

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING NEWSLETTER

15 JULY. 2013

Please be aware any Newsletter URL ending in **020701.pdf** is available for downloading only during the six days following the date of the edition. If you need previous Newsletter entries contact George at ghh@att.net.

Please Note: This newsletter contains articles that offer differing points of view regarding climate change, energy and other environmental issues. Any opinions expressed in this publication are the responses of the readers alone and do not represent the positions of the Environmental Engineering Division or the ASME.

George Holliday

This week's edition includes:

1) ENVIRONMENT – A. INDUSTRY COULD GET \$8B IN LOAN GUARANTEES FOR EMISSIONS REDUCTION

A proposal from the Department of Energy would offer about \$8 billion in loan guarantees for developing technologies that would mitigate emissions from oil and natural gas drilling and coal-fired power plants. "As we develop the transformational technologies of the very low-carbon future of tomorrow, we also have to innovate around today's energy," Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz said. "We are trying to prepare the way for all these different technologies to be market competitors as we go to a low-carbon economy

<http://fuelfix.com/blog/2013/07/02/amid-climate-change-push-obama-administration-launches-loan-guarantees-for-oil-gas/>

B. EPA EMISSIONS-REPORTING PROPOSAL CONCERNS OIL, CHEMICAL COMPANIES

The Environmental Protection Agency's plan to require the disclosure of emissions-calculating techniques could expose trade secrets of energy and chemical companies, representatives from the oil and chemical industries said. The White House is reviewing the EPA's proposal.

<http://thehill.com/blogs/regwatch/pending-regs/308805-chemical-oil-companies-fear-potential-epa-rule-will-expose-trade-secrets>

2) HEALTH – A. KEY OBAMACARE MANDATE DELAYED FOR ONE YEAR

In a major concession to business groups, the Obama administration Tuesday unexpectedly announced a one-year delay, until 2015, in a central requirement of the new health care law that medium and large companies provide coverage for their workers or face fines.

http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/obamacare-delay-mandate/2013/07/02/id/513110?s=al&promo_code=140A9-1

B. BOTULISM - USA (05): (NORTHEAST) OLIVES, RISK, RECALL

The Rhode Island Department of Health advises consumers not to eat Mediterranean Olives: Calcidica Sweet (Brand: Bel Frantoio) sold at any Ocean State Job Lot (OSJL) stores. OSJL is voluntarily recalling the product after Department of Health staff discovered that these products were not handled appropriately to prevent production of the toxin that causes botulism.

<http://www.eandp-environment.net/Health/Health020701.pdf>

3) SAFETY – A. NOTHING OF INTEREST

B. HIGH VOLTAGE OFFSHORE POWER SYSTEMS, JULY 29 TO AUG. 1, HOUSTON

This four-day course is designed to instruct electrical personnel in the safe working techniques for offshore and industrial high voltage applications. Topics to be covered are IEC & NEC standards for HV switching, electrical isolations and flash protection boundaries. Training will be conducted on the startup and troubleshooting of offshore power systems -- including fundamental system principles and dynamics, bus loading management, distribution to lower voltage electrical networks, HV electrical cabling and stress relief concepts and other associated electrical applications.

<http://www.api.org/events-and-training/api-u-training/api-u-calendar/2013-events/07-29-13-hv-ocs>

4) TRANSPORTATION. A DEADLY TRAIN DERAILMENT FUELS CRUDE-BY-RAIL CONCERNS

By CHESTER DAWSON and TOM FOWLER

The deadly weekend explosion of a runaway crude-carrying train in Quebec threatens to ratchet up scrutiny of rising crude-by-rail shipments on both sides of the U.S.-Canada border, amid a boom in North American oil production.

In both countries, shipments of crude by rail have shot up sharply, as producers race to get all their new oil to market and as pipeline companies scramble to build new lines or reconfigure old ones to handle the growing volumes. Meanwhile, uncertainty over several big pipeline projects—including approval delays for TransCanada Corp.'s TRP.T -0.02% Keystone XL, which would connect Western Canada's booming oil sands development to the Gulf Coast—have sent some oil companies looking to rail as a longer-term solution.

A version of this article appeared July 7, 2013, on page A1 in the U.S. edition of The Wall Street Journal, with the headline: Deadly Derailment Fuels Crude-By-Rail Concerns.

<http://www.eandp-environment.net/Transportation/Transportation020610.pdf>

COMMENTS:

A. THE WEEK THAT WAS: 2013-07-06 (July 06, 2013)

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

Ensemble of Models: The issue of the meaning of the mean of an ensemble of models continues after an assertion by Robert Brown of Duke University that mean derived from ensemble climate models has little or no scientific meaning. Over the past several weeks this issue has been discussed and linked to in TWTW. In general, climate models are significantly different than weather models. Climate models have never been tested for their predictive capability. Weather models are constantly tested. As a consequence, climate models do not have probability distributions associated with them. From constant testing of predictive capability, weather models have probability distributions associated with them.

On her blog, Judith Curry has a discussion on how to interpret the results of an ensemble climate models. The cited works vary in understanding of climate history, but provide a useful discussion. As demonstrated by the hockey-stick debacle, where the statistical techniques used created a hockey-stick from random noise, any discussion should involve mathematicians and statisticians familiar with techniques to establish probabilities from the results of models, which Curry encourages. The one common theme is that the climate models do not provide probability distributions, nor has one been rigorously presented and tested for predicative capability.

Thus, the assertions by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and its followers, including the EPA, that there is a 90 to 99% likelihood they are correct in asserting human CO2 emissions are causing unprecedented and dangerous global warming is an opinion, not scientifically derived. During the oral arguments, this likelihood was specifically discussed by the judges on the panel of the US Court of Appeals, hearing the challenge to the EPA endangerment finding. If the attorneys representing the EPA respected their integrity, they would file an amendment correcting this error.

Further, the government-funded climate scientists who did not come forward to challenge the claims of the IPCC and the EPA certainly ill served the government and the public. Those who claimed great certainty as if it was scientifically derived, which it was not, deceived the government and the public. For the technical discussion, please see link under Model Issues.

Fundamental Error: According to reports, in response to a request by the IPCC about the future of that organization, the government of the Netherlands stated it is undesirable for the IPCC to limit its scope to human induced climate change because natural climate change is critical to understanding the climate system. At least one government understands a fundamental error in the mission of the IPCC. As discussed in previous TWTWs, the modeling techniques (methodology) encompass natural causes of climate change and incorrectly attribute some of these natural changes to human influence. This is one of the reasons the climate models are failing. As The Right Climate Stuff team pointed out, we cannot hope to successfully model the human influences on climate without first successfully modeling the natural influences on climate. Please see links under Problems in the Orthodoxy and Seeking a Common Ground.

Lowering Standards: As it is becoming increasingly clear that nature is falsifying the claims of the IPCC and its followers, it appears that once-venerable scientific institutions are racing each other on which institution can produce the most scientifically challenged work. This week, the latest entries from the American Geophysical Union (AGU), the World Bank and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and are presented. All this work demonstrates that these

institutions have drastically lowered their standards of what constitutes acceptable scientific work.

Bjørn Lomborg points out that the latest product by the World Bank appears to directly conflict with the motto at the entrance to that institution: "Our dream is a world without poverty." This is been modified on its web site to "Working for a World Free of Poverty." As Lomborg states the alarmist World Bank report is scarily wrong.

"680m Chinese have been lifted out of poverty over the past 30 years, and they were lifted out by cheap coal power, not heavily subsidized, unreliable wind turbines. Billions around the world would love to get access to cheap power. This is likely to be their way out of poverty." Today, the World Bank appears to be oblivious to the needs of the poor.

David Whitehouse discusses the latest climate report by the WMO, a parent organization to the IPCC. Whitehouse graciously describes the report as muddled and inaccurate, thus it is fortunate that WMO report has not attracted significant publicity.

Norman Rogers reports on the latest shenanigans of the AGU, under its new leadership. Please see links under Lowering Standards.

Missing Heat: When ask to explain why there has been no significant warming of the Tropics and the Southern Hemisphere, some alarmists, such as James Hansen, state the missing heat is hiding in the deep oceans. *On Watts Up With That*, Bob Tisdale presents a somewhat technical and lengthy report describing that even though the amount of missing heat seems large, the actual rise in temperatures of the deep oceans it would cause is so small that the temperature cannot be measured with modern instruments. The deep oceans have a vast volume. Thus, the hypothesis is not readily testable, rendering it not scientifically meaningful.

However, we can establish an empirical test. If there is warming of the deep oceans, the heat must come from somewhere. Is it from the tropics and southern hemisphere? According to the IPCC and the models, increasing greenhouse gases are causing a warming of the atmosphere, especially over the tropics, which, in turn, causes warming of the earth's surface. According to Roy Spencer and John Christy, who developed temperature estimates from satellite data, confirmed by actual temperature measurements from weather balloons, in the 34 years of satellite data there is no statistical increase of temperatures over the Tropics. And there has been little warming of the atmosphere in the Southern Hemisphere. As Richard Feynman so clearly stated: if your hypothesis is inconsistent with experiment, it is wrong. This is but one instance in which the hypothesis that global warming is hiding in the oceans is wrong when tested against experiment.

Please see link under Measurement Issues.

Carbon Tax: At the House of Lords in London, Ross McKittrick, who along with Steve McIntyre, was the first to expose the statistical failure of the notorious hockey-stick, proposed the adoption of a carbon tax with an unusual twist – that the tax start out low and be linked to changes in temperatures in the lower atmosphere (troposphere) over the Tropics (20 deg N latitude and 20 deg S). These measurements are publically published monthly.

The climate models show that this region should be most sensitive to warming from increased greenhouse gases, and McKittrick asserts that the region is not sensitive to other causes such as ozone depletion, solar variations and land use changes. He proposes that the tax be revenue neutral and that it replace the mishmash of administrative regulatory actions, such as the so called social cost of carbon.

Trading houses would be encouraged to buy future emissions certificates and create a futures market. Thus, they would make a serious effort accurately forecast temperatures, leading to better climate models. If their forecasts fail, they lose; if their forecasts succeed, they benefit. Political issues aside, it is clear that McKittrick has carefully thought this out. There are some clear benefits, if adopted as proposed. Under ideal circumstances a carbon tax is more efficient in reducing carbon dioxide emissions than any other action. The public will clearly benefit from better climate models than the ones the IPCC uses. As shown by Roy Spencer and John Christy, of the 73 models in use, for the period from 1979 to 2012, about 70 forecasted a temperature rise in the Tropics more than twice that which was observed. Government entities have shown they are incapable of insisting on high quality climate forecasts. Based on this data, there appears to be no benefit for being right, and no penalty for being very wrong.

One must remember that Parliament has legislated that CO2 emissions must be reduced, so the proposed tax applies directly to Britain. Nations without mandatory restrictions on CO2 emissions may think otherwise. Of course, the proposed tax assumes that CO2 is the major cause of global warming, and McKittrick's defense of the tax if the cause is not CO2 is not convincing. Further, the tax does not take into account the enormous social benefits of CO2. However, it is very interesting proposal. Please see links Cap and Trade and Carbon Taxes.

A No Show: Based on reports, it appears that NOAA and the US National Park Service were preparing a great press party for the breaking of the world record for highest temperature, taken in Death Valley a century ago. Nature did not cooperate. The summer rainy season in the southwest has started, and the celebrants may have to wait another year, or more. Please see links under Measurement Issues and Changing Weather.

Wildfire Tragedy: On June 30, a wildfire in the Arizona Mountains northwest of Phoenix suddenly shifted about 180 degrees and killed 19 fire fighters. It is disturbing that some climate alarmists immediately, falsely claimed the tragedy is the result of global warming/climate change. Equally disturbing is that according to meteorologist Cliff Mass, hardly a global warming skeptic, hours before the tragedy the meteorological evidence showed a real threat from such a shift. This is the summer rainy season, and rapid shifts are common. Apparently, under such conditions, no one is monitoring the weather. Please see links under Wildfires.

Amplifications and Corrections: Last week, TWTW stated that, in his climate speech, President Obama lumped carbon with the toxins mercury, sulfur, and arsenic. An alert reader pointed out that humans need some amounts of sulfur and arsenic for bodily health. It is the dose that makes the poison. Indeed, sulfur, along with carbon, is listed as one of the six elements essential for life – CHNOPS (read the symbols).

Number of the Week: 12th now, 9th in December? This is where Texas would rank in world daily oil production if it were an independent nation. It will soon to surpass Venezuela, Kuwait, Mexico and Iraq, with a production of 3 million barrels per day. Often overlooked by the remarkable percentage increase in North Dakota, Texas production has doubled in 2 ½ years. Thanks to smart drilling, production from the Permian Basin and shale formations such as Eagle Ford is burying the myth of peak oil, all happening on private or state-owned lands, not Federal lands.

<http://www.sepp.org/twtwfiles/2013/TWTW%207-6-13.pdf>

B. NORTH DACOTA PRODUCERS FLARING GAS

BISMARCK, N.D. — New legislation offers North Dakota oil drillers tax breaks beginning Monday if they stop burning and wasting natural gas.

The Republican-sponsored bills passed the Legislature this year. They offer oil companies tax incentives for capturing and using the byproduct of the state's booming crude production. Records show 275 million cubic feet of natural gas goes up in smoke each day in North Dakota, or enough to heat more than 1 million homes daily. Flaring also accounted for about 5 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions in North Dakota last year. That's about the same amount that 945,000 automobiles would emit.

About one-third of the state's gas production is being burned off because development of the pipelines and processing facilities needed to handle it has not kept pace with production.

<http://fuelfix.com/blog/2013/07/01/nd-drillers-to-get-tax-breaks-natural-gas-usage/>

C. THE 'SOCIAL COST OF CARBON' GAMBIT

President Obama unveiled his vast new anticarbon-energy agenda this week, which he plans to impose by executive fiat. Crucial to pulling off this exercise is a decision the federal bureaucracy made last month to change the way it accounts for carbon emissions—a decision that received almost no media attention.

In late May the Administration slipped this mickey into a new rule about efficiency standards for microwaves, significantly raising what it calls the "social cost of carbon." Team Obama made no public notice and invited no comment on this change that will further tilt rule-making against products and industries that use carbon energy.

Federal law requires the government to calculate the costs and benefits of its rules and projects. The regulatory agencies are expert at rigging these calculations, but even they haven't been able to hide the enormous costs of President Obama's regulations under traditional economic measurement. The Administration's solution? Simply redefine the economic and social "benefits" of reducing carbon.

And sure enough, in 2010 an interagency working group conjured a new way to goose the benefits of regulation. Every metric ton of carbon that was reduced by regulation would suddenly count for \$21 in "social benefits." This figure was derived by guesses about how more carbon in the atmosphere may harm everything from agricultural productivity to human health to flood risks. The government's previous official estimate? \$0.

The Administration has now gone further as part of its microwave rule and raised its estimated benefit from carbon reduction to about \$36 a metric ton. The Department of Energy explained that this "update" was the result of new assumptions based on "the best available science," which means whatever science the feds decide to favor. The practical effect is to further inflate the supposed benefit of new rules, thereby offsetting the enormous economic costs.

Related Video



Americans for Prosperity President Tim Phillips on how voters are responding to President Obama's climate change plan.

All of this was neatly illustrated in a 2011 paper by Michael Greenstone, a former White House economist, who helped to dream up the initial 2010 figure. Mr. Greenstone analyzed the Administration's new fuel-efficiency standards and admitted that under traditional economic analysis they were a net loser. They'd cost industry and consumers \$350 billion, while providing benefits (less pollution, more energy security and less congestion) of only \$277 billion. Yet conjure up another \$177 billion in supposed new social benefits from less carbon, and—voila!—the costs of the new rule would be more than offset.

All of this is prelude to the coming regulatory onslaught on carbon energy and electricity production. The social-cost gambit will allow the Administration to claim an enormous economic benefit for any greenhouse gas regulation that reduces carbon—such as new standards on existing coal plants (new plants are already being regulated out of existence), oil refineries or lawn mowers.

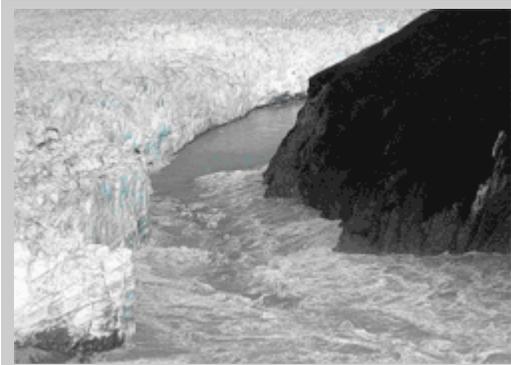
This will also help to disguise the net cost of these rules in lost jobs, higher energy prices and less consumer choice. The new social-cost calculation could also be used against projects like the Keystone XL pipeline, claiming they impose too high a "social cost" by assisting the production of carbon energy to justify approval.

Republicans are slowly figuring out what's going on here, and Senator David Vitter of Louisiana has sent a letter to the EPA, Energy Department and White House budget office demanding the details of its social-cost modeling.

Laurie Johnson, chief economist for climate at the Natural Resources Defense Council, says the social cost of carbon ought to be as high as \$266 a metric ton. If the cost can be whatever some regulator claims, based on pressure from some green outfit or competing energy lobby, the government has the power to put any fossil-fuel industry out of business whenever it feels like it. All of this is profoundly undemocratic. Congress has never legislated that there are social costs to carbon emissions, much less how to measure them. Mr. Obama couldn't pass his anticarbon agenda through Congress in his first two years even with a Democratic supermajority. He's now trying to impose it by regulation, and to do so he's rigging the rule-making with inventions like the "social cost of carbon." Someone needs to impose a political cost on Mr. Obama's arbitrary rule by regulation.

A version of this article appeared June 28, 2013, on page A12 in the U.S. edition of The Wall Street Journal, with the headline: The 'Social Cost of Carbon' Gambit.

D. Post-glacial cooling 8,200 Years Ago



Jökulhlaup (outburst flood from a glacial lake) at Hubbard Glacier in Alaska on August 14, 2002. From USGS.

Following the end of the last glacial period about 11,500 years ago, the Earth's climate system began to look and behave more like it does today. The large continental ice sheets shrank, sea level rose, temperatures ameliorated, monsoons grew in strength. Around 8,200 years ago, however, a surprising event occurred. The 8.2 ka event, as it is now known, was first discovered in the Greenland ice core GISP2, where high-resolution analyses indicate that over two decades temperature cooled about 3.3°C in Greenland ([Alley et al., 1997](#); [Kobashi et al., 2007](#)). The entire event lasted about 150 years ([Thomas et al., 2007](#); [Kobashi et al., 2007](#)) and then temperatures warmed, returning to their previous levels.

<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/paleo/abrupt/data5.html>

E. COURT RULES INDIANA ETHANOL PLANTS EXCEEDED POLLUTION LIMITS

Two ethanol plants in Indiana violated federal pollution limits, an Indiana appellate court ruled. According to the court, Indiana Department of Environmental Management officials improperly classified the ethanol processing plants to avoid pollution limits applicable to chemical process plants.

<http://news.heartland.org/newspaper-article/2013/06/28/court-rules-indiana-ethanol-plants-exceeded-pollution-limits>

F. CLIMATE ALARMISTS CAUGHT DOCTORING '97 PERCENT CONSENSUS' CLAIMS

Global warming alarmists have been caught doctoring the results of a widely cited paper asserting there is a 97 percent scientific consensus regarding human-caused global warming. After taking a closer look at the paper, investigative journalists report the authors' claims of a 97 percent consensus relied on them misclassifying the papers of some of the world's most prominent global warming skeptics. At the same time, the authors deliberately presented a meaningless survey question that allowed them to twist the responses to fit their own preconceived global warming alarmism.

<http://news.heartland.org/newspaper-article/2013/06/18/climate-alarmists-caught-doctoring-97-percent-consensus-claims>

G. EXAMINING THE VALIDITY OF THE PUBLISHED RCS YAMAL TREE-RING CHRONOLOGY

Abstract

At <http://www.climateaudit.org/?p=7168>, Steve McIntyre reports an analysis he undertook to test the "sensitivity" of the "Regional Curve Standardised" tree-ring chronology (Briffa, 2000; Briffa

at al., 2008) to the selection of measurement data intended to provide evidence of long-term changes of tree growth, and, ultimately inferred temperature variation through two millennia in the Yamal region of northern Russia. It would be a mistake to conclude that McIntyre's sensitivity analysis provides evidence to refute our current interpretation of relatively high tree growth and summer warmth in the 20th century in this region. A reworked chronology, based on additional data, including those used in McIntyre's analysis, is similar to our previously published chronologies. Our earlier work thus provides a defensible and reasonable indication of tree growth changes during the 20th century and in the context of long-term changes reconstructed over the last two millennia in the vicinity of the larch tree line in southern Yamal. McIntyre's use of the data from a single, more spatially restricted site, to represent recent tree growth over the wider region, and his exclusion of the data from the other available sites, likely represents a biased reconstruction of tree growth. McIntyre's sensitivity analysis has little implication, either for the interpretation of the Yamal chronology or for other proxy studies that make use of it.

<http://www.eandp-environment.net/Environment/Env020701.pdf>

Ken Arnold, PE, NAE

H. KEY OFFSHORE ENERGY BILL CLEARS HOUSE

The House of Representatives voted to approve legislation that would include the coasts of South Carolina, southern California, Alaska and Virginia in federal energy lease sales. The measure would also require the Obama administration to establish a program for opening nearly 50% of the country's coastline to drilling. "This bill doesn't harm the environment," said Rep. Doc Hastings, R-Wash.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-06-28/u-s-house-backs-bill-to-expand-coastal-oil-gas-drilling.html>

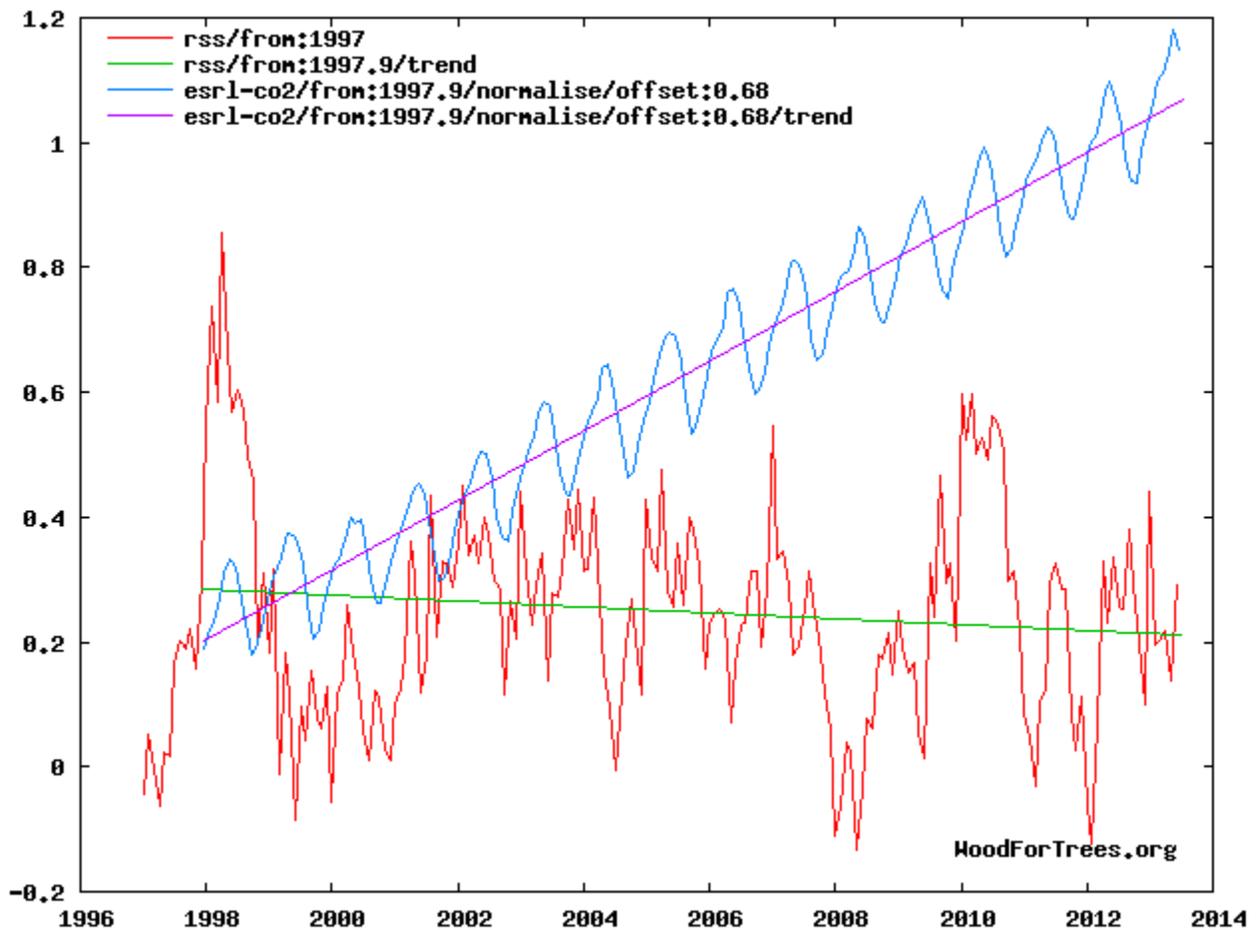
I. A GRAPH OF SLIGHTLY GLOBAL COOLING ATMOSPHERE TEMPERATURE SINCE 1997 WITH CARBON DIOXIDE OVERLAID

This is a graph of RSS (Remote Sensing Systems) lower Troposphere temperature anomaly data plotted starting in 1997 showing that there has been no global warming since then. Indeed, on the other hand there has been a slight global cooling trend since 1997, about .1C as you can see. Overlaid on the same chart is carbon dioxide content in the atmosphere, which has been normalized for the graph. Wood For Trees is a well known Internet graphing program for climate. You can go to the WFT site below and see the input data instructions for the graph. There are many choices for global warming data sources and chart processing methods in WFT.

The uptick in temperature anomalies in the graph for 1997-1998 is a well known Super El Nino. The uptick in temperature anomalies for 2010 is a well known Strong El Nino. The carbon dioxide data is from the well known US government Mauna Loa measurement station and research laboratory. The period of the chart was selected to demonstrate that the observed global warming from 1980 to 1996 halted in 1997 and remains halted to current date despite the fact that carbon dioxide continues to increase in the atmosphere. The data are not cherry picked. RSS data is from the satellites and is not subject to urban heating island effects nor subject to human fiddling.

The chart is about as simple as I know how to present global temperature variation (global warming) data. The earth's climate is chaotic and varies with well known short and long natural oscillations and cycles, primarily driven by sun energy into the middle of the Pacific ocean. The current essentially flat trend has lasted almost the same length as the preceding up trend and is continuing. The earth's temperature has not yet fully recovered from the Little Ice Age so when the current cooling trend bottoms (flattens) and then starts up again, we may see some amount of additional warming. However, the sun is showing signs of going into another low output similar to the Maunder Minimum. We should know in the next 18 to 24 months.

If you cannot understand this graph and the conclusion drawn there from, may I suggest reading the book, "Who Turned On the Heat" by Bob Tisdale. He has many graphs for your perusal that are better annotated than what can be done in WFT.



<http://www.woodfortrees.org/plot/rss/from:1997/plot/rss/from:1997.9/trend/plot/esrl-co2/from:1997.9/normalise/offset:0.68/plot/esrl-co2/from:1997.9/normalise/offset:0.68/trend>

J Frank

J. OBAMA'S COAL WAR

Guest Post by Willis Eschenbach

"It's a bad week for poor people around the planet. First, and with great fanfare, our President unleashed his patented climate plan, affectionately known as Obama's War on Coal™. He hasn't said yet how much Obama's War on Coal™ will cost, but we can be sure that it will not be cheap. And as in any war, it is guaranteed that the poor will suffer the most.

Sadly, this was followed by even worse news. The World Bank has [decided](#) it wants to keep the developing world from having inexpensive electricity. They will not make any more loans for coal-fired power plants.

You remember "inexpensive electricity"? When I was a kid, the US Government used to be in favor of inexpensive electricity, because it was rightly seen as the savior of the poor farmer and the poor housewife. That's why the Tennessee Valley Authority came to be. I wash the clothes around our house, and I don't do it by hand. I have inexpensive energy to do that. Now, however, the government and the environmental NGOs and the climate alarmists are **doing every single thing that they can to make energy more expensive**. And the World Bank has just officially joined the baying chorus.

The World Bank thinks that inexpensive energy will harm the poor ... not now, of course, but in fifty years. And on that basis, the World Bank thinks it is justified to harm the poor now.

This is the madness at the base of the climate alarmists policy—**it actively harms the poor now, with the justification that it might help their grandkids avoid harm in 50 years**.

The wealthy fat-cats running the World Bank are unwilling for school kids in India to have cheap electricity to study by, on the grounds that it might, not will but might, make those students' grandkids a bit warmer in a century. I doubt that the poor in India would vote for that plan, but I guess the World Bank is our economic paterfamilias who knows what the poor need, much better than the poor know themselves, and it's not cheap electricity ...

The same thing is going on in the US. Where I live, California, the resident burglars are called the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, known as PGE. They are a monopoly utility, and supposedly they are run for the benefit of the ratepayers.

Now, if you had a monopoly public utility for say water, and your water supplier said they were going to charge twenty times the going price for a glass of water if you were really, really thirsty, would you think that was in the public interest?

That's exactly what's happening to Anthony, PGE is gouging him on the price because that's when he really needs the electricity ... what kind of a screwed up world has this become? A public utility is supposed to provide cheap energy, not gouge the customers at the time they really need the electricity.

Now, the East Coast and the Powder River country is going to feel the pain, as coal-fired plants close and their electricity costs start to creep up. So, since war has been declared, let's see if Obama's War on Coal™ is worth the billions and billions of dollars it will cost ... what are we buying for our money?

Well, fortunately I don't have to go through all the math to figure it out. There is a strong supporter of the Obama climate plan named Chris Hope, who has done the math for us. His blog says:

Chris is a climate change policy researcher, PAGE model developer, and faculty member at Cambridge Judge Business School, interested in environment and energy.

He has used his whiz-bang model to do the calculations. His assumption is that the US will do the following

- 1) Lower the CO₂ emissions to 83% of the 2008 level over the next seven years, and
- 2) Maintain that low level of emissions for the succeeding 80 years.

Now, absent a huge technological breakthrough or another depression, there's little chance of us getting to 83% of 2008 emissions in the next seven years.

But that pales before the improbable idea of the US maintaining that low a level of emissions for the next 80 years.

So to start with, we see that Mr. Hope has made the most hopeful assumptions about the climate plan—first that it will meet its initial goal, and second that it will maintain that goal for over three-quarters of a century.

And with those likely unattainable assumptions, what does Mr. Hope calculate as the effect of Obama's War on Coal™?

Well ... um ... well, he says that by the year 2100, nearly a century from now, that the temperatures will be much cooler.

...

How much cooler, you ask?

...

Well ... two ...

...

Two degrees C?

...

Er ... no ...

...

Oh ... so, it's two tenths of a degree C, then, not two degrees C?

...

Um ... no.

...

I have to confess, in writing this I find that I am very reluctant to reveal the expected outcome of Obama's War on Coal™ for a simple reason—it is at times like this that I'm embarrassed to be an American.

...

Because the reality is that Chris Hope, an ardent supporter of the War on Coal™, using the most optimistic (and unattainable) assumptions, says that IF we win the War on Coal and we put hundreds of people out of work and increase the cost of electricity for poor and wealthy alike (although obviously, Obama and his rich pals don't care about the cost increase), here's our prize. Here's what Chris Hope says we've bought for the all the pain and suffering:

In the year 2100 the world might be 0.02°C cooler.

Two hundredths of a degree in a century. Maybe. That's the prize. That's what Chris Hope has proudly announced will be the reward for the job loss and the pain and suffering of the poor.

Two hundredths of a degree of cooling. An amount that is far below our ability to even measure

...

Me, I think that that one fact alone should be our emblem and our rallying cry in opposition to this gob-smacking lunacy. So the next time someone says they think the War on Coal™ is a

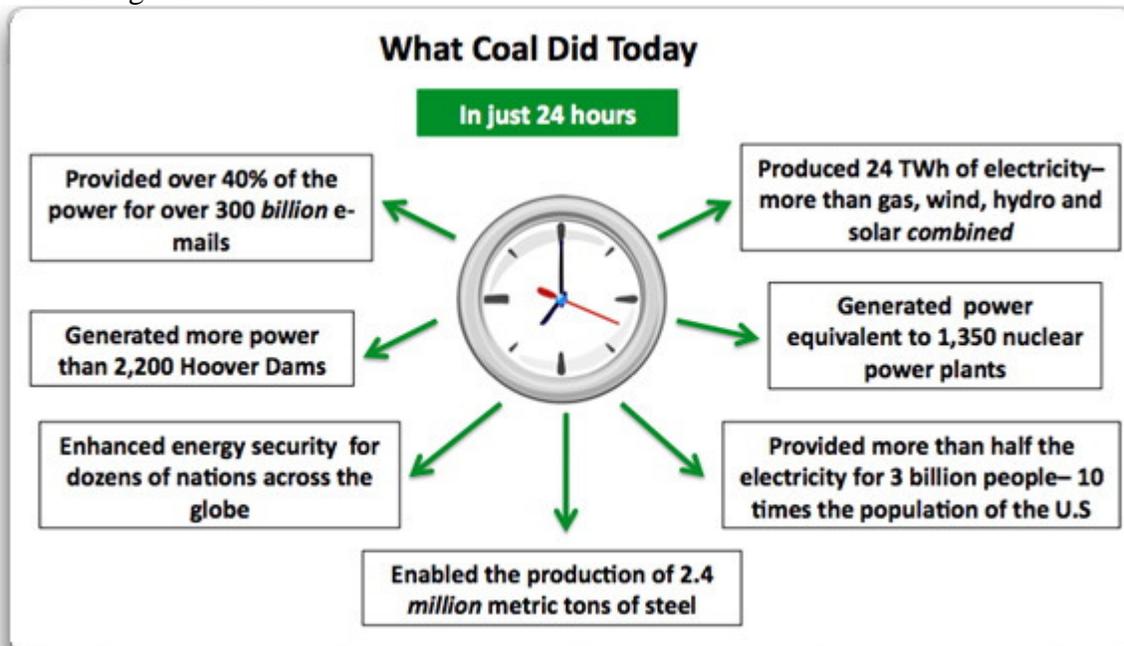
brilliant plan, gently point out to them that they are advocating spending billions and billions of dollars to cool the planet by two hundredths of a degree in the year 2100, and in the process harming the poor ... and ask if that strikes them as the most rational of plans ...

Or you could just shake them until their teeth rattle and say *“You think we should spend billions of dollars to cool the planet two hundredths of a degree a century from now, while hurting the poor today? Have you gone barking mad? Billions for a reward that’s too small to be even measured, while pensioners shiver in fuel poverty? Unhand my wallet, you thieving varlet, and slink back to your hole!”*

I swear, this unremitting attempt by Obama and the activists and the environmental NGOs to crush the poor back into their hovels, while they proudly declaim the noblest of motives, turns my stomach and threatens to fair unhinge my reason ... how can they do that?

Billions and billions of dollars for two hundredths of a degree ... bad news, folks, the Emperor not only has no clothes. He’s lost his mind entirely.

Grrrrr, bad for my blood pressure ... in any case, here’s what coal did while Obama was declaring war on it ...



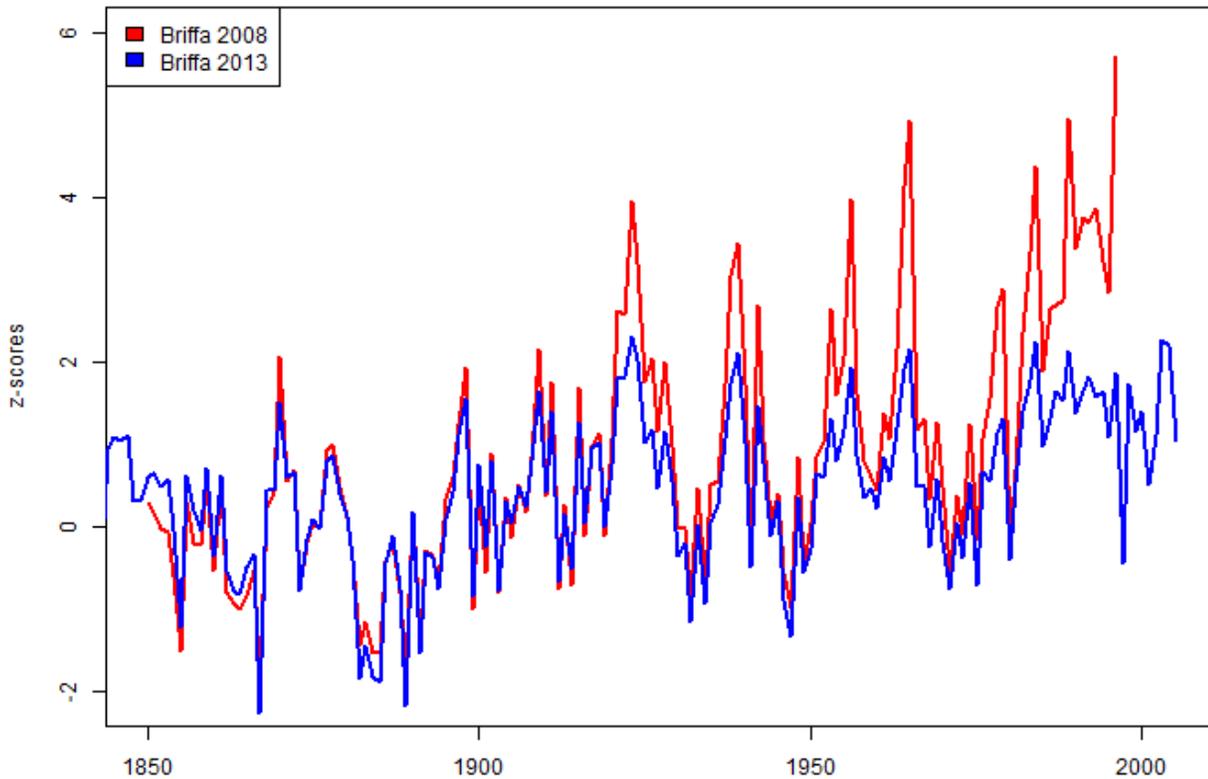
<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2013/06/30/the-grand-prize-in-obamas-war-on-coal/#comment-1351136>

K. BRITISH CLIMATE SCIENTIST NOW ABANDONS HOCKEY STICK

Note the significant later years temperature reductions in the Scientists' redo (Briffa 2013) of an earlier paper (Briffa 2008) that previously created the now missing hockey stick.

This is huge, since the warmists have till now denied the errors of the earlier paper despite conclusive evidence to the contrary, and the hockey stick has been claimed for years as evidence of catastrophic warming.

Yamal Chronologies: Briffa 2013



<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2013/06/28/hey-ya-mal-mcintyre-was-right-cru-abandons-yamal-superstick/#more-88959>

L. UN SAYS 1ST DECADE SHOWS ACCELERATED WARMING WITH MORE CLIMATE EXTREMES

Published July 03, 2013

Associated Press

GENEVA – U.N. climate experts say the first decade of the new millennium was an unprecedented era of climate extremes, with more countries than ever before seeing their temperature records broken.

The World Meteorological Organization's analysis Wednesday says average land and ocean surface temperatures during 2001-2010 rose from the previous decade and were up almost a half-degree Celsius from the 1961-1990 global average.

The U.N. agency cites heatwaves in Europe and Russia, droughts in the Amazon Basin, Australia and East Africa, and huge storms like Tropical Cyclone Nargis and Hurricane Katrina.

Its survey of data from 139 nations shows that floods like those in Pakistan, Australia, Africa, India and Eastern Europe were the most frequent extreme weather events.

M. UAH V5.6 GLOBAL TEMPERATURE UPDATE FOR JUNE, 2013: +0.30 DEG. C

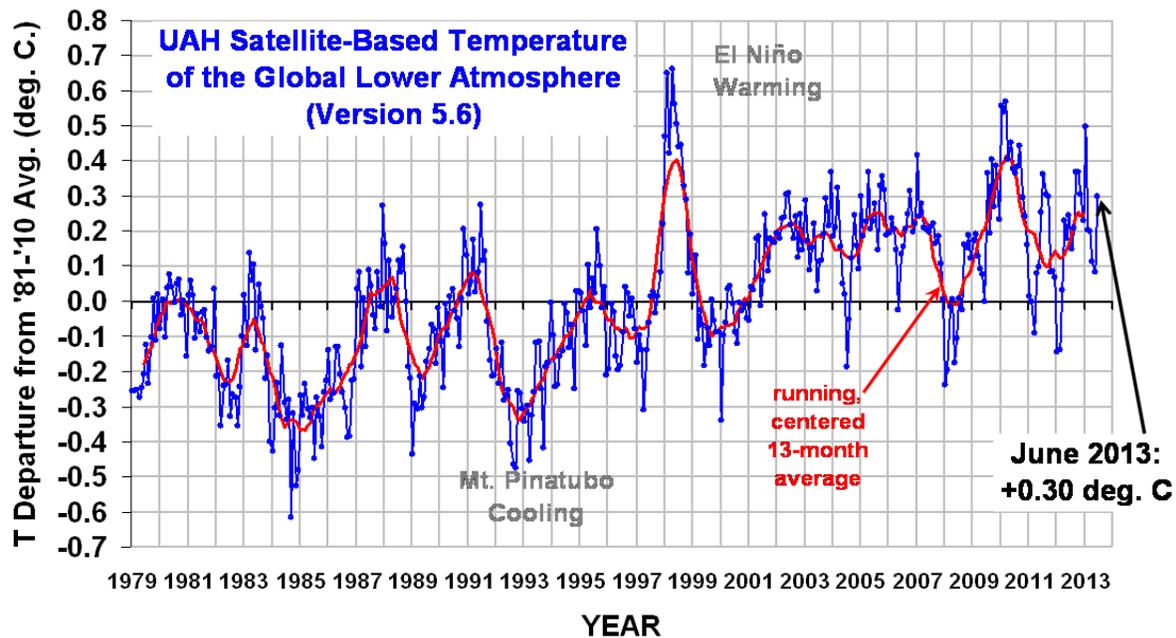
July 9th, 2013

After 10 days in Michigan's U.P. for my 40th high school reunion, here's the belated monthly global temperature update.

We added two satellites to the processing, Metop-A starting in 2007 and NOAA-19 starting in 2009. The resulting anomalies, which we will call Version 5.6, differ by as much as 0.04 deg. C from v5.5. You can read the details of the new processing [here](#).

We are now making good progress on Version 6.0, which includes a variety of improvements in our processing procedures which have taken much more time than we anticipated.

The Version 5.6 global average lower tropospheric temperature (LT) anomaly for June, 2013 is +0.30 deg. C (click for large version):



The global, hemispheric, and tropical LT anomalies from the 30-year (1981-2010) average for the last 18 months are:

YR	MON	GLOBAL	NH	SH	TROPICS
2012	1	-0.145	-0.088	-0.203	-0.245
2012	2	-0.140	-0.016	-0.263	-0.326
2012	3	+0.033	+0.064	+0.002	-0.238
2012	4	+0.230	+0.346	+0.114	-0.251
2012	5	+0.178	+0.338	+0.018	-0.102

2012 6 +0.244 +0.378 +0.111 -0.016
2012 7 +0.149 +0.263 +0.035 +0.146
2012 8 +0.210 +0.195 +0.225 +0.069
2012 9 +0.369 +0.376 +0.361 +0.174
2012 10 +0.367 +0.326 +0.409 +0.155
2012 11 +0.305 +0.319 +0.292 +0.209
2012 12 +0.229 +0.153 +0.305 +0.199
2013 1 +0.497 +0.512 +0.481 +0.387
2013 2 +0.203 +0.372 +0.034 +0.195
2013 3 +0.200 +0.333 +0.068 +0.243
2013 4 +0.114 +0.128 +0.101 +0.165
2013 5 +0.083 +0.180 -0.015 +0.112
2013 6 +0.298 +0.337 +0.259 +0.221

Roy Spencer

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/>

N. A POTENTIAL COPPER BONANZA RUNS AFOUL OF THE EPA

The metal is essential for wind turbines, but a proposed mine in Alaska has set off Keystone-like alarms

By DANIEL MCGROARTY

Activists are pushing the Environmental Protection Agency to take a drastic regulatory step that could have significant repercussions for the U.S. economy. I'm not referring to the Keystone XL pipeline or taxing carbon emissions. At issue is the Pebble Mine—a natural-resource project in Alaska that could yield more copper than has ever been found in one place anywhere in the world.

In addition to an estimated 80 billion pounds of copper, the Pebble Mine also holds strategic metals like molybdenum and rhenium, which are essential to countless American manufacturing, high-tech and national-security applications. Yet even before a plan to mine the deposit has been introduced by the Pebble Partnership, the group poised to bring the mine into production, the EPA appears all too willing to bend to the pressure of environmental activists. The EPA has conducted a hypothetical environmental assessment of the region that positions the agency to pre-emptively veto the Pebble project before the partnership even applies for a single permit.

Apparently some left-wing environmental groups, like the Natural Resources Defense Council, Earthworks and Trout Unlimited are so worried that the project might make it through the permitting process that they're trying to stop it before it starts. As the NRDC put it in August 2012: "EPA's study (and intervention) is critically important. If left to its own devices, the state of Alaska has never said no to a large mine."

Thankfully, some liberals are voicing their opposition to a new EPA pre-emptive veto power. The Center for American Progress, for example, has come out in favor of letting the permitting review take place, even though the group has criticized the Pebble Mine project.

This is the first instance of a fissure in the unofficial anti-mining alliance that wants to see the EPA acquire vast new powers. With luck, more groups will emulate the Center for American Progress's principled position.

The irony here is that renewable-energy industries that environmentalists champion, like solar and wind, rely heavily on copper. More than three tons of it are needed for a single industrial wind turbine. CIGS photovoltaic panels hold out the promise of efficiently capturing the sun's rays, with an energy conversion rate topping 20%. The "C" in CIGS stands for copper, and the "S" for selenium, 95% of which is derived as a copper byproduct.

Electric cables, of course, carry the energy generated by these renewable sources to the national grid. The cables are usually made of copper, using the metal's superior conductivity. Yet to hear anti-mining activists tell it, the project at Pebble Mine offers none of these benefits. Just last week, when speaking to the trade publication *Energy & Environment News* on the subject, NRDC official Joel Reynolds said flatly: "We view this as one of the worst projects anywhere in the world today."

Let's take environmentalists' advice and "think global" for a moment about that statement. How would a mining project at Pebble stack up against some other places where global markets currently source copper?

Will Pebble employ child-slaves as young as 8 to do the mining? Copper mines in the Democratic Republic of Congo do—and that copper is sold into the global market.

Will Pebble send its miners to work without respiratory equipment, wearing boots with holes that let acid rot miners' feet? Chinese-run mines in Zambia do. Where are the environmentalist protests at the Zambian or Chinese embassies?

Will Pebble's leadership be able to order local officials jailed for opposing its project? That's what happened last month in Iran—a mining nation set on doubling its copper production by 2015—where an entire town council was jailed for opposing a marble and stone mine.

It's easy for someone like the NRDC's Mr. Reynolds to protest an American mine from the organization's \$5 million waterfront headquarters (the Robert Redford Building) in Santa Monica, Calif. In the U.S., protesting is a career choice, and movement leaders are feted with awards and grants. Opposing a project the size of Pebble makes a great fundraising tool. It's far more challenging to life and limb to take on African warlords, Chinese officials or Iranian mullahs.

Environmental activists often preach that the planet is interconnected. Well, that's certainly true of the global marketplace: Every pound of copper left in the ground in Alaska or the Lower 48 is effectively a price support for producers in the places like Zambia and Angola. If the EPA reinterprets existing law—Section 404 of the Clean Water Act—and grants itself unilateral authority to stop the permitting process before it begins, Pebble Mine won't be the only project in its cross hairs, and copper won't be the only metal. A 2011 study by the Brattle Group, an economic consulting firm, shows that U.S. economic development projects worth more than \$200 billion would be exposed if the EPA asserts this new power.

President Obama recently said that we must weigh the opportunity cost of not building the Keystone XL pipeline. The same logic applies to the project at Pebble Mine—and the federal permitting process is the only place to do that.

Mr. McGroarty is president of American Resources Policy Network, a public policy research group in Washington, D.C., that is supported by organizations and companies in mining and related industries.

O. DUTCH METEOROLOGICAL INSTITUTE KNMI CRITICAL OF IPCC-SUGGESTS THEY ARE LEAVING OUT STUDY OF NATURAL CLIMATE VARIABILITY

Posted on July 5, 2013 by [Anthony Watts](#)

Dutch advise to IPCC: limiting the scope to human induced climate change is undesirable
by Marcel Crok op 5 juli 2013%



Governments around the world have been asked by IPCC to think about the future of the IPCC. The Netherlands now sent their submission to the IPCC and made it [available](#) on the website of KNMI.

I would say Holland is fairly critical about how IPCC is operating right now. This part struck me as most interesting:

The IPCC needs to adjust its principles. We believe that limiting the scope of the IPCC to human induced climate change is undesirable, especially because natural climate change is a crucial part of the total understanding of the climate system, including human-induced climate change. The Netherlands is also of the opinion that the word 'comprehensive' may have to be deleted, because producing comprehensive assessments becomes virtually impossible with the ever expanding body of knowledge and IPCC may be more relevant by producing more special reports on topics that are new and controversial.

I agree with both points. The (almost) obsession of IPCC with greenhouse forcing has greatly [limited progress in climate science](#) in my opinion, so I am glad my government now raises this point. And in my (Dutch) book *De Staat van het Klimaat* I concluded that IPCC in AR4 had not succeeded to come up with a “comprehensive” report. I also agree IPCC should pay much more attention to controversial topics. The treatment of controversial topics in AR4 and also AR5 was and is unsatisfactory for two reasons: there is not enough space reserved to go into the necessary details and the author teams are almost always biased in favor of the consensus view and therefore not giving enough credit to minority views.

The Netherlands also want to make an end to the huge volumes IPCC is producing and replace it by shorter web based (special) reports:

<http://www.staatvanhetklimaat.nl/2013/07/05/dutch-advise-to-ipcc-limiting-the-scope>

P. WHY LESS SUMMER ICE INCREASES BEAR POPULATIONS

While the Inuit argue it is the time of the most polar bear, CO₂ advocates suggest they may soon go extinct, implying the loss of thick, multiyear ice in September is denying the polar bears the icy platform from which they hunt seals. In reality, less summer ice has a negligible effect on normal hunting, but a decisively positive effect on the bears' main prey. *Recent periods of more open water in the summer have undeniably benefitted the whole food chain.*

The bears' most important feeding period extends from March to June when bears binge on breeding ringed seals and their pups. This is the time when hunting on sea ice is most important, but unlike the highly publicized reductions in September ice, the reduction in springtime ice has been quite minor and no respectable models predict the disappearance of winter ice. Without the sun, winter air temperatures range from -15°F and -52°F and ample ice will always form, providing ringed seals with ample breeding habitat

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2013/07/06/why-less-summer-ice-increases-bear-populations/#more-89443>

Q. UPDATE ON ENVIROMISSION'S ARIZONA SOLAR TOWER PROJECT

June 27th, 2013

Yesterday I spoke with [EnviroMission](#) President Chris Davey to get an update on the progress of the first, large-scale solar tower (aka solar updraft tower, or solar chimney). EnviroMission is progressing through the permitting process and plans to start construction late next year in La Paz County, Arizona.

Billed as a 200 MW electrical generation facility, its towering hot air chimney will be about 2,600 ft tall, making it the second tallest manmade structure in the world, and about twice as high as the Empire State Building.

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/>

Roy Spencer

R. RESTRUCTURE US GOVERNMENT TO MAKE "HUGE" GREEN CHANGES IN AMERICA, STUDY PROPOSES

The study calls for installing sustainability in the "culture of government" and recommends the U.S. look for inspiration to a number of "national sustainable development strategies" adopted under the United Nation's controversial Agenda 21, [a highly detailed blueprint](#)

National sustainable development plans are mandated under Chapter 8 of Agenda 21, titled "Integrating Environment and Development in Decision-Making," which declared that governments should "where necessary, modify and strengthen procedures so as to facilitate the

integrated consideration of social, economic and environmental issues.” Currently, more than 100 nations have adopted such strategies.

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2013/07/09/restructure-us-government-to-make-huge-green-changes-in-america-study-proposes/?test=latestnews#content>

Regards
George