

# **The Week That Was: 2018-09-01 (September 1, 2018)**

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### **The Science and Environmental Policy Project**

**Quote of the Week:** *“Practical men, who believe themselves to be quite exempt from any intellectual influence, are usually the slaves of some defunct economist. Madmen in authority, who hear voices in the air, are distilling their frenzy from some academic scribbler of a few years back. . . . It is ideas, not vested interests, which are dangerous for good or evil.”* – John Maynard Keynes [H/t Daniel Pipes]

**Number of the Week:** Plus 470,000 barrels per day

#### **THIS WEEK:**

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

**A Valuable Question:** Electrical engineer Martin Stickley with a career in developing lasers and related technology has engaged the editor of a noted science magazine in a discussion on the evidence, or lack thereof, on carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)-caused dangerous global warming. Stickley spent 10 years with DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Project Agency), much of it evaluating research proposals. With a budget of about \$3 billion, DARPA is a premier agency for government sponsored research. Unlike many government entities, it is willing to take risks that the research may not produce the desired end result and tolerates failure. 1970s & 80s research in stealth technology is one example.

Although principally for national defense with much of its research classified, DARPA sponsored innovative civilian research on limb prosthetics. Previously, the hand and lower arm could only be replaced with what was effectively a hook or claw. Now, advances include hands that can open and close moved by muscles in the upper arm.

Stickley is a climate skeptic, and using actual measurements, not model results, developed a series of slides questioning that CO<sub>2</sub> is causing a warming significantly greater than natural variation. These include a chart showing there is a poor correlation between observed temperature rise and increasing atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations, with no correlation since 2003. There was a good correlation between 1976 and 1998.

The editor responded that much of science is not built on proofs, logically compelling arguments, but on confidence in theoretical models, using the Big Bang as an example. Stickley sent the correspondence to John Christy and TWTW.

John Christy responded with his March 29, 2017, testimony to the U.S. House Committee on Science, Space & Technology. Haapala responded with a summary of last weekend's lecture at Doctors for Disaster Preparedness, with links.

"Saturday, I gave a lecture at a conference for doctors on Bureaucratic Science, group think used by government. Global warming was the primary example. Since the 1920s, multiple laboratories conducted experiments on the flow of radiant energy through gases. All atmospheric gases affect energy flow. Those gases that affect outgoing infrared energy are called greenhouse gases. They delay the loss of heat into space, causing the earth to be warmer, particularly at night, than it

would be otherwise. By far, the most important is water vapor. Carbon dioxide is a minor greenhouse gas both in quantity and efficiency. Its effect is highly logarithmic. At pre-industrial levels (about 280 ppm) it was approaching saturation, where any increase will have a minimal effect.

“In 1979, the National Academy of Sciences published a report by a group of distinguished scientists called the Charney Report (the NYT Mag recently made much of this). Climate modelers speculated (guessed) that an increase in atmospheric water vapor would greatly increase (amplify) any increase in temperatures from CO<sub>2</sub>. The estimated increase in surface temperatures was 3 deg C +/- 50%. The low end came from the Princeton modelers and the high end from Jim Hansen’s NASA-GISS. There were no data, because no one could calculate temperatures of the atmospheric, where the greenhouse effect occurs. Small slivers of atmospheric temperature data from weather balloon instruments were not sufficient.

“In 1990, Roy Spencer and John Christy provided a breakthrough – how to calculate global atmospheric temperature trends from satellite data, gathered since late 1978. Initially, they were honored, then shunned. The data do not support the guesses in the Charney Report. Small errors from orbit irregularities were promptly corrected, as they should be. Still, the climate bureaucrats ignore these data.

“The IPCC and US climate modelers continue to use the Charney guesses, not hard evidence. The 2018 Christy et al. article in the International Journal of Remote Sensing clearly shows that amplified warming from increased water vapor is not occurring, the models greatly overestimate atmospheric warming, and if there is any warming from CO<sub>2</sub>, it is very modest. Any greater warming trend of the surface comes from other factors, not greenhouse gases. How can the atmosphere warm the surface at a greater rate than the atmosphere is warming?

“Science advances by guesses (hypotheses), then testing the guesses with hard evidence, from experiments and observations. Most guesses are discarded when found wrong. It is past time for the US government and others to discard the guesses in the Charney Report. They have been shown to be wrong. Continuing with them is Bureaucratic Science.

“Oceanographer Carl Wunsch, who participated in the Charney Report, has an excellent description of this nonsense, summarized by Judith Curry. Wunsch’s article is well worth reading.”

*The valuable question asked by the editor is: “What would convince you that global warming is caused by increased CO<sub>2</sub>?”* To which Haapala responded an atmospheric warming trend significantly greater than the reported surface warming trend, (because the greenhouse effect occurs in the atmosphere).

Of course, this prompts the question what is meant by “significantly greater.” The Charney report contains the assumptions by modelers that water vapor will significantly increase any atmospheric warming by CO<sub>2</sub>. The commonly used Kiehl and Trenberth model of the global radiation budget shows a release of latent heat occurring in the atmosphere with condensation of water vapor. Assuming this is the mechanism for the increase in atmospheric warming, it would be occurring consistent with the tropical hot spot, which is yet to be found.

Assuming 80% of this questionable warming results in surface warming, the balance going into outer space, a surface warming no more than 80% of CO<sub>2</sub>-caused atmospheric warming would be

in order. The subsequent question is: what is the atmospheric warming after accounting for volcanoes and the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO), which have been shown to influence atmospheric temperatures?

Christy responded to the editor's question with the paper by Christy and McBride published in November 2017, which uses statistical methods to adjust atmospheric temperature trends (lower troposphere) for volcanic activity and ENSO (discussed in Dec 2, 2017 TWTW). The paper finds a warming rate of 0.096K per decade over the record of January 1979 to June 2017. Applying the crude guess of 80% of atmospheric warming, this finding indicates any surface warming trend greater than 0.077K per decade is from causes other than greenhouse gases.

The above calculated trend (about 0.15°F per decade) is far lower than the surface warming trend described in the reports of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the US Global Change Research Program (USGCRP), and models used, except the one by the Moscow-based, Institute of Numerical Mathematics (TWTW does not know if this model describes surface warming or atmospheric warming). Further, the relationship between CO<sub>2</sub> and temperatures is highly logarithmic. Thus, any current trend in CO<sub>2</sub>-caused warming will decline in the future with increasing CO<sub>2</sub>.

The internal logic of the models is not the issue, the issues are the assumptions and the confidence expressed in them. In addressing the discrepancy between their findings and the results of the models, Christy and McBride state:

*“The tropical region is mainly responsible for this discrepancy suggesting processes that are the likely sources of the extra sensitivity are (a) the parameterized hydrology of the deep atmosphere, (b) the parameterized heat-partitioning at the ocean-atmosphere interface and/or (c) unknown natural variations.”*

See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy.

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**Revisit the Supreme Court Decision?** SEPP Chairman Emeritus Fred Singer reviews the 5 to 4 decision by the US Supreme Court asserting the authority of the EPA to issue a finding that carbon dioxide is a pollutant under the Clean Air Act, even though it is not listed as a pollutant under the act or any subsequent amendments. This is an example of how malicious bureaucratic science can become. The late Robert Carter found the decision contrary to language, logic, and science.

Logically one could consider it on par with the Supreme Court decision on eugenics permitting compulsory sterilization of the “unfit”, Buck v. Bell, 1927, in which Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. concluded his argument by declaring: “Three generations of imbeciles are enough.”

Singer brings out how weak the evidence for the 2007 decision is:

*“I must note, however, that the plaintiffs' evidence may be tainted; it is based solely on an affidavit supplied by Prof. Michael Oppenheimer, a former chief scientist of the Environmental Defense Fund, an aggressive non-profit group.”*

The EPA amplified this decision to justify its finding that CO<sub>2</sub> endangers public health and welfare with little hard evidence. See Article # 1.

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**Changing Language:** There is no question that the late John McCain was a man of courage who was considered a “maverick.” It was quite striking to read the current president of the Environmental Defense Fund describe McCain’s support of controls on CO2 as: “McCain spoke out loudly about the **dangers climate pollution posed** to America and the world.” [Boldface added.]

What does “climate pollution” mean? Was the world coming out of the little ice age, when millions died of famine and related diseases, “climate pollution?” Was the advent of the Holocene which saw the creation of human civilization “climate pollution?”

In announcing further litigation against fossil fuel companies, Greenpeace made the statement:

*“With the global spread of heatwaves and wildfires currently happening across the northern hemisphere, and floods, droughts and severe storms in other parts of the world, the chain of events is **consistent with the predictions of a climate changed world.**”*

Climate has been changing for hundreds of millions of years. Humanity evolved in a world of climate change. Are we seeing those creating fear of CO2-caused global warming becoming ever more imaginative in their rhetoric because their hard evidence is weak? See Article # 2 and links under Litigation Issues.

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**California Goes 100% Renewable?** The California State legislature delivered a bill to Governor Brown that he apparently wanted – a goal to have 100% of its energy from “carbon-free” sources. Great ambitions, but there are few details. The targets for electricity are 33% carbon free by 2020, 50% carbon free by 2026, with 100% by 2045.

The governor has stated that the state needs to increase its ability to store power from unpredictable sources like wind and solar, to become part of a multistate energy grid and put millions more electric cars on its roads. What California has to offer other states to join a multistate energy grid is not clear. According to the EIA, California receives about 25% of its electric power from out-of-state, including hydropower from the Bonneville Power Administration in the Pacific Northwest, which said it won’t join.

Hoover dam has a generating capacity of 2 GW, with most of the power committed. The waterflow of the Colorado River is over-committed. The CEO of Edison International said its operating unit, Southern California Edison, can comply with cutting greenhouse gas emissions 40% by 2030 with 10 GW of storage. For this cut in greenhouse gases, far more modest than the legislation targets, 5 Hoover Dams are required. Where the politicians plan to place the dams and the additional Colorado Rivers needed are anyone’s guess. See links under California Dreaming, the Nov 4, 2017 TWTW, and <https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=30192>

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**Number of the Week: Plus 470,000 barrels a day.** The port district of Houston-Galveston handles more crude oil imports and exports than any other US port district. For the first time, in April exports exceeded imports. The difference grew to 470,000 barrels a day in May. As the Wall Street Journal states, this does not mean that the US will not need imports. Refineries need heavy crude to produce the full mix of refined products, which the light crude from fracking does not provide. But the US can become a net exporter. See Article # 3.

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## SEPP'S APRIL FOOLS AWARD THE JACKSON

The winner of the 2018 SEPP April Fools Award was announced last Sunday at the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Doctors for Disaster Preparedness. An update on Lisa Jackson, the namesake for the Lisa Jackson Trophy was given.

Lisa Jackson is Vice President Environment, Policy and Social Initiatives at Apple Computer where she is a leader in Apple's efforts in pleasing the greens by practicing "bait and switch" – promising clean energy, but producing unreliable, wind and solar, which embodies a double subsidy. Companies are formed to generate wind and solar power, using subsidies in the form of federal tax credits used by Apple to offset its tax obligations.

Transmissions companies must make the unreliable electricity by making it reliable, with the costs passed onto ordinary consumers. A consumer subsidy to the unreliable electricity generator. Apple does not use the unreliable tax-subsidized, unreliable electricity. Instead, it uses the double-subsidized reliable electricity.

Who better captures the spirit of the Lisa Jackson Trophy than Governor Jerry Brown, who is leading California to breathless heights of renewable energy and electricity prices? When announcing the winner, a slide of an interpretation of Jerry Brown's Bullet Train was displayed – a junked subway car with jet engines attached on the roof at the front [From Power Line].

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### NEWS YOU CAN USE:

#### *Censorship*

##### **From Twitter mobs to the moral police, the decline of free speech is society's gravest threat**

By Allister Heath, Telegraph, UK, Via GWPF, Aug 30, 2018

<https://www.thegwpf.com/from-twitter-mobs-to-the-moral-police-the-decline-of-free-speech-is-societys-gravest-threat/>

"The range of views that can be expressed without fear of reprisal has narrowed dramatically, partly because we've lost the language and manners required to disagree constructively."

#### *Suppressing Scientific Inquiry*

##### **Out This Week: Disasters & Climate Change 2018, 2nd Edition**

By Roger Pielke Jr., His Blog, Aug 28, 2018

<https://rogerpielkejr.com/2018/08/28/out-this-week-disasters-climate-change-2018-2nd-edition/>

Includes: "My experiences being investigated by a member of the US Congress, appearing in Wikileaks as the target of a campaign to silence me, and ultimately receiving the full support of my campus leaders as I have largely departed the climate field (but not entirely!)."

#### **'We Will Not Debate' – How Science Becomes Dogma**

By David Whitehouse, GWPF, Aug 30, 2018

<https://www.thegwpf.com/we-will-not-debate-how-science-becomes-dogma/>

Link to referenced article: Climate change is real. We must not offer credibility to those who deny it

“If ‘balance’ means giving voice to those who deny the reality of human-triggered climate change, we will not take part in the debate, say Jonathan Porritt, Caroline Lucas, Clive Lewis and 57 other writers, politicians and academics.”

By Staff Writer, Guardian, Aug 26, 2018

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/aug/26/climate-change-is-real-we-must-not-offer-credibility-to-those-who-deny-it>

[SEPP Comment: Human-triggered climate change?]

### **AGW Gatekeepers Censor The CO2-Climate Debate By Refusing To Publish Author’s Response To Criticism**

By Kenneth Richard, No Tricks Zone, Aug 27, 2018

<http://notrickszone.com/2018/08/27/agw-gatekeepers-censor-the-co2-climate-debate-by-refusing-to-publish-authors-response-to-criticism/>

### **YouTube Is Fighting against Scientific Inquiry and the Expansion of Human Knowledge**

By William Balgord, Townhall, Aug 20, 2018

<https://townhall.com/columnists/williamdbalgord/2018/08/20/youtube-is-fighting-against-scientific-inquiry-and-the-expansion-of-human-knowledge-n2510823>

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

#### **Climate Change Reconsidered II: Physical Science**

Idso, Carter, and Singer, Lead Authors/Editors, 2013

<https://www.heartland.org/media-library/pdfs/CCR-II/CCR-II-Full.pdf>

Summary: <http://www.nipccreport.org/reports/ccr2a/pdf/Summary-for-Policymakers.pdf>

#### **Climate Change Reconsidered II: Biological Impacts**

Idso, Idso, Carter, and Singer, Lead Authors/Editors, 2014

<http://www.nipccreport.org/reports/ccr2b/pdf/Full-Report.pdf>

Summary: <https://www.heartland.org/media-library/pdfs/CCR-IIb/Summary-for-Policymakers.pdf>

### **Why Scientists Disagree About Global Warming**

The NIPCC Report on the Scientific Consensus

By Craig D. Idso, Robert M. Carter, and S. Fred Singer, NIPCC, Nov 23, 2015

<http://climatechangereconsidered.org/>

Download with no charge

<https://www.heartland.org/policy-documents/why-scientists-disagree-about-global-warming>

### **Nature, Not Human Activity, Rules the Climate**

S. Fred Singer, Editor, NIPCC, 2008

[http://www.sepp.org/publications/nipcc\\_final.pdf](http://www.sepp.org/publications/nipcc_final.pdf)

### ***Challenging the Orthodoxy***

#### **The Supreme Court, 'Clean' Energy, and the Clean Air Act**

By S. Fred Singer, American Thinker, Aug 27, 2018

[https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2018/08/the\\_supreme\\_court\\_clean\\_energy\\_and\\_the\\_clean\\_air\\_act.html](https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2018/08/the_supreme_court_clean_energy_and_the_clean_air_act.html)

### **Examination of space-based bulk atmospheric temperatures used in climate research**

By John Christy, Roy Spencer, William Braswell and Robert Junod, International Journal of Remote Sensing, Mar 8, 2018

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/01431161.2018.1444293>

### **Satellite Bulk Tropospheric Temperatures as a Metric for Climate Sensitivity**

By John Christy and Richard McNider, Asia-Pacific Journal of Atmospheric Science, sponsored by the Korean Meteorological Service, Nov 29, 2017

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s13143-017-0070-z>

### **Weather and Climate in the Real World**

Guest Opinion: Dr. Tim Ball, WUWT, Aug 18, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/08/18/weather-and-climate-in-the-real-world/>

### **The perils of ‘near-tabloid science’**

By Judith Curry, Climate Etc. July 22, 2018 [H/t WUWT]

<https://judithcurry.com/2018/07/22/the-perils-of-near-tabloid-science/>

### **Alarmist Claim Rebuttal August 31 Update**

By Staff Writers, ICECAP, Aug 30, 2018

[http://icecap.us/index.php/go/political-climate/alarmist\\_claim\\_rebuttal\\_august\\_31\\_update/](http://icecap.us/index.php/go/political-climate/alarmist_claim_rebuttal_august_31_update/)

### **The Manhattan Contrarian Guide To Evaluating Environmental Scares: Glyphosate And Climate Change**

By Francis Menton, Manhattan Contrarian, Aug 20, 2018

<https://www.manhattancontrarian.com/blog/2018-8-20-how-to-approach-a-scientific-issue-in-the-public-arena-glyphosate-and-climate-change>

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

#### **Climate Claim: “All Available Options Should be Assessed” for Reducing Population Growth**

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, Aug 19, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/08/19/climate-claim-all-available-options-should-be-assessed-for-reducing-population-growth/>

### **What a New York Times op-ed misses about living with climate change**

By David Festa, Environmental Defense Fund, Aug 27, 2018

<http://blogs.edf.org/growingreturns/2018/08/27/new-york-times-op-ed-living-with-climate-change/>

“We’re exceeding Earth’s planetary boundaries. We need to adjust our expectations about what a new normal will look like. And there’s no single optimal solution for thriving in a changing climate.”

### **The Climate-Wrecking Industry... and How to Beat It**

Insisting that we’re all responsible for global warming lets the biggest corporate polluters off the hook.

By Jason Mark, editor in chief of Sierra magazine The Nation, Aug 29, 2018

<https://www.thenation.com/article/the-climate-wrecking-industry-and-how-to-beat-it/>

“Climate change isn’t so much a failure of human nature as it is the predictable result of a small number of corporations putting their profits ahead of humanity’s future and the planet’s well-being.”

*[SEPP Comment: Railing against “carbon polluters.”]*

### **The Climate Fight’s Next Turning Point**

By Patricia Espinosa and Anne Hidalgo, Project Syndicate, Aug 28, 2018

<https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/global-climate-action-summit-opportunity-by-patricia-espinosa-and-anne-hidalgo-2018-08>

### **NASA administrator says he always thought humans caused climate change**

By Megan Keller, The Hill, Aug 29, 2018

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/404241-nasa-administrator-he-always-thought-humans-cause-climate-change>

*[SEPP Comment: Apparently the administrator is unaware that climate change was occurring long before humanity existed.]*

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

#### **How the war on climate change slams the world’s poor**

By Bjorn Lomborg, New York Post, Aug 26, 2018

<https://nypost.com/2018/08/26/how-the-war-on-climate-change-slams-the-worlds-poor/>

### **The lure of incredible certitude**

By Judith Curry, Climate Etc. Sep 1, 2018

<https://judithcurry.com/2018/09/01/the-lure-of-incredible-certitude/#more-24286>

### **Climate Alarmist Throw Temper Tantrum, Refuse to Debate Skeptics**

By Michael Bastsach, Daily Caller, Aug 27, 2018

<https://dailycaller.com/2018/08/27/climate-alarmists-global-warming/>

### ***After Paris!***

#### **Australia’s new PM risks climate trade-off with EU**

By Sam Morgan, EURACTIV.com, Aug 30, 2018

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/climate-environment/news/australias-new-pm-risks-climate-trade-off-with-eu/>

### **Scott Morrison faces test on Paris climate deal**

By David Crowe & Fergus Hunter, Sydney Morning Herald, Aug 28, 2018

<https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/scott-morrison-faces-test-on-paris-climate-deal-20180827-p50045.html>

### **French environment minister quits, citing lack of policy progress**

By Laurence Frost, Reuters, Aug 28, 2018

<http://www.euronews.com/2018/08/28/french-environment-minister-quits-citing-lack-of-policy-progress>

### **Poor Countries Demand Control, Fed Up Waiting for Climate Change Cash**

Guest essay by Eric Worrall, WUWT, Aug 23, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/08/23/poor-countries-demand-control-fed-up-waiting-for-climate-change-cash/>

### ***Change in US Administrations***

**Here are 10 topics senators could ask Trump's science adviser nominee to address**

By Jeffrey Mervis, Science, Aug 21, 2018

<http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2018/08/here-are-10-topics-senators-could-ask-trump-s-science-adviser-nominee-address>

**Trump's choice for science adviser should be confirmed**

By Patrick Michaels and Ryan Maue, The Hill, Aug 20, 2018

<http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/technology/402653-trumps-choice-for-science-advisor-should-be-confirmed>

**Trump's science-adviser pick hedges on climate change**

Meteorologist Kelvin Droegemeier offered few clues to his views on the topic when grilled at a US Senate hearing.

By Sara Reardon, Nature, Aug 23, 2018

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-018-06019-7>

**Is EPA Changing the Regulatory Paradigm?**

By Patrick Michaels, CATO, Aug 27, 2018

<https://www.cato.org/blog/epa-changing-regulatory-paradigm>

*[SEPP Comment: An important topic at DDP conferences is the unsuitability of EPA'S Linear No Threshold (LNT) Model. Ed Calabrese made important contributions in contradicting the LNT model. Others did as well.]*

**Implications of EPA's Proposed ACE Replacement for the CPP**

By Alan Carlin, Carlin Economics and Science, Aug 24, 2018

<http://www.carlineconomics.com/archives/4568>

**Trump's EPA takes aim at new swath of Obama-era coal rules**

By John Siciliano, Washington Times, Aug 29, 2018

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/policy/energy/trumps-epa-takes-aim-at-new-swath-of-obama-era-coal-rules>

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

**Oh Noes! Ecosystems are getting greener in the Arctic**

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Aug 22, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/08/22/oh-noes-ecosystems-are-getting-greener-in-the-arctic/>

**The Fight Against Global Greening – Part 4**

Guest Essay by Kip Hansen, WUWT, Aug 19, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/08/19/the-fight-against-global-greening-part-4/>

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

**Climate Change, Variability, Recurrent Frequencies, and Planning**

Guest Opinion: Dr. Tim Ball, WUWT, Aug 26, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/08/26/climate-change-variability-recurrent-frequencies-and-planning/>

### **6 Straightforward Recommendations to Help Stop Wildfires**

By Gary Schiff, retiring policy director, National Association of State Foresters, American Thinker, Aug 25, 2018

[https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2018/08/6\\_straightforward\\_recommendations\\_to\\_help\\_stop\\_wildfires.html](https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2018/08/6_straightforward_recommendations_to_help_stop_wildfires.html)

### **GWPF Calls for Ban on plastic Waste Exports**

By Staff Writers, GWPF, Aug 29, 2018

<https://www.thegwpf.com/gwpf-calls-for-ban-on-plastic-waste-exports/>

[SEPP Comment; Government's irresponsible recycling has led to plastic exports being dumped in other countries, where they are washed away in rivers, then into the oceans.]

### **Review of Recent Scientific Articles by CO2 Science**

#### **The Positive Effects of Ocean Acidification and Warming on the Mercury Contamination of an Atlantic Fish**

Sampaio, E., Lopes, A.R., Francisco, S., Paula, J.R., Pimentel, M., Maulvault, A.L., Repolho, T., Grilo, T.F., Pousão-Ferreira, P., Marques, A. and Rosa, R. 2018. Ocean acidification dampens physiological stress response to warming and contamination in a commercially-important fish (*Argyrosomus regius*). *Science of the Total Environment* 618: 388-398. Aug 31, 2018

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V21/aug/a19.php>

#### **A 500-Year Precipitation Reconstruction for Eastern China**

Zhang, Y., Tian, Q., Guillet, S. and Stoffel, M. 2017. 500-yr. precipitation variability in Southern Taihang Mountains, China, and its linkages to ENSO and PDO. *Climatic Change* 144: 419-432. Aug 30, 2018

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V21/aug/a18.php>

#### **Population Adaptation to Heat Waves, But Not Cold Spells, in Korea and Japan**

Lee, W., Choi, H.M., Lee, J.Y., Kim, D.H., Honda, Y. and Kim, H. 2018. Temporal changes in mortality impacts of heat wave and cold spell in Korea and Japan. *Environment International* 116: 136-146. Aug 29, 2018

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V21/aug/a17.php>

#### **More Support for a Global Warming Hiatus**

Ding, M., Wang, S. and Sun, W. 2018. Decadal climate change in Ny-Ålesund, Svalbard, a representative area of the Arctic. *Condensed Matter* 3: 12, doi:10.3390/condmat3020012. Aug 27, 2018

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V21/aug/a16.php>

#### **A Century-Long Proxy of Ocean Acidification and Coral Calcification on the Belize Mesoamerican Barrier Reef**

Fowell, S.E., Foster, G.L., Ries, J.B., Castillo, K.D., de la Vega, E., Tyrrell, T., Donald, H.K. and Chalk, T.B. 2018. Historical trends in pH and carbonate biogeochemistry on the Belize Mesoamerican Barrier Reef System. *Geophysical Research Letters* 45: 3228-3237. Aug 24, 2018

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V21/aug/a15.php>

### ***Models v. Observations***

#### **Chinese Scientists Confirm Warming Hiatus for China, 2001-2015**

By Long Li and Yong Zha, Nanjing Normal University, China, Via GWPF, Aug 25, 2018

<https://www.thegwpf.com/chinese-scientists-confirm-warming-hiatus-for-china-2001-2015/>

#### **Peak tropical storm year – 2005 – all downhill from there**

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Aug 26, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/08/26/peak-tropical-storm-year-2005-all-downhill-from-there/>

Link to paper: Estimation of the maximum annual number of North Atlantic tropical cyclones using climate models

By Sally Lavender, et al. Sciences Advances, Aug 22, 2018

<http://advances.sciencemag.org/content/4/8/eaat6509>

The abstract starts: “Using millennia-long climate model simulations...”

### ***Measurement Issues -- Surface***

#### **New Arctic Ice Measurement Satellite with “frickin’ lasers on [its] head”**

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Aug 22, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/08/22/new-arctic-ice-measurement-satellite-with-frickin-lasers-on-its-head/>

#### **NASA’s “OMG” climate campaign**

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Aug 21, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/08/21/nasas-omg-climate-campaign/>

### ***Measurement Issues -- Atmosphere***

#### **RSS Suspected Of “Serious Data Doping”, German Scientists Say...”Values Fudged To Fit Models”!**

Serious Climate Doping Suspicion Against RSS: Satellite Temperatures Raised One And Half Tenths Of A Degree

By Dr. Sebastian Lüning and Prof. Fritz Vahrenholt (Translated/edited by P Gosselin), No Tricks Zone, Aug 19, 2018

<http://notrickszone.com/2018/08/19/rss-suspected-of-serious-data-doping-german-scientists-say-values-fudged-to-fit-models/>

#### **Temperature tampering temper tantrums**

By Christopher Monckton of Brenchley, WUWT, Apr 21, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/08/21/temperature-tampering-temper-tantrums/>

### ***Changing Weather***

#### **Northwest Wildfires: Are We Seeing a "New Normal" Due to Climate Change or The "Old Normal"?**

By Cliff Mass, Weather and Climate Blog, Aug 24, 2018

<https://cliffmass.blogspot.com/2018/08/northwest-wildfires-are-we-seeing-new.html>

#### **Relief**

By Cliff Mass, Weather and Climate Blog, Aug 27, 2018

<http://cliffmass.blogspot.com/2018/08/relief.html>

[SEPP Comment: From smoke.]

### **About the “global heatwave”...**

By Paul Matthews, Climate Skepticism, Via GWPF, Aug 30, 2018

<https://www.thegwpf.com/about-that-global-heatwave/>

### **Media Claims Of More Heat Waves Refuted By Multiple Recent Studies, Long-term Data**

No long-term trend in heatwaves in North America

By Dr. Sebastian Lüning and Prof. Fritz Vahrenholt, (German text translated/edited by P Gosselin), No Tricks Zone, Aug 31, 2018

<http://notrickszone.com/2018/08/31/media-claims-of-more-heat-waves-refuted-by-multiple-recent-studies-longterm-data/>

### **The Field Trip to the Wine Country Fires**

By Cliff Mass, Weather and Climate Blog, Aug 28, 2018

<http://cliffmass.blogspot.com/2018/08/the-field-trip-to-wine-country-fires.html>

*[SEPP Comment: Many poor practices remain.]*

### **Hawaii emerges from threat as storm veers away from islands**

By Audrey McAvoy and Caleb Jones, AP, Aug 26, 2018 [H/t Bill Balgord]

<https://apnews.com/bb890938b21144f0bbc68d19e455ad36/%27Don%27t-let-your-guard-down,%27-federal-officials-tell-Hawaii>

*[SEPP Comment: Hurricanes don't do well when hit by wind shear.]*

### ***Changing Climate***

#### **@UCSUSA “Union of Concerned Scientists” doesn’t understand what “unprecedented” means when used with the word “warming”**

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Aug 30, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/08/30/ucsusa-union-of-concerned-scientists-doesnt-understand-what-unprecedented-means-when-used-with-the-word-warming/>

*[SEPP Comment: Graph of Vostok Ice Core dataset is clear.]*

### **Scottish summers not doing anything they haven’t done for 800 years already**

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Aug 27, 2018

<http://joannenova.com.au/2018/08/scottish-summers-not-doing-anything-they-havent-done-for-800-years-already/>

### ***Changing Seas***

#### **Holocene Sea Level Trends**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Aug 22, 2018

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2018/08/22/holocene-sea-level-trends/>

### **The science that cried wolf**

By Adam Piggott, XYZ.Net, AU, Aug 30, 2018 [H/t ICECAP]

<https://www.xyz.net.au/science-cried-wolf/>

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

#### **Effect Of Greenland Melt On Sea Level**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Aug 27, 2018

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2018/08/27/effect-of-greenland-melt-on-sea-level/>

Link to: Current Surface Mass Budget of the Greenland Ice Sheet [Accessed Aug 31, 2018]  
<http://www.dmi.dk/en/groenland/maalinger/greenland-ice-sheet-surface-mass-budget/>

### **Greenland's Ice Mass Balance**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Aug 26, 2018

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2018/08/26/greenlands-ice-mass-balance/>

### **Greenland Ice Cap Sees 2nd Year Of Above Average Growth**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Aug 23, 2018

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2018/08/23/greenland-ice-cap-sees-2nd-year-of-above-average-growth/>

### **Arctic Summer Sea Ice Growth Trend Extends Another Year ...Greenland Summer One Of Coldest In 30 Years!**

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Aug 24, 2018

<http://notrickszone.com/2018/08/24/arctic-summer-sea-ice-growth-trend-extends-another-year-greenland-summer-one-of-coldest-in-30-years/>

### ***Changing Earth***

#### **Seabed Volcanoes Can Influence West Antarctic Glacier Melts**

By Larry Bell, Newsmax, Aug 6, 2018

<https://www.newsmax.com/larrybell/antartci-glacier-pine-island-thwaites/2018/08/06/id/875667/>

### ***Agriculture Issues & Fear of Famine***

#### **Drought In Central Europe Reveals Cautionary 'Hunger Stones' In Czech River**

By Camila Domonoske, NPR, Aug 24, 2018 [H/t GWPF]

<https://www.npr.org/2018/08/24/641331544/drought-in-central-europe-reveals-cautionary-hunger-stones-in-czech-river?t=1535393139842>

*[SEPP Comment: Thanks to modern agriculture and carbon-based fuels, droughts are unlikely to cause mass deaths, unlike in the past.]*

### ***Lowering Standards***

#### **@CBS tries ridiculous scare tactics with nearly non-existent west coast hurricanes**

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Aug 20, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/08/20/cbs-tries-ridiculous-scare-tactics-with-nearly-non-existent-west-coast-hurricanes/>

#### **Five recent events stoking climate change fears**

By Miranda Green, The Hill, Aug 25, 2018

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/403436-five-recent-events-stoking-climate-change-fears>

*[SEPP Comment: With claims such as "Hurricanes hit with more frequency and intensity" which is contrary to hard evidence, The Hill is demonstrating political views.]*

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

#### **The real story behind the famous starving polar-bear video reveals more manipulation**

Opinion: New facts have emerged from the filmmaker behind the cruel and deliberate exploitation of a dying bear in quest to advance climate change agenda

By Susan Crockford, Financial Post, Can. Aug 29, 2018

<https://business.financialpost.com/opinion/the-real-story-behind-the-famous-starving-polar-bear-video-reveals-more-manipulation>

### **Eco-psychology: NEW Free helpline, handbook, for climate change mental illness**

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Sep 1, 2018

<http://joannenova.com.au/2018/09/eco-psychology-new-free-helpline-handbook-for-climate-change-mental-illness/>

“After thirty years of Green-Blob disaster porn, there are casualties.”

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

#### **Eye-roller study: “Climate change denial strongly linked to right-wing nationalism”**

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Aug 21, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/08/21/eye-roller-study-climate-change-denial-strongly-linked-to-right-wing-nationalism/>

*[SEPP Comment: Fully understood only after understanding the philosophical implications of zero or nothing.]*

#### **“Climate Denial” Funded By Big Oil, Heartland Institute, CFACT German ARD Public Television Wants To Believe**

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Aug 28, 2018

<http://notrickszone.com/2018/08/28/climate-denial-funded-by-big-oil-heartland-institute-cfact-german-ard-wants-to-believe/>

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

#### **Fiddling While Europe Burns**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Aug 29, 2018

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2018/08/29/fiddling-while-europe-burns/>

“Carbon pricing will simply push up energy prices, as well as costs for industry and consumers. “Facing a sclerotic economy, structural mass unemployment, massive public debts and a myriad of other problems, all the EU can think of is to hamstring its economy even further. “Meanwhile, the rest of the world will sit back and say ‘thank you very much’”.

#### **How Coal Saved Germany’s Summer**

By Andreas Mihm, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Translation by GWPF, Aug 31, 2018

<https://www.thegwpf.com/how-coal-saved-germany-through-the-summer/>

#### **Merkel Allies Pressure Her to Keep Coal Plants Running**

By Brian Parkin and William Wilkes, Climate Changed (?), Bloomberg, Aug 22, 2018

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-08-22/merkel-allies-ply-on-the-pressure-to-keep-coal-plants-running>

#### **Thousands of bats are killed by wind turbines every year because they are drawn to the blinking red lights used to ward off aircrafts**

By Harry Pettit, Daily Mail, UK, Aug 27, 2018 [H/t Paul Homewood]

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-6102047/Thousands-bats-killed-wind-turbines-year-drawn-red-warning-light.html>

*[SEPP Comment: The research was on European pipistrelle bats. Does it apply to other species of bats?]*

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

#### **If Trudeau's climate policy seems absurd, that's because it's not actually about climate**

Opinion: The fastest increases in prosperity and cleanliness in human history were supported by private industry, not corporate welfare and green subsidies

By Matthew Lau, Financial Post, July 27, 2018

<https://business.financialpost.com/opinion/if-trudeaus-climate-policy-seems-absurd-thats-because-its-not-actually-about-climate>

#### **Trudeau's Grand Bargain Unravels After Alberta Nixes Carbon Plan**

By Chris Fournier, Rachel Adams-Heard, and Kevin Orland, Bloomberg, Aug 30, 2018

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-08-30/trudeau-s-grand-bargain-under-attack-after-trans-mountain-ruling>

“The Federal Court of Appeal ruled Thursday the regulatory review of the Trans Mountain expansion was “impermissibly flawed” because it excluded project-related tanker traffic. In addition, the court also found the government failed to fulfill its legal duty to consult indigenous people.”

#### **Rachel Notley scraps plans to raise Alberta's carbon tax following court decision on Trans Mountain**

By Kelly Cryderman, The Globe and Mail, Can. Aug 30, 2018

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/alberta/article-notley-scraps-plans-to-raise-albertas-carbon-tax-following-court/>

“The Federal Court of Appeal found that the Liberal government failed to adequately consult First Nations whose rights are affected by the pipeline expansion, while the National Energy Board failed to properly consider increased tanker traffic. Alberta officials believe the federal government can introduce legislation to explicitly declare the NEB is not required to look into marine shipping impacts as part of its regulatory process – and was not required to do so in respect to the Trans Mountain application.”

#### **Climate Change Bill's Failure Topples Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull**

By Michael Bastasch, Daily Caller, Aug 24, 2018

<https://dailycaller.com/2018/08/24/australia-prime-minister-turnbull-global-warming/>

### ***Funding Issues***

#### **Small Island States, Facing Rising Seas, Seek Economic Overhaul**

Small island states facing a "frightening" rise in sea levels will seek investments in everything from solar energy to fisheries to boost their economies at a U.N. summit next week

By Alister Doyle, Reuters, Aug 25, 2018

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/small-island-states-facing-rising-seas-seek-economic-overhaul/>

*[SEPP Comment: They want the cash that was promised by politicians.]*

### ***Litigation Issues***

#### **Law Enforcement for Rent**

How Special Interests Fund Climate Policy through State Attorneys General

By Christopher C. Horner, Competitive Enterprise Institute, Aug 28, 2018

<https://cei.org/AGclimatescheme>

#### **New Report Exposes Global Warming 'Law Enforcement for Rent'**

Document recounts how wealthy donors are paying for lawyers to pursue environmental cases by state AGs

By Brendan Kirby, LifeZett, Aug 29, 2018

<https://www.lifezette.com/2018/08/new-report-exposes-global-warming-law-enforcement-for-rent/>

### **What Will the 9th Circuit Make of Oakland and San Francisco's Climate Lawsuit Appeals?**

By Erin Mundahl, Inside Sources, Aug 29, 2018

<https://www.insidesources.com/what-will-the-9th-circuit-court-make-of-oakland-and-san-franciscos-climate-lawsuit-appeals/>

*[SEPP Comment: Link to a cited 2011 Supreme Court decision failed.]*

### **World's top climate experts to testify in landmark investigation into fossil fuel companies**

By Staff Writers, Greenpeace International, Aug 28, 2018

<https://www.greenpeace.org/international/press-release/18188/worlds-top-climate-experts-to-testify-in-landmark-investigation-into-fossil-fuel-companies/>

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

#### **Solar PV potential in Scotland**

By Roger Adams, Energy Matters, Aug 23, 2018

<http://euanmearns.com/solar-pv-potential-in-scotland/>

*[SEPP Comment: Do lavish government subsidies for solar in Scotland demonstrate a contempt by politicians for public welfare?]*

### **Amazon Isn't Paying Its Electric Bills. You Might Be**

The company's rate discounts have pushed up utility costs for everyone else.

By Mya Frazier, Bloomberg, Aug 20, 2018 [H/t Cooler Heads]

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-08-20/amazon-isn-t-paying-its-electric-bills-you-might-be>

### **Renewable fuels mandate is costing Americans billions**

By Nan Swift, Washington Examiner, Aug 22, 2018

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/op-eds/renewable-fuels-mandate-is-costing-americans-billions>

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

#### **Taming the EPA Regulatory Hydra: An essential first step**

Book Review by Paul Dreissen, WUWT, Aug 18, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/08/18/taming-the-epa-regulatory-hydra-an-essential-first-step/>

### **EPA Year in Review 2017-2018**

By Staff Writers, EPA, March 2018

[https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/year\\_in\\_review\\_3.5.18.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/year_in_review_3.5.18.pdf)

No Budget

### **EPA Proposes Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) Rule**

Press Release by Staff Writers, EPA, Aug 21, 2018

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-affordable-clean-energy-ace-rule>

## **Trump administration reveals greenhouse gas rule for power plants to replace Obama-era plan**

By Tom DiChristopher, CNBC, Aug 21, 2018

<https://www.cnbc.com/2018/08/21/epa-reveals-greenhouse-gas-rule-for-power-plants-to-replace-obama-plan.html>

### ***Energy Issues – Non-US***

#### **Why Coal Power Is Merkel's Biggest Climate Challenge**

By Brian Parkin and William Wilkes, Bloomberg, Aug 29, 2018

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-08-29/why-coal-power-is-merkel-s-biggest-climate-challenge-quicktake>

#### **A Tale of Two Diverging Energy Fortunes**

By Elmira Aliakbari and Ashley Stedman, Washington Times, Aug 30, 2018

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/aug/30/its-united-states-vs-canada-in-energy-development/>

#### **Bags of wet logs banned in fight against pollution**

By Ben Webster, The Times, Via GWPF, Aug 20, 2018

<https://www.thegwpf.com/bags-of-wet-logs-banned-in-fight-against-pollution/>

#### **Canadian oil exports by rail nearly doubled**

While Canada works to expand its pipeline capacity, total crude oil exports by rail surged 87 percent from last year, federal data show.

By Daniel Graeber, UPI, Aug 23, 2018 [H/t Toshio Fujati]

<https://www.upi.com/Energy-News/2018/08/23/Canadian-oil-exports-by-rail-nearly-doubled/4001535029319/>

### ***Energy Issues – Australia***

#### **Australia to dump renewable energy subsidies, quit trying to control climate with windmills and solar?**

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Aug 31, 2018

<http://joannenova.com.au/2018/08/australia-to-dump-renewable-energy-subsidies-quit-trying-to-control-climate-with-windmills-and-solar/>

#### **New Australian PM Already Under Pressure on New Coal Power**

By Geoff Chambers, The Australian, Via GWPF, Aug 28, 2018

<https://www.thegwpf.com/new-australian-pm-already-under-pressure-on-new-coal-power/>

“Whether it’s marginal seats in Queensland, western Sydney or Victoria, the message is clear: voters want action on energy prices, not emissions targets.”

#### **Another day, another blackout — Lightning is too much for Australian grid now**

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Aug 27, 2018

<http://joannenova.com.au/2018/08/another-day-another-blackout-lightning-is-too-much-for-australian-grid-now/>

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

#### **Russia Influencing U.S. Energy Decisions**

By Donn Dears, Power For USA, Aug 24, 2018

<http://ddears.com/2018/08/24/russia-influencing-u-s-energy-decisions/>

### **The Energy Race Is On (improving fossil fuels vs. political favorites)**

By Greg Rehmke, Master Resource, Aug 28, 2018

<https://www.masterresource.org/energy-policy/energy-race-on/>

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

#### **Why Oil And Natural Gas Prices Are Diverging**

By Tsvetana Paraskova, Oil Price.com, Aug 29, 2018

<https://oilprice.com/Energy/General/Why-Oil-And-Natural-Gas-Prices-Are-Diverging.html>

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

#### **Experts: Coal Plants Must Adapt to New Energy Landscape**

By Darrell Proctor, Power Mag, Aug 22, 2018

[https://www.powermag.com/experts-coal-plants-must-adapt-to-new-energy-landscape/?mkt\\_tok=eyJpIjoiWWpabFpqaGpaVFkwT1dNMiIsInQiOiJ4TkJaRWNKQmtcL1pHVXkwXC9IRW9MYXgxcFVTc21BQkR0YllzS2xkWWJVZ1ZXWG5pYnF6dFpHRWMrOTR0TXFKMTJSNkY5Y1AwcjY0dWFhVkpJcnl0bW45Sm5NdVhua1RFdVA4ZXRLbzdJTHNCVnhzZ3hXdWNHdW9LenJocVZDNG9QIn0%3D](https://www.powermag.com/experts-coal-plants-must-adapt-to-new-energy-landscape/?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiWWpabFpqaGpaVFkwT1dNMiIsInQiOiJ4TkJaRWNKQmtcL1pHVXkwXC9IRW9MYXgxcFVTc21BQkR0YllzS2xkWWJVZ1ZXWG5pYnF6dFpHRWMrOTR0TXFKMTJSNkY5Y1AwcjY0dWFhVkpJcnl0bW45Sm5NdVhua1RFdVA4ZXRLbzdJTHNCVnhzZ3hXdWNHdW9LenJocVZDNG9QIn0%3D)

### **Xcel to Replace 2 Colorado Coal Units With Renewables and Storage**

The Public Service Company of Colorado will retire 660 megawatts of coal, and replace it with more than 1,800 megawatts of wind and solar.

By Julia Pyper, GTM, Aug 29, 2018

<https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/xcel-retire-coal-renewable-energy-storage#gs.w8aAA6c>

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

#### **Report for French government backs new nuclear reactors that departed minister had opposed: paper**

By Laurence Frost, Reuters, Aug 30, 2018

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-nuclear-nuclear/report-for-french-government-backs-new-nuclear-reactors-that-departed-minister-had-opposed-paper-idUSKCN1LF0LS>

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

#### **Green Energy Scam #167: Traffic-Driven Wind Turbines**

By Roy Spencer, His Blog, Aug 21, 2018

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2018/08/green-energy-scam-167-traffic-driven-wind-turbines/>

### **DOE reports distributed wind has surpassed 1 GW**

By Michelle Froese, Windpower, Aug 30, 2018

<https://www.windpowerengineering.com/business-news-projects/doe-reports-distributed-wind-has-surpassed-1-gw/>

[SEPP Comment: Keep local generation off the grid.]

### **Wind turbine is BLOWN OVER: 196-foot structure is toppled in a park as powerful typhoon hits Japan**

By Phoebe Southworth, Daily Mail, Aug 25, 2018 [H/t Willie Soon]

[http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6093183/amp/2-typhoons-weaken-pounding-South-Korea-Japan.html?\\_twitter\\_impression=true](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6093183/amp/2-typhoons-weaken-pounding-South-Korea-Japan.html?_twitter_impression=true)

[SEPP Comment: Don't recall seeing a coal plant blown over.]

### ***Alternative, Green ("Clean") Energy -- Other***

#### **Drax flicks switch on fourth biomass unit in Yorkshire**

It plans to replace its remaining two coal units with gas-fired power generation and battery storage

By Priyanka Shrestha, Energy Live, Aug 20, 2018 [H/t GWPF]

<https://www.energylivenews.com/2018/08/20/drax-flicks-switch-on-fourth-biomass-unit-in-yorkshire/>

### ***Alternative, Green ("Clean") Energy -- Storage***

#### **Batteries, mine production, lithium and the "cobalt crunch"**

By Roger Andrews, Energy Matters, Aug 29, 2018

<http://euanmearns.com/batteries-mine-production-lithium-and-the-cobalt-crunch/#more-22461>

#### **Coire Glas – the raging beast of pumped hydro storage [PHS]**

By Euan Mearns, Energy Matters, Aug 20, 2018

<http://euanmearns.com/coire-glas-the-raging-best-of-pumped-hydro-storage/#more-22411>

"Most pumped hydro storage schemes in countries like the UK, France and Switzerland operate in tandem with nuclear power where surplus (low price) electricity is used to pump and store water at night, every night, to supply power into the daily peak demand (high price) that in the UK occurs at 18:00±2 hours. The facilities get used every day and make money from the predictable price arbitrage that exists in wholesale electricity markets."

### ***Alternative, Green ("Clean") Vehicles***

#### **Electric Cars: Will Any Auto Company Make Money?**

By Steve Goreham, WUWT, Aug 23, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/08/23/electric-cars-will-any-auto-company-make-money/>

[SEPP Comment: Among the disadvantages not generally discussed is the decline in range when operating in cold and bad weather.]

#### **Reports Of The Death Of Oil's ICE Are Greatly Exaggerated**

By Jude Clemente, Forbes, Aug 19, 2018 [H/t Cooler Heads]

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/judeclemente/2018/08/19/reports-of-the-death-of-oils-ice-are-greatly-exaggerated/#6ad518c92203>

### ***California Dreaming***

#### **California Climate Change Report Adds to Evidence as State Pushes Back on Trump**

The assessment warns of increasing wildfires, worsening droughts and more severe coastal flooding. State lawmakers are looking for solutions in renewable energy.

By Phil McKenna, Inside Climate News, Aug 27, 2018

<https://insideclimatenews.org/news/27082018/california-climate-change-assessment-evidence-global-warming-science-risks-policy-clean-energy>

Link to report: California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment

By Staff Writers, State of California, Aug 2018

<http://www.climateassessment.ca.gov/state/overview/>

## **California lawmakers set goal of 100 percent renewable energy use by 2045**

By Miranda Green, The Hill, Aug 29, 2018

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/404133-california-poised-to-become-first-state-to-commit-to-100-renewable>

## **California takes the prize for environmental virtue signaling — but not much else**

By Joel Kotkin, Orange County Register, Aug 18, 2018 [H/t Cooler Heads]

<https://www.ocregister.com/2018/08/18/california-takes-the-prize-for-green-virtue-signaling/>

## **California Climate Crazy: Lobbying to Outlaw Fossil Fuels (... calling Tom Tanton and Alex Epstein)**

By Robert Bradley Jr., Master Resource, Aug 29, 2018

<https://www.masterresource.org/california-energy-policy/climate-craziness-california-officials/>  
[SEPP Comment: Rather than phase out just oil and gas production, why not phase out oil and gas use?]

## **California Wants to Unite the Western States Under One Power Grid**

By Mark Chediak, Bloomberg, Aug 21, 2018 [H/t Toshio Fujita]

[https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-08-21/enron-s-ghost-haunts-push-to-unite-western-u-s-under-one-grid?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_term=180823&utm\\_campaign=climatechanged](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-08-21/enron-s-ghost-haunts-push-to-unite-western-u-s-under-one-grid?utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&utm_term=180823&utm_campaign=climatechanged)

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

### **Manufacturing a Car is Easy**

By Donn Dears, Power For USA, Aug 28, 2018

<http://ddears.com/2018/08/28/manufacturing-a-car-is-easy/>

### **Polar Bear Kills Man—Shock News From The BBC**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Aug 29, 2018

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2018/08/29/polar-bear-kills-man-shock-news-from-the-bbc/>

“In other words, it’s called nature.

“I wonder, if the same hunters had been shooting antelope in Kenya, and got eaten by a lion, the BBC would have blamed it on global warming?”

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## **BELOW THE BOTTOM LINE:**

### **Another “Ship of Fools” gets grounded in Arctic ice, needs rescue**

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Aug 27, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/08/27/another-ship-of-fools-gets-stuck-in-arctic-ice-needs-rescue/>

### **Northwest Passage Yacht Sinks In Thick Ice**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Aug 31, 2018

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2018/08/31/northwest-passage-yacht-sinks-in-thick-ice/>

## **Climate Researchers Warn Only Hope For Humanity Now Lies In Possibility They Making All Of This Up**

By Staff Writers, The Onion, Aug 7, 2018 [H/t Cooler Heads]

<https://www.theonion.com/climate-researchers-warn-only-hope-for-humanity-now-lie-1828171232>

[Humor]

## **False Consensus: The Onion Spoofs Climate Science**

By Robert L. Bradley, Jr. Institute for Energy Research, Aug 20, 2018 [H/t Cooler Heads]

<https://www.instituteforenergyresearch.org/climate-change/false-consensus-the-onion-spoofs-climate-science/>

## **Green Energy Scientists Unveil 800,000-Ton Potato Capable Of Powering Entire City**

By Staff Writers, The Onion, Aug 24, 2018

<https://www.theonion.com/green-energy-scientists-unveil-800-000-ton-potato-capab-1828577530>

[Humor]

## **Pending collapse**

By Staff Writers, Climate Change Predictions.org, Aug 29, 2018

<http://climatechangepredictions.org/uncategorized/9996>

“The United Nations’ Global Environment Outlook-4 report, released in New York, reveals a scale of unprecedented ecological damage, with more than 2 million people possibly dying prematurely of air pollution and close to 2 billion likely to suffer absolute water scarcity by 2025. “Put bluntly, the report warns that the 6.75 billion world population, “has reached a stage where the amount of resources needed to sustain it exceeds what is available”.

“And it says climate change, the collapse of fish stocks and the extinction of species “may threaten humanity’s very survival”.

“Launching the report, the head of the UN’s Environment Program, Achim Steiner, warned that, ‘without an accelerated effort to reform the way we collectively do business on planet earth, we will shortly be in trouble, if indeed we are not already’”. Sydney Morning Herald, 26 Oct 2007

## **Ban trees, plants and soil!**

By Staff Writers, Climate Change Predictions.org, Aug 23, 2018

<http://climatechangepredictions.org/uncategorized/5920>

“Scientists at Bristol University in Britain say a recent surge in carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere is due to green house gas escaping from trees, plants and soils.

“Global warming was making vegetation less able to absorb carbon pumped out by humans, such a shift could worsen predictions of the UN’s panel on Climate Change, which has warned there is less than a decade in which to tackle emissions to avoid the worst effects of global warming.

“Measurements of carbon dioxide in air samples show unusually high levels in four of the past five years.” The Sydney Sun Herald, 13 May 2007 – screen copy held by this website

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## **ARTICLES:**

### **1. The Supreme Court, 'Clean' Energy, and the Clean Air Act**

By S. Fred Singer, American Thinker, Aug 27, 2018

[https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2018/08/the\\_supreme\\_court\\_clean\\_energy\\_and\\_the\\_clean\\_air\\_act.html](https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2018/08/the_supreme_court_clean_energy_and_the_clean_air_act.html)

The SEPP Chairman Emeritus writes:

*“When we hear about ‘clean’ energy these days, it generally refers only to solar and wind, which do not emit CO<sub>2</sub>. CO<sub>2</sub> is never mentioned as a ‘criteria pollutant’ in the Clean Air Act or any amendment. Yet in 2007, the Supreme Court of the United States, in a 5-4 decision in the case of Massachusetts v. EPA, declared CO<sub>2</sub> a Clean Air Act pollutant. I wonder how many have noticed the possibility of a constitutional conflict here.*

*“I note that the designation of ‘clean energy’ evidently does not cover nuclear (or hydro), although these also do not emit CO<sub>2</sub> in generating electricity. The reason seems to be mainly ideological. Climate alarmists illogically prefer solar and wind, in spite of their well recognized erratic nature and intermittency – requiring (fossil-fueled, CO<sub>2</sub>-emitting) standby power plants on the electric grid. These must always be ready to fill any unacceptable supply gaps ‘when the Sun don’t shine and the wind don’t blow.’ A federal investment tax credit and other subsidies also favor S&W in spite of their many shortcomings.*

*“But CO<sub>2</sub> is not a pollutant by any stretch of the imagination. CO<sub>2</sub> is a natural constituent of Earth’s atmosphere and a vital fertilizer for all growing plants. Without atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>, there would be no agriculture and indeed no life on Earth. Its putative impact on the climate is minor. For example, I have shown that CO<sub>2</sub> has no definitive influence on sea level rise – even though plaintiff Massachusetts claimed fear of massive inundation to establish ‘legal standing’ in its lawsuit against the EPA.*

*“I must note, however, that the plaintiffs’ evidence may be tainted; it is based solely on an affidavit supplied by Prof. Michael Oppenheimer, a former chief scientist of the Environmental Defense Fund, an aggressive non-profit group.*

*“Other problems of treating CO<sub>2</sub> as a pollutant*

*“Once the Supreme Court announced its decision, EPA issued its notorious Endangerment Finding, claiming CO<sub>2</sub> is harmful to ‘human health and welfare.’ In accordance with Clean Air Act, the EPA ambitiously applied its Endangerment Finding to fossil-fueled electric power plants, thus providing a scientific and legal rationale for President Obama’s ‘Clean Power Plan,’ through which he had promised to ‘bankrupt’ coal-fired power plants.*

*“The lawsuit before the Supreme Court actually involved CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from motor vehicles rather than power plants. I will just recuse myself at this point and leave further discussion to lawyers – in particular, whether the EPA is encroaching on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in the Department of Transportation, which is responsible for setting mileage efficiency standards for motor vehicles.*

*“I would just note that since the EPA decided to adopt the Clean Air Act as a guide, it has evaded its legal mandate to control all CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by applying an arbitrary (i.e., not authorized by law) modification to the Clean Air Act in the form of a ‘tailoring rule’ for cars, trucks, etc. Thereby, the EPA exempted from regulation such small CO<sub>2</sub> sources, despite their central role in the lawsuit that saw the Supreme Court ascribing pollutant status to CO<sub>2</sub>.*

*“Conclusion*

*“Evidently, the Clean Air Act is not suited for the regulation of CO2. This is perhaps a job for a future Congress. Nuclear is superior in most respects to solar and wind energy; it appears to be the energy source for the future, after we deplete low-cost fossil fuel deposits.*

*“I hope that the Supreme Court will revisit its 2007 decision soon. In writing the minority dissent, Justice Scalia perceptively questioned both the legal standing of the plaintiff and the uncertain science underlying the majority decision.”*

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## **2. McCain Was a Warrior for the Climate**

He saw curtailing pollution as part of his patriotic mission.

By Fred Krupp, WSJ, Aug 26, 2018

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/mccain-was-a-warrior-for-the-climate-1535311532?tesla=y>

SUMMARY: The president of the Environmental Defense Fund writes:

*“As a prisoner of war two generations ago, John McCain proved his patriotism and bravery. But it was through his more recent work to protect future generations of Americans that I knew Sen. McCain. Tributes to the American hero, who died Saturday at 81, must not overlook the political bravery—and, yes, patriotism—he showed in the fight to meet the threat of climate change.*

*“Long before other Republican lawmakers, McCain spoke out loudly about the dangers climate pollution posed to America and the world. While his colleagues treated climate change as a political issue, or sought to protect their benefactors, the gentleman from Arizona warned about ‘the melting of glaciers, the dying of coral reefs, and rising ocean temperatures.’ If McCain’s colleagues had followed his lead, the risks Americans face from climate change today would be far more manageable and less costly.*

*McCain spoke with young people passionate about climate change during his 2000 presidential campaign. Convinced that ‘most of the observed warming over the past 50 years is attributable to human activities,’ he hoped to build a bipartisan consensus for action.*

The author discusses the McCain-Lieberman “cap-and-tax” bill then continues:

*“Since McCain’s defeat, the further hardening of partisan lines paused progress on federal legislation addressing climate change. Noting this reality, McCain stepped back from the issue for a time. But through my conversations with him in recent years, I know it was never far from his mind. Indeed, when the Trump administration tried last year to overturn restrictions on emissions of methane, a major cause of climate change, McCain withstood enormous pressure from the White House and cast the deciding vote to preserve the limits.*

*“McCain didn’t abandon his conservatism when he embraced conservation. He believed the government’s job is to limit pollution, then let free enterprise innovate and hunt down the lowest-cost solutions. For McCain, the problem was that companies don’t bear the costs they impose on the American public when they pollute. He wanted a market system that recognizes the cost of climate pollution—one that rewards companies for reducing emissions.*

*“I did not always agree with McCain on policy and strategy, but I always believed he would never stop fighting to make America better, safer and more prosperous. For him, the fight against climate change was a natural part of that lifelong crusade.”*

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### **3. The Oil Export Boom**

Houston-Galveston exports exceed imports for the first time.

Editorial, WSJ, Aug 30, 2018

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-oil-export-boom-1535670283>

SUMMARY: The editorial states:

*When George W. Bush signed legislation in 2007 to subsidize and mandate the production of biofuels, he cited the urgent need to liberate America from ‘long-term’ dependence on ‘oil from foreign lands.’ Turns out there was an easier, much less expensive way: drill, baby, drill.*

*The Energy Information Administration announced this month that the port district of Houston-Galveston began exporting more crude oil than it imported for the first time. Houston-Galveston exports in April surpassed imports by 15,000 barrels a day, and by May the difference had grown to 470,000 barrels a day. That port district handles more than half of all U.S. crude exports, which hit a record of two million barrels a day in May.*

The editorial briefly discusses the rapid advances in hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling, creating the energy boom, then states:

*Washington also gets credit for removing regulatory hurdles like the oil export ban. Republican leaders in Congress took flak in 2015 for agreeing to extend green-energy subsidies for a few years in return for Barack Obama’s signature on a statutory end to the 40-year-old export ban.*

*Some conservative pressure groups derided the policy trade as a sellout while liberals complained that ending the ban would serve Big Oil. The real beneficiaries are workers, investors and the overall economy, as well as greater flexibility in foreign policy as the U.S. is less vulnerable to authoritarian oil exporters.*

*The U.S. is unlikely to be a net oil exporter soon, since American refineries require heavy crude from abroad. Shale drillers produce lighter grades. But the gap between imports and exports shrank in 2017 to a 24-year low of 6.8 million barrels a day from more than nine million in 2012. The lesson is that American invention and entrepreneurship remain indomitable—when government gets out of the way.*

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