

The Week That Was: 2021-05-15 (May 15, 2021)

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The Science and Environmental Policy Project

Quote of the Week: “*Quantum mechanics is very impressive. But an inner voice tells me that it is not yet the real thing. The theory produces a good deal but hardly brings us closer to the secret of the Old One. I am at all events convinced that He does not play dice.*” — Einstein to Max Born in 1926

Number of the Week: – 42 times, 25 times, 21 times

THIS WEEK:

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

The Other Climate: The Biden Administration has declared a climate crisis although in 2019 (before COVID) the world experienced greater prosperity than ever before. As discussed in last week’s TWTW, the percentage of the world’s population living in extreme poverty as defined by the World Bank was below 10%. In thirty years, China went from about 67% of its population living in extreme poverty to less than 1%. Much of developing Asia is following China’s lead. The Biden Administration’s cries of a crisis must sound hollow and vain.

The cries of a climate crisis from the administration are based on long-term forecasts by global climate models that fail to describe both temperature trends and the effects of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. During hearings on the finding that greenhouse gases endanger public health and welfare, the EPA “experts” declared they could not find any other reason for the warming of the globe. They used the “I couldn’t think of anything else” defense. However, many scientists disagree. For example, in a post on his blog, ICECAP, Meteorologist Joe D’Aleo describes other reasons for a warming and cooling of climate on this globe: Earth.

D’Aleo explains that last summer a cold shift occurred in the Pacific Ocean, which led to a delayed, sudden drop in atmospheric temperature trends. Over the past two months they have been below the 30-year mean. How long this continues remains to be seen. According to NOAA, the cold shift (La Niña) in the Pacific has just ended. [A transition to El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) of neutral is likely in the next month or so, with ENSO-neutral then favored through September-November 2021.] The drop in the atmospheric temperatures is a direct contradiction that carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the primary cause of global warming (now called climate change). Other than the usual annual change, the atmospheric CO₂ measurements at Mauna Loa did not fall. In April 2021 it was 419.05 parts per million volume (ppmv) compared with 416.45 ppmv in April 2020.

Both the Pacific and the Atlantic Oceans go through phase shifts that are not fully understood. When both the Pacific and Atlantic are in a warm phase or a cool phase there is a global warming or cooling trend.

From the late 1950s to the late 1970s both oceans were in a cool phase. This led to predictions of an oncoming ice age. Later, those who made such predictions tried to cover them up by claiming they were never made. In the late 1970s a warming began. It was not until the 1990s that historical research of the salmon and other fisheries in the Pacific off the coast of North America

showed recurring cycles. Similar cycles are found in the Atlantic. The causes of the cycles are not fully understood but are suspected to be related to solar cycles.

In his explanation of natural variation, D'Aleo goes into the cooling effects from volcanic eruptions sending aerosols into the stratosphere. These block solar radiation and increase cloud cover which leads to widespread cooling, particularly in the summer. In the atmospheric temperature trend record, the two dominant ones were Pinatubo (1991) and El Chicon (1982) following St. Helens (1980).

D'Aleo's research in the relationship between solar cycles and ocean cycles is particularly interesting. It is not conclusive yet, but the changes of both cycles more closely correspond to each other than changes in CO₂ and temperatures correspond to each other. Certainly, it is impossible to argue that solar cycles are determined by changes in CO₂ or changes in ocean cycles. See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy <https://gml.noaa.gov/ccgg/trends/>, and https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso_advisory/ensodisc.shtml

Searching for the Control Knob: One of the notions advanced by Gavin Schmidt, head of NASA-GISS and a member of the Biden Climate Team, is that carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the control knob for global climate. However, this claim is directly refuted by ice core evidence of the Earth emerged from glacial periods. The temperatures rose first and were followed centuries later by rising CO₂. The average separation between them is about 800 years. The CO₂ came from warming of the oceans. CO₂ is the atmospheric gas most readily absorbed by water, and cold water more readily absorbs gas than warm water. Heating a pot of water, one can see gas bubbles forming well before the water begins to boil. There are causes of climate change other than CO₂.

Joe Bastardi is a colleague of Joe D'Aleo in their firm WeatherBELL Analytics. He is a popular weather forecaster for some national news stations. Using established scientific principles, he demolishes the belief that CO₂ is the control knob of the earth's temperatures. One principle is Occam's razor [named after William of Ockham c. 1285-1347] and the second is Le Chatelier's principle. Bastardi writes:

"Occam's razor is a scientific and philosophical principle that entities should not be multiplied unnecessarily. This is interpreted as requiring that the simplest of competing theories be preferred to the more complex, or that explanations of unknown phenomena be sought first in terms of known quantities."

"Le Chatelier's principle states that if a dynamic equilibrium is disturbed by changing the conditions, the position of equilibrium shifts to counteract the change to reestablish an equilibrium. If a chemical reaction is at equilibrium and experiences a change in pressure, temperature, or concentration of products or reactants, the equilibrium shifts in the opposite direction to offset the change. (This is) why catalysts have no effect on the equilibrium position."

Bastardi presents a table for temperature (dew point temperature) compared with saturation mixing ratio to illustrate that a small increase in water vapor in the Arctic will raise winter temperatures significantly. But melting of ice in the summer is a change in physical state which requires a much greater amount of energy. Therefore, in effect, melting of the ice actually prevents further warming of the Arctic in summer.

The warming of the Arctic occurs largely in the winter. It is caused by an increase in water vapor from natural events such as El Niño plus increasing CO₂. The 1981 to 2010 NCEP/NCAR reanalysis data shows an increase in temperatures in the Arctic in the winter, but not in the summer.

After admitting a bias for simplicity Bastardi closes with:

So simple ideas such as Occams razor and Le Chateliers are a big threat, and so are people who try to use them. As the agenda gets more extreme, the canceling of skeptical voices grows. But at least I understand (and admit) my bias as to opposed to a zealot driven intolerant agenda that is a form of tyranny, one that grows harsher daily.”

See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy.

What to Call It? The failure to recognize Occam's razor is a major problem in the research presented by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and its followers including the US Global Change Research Program (USGCRP). The IPCC relies on global climate models to estimate the impact that carbon dioxide is having on global temperatures. However, as D'Aleo shows in his presentation, these models grossly overestimate the warming of the atmosphere where the greenhouse effect occurs, thus the models are not credible for forecasting.

Further, the IPCC and its followers test their models against other models rather than atmospheric data where the greenhouse effect occurs. How should we describe this fetish for comparing models against models instead of models against appropriate data?

There are more direct, superior methods to estimate the influence of carbon dioxide, dating to early experiments by Joseph Tyndall in the 1850s investigating heat absorption of various atmospheric gases. Tyndall labeled gases that absorb heat (infrared radiation) as greenhouses gases. Decades of laboratory experiments show that water vapor is the dominant greenhouse gas and that, initially, carbon dioxide is a highly absorbent gas. But the ability of CO₂ to absorb additional infrared radiation diminishes rapidly as its concentration increases from the first 20 parts per million volume (ppmv) to 100 ppmv, well below the concentrations before the Industrial Revolution. Therefore, adding CO₂ to today's atmosphere will have little effect on temperatures. Observations of the atmosphere confirm these laboratory experiments. The effectiveness of CO₂ as a greenhouse gas is largely depleted. (To use a fashionable term: the greenhouse effect of CO₂ is not “sustainable” as concentrations increase.)

The IPCC and its followers including the Biden administration ignore geological history and decades of laboratory experiments and observations in declaring a climate crisis for political, not scientific, reasons. The question is what to call this deliberate action. The frequently used term *consensus* suggests *bandwagon science*, but the term does not convey the full panoply of scientific misbehavior of climate alarmists. Borrowing a theme from Richard Feynman, we can define the use the term *carbon cult* to describe the alarmists who believe that carbon dioxide is a pollutant, and that CO₂ is the dominant cause of climate change

It is absurd to think that the *carbon cult* believes that China (whose scientists are leading in research on the agricultural benefits of increasing CO₂), after emerging from extreme poverty, would abandon use of carbon-based fuels relying on the flimsy and scientifically failed models

used for declaring a climate emergency. See links under Change in US Administrations, Social Benefits of Carbon Dioxide, and Review of Recent Scientific Articles by CO2 Science.

What Are We Doing? The International Energy Agency (IEA), formed by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), came out with a study on the minerals needed for the Green New Deal GND). The acknowledgment of the staggering mining requirements for the GND is somewhat surprising because the IEA has favored the Paris Agreement.

One should remember rare earth elements are so called not necessarily because they are rare like classic diamonds, some of them are relatively plentiful, but because they are widely dispersed. They are not found in high concentrations. Lithium is technically not a “rare earth” metal, but it is the most widely known because it is needed for car batteries for electric vehicles and popular in other types of batteries because of its light weight.

According to the IEA, an average conventional car requires 22.3kg of copper and 11.2kg of manganese. An average electrical vehicle requires 53.2kg of copper, 8.9kg of lithium, 39.9kg of nickel, 24.9kg of manganese, 13.3kg of cobalt, 66.3kg of graphite, and 0.5kg of other rare earths.

Also, the IEA compares sources for power generation on a megawatt basis. Natural gas requires the least minerals; 1100 kg of copper and 48.3kg of chromium. Offshore wind requires the most minerals; 8,000kg of copper, 240kg of nickel, 790kg of manganese, 525kg of chromium, 109kg of molybdenum, 5500kg of zinc, and 239kg of rare earths.

If one adds the thousands of tons of concrete and steel that wind power needs for its foundations to both the energy and environmental impact of these mining operations, clean energy is not looking so clean. Mark Mills discussed the report in the *Wall Street Journal* which Paul Homewood reproduced in part. See links under Problems in the Orthodoxy.

New Books: A year ago, Judith Curry reviewed **False Alarm** by Bjorn Lomborg, **Apocalypse Never** by Michael Schellberger, which assert that there is no climate emergency. She links to reviews of **How to avoid a climate disaster** by Bill Gates, and **The new climate war: the fight to take back our planet** by Michael Mann, which claim, without credible scientific evidence, a climate emergency.

She now reviews **Unsettled: What climate science tells us, what it doesn't and why it matters** by Steve Koonin, **Adapting to climate change: Markets and management of an uncertain future** by Matthew Kahn, and **Green fraud: Why the Green New Deal is worse than you think** by Marc Morano.

As one who began her professional career as a climate modeler, rose to be the chairwoman of her department at Georgia Tech, then recognized that IPCC science is a mess, Curry's views are important. In closing her review of Koonin's book, she writes:

*“When someone asks me for a good primer on climate science and the associated debate, I have been recommending **What We Know About Climate Change** by Kerry Emanuel and **Lukewarming** by Pat Michaels. Both of these books are easy to understand, and the combination spans the range of credible perspectives. I can comfortably add Koonin's book to this list; his selection of science topics are good ones, and the book is very well written with clear*

explanations, interesting anecdotes and useful analogies. The book serves a useful educational function.

“Considering how Koonin’s book might influence policy or change the way we think about climate science or our response to climate change, I would say not much. Other important issues that Kooning raises such as politicization of the science, climate communications, and our policy responses are based on personal experiences and reflections, with little evidence of having explored the broad literature on these topics. Koonin reiterates his push for a climate ‘red team’; personally, I think that the climate science enterprise is too broken for this to be useful in context of a government led or sanctioned effort.” [Boldface added in last sentence.]

TWTW agrees. At this time, the whole enterprise needs a sharp Occam’s Razor. See links under Seeking a Common Ground.

A Surprise! TWTW has repeatedly criticized *Science Magazine* published by AAAS as being part of what can be called the carbon cult. Thus, it is rather a surprise that an editorial criticized the notion that summer melting of sea ice in the Arctic leads to extreme winters in the midlatitudes (Europe or the US).

“Every time severe winter weather strikes the United States or Europe, reporters are fond of saying that global warming may be to blame. The paradox goes like this: As Arctic sea ice melts and the polar atmosphere warms, the swirling winds that confine cold Arctic air weaken, letting it spill farther south. But this idea, popularized a decade ago, has long faced skepticism from many atmospheric scientists, who found the proposed linkage unconvincing and saw little evidence of it in simulations of the climate.

“Now, the most comprehensive modeling investigation into this link has delivered the heaviest blow yet: Even after the massive sea ice loss expected by midcentury, the polar jet stream will only weaken by tiny amounts—at most only 10% of its natural swings. And in today’s world, the influence of ice loss on winter weather is negligible, says James Screen, a climate scientist at the University of Exeter and co-leader of the investigation, which presented its results last month at the annual meeting of the European Geosciences Union. ‘To say the loss of sea ice has an effect over a particular extreme event, or even over the last 20 years, is a stretch.’”

Not said is that the idea was supported by John Holdren, President Obama’s senior advisor on science and technology issues. See links under Seeking a Common Ground.

Greenland Sediments: A study of ocean bottom sediments off Greenland shows that summers have been warmer than today during previous interglacial warm periods. This supports prior studies of caves in Greenland that suggests the previous interglacial periods had temperatures at least +3.5°C warmer than today. There is nothing new about the warming of the Arctic.

Unfortunately, the editors of PNAS (Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences), which published the new study, had to assert that the prior warmings foretold of a dangerous future warming from carbon dioxide, without showing any evidence to support the claim. Furthermore, the claim is contradicted by decades of experiments and observations. See links under Changing Cryosphere – Land / Sea Ice.

14th ICCC: The 14th International Conference on Climate Change presented by The Heartland Institute will be October 15 to 17, 2021, at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. See
<https://climateconference.heartland.org/>

SEPP'S APRIL FOOLS AWARD THE JACKSON

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

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

The past recipients, Lisa Jackson, Barrack Obama, John Kerry, Ernest Moniz, Michael Mann, Christiana Figueres, Jerry Brown, AOC, and Neil Ferguson are not eligible. Generally, the committee that makes the selection prefers a candidate with a national or international presence. The voting will close on July 31. Please send your nominee and a brief reason why the person is qualified for the honor to Ken@SEPP.org. Thank you. For a list of past recipients and their accomplishments in earning this honor see <http://www.sepp.org/april-fools-award.cfm>

Number of the Week: 42 times, 25 times, 21 times. According to IEA estimates, its Sustainable Development Scenario requires an increase in production by 2040 of 42 times the lithium, 25 times the graphite, and 21 times the cobalt compared what was produced in 2020. See links under Problems in the Orthodoxy.

NEWS YOU CAN USE:

Commentary: Is the Sun Rising?

Ominous space-weather: A mild Solar CME caused a bigger geomagnetic storm on Earth than anyone expected

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, May 14, 2021

<https://joannenova.com.au/2021/05/ominous-space-weather-a-mild-solar-cme-caused-a-bigger-geomagnetic-storm-on-earth-than-anyone-expected/>

The greatest geomagnetic storm of the 20th Century...May 13-15, 1921...a century ago, New York City/New York State were especially hard hit

By Paul Dorian, WUWT, May 13, 2021

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2021/05/13/the-greatest-geomagnetic-storm-of-the-20th-centurymay-13-15-1921a-century-ago-new-york-city-new-york-state-were-especially-hard-hit/>

Censorship

Conspiracy Pseudoscience

By Tony Heller, His Blog, May 8, 2021

<https://realclimatescience.com/2021/05/conspiracy-pseudoscience/>

“I get almost all of my information from official government sources, newspapers and scientific publications, and Media BIAS/Fact Check says my sources are unverifiable quackery.”

Dare you to post it on Facebook

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, May 12, 2021

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2021/05/12/dare-you-to-post-it-on-facebook-4/>

Facebook Fact Checks Are Rubbish: Reading List

The world’s largest censorship machine relies on partisan fact checkers. The results are absurd.

By Donna Laframboise, Big Picture News, May 1, 2021

<https://nofrakkingconsensus.com/2021/05/12/facebook-fact-checks-are-rubbish-reading-list/>

Challenging the Orthodoxy -- NIPCC

Climate Change Reconsidered II: Physical Science

Idso, Carter, and Singer, Lead Authors/Editors, Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC), 2013

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

Summary: https://www.heartland.org/_template-assets/documents/CCR/CCR-II/Summary-for-Policymakers.pdf

Climate Change Reconsidered II: Biological Impacts

Idso, Idso, Carter, and Singer, Lead Authors/Editors, Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC), 2014

<http://climatechangereconsidered.org/climate-change-reconsidered-ii-biological-impacts/>

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

Climate Change Reconsidered II: Fossil Fuels

By Multiple Authors, Bezdek, Idso, Legates, and Singer eds., Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change, April 2019

<http://store.heartland.org/shop/CCR-II-Fossil-Fuels/>

Download with no charge:

<http://climatechangereconsidered.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Climate-Change-Reconsidered-II-Fossil-Fuels-FULL-Volume-with-covers.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, Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (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

Global Sea-Level Rise: An Evaluation of the Data

By Craig D. Idso, David Legates, and S. Fred Singer, Heartland Policy Brief, May 20, 2019
https://www.heartland.org/_template-assets/documents/publications/SeaLevelRiseCCRII.pdf

Challenging the Orthodoxy

How bad could it get – Updated

By Joseph D'Aleo, CCM, ICECAP, May 13, 2021

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

“And all because they have invented an enemy that is actually nature’s greatest benefactor.”

Real drivers behind the yearly and decadal changes

By Joseph D'Aleo, ICECAP, May 9, 2021

http://icecap.us/index.php/go/new-and-cool/real_drivers_behind_the_yearly_and_decadal_changes/

[SEPP Comment: Includes links for sending comments to: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB), on behalf of the co-chairs of the Interagency Working Group on the Social Cost of Greenhouse Gases, regarding estimates of the social cost of carbon (SC-CO₂), social cost of methane (SC-CH₄), and social cost of nitrous oxide (SC-N₂O)]

North Atlantic Nonsense

By Alan Longhurst, Climate Etc. May 12, 2021

<https://judithcurry.com/2021/05/12/north-atlantic-nonsense/>

“So the myth of the maritime, equitable climate brought to Europe by the Gulf Stream really needs to be seen for what it is – a myth. It is perhaps appropriate to the British Isles and Scandinavia, but certainly not to the sub-continent as a whole. And, that “Gulf Stream at its lowest in 1000 years” of Potsdam that was trumpeted by a scare-hungry press is perhaps also mythical – but is certainly unhelpful in understanding how the real world actually works.”

Water vapor vs. CO₂ as a climate control knob

By Joe Bastardi, CFACT, May 13, 2021

<https://www.cfact.org/2021/05/13/water-vapor-vs-co2-as-a-climate-control-knob/>

Presentation Ross McKittrick: Is a worst case scenario really bad?

Climate Policy: When Emotion meets Reality

By Marcel Crok, CLINTEL, May 13, 2021 [H/t WUWT]

<https://clintel.org/presentation-ross-mckittrick-is-a-worst-case-scenario-really-bad/>

New Scientific Scandal Shaking The Climate Alarm Industry

By Francis Menton, Manhattan Contrarian, May 9, 2021

<https://www.manhattancontrarian.com/blog/2021-5-9-new-scientific-scandal-shaking-the-climate-alarm-industry>

[SEPP Comment: The fish story of slight lowering of alkalinity of oceans.]

How are polar bears doing 15 years after the IUCN declared them ‘vulnerable’ to extinction?

By Susan Crockford, Polar Bear Science, May 10, 2021

<https://polarbearscience.com/2021/05/10/how-are-polar-bears-doing-15-years-after-the-iucn-declared-them-vulnerable-to-extinction/>

“The idea that summer sea ice is essential for polar bear survival was an early assumption made by polar bear specialists that turned out to be wrong.”

Climate Reflections

By Rud Istvan, WUWT, May 12, 2021

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2021/05/12/climate-reflections/>

Defending the Orthodoxy

The Sensitivity of the Antarctic Ice Sheet to a Changing Climate: Past, Present, and Future

By T. L. Noble, et al. *Reviews of Geophysics*, 2020

<https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1029/2019RG000663>

From the plain language summary: “Human activities have caused the atmosphere and especially the oceans to warm.”

[SEPP Comment: There is no question that the atmosphere has warmed slightly over the past 40 years. Strongly question the claim that CO₂ has caused the oceans to warm.]

Mark Maslin Promotes His New Alarmist Book

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, May 10, 2021

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2021/05/10/mark-maslin-promotes-his-new-alarmist-book/>

“And his LinkedIn page reveals that he has been awarded grants totalling an incredible £43 million.”

Defending the Orthodoxy – Bandwagon Science

Will Waste-to-Energy Help Reach Net-Zero Carbon Emissions?

By Jane Marsh, Real Clear Energy, May 10, 2021

[https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2021/05/10/will_waste-to-energy_help_reach_netzero_carbon_emissions_776524.html](https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2021/05/10/will_waste-to-energy_help_reach_net-zero_carbon_emissions_776524.html)

“We’re fast approaching a scary deadline. According to environmental scientists, we need to reduce 50% of our collective carbon emissions by 2030 to prevent climate catastrophe.”

Questioning the Orthodoxy

Questioning ‘the Science’ on Climate Change

By Robert Murray, Quadrant, May 11, 2021

<https://quadrant.org.au/magazine/2021/05/questioning-the-science-on-climate-change/>

[SEPP Comment: Trying to make sense out of the IPCC mess. Unfortunately, the Summaries for Policymakers do not include the great uncertainty in IPCC science as it is conducted.]

The unhelpfullest cut of all

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, May 12, 2021

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2021/05/12/the-unhelpfullest-cut-of-all/>

“If CO₂ really is the control knob on the global thermostat, removing say 100 ppm should bring back the chilly conditions of the 1970s.”

[SEPP Comment: And bring back predictions of a coming ice age?]

A climate apocalypse now? Er, well, not really

By Harry Wilkinson, The Conservative Woman, May 5, 2021

<https://www.conservativewoman.co.uk/a-climate-apocalypse-now-er-well-not-really/>

Climate change stole my bees

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, May 12, 2021

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2021/05/12/climate-change-stole-my-bees/>

“A theory that explains everything explains nothing and cannot be tested, a troubling point in context of the assertion that climate change causes warming, cooling, more hurricanes, fewer hurricanes and anything else that just happened.”

Change in US Administrations

Biden's Paris Agreement commitment will be tough on Americans — and ineffective

By Ellen Wald, The Hill, May 7, 2021

<https://thehill.com/opinion/energy-environment/551809-bidens-paris-agreement-commitment-will-be-tough-on-americans-and>

Team Biden's Global Governance Pass Play

By Larry Bell, Newsmax, May 12, 2021

<https://www.newsmax.com/larrybell/biden-governance-free-market/2021/05/12/id/1021120/>

Wrong man for the job - will further corrupt the process

By Staff, ICECAP, May 12, 2021

http://icecap.us/index.php/go/political-climate/wrong_man_for_the_job_will_further_corrupt_the_process/

“As Avery and Singer noted in 2006,

“Santer single-handedly reversed the ‘climate science’ of the whole IPCC report and with it the global warming political process! The ‘discernible human influence’ supposedly revealed by the IPCC has been cited thousands of times since in media around the world and has been the ‘stopper’ in millions of debates among nonscientists.””

Social Benefits of Carbon Dioxide

Fantastic Findings: German Study Shows Added CO2 Has Led To 14% More Vegetation Over Past 100 Years!

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, May 7, 2021

<https://notrickszone.com/2021/05/07/fantastic-findings-german-study-shows-added-co2-has-led-to-14-more-vegetation-over-past-100-years/>

Problems in the Orthodoxy

Biden's Not-So-Clean Energy Transition

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, May 14, 2021

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2021/05/13/bidens-not-so-clean-energy-transition/>

Link to extract, then full report: The Role of Critical Minerals in Clean Energy Transitions

By Staff, IEA, May 2021

<https://www.iea.org/reports/the-role-of-critical-minerals-in-clean-energy-transitions>

Despite Biden's climate deal, India is set to forge ahead with fossil fuel acceleration

By Vijay Jayaraj, India, GWPF, May 11, 2021

<https://www.thegwpf.com/despite-bidens-climate-deal-india-is-set-to-forge-ahead-with-fossil-fuel-acceleration/>

Seeking a Common Ground

Landmark study casts doubt on controversial theory linking melting Arctic to severe winter weather

By Paul Voosen, AAAS Science, May 12, 2021

<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2021/05/landmark-study-casts-doubt-controversial-theory-linking-melting-arctic-severe-winter>

Link to paper: Observationally constrained multi-model atmospheric response to future Arctic sea ice loss

By Doug Smith, et al. EGU, 2021

<https://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU21/EGU21-9633.html>

Climate book shelf

By Judith Curry, Climate Etc. May 10, 2021

<https://judithcurry.com/2021/05/10/climate-book-shelf-2/>

Climate, CO2 Optimism

By Robert L. Bradley Jr. American Institute for Economic Research, May 1, 2021

<https://www.aier.org/article/climate-co2-optimism/>

“Friend and foe can agree: climate science remains highly unsettled. But more importantly, there are clear reasons for climate optimism in a CO2-enriched world.”

Are greenhouse gas emissions shrinking the stratosphere?

By David Whitehouse, GWPF, May 13, 2021

<https://www.thegwpf.com/are-greenhouse-gas-emissions-shrinking-the-stratosphere/>

Link to paper: Stratospheric contraction caused by increasing greenhouse gases

By Petr Pisoft, et al. Environmental Research, May 5, 2021

<https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/abfe2b>

Study claims: Climate Change Increasing the Risk of Space Junk Collisions

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, May 13, 2021

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2021/05/13/study-climate-change-increasing-the-risk-of-space-junk-collisions/>

[SEPP Comment: See link above.]

Science, Policy, and Evidence

Let's Demand a Recount . . . of Covid Deaths

By Ron Clutz, His Blog, May 12, 2021

<https://rclutz.com/2021/05/12/lets-demand-a-recount-of-covid-deaths/>

“If the CDC ceases to be a reliable source for health data, some of our state governments manipulate data, and the major media outlets have no interest in investigating and reporting the truth, how long will the American people go along with this medical tyranny of lockdowns, masking, social distancing, and financial ruin?”

Preventable Pandemic indeed: WHO helped infect the world, kill 3 million people, now wants \$50b?

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, May 14, 2021

<https://joannenova.com.au/2021/05/preventable-pandemic-indeed-who-helped-infect-the-world-kill-3-million-people-now-wants-more-powers/>

Review of Recent Scientific Articles by CO2 Science

Interactive Effects of Light and CO2 on Coffee Growth

Marcal, D.M.S., Avila, R.T., Quiroga-Rojas, L.F., de Souza, R.P.B., Gomes Junior, C.C., Ponte, L.R., Barbosa, M.L., Oliveira, L.A., Martins, S.C.V., Ramalho, J.D.C. and DaMatta, F.M. 2021. Elevated [CO₂] benefits coffee growth and photosynthetic performance regardless of light availability. *Plant Physiology and Biochemistry* 158: 524-535. May 14, 2021

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V24/may/a4.php>

“Altogether, the findings of this research paper bode well for the future growth of coffee plants. Whether grown under low light or higher light conditions coffee plants will benefit from the ongoing rise in atmospheric CO₂.”

Mulberry Seedling Response to Short-term CO₂ Enrichment

Shi, S., Qui, Y., Wen, M., Xu, X., Dong, X., Xu, C. and He, X. 2021. Daytime, not nighttime, elevated atmospheric carbon dioxide exposure improves plant growth and leaf quality of Mulberry (*Morus alba* L.) seedlings. *Frontiers in Plant Science* 11: 609031, doi: 10.3389/fpls.2020.609031. May 12, 2021

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V24/may/a3.php>

[SEPP Comment: *Valuable to nursery owners for time-of-day elevation of CO₂.*]

Interactive Effects of CO₂ and Temperature on Eucalyptus Tree Growth

Macdonald, C.A., Anderson, I.C., Khachane, A., Singh, B.P., Barton, C.V.M., Duursma, R.A., Ellsworth, D.S. and Singh, B.K. 2021. Plant productivity is a key driver of soil respiration response to climate change in a nutrient-limited soil. *Basic and Applied Ecology* 50: 155-168. May 10, 2021

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V24/may/a2.php>

“Consequently, for this eucalyptus tree species, its growth under elevated CO₂ conditions through 15 months was not negatively impacted by a 3°C rise in temperature. If anything, the concomitant increase in air temperature *further stimulated* its total biomass.”

Model Issues

Future sea level change under CMIP5 and CMIP6 scenarios from the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets

By Antony J. Payne, et al. Geophysical Research Letters, May 4, 2021 [H/t Climate Etc.]

<https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1029/2020GL091741>

[SEPP Comment: *More Carbon Cult Science: forecasting increasing sea level rise using faulty models that greatly overestimate the warming of the atmosphere.*]

Measurement Issues -- Surface

Caught: ‘Inconvenient’ U.S. Wildfire Data Has Been ‘Disappeared’ by National Interagency Fire Center @NIFC_Fire

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, May 13, 2021

https://wattsupwiththat.com/2021/05/13/caught-inconvenient-u-s-wildfire-data-has-been-disappeared-by-national-interagency-fire-center-nifc_fire/

NASA: Facts And Consensus

By Tony Heller, His Blog, May 8, 2021

<https://realclimatescience.com/2021/05/nasa-facts-and-consensus/>

NOAA’s Monthly Lies

By Tony Heller, His Blog, May 10, 2021

<https://realclimatescience.com/2021/05/noaas-monthly-lies/>

Changing Weather

Winter Arrives Early Across the Southern Hemisphere

By Cap Allon, Electroverse, Apr 26, 2021

<https://electroverse.net/winter-arrives-early-across-the-southern-hemisphere/>

Extraordinary Halos over the Region Tuesday Night

By Cliff Mass, Weather Blog, May 12, 2021

<https://cliffmass.blogspot.com/2021/05/extraordinary-halos-over-region-tuesday.html>

Changing Climate

Study finds six degrees celsius cooling on land during the last Ice Age

Possible implications about future global warming

Press Release by Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, May 12, 2021 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2021/05/210512143600.htm>

Link to paper: Widespread six degrees Celsius cooling on land during the Last Glacial Maximum

By Alan M. Seltzer, et al. Nature, May 12, 2021

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-03467-6>

From the press release: "Researchers show that prior studies have underestimated the cooling in the last glacial period, which has low-balled estimates of the Earth's climate sensitivity to greenhouse gases. The rather high climate sensitivity is not good news regarding future global warming, which may be stronger than expected using previous best estimates."

[SEPP Comment: The Carbon Cult making up evidence and deliberately ignoring experimental and observational evidence.]

Changing Seas

Rising seas no cause for climate change alarm

Former US Energy Department chief scientist Steven Koonin says sea levels rise at changing rates and sees 'no signs' of a climate apocalypse

By Jonathan Tennenbaum, Asia Times, May 11, 2021 [H/t GWPF]

<https://asiatimes.com/2021/05/rising-seas-no-cause-for-climate-change-alarm/>

A rising tide lowers all standards

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, May 12, 2021

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2021/05/12/a-rising-tide-lowers-all-standards/>

[SEPP Comment: More nonsense from "Covering Climate Now."]

Changing Cryosphere – Land / Sea Ice

Ocean-bottom sediments tell a story about ancient Greenland summers

Press Release by University at Buffalo, May 10, 2021 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

<https://phys.org/news/2021-05-ocean-bottom-sediments-story-ancient-greenland.html>

Link to paper: Summer warmth of the past six interglacials on Greenland

By Allison A. Cluett and Elizabeth K. Thomas, PNAS, May 18, 2021

<https://www.pnas.org/content/118/20/e2022916118>

Greenland caves: Time travel to a warm Arctic

Press Release by University of Innsbruck, March 31, 2021

<https://phys.org/news/2021-03-greenland-caves-arctic.html>

Link to paper: Speleothem record of mild and wet mid-Pleistocene climate in northeast Greenland

By G. E. Moseley, Science Advances, Mar 24, 2021
<https://advances.sciencemag.org/content/7/13/eabe1260>

Alaska Glacier Melt And Sea Level “Rise” Add Further Embarrassment To Climate Alarmism

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, May 9, 2021
<https://notrickszone.com/2021/05/09/alaska-glacier-melt-and-sea-level-rise-add-further-embarrassment-to-climate-alarmism/>
[SEPP Comment: *Ice melt exposing ancient forests.*]

New Study: Southern Hemisphere Sea Ice Now Extends ~80 km Farther North Than Prior Estimates

By Kenneth Richard, No Tricks Zone, May 10, 2021
<https://notrickszone.com/2021/05/10/new-study-southern-hemisphere-sea-ice-now-extends-80-km-further-north-than-prior-estimates/>

Link to latest paper: First record of the occurrence of sea ice in the Cordillera Darwin fjords (54°S), Chile

By Charles Salame, Annals of Glaciology, May 2021
https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/E5DFE80376684BE7C47C1844C72BBD38/S0260305521000033a.pdf/first_record_of_the_occurrence_of_sea_ice_in_the_cordillera_darwin_fjords_54s_chile.pdf

Acidic Waters

Editorial: A fishy tale of climate research
Editorial, The Australian, Via GWPF, May 8, 2021
<https://www.thegwpf.com/editorial-a-fishy-tale-of-climate-research/>

Agriculture Issues & Fear of Famine

Worms For Dinner?
By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, May 9, 2021
<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2021/05/08/worms-for-dinner/>
“News from the WEF [World Economic Forum], who are pushing for the Great Reset.”

World Cereal Production To Set New Record This Year

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, May 14, 2021
<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2021/05/14/world-cereal-production-to-set-new-record-this-year/>

Lowering Standards

BBC Climate Check–April 2021
By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, May 9, 2021
<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2021/05/08/bbc-climate-check-april-2021/>
“The absurd Ben Rich presents the latest BBC “Climate” Check. (He really means weather):”

National Geographic Math

By Tony Heller, His Blog, May 11, 2021
<https://realclimatescience.com/2021/05/national-geographic-math/>

Communicating Better to the Public – Use Yellow (Green) Journalism?

Icebreaker's cyclone encounter reveals faster sea ice decline

Ship encounters massive storm in Arctic Ocean on par with Category 2 hurricane
Press Release, NSF, May 12, 2021

https://www.nsf.gov/discoveries/disc_summ.jsp?cntn_id=302702&WT.mc_id=USNSF_1

Link to paper: Role of Intense Arctic Storm in Accelerating Summer Sea Ice Melt: An In Situ Observational Study

By Liran Peng, et al, Geophysical Research Letters, Apr 6, 2021

<https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1029/2021GL092714>

From the abstract: “Intense storms have been more frequently observed in the Arctic during recent years, in coincidence with extreme sea ice loss events.”

From the Plain Language Summary: “More numerous storms have occurred over the Arctic during recent years, potentially impacting sea ice.”

[SEPP Comment: The abstract uses “observed” while the summary uses “occurred”, significantly changing the meaning of the first sentence.]

New York Times Definitions

By Tony Heller, His Blog, May 11, 2021

<https://realclimatescience.com/2021/05/new-york-times-definitions/>

Miniature root vegetables and dandelion leaves ‘to replace potatoes and lettuce because of climate change’

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, May 9, 2021

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2021/05/09/miniature-root-vegetables-and-dandelion-leaves-to-replace-potatoes-and-lettuce-because-of-climate-change/>

[SEPP Comment: At least it is not sedges, mosses, lichens, and other vegetation of the tundra!]

Nearly a fifth of Earth's surface transformed since 1960

By Marlowe Hood, Paris (AFP) May 11, 2021

https://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Nearly_a_fifth_of_Earths_surface_transformed_since_1960_999.html

“But sometimes the same piece of real estate changed more than once. If all such transitions are taken into account, the total land surface affected was equivalent to 32 percent.”

[SEPP Comment: Is crop rotation included?]

We are all going to have died later

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, May 12, 2021

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2021/05/12/we-are-all-going-to-have-died-later/>

How climate change could change the taste of your tea

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, May 10, 2021

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2021/05/10/how-climate-change-could-change-the-taste-of-your-tea/>

Expanding the Orthodoxy

The SEC should embrace financial principles, not progressive activism

By Mark J. Perry, Washington Examiner, May 5, 2021

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/the-sec-should-embrace-financial-principles-not-progressive-activism>

SEC's Gensler Eyes ESG Reporting Rules After Public Input

By Andrew Ramonas, Bloomberg Law, May 6, 2021

<https://news.bloomberglaw.com/esg/secs-gensler-eyes-esg-reporting-rules-after-public-input>

ESG Investing: Politics by Other Means

By Rupert Darwall, Real Clear Energy, May 13, 2021

https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2021/05/13/esg_investing_politics_by_other_means_776854.html

Link to report: Capitalism, Socialism and ESG

By Rupert Darwall, Real Clear Foundation, May 2021

https://www.realclearpolitics.com/docs/2021/rupert_darwall_capitalism_socialism_and_esg_may_2021.pdf

“As I show in my new report Capitalism, Socialism and ESG published today, doing well by doing good is no more than Wall Street sales patter. But since the election, financial regulators have been falling over themselves playing catchup.”

Questioning European Green

Germany plans to hide the rising cost of the renewable energy transition

By Alex Reichmuth, Schweizer Nebelspalte, Via GWPF, May 11, 2021

<https://www.thegwpf.com/germany-plans-to-hide-the-rising-cost-of-the-renewable-energy-transition/>

Jeremy Warner: Net Zero will unleash monster price rises and environmental devastation

By Jeremy Warner, The Daily Telegraph, Via GWPF, May 14, 2021

[https://www.thegwpf.com/jeremy-warner-netzero-will-unleash-monster-price-rises-and-environmental-devastation/](https://www.thegwpf.com/jeremy-warner-net-zero-will-unleash-monster-price-rises-and-environmental-devastation/)

Rising Carbon Prices Are Pushing Up Energy Bills

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, May 10, 2021

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2021/05/10/rising-carbon-prices-are-pushng-up-energy-bills/>

[SEPP Comment: Replacing low cost, reliable energy with higher cost, unreliable energy.]

Questioning Green Elsewhere

“Green Fraud” Book Review (one-stop shopping for energy/climate realists)

By Robert Bradley Jr. Master Resource, May 10, 2021

<https://www.masterresource.org/climate-policy/green-fraud-morano-book-review/>

“Let’s expose this dangerous charade. The Green New Deal is not green. It’s not new. And it’s not a good deal for America.”— Marc Morano, Green Fraud, p. 306.

Fifty years of failed renewables predictions

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, May 8, 2021

<https://joannenova.com.au/2021/05/fifty-years-of-failed-renewables-predictions/>

Green Jobs

Biden Wants \$10 Billion To Put Young People To Work On Environmental Projects

Video, NPR, Via WUWT, May 12, 2021

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2021/05/12/biden-wants-10-billion-to-put-young-people-to-work-on-environmental-projects/>

[SEPP Comment: It may be better than former Defense Secretary McNamara's Project 100,000 of accepting into the draft those who failed military tests to give them better opportunities.]

Non-Green Jobs

Ted Cruz: Texas is fighting back against big businesses that threaten oil, gas jobs

By Ted Cruz, Fort Worth Star-Telegram, May 4, 2021

<https://www.star-telegram.com/opinion/open-columns-blogs/other-voices/article251136074.html>

[SEPP Comment: Includes a simple video of a fractured well 8,000 feet below surface with a lateral of 10,000 feet.]

Funding Issues

Degrowth: Universities Push Permanent Poverty as the Solution to Climate Change

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, May 12, 2021

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2021/05/12/degrowth-universities-push-permanent-poverty-as-the-solution-to-climate-change/>

“I think it is only fair to give the professors an opportunity to showcase their degrowth theories, by slashing their university funding, so they can demonstrate by example how much happier we would be if we all embraced a permanent reduction in income.”

Litigation Issues

German Federal Constitutional Court Ruling On Climate Emergency Ignored Heated Scientific Dispute

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, May 12, 2021

<https://notrickszone.com/2021/05/12/german-federal-constitutional-court-ruling-on-climate-emergency-ignored-heated-scientific-dispute/>

Bombshell: Naomi Oreskes on Retainer with Plaintiffs' Law Firm

By William Allison, Energy in Depth, May 13, 2021 [H/t WUWT]

<https://eidclimate.org/bombshell-naomi-oreskes-on-retainer-with-plaintiffs-law-firm/>

[SEPP Comment: Will they teach her the meaning of evidence?]

Subsidies and Mandates Forever

Renewable Subsidies Could Be Passed On To Gas Users

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, May 8, 2021

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2021/05/08/renewable-subsidies-could-be-passed-on-to-gas-users/>

“For years, successive governments, aided and abetted by the media, have tried to cover up the true cost of climate policies. But now the truth is beginning to catch up on them.”

EPA and other Regulators on the March

EPA orders St. Croix refinery to shut down for 60 days due to 'imminent threat' to islanders' health

By Celine Castronuovo, The Hill, May 14, 2021

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/553611-epa-orders-st-croix-refinery-to-shut-down-for-60-days-due-to>

EPA relaunches website tracking climate change indicators

By Zack Budryk, The Hill, May 12, 2021

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/553235-epa-relaunches-website-tracking-climate-change-indicators>

EPA Updates Its "Climate Change Indicators"

By Francis Menton, Manhattan Contrarian, May 13, 2021

<https://www.manhattancontrarian.com/blog/2021-5-13-epa-updates-its-climate-change-indicators-pgsa4>

Energy Issues – Non-US

If an adversary wanted to destroy manufacturing they could hardly have done a better job

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, May 11, 2021

<https://joannenova.com.au/2021/05/if-an-adversary-wanted-to-destroy-manufacturing-they-could-hardly-have-done-a-better-job/>

Energy Issues -- US

ERCOT Program Cut Natural Gas Supply During Winter Storm

By Darrell Proctor, Power Mag, May 10, 2021

https://www.powermag.com/ercot-program-cut-natural-gas-supply-during-winter-storm/?oly_enc_id=7809H6412578J0B

[SEPP Comment: Did it result in power cuts to gas fields and transmission lines supplying gas-fired power plants?]

Washington's Control of Energy

President Biden's Federal Leasing Ban Threatens US Energy Security

By James 'Spider' Marks, Real Clear Energy, May 13, 2021

https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2021/05/13/bidens_federal_leasing_ban_threatens_us_energy_security_777043.html

Biden Energy Secretary: "Pipe is the best way to go" When Transporting Fuel

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, May 12, 2021

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2021/05/12/biden-energy-secretary-pipe-is-the-best-way-to-go-when-transporting-fuel/>

Oil and Natural Gas – the Future or the Past?

Replacing Crude Oil: The 2006 Debate Revisited (coal oil in play)

By Robert Bradley Jr. Master Resource, May 12, 2021

<https://www.masterresource.org/synthetic-fuels/replacing-crude-oil-2006-nyt/>

"Buffer of Civility" (a message amid the gasoline lines)

By Robert Bradley Jr., Master Resource, May 13, 2021

<https://www.masterresource.org/uncategorized/buffer-of-civility-a-message-amid-the-gasoline-lines/>

Oil Spills, Gas Leaks, Other & Consequences

On The Dark Side - Colonial Pipeline Shutdown Exposes Vulnerability, Highlights Resiliency

By Housley Carr, RBN Energy, May 10, 2021

<https://rbnenergy.com/on-the-dark-side-colonial-pipeline-shutdown-exposes-vulnerability-highlights-resiliency>

America's Multi-Trillion Dollar Infrastructure Security Crisis

By Irina Slav, Oil Price.com, May 12, 2021

<https://oilprice.com/Energy/Energy-General/Americas-Multi-Trillion-Dollar-Infrastructure-Security-Crisis.html>

Colonial Pipeline Ransomware Attack Rattles Power Industry, Renews Vulnerability Concerns

By Sonal Patel, Power Mag, May 11, 2021

https://www.powermag.com/colonial-pipeline-ransomware-attack-rattles-power-industry-renews-vulnerability-concerns/?oly_enc_id=7809H6412578J0B

Here's How the Colonial Pipeline Carries Multiple Fuels at Once

Like layers in a parfait, gasoline and other products don't mix much.

By Peter Coy, Bloomberg Businessweek, May 12, 2021

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-05-12/here-s-how-the-colonial-pipeline-carries-multiple-fuels-at-once>

Link to explanation by Colonial Pipeline

<https://www.colpipe.com/about-us/faqs>

Nuclear Energy and Fears

Let's Build A Nuclear Reactor! Accidents Will Happen

By Andrew Karam, ACSH, May 7, 2021

<https://www.acsh.org/news/2021/05/07/let%20build-nuclear-reactor-accidents-will-happen-15531>

[Since the first commercial reactor in England in 1956] “There have been three major accidents at commercial nuclear reactors – Three Mile Island (1979), Chernobyl (1986), and Fukushima (2011). Let’s take a look at each of these accidents to see what happened.”

A burst of sanity

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, May 12, 2021

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2021/05/12/a-burst-of-sanity/>

Radiation: More Terrifying Than Night Air?

By Robert Hargraves, Real Clear Energy, May 10, 2021

https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2021/05/10/radiation_more_terrifying_than_night_air_776489.html

Indian Point's Shutdown Shouldn't Be Celebrated

By Sam Rutzick, Real Clear Energy, May 09, 2021

https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2021/05/09/indian_points_shutdown_shouldnt_be_celebrated_776409.html

Fusion: Ten Times More Expensive Than Nuclear Power

By Robert L. Hirsch & Roger H. Bezdek, Real Clear Energy, May 12, 2021

https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2021/05/12/fusion_ten_times_more_expensive_than_nuclear_power_776839.html

Alternative, Green (“Clean”) Solar and Wind

The performance of UK Weather Dependent Renewables: 2002 – 2020

By Charles Rotter, WUWT, May 10, 2021

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2021/05/10/the-performance-of-uk-weather-dependent-renewables-2002-2020/>

Link to ed's site:

<https://edmhdotme.wordpress.com/the-performance-of-uk-weather-dependent-renewables-2002-2019/>

“An excellent way to undermine Western economies is to render their power generation unreliable and expensive.”

Solar industry nears ‘crisis’ amidst material shortages

By Liam Stoker, PV Tech, Apr 19, 2021

<https://www.pv-tech.org/solar-industry-nears-crisis-amidst-material-shortages/>

Biden administration approves major offshore wind project

By Rachel Frazin, The Hill, May 11, 2021

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/552842-biden-administration-approves-major-offshore-wind-project>

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

Harrabin’s Green Hydrogen Plan [BBC]

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, May 14, 2021

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2021/05/14/harrabins-green-hydrogen-plan/>

Link to article: ‘Hydrogen as a universal climate solution might be a bit of false promise’

By Emiliano Bellini, PV Magazine, May 11, 2021

<https://www.pv-magazine.com/2021/05/11/hydrogen-as-a-universal-climate-solution-might-be-a-bit-of-false-promise/>

The role of hydrogen in the green economy

By Robert Rex, The Hill, May 5, 2021

<https://thehill.com/opinion/energy-environment/552048-keystone-pipeline-can-play-a-role-in-hydrogen-distribution-for-the?rl=1>

“More than a century ago, the gas distribution network in New York City was developed to transport hydrogen.”

[SEPP Comment: The author may be confusing hydrogen with coal gas (city gas) which includes hydrogen, carbon monoxide, methane, ethylene and other hydrocarbons, the distribution of which started in the 1820s with the New York Gas Light Company.]

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

Definitive valuation guide for pumped storage hydropower

Press Release by Kristen Mally Dean, Argonne National Laboratory, May 13, 2021 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

<https://techxplore.com/news/2021-05-definitive-valuation-storage-hydropower.html>

Link to: Pumped Storage Hydropower Valuation Guidebook: A Cost-Benefit and Decision Analysis Valuation Framework, Hydrowires, DOE, Mar 2021

<https://publications.anl.gov/anlpubs/2021/03/166807.pdf>

[SEPP Comment: Complicating simple calculations of how much storage is needed.]

Alternative, Green (“Clean”) Vehicles

Electric Vehicles and Paying for Our Highways

By Geoffrey Pohanka, Real Clear Energy, May 10, 2021

https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2021/05/10/electric_vehicles_and_paying_for_our_highways_776515.html

Electric cars may make driving too expensive for middle classes, warns Vauxhall chief

By Staff, Daily Telegraph, May 12, 2021

<https://www.thegwpf.com/electric-cars-may-make-driving-too-expensive-for-middle-classes-warns-vauxhall-chief/>

Carbon Schemes

Dutch agree to subsidise Rotterdam carbon capture project with €2bn

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, May 14, 2021

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2021/05/14/dutch-agree-to-subsidise-rotterdam-carbon-capture-project-with-2bn/>

“2 billion euros for just a measly 2.5 million tonnes a year of carbon dioxide, just 1% of the Netherland’s total emissions!”

Plans for Scotland’s first power station that captures carbon revealed—Subsidies demanded first!

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, May 13, 2021

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2021/05/13/plans-for-scotlands-first-power-station-that-captures-carbon-revealed-subsidies-demanded-first/>

“Government subsidies!

“This of course is the whole crux of the matter. There is no doubt that we have the technology to capture and store CO₂, it is all a question of cost. And the 1.5m tonnes of carbon dioxide stored is tiny, compared to the UK’s total emissions of about 320 Mt.

“Peterhead, along with Drax, were awarded £1bn of govt funding in 2012, to develop carbon capture. Both pulled out a few years later because of the difficulties involved. I very much doubt whether this new scheme will come cheap.”

California Dreaming

California's Zero Carbon Plans: Can Anybody Here Do Basic Arithmetic?

By Francis Menton, Manhattan Contrarian, May 11, 2021

<https://www.manhattancontrarian.com/blog/2021-5-11-californias-zero-carbon-plans-can-anybody-here-do-basic-arithmetic>

Link to CA Plan: California releases report charting path to 100 percent clean electricity
Initial assessment projects energy resources needed, details benefits of achieving state law

By Staff, California Air Resources Board, Mar 15, 2021

<https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/news/california-releases-report-charting-path-100-percent-clean-electricity>

From the plan: “To reach the 2045 target while electrifying other sectors to meet the state’s economywide climate goals, California will need to roughly triple its current electricity grid capacity.”

[SEPP Comment: In this sense, grid capacity is another meaningless term. The issue is reliable generation.]

Health, Energy, and Climate

Farms' air pollution contributes to almost 18K deaths in US annually: study

By Zack Budryk, The Hill, May 10, 2021

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/552719-farms-air-pollution-contributes-to-almost-18000-deaths-in-us-each>

Link to paper: Air quality-related health damages of food

By Nina G. G. Domingo, et al. PNAS, May 18, 2021

<https://www.pnas.org/content/118/20/e2013637118>

From abstract: "Agricultural production in the United States results in 17,900 annual air quality-related deaths, 15,900 of which are from food production. Of those, 80% are attributable to animal-based foods, both directly from animal production and indirectly from growing animal feed."

[SEPP Comment: Strongly question 17,900 annual air deaths based on PM 2.5 analysis. More computer analysis than actual evidence.]

Environmental Industry

Left Wing Activists Demand Americans Freeze in the Dark... Because?

By David Middleton, WUWT, May 14, 2021

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2021/05/14/left-wing-activists-demand-americans-freeze-in-the-dark-because/>

Other News that May Be of Interest

Ruled by Big Tech Predators — how did it come to this?

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, May 9, 2021

<https://joannenova.com.au/2021/05/ruled-by-big-tech-predators-how-did-it-come-to-this/>

The Actual Letter from 120 Generals and Admirals

By Ron Clutz, His Blog, May 13, 2021

<https://rclutz.com/2021/05/13/the-actual-letter-from-120-generals-and-admirals/>

"Using the U.S. military as political pawns with thousands of troops deployed around the U.S. Capitol Building, patrolling fences guarding against a non-existent threat, along with forcing Politically Correct policies like the divisive critical race theory into the military at the expense of the War Fighting Mission, seriously degrades readiness to fight and win our Nation's wars, creating a major national security issue. We must support our Military and Vets; focus on war fighting, eliminate the corrosive infusion of Political Correctness into our military which damages morale and war fighting cohesion."

[Personal comment: On January 12, Ken Haapala toured Capitol Hill as the mayor began erecting barriers around The Mall. He saw no burnt-out vehicles, looted shops, broken glass-fronts, damaged statues, etc. that were typical in "mostly peaceful" demonstrations in Seattle, Portland and elsewhere.]

What Seattle Needs in Its Next Mayor

By Cliff Mass, Weather Blog, May 10, 2021

<https://cliffmass.blogspot.com/2021/05/what-seattle-needs-in-its-next-mayor.html>

[COMMENT: Something other than "mostly peaceful" demonstrations?]

BELOW THE BOTTOM LINE

Sewage Set To Become Car Fuel Of Tomorrow!

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, May 9, 2021

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2021/05/09/sewage-set-to-become-car-fuel-of-tomorrow/>

[SEPP Comment: *Is this the mysterious source of “low-cost green” hydrogen?*]

Brewery creates nasty 'Torched Earth Ale' to show how climate change will affect beer taste

By Kaelan Deese, Washington Examiner, April 26, 2021 [WUWT]

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/nasty-ale-to-show-how-climate-change-affects-taste>

[SEPP Comment: *Will the brewery stop emitting CO₂ during fermentation?*]

Bad dog

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, May 12, 2021

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2021/05/12/bad-dog/>

“Before we take Fluffy off to the vet for painless disposal there is one more point we should make. It is remarkable how often scratching an environmentalist reveals a joyless control freak who wants to take away everything that makes life worth living, from your hamburger to the dog licking out the pan.”

Exploring Tradition and Innovation: A Journey by Private Jet

Solicitation by National Geographic, Accessed May 13, 2021 [H/t Dennis Ambler]

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/expeditions/destinations/around-the-world/private-jet/explore-tradition-and-innovation-around-the-world/>

[SEPP Comment: *Explore wonders of nature such as Singapore’s solar-powered Supertrees for as little as \$94,995 pp.*]

If Lettuces Don’t Get It, Tomatoes Will!!

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, May 11, 2021

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2021/05/11/if-lettuces-dont-get-it-tomatoes-will/>

ARTICLES

‘Net Zero’ Carbon Emissions? More Like Not Zero

Companies buy indulgences, allowing them to continue burning fossil fuels.

By Robert Hargraves, WSJ, May 7, 2021

[https://www.wsj.com/articles/netzero-more-like-not-zero-11615156480?cx_testId=3&cx_testVariant=cx_2&cx_artPos=3&mod=WTRN#cxrecs_s](https://www.wsj.com/articles/net-zero-more-like-not-zero-11615156480?cx_testId=3&cx_testVariant=cx_2&cx_artPos=3&mod=WTRN#cxrecs_s)

TWTW Summary: The co-founder of a nuclear engineering company writes:

“Every day, another company, city or state pledges to reach ‘net zero’ carbon-dioxide emissions.

“Google and Apple claim their data centers are net zero. These companies’ massive computer systems use reliable electricity, largely from fuel-burning, CO₂-emitting, grid connected generators within a few hundred miles. They claim net-zero emissions by offsetting the CO₂-originating electricity they use by buying renewable energy credits for electricity generated from intermittent wind and solar at other places and times.

“It turns out that any company, no matter how it uses energy, can net-zero its emissions by helping reduce emissions anywhere. Native, a public-benefit corporation that helps companies

'produce quantifiable emission reductions,' offers CO2 indulgence by claiming 'website purchases are working with hunter-gatherer Hazda communities to Protect Biodiversity & Forests in Tanzania.' ProPublica's review of carbon credits for a large tree-planting project in the Amazon ranked its effectiveness 'worse than nothing' because projects caused ecological damage in other places.

"In 2007 Congress mandated the addition of cellulosic ethanol to gasoline to reach at least 5.5 billion gallons of biofuel in 2017. By 2017 the biofuel industry was able to produce only five million gallons, necessitating Environmental Protection Agency exemptions and another ethereal marketplace of 'Renewable Identification Number' credits.

"During President Obama's first term the EPA proposed a simple limit on new power plants, 454 kilograms [of] CO2 emitted per megawatt-hour. But unreliable wind and solar generators needed backup natural gas, and their combustion turbines emitted too much CO2 to comply. In 2015, EPA's simple rule was scuttled in favor of a complex system of environmental-credits trading, the 1,560-page Clean Power Plan.

"Scams arise from such complex rules, such as the ones replacing petroleum with biodiesel fuel made from vegetables like soybeans. Biofuel producers get a \$1 tax credit for each biofuel gallon produced, and these credits are sold to big oil producers so they can comply with EPA rules. The opportunistic Washakie Renewable Energy filed for credits totaling \$644 million, while not producing a single gallon of biodiesel.

"Net zero is a new word for indulgences to emit CO2. When will a modern Martin Luther nail truth to the door of the cathedral of green religion?" [Boldface added]
