

The Week That Was: 2015-06-20 (June 20, 2015)
Brought to You by SEPP (www.SEPP.org)
The Science and Environmental Policy Project

Quote of the Week: *“Science is the belief in the ignorance of experts.”* Richard Feynman.
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Number of the Week: \$37 Billion ++?
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SEPP’S APRIL FOOLS AWARD
THE JACKSON

The voting for SEPP’s annual April Fools Award is over. We thank all those who participated with nominees and votes. The winner of this close race will be announced at the 33rd Annual Meeting of the Doctors for Disaster Preparedness in Ontario, CA, from July 31 to August 2, 2015.

THIS WEEK:

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

The Encyclical: Early in the week, an Italian newspaper leaked a version of the Pope Francis’ highly anticipated encyclical letter on the environment and climate change. After a flurry concerning the unauthorized release, a final document has been released, which is under review. [There is a bit of irony here because Galileo wrote his scientific works in “vulgar” Italian rather than “scientific” Latin.]

The Pope’s encyclical does not advance science. It offers no empirical evidence that 20th century warming resulted from human carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions (and other greenhouse gas emissions). The primary, critical hypothesis needed to be tested is that CO₂ emissions are causing dangerous global warming, now called climate change. The pope’s advisors do not advance empirical evidence supporting the hypothesis. The failure of the globe to warm is more than sufficient evidence that there are problems with the hypothesis. Local and regional climate change from land use changes are a secondary issues.

The Letter states: “The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth.” Environmental degradation has long been a major problem, which, for generations, has been made more visible by urbanization. Western, industrialized societies are making great strides in reducing environmental degradation, in a large part thanks to increased prosperity through the use of fossil fuels.

The Letter calls for reducing the dangers of climate change by reducing carbon dioxide emissions, requiring diminished use of fossil fuels. Yet, there is no empirical evidence advanced that CO₂ emissions increase climate change, which has been occurring for at least 1.5 billion years, long before multi-cell life. Denying use of fossil fuels to the extreme poor is hardly a way of alleviating poverty. Many societies in Asia, including China and India, are showing great improvements, even with warts such as air pollution, in the overall health and living conditions of the general population through the use of fossil fuels. Conspicuous consumption and waste may be undesirable, but excess is not justification for removing the necessary.

Perhaps the Letter can be summed as outdated thinking on climate being used to advance questionable environmental goals.

There is a great deal of speculation on why the Vatican issued such a letter. One suggestion is to have a place at the 21st Conference of Parties (COP) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate (UNFCCC) in Paris, starting at the end of November, in order to overrule some of the most drastic measures of population control that may be considered.

Another suggestion is to open up discussion on the entire global warming/climate change issue – something that is sorely needed. After decades of dramatic pronouncements, Western governments have not been able to produce empirical evidence substantiating the central hypothesis -- CO2 emissions are causing dangerous global warming. For a diversity of views see Article # 1 and links under Expanding the Orthodoxy – The Pope, and Expanding the Orthodoxy – The Pope – Loyal Opposition.

The Swamp: In a lengthy essay in the Australian online magazine, *Quadrant*, science writer Matt Ridley gives an overview of the general status of western climate science, as embraced by western governments – a swamp. The opening paragraph bears repeating:

“The great thing about science is that it’s self-correcting. The good drives out the bad, because experiments get replicated and hypotheses tested -- or so I used to think. Now, thanks largely to climate science, I see bad ideas can persist for decades, and surrounded by myrmidons of furious defenders they become intolerant dogmas”

Briefly taking readers through scientific fads, such as Lysenkoism and low-fat diets, Ridley focuses on how special interests groups have captured what is termed climate science during and after the second assessment report (1995) by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

“Since then, however, inch by inch, the huge green pressure groups have grown fat on a diet of constant but ever-changing alarm about the future. That these alarms—over population growth, pesticides, rain forests, acid rain, ozone holes, sperm counts, genetically modified crops—have often proved wildly exaggerated does not matter: the organisations that did the most exaggeration trousered the most money. In the case of climate, the alarm is always in the distant future, so can never be debunked.

“These huge green multinationals, with budgets in the hundreds of millions of dollars, have now systematically infiltrated science, as well as industry and media, with the result that many high-profile climate scientists and the journalists who cover them have become one-sided cheerleaders for alarm, while a hit squad of increasingly vicious bloggers polices the debate to ensure that anybody who steps out of line is punished. They insist on stamping out all mention of the heresy that climate change might not be lethally dangerous.

*Today’s climate science, as Ian Plimer points out in his chapter in *The Facts*, is based on a “**pre-ordained conclusion, huge bodies of evidence are ignored and analytical procedures are treated as evidence**”. Funds are not available to investigate alternative theories. Those who express even the mildest doubts about dangerous climate change are ostracised, accused of being in the pay of fossil-fuel interests or starved of funds; those who take money from green pressure groups and make wildly exaggerated statements are showered with rewards and treated by the media as neutral.” [Boldface added].*

Based on US government reports, SEPP has traced the US government has spent at least \$40 Billion on what it classifies as climate science, since 1993, with little going on understanding the natural causes of climate change. After giving specific examples of how those scientists who disagree with the establishment are marginalized, in the section “Harm to Science”, Ridley quotes Garth Paltridge:

We have at least to consider the possibility that the scientific establishment behind the global warming issue has been drawn into the trap of seriously overstating the climate problem—or, what is much the same thing, of seriously understating the uncertainties associated with the climate problem—in its effort to promote the cause. It is a particularly nasty trap in the context of science, because it risks destroying, perhaps for centuries to come, the unique and hard-won reputation for honesty which is the basis for society’s respect for scientific endeavour.

Such an effort cannot withhold without the implicit support of science journalists, many of whom are obviously in the alarmist camp. As David Whitehouse of the Global Warming Policy Foundation has written, science journalists do not meet the standards required for financial journalists. They fail to look beyond the headlines. This easy-to-read essay should be understandable to many, including the Pope’s climate advisors. See links under Suppressing Scientific Inquiry.

Beyond the Headlines: As discussed in the June 6 TWTW, a team led by Thomas Karl, the director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s National Climatic Data Center, (NOAA-NCDC), and some of his colleagues, have adjusted sea surface temperature record to give the appearance of a stronger warming trend over the past 15 years. Sea surface data is collected from several sources including ships and, later, specially designed buoys. The data from buoys are considered superior in accuracy, than the data from ships, particularly data in the early part of the record. There is no justification for adjusting what most consider to be superior data from buoys to bring it in line with what most consider to be inferior data from ships, and Karl et al. gave none. A brief paper discussing the effort was published in *Science*.

This week, NOAA announced that this past May was the hottest May on record. Dutifully, many science journalists reported the new claim without bothering to note that the claim is based on a newly adjusted historic record, or that the claim is inconsistent with the satellite record, which is far more comprehensive. Financial journalists would be severely criticizing such a claim of a historic record made by a private company. With such claims, NOAA is becoming a distraction to scientific inquiry rather than a trusted source for scientific inquiry. See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy – Karl et al.

Changing Standard?: Similar to the World Bank, the Energy Information Agency (EIA) issued a dire warning on future global warming, of up to 3.5 degrees C by 2200, without physical evidence to support its claims. The motto of the report is: “Secure, Sustainable, Together”

“This special report, part of the World Energy Outlook series, assesses the effect of recent low-carbon energy developments and the INDCs proposed thus far. It finds that while global energy-related emissions slow as a result of the climate pledges, they still increase. To compensate, governments will need to ramp up efforts, reviewing their pledges regularly, setting realistic and attainable longer-term goals and tracking their progress. This report also proposes the adoption of five measures that would achieve a near-term peak in global energy-related emissions while maintaining momentum for stronger national efforts.

“The next few months could be decisive in determining our energy and climate future. Will countries take on and abide by commitments that will make a meaningful impact? Will they agree to additional measures to spur further innovation and action? Achieving our goals is still possible, but the risk of failure is great: the more time passes without a deal, the more high-carbon energy infrastructure is locked in.

“COP 21 presents an opportunity we cannot afford to miss.”

This report demonstrates the EIA cannot be considered an independent, non-political entity. One can only hope that the EIA will not begin to adjust its reports to meet its political goals. See links under On to Paris!

Real Arctic or Imaginary Arctic? Those who have read the writings of European or New World Arctic explorers and observers, and some of the records of the Hudson Bay Company, may be uncomfortable with the view expressed by the Climate Establishment that Arctic sea ice, under natural conditions, provides a stable, predictable habitat, and that only recently has Arctic sea ice become unstable. Independent polar bear scientist Susan Crockford has a new paper challenging what she calls an Arctic Fallacy.

Ms. Crockford bases her paper on observations since the 1960s, but many students of Arctic history would not be surprised by many of her findings, which include naturally-occurring changes in habitat. No doubt, those with a vested interest in keeping the current fallacy alive, which has formed part of the US Arctic policy, will try to dismiss or marginalize her work. See link under Changing Cryosphere – Land / Sea Ice

Number of the Week: \$37 Billion ++? An article in the *Wall Street Journal* states that the China Development Bank has lent nearly \$37 billion to Venezuela since 2008. Additional amounts are unclear. Future delivery of oil was the security for the loans. Further, the China Development Bank has made significant similar loans to energy companies and governments of oil-producing countries. With the fall in the price of crude and the decline in the boom of China’s economy, and the stagnation of Venezuela’s oil industry, the future is uncertain and officials refused to comment. See Article # 2

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ARTICLES:

Please note that articles not linked easily or summarized here are reproduced in the Articles Section of the full TWTW that can be found on the web site under the date of the TWTW.

1. The Pope’s Green Theology

The good news: His encyclical invites honest discussion. Let’s have it.

By Robert Sirico, WSJ, Jun 18, 2015

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/the-popes-green-theology-1434668086>

SUMMARY: *“Let’s cut to the chase: Much of what is in Pope Francis’ encyclical on environmental stewardship, *Laudato Si’*, poses a major challenge for free-market advocates, those of us who believe that capitalism is a powerful force for caring for the earth and lifting people out of poverty. But one of the most welcome lines is a call for honest, respectful discussion.*

“Francis warns against both extremes: on one end, ‘those who doggedly uphold the myth of progress and tell us that ecological problems will solve themselves simply with the application of new technology and without any need for ethical considerations or deep change.’ And on the other end those who view men and women ‘as no more than a threat, jeopardizing the global ecosystem, and consequently the presence of human beings on the planet should be reduced.’

“He continues: ‘On many concrete questions, the Church has no reason to offer a definitive opinion; she knows that honest debate must be encouraged among experts, while respecting divergent views.’ That Francis would lend the full moral force of his office to call for an honest debate is a great step for the planet. This has not characterized the past few decades of discussion.

“As a priest who strives to be faithful to his church, I know that I too am expected to use my God-given reason in evaluating these questions. The pope’s primary focus is the faith, and the moral implications that faith has for our behavior and the systems of politics and economics we create. In this sense, there is plenty of room for discussion. The purpose of an encyclical is not to close that debate, but precisely to open faith to understanding.”

Fr. Sirico is president of the Acton Institute.

2. Venezuela Oil Loans Go Awry for China

China Development Bank is on the hook as South American country struggles

By Prudence Ho, WSJ, Jun 18, 2015

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/venezuela-oil-loans-go-awry-for-china-1434656360>

SUMMARY: *“China Development Bank has lent nearly \$37 billion to Venezuela since 2008, helping to prop up the regime of Hugo Chávez and his successor, Nicolás Maduro, while becoming one of the Latin American nation’s biggest creditors. Venezuela says China has pledged billions more.*

“CDB’s plan was simple. In return for its largess, Venezuela would send China millions of barrels of crude each year. Since the middle part of the last decade, the bank has doled out tens of billions in similar loans to energy companies and governments in other oil-producing countries to help secure resources for China’s expanding economy.

“The Caracas government said in January that China pledged \$20 billion in new investment in housing and infrastructure, mainly via CDB.”

“Others are showing little loyalty to Venezuela. The price of its 10-year U.S. dollar-denominated bonds tumbled 60% from July to as low as 31 cents on the dollar in January. Wednesday, the debt traded at 35.15 cents, with a yield of 26.4%. Bond prices move inversely to yields.

“In January, Moody’s Investors Service downgraded Venezuela’s credit rating to Caa3, saying “default risk has increased substantially.” Inflation hit 68.5% in 2014 and Venezuela’s central bank has since stopped publishing the data, but economists say the rate has passed 100%. Venezuelans are scrambling for dollars and shedding the bolivar, which has lost 93% of its value in the past two years on the country’s unofficial currency market. CDB doesn’t buy Venezuelan government bonds.

“Venezuela’s finance, foreign and information ministries declined to comment.”

3. Policy decision regarding the views of climate pause deniers

By Staff Writers, Climate Change Predictions.org, Jun 6, 2015

<http://climatechangepredictions.org/uncategorized/3107>

[HUMOR: *“After careful consideration this website has made the following policy decision.*

“Given the overwhelming weight of scientific evidence in favour of the 18 year hiatus in global warming, this website will no longer give coverage of the views of climate pause deniers.

“This announcement will remain in place for a few days. Future articles will examine whether climate pause denialism should be regarded as a form of psychological pathology.”]

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NEWS YOU CAN USE:

Suppressing Scientific Inquiry

The Climate Wars’ Damage to Science

By Matt Ridley, Quadrant, Jun 19, 2015

<http://quadrant.org.au/magazine/2015/06/climate-wars-done-science/>

The Climate Wars are Damaging Science

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Jun 20, 2015

<http://joannenova.com.au/2015/06/the-climate-wars-are-damaging-science/>

[SEPP Comment: *Emphasizes a few major points in the essay above.*]

Challenging the Orthodoxy – IPCC-10

Video of the Tenth International Conference on Climate Change

June 11-12, 2015 in Washington, DC

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

Challenging the Orthodoxy

Climate Change: Where is the Science?

By Howard Hyde, American Thinker, Jun 11, 2015

http://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2015/06/climate_change_where_is_the_science.html

‘Scared Witless: Prophets and Profits of Climate Doom’ (Book Review)

By Robert Bradley Jr., Master Resource, Jun 12, 2015

<https://www.masterresource.org/scared-witless-prophets-and-profits-of-climate-doom-larry-bell/bell-witless/>

Climate Doom Awards Profits and Prophets

By Larry Bell, Newsmax, Jun 15, 2015

<http://www.newsmax.com/LarryBell/climate-gore-weather-global-warming/2015/06/15/id/650507/>

Fatal Flaw in the USGCRP Climate and Health Assessment

By Patrick J. Michaels and Paul C. "Chip" Knappenberger, CATO, Jun 11, 2015

<http://www.cato.org/blog/fatal-flaw-usgcrp-climate-health-assessment>

Comments on the USGCRP Climate and Health Assessment

By Patrick J. Michaels and Paul C. "Chip" Knappenberger, CATO, Jun 10, 2015

<http://www.cato.org/blog/comments-usgcrp-climate-health-assessment>

State of the climate debate in the U.S.

By Judith Curry, Climate Etc. Jun 25, 2015

<http://judithcurry.com/2015/06/15/state-of-the-climate-debate-in-the-u-s/>

[SEPP Comment: Her presentation in London]

Challenging the Orthodoxy – Karl et al.

He who controls the past controls the future! On the vanishing global warming hiatus

By Nir Shaviv, Science Bits, Jun 16, 2015

<http://sciencebits.com/he-who-controls-past-controls-future-vanishing-global-warming-hiatus>

Karl et al. hiatus killer is "research" that began with conclusions

By Luboš Motl, The Reference Frame, Jun 5, 2015

<http://motls.blogspot.com/2015/06/karl-et-al-hiatus-killer-is-research.html>

[SEPP Comment: How to create a trend from noisy data!]

Twin peaks – twin prevarications

Guest essay by Paul Driessen and Tom Tamarkin, WUWT, Jun 16, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/06/15/twin-peaks-twin-prevarications/>

NOAA Releases New Pause-Buster Global Surface Temperature Data and Immediately Claims Record-High Temps for May 2015 – What a Surprise!

Guest Post by Bob Tisdale, WUWT, Jun 19, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/06/19/noaa-releases-new-pause-buster-global-surface-temperature-data-and-immediately-claims-record-high-temps-for-may-2015-what-a-surprise/>

UAH V6.0 Global Temperature Update for May 2015: +0.27 deg. C

By Roy Spencer, His Blog, Jun 8, 2015

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2015/06/uah-v6-0-global-temperature-update-for-may-2015-0-27-deg-c/>

Defending the Orthodoxy

Biden: If You Don't Believe in Manmade Global Warming, You Must "Deny Gravity" As Well

By Philip Hodges, ICECAP, Jun 19, 2015

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

Questioning the Orthodoxy

Exclusive: 'We'll All be Dead Before Climate Change Orgs Admit They're Wrong' Says MP

By Oliver Lane, Breitbart, Jun 16, 2015 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.breitbart.com/london/2015/06/16/exclusive-well-all-be-dead-before-climate-change-orgs-admit-theyre-wrong-says-mp/>

If it can't be replicated, it isn't science: BOM admits temperature adjustments are secret

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Jun 18, 2015

<http://joannenova.com.au/2015/06/if-it-cant-be-replicated-it-isnt-science-bom-admits-temperature-adjustments-are-secret/>

Presentation of Evidence Suggesting Temperature Drives Atmospheric CO2 more than CO2 Drives Temperature

Guest essay by Allan MacRae, WUWT, Jun 13, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/06/13/presentation-of-evidence-suggesting-temperature-drives-atmospheric-co2-more-than-co2-drives-temperature/>

Time For Skeptics To Expose National Weather Offices: Canada, A Case Study With National And Global Implications

By Tim Ball, A Different Perspective, Jun 10, 2015

<http://drtimball.com/2015/time-for-skeptics-to-expose-national-weather-offices-canada-a-case-study-with-national-and-global-implications/>

On to Paris!

IEA outlines 'four pillars' for success of climate talks

By Staff Writers, WNN, Jun 15, 2015

<http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/NP-IEA-outlines-four-pillars-for-success-of-climate-talks-1506201501.html>

Claim: Paris climate pledges only delay Climageddon by 8 months

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, Jun 15, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/06/15/claim-paris-climate-pledges-only-delay-climageddon-by-8-months/>

Link to report: Energy and Climate Change: World Energy Outlook Special Report

By Staff Writers, EIA, 2015

<http://www.iea.org/publications/freepublications/publication/WEO2015SpecialReportonEnergyandClimateChange.pdf>

Problems in the Orthodoxy

India's Coal Boom Drives Australian Coal Export

By Gina Rushton, The Australian, Via GWPF, Jun 14, 2015

<http://www.thegwpf.com/indias-coal-boom-drives-australian-coal-export/>

Seeking a Common Ground

What Causes the Greenhouse Effect?

By Roy Spencer, His Blog, Jun 13, 2015

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2015/06/what-causes-the-greenhouse-effect/>

Where is All the CO2 Going?

By Norman Rogers, American Thinker, Jun 12, 2015

http://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2015/06/where_is_all_the_co2_going.html

Against 'consensus' messaging

By Judith Curry, Climate Etc. Jun 17, 2015

<http://judithcurry.com/2015/06/17/against-consensus-messaging/>

Ecomodernism and sustainable intensification

Decoupling society from nature through innovation is good for nature

By Matt Ridley, Rational Optimist, Jun 13, 2015

<http://www.rationaloptimist.com/blog/eco-modernism-and-sustainable-intensification.aspx>

“The word [sustainability] is usually shorthand for subsidising things that are not commercially sustainable, “

The Basis for Making Environmental Decisions

By Alan Carlin, Carlin Economics and Science, Jun 18, 2015

<http://www.carlineconomics.com/archives/1800>

“The climate alarmists, whom I refer to as the Climate-Industrial Complex (CIC) in my book, have essentially built a fantasy world in which small increases in a very minor but vital atmospheric gas, carbon dioxide, somehow controls climate and now extreme weather.”

Review of Recent Scientific Articles by CO2 Science

A Submerged Aquatic Plant in a CO2-Enriched and Warmer World

Cao, J. and Ruan, H. 2015. Responses of the submerged macrophyte *Vallisneria spiralis* to elevated CO2 and temperature. *Aquatic Botany* 23: 119-127., Jun 17, 2015

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V18/jun/a16.php>

Lamenting the Double ITCZ Bias in CMIP5 Climate Models

Oueslati, B. and Bellon, G. 2015. The double ITCZ bias in CMIP5 models: interaction between SST, large-scale circulation and precipitation. *Climate Dynamics* 44: 585-607. Jun 16, 2015

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V18/jun/a13.php>

“In what must be a difficult acknowledgement to make, Oueslati and Bellon (2015) write that ‘the double intertropical convergence zone (ITCZ) bias still affects all the models that participate in CMIP5,’ - i.e. the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project, phase 5 -- while further noting that ‘as an ensemble, general circulation models have improved little between CMIP3 and CMIP5 as far as the double ITCZ is concerned.’ And, therefore, they proceed to discuss some of the many other problems that have ultimately led to this problem.”

South Asian Summer Monsoon and Tropical SSTs in CMIP5 Models

Li, R., Lu, S., Han, B. and Gao, Y. 2015. Connections between the South Asian Summer Monsoon and the tropical sea surface temperature in CMIP5. *Journal of Meteorological Research* 29: 106-118., Jun 13, 2015

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V18/jun/a12.php>

A 2500-Year SST History of the northern South China Sea (SCS)

Yan, H., Soon, W. and Wang, Y. 2015. A composite sea surface temperature record of the northern South China Sea for the past 2500 years: A unique look into seasonality and seasonal climate changes during warm and cold periods. *Earth-Science Reviews* 141: 122-136. Jun 13, 2015

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V18/jun/a11.php>

“And because these warmer-than-present periods [Roman & Medieval] occurred when the atmosphere's CO2 concentration was only about 70% of what it is today, it is likely that the atmosphere's CO2 content has had little to do with the development of the recent warmth of the modern era.”

Measurement Issues

New tool could predict large solar storms more than 24 hours in advance

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Jun 9, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/06/09/new-tool-could-predict-large-solar-storms-more-than-24-hours-in-advance/>

May sets new heat record

By Timothy Cama, The Hill, Jun 18, 2015

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/245424-may-sets-new-heat-record>

[SEPP Comment: Apparently, using the newly adjusted, highly questionable temperature records.]

A mess of adjustments in Australian capital cities — The inexplicable history of temperatures

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Jun 17, 2015

<http://joannenova.com.au/2015/06/a-mess-of-adjustments-in-australian-capital-cities-the-inexplicable-history-of-temperatures/#more-43039>

America's Most Advanced Climate Station Data Shows US In A 10-Year Cooling Trend

By Michael Bastasch, Daily Caller, Jun 16, 2015

<http://dailycaller.com/2015/06/15/americas-most-advanced-climate-station-data-shows-us-in-a-10-year-cooling-trend/>

Despite attempts to erase it globally, “the pause” still exists in pristine US surface temperature data

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Jun 14, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/06/14/despite-attempts-to-erase-it-globally-the-pause-still-exists-in-pristine-us-surface-temperature-data/>

Max Planck Society Confirms Warming Pause! ...Scrambles To Explain Widespread Model Failure

Max Planck Society: “Temperatures stagnant approximately since 1998, but at high level”

By Sebastian Lüning and Fritz Vahrenholt [Translated/edited by P. Gosselin] No Tricks Zone, Jun 16, 2015

<http://notrickszone.com/2015/06/16/max-planck-institute-confirms-warming-pause-and-scrambles-to-explain-widespread-model-failure/#sthash.dyxXIL7B.dpbs>

The Daily Caller's Bad Science on 'Global Cooling'

By Zoe Schlanger, Newsweek, Jun 18, 2015

<http://www.newsweek.com/daily-caller-just-reminded-us-all-ways-people-are-still-pretending-global-344262>

"It is a favorite tactic of those who resist climate regulation to cherry-pick data from limited time periods and limited geographical areas to draw broad conclusions that are contrary to the overwhelming body of climate science," says Michael Gerrard, a law professor and director of the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law at Columbia University.

[SEPP Comment: Perhaps the law professor can explain what caused past warm periods.]

Changing Weather

Intense Rain Bursts Rise with Heat, Forecast More Flash Flooding

The heaviest rainfalls happen when it's warmest

By Evan Lehmann, Scientific American, Jun 15, 2015 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/intense-rain-bursts-rise-with-heat-forecast-more-flash-flooding/>

N. Korea hit by worst drought in a century

By Staff Writers, AFP, Jun 16, 2015

<http://news.yahoo.com/n-korea-hit-worst-drought-century-114634649.html>

Media hypes ‘monster storm Bill’, so called record heat pace for 2015 - reality check

By Joseph D'Aleo, ICECAP, Jun 17, 2015

<http://icecap.us/index.php/go/joes-blog/media-hypes-monster-storm-bill-so-called-record-heat-pace-for-2015-reality/>

Changing Climate

Medieval Warm Period confirmed via cave study of 3000 years of climatic variations

Remote cave study reveals 3000 years of European climate variation

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Jun 15, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/06/15/medieval-warm-period-confirmed-via-cave-study-of-3000-years-of-climatic-variations/>

Link to paper: A composite annual-resolution stalagmite record of North Atlantic climate over the last three millennia

By Baker, et al, Nature, Scientific Reports, Jun 11, 2015

<http://www.nature.com/srep/2015/150611/srep10307/full/srep10307.html>

Changing Cryosphere – Land / Sea Ice

My new Arctic Fallacy paper- Sea ice stability and the polar bear

By Susan Crockford, Polar Bear Science, Jun 8, 2015

<http://polarbearscience.com/2015/06/08/my-new-arctic-fallacy-paper-sea-ice-stability-and-the-polar-bear/>

Changing Earth

Big dinosaurs steered clear of the tropics

Climate swings lasting millions of years too much for dinos

By Cheryl; Dybas. NSF, Jun 15, 2015

http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=135256&WT.mc_id=USNSF_51&WT.mc_ev=click

Acidic Waters

Astonishing finding: coral reef thriving amid ‘ocean acidification’

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Jun 10, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/06/10/astonishing-finding-coral-reef-thriving-amid-ocean-acidification/>

Unravelling the mysteries of carbonic acid

Researchers peeling back veil on a critical but short-lived molecule

By Staff Writers, Science Daily, Jun 16, 2015 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/06/150616131621.htm>

Link to paper: The hydration structure of dissolved carbon dioxide from X-ray absorption spectroscopy

By Lam et al, Chemical Physics Letters, Jul 16, 2015

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0009261415003826>

[Comment from Clyde Spencer: “The much maligned carbonic acid that is supposedly responsible for making the oceans ‘more acidic’ actually only lasts for 26 milliseconds before forming bicarbonate buffers.”]

Agriculture Issues & Fear of Famine

Climate Change Mitigation’s Costs Could Make Poor Countries Hungrier

By Seth Augenstein, Laboratory Equipment, Jun 10, 2015

<http://www.laboratoryequipment.com/news/2015/06/climate-change-mitigations-costs-could-make-poor-countries-hungrier>

Cutting carbon emissions could escalate hunger: Study

Staff Writers, Business Standard, Jun 14, 2015 [H/t GWPF]

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/cutting-carbon-emissions-could-escalate-hunger-study-115061400170_1.html

How Neil Young, Greenpeace work to starve the world’s poor

By Owen Paterson, New York Post, Jun 14, 2015

<http://nypost.com/2015/06/14/how-neil-young-greenpeace-work-to-starve-the-worlds-poor/>

Wasting Food in a Hungry World

By Bjørn Lomborg, Project Syndicate, Jun 18, 2015

<http://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/wasting-food-hungry-world-by-bjorn-lomborg-2015-06>

Un-Science or Non-Science?

IEA warns of 4.3C temperature jump from climate change

By Staff Writers, London (AFP), June 15, 2015

http://www.terradaily.com/reports/IEA_warns_of_43C_temperature_jump_from_climate_change_999.html

[SEPP Comment: IEA draws into question any use of its models for forecasts.]

Lowering Standards

Another me-too climate statement by a non-climate body

By Guest Blogger Christopher Monckton, WUWT, Jun 13, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/06/13/another-me-too-climate-statement-by-a-non-climate-body/>

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

Climate Scientists Helped Create a Spurious Pause in Global Warming

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change may be responsible for confusion about recent global warming

By Gayathri Vaidyanathan and ClimateWire, Scientific American, Jun 9, 2015

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/climate-scientists-helped-create-a-spurious-pause-in-global-warming/>

Polar bear behaviour gets the animal tragedy porn treatment – two new papers

By Susan Crockford, Polar Bear Science, Jun 12, 2015

<http://polarbearscience.com/2015/06/12/polar-bear-behaviour-gets-the-animal-tragedy-porn-treatment-two-new-papers/>

Study: Global Warming won't reduce winter deaths

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Jun 18, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/06/18/study-global-warming-wont-reduce-winter-deaths/>

Link to paper: Winter season mortality: will climate warming bring benefits?

By Kenney, et al, IOP, Jun 19, 2015

<http://iopscience.iop.org/1748-9326/10/6/064016/article>

[SEPP Comment: Apparent inconsistency between findings in the abstract and subsequent write-up. Time period in 36 US cities (1983-2006) and 3 French cities (1971-2007)

Communicating Better to the Public – Make things up.

Is Climate Change Hysteria the New ‘Population Bomb’?

By Thomas Williams, Breitbart, Jun 13, 2015 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2015/06/13/is-climate-change-hysteria-the-new-population-bomb/>

Navajo Generating Station Powers and Paralyzes the Western U.S.

The latest in ProPublica's "Killing the Colorado" series looks inside the power plant fueling America's drought

By Abrahm Lustgarten and ProPublica, Scientific American, June 16, 2015 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/navajo-generating-station-powers-and-paralyzes-the-western-u-s/>

[SEPP Comment: The current draught, which is being eased downwind of the plant is caused by the power-plant?]

Communicating Better to the Public – Go Personal.

IPCC: climate misinformers

By Andrew Montford, Bishop Hill, Jun 8, 2015

<http://bishophill.squarespace.com/blog/2015/6/8/ipcc-climate-misinformers.html>

“David Rose's questioning led him to be being branded ‘climate misinformers of the year’. This paper goes a long way towards demonstrating that that particular accolade belongs to the IPCC.”

On climate policy, coal, charity and ducks

By Matt Ridley, Rational Optimist, Jun 11, 2015

<http://www.rationaloptimist.com/blog/spectator-diary-%282%29.aspx>

Expanding the Orthodoxy

Environmentalism Shipwreck

By Norman Rogers, American Thinker, Jun 18, 2015

http://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2015/06/environmentalist_shipwreck.html

[SEPP Comment: Does the Green Industry have undue influence on the International Maritime Organization (IMO)?]

Expanding the Orthodoxy – The Pope

Laudato Si – a cry for the poor

Guest post, by Joe Ronan, Bishop Hill, Jun 18, 2015

<http://bishophill.squarespace.com/blog/2015/6/18/laudato-si-a-cry-for-the-poor.html>

Pope Francis and 21st-Century Stewardship (2882)

If it's consistent with both the papacy of Pope Francis and the legacy of his saintly namesake, Laudato Sii, the encyclical to be published on June 18, is likely to make a strong connection between the environment and the poor and the vulnerable.

By Jonathan Liedl, National Catholic Register, Jun 8, 2015

http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/pope-francis-and-21st-century-stewardship?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+NCRRegisterDailyBlog+National+Catholic+Register&utm_content=FeedBurner#When%3A2015-06-8+06%3A43%3A01

Papal Encyclical: A New Club of Rome

Editorial, New York Times, Via GWPF, Jun 16, 2015

<http://www.thegwpf.com/the-new-club-of-rome/>

Pope Backs Climate Change Science, Denounces World Leaders

By John Follain, Bloomberg, Jun 15, 2015

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-06-15/pope-backs-climate-change-science-denounces-world-leaders>

Expanding the Orthodoxy – The Pope – Loyal Opposition

Pope's thinking is outdated: Opposing view

Recognize encyclical's shortcomings and unintended consequences.

By Joseph Bast, USA Today, Jun 18, 2015

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2015/06/18/pope-francis-encyclical-heartland-institute-editorials-debates/28944065/>

Caveat Venalium Libertas II [Beware Free Markets]

By Terence Corcoran: Financial Post, Jun 17, 2015

<http://business.financialpost.com/fp-comment/terence-corcoran-caveat-venalium-libertas-ii>

Comment: Encyclical of Pope Francis

By Staff Writers, Climate Change Predictions, Jun 18, 2015

<http://climatechangepredictions.org/uncategorized/3282>

Pope Francis' climate change encyclical not binding on Catholics

By Father James Grant, Institute of Public Affairs, AU, No date, [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.ipa.org.au/publications/2382/pope-francis%27-climate-change-encyclical-not-binding-on-catholics>

Making climate change a moral issue

By Martin Livermore, The Scientific Alliance, Jun 19, 2015

<http://scientific-alliance.org/node/935>

“It's not about morality, but it is about practicality.”

The ironies of Pope Francis's climate-change cure

By E. Calvin Beisner, Washington Times, Jun 17, 2015

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/jun/17/e-calvin-beisner-ironies-pope-franciss-climate-cha/?page=all#pagebreak>

The Pope's Message Misses the Point

By Nick Butler, Financial Times, Via GWPF, Jun 19, 2015
<http://www.thegwpf.com/nick-butler-the-popes-message-misses-the-point/>

Spin Cycle: Free Markets, Poverty and the Environment

Paul C. "Chip" Knappenberger and Patrick J. Michaels, CATO, Jun 18, 2015
<http://www.cato.org/blog/spin-cycle-free-markets-poverty-environment>

The Pope's Global Warming Encyclical: Don't Be Misled

Editorial, IBD, Jun 16, 2015 [H/t Timothy Wise]
<http://news.investors.com/ibd-editorials/061615-757609-climate-change-not-part-of-popes-calling.htm>

Questioning European Green

Nigel Lawson: The Church of Climatism

By Nigel Lawson, Financial Post, Via GWPF, Jun 18, 2015
<http://www.thegwpf.com/nigel-lawson-the-church-of-climatism/>

Rising green energy levies 'risk public backlash'

Efforts to combat climate change could be jeopardised by a backlash against the rising costs of green levies on energy bills, IPPR think-tank says

By Emily Gosden, Telegraph, UK, Jun 17, 2015 [H/t GWPF]
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/earth/earthnews/11679649/Rising-green-energy-levies-risk-public-backlash.html>

French Reactor Problems Cast Doubt on UK Decarbonization Plans

By Jim Packard, Financial Times Via GWPF, Jun 15, 2015
<http://www.thegwpf.com/french-reactor-problems-cast-doubt-on-uk-decarbonisation-plans/>

German Physics Prof Blasts Climate Science ... "Far Too Removed From The Scientific Facts"!

By P. Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Jun 15, 2015
<http://notrickszone.com/2015/06/15/german-physics-prof-blasts-climate-science-far-too-removed-from-the-scientific-facts/#sthash.3WwhNreU.dpbs>

Questioning Green Elsewhere

The perils of trying to hasten the inevitable

By Martin Livermore, The Scientific Alliance, Jun 12, 2015
<http://scientific-alliance.org/node/932>

Now they Tell You How To Live

By Donn Dears, Power For USA, Jun 19, 2015
<https://dddusmma.wordpress.com/2015/06/19/now-they-tell-you-how-to-live/>

Non-Green Jobs

Shale oil turned North Dakota from one of the poorest US states into the second most prosperous state in a decade

By Mark Perry, AEIdeas, Jun 12, 2015

<http://www.aei.org/publication/shale-oil-turned-north-dakota-from-one-of-the-poorest-us-states-into-the-second-most-prosperous-states-in-a-decade/>

Funding Issues

Secretive donors gave US climate denial groups \$125m over three years

Funds allocated to organisations lobbying against Obama's climate bill and working to undermine rules to reduce carbon pollution, tax records show

By Suzanne Goldenberg and Helena Bengtsson, Guardian, UK, Jun 9, 2015 [H/t Climate Etc.]

http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/jun/09/secretive-donors-gave-us-climate-denial-groups-125m-over-three-years?CMP=share_btn_tw

[SEPP Comment: Peanuts compared with what government gives global-warming promoters.]

The Political Games Continue

Senate panel advances \$30B bill that targets EPA rules

By Rebecca Shabad, The Hill, Jun 18, 2015

<http://thehill.com/policy/finance/245425-senate-panel-advances-3001b-bill-that-targets-environmental-regulations>

Bill would defund EPA studies of global warming

By Cristina Marcos, The Hill, Jun 19, 2015

<http://thehill.com/blogs/floor-action/house/245557-bill-would-defund-epa-studies-of-global-warming>

Subsidies and Mandates Forever

Britain Abolishes Onshore Wind Subsidies a Year Early

By Jim Packard, Financial Times, Jun 18, 2015

<http://www.thegwpf.com/britain-terminates-onshore-wind-subsidies-early/>

“After the closure of the RO [Renewables Obligation], companies must compete for a strictly rationed system of subsidies.”

[SEPP Comment: Is the free, “free lunch” over? One has to compete for it?]

Homeland security panel targets EPA's ethanol mandate

By John Siciliano, Washington Examiner, Jun 18, 2015

<http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/homeland-security-panel-targets-epas-ethanol-mandate/article/2566498>

Energy Issues – Non-US

So-called Progress that Goes Backwards

By Donn Dears, Power For USA, Jun 16, 2015

<https://dddusmma.wordpress.com/2015/06/16/so-called-progress-that-goes-backwards/>

There is no renewables revolution in China. Here are the numbers that show this

By Robert Wilson, Carbon Counter, Jun 17, 2015 [H/t GWPF]

<https://carboncounter.wordpress.com/2015/06/17/there-is-no-renewables-revolution-in-china-here-are-the-numbers-that-show-this/>

Deforestation in the UK

By Judith Curry, Climate Etc, Jun 18, 2015

<http://judithcurry.com/2015/06/18/deforestation-in-the-uk/#more-19087>

[SEPP Comment: Is the next step replacing automobiles with horse-drawn carriages, and the associated filth of tens of thousands of horses in urban areas?]

Energy Issues -- US

Exxon Mobil Rejects Crony Energy (Tillerson channels Lee Raymond)

By Robert Bradley, Jr, Master Resource, Jun 18, 2015

<https://www.masterresource.org/exxon-mobil/exxon-mobil-rejects-crony-energy-from-tillerson-to-raymond/>

[SEPP Comment: There was a difference between Exxon and Enron!]

Big Wind's Big Barriers

By Lisa Linowes, Wind Action, Jun 15, 2015

<http://www.windaction.org/posts/42874-big-wind-s-big-barriers#.VYBPv0ZApqw>

“Conclusion: The output of DOE's models are easy to promote but reality paints a very different picture. DOE's Vision assumes 7 GW of wind built per year between 2014 and 2020, followed by 12 gigawatts per year between 2020 and 2030, and 17 GW every year after until 2050. The Agency points to the progress since 2009 as proof that a more aggressive wind roll-out is possible. But in many ways, the success of U.S. wind in those years is the very reason wind development will not grow, but continue to slow.”

DOE's Fantasy Land: 35 Percent Wind in 2050

By Staff Writers, IER, Mar 20, 2015

<http://instituteforenergyresearch.org/analysis/does-fantasy-land-35-percent-wind-in-2050/>

Big Wind's Big Barriers (examining DOE's fantasy scenario for a faulty technology)

By Lisa Linowes, Master Resource, Jun 15, 2015

<https://www.masterresource.org/linowes-lisa/wind-barriers/>

Washington's Control of Energy

'Oil, Gas, and Government: the U.S. Experience' (introduction to a 1996 classic)

By Robert Murphy, Master Resource, Jun 17, 2015

<https://www.masterresource.org/bradley/oil-gas-government-introduction/>

Continental's Hamm: End crude export ban to unleash power of 'Cowboystan'

By Bill Holland, SNL, Jun 16, 2015

<https://www.snl.com/Interactivex/article.aspx?CdId=A-32992269-11050>

Obama moves to slash truck pollution

By Timothy Cama, The Hill, Jun 19, 2015

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/245526-obama-seeks-24-percent-cut-in-trucks-fuel-use>

Link to regulations: Proposed Rulemaking: Phase 2 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards and Fuel Efficiency Standards for Medium- and Heavy-Duty Engines and Vehicles

By Staff Writers, EPA, Jun 19, 2015

<http://www.epa.gov/oms/climate/regs-heavy-duty.htm>

Oil and Natural Gas – the Future or the Past?

Top 10 things I learned on my summer trip to the Bakken oil fields, Part I

By Mark Perry, IEAdeas, Jun 16, 2015 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://www.aei.org/publication/top-ten-things-i-learned-on-my-summer-trip-to-the-bakken-oil-fields-part-i/>

Return of King Coal?

Global Coal Use Growing Faster Than any Other Energy

By Brendan Pearson and Michael Roche, The Australian, Via GWPF, Jun 16, 2015

<http://www.thegwpf.com/global-coal-use-growing-faster-than-any-other-energy/>

Nuclear Energy and Fears

California's Mega-Drought: Nuclear Power To The Rescue

By James Conca, Forbes, Jun 9, 2015

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/jamesconca/2015/06/09/californias-megadrought-nuclear-power-to-the-rescue/>

Alternative, Green ("Clean") Solar and Wind

Banishing the clouds

To threaten fossil fuels, solar power must solve its intermittency problem

Editorial, The Economist, Jun 13, 2015

<http://www.economist.com/news/business/21654082-threaten-fossil-fuels-solar-power-must-solve-its-intermittency-problem-banishing-clouds>

WH Science Adviser: 'Cars, Trucks and Planes Are Going to Have to Run on Electricity, Biofuels or Hydrogen'

By Penny Starr, CNS News, Jun 16, 2015 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://cnsnews.com/news/article/penny-starr/top-wh-science-adviser-cars-trucks-and-planes-must-run-electricity-biofuels>

[SEPP Comment: No doubt an executive order will solve the power-to-weight ratio problem to allow airplanes to operate on batteries.]

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

How climate change policies are hurting the world's poor

By Guy Bentley, City A.M., Jun 6, 2015 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.cityam.com/blog/1402069088/how-climate-change-policies-are-hurting-worlds-poor>

More twists to the insane £1bn Swansea scheme

The Government is determined to push through the tidal lagoon, no matter what the implications

By Christopher Booker, Telegraph, UK, Jun 13, 2015

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/11673376/More-twists-to-the-insane-1bn-Swansea-scheme.html>

Carbon Schemes

Ten Reasons Kemper Is Bad for Consumers (Haley Barbour, Mississippi Power boondoggle)

By Steve Wilson, Master Resource, Jun 16, 2015

<https://www.masterresource.org/kemper-plant-coal-capture-and-storage/ten-reasons-kemper-bad/>

[SEPP Comment: The integrated coal-gasification plant is not working out as planned.]

Health, Energy, and Climate

Revolution and Reaction in Biopharming

By Henry Miller, Project Syndicate, Jun 19, 2015

<http://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/biopharming-regulation-genetic-engineering-by-henry-i--miller-2015-06>

Oh Mann!

A disgrace to the profession

By Andrew Montford, Bishop Hill, Jun 11, 2015

<http://bishophill.squarespace.com/blog/2015/6/11/a-disgrace-to-the-profession.html>

Mann for Breakfast

By Mark Steyn, Steyn Online, Jun 12, 2015 [H/t Climate Etc.]

<http://www.steynonline.com/7000/mann-for-breakfast>

(Video)

Environmental Industry

Greenpeace: global warriors against development

Who can blame India for wanting to get rid of these eco-meddlers?

By Sadhvi Sharma, Spiked, Online, Jun 17, 2015 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.spiked-online.com/newsite/article/greenpeace-global-warriors-against-development/17080#.VYLUAEZApqy>

Other News that May Be of Interest

France bans sale of Monsanto herbicide Roundup in nurseries

By Staff Writers, Paris (AFP), June 14, 2015

http://www.seeddaily.com/reports/France_bans_sale_of_Monsanto_herbicide_Roundup_in_nurseries_999.html

Private Ownership Of Land Almost as Important And Unique In the US Constitution.

By Tim Ball, A Different Perspective, Jun 15, 2015

<http://drtimball.com/2015/2676/>

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BELOW THE BOTTOM LINE:

The Maldives' Latest Underwater Airport

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Jun 16, 2015

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2015/06/16/the-maldives-latest-airport/>

[SEPP Comment: Using publicity stunts, the Maldives sought international pity, and money, as disappearing due to rising seas.]

Engineers develop plan to convert US to 100 percent renewable energy

By Staff Writers, Stanford CA (SPX), Jun 16, 2015

http://www.energy-daily.com/reports/Stanford_engineers_develop_state_by_state_plan_to_convert_US_to_100_percent_renewable_energy_999.html

[SEPP Comment: At what cost?]

Another climate researcher claims to have won the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Jun 17, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/06/17/another-climate-researcher-claims-to-have-won-the-2007-nobel-peace-prize/>

Early Hansen Co-authored Paper Notes “global mean temperature was perhaps 1 deg C warmer than today”

Guest Post by Bob Tisdale, WUWT, Jun 13, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/06/13/early-hansen-co-authored-paper-notes-global-mean-temperature-was-perhaps-1-deg-c-warmer-than-today/>

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