judith Curry summarized it recently:

"The main issue of interest is to what extent can ocean heat sequestration explain the hiatus since 1998. The only data set that appears to provide support for ocean sequestration is the ocean reanalysis, with the Palmer and Domingues 0-700 m OHC climatology providing support for continued warming in the upper ocean.

All in all, I don't see a very convincing case for deep ocean sequestration of heat. And even if the heat from surface heating of the ocean did make it into the deep ocean, presumably the only way for this to happen involves mixing (rather than adiabatic processes), so it is very difficult to imagine how this heat could reappear at the surface in light of the 2nd law of thermodynamics."

Back to the "Sachs" article:

"Third, it is the 'vertical distribution' of the warming, between the surface and deep water, which affects the warming observed on land and at the sea surface. The point of the paper is that the allocation of the warming vertically varies over time, sometimes warming the surface rapidly, other times warming the deeper ocean to a great extent and the surface water less rapidly. According to the paper, the period of the late 20th century was a period in which the surface was warmed relative to the deeper ocean. The period since 2000 is the opposite, with more warming of the deeper ocean. How do the scientists know? They measure the ocean temperature at varying depths with a sophisticated system of 'Argo profiling floats,' which periodically dive into the ocean depths to take temperature readings and resurface to transmit them to the data centers."

I have no problem with this paragraph, which merely reiterates what I said about the Chen and Tung paper, with a bit more detail about the Argo floats, etc. It finds no evidence of my misrepresentation, let alone total misrepresentation.

"So, what is Ridley's 'smoking gun' when you strip away his absurd version of the paper? It goes like this. The Earth is continuing to warm just as greenhouse gas theory holds."

Check, I agree—over the long term and slowly, just as greenhouse gas theory holds. But the atmosphere is not continuing to warm right now.

"The warming heats the land and the ocean. The ocean distributes some of the warming to the surface waters and some to the deeper waters, depending on the complex circulation of ocean waters."

Check. Could not have said it better myself, though remember this is still speculation and was not predicted.

"The shares of warming of the surface and deeper ocean vary over time, in fluctuations that can last a few years or a few decades."

Check.

Where's the contradiction with what I wrote? There is none. If Mr. "Sachs" had bothered to read my article properly, he would find that his description of what is happening is pretty well exactly the same as mine. Except that he gives no numbers. What I did was to show that if Chen and Tung are right, and half the warming in the last part of the last century was natural, then the "rapid" warming of those three decades was still too slow for the predictions made by the models. It will if it resumes give us a not very alarming future. And if it does not resume for some time, as Chen and Tung speculate that it might not, then the future is even less alarming.

And no, again, I did not use the phrase "smoking gun." I used several other arguments, all of which Mr. "Sachs" fails to address at all, so presumably he agrees that there has been a "pause," that it was denied for many years by the climate establishment, that there was general agreement among them that a pause of more than 15 years would invalidate their models, and so on.

He goes on:

"If the surface warming is somewhat less in recent years than in the last part of the 20th century, is that reason for complacency? Hardly. The warming is continuing, and the consequences of our current trajectory will be devastating unless greenhouse gas emissions (mainly carbon dioxide) are stopped during this century. As Chen and Tung conclude in their Science paper, 'When the internal variability [of the ocean] that is responsible for the current hiatus [in warming] switches sign, as it inevitably will, another episode of accelerated global warming should ensue.' "

I hardly think it was complacent of me to ask world leaders to address the much more urgent issues of war, terror, disease, poverty, habitat loss and the 1.3 billion people with no electricity.

The only disagreement is whether future warming will be "devastating," and that is a prediction not an empirical fact. I cannot yet be "wrong" about it.

When will Mr. "Sachs" get around to including a number? He surely cannot be under the impression that lukewarmers like me think there is no greenhouse effect? He surely knows that the argument is not about whether there is warming, but how fast.

And where did I lie, or misrepresent? Where did he "destroy" me, pray? He did not.

Mr. "Sachs," who is usually a careful academic, has published a lot of wild accusations against me and "totally" (his word) failed to stand them up. How did this come about? Perhaps, being a busy man, he asked somebody else to ghost-write much of the piece for him and did not check it very thoroughly. Perhaps he wrote it himself. Either way, no problem, a quick tweet apologising to me and admitting that nothing in his article contradicts anything in mine, that we merely disagree on the predictions of dangerous warming, and I will consider the matter closed.

I published most of this riposte to Mr. Sachs's article on my blog post on Sunday and drew his attention to it on Twitter.

He ignored it but posted a single tweet as follows:

"WSJ ignores science conclusion that another episode of accelerated warming should ensue as ocean variability 'inevitably' switches sign."

Actually, the word the scientists use is "rapid" warming and they use it also to describe the warming of the 1980s and 1990s, which as I showed was not nearly as rapid as predicted by the models. So, even when the Atlantic currents are boosting the man-made warming, it is not as fast as the models predict.

Clearly Mr. Sachs and I disagree about how dangerous man-made global warming is likely to be in the future. I think all the explanations for the pause, including the Chen and Tung one, only make my case stronger that man-made warming is not being enhanced by feedbacks and is proceeding according to the greenhouse effect of CO₂ alone. I may of course be wrong. But it is ludicrous, nasty and false to accuse me of lying or "totally misrepresenting the science." I have asked Mr. Sachs to withdraw the charges more than once now on Twitter. He has refused to do so, though he has been tweeting freely during the time.

Soon after my article was published, another peer-reviewed paper appeared in the Journal Nature Climate Change, about as mainstream a climate science publication as you can find. It is entitled: "Climate model simulations of the observed early-2000s hiatus of global warming." The respected commentator and academic Roger Pielke Jr. tweeted:

"Can't wait to see @JeffDSachs eviscerate this paper, no doubt by more of Murdoch's lying henchmen"

2. Poor pay more for renewable energy

Letter By Charles Battig, Richmond Times-Dispatch, Sep 5, 2014

http://www.timesdispatch.com/opinion/your-opinion/letters-to-the-editor/letters-to-the-editor/article_954dbcbd-a1ab-52ae-bc64-e38acace9f40.html

In her letter, "Encourage Dominion's green efforts," Megan Davis expresses "pleasure

. . . that Dominion is exploring the possibility of clean energy

. . . with its new solar project, which will provide 800 kilowatts of energy." This is an error — energy is measured in kilowatt-hours, not kilowatts; customers pay for energy used in kilowatt-hours not power (kilowatts).

Davis commits another error in claiming that burning natural gas results in “emitting carbon and other greenhouse gases.” Carbon is not a greenhouse gas. Was carbon dioxide the intended gas of Davis’ wrath? Then rejoice: “Fracking in the U.S. has led to a greater reduction in carbon emissions than all the wind turbines and solar panels across the entire globe put together.” (Council of Europe, Chris Faulkner, Breitling Energy Corporation.)

Davis overlooks the fact that “clean energy” (presumably solar and wind) has societal costs in addition to its unreliability. Electric bills go up to pay for renewable energy subsidies. Poor and economically disadvantaged customers pay disproportionately more for less energy thanks to the Virginia State Corporation Commission granting Dominion’s requests for rate increases to pay for renewable energy rebate programs. The poor are made to subsidize tax write-offs and subsidies for the solar panels of affluent homeowners, who then brag of “free electricity.” Renewables are unreliable 24/7 sources, so conventional fossil fuel power-plants must remain online.

Scientific records document no increase in global temperatures in the past 17 years, even as atmospheric carbon dioxide rose 10 percent. Man-made carbon dioxide is not driving global temperatures. The carbon footprint scam stomps on millions of birds each year, incinerating them at solar power-plants and mincing them in wind turbines — even the Sierra Club has begun to notice.

A physician, Dr Battig is the president of the Piedmont Chapter of Virginia Scientists and Energizers for Energy and Environment.

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