

The Week That Was: 2025-10-18 (October 18, 2025)
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The Science and Environmental Policy Project

Quote of the Week: *“For my many mentors, who taught me the importance of scientific integrity.”*— Steven E. Koonin, dedication in **Unsettled?** (2021)

Number of the Week: 0.45% per year, 0.82% per year, and 1.51% per year

THIS WEEK:

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

Scope: This TWTW begins with a discussion of an effort by the UN to establish a global carbon tax. TWTW presents some responses from GROK AI to questions like why do many physicists object to quantum mechanics? TWTW discusses some weaknesses in a new paper from members of the CERES project and it discusses a report on crossing tipping points. TWTW concludes with a discussion of a paper on the world record surface temperature and a UK master food plan.

Global Carbon Tax: For years, some commentators have speculated why the UN was so emphatic in creating fear of carbon dioxide, which is essential for life on Earth. In the 1850s Earth was coming out of the Little Ice Age when famine was a widespread problem in temperate regions when crops did not ripen. A bit of warming was a blessing that permitted crops to ripen. The UN ignored this history.

In their efforts to create fear, the UN relied on computer models with questionable assumptions. When tested against atmospheric temperatures the models clearly fail, significantly overestimating the warming of the atmosphere, where the greenhouse effect occurs. The UN ignored this fact and many others in making questionable claims about the warming effect of carbon dioxide in today’s atmosphere. Based on decades of laboratory experiments, carbon dioxide has a slight warming effect, which is beneficial, not harmful for life on Earth.

Further, thousands of studies show that adding carbon dioxide will make most plants more robust, particularly C3 plants that include virtually all food crops except C4 grasses such as corn (maize), sugarcane, sorghum, and millets. Yet even C4 plants do better in an atmosphere richer in CO2. Greenhouses and hothouses growing plants routinely double or even triple the amount of CO2 in their atmospheres to promote growth. These yield fresh vegetables year-round, even in cold climates such as in the northern parts of Europe and North America. The UN typically dismisses or ignores such benefits.

The UN’s actions in creating fear of carbon dioxide prompted some commentators to speculate that the UN hopes to obtain a source of funding independent of governments that can hold it accountable by instituting a carbon tax or a regulatory authority to collect fees for emissions of carbon dioxide. Such commentators have been dismissed as cynics. This year, the UN showed they are not. In April, the UN International Maritime Organization planned to institute a Global Carbon Tax, which was to be implemented in a meeting on October 17.

On October 10, the US State Department issued a joint statement by the Secretaries of State, Energy, and Transportation titled “Taking Action to Defend America from the UN’s First Global Carbon Tax – the International Maritime Organization’s (IMO) “Net-Zero Framework” (NZF).” The statement asserts:

“President Trump has made it clear that the United States will not accept any international environmental agreement that unduly or unfairly burdens the United States or harms the interests of the American people. Next week, members of the IMO will vote on the adoption of a so-called NZF aimed at reducing global carbon dioxide gas emissions from the international shipping sector. This will be the first time that a UN organization levies a global carbon tax on the world.

The Administration unequivocally rejects this proposal before the IMO and will not tolerate any action that increases costs for our citizens, energy providers, shipping companies and their customers, or tourists. The economic impacts from this measure could be disastrous, with some estimates forecasting global shipping costs increasing as much as 10% or more. We ask you to join us in rejecting adoption of the NZF at the October meeting and to work together on our collective economic and energy security.

The NZF proposal poses significant risks to the global economy and subjects not just Americans, but all IMO member states to an unsanctioned global tax regime that levies punitive and regressive financial penalties, which could be avoided. The United States is considering the following actions against nations that support this global carbon tax on American consumers:

- *Pursuing investigations and considering potential regulations to combat anti-competitive practices from certain flagged countries and potential blocking vessels registered in those countries from U.S. ports;*
- *Imposing visa restrictions including an increase in fees and processing, mandatory re-interview requirements and/or revisions of quotas for C-1/D maritime crew member visas;*
- *Imposing commercial penalties stemming from U.S. government contracts including new commercial ships, liquified natural gas terminals and infrastructure, and/or other financial penalties on ships flagged under nations in favor of the NZF;*
- *Imposing additional port fees on ships owned, operated, or flagged by countries supporting the framework; and*
- *Evaluating sanctions on officials sponsoring activist-driven climate policies that would burden American consumers, among other measures under consideration.*

The United States will be moving to levy these remedies against nations that sponsor this European-led neocolonial export of global climate regulations. We will fight hard to protect our economic interests by imposing costs on countries if they support the NZF. Our fellow IMO members should be on notice.”

On October 17, at the IMO meeting in London with over 100 countries represented, Saudi Arabia moved to table the talk of a tax until next year, the motion to table carried, and the meeting was adjourned. See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy and Defending the Orthodoxy.

GROK's Answer: Last week's TWTW contained a discussion by Tilak Doshi essay describing how big tech censors the news using their search engines by not including dissenting views, no matter how strongly based on physical evidence these views are. Those who desire to obtain differing views on a controversial subject cannot hope to do so using most internet search engines. TWTW asked Google AI: Why do many physicists object to quantum mechanics? It received a mushy answer about the so-called scientific consensus. The response was unhelpful in trying to understand why journal editors routinely reject papers written by Atomic, Molecular, and Optical (AMO) physicists based on evidence obtained by experiment or observation. Is the IPCC false "consensus" view that dominant?

TWTW asked GROK AI the same question it asked Google AI. The response began with:

"Many physicists don't outright reject quantum mechanics—it's the most successful theory in physics, underpinning technologies from semiconductors to lasers. However, a significant number object to its interpretations, particularly the standard Copenhagen interpretation, due to deep conceptual problems. Here's why:"

The response from GROK AI was far more satisfactory than from Google AI. So TWTW asked GROK AI to think harder. The response was:

BEGIN QUOTE

Many physicists don't outright reject quantum mechanics—it's the most successful theory in physics, underpinning technologies from semiconductors to lasers. However, a significant number object to its **interpretations**, particularly the standard Copenhagen interpretation, due to deep conceptual problems. Here's why:

1. The Measurement Problem

- **Issue:** Quantum mechanics describes particles in a superposition of states (e.g., Schrödinger's cat is both alive and dead) until "measured," at which point the wavefunction collapses to one outcome. But **what counts as a measurement?** A human observer? A detector? A single atom? There's no clear boundary.
- **Objection:** This introduces an arbitrary, observer-dependent rule into an otherwise objective theory. Physicists like Albert Einstein called it "spooky" and incomplete: *"Quantum mechanics is certainly imposing. But an inner voice tells me that it is not yet the real thing."*
- **Analogy:** It's like a law of physics that only works when someone is watching.

2. Nonlocality and "Spooky Action at a Distance"

- **Issue:** Quantum entanglement means particles can instantaneously influence each other across vast distances, violating classical ideas of locality (nothing travels faster than light). Bell's theorem (1964) and experiments confirm this.

- **Objection:** Einstein famously rejected it as "spooky action," arguing it implies hidden variables or incomplete knowledge. Critics say it challenges causality and relativity.
- **Status:** It's real, but many (like David Bohm) prefer deterministic alternatives like the pilot-wave theory to avoid this "weirdness."

3. Lack of a Unified Interpretation

- **Issue:** There are dozens of interpretations (Copenhagen, Many-Worlds, Bohmian, QBism), none universally accepted. Copenhagen dominates textbooks but is vague.
- **Objection:** Physics should have a single, clear picture of reality. As Roger Penrose puts it, *"Quantum mechanics is a gigantic machine that computes correctly, but we don't understand what it's doing."* This feels like "shut up and calculate" science, not true understanding.
- **Example:** In Many-Worlds, every quantum event splits the universe—solving collapse but creating infinite realities. Critics call it extravagant.

4. Incompleteness and the Classical-Quantum Divide

- **Issue:** Quantum mechanics doesn't explain **why** or **how** the classical world emerges from quantum rules (decoherence helps but isn't enough). It also fails to unify with gravity.
- **Objection:** Pioneers like Einstein, Schrödinger, and de Broglie saw it as provisional. Schrödinger wrote, *"I don't like it, and I'm sorry I ever had anything to do with it."* Modern critics like 't Hooft push for "cellular automaton" models to restore determinism.

5. Philosophical and Aesthetic Discomfort

- **Issue:** Indeterminism (true randomness) and the central role of observation clash with the deterministic successes of classical physics (Newton, Maxwell).
- **Objection:** Figures like Sabine Hossenfelder argue it's "fundamentally incomplete," while Lee Smolin calls for theories where time and locality are fundamental, not emergent.

Notable Critics and Alternatives

Physicist/Thinker	Main Objection	Proposed Alternative
Albert Einstein	Nonlocality, incompleteness	Hidden variables
Edwin Schrödinger	Measurement absurdity	Unified field theory
David Bohm	Indeterminism	Pilot-wave (deterministic)
Gerard 't Hooft	Observer-dependence	Superdeterminism
Roger Penrose	No gravity integration	Objective collapse
Sabine Hossenfelder	Philosophical vagueness	Emergent QM from deeper laws

Counterpoint: Why Most Physicists Accept It

- **Empirical success:** Predicts outcomes to 10+ decimal places (e.g., electron magnetic moment).
- **Practicality:** Enables MRI, GPS, quantum computing.

- **Pragmatism:** As Richard Feynman said, *"I think I can safely say that nobody understands quantum mechanics."* But it works, so why fix it? [added by GROK]

Bottom Line

Objections stem from **conceptual ugliness**, not failed predictions. Quantum mechanics is like a black box: input experiment, output flawless result—but open it, and it's philosophically messy. Many physicists (e.g., ~40% in surveys) favor alternatives like Many-Worlds or Bohmian mechanics. The debate rages because physics craves not just *what works*, but *what is real*. Ongoing work in quantum gravity (string theory, loop quantum gravity) may resolve this—or reveal even stranger truths.

END QUOTE

The response from GROK AI suggests an interesting dilemma for government policy makers. We have global climate models based on principles of classical physics that do not work. And we have calculations by noted physicists based on physical evidence but out of the context of classical physics and objected to by noted classical physicists. Which should be used? It may be disturbing, but because we do not have an intuitive understanding of “why it works” is no reason to not use it.

CERES Cloudiness: According to NASA’s Clouds and the Earth's Radiant Energy System (CERES) mission website:

“Climate is controlled by the amount of sunlight absorbed by Earth and the amount of infrared energy emitted to space. These quantities—together with their difference—define Earth’s radiation budget (ERB). The Clouds and the Earth’s Radiant Energy System (CERES) project provides satellite-based observations of ERB and clouds. It uses measurements from CERES instruments flying on several satellites along with data from many other instruments to produce a comprehensive set of ERB data products for climate, weather, and applied science research.

The goals of the CERES project are to:

- *Produce a long-term, integrated global climate data record for detecting decadal changes in the Earth’s radiation budget from the surface to the top-of-atmosphere.*
- *Enable improved understanding of how Earth’s radiation budget varies in time and space and the role that clouds and other atmospheric properties play.*
- *Support climate model evaluation and improvement through model-observation intercomparisons.”*

Writing in PNAS, the CERES team reports that twenty-four years of satellite observations from CERES show that the Northern Hemisphere (NH) is becoming darker while the Southern Hemisphere (SH) is becoming brighter. The abstract states, in part:

“The emerging darkening of the NH relative to the SH is associated with changes in hemispheric differences in aerosol–radiation interactions, surface albedo, and water vapor changes. Cloud changes also contribute to a greater ASR [absorbed solar radiation] hemispheric contrast, but the

magnitude is small due to opposing trend differences in the tropics and extratropics. The break in hemispheric symmetry in ASR challenges the notion that clouds naturally compensate for forced hemispheric asymmetries in noncloud properties. Hemispheric (a)symmetry in radiation is linked with the atmosphere–ocean general circulation. How clouds respond to this hemispheric imbalance has important implications for future climate.”

The effort to understand changing cloudiness and other properties of Earth that influence climate is notable but as John Robson points out, the reasoning becomes questionable when the authors write:

“To gain some insight, we use the multimodel mean climate model simulations in ref. 25 for 2001 to 2019 to examine hemispheric trends in cloud radiative effect (CRE; defined as the difference between clear and all-sky downward TOA flux) and contributions from cloud feedback, “effective radiative forcing” ERF (sum of IRF and rapid adjustments), and the associated cloud masking terms (due to variations in noncloud properties).” [Boldface added.]

Why do the authors seek an explanation using “the multimodel mean climate model simulations” for explanations of the data? The models have been shown to overestimate atmospheric temperature trends, thus falsified. The purpose of the mission is to produce a data record to improve our understanding of the Earth’s radiation budget by observations and thus hope to improve global climate models.

Writing for Net Zero Watch, David Whitehouse has a more generous view of this paper. See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy.

Crossing Tipping Points: An organization called Global Tipping Points produced a slick 2025 report by 160 authors, from 23 countries and 87 institutions claiming we are crossing dangerous “tipping points.” These “are stages reached when it is generally agreed by experts that an ecosystem has reached a point of inevitable major degradation.”

One such point is the destruction of the Great Barrier Reef. Jo Nova points out that Peter Ridd and the Reef Rebels use The Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS) studies which show a significant improvement in the Great Barrier Reef in the 2020s with a slight decline in 2025. The amount of coral cover at the Reef is now higher than it was any time before 2023 since systematic data collection began in 1985.

TWTW asks: How many tipping points were crossed by environmental degradation during the Eemian period, the last interglacial with the environment rebounding from thousands of feet of ice covering most of North America? Will tipping points be crossed when Earth cools again with the onset of a severe glaciation?

All this is an effort to drum up support for the 2025, 30th Conference of Parties (COP) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) which will take place in November in Belém, Brazil.

For the report and Jo Nova's pointed criticism see links under Defending the Orthodoxy, for other comments see links under Defending the Orthodoxy – Bandwagon Science, for comments about COP-30 see links under After Paris!, and an article on the supposed plight of corals under Changing Seas.

Will It Fall? The generally accepted world record high temperature is 134° F (57° C) recorded at Greenland Ranch, Death Valley, California on July 10, 1913. Roy W. Spencer, John R. Christy, and William T. Reid have a paper published by the Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society stating that the temperature is approximately 14 ° F (8 °C) higher than it should be. They provide their justification for this assertion. We shall see if the record falls. See links under Measurement Issues – Surface.

Master Food Plan: Writing in WUWT, Eric Worrall states that the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) has published its Roadmap for Resilience: A UK Food Plan for 2050,

“The Agri-Food for Net Zero Network+ was established by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) in 2022 to consider the challenge of transforming the UK’s food system to meet our climate commitments. Since then, we’ve built a community of over 3,000 researchers, practitioners, and policymakers from across the UK dedicated to finding pathways to a more sustainable future.”

Key points are:

- *“We can’t hit net zero across the UK economy without reducing food system emissions and increasing carbon capture through sequestration.*
- *Land use must change significantly to support climate, food, and nature goals.*
- *Shifting diets and allowing livestock numbers to continue to decline would unlock extensive benefits – from public health to farming resilience.*
- *More strategic planning is essential to reduce our vulnerability to global shocks.”*

Will fresh vegetables from hothouses with CO2 levels two the three times that of ambient air be permitted? See links under Agriculture Issues & Fear of Famine

Number of the Week: 0.45% per year, 0.82% per year, and 1.51% per year. The UK’s Climate Change Act was enacted in 2008. Germany started earlier to reduce CO2 emissions, in 1990, but it did not have a legally binding law until 2019. Elected in 2008, the Obama Administration tried to establish a net zero program in the US but failed.

According to the US Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, based on data from the World Bank, in 2010 dollars, not seasonally adjusted, the per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the UK was 44,065 in 2008 and 47,265 in 2024. This is an increase of 7.26% for the entire 16 years or 0.45% per year. Correspondingly, Germany had a per capita GDP of 38,996 in 2008, 44108 in 2024 for an increase of 13.11% for the period or 0.82% per year. Correspondingly, The US had a

per capita GDP of 53,703 in 2008 and 66,682 in 2024 for an increase of 24.17% over the period or 1.51% per year.

For UK see <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/NYGDPPCAPKDGBR>; for Germany see:

<https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/NYGDPPCAPKDDEU>; for US see

<https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/NYGDPPCAPKDUSA>

NEWS YOU CAN USE:

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/>

Climate Change Reconsidered II: Fossil Fuels

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

<http://climatechangereconsidered.org/climate-change-reconsidered-ii-fossil-fuels/>

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/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

Challenging the Orthodoxy – Radiation Transfer

The Role of Greenhouse Gases in Energy Transfer in the Earth's Atmosphere

By W.A. van Wijngaarden and W. Happer, Preprint, Mar 3, 2023

<https://co2coalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/The-Role-of-Greenhouse-Gases-in-Energy-Transfer-in-the-Earths-Atmosphere.pdf>

Dependence of Earth's Thermal Radiation on Five Most Abundant Greenhouse Gases

By W.A. van Wijngaarden and W. Happer, Preprint, December 22, 2020

<https://wvanwijngaarden.info.yorku.ca/files/2020/12/WThermal-Radiationf.pdf?x45936>

Net Zero Averted Temperature Increase

By Richard Lindzen, William Happer, and William A. van Wijngaarden, CO2 Coalition, June 2024

<https://co2coalition.org/publications/net-zero-averted-temperature-increase/>

Radiation Transport in Clouds

By W.A. van Wijngaarden and W. Happer, *Klimarealistene*, Science of Climate Change, January 2025

<https://scienceofclimatechange.org/wp-content/uploads/SCC-2025-vWijngaarden-Happer.pdf>

Challenging the Orthodoxy

Taking Action to Defend America from the UN's First Global Carbon Tax – the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) “Net-Zero Framework” (NZF)

Press Release by Secretary of State Rubio, Secretary of Energy Wright, and Secretary of Transportation Duffy, Department of State, Oct 10, 2025 [H/t WUWT]

<https://www.state.gov/releases/office-of-the-spokesperson/2025/10/taking-action-to-defend-america-from-the-uns-first-global-carbon-tax-the-international-maritime-organizations-imo-net-zero-framework-nzf/>

Landmark global shipping deal in tatters after US pressure

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Oct 17, 2025

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2025/10/17/landmark-global-shipping-deal-in-tatters-after-us-pressure/>

Homewood: Sounds like the grown-ups are back in charge!

The Climate Creed: How Fear Replaced Science

By Mark Keenan, American Thinker, Oct 13, 2025

<https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2025/10/the-climate-creed-how-fear-replaced-science.html>

As a former scientist with the UK Department of Energy and Climate Change and later a technical expert for United Nations Environment, I saw firsthand how the modern climate narrative was shaped — not by evidence, but by politics. Uncertainty wasn't treated as a question to investigate; it was treated as a threat to suppress. Entire careers and institutions came to depend on preserving a preordained conclusion: that carbon dioxide, the same gas that feeds plant life, is destroying the planet.

Not very bright

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, Oct 15, 2025

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2025/10/15/not-very-bright/>

Link to paper: **Emerging hemispheric asymmetry of Earth's radiation**

By Norman G. Loeb, et al., PNAS, Sep 29, 2025

<https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.2511595122>

The breaking of hemispheric symmetry

By David Whitehouse, Net Zero Watch, Oct 14, 2025

<https://www.netzerowatch.com/all-news/north-and-south-hemispheres-break-key-symmetry>

Link to paper: **Emerging hemispheric asymmetry of Earth's radiation**

By Norman G. Loeb, et al., PNAS, Sep 29, 2025

<https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.2511595122>

[SEPP Comment: As mentioned in This Week, the discussion by Whitehouse differs from the one by Robson, above.]

Conventional Climate Science Threatens Civilization

By Vijay Jayaraj, CO2 Coalition, Oct 14, 2025

<https://co2coalition.org/2025/10/14/https-www-americanthinker-com-blog-2025-10-does-conventional-climate-science-threatens-civilization-html/>

Dr. William Happer, a physicist at Princeton University and former scientific advisor to the U.S. government, notes: “Observations anchor our understanding and weed out the theories that do not work. This has been the scientific method for more than 300 years ... computer models are not meant to replace theory and observation and to serve as an authority of their own.”

New Study Contradicts The Alarmist Narrative That Says The AMOC Is Catastrophically Collapsing

By Kenneth Richard, No Tricks Zone, Oct 16, 2025

<https://notrickszone.com/2025/10/16/new-study-contradicts-the-alarmist-narrative-that-says-the-amoc-is-catastrophically-collapsing/>

Link to paper: **Stability of the Atlantic meridional overturning circulation inferred by subsidence-corrected sea level change**

By Alberto Boretti, Theoretical and Applied Climatology, July 29, 2025

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00704-025-05690-x>

From Abstract: A comparison of tide gauge data from The Battery, New York, and Brest, France, corrected for land subsidence using GPS measurements, reveals a negligible difference in absolute sea level rise between these locations, reinforcing the stability of the AMOC within the period 1960 to 2024. These findings challenge claims of AMOC weakening and emphasize the necessity of accurate corrections for subsidence in sea level analyses.

Defending the Orthodoxy

US blocks a global fee on shipping emissions as international meeting ends without new regulations

By Sibi Arasu and Jennifer McDermott, AP, Oct 17, 2025

<https://thehill.com/homenews/ap/ap-business/ap-regulations-to-drive-a-green-transition-in-shipping-hang-in-the-balance-us-pushes-against-change/>

“Faced with pressure, too many **governments chose political compromise over climate justice**, and in doing so, abandoned the countries bearing the brunt of the climate crisis,” said Emma Fenton, senior director for climate diplomacy at a U.K.-based climate change nonprofit, Opportunity Green.

[SEPP Comment: Would a return of Ice Age conditions be climate justice?]

Climate prophets say Humanity is entering New Reality — has “crossed the first tipping point”

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Oct 14, 2025

<https://joannenova.com.au/2025/10/climate-prophets-say-humanity-is-entering-new-reality-crossed-the-first-tipping-point/>

Link to: **The Global Tipping Points Report, 2025**

By “A total of 160 authors, from 23 countries and 87 institutions” Global Tipping Points, 2025
<https://global-tipping-points.org/>

Climate critics try to discredit IPCC author for linking disasters to global warming

By Lesley Clark, Sara Schonhardt, and Chelsea Harvey, E&E News, Oct 9, 2025 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

<https://www.eenews.net/articles/climate-critics-try-to-discredit-ipcc-author-for-linking-disasters-to-global-warming/>

Roger Pielke Jr. and oil industry supporters are attacking climate scientist Friederike Otto, whose work has been used in lawsuits against polluters.

‘Fundamental science’

World Weather Attribution was founded to provide scientific evidence in the aftermath of an extreme weather event, Otto said, adding that the methodology it uses and many of its studies have been peer reviewed.

“The numbers have never changed through the peer-review process,” Otto said. “Everything we do is super transparent, so all the data is freely available. It is very fundamental science.”

[SEPP Comment: The statistical links by Friederike Otto are bunk.]

Defending the Orthodoxy – Bandwagon Science

Climate 'tipping points' to be crossed

By Julieann Shea, China Daily Global, Oct 14, 2025 [H/t S.J. Cvrk]

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202510/14/WS68eda21fa310f735438b4cb1.html>

Claim: We’ve Hit a Climate Change Tipping Point

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, Oct 13, 2025

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2025/10/13/claim-weve-hit-a-climate-change-tipping-point/>

[SEPP Comment: Tropical corals are found in the Bering Sea?]

Earth’s climate just crossed a line we can’t ignore

Press Release, University of Exeter, Oct 13, 2025 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2025/10/251013040325.htm>

Some climate ‘tipping points’ already being crossed, researchers warn

By Rachel Frazin, The Hill, Oct 13, 2025

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/5553040-irreversible-climate-harms-warning/>

Questioning the Orthodoxy

The Technocrats Are Falling as Their Ideology Fails

By Tilak Doshi, Tilak’s Substack, Oct 11, 2025 [H/t WUWT]

<https://tilakdoshi.substack.com/p/the-technocrats-are-falling-as-their>

Fast-forward to our own era, and the parallels are as chilling as they are uncanny. Over the past two decades, we have witnessed an ideological capture of science no less insidious, though cloaked in the virtuous robes of DEI, ‘climate justice’ and public health. In the realms of climate

policy and COVID-19 response, institutions that were once bastions of rigorous inquiry — the United Nations, the European Union, the US National Institutes of Health (NIH) and peer-reviewed journals — have been co-opted by a progressive ideology.

Does conventional climate science threaten civilization?

By Vijay Jayaraj, American Thinker, Oct 14, 2025 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

https://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2025/10/does_conventional_climate_science_threatens_civilization.html

Checking In On The Climate: Here Are A Few Facts

I & I Editorial Board. Oct 14, 2025

<https://issuesinsights.com/2025/10/14/checking-in-on-the-climate-here-are-a-few-facts/>

What you see is what you get... unfortunately

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, Oct 15, 2025

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2025/10/15/what-you-see-is-what-you-get-unfortunately/>

We call it double nonsense because it starts with the common fatuity Thomas Sowell explores in **A Conflict of Visions** of believing the key to successful public policy initiatives is sufficiently strong, and sufficiently loudly proclaimed, good intentions. It is a strange thing for adults to believe about anything. It wouldn't get you far in car repair, for instance. Or cooking. And after a few years living on your own you ought to know good intentions don't get the dog fed, the sink cleaned or much of anything.

[Canada's Minister of Environment and Climate Change] Dabrusin's remarks are rendered doubly and hopelessly inane by the fact that Canadian politicians, mostly in her own party, have had one thing and one thing only on the climate file for a third of a century now. And it is (drum roll please) ambition. They have not had understanding, of the science, the economics or the administration. They certainly have not had success. But over and over again they have brandished their vaulting ambition.

What Climate Crisis?

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Oct 17, 2025

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2025/10/16/what-climate-crisis/>

17-minute video featuring a proponent of clean energy claiming we need to do more and Daily Sceptic's Chris Morrison

Yes Virginia, David can slay Goliath

By Ronald Stein, America Out Loud News, Oct 13, 2025

<https://www.americaoutloud.news/yes-virginia-david-can-slay-goliath/>

The misunderstanding of "green" delusionists is treating electricity as interchangeable with materials, as it is the central flaw of the green movement. Electricity is a utility, not a substance. In fact, steel, cement, plastics, fertilizers, and pharmaceuticals all require hydrocarbons—not simply as fuel but as essential feedstocks. Oil, natural gas, and coal are the molecular foundations for over 6,000 everyday products that define modern life. Without them, hospitals would lack sterile equipment, farmers would lose fertilizers, and the construction of roads, bridges, and homes would grind to a halt.

Nonprofits Cruelly Normalize Poverty for Climate Virtue

By Vijay Jayaraj, CO2 Coalition, Oct 16, 2025

<https://co2coalition.org/2025/10/16/nonprofits-cruelly-normalize-poverty-for-climate-virtue/>

Similarly, Africa today accounts for less than 5% of global oil product demand despite presenting 18% of the world's population.”

Government budgets in the U.S. and Europe have poured millions into climate initiatives purportedly aimed at “mitigation” and “resilience.” Disguised is the redirection of funds into programs meant to deny oil and natural gas development in regions that need it most.

#HaveItBothWays: Plants going uphill

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, Oct 15, 2025

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2025/10/15/haveitbothways-plants-going-uphill/>

The logic is impeccable. Cold temperature limits plant growth so as temperatures rise, the upper line where plants including trees can and do grow will travel uphill. It is even, awkwardly for climate alarmists, one of the ways we know it was warmer during the Medieval Warm Period: trees grew at higher altitudes (and latitudes). And so it was in 2002 that a group of scientists carefully and logically made the case that the optimal range of trees would start shifting uphill.

Energy & Environmental Review: October 13, 2025

By John Droz, Jr., Master Resource, Oct 13, 2025

<https://www.masterresource.org/alliance-for-wise-energy-decisions/energy-environmental-review-10-13-2025/>

After Paris!

Climate Cult Fantasy and Duplicity Precede COP30

By Paul Driessen, WUWT, Oct 13, 2025

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2025/10/13/climate-cult-fantasy-and-duplicity-precede-cop30/>

Even the poorest US state (Mississippi) now boasts a higher GDP per capita than climate-obsessed Britain, where the average household price of electricity is US\$0.35 per kilowatt hour (likely to rise to \$0.55/kWh by 2027) – compared to a 17.5¢ US average and 13.5¢ in Mississippi.

Brazil hopes COP30 in Amazon can unite world for climate action

By Anna Pelegri with Nick Perry in Paris, Brasilia (AFP) Oct 13, 2025

https://www.terradaily.com/reports/Brazil_hopes_COP30_in_Amazon_can_unite_world_for_climate_action_999.html

Some 50,000 attendees are expected at the two-week COP30 conference starting November 10 in Belem, a city in one of Brazil's poorer states best known as a gateway to the Amazon rainforest.

Trees, targets and trillions: what's on the agenda at COP30?

By AFP Staff Writers, Brasilia (AFP) Oct 13, 2025

https://www.terradaily.com/reports/Trees_targets_and_trillions_whats_on_the_agenda_at_COP30_999.html

At COP30, the hosts will launch a new, innovative global fund that proposes rewarding countries with high tropical forest cover that keep trees standing instead of chopping them down.

The Tropical Forests Forever Fund (TFFF) aims to raise up to \$25 billion from donor countries and another \$100 billion from the private sector, which is invested on financial markets. Brazil has already kicked in \$1 billion.

[SEPP Comment: Protect the tropical forests from heat and nasty CO₂, essential for photosynthesis?]

The End of Paris?

Mon Dieu, quelle tristesse, ça ne fait rien

By Robin Guinier, Climate Sceptic, Oct 13, 2025 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

<https://cliscep.com/2025/10/13/the-end-of-paris/>

They're looking for an escape hatch from the Climate Scam: "The Paris Agreement is starting to work!"

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Oct 17, 2025

<https://joannenova.com.au/2025/10/theyre-looking-for-an-escape-hatch-from-the-climate-scam-the-paris-agreement-is-starting-to-work/>

It's time to move the goalposts to rescue some reputations.

100,000 Amazon Trees Chopped Down to Build Road for COP30 Climate Conference

By Chris Morrison, The Daily Sceptic, Oct 16, 2025

<https://dailysceptic.org/2025/10/16/100000-amazon-trees-chopped-down-to-build-road-for-cop30-climate-conference/>

Saving the world and its environment is his gig so how will he face the prospect of travelling down a new four-lane highway cut through the dense Amazon rainforest to help speed him and his 70,000 other political activists to their luxury hotels? Based on trees per acre, an estimated 100,000 mature specimens have been chopped down and logged to build the eight-mile Avenida Liberdade causing untold disruption to local wildlife.

Social Benefits of Carbon Dioxide

The Carbon Conundrum: Did Earth's Greenest Periods Demand High CO₂?

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Oct 15, 2025

<https://notrickszone.com/2025/10/15/the-carbon-conundrum-did-earths-greenest-periods-demand-high-co2/>

Link to paper: **Historical CO₂ levels in periods of global greening**

By Frans J. Schrijver, preprint, Oct 2025

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/396389619_Historical_CO_levels_in_periods_of_global_greening

The effect of extra CO₂ on Sticky snakeroot

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, Oct 15, 2025

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2025/10/15/the-effect-of-extra-co2-on-sticky-snakeroot/>

From the CO₂Science Archive

Seeking a Common Ground

We Need to Talk About Climate (To Each Other)

By Ned Komar, WUWT, Oct 16, 2025

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2025/10/16/we-need-to-talk-about-climate-to-each-other/>

Science, Policy, and Evidence

Net Zero By The Back Door

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Oct 11, 2025

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2025/10/11/net-zero-by-the-back-door/>

Measurement Issues -- Surface

Death Valley World Record of 134 deg. F Debunked in New Paper

By Roy Spencer, His Blog, Oct 11, 2025

<https://www.drroyspencer.com/2025/10/death-valley-world-record-of-134-deg-f-debunked-in-new-paper/>

Link to paper: **Death Valley Illusion: Evidence Against the 134 °F World Record**

By Roy W. Spencer, John R. Christy, and William T. Reid, Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society, Sep 24, 2025

<https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/bams/aop/BAMS-D-24-0313.1/BAMS-D-24-0313.1.xml>

‘Death Valley Days’ May Be Over for Global Temperature Record

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Oct 14, 2025

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2025/10/14/death-valley-days-may-be-over-for-global-temperature-record/>

About Sea Surface Temperatures

By Ron Clutz, His Blog, Oct 12, 2025

<https://rclutz.com/2025/10/12/about-sea-surface-temperatures/>

From: **SST - Sea Surface Temperature**

By Staff, NOAA Climate.gov, June 25, 2025

<https://www.climate.gov/maps-data/data-snapshots/data-source/sst-sea-surface-temperature>

Measurement Issues -- Atmosphere

Global Temperature Report, September 2025

By Staff, Earth System Science Center, The University of Alabama in Huntsville, Oct 13, 2025

Map: https://www.nsstc.uah.edu/climate/2025/September2025/202509_Map.png

Graph: https://www.nsstc.uah.edu/climate/2025/September2025/202509_Bar.png

Text: https://www.nsstc.uah.edu/climate/2025/September2025/GTR_202509_v2.pdf

CO2 in the atmosphere up by record amount in 2024: UN

By Robin Millard, Geneva (AFP) Oct 15, 2025

https://www.terraviva.com/reports/CO2_in_the_atmosphere_up_by_record_amount_in_2024_UN_999.html

The WMO voiced "significant concern" that the land and oceans were becoming unable to soak up CO2, leaving the greenhouse gas in the atmosphere.

Atmospheric methane is the second-largest contributor to climate change, accounting for around 16 percent of the warming effect.

As for growing climate skepticism, Tarasova said: "Climate change is not a religion. It's a science. What we are doing is making measurements, delivering the data."
[SEPP Comment: It's not the measurements that are questioned, it is the opinions using them.]

Changing Weather

The BLOB is Dying

By Cliff Mass, Weather Blog, Oct 17, 2025

<https://cliffmass.blogspot.com/2025/10/the-blob-is-dying.html>

Anti-Cyclone Descends On Europe

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Oct 11, 2025

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2025/10/11/anti-cyclone-descends-on-europe/>

The anti-cyclone will also establish itself over most of NW Europe as well, so it will be interesting to see how much wind power is generated.

Changing Seas

World's coral reefs crossing survival limit: global experts

By Nick Perry, Paris (AFP) Oct 12, 2025

https://www.terradaily.com/reports/Worlds_coral_reefs_crossing_survival_limit_global_experts_999.html

"Sadly, we're now almost certain that we crossed one of those tipping points for warm water or tropical coral reefs," report lead Tim Lenton, a climate and Earth system scientist at the University of Exeter, told AFP.

[SEPP Comment: Will the seas warm so much that corals will grow at the Aleutian Islands?]

North American ice sheets caused majority of post-Ice Age sea-level rise

By Clarence Oxford, New Orleans LA (SPX) Oct 11, 2025

https://www.terradaily.com/reports/North_American_ice_sheets_caused_majority_of_post_Ice_Age_sea_level_rise_999.html

Link to paper: **Sea-level rise at the end of the last deglaciation dominated by North American ice sheets**

By Udit Mukherjee, Nature Geoscience, Oct 9, 2025

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41561-025-01806-0>

From the Abstract:

Here we present a relative sea-level record, compiled using radiocarbon-dated basal peat, from the Mississippi Delta stretching back to ~10,000 years ago and combine it with the best available relative sea-level data worldwide for the final episode of the last deglaciation (9,000–7,000 years ago).

[SEPP Comment: The bulk of the sea level rise occurred earlier.]

Agriculture Issues & Fear of Famine

UEA Publishes a Green Food Communism Road Map for Britain

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, Oct15, 2025

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2025/10/15/uea-publishes-a-green-food-communism-road-map-for-britain/>

Link to: **AFN+ The Roadmap for Resilience: A UK Food Plan for 2050**

By AFN Network+, October 2025

<https://www.agrifood4netzero.net/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/AFN-ROADMAP.pdf>

Lowering Standards

Man-made warming

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, Oct 15, 2025

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2025/10/15/man-made-warming/>

After long, patient pressure by *The Daily Sceptic*, the British Met Office has started to withdraw fabricated temperature data, namely local daily temperature “records” from non-existent weather stations. The Met, unsurprisingly, originally insisted that the non-existent evidence was carefully made up and thus could be trusted.

Rothamsted v Met Office Corrupted Data

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Oct 13, 2025

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2025/10/13/rothamsted-v-met-office-corrupted-data/>

As we know, the vast majority of the Met Office’s network is made up of junk sites, with error margins of up to 5C. The evidence is now overwhelming that these sites are drowning out the accurate data from the few pristine sites they operate and artificially inflating temperature trends.

Wildfires Below Average Last Year–Met Office Says Global Warming Has Made Them Worse!

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Oct 17, 2025

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2025/10/17/wilfires-below-average-last-year-met-office-says-global-warming-has-made-them-worse/>

The Met Office are no longer a serious, scientific organization, but a political one:

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

Al Jazeera Supports Climate Grift – Tuvalu’s Islands Are Growing, Not Disappearing

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Oct 15, 2025

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2025/10/15/al-jazeera-supports-climate-grift-tuvalu-islands-are-growing-not-disappearing/>

What’s sinking is honest, fact-based journalism, not Tuvalu.

BBC Worried About Rosebank Emissions

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Oct 16, 2025

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2025/10/16/bbc-worried-about-rosebank-emissions/>

Surely the real news is the huge amount of oil, which we should be exploiting? After all, we will only have to import if we cannot tap Rosebank ourselves.

Last year we consumed 483 million barrels, so another 300 million spread over several years is neither here nor there.

But what Rosebank will do is to provide tax revenue.

No, Bloomberg, One Chart Does Not Prove the World Is Getting Hot Fast

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Oct 13, 2025

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2025/10/13/no-bloomberg-one-chart-does-not-prove-the-world-is-getting-hot-fast/>

More recently, the U.S. Climate Reference Network (USCRN)—a pristine system of modern sensors launched in 2005 to avoid problems like urban heat contamination—shows no sustained increase in high-temperature extremes since its inception,...

The Independent's "Record CO₂ Surge" Story: Hype Without Context

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Oct 15, 2025

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2025/10/15/the-independents-record-co%e2%82%82-surge-story-hype-without-context/>

[SEPP Comment: It surges and falls annually.]

False, Yahoo News, Cape Coral Isn't Sinking

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Oct 13, 2025

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2025/10/13/false-yahoo-news-cape-coral-isnt-sinking/>

Link to article: **Experts warn that beloved US coastal town could soon vanish off map entirely: 'I'm scared'**

By Robert Crow, The Cool Down (TCD), Oct 5, 2025

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/articles/experts-warn-beloved-us-coastal-230000143.html>

From Watts: Even accounting for local subsidence, for nearly 60 years Cape Coral's sea-level trend has been consistent, moderate, and predictable. The total rise of about one foot per century is entirely manageable with conventional coastal infrastructure, drainage, and adaptation strategies—just as Floridians have managed tides, storm surges, and erosion for generations.

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

The award-winning science behind climate damage trends

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, Oct 15, 2025

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2025/10/15/the-award-winning-science-behind-climate-damage-trends/>

Link to paper: **Normalized US hurricane damage estimates using area of total destruction, 1900–2018**

By Aslak Grinsted, et al., PNAS, Nov 11, 2019

<https://www.pnas.org/doi/abs/10.1073/pnas.1912277116>

From Robson: For much of the 20th century it showed the same numbers as other published data sets. But as of the early 21st century ICAT stopped tracking the standard literature and started using the now-canceled and grossly overstated NOAA Billion Dollar Disaster data set, stitching it on to the earlier part of the series despite being constructed on a completely different basis. Putting the two different series together, a hoary statistical no-no, caused an upward trend to appear in the G18 paper where none did previously.

It was that the IPCC and NCA ignored over 60 other studies reporting the absence of a disaster trend and put all their faith in one study claiming a trend exists. And then when that study was shown to be invalid, the scientific authorities refused to correct the record.

We'd call that a scandal. We'd even call it a shocking scandal, except that we've seen it too often to be shocked anymore. And clearly many in the field who know better are not sufficiently shocked to speak up. Piling scandal on scandal.

Communicating Better to the Public – Make things up.

Crystal ball models show Scarborough gas project will kill 484 people in Europe

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Oct 16, 2025

<https://joannenova.com.au/2025/10/crystal-ball-models-show-scarborough-gas-project-will-kill-484-people-in-europe/>

Link to newspaper article: **Modelling shows gas project emissions will cause hundreds of heat-related deaths**

By Jo Lauder, ABC News. Au, Oct 13, 2025

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-10-14/fossil-fuel-climate-impact-study-models-heatwave-deaths/105870098>

Link to paper: **Quantifying the regional to global climate impacts of individual fossil fuel projects to inform decision-making.**

By Nerilie J. Abram, et al., Nature, NPJ Climate Action, Oct 13, 2025

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s44168-025-00296-5>

From newspaper article: In the new paper published in the Nature journal Climate Action, researchers found Scarborough's 880 million tonnes of emissions over its lifetime — including emissions when the gas was burnt — would increase global temperatures by 0.00039 degrees. The small increase can still have significant consequences, according to [co-author] Professor Perkins-Kirkpatrick. [Professor of Climate Science in the Fenner School of Environment and Society at Australian National University (ANU)]

According to the study, another 356,000 people globally would be pushed outside the human climate niche — a comfort zone defined by scientists as the climate conditions in which human societies have historically thrived.

[SEPP Comment: Another Linear No Threshold study: deaths from an increase in temperature of 39/100,000 of a degree C.]

Claim: Overpopulation Climate Claims are “A Dangerous Lie”, We Just Need Wealth Redistribution

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, Oct 16, 2025

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2025/10/16/claim-overpopulation-climate-claims-are-a-dangerous-lie-we-just-need-wealth-redistribution/>

Communicating Better to the Public – Use Propaganda

How Badly Climatists Attack Meat

By Ron Clutz, His Blog, Oct 14, 2025

<https://rclutz.com/2025/10/14/how-badly-climatists-attack-meat/>

This is a short story about how the BBC and the UK Parliament turned the opinions of just ten people into the single voice of 66 million. At the centre of this story is our favourite food. Meat production has long bothered the environmental movement and climate campaigners, because it is at the centre of culture, and family and social life.

8-minute video with lightly edited transcript and illustrations by Clutz

Questioning European Green

Europe in the Rare Earth Trap

By Thomas Kolbe, American Thinker, Oct 16, 2025

https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2025/10/europe_in_the_rare_earth_trap.html

Energy Expert Vahrenholt: Hamburg’s Zero CO2 By 2040 Is “A Fundamental Attack On Prosperity”

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Oct 17, 2025

<https://notrickszone.com/2025/10/17/energy-expert-vahrenholt-hamburgs-zero-co2-by-2040-is-a-fundamental-attack-on-prosperity/>

Vahrenholt is not alone. Other critics, seeing a silver lining, have pointed out that Hamburg will serve as the sacrifice city that will showcase to the rest of Germany the absurdity of mandating a carbon-free society.

Clean Power For 87 Hours!

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Oct 17, 2025

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2025/10/17/clean-power-for-87-hours/>

From Carbon Brief:

“Electricity demand on the island of Great Britain has been fully covered by the output of clean-energy sources for a record 87 hours in 2025 to date, new Carbon Brief analysis shows.”

Homewood: But as Carbon Brief admit, we still had plenty of gas power running for the whole of that time, most likely to provide inertia. Although non-fossil fuel power just about covered demand, the surplus power was exported.

Shut The CCC Now!

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Oct 15, 2025

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2025/10/15/shut-the-ccc-now/>

The Climate Change Committee are getting desperate, as they face oblivion after the next election:

Funding Issues

Science Subsidy Trap: Why Public Research Funding Needs to End

By Cameron English, ACSH, Apr 16, 2025

<https://www.acsh.org/news/2025/04/16/science-subsidy-trap-why-public-research-funding-needs-end-49423>

The simple fact is that private R&D spending dwarfs public investment, with as much as 70 percent of science financed by corporations and charities. In the US, the difference is similarly massive. Of the \$892 billion total invested in R&D in 2023, “the business sector funded \$673 billion and the federal government funded \$164 billion,” the National Science Foundation reported in February.

Trump finalizes \$1.6B loan for power lines initiated by Biden

By Rachel Frazin, The Hill, Oct 16, 2025

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/5559301-trump-biden-power-lines/>

Litigation Issues

Climate Lawfare Circus Update

By Ron Clutz, Science Matters, Oct 11, 2025

<https://rclutz.com/2025/10/11/climate-lawfare-circus-update/>

Orsted vs. Trump: An offshore battle looms

By David Wojick, CFACT, Oct 14, 2025

<https://www.cfact.org/2025/10/14/orsted-v-trump-an-offshore-battle-looms/>

The world's largest offshore wind developer, backed by the government of Denmark, is on a deliberate collision course with the Trump Administration.

The battleground is Sunrise Wind, a 924 megawatt (MW) offshore wind project located roughly 30 miles east of Long Island's Montauk Point. Orsted just raised almost \$10 billion, two-thirds of which is reportedly aimed at building Sunrise.

Sunrise has all its federal permits, but offshore construction has yet to begin, or, as the industry puts it, there is no "steel in the water." The Trump administration has vowed to stop all offshore wind projects that are not already under construction, so Sunrise must be in the federal crosshairs.

States sue Trump administration over terminated solar funding

By Rachel Frazin, The Hill, Oct 17, 2025

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/5560598-states-sue-trump-solar-energy-epa/>

Officials in more than 20 states and Washington, D.C., sued the federal government over a decision to axe a Biden-era program to provide solar power to disadvantaged communities.

In a pair of legal filings this week, the states argued that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) move to cut the \$7 billion Solar for All (SFA) program was unlawful and unconstitutional and a breach of its contract with the states.

Judge dismisses young climate activists' lawsuit challenging Trump on fossil fuels

By NBC Montana Staff, Oct 15, 2025 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

<https://nbcmontana.com/news/local/judge-dismisses-young-climate-activists-lawsuit-challenging-trump-on-fossil-fuels>

Subsidies and Mandates Forever

Lose It: Towards a Tax-neutral Energy Market

By Robert Bradley Jr., Master Resource, Oct 15, 2025

<https://www.masterresource.org/energy-tax-reform/lose-it-tax-neutral-energy-market/>

The chart below from social media lists some of the current deadlines for major [US] energy subsidies.

Renewables soar as renewables crash

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, Oct 15, 2025

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2025/10/15/renewables-soar-as-renewables-crash/>

But despite the Panglossian gloss, that last sentence actually tells you, as does the collapse in the industry in the U.S. as the subsidy rug is yanked out from under, that these kinds of energy do not appeal to end users, just to governments who, as Margaret Thatcher pointed out long ago, sooner or later run out even of other people's money.

CfD Subsidies Rise To £657 Million in Q3

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Oct 14, 2025

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2025/10/14/cfd-subsidies-rise-to-657-million-in-q3/>

Dodgy Insulation

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Oct 14, 2025

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2025/10/14/dodgy-insulation/>

Energy Issues – Non-US

Why a cold snap could spell disaster

By Andrew Montford, Net Zero Watch, Oct 17, 2025

<https://www.netzerowatch.com/all-news/y5khbmtrdjm52riwwjfg26m145v95k>

DESNZ Lie About Solar Power

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Oct 15, 2025

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2025/10/15/desnz-lie-about-solar-power/>

[SEPP Comment: UK Department for Energy Security and Net Zero. At a latitude of 53.31°N the Tillbridge Solar Farm is about the same latitude of Edmonton, Alberta, with sunrise about 8:50 am, sunset about 4:15 pm on December 21. DESNZ claims a solar farm will be the cheapest way to power 7.5 million homes?]

Energy CEOs undermine [UK DESMZ Secretary] Miliband: high bills baked in

Press Release, Net Zero Watch, Oct 16, 2025

<https://www.netzerowatch.com/all-news/energy-ceos-undermine-miliband>

The Nuclear Levy Will Cost You £1 Billion A Year

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Oct 14, 2025

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2025/10/14/the-nuclear-levy-will-cost-you-1-billion-a-year/>

There's yet another climate surcharge which will be added to monthly electricity bills from next month:

Much has been made of the fact that it will only add a "few pounds" to your bill.

But £3.455/MWh works out at a billion pounds a year, £40 for every household in the country.

They claim it will lead to lower bills eventually, once Sizewell C is built. But I will believe that when I see it! All the evidence from Hinkley suggests that costs will keep escalating.

UK Exporting Gas Power To Windless Europe

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Oct 14, 2025

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2025/10/14/uk-exporting-gas-power-to-windless-europe/>

What will happen when our gas plants are shut down?

German Energy Expert Warns Of Germany's Energy Supply Madness...Energy Security On The Line

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Oct 11, 2025

<https://notrickszone.com/2025/10/11/german-energy-expert-warns-germanys-energy-supply-madness-energy-security-on-the-line/>

Even the Federal Network Agency (BNetzA) under Klaus Müller warns in its security of supply report: By 2035, up to 35,500 MW of additional controllable capacity will be needed – equivalent to about 70 gas power plants. As early as 2030, a deficit of up to 21,000 MW is expected. This gap will inevitably lead to massive power supply bottlenecks during periods of *Dunkelflaute* (low wind and no solar radiation).

To cover up the misery, the BNetzA is planning a direct attack on energy-intensive German industry. Under the AgNES project, the so-called “Bandlastrabatt“ (base-load tariff discount) for the 560 companies in the basic materials industry (chemicals, metals, glass), which operate 24/7, is to be abolished. The justification: Industry must become the scapegoat for the failed energy policy and “flexibilize“ its production according to the wind and weather.

This is simply impossible for continuous processes like copper or glass production. The cancellation of the €1.42 billion discount is of existential importance for the basic materials industry.

Netherlands’ renewables drive putting pressure on its power grid

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Oct 16, 2025

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2025/10/16/netherlands-renewables-drive-putting-pressure-on-its-power-grid/>

Netherlands Electricity Mix

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Oct 16, 2025

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2025/10/16/netherlands-electricity-mix/>

As in all northerly latitudes, solar power is virtually useless in winter, while at the same time overloading the grid in summer. Wind is its usual intermittent and variable nature.

As a result, in December 2024, thermal power supplied 58% of electricity, with solar a miserable 3%.

Energy Issues – Australia

Renewables will need subsidies until we get rid of coal says government — “Another ten years”

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Oct 15, 2025

<https://joannenova.com.au/2025/10/renewables-will-need-subsidies-until-we-get-rid-of-coal-says-government-another-ten-years/>

If the green subsidies can’t end until coal power is gone, it looks more like their primary goal was not to help renewables so much as to destroy coal...

Queensland breaks the unthinkable taboo, saves \$26b and keeps old coal plants running *til 2046*!

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Oct 11, 2025

<https://joannenova.com.au/2025/10/queensland-breaks-the-unthinkable-taboo-saves-26b-and-keeps-old-coal-plants-running-til-2046/>

If Queensland doesn’t turn into horned turnip or a snivelling hunchback, other states might get the crazy idea that they can do this too.

Especially when the businesses move to Queensland...

Energy Issues -- US

DOE Secretary Chris Wright: Energy Exceptionalism Quotations

By Robert Bradley Jr., Master Resource, Oct 14, 2025

<https://www.masterresource.org/department-of-energy-wright/doe-secretary-wright-quotations/>

President Trump Is Fixing FERC

By Daniel Turner, Real Clear Energy, Oct 15, 2025

https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2025/10/15/president_trump_is_fixing_ferc_1141221.html

In June 2022, The Wall Street Journal broke the story of [FERC’s chairman Richard] Glick’s biweekly meetings with the White House climate office. Suddenly, it all clicked. Team Biden wanted to advance the climate agenda and punish the fossil fuel industry, and the FERC became the vehicle to do both. The weaponization of government struck again.

Former Chair Glick treated upgrades and basic maintenance as new projects, beginning the review process at square one.

The Slowly Mounting Mineral Shock

By Portia Roberts , Peter Bryant, Real Clear Energy, Oct 13, 2025

https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2025/10/13/the_slowly_mounting_mineral_shock_1140722.html

Oil shocks cause price leaps, lines at gas stations, political fallout. Mineral shocks are slow burns, until they’re not. They might initially surface as longer delivery times, stalled grid projects, costlier products—or some with missing features. But if mineral shortages continue, if (limited) stockpiles are exhausted, markets unavoidably face price shocks.

NYISO Weighs In On The New York State Draft Energy Plan

By Francis Menton, Manhattan Contrarian, Oct 14, 2025

<https://www.manhattancontrarian.com/blog/2025-10-13-kehcyjbpfhsv7qpewj42i2kqftahu8>

Link to: **Comments of the New York Independent System Operator on the Draft State Energy Plan**

By Staff, NYISO, Oct 6, 2025

https://www.nyiso.com/documents/20142/1402310/20251006_NYISOCmmnts_DraftStateEnergyPlan.pdf/5675df00-b281-bc67-f4b3-26e2155f6826

From Menton: I then submitted my own Comment on the Plan, and had a further post describing that on September 27. Key takeaway:

“[T]he so-called ‘Energy Plan’ is not an energy plan at all. It would more accurately be described as random musings and wishful thinking by some completely incompetent people who have no idea what they are doing.”

So, with that background, let’s take a look at NYISO’s newly-issued Comment. This sentence from page 1 is fairly representative of the overall tone:

“The NYISO submits these comments to highlight electric system reliability concerns and to offer approaches that support ongoing electric system reliability through competitive markets for consideration as part of the final State Energy Plan. “

They are submitting comments to “highlight . . . concerns.” Yes, I guess so, but I find that a wholly inadequate statement of the problem. In fact, the energy bureaucracies are driving the State down an impossible path from which it becomes increasingly difficult to exit before disaster strikes.

Critics Fear Financial Titans Have Found Trojan Horse For ‘Climate Mandates’

By Audrey Streb, Daily Caller, Oct 13, 2025

<https://dailycaller.com/2025/10/13/blackrock-utilities-across-america/>

AI Needs Data Centers—and People to Build Them

How did the world of bits and bytes become the second-largest source of demand for construction workers, trailing only residential housing?

By Mark P Mills, City Journal, Oct 3, 2025

<https://www.city-journal.org/article/ai-data-center-construction-worker-jobs>

Expanding and enhancing the skilled labor pool will require both technology and capital. Instead of launching a massive federal program, Washington should expect deep-pocketed tech firms to provide both.

FirstEnergy Plan Calls for New Gas-Fired Plant, Continued Coal-Fired Generation

By Darrell Proctor, Power Mag, Oct 13, 2025

https://www.powermag.com/firstenergy-plan-calls-for-new-gas-fired-plant-continued-coal-fired-generation/?utm_source=omeda&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pwrnews+eletter&oly_enc_id=7809H6412578J0B

Hitachi Energy, Grid United Advance North Plains Connector to Link Eastern and Western Grids

By Sonal Patel, Power Mag, Oct 2, 2025

https://www.powermag.com/hitachi-energy-grid-united-advance-north-plains-connector-to-link-eastern-and-western-grids/?utm_source=omeda&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pwrtdirect+eletter&oly_enc_id=7809H6412578J0B

Return of King Coal?

America’s Energy Dilemma: A Consumer’s Guide to Common Sense

By Terry L. Headley, Real Clear Energy, Oct 14, 2025

https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2025/10/14/americas_energy_dilemma_a_consumers_guide_to_common_sense_1140915.html

When judged by the same standards every American uses to make a purchase—cost, reliability, security, longevity, and value—coal remains the only logical choice.

Nuclear Energy and Fears

And Now, SMR Intelligence Global

Last month, we published an in-depth guide to the US companies vying to deploy small modular reactors. Here’s the first comprehensive compendium of the global players racing to commercialize SMRs.

By Robert Bryce, His Substack, Oct 16, 2025

https://robertbryce.substack.com/p/and-now-smr-intelligence-global?utm_campaign=email-post&r=f7h7&utm_source=substack&utm_medium=email

Third, and perhaps most important: Russia has a significant lead over the rest of the world, with China running a close second. Yes, a slew of US companies are working on designs and prototypes, but they are years behind their Russian and Chinese counterparts.

Who's winning the SMR race?

By Stephen McBride and Dan Steinhart, Rational Optimist Society, Oct 12, 2025

<https://rationaloptimistsociety.substack.com/p/whos-winning-the-smr-race>

Connecting nuclear reactors across Africa

By Kelvin Kemm, WUWT, Oct 16, 2025

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2025/10/16/connecting-nuclear-reactors-across-africa/>

So African countries should now clearly adopt nuclear power as their future. They owe it to their citizens to provide a clear vision of a stable, reliable, and inexpensive electricity supply as a foundation for national growth.

[SEPP Comment: Are small nuclear reactors the answer?]

Nuclear Naysayers Are Nothing New

By Duggan Flanakin, Real Clear Energy, Oct 13, 2025

https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2025/10/13/nuclear_naysayers_are_nothing_new_1140708.html

Nuclear Fusion: Big AI's Fig Leaf to Cover their Fossil Fuel Energy Splurge?

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, Oct 12, 2025

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2025/10/12/nuclear-fusion-green-techs-fig-leaf-to-cover-their-fossil-fuel-energy-splurge/>

I believe former environmentalist tech leaders are driving this uptick in confidence, because they are clinging to irrational hopes for an imminent fusion breakthrough like a shipwrecked sailor clings to a life raft. The alternative to belief in the imminence of nuclear fusion is to accept they are utter hypocrites, that Big Tech's AI push is a total betrayal of their once precious green energy ideals.

New York to appeal after judge OKs radioactive Indian Point water in the Hudson

By Johan Sheridan, The Hill, Oct 14, 2025

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/5555190-new-york-hochul-indian-point-hudson-river/>

The wastewater in question is contaminated with tritium, a radioactive isotope of hydrogen created during the nuclear fission process. Tritium—whose half-life is 12 years—bonds with oxygen, meaning the wastewater cannot be filtered.

Regulations on radioactive releases from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the federal body managing decommissions, are based on the dose to the public, regardless of the volume of the discharge. NRC has an internal goal to keep the dose from liquid releases below three millirem per year at the release point, and a legal limit of 25 millirem per year.

The calculated dose to the public from Indian Point in 2021 was about 0.011966 millirem—about one-thousandth of the federal cap.

[SEPP Comment: Tritium or hydrogen3 (3H) is extremely rare. It is produced naturally by the interaction of atmospheric gases with cosmic rays.]

Amazon Unveils ‘Cascade’—Energy Northwest’s Xe-100 SMR Project, Targeting Construction by 2030

By Sonal Patel, Power Mag, Oct 15, 2025

https://www.powermag.com/amazon-unveils-cascade-energy-northwests-xe-100-smr-project-targeting-construction-by-2030/?utm_source=omeda&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pwrnews+eletter&oly_enc_id=7809H6412578JOB

Amazon’s Climate Pledge, which aims to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2040, unites more than 550 signatories across 55 industries to accelerate joint action on climate solutions. Its Climate Pledge Fund—a \$2 billion venture investment program—supports technologies that advance sustainability and carbon-free energy, including investments in wind, solar, battery storage, and new SMR projects to power its operations and add clean generation to the grid. The Northwest Power and Conservation Council’s 2025 demand forecast shows steep potential growth in regional electricity use through 2046, driven primarily by data centers and semiconductor facilities, followed by electrified transportation and emerging hydrogen production.

Alternative, Green (“Clean”) Solar and Wind

Texans Should Stop Spending on Fake Climate Crisis

By Gregory Wrightstone, CO2 Coalition, Oct 17, 2025

<https://co2coalition.org/2025/10/17/texans-should-stop-spending-on-fake-climate-crisis/>

Boasting that Texas “has built more wind power than any state and is a top contender for the most solar power,” a Texas Tribune article bemoans a decline in federal subsidies for such energy sources and a potential loss of “billions in investments and thousands of jobs.”

Avian Mortality: Industrial Wind in Ecological Trouble

By Sherri Lange, Master Resource, Oct 16, 2025

<https://www.masterresource.org/cuisinarts-of-the-air/avian-mortality-wind-power-ecological-trouble/>

The U.S. Secretary of the Interior, Doug Burgum, posted a memorandum back in August calling on the agency to ensure compliance with the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, “to ensure that our national bird is not sacrificed for unreliable wind facilities!”

A US startup plans to deliver ‘sunlight on demand’ after dark. Can it work – and would we want it to?

By Michael J. I. Brown and Matthew Kenworthy, The Conversation, Oct 9, 2025 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

<https://theconversation.com/a-us-startup-plans-to-deliver-sunlight-on-demand-after-dark-can-it-work-and-would-we-want-it-to-264323>

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

Deadly grid battery fallacy exposed in Massachusetts

By David Wojick, CFACT, Oct 10, 2025

<https://www.cfact.org/2025/10/10/deadly-grid-battery-fallacy-exposed-in-massachusetts/>

An alert Massachusetts watchdog group has blown the whistle on the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for issuing potentially catastrophic guidance for building grid scale battery facilities. They are specifying a standard which is only meant for small batteries making some rules deadly wrong at grid scale. Turns out this fallacy is widespread nationally making their warning that much more important.

Alternative, Green ("Clean") Vehicles

Tidbits

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, Oct 15, 2025

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2025/10/15/tidbits-130/>

Also, "Since 2016, the Government of Canada has allocated more than \$1 billion in funding to support the deployment of electric vehicle charging stations across the country." Just try to find one, though.

Other Scientific News

Nickel and urea hints reshape story of early Earth oxygen rise

By Riko Seibo, Tokyo, Japan (SPX) Oct 10, 2025

https://www.terraviva.com/reports/Nickel_and_urea_hints_reshape_story_of_early_Earth_oxygen_rise_999.html

Link to paper: **Biogeochemical impact of nickel and urea in the great oxidation event**

By Dilan M. Ratnayake, et al, Nature, Communications Earth & Environment, Aug 12, 2025

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s43247-025-02576-8>

Other News that May Be of Interest

The Greatest Bird Migration on Record! Weather Played a Major Role.

By Cliff Mass, Weather Blog, Oct 11, 2025

<https://cliffmass.blogspot.com/2025/10/the-greatest-bird-migration-of-record.html>

Who is setting fire to the Amazon?

By Anna Pelegri et al., (AFP) Oct 13, 2025

https://www.terraviva.com/reports/Who_is_setting_fire_to_the_Amazon_999.html

"Red John" is an old acquaintance of landowners and ranchers in the Brazilian Amazon.

He helps clear pastures cheaply, but also leaves blackened earth and charred trees in his wake -- threatening the planet's largest tropical forest.

BELOW THE BOTTOM LINE

Dirty climate pictures

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, Oct 15, 2025

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2025/10/15/dirty-climate-pictures/>

Hidden, supercharged 'thermostat' may cause Earth to overcorrect for climate change

By Sascha Pare, Yahoo News, Oct 11, 2025 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/articles/hidden-supercharged-thermostat-may-cause-150000874.html?guccounter=1>

Earth may respond to the huge quantities of carbon dioxide (CO₂) that humans are pumping into the atmosphere by "overcorrecting" the imbalance, which could result in the next ice age arriving on time instead of being delayed by tens of thousands of years, as had previously been predicted. *[SEPP Comment: Just like the last Ice Age was an overcorrection for the Eemian Interglacial Period?]*

Head For The Hills! Aviva Warn Britain Will Be Flooded By 2050

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Oct 15, 2025

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2025/10/15/head-for-the-hills-aviva-warn-britain-will-be-flooded-by-2050/>

Link to report: **Building future communities 2025**

Getting ready for a changing climate

By Staff, Aviva UK & Ireland General Insurance, September 2025

file:///C:/Users/Ken%20Haapala/Downloads/building_future_communities_report_2025.pdf

From Executive Summary: Climate change is already reshaping lives, homes, and communities across the UK. The last two years alone have seen record-breaking heat, devastating floods, and rising risks to public health and infrastructure. By 2050, millions more properties could be at risk from flooding and subsidence, with extreme heat threatening lives and livelihoods.

[SEPP Comment: Get your flood insurance now, before the 7-years of rains begin!]

One Daily Beef Chipolata and a Small Nibble of Cheese: Eco Nutters Reveal New Planetary Health Diet

By Chris Morrison, The Daily Sceptic, Oct 13, 2025

<https://dailysceptic.org/2025/10/13/one-daily-beef-chipolata-and-a-small-nibble-of-cheese-eco-nutters-reveal-new-planetary-health-diet/>

Link to diet: **The EAT–Lancet Commission on healthy, sustainable, and just food systems**

By Prof Johan Rockström, et al., The Lancet, Oct 11, 2025

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(25\)01201-2/abstract?dgcid=tlcom_carousel1_lanceteat25](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(25)01201-2/abstract?dgcid=tlcom_carousel1_lanceteat25)

From abstract: However, food systems remain squarely centered at the nexus of food security, human health, environmental sustainability, social justice, and the resilience of nations. Actions on food systems strongly impact the lives and wellbeing of all and are necessary to progress towards goals highlighted in the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement, and the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

SciAm: Can We Bulldoze Enough Forests to Prevent Climate Change?

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, Oct 17, 2025

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2025/10/17/sciam-can-we-bulldoze-enough-forests-to-prevent-climate-change/>

Link to paper: Large CO₂ removal potential of woody debris preservation in managed forests

By Yiqi Luo, et al., Nature Geoscience, June 25, 2025

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41561-025-01731-2>

[SEPP Comment: Is this what they are doing in preparing for COP-30?]

1. Death of a 'Clean Energy' Debacle

A new 'endangerment' study shows that the climate battle is over except for the lawfare.

By Holman W. Jenkins, Jr., WSJ, Oct. 14, 2025

https://www.wsj.com/opinion/death-of-a-clean-energy-debacle-7f63c12b?mod=hp_opin_pos_6

The columnist begins with:

“Oh, the humanity, I sarcastically thought on reading the names and affiliations of 39 scientists behind a National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine finding that, as the New York Times put it, ‘greenhouse gases are, in fact, a danger.’

Read on and realize their book-length report is concocted for a bureaucratic and legalistic purpose, not a scientific one. It will disappear into the maw of a futile partisan legal squabble over the Trump administration’s effort to repeal the 2009 so-called endangerment finding by the Environmental Protection Agency.

This finding, in the Obama years, would be used to justify regulatory actions that have zero impact—none—on climate change. Not only are U.S. emissions too small a share of the global total to matter; in practice, EPA actions mostly just drive U.S. emissions offshore.

Whatever they think, the 39 scientists are part of a machine now defending its own activity and privilege, in one of the biggest boondoggles in the history of policy making. Remember the left-wing film director Michael Moore’s 2019 opus ‘Planet of the Humans’? Of course you don’t. It was shadow-banned by the left and film distributors not because it was short on climate apocalypics—it was over-the-top on climate apocalypics.

It was shadow-banned for pointing out that U.S. climate policy was a fraud. It consisted of colossal pork barrel that was having no effect on the alleged problem.

Richard York, of the University of Oregon, is seen marveling in the film at the self-willed blindness of the U.S. policy community to a simple question: Do clean-energy subsidies result in fossil fuels being displaced?

‘They don’t even know that that’s a question,’ he says in a voice of wonder.

As often happens, truth tellers weren’t really in short supply. As often happens too, we can pinpoint the exact moment and exact dynamics when a policy boondoggle was born.

President Obama was taking office amid the 2008-09 financial crisis. Money printing was popular; new energy taxes weren’t. So he abandoned his party’s long-standing advocacy of a carbon tax in favor of turning green energy into just another thing government money printing could support.

Put it this way: Hot dog consumption would surely rise if hot dogs were subsidized by government. Purely a conceit, though, is any idea that cheeseburger consumption would

simultaneously decline. It doesn't follow. And so it has proved: Energy consumption has simply grown overall.

It's almost too big a question. Why, under the First Amendment and the special protections it enjoys, does our press still fail us? If the press has any job, it's policy analysis—to tell us whether government actions are producing their stated aims or devolving into pocket lining by special interests, in this case amounting to trillions of dollars in the U.S. and around the world.

Last year a study put paid to magical thinking. Of 1,500 climate policies adopted in 41 countries over two decades, less than 5% have resulted in any reduction of emissions.

Donald Trump has been good for one thing, showing millions of Americans why they should feel contempt for their media and leadership elites. But he has mostly succeeded at beating these elites at their own game of electoral politics, not changing the game. This week's partial Hamas defeat may prove a game changer. His productive disabling of the green energy elite may be a longer-lasting game changer.”

The columnist compares some politicians, then concludes with:

“This doesn't mean we should welcome growing CO2. But if you're not trying to get at the truth, you're doing something else. 'Negative impacts might be more severe in the absence of efforts to adapt,' the report is reduced to nonsensically arguing, as if adaptation is not the definition of being alive for humans and other creatures.

Two lessons are worth drawing from this whole sorry episode: Beings who think themselves independent and science-minded are not immune to the reward system in which they operate. The bigger lesson concerns how democracy's error-correction function can be impeded when an unnatural uniformity prevails among elites. This has clearly been the case during the 16 years and approximately 350 days of the green energy fraud.”
