

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

NEWSLETTER

15 DEC. 2014

This week's edition includes:

If you need older URLs 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 editor alone and do not represent the positions of the Environmental Engineering Division or the ASME.

George Holliday

This week's edition includes:

ENVIRONMENT: A. EPA PROPOSES TIGHTER GROUND-LEVEL OZONE POLLUTION CONTROLS

WASHINGTON, DC, Nov. 26

11/26/2014

[By Nick Snow](#)

OGJ Washington Editor

The US Environmental Protection Agency proposed reducing ground-level emissions limits to 65-70 ppb from their current level of 75 ppb. It also will take comments on possibly cutting limits to 60 ppb.

EPA issued its [proposals](#) as part of a federal [Clean Air Act](#) requirement for it to review National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) every 5 years. It established the 75 ppb limit in 2008.

The agency will accept comments on the proposals for 90 days following their publication in the Federal Register. It also plans to hold three public hearings. Its goal is to issue final ozone standards by Oct. 1, 2015.

<http://www.ogj.com/articles/2014/11/epa-proposes-tighter-ground-level-ozone-pollution-controls.html>

Roger Zygmunt

B. NEW RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS THE KEY ROLE OF OZONE IN CLIMATE CHANGE

[Anthony Watts](#) / [23 mins ago](#)

From the [University of Cambridge](#)

Many of the complex computer models which are used to predict climate change could be missing an important ozone 'feedback' factor in their calculations of future global warming, according to new research led by the University of Cambridge and published today (1 December) in the journal Nature Climate Change.

Computer models play a crucial role in informing climate policy. They are used to assess the effect that carbon emissions have had on the Earth's climate to date, and to predict possible pathways for the future of our climate.

Increasing computing power combined with increasing scientific knowledge has led to major advances in our understanding of the climate system during the past decades. However, the Earth's inherent complexity, and the still limited computational power available, means that not every variable can be included in current models. Consequently, scientists have to make informed choices in order to build models which are fit for purpose.

"These models are the only tools we have in terms of predicting the future impacts of climate change, so it's crucial that they are as accurate and as thorough as we can make them," said the paper's lead author Peer Nowack, a PhD student in the Centre for Atmospheric Science, part of Cambridge's Department of Chemistry.

The new research has highlighted a key role that ozone, a major component of the stratosphere, plays in how climate change occurs, and the possible implications for predictions of global warming. Changes in ozone are often either not included, or are included in a very simplified manner, in current climate models. This is due to the complexity and the sheer computational power it takes to calculate these changes, an important deficiency in some studies.

In addition to its role in protecting the Earth from the Sun's harmful ultraviolet rays, ozone is also a greenhouse gas. The ozone layer is part of a vast chemical network, and changes in environmental conditions, such as changes in temperature or the atmospheric circulation, result in changes in ozone abundance. This process is known as an atmospheric chemical feedback.

Using a comprehensive atmosphere-ocean chemistry-climate model, the Cambridge team, working with researchers from the University of East Anglia, the National Centre for Atmospheric Science, the Met Office and the University of Reading, compared ozone at pre-industrial levels with how it evolves in response to a quadrupling of CO₂ in the atmosphere, which is a standard climate change experiment.

What they discovered is a reduction in global surface warming of approximately 20% – equating to 1° Celsius – when compared with most models after 75 years. This difference is due to ozone changes in the lower stratosphere in the tropics, which are mainly caused by changes in the atmospheric circulation under climate change.

"This research has shown that ozone feedback can play a major role in global warming and that it should be included consistently in climate models," said Nowack. "These models are incredibly complex, just as the Earth is, and there are an almost infinite number of different processes which we could include. Many different processes have to be simplified in order to make them run effectively within the model, but what this research shows is that ozone feedback plays a major role in climate change, and therefore should be included in models in order to make them as accurate as we can make them. However, this particular feedback is especially complex since it depends on many other climate processes that models still simulate differently. Therefore, the best option to represent this feedback consistently might be to calculate ozone changes in every model, in spite of the high computational costs of such a procedure.

"Climate change research is all about having the best data possible. **Every climate model currently in use shows that warming is occurring** and will continue to occur, but the

difference is in how and when they predict warming will happen. Having the best models possible will help make the best climate policy.”

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/12/01/new-research-highlights-the-key-role-of-ozone-in-climate-change/#comment-1803213>

Don Shaw

C. REVIEW: DISASTERS & CLIMATE CHANGE BY ROGER PIELKE, JR.

**SUBMITTED BY DOUG L. HOFFMAN ON THU, 11/06/2014
- 11:02**

The Rightful Place of Science: Disasters & Climate Change is the latest book by Roger Pielke, Jr., noted political scientist and professor in the Environmental Studies Program and a Fellow of the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES). In it he addresses the controversial subject of whether natural disasters are becoming more frequent and more fearsome due to manmade climate change. This short volume is an excellent summary of his work in this area and a reference that anyone serious about climate change should have on their shelf. After receiving an advance copy of the work, here is my review.

Env141215

D. CLIMATE ALARMISTS FALSELY IMPLY CARBON DIOXIDE IS SOOT

OCTOBER 24, 2014

Below is a link covering the problem that the largest solar plant is generating half the promised energy. Interestingly the green energy plant has to fire boilers with fossil fuels (natural gas) to make up for the shortage of solar electricity production. The Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System, which is owned by Google, NRG Energy and BrightSource Energy, uses nearly 175,000 mirrors, called heliostats, and sprawls 3,500 acres in California.

AP article conveniently fails to mention the request for a government bailout to pay the loans. They are requesting a \$539 million dollar grant to pay the government loan.

<http://news.heartland.org/newspaper-article/2014/10/24/climate-alarmists-falsely-imply-carbon-dioxide-soot>

E. NINTH CIRCUIT DETERMINES THAT NEW NAAQS DOES NOT REQUIRE PSD RULE CHANGES

On December 1, 2014, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit issued an opinion confirming that EPA cannot be compelled to revise the Prevention of Significant Deterioration ("PSD") rules each time a national ambient air quality standard ("NAAQS") is revised. The court reasoned that, although the statute could be read to require EPA to revise PSD rules for each new NAAQS, such a duty was not sufficiently clear to be the basis of a Clean Air Act citizen suit.

The Ninth Circuit's decision resolved an appeal of a citizen suit filed by environmental groups in 2011. That citizen suit alleged in part that Clean Air Act section 166(a)

obligated EPA to revise PSD regulations after promulgating the revised ozone NAAQS in 2008. As discussed in TIP 2012-79, the district court disagreed with the environmental groups' theory, which resulted in this appeal.

Roger Zygmunt
Env141215-1

F. REHEARING DENIED IN SECONDARY NO2/SO2 NAAQS CASE

The D.C. Circuit denied the ENGO's petition for rehearing in our secondary NO2/SO2 NAAQS case. Both API and EPA had filed objections to a rehearing and it appears the court agreed with us that the case should not be revisited. This is good news for us, as it means that the current secondary standards for NO2 and SO2 will be retained.

Env141215-2 and 3
Roger Zygmunt

G. OIL WELL OPERATORS TO ACCEPT SOME EPA RULES TO AVOID CURBS ON METHANE

By Mark Drajem December 04, 2014

A lobbying group for oil producers including Exxon Mobil Corp. ([XOM:US](#)) and Anadarko Petroleum Corp. ([APC:US](#)) said it would accept proposed rules on pollution from oil wells in order to head-off a broad federal standard for methane leaks. <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2014-12-04/oil-drillers-to-accept-some-epa-rules-to-avoid-curbs-on-methane>

COMMENTS:

A. THE WEEK THAT WAS: 2014-12-06 (DEC. 6, 2014)

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

The Game in Lima: The annual December meeting of the UN Conference of Parties (now COP-20) to the 1992 UN Framework Convention on Climate Change has opened in Lima, Peru. This is the last major conference, but not the only one, before the 2015 Conference of Parties in Paris next December. The purpose of the Lima conference is to lay the groundwork for a legally binding agreement at the Paris Conference. The intended purpose of a new agreement is to replace the Kyoto Protocol, which failed and has expired. Based on one's belief of whether or not human carbon dioxide emissions endanger humanity by causing drastic global warming/climate change, these conferences can be described in various ways ranging from the last hope of humanity to a final effort to destroy modern, industrial civilization, which heavily depends on the use of fossil fuels.

Western organizations that promote the dangers of human-caused global warming include the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the World Bank, the European Union, the US Administration, and various once notable scientific institutions.

Other organizations include the traditional press. These can be collectively called the climate establishment.

Western organizations that question the dangers of human-caused global warming are generally beyond the reach of the massive government spending on global warming/science change and include the Science and Environmental Policy Project (SEPP) as well as many other notable organizations. There are clear exceptions to such a convenient division, such as the scientists at the Earth System Science Center in University of Alabama in Huntsville, who report global temperatures as observed by satellites, the most comprehensive global temperature record in existence. These data are independently published monthly and confirmed by data from weather balloons. Further, scientific societies in Russia and China are not strongly supporting the dangers of human-caused global warming. In the traditional western press, those who question the climate establishment are falsely labeled as in the pay of private corporations, including tobacco, coal, and oil companies. Little, if any, physical evidence is advanced to support such claims.

The Global Warming Policy Forum, headquartered in the UK, has likened the on-going climate conferences to a game of cards, such as poker. If so, the major Western nations have tipped their hand. The delegates from the EU are making it clear that they will agree to most anything as long as they agreed upon controls of carbon dioxide emissions are binding. In announcing an agreement with China, US President Obama agreed to limit US emissions of CO₂, without obtaining a comparable limit to China's emissions for at least 16 years. [It is generally agreed that China's emissions of CO₂ exceeded those of the US some years ago (23% v. 16% of world emissions in 2013)]

Already in the early part of the Lima conference, China is calling for the West to pledge more money to developing countries, including China, to fund preparations for climate change. Similarly, India is demanding more compensation from the West. The West can only expect greater demands from other developing countries. If one views the conference in Lima as a game, then the delegates from China and India arrived to play high-stakes poker and the delegates from the West arrived with a bag of grammar school marbles. See Article # 5 and links under The China –US Agreement? and A New World Agreement? and <http://www.statista.com/statistics/271748/the-largest-emitters-of-co2-in-the-world/>

Agreement Doubts: There are a number of doubts that maybe present among other delegates that must be overcome by the US delegates before any binding agreement can be reached. Most serious is the President's attitude that he can commit the US to a binding agreement. He failed to obtain US Senate approval to a cap-and-trade bill on carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions in 2009, when he was much more popular and his party had a clear majority of the Senate with opponents holding about 40 of 100 seats (the number of vacant seats varied). The President's popularity has diminished significantly since. Any treaty requires a two-thirds approval by the Senate. It is doubtful if a treaty on carbon dioxide emissions will pass with the opposing party holding, what will be on January 3, 2015, a 54 to 46 majority.

In addition, nature is not cooperating with the announcements of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and the climate models used, as

well as various government entities that are promoting dangerous human-caused global warming. No doubt, the new Congress will look into the books of the US government entities that are promoting the unsubstantiated claim of human-caused dangerous global warming. Toss into this mix, the fact that hydraulic fracturing of dense shale is showing that the world is not running out of oil and natural gas, and global oil prices are tumbling. All this throws into question the claims that alternatives to fossil fuels are needed for western civilization because fossil fuels will run out and become ever more expensive. Already many in Europe are questioning the EU position on energy policy, which is becoming a hardship on those with limited incomes and in energy intensive industries. Mr. Obama continues to insist he has the executive powers to execute a binding international agreement, but Federal courts may have to decide. See Articles # 2, # 3 and # 5, and links under: A New World Agreement?, Problems in the Orthodoxy, Questioning European Green, and Funding Issues.

Executive Powers –Challenged: Mr. Obama, and the Administration, have claimed he has the Executive Powers to enforce his climate plan which calls for significant reductions in US emissions of CO2. Laurence Tribe, a professor at Harvard Law School, has long been a stalwart of the Democratic Party and is hardly a conservative. According to reports, in comments on the EPA’s climate plan, Tribe stated:

“The defects in the proposed rule transcend political affiliations and policy positions and cut across partisan lines,” Tribe wrote, asking that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) withdraw the proposal... “It is a remarkable example of executive overreach and an administrative agency’s assertion of power beyond its statutory authority. Indeed, the proposed rule raises serious constitutional questions.”

In addition, Tribe argued that the rule ignores the separation of powers between the executive and legislative branches and violates the limits on EPA’s authority. These comments were prepared for Peabody Energy Corp, a coal firm, and, no doubt, will be discounted by the EPA. However, the comments may be important in the Federal courts. See links under EPA and other Regulators on the March

EPA Climate Plan: Comments on the EPA climate plan closed on December 1, for which EPA stated it received well over 1 million comments. Green groups announced they submitted over 3 million comments. TWTW is preparing a synopsis of some of the scientific comments to appear later. See links under EPA and other Regulators on the March.

Climategate: This year marked the fifth anniversary of Climategate and the collapse of a pending international agreement on carbon dioxide emissions that was to occur in Copenhagen in December 2009. Judith Curry has comments on the importance of Climategate to her and how it helped her question the climate establishment. See link under Climategate Continued.

Oh’ Mann: One of the outcomes of Climategate was the revelation of the extent to which the climate establishment would avoid using relevant data that draws into question its findings. Mr. Mann’s infamous hockey-stick is the most glaring example. Steve McIntyre has continued to dig into the data, which now includes a recent study of the

Bristlecone Pines in the White Mountains along the California-Nevada border that were heavily featured in Mr. Mann's hockey-stick. See links under Climategate Continued and Oh' Mann.

Temperature Measurements: The number of claims of the hottest year ever are becoming numbing –especially those that announce before the full data set is available. Roy Spencer shows that it is doubtful if satellite temperatures will support the claim that 2014 will qualify as the hottest year ever. David Whitehead discusses the lack of meaning of claims of hottest year when the error range in measurement may be 10 times that of the value of the increase. See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy and Measurement Issues.

Number of the Week: 826,000 Short. With great fanfare President Obama and the Administration bragged that by 2015 the US would have 1,000,000 electric driven cars on the road. Writing in the Investor's Business Daily, John Merline estimates that actual number will be about 826,000 short. (Only about 17% of the claimed number will be in use.) Mark Mills explains that the motor and battery pack in an electric auto is heavy when compared with a comparable gasoline auto with fuel tank. Further, gasoline engines are improving dramatically. According to the reports, Federal subsidies for electric autos total over \$8 billion. These include a \$7,500 Federal tax credit, which is used in lieu of taxes to be paid, rather than a deduction which reduces taxable income. Those who pay taxes consider a credit far superior to a deduction. The subsidies do not include state support, which is considerable in states such as California

#####

<http://www.sepp.org/twtwfiles/2014/TWTW%2012-6-14.pdf>.

B. GLOBAL WARMING GOOFINESS AROUND THE GLOBE

[Climate Crazyness of the Week](#)

Guest Post by Bob Tisdale A study in Germany finds senior citizens are responsible for climate change. That's right; they're saying it's all because of your (or you) grannies and gramps. From down under, a BBC editor in Australia believes her country warmed more than 90 deg C (160 deg F) since 1900. And back...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/12/04/global-warming-goofiness-around-the-globe/>

C. SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN: HOPE AFTER LIMA – PREPARING THE LOYALISTS FOR FAILURE

[Climate News / COP conferences](#)

Eric Worrall writes: The mainstream media is awash lately with messages of optimism about the upcoming Lima conference, about the thousands of people gathering in Lima (no doubt after a long wind powered sea voyage) to help the international climate process reach a legally binding conclusion. But at least one green outlet – the Scientific...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/12/03/scientific-american-hope-after-lima-preparing-the-loyalists-for-failure/>

D. ANOTHER EXCUSE FOR 'THE PAUSE' – THE OCEANS ATE THE HEAT

From the University of Southampton New study explains the role of oceans in global 'warming hiatus' New research shows that ocean heat uptake across three oceans is the likely cause of the 'warming hiatus' – the current decade-long slowdown in global surface warming. Using data from a range of state-of-the-art ocean and atmosphere models, the...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/12/03/another-excuse-for-the-pause-the-oceans-ate-the-heat/>

E. WHITHER THE WEATHER?

Guest Opinion: Dr. Tim Ball Pick your trend. The historical relationship between solar activity and temperature indicates the world is in a cooling trend. Meanwhile, governments prepare solely for warming, using manufactured academic and scientific justification. Regardless, of your position on the science of these issues, there is a strategy that is more logical in...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/12/04/whither-the-weather/>

F. 'WEEPY' BILL MCKIBBEN STEPS DOWN AS CHAIRMAN OF 350.ORG

[NGOs](#)

Eric Worrall writes: Weepy Bill McKibben has announced that he is stepping down from his position as chairman of 350.org According to The Guardian interview; "I'm stepping down as chair of the board at 350.org to become what we're calling a 'senior advisor'. I will stay on as an active member of the board, and..."

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/12/04/weepy-bill-mckibben-steps-down-as-chairman-of-350-org/>

G. GLOBAL WARMING GOOFINESS AROUND THE GLOBE

[Climate Crazyiness of the Week](#)

Guest Post by Bob Tisdale A study in Germany finds senior citizens are responsible for climate change. That's right; they're saying it's all because of your (or you) grannies and gramps. From down under, a BBC editor in Australia believes her country warmed more than 90 deg C (160 deg F) since 1900. And back...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/12/04/global-warming-goofiness-around-the-globe/>

H. 'GAME WE CAN'T WIN': COAL STATES BRACE FOR GROWING NUMBER OF PLANT CLOSURES OVER EPA RULES

WASHINGTON – The energy industry and coal-producing states are projecting a wave of power plant closures in the final two years of the Obama administration as Environmental Protection Agency regulations take hold.

The goal of the agency's campaign is to cut down on carbon pollution. However, industry groups and agencies say the EPA's demands are simply too difficult to meet and will lead to powering down many facilities -- eliminating hundreds of jobs and hurting cash-strapped state economies.

"It's a game we can't win," Alan Minier, chairman of the Wyoming Public Service Commission, told FoxNews.com.

The number of projected closures has steadily risen. Though estimates vary, [according to the Institute for Energy Research](#) a total of 37 states including Wyoming are seeing closures. The group lists nearly 170 plants that have closed or are closing, or are being converted to other purposes.

IER cites a handful of existing EPA regulations, as well as a major proposal to cut emissions from existing power plants. That calls for cutting emissions nationally by 30 percent of 2005 levels by 2030. The plan assumes emissions can be curbed through remedial action in four general areas: improved efficiency of coal plants, enhanced energy conservation measures, increased natural gas and renewable power generation.

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2014/12/05/coal-power-plant-closures/?intcmp=latestnews>

I. 2014 A RECORD WARM YEAR? PROBABLY NOT.

December 4th, 2014

As continual fiddling with the global surface thermometer data leads to an ever-warmer present and an ever-cooler past, many of us are increasingly skeptical that beating a previous "warmest" year by hundredths of a degree has any real-world meaning. Yet, the current UN climate meeting in Lima, Peru, is setting the stage for some very real changes in energy policy that will inevitably make energy more expensive for everyone, no matter their economic status.

But there are some very good reasons to be skeptical of the claim that 2014 will be the "hottest year ever"...at the very least from the standpoint of it having any real impact on peoples' lives.

No One Has Ever Felt "Global Warming"

If you turn up your thermostat by 1 deg. F, you might feel slightly warmer in the few minutes it takes for the warming to occur. But no one has felt the 1 deg. F rise in global average temperature in the last 50 to 100 years. It is too small to notice, when we are routinely experiencing day-night, day-to-day, and seasonal swings of tens of degrees.

The Urban Heat Island Effect Has Hopelessly Corrupted the Land Thermometer Data

Most thermometers measure temperature where people live, and people tend to build stuff that warms the local environment around the thermometer.

Called the urban heat island (UHI) effect, most of the warming occurs long before the thermometer site actually becomes "urban". For instance, if you compare neighboring thermometers around the world, and also compare their population densities (as a rough indication of UHI influence), it can be easily demonstrated that substantial average UHI warming occurs even at low population densities, about [~1 deg. F at only 10 persons per sq. km!](#)

This effect, which has been studied and published for many decades, has not been adequately addressed in the global temperature datasets, partly because there is no good way to apply it to individual thermometer sites.

2014 Won't Be Statistically Different from 2010

For a “record” temperature to be statistically significant, it has to rise above its level of measurement error, of which there are many for thermometers: relating to changes in location, instrumentation, measurement times of day, inadequate coverage of the Earth, etc. Oh...and that pesky urban heat island effect.

A couple hundredths of a degree warmer than a previous year (which 2014 will likely be) should be considered a “tie”, not a record.

Our Best Technology, Satellites, Say 2014 Will Not be the Warmest

Our [satellite estimates of global temperature](#), which have much more complete geographic coverage than thermometers, reveal that 2014 won't be even close to a record warm year.

In fact, the satellite and thermometer technologies seem to be diverging in what they are telling us in recent years, with the thermometers continuing to warm, and the satellite temperatures essentially flat-lining.

So, why have world governments chosen to rely on surface thermometers, which were never designed for high accuracy, and yet ignore their own high-tech satellite network of calibrated sensors, especially when the satellites also agree with weather balloon data?

I will leave it to the reader to answer that one.

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

Roy Spencer

J. OBAMA'S CLIMATE DEAL WITH CHINA BACKFIRES

Emboldened China Plays \$100 Billion Trump Card China offered new details on its commitment to rein in greenhouse gases and called on rich nations to speed up delivery of the \$100 billion in annual climate-related aid they've promised by 2020. Su Wei, China's lead climate negotiator, coupled his comments on China's commitment with a call...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/12/05/obamas-climate-deal-with-china-backfires/>

K. DID ENSO AND THE “MONSTER” KELVIN WAVE CONTRIBUTE TO THE RECORD HIGH GLOBAL SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURES IN 2014?

Guest Post by Bob Tisdale. Of course they did. Those who have followed the 2014/15 El Niño series from its start back in April will recall all the hoopla about the strong downwelling Kelvin wave that was traveling from west to east along the Cromwell Current (aka the Pacific Equatorial Undercurrent). Based on the size...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/12/05/did-enso-and-the-monster-kelvin-wave-contribute-to-the-record-high-global-sea-surface-temperatures-in-2014/>

L. ARGO AND OCEAN HEAT CONTENT

[Ocean Heat Content](#)

Guest Post by Willis Eschenbach Today I ran across an interesting presentation from 2013 regarding the Argo floats. These are a large number of independent floats spread all across the world oceans. They spend most of their time sleeping at a depth of 1,000 meters (3,300 feet) below the surface of the ocean. Then they drop...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/12/04/argo-and-ocean-heat-content/>

M. CLIMATE CHANGE ... WHO CARES?

Guest Post by Willis Eschenbach

Thanks to the blog of the irrepressible Hilary Ostrov, a long-time WUWT commenter, I found out about a poll gone either horribly wrong or totally predictably depending on your point of view. It's a global poll done by the United Nations, with over six million responses from all over the...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/12/05/climate-change-who-cares/>

N. TESTIMONY TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE

Hearing on the Super Pollutants Act of 2014 (S. 2911)

Washington DC, 2 December 2014

Europe's climate strategy was founded on two key assumptions: first, that global warming was an urgent threat that needed to be prevented without delay and at all costs; and second, that the world was running out of fossil fuels, which meant oil and gas would become ever more expensive and renewable energy competitive.

Both conjectures, however, turned out to be wrong, and as a consequence there is growing realisation within the EU that our unilateral climate policy is misguided and economically harmful.

<http://heartland.org/sites/default/files/12214hearingwitness testimony peiser.pdf>

Global Warming Policy Foundation

Editor's Note: This real life discussion of Global Warming attempted correction demonstrates the financial fallacy which results from avoiding Fossil Fuels. Europe can no longer compete in the Gobal Market! GHH

O. RESEARCH CASTS ALARMING LIGHT ON DECLINE OF WEST ANTARCTIC GLACIERS

A new study by researchers at NASA and the University of California at Irvine finds a rapidly melting section of the West Antarctic ice sheet appears to be in an irreversible state of decline, with nothing to stop the glaciers in this area from melting into the sea. (NASA)

By [Chris Mooney](#) and [Joby Warrick](#) December 4 at 3:21 PM, The Washington Post For two decades, scientists have kept a close watch on a vast, icebound corner of West Antarctica that is undergoing a historic thaw. Climate experts have predicted that, centuries from now, the region's mile-thick ice sheet could collapse and raise sea levels as much as 11 feet.

Now, new evidence is causing concern that the collapse could happen faster than anyone thought. New scientific studies this week have shed light on the speed and the mechanics of West Antarctic melting, documenting an acceleration that, if it continues, could have major effects on coastal cities worldwide.

Twin papers this week show that the rate of ice loss from West Antarctica is increasing — with the acceleration particularly pronounced in the past decade — and also why this is happening: Warmer ocean waters are pushing up from below and bathing the base of the ice sheet.

The findings add to a growing body of evidence suggesting that the effects of climate change are outpacing scientific predictions, driven in part, scientists say, by soaring levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

It often has been speculated that West Antarctica may be the most unstable of the world's great ice sheets, a group that also includes the still-larger Greenland and the massive East Antarctica. And research published in May suggested that for the oceanfront glaciers of West Antarctica, held in place by moorings at the seafloor, a point of no return already may have been reached.

Now, researchers at the University of California at Irvine, NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and three other institutions have reconciled several measuring methods, including those based on satellite and radar measurements, to determine just how much ice mass West Antarctica has lost to the oceans in the past two decades.

The researchers found that the ice sheet contributed about 4.5 millimeters, or 0.18 inches, to global sea-level rise from 1992 to 2013, with more than 70 percent of the loss occurring in the second half of that time period — meaning the rate of loss is accelerating.

“For long-term stability and small sea-level rise, accelerating mass loss is not reassuring,” said Pennsylvania State University glaciologist Richard Alley, commenting on the paper, which was published Tuesday in *Geophysical Research Letters*.

A second study, published Thursday in the journal *Science*, explains why this is occurring. It turns out that in the Amundsen Sea off the West Antarctica glaciers, warmer deep ocean water is “shoaling,” or rising from below, and lapping at the base of the glaciers. The surface ocean waters around Antarctica are generally quite cold because of snow and runoff from the glaciers, but these warmer waters are managing to push up to the ice shelf.

“We now show that the ocean is the major contributor of heat” to West Antarctica, said lead study author and oceanographer Sunke Schmidtko of the University of East Anglia in Britain. “And it's not just the shelf itself — it's something that happens offshore in the global ocean.”

This could ultimately prove to be one of the most important geophysical processes on the planet, for the simple reason that the ice sheet of West Antarctica would, if it collapsed entirely, contribute about 3.3 meters, or nearly 11 feet, to global sea-level rise, [Alley](#) said. Bob W, Taylor

Editor's Note: I find no references in the Newspaper article or the attached NACA Report to the research supporting these claims. There is certainly warm water currents in the Antarctic thinning the ice, but how fast does not seem to be known. - GHH

P. AMERICAN COAL COUNCIL COMMENTS TO EPA

Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0602

**Re: Carbon Pollution Emissions Guidelines for Existing Stationary Sources:
Electric Utility Generating Units**

ACC is gravely concerned about the detrimental impacts and lack of benefits of this proposed regulation issued by EPA in June, 2014 under Clean Air Act §111(d). It is unworkable – lengthy, complex, ambiguous, and over-reaching. It would predispose generation portfolios and fuel choices for electricity providers and dramatically transform how electricity is produced, distributed, transmitted, and used. It would undermine the U.S. free market system. The economy-wide repercussions of such an arbitrary energy and electricity policy change are disastrous. The threats to American families and businesses are intolerable. EPA’s proposed regulation will have the following consequences:

- Cause severe harm to the U.S. economy and consumers
- Increase electricity prices and price volatility
- Jeopardize electric grid reliability
- Result in high job losses
- Reduce energy diversity and security for America
- Hinder coal plant efficiency improvements, and coal technology use and advancements
- Fail to achieve air quality improvements and health benefits
- Fail to fulfill the Administration/EPA’s goal of global climate leadership
- Fail to elevate resolutions to the alleviation of energy poverty

http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.americancoalcouncil.org/resource/resmgr/Docs/EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0602_America.pdf

Q. WAKE UP AUSTRALIA, WE ARE BECOMING GREEN AND DEFENCELESS

[Climate News](#)

Guest opinion by Viv Forbes

As Australia’s industrial capacity declines, Australia is becoming green and defenceless. History holds lessons. Back in Dec 1941, Japan suddenly attacked the huge US Naval base at Pearl Harbour. Three days later, two “invincible” British warships, “Repulse” and “Prince of Wales” were sunk by Japanese planes off Malaya. Soon Japanese...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/12/06/wake-up-australia-we-are-becoming-green-and-defenceless/>

R. SHOCKER: TOP GOOGLE ENGINEERS SAY RENEWABLE ENERGY ‘SIMPLY WON’T WORK’**

[Green tech](#)

Guest essay by Eric Worrall.

A research effort by Google corporation to make renewable energy viable has been a complete failure, according to the scientists who led the programme. After 4 years of effort, their conclusion is that renewable energy “simply won’t work”. According to an interview with the engineers, published in IEEE; “At the...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/11/22/shocker-top-google-engineers-say-renewable-energy-simply-wont-work/>

S. [Anthony Watts](#) / [5 hours ago November 23, 2014](#)

T.

U. PEOPLE STARTING TO ASK ABOUT MOTIVE FOR MASSIVE IPCC DECEPTION**

[IPCC](#)

Guest Opinion: Dr. Tim Ball

Skeptics have done a reasonable job of explaining what and how the IPCC created bad climate science. Now, as more people understand what the skeptics are saying, the question that most skeptics have not, or do not want to address is being asked – why? What is the motive behind corrupting...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/11/23/people-starting-to-ask-about-motive-for-massive-ipcc-deception/>

V. SILLY HEADLINE OF THE DAY – NYT: CLIMATE CHANGE THREATENS TO STRIP THE IDENTITY OF GLACIER NATIONAL PARK**

Posted on [November 24, 2014](#) by [Bob Tisdale](#)

And the opening of the NewYorkTimes article reads:

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK, Mont. — What will they call this place once the glaciers are gone?

My suggestions are at the end of the post.

<https://bobtisdale.wordpress.com/2014/11/24/silly-headline-of-the-day-nyt-climate-change-threatens-to-strip-the-identity-of-glacier-national-park/#more-8199>

W. THERE'S GROWING EVIDENCE THAT GLOBAL WARMING IS DRIVING CRAZY WINTERS**

It may be the timeliest -- and most troubling -- idea in climate science.

Back in 2012, two researchers with a particular interest in the Arctic, Rutgers' [Jennifer Francis](#) and the University of Wisconsin-Madison's [Stephen Vavrus](#), published a [paper](#) called "Evidence linking Arctic amplify [warming so rapidly](#) is leading to an unexpected but profound effect on the weather where the vast majority of us live -- a change that, if their theory is correct, may have something to do with the extreme winter weather the U.S. has seen lately.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2014/11/20/theres-growing-evidence-that-global-warming-is-driving-crazy-winters/>

Don Shaw

X. CAN CONGRESS DERAIL OBAMA'S CLIMATE AND ENERGY POLICIES?**

From the Washington Post: [Congress can derail Obama's global](#)

[warming fantasies](#). Excerpts:

The White House would have us believe that the president is unfazed by the midterm election debacle. There is plenty of coverage of President Obama's upcoming [unilateral actions on immigration](#) and his yawner of an announcement of a [non-binding agreement on global warming](#) with the Chinese, but another executive overreach may be about to take place that will do a lot to reinforce voters' reasons for voting against the Democrats and emphasize the notion that the president doesn't get it. The New York Times revealed today that the president is about to announce that [three billion dollars of U.S. taxpayer money](#) will be given to other countries to help "the world's poorest adapt to the ravages of climate change."

The new Republican majorities in the House and Senate could seize on this latest blatant tone-deaf overreach and use it to build serious opposition to the Democrats' dream of a wealth transfer from America to who knows where. [Speaker John Boehner \(R-OH\) already said](#) the president's agreement with the Chinese "is the latest example of the president's crusade against affordable, reliable energy that is already hurting jobs and squeezing middle-class families."

Republicans in the House and Senate are going to be focused on passing the Keystone XL Pipeline, rolling back onerous EPA regulations and increasing American energy security in the 114th Congress – not on helping the president raise Americans' power bills and sending money we don't have to foreign lands.

Y. CHINA'S NEW ENERGY PLAN **FORECASTS BIG RISE IN CO2 EMISSIONS****

[Paul Homewood](#) / [1 day ago](#)

By Paul Homewood

News from Enerdata that China has published a new Energy Development Strategy Action Plan (2014-2020), presumably following on from the US-China agreement last week.

The State Council of China has unveiled a new Energy Development Strategy Action Plan (2014-2020) focusing on the development of renewables and capping primary energy consumption at 4.8 Gtce/year until 2020, i.e. limiting the primary energy consumption growth rate to 3.5%/year until 2020. China aims to limit coal consumption to 4.2 Gt/year until 2020, a 16% increase over the 2013 consumption level of 3.6 Gt. China will also target a reduction of coal in the primary energy mix to under 62% by 2020, to the advantage of non-fossil fuels (15% by 2020 and 20% by 2030, from about 10% in 2013) and gas (10% by 2020). By 2020, the installed nuclear power capacity is expected to reach 58 GW, with an additional 30 GW under construction; inland nuclear power projects will be studied, while the construction of nuclear reactors on coastal areas will begin "at a

proper time”. China targets an installed hydropower capacity of 350 GW by 2020, with wind and solar capacities reaching 200 GW and 100 GW respectively. Shale gas and coalbed methane production should reach 30 bcm by 2020 and the energy self-sufficiency rate will be boosted to about 85%.

http://www.enerdata.net/enerdatauk/press-and-publication/energy-news-001/china-unveils-new-energy-strategy-capping-annual-coal-consumption_30723.html

A number of things stand out here:

1) Capping primary energy consumption at 4.8 Gtce/year until 2020

This refers to “Gigatonnes Carbon Equivalent”. Provisional figures for 2013, from [CDIAC](#), give carbon emissions as 2.7Gtce, so China are allowing themselves a substantial amount of headroom to continue growing emissions.

There should be no surprise here. As I [pointed out](#) a year ago, China’s promise to reduce CO2 emissions per unit of GDP were actually likely to lead to a doubling of emissions, dependent on economic growth.

As their commitment is to peak emissions by 2030, we can expect the figure of 4.8Gtce to continue to rise through the 2020’s.

2) China aims to limit coal consumption to 4.2 Gt/year until 2020, a 16% increase over the 2013 consumption level of 3.6 Gt

No sign of any cuts in coal use then.

3) China will also target a reduction of coal in the primary energy mix to under 62% by 2020

While the proportion of coal within the overall mix is forecast to decline from 69% in 2011, the actual amount used will increase, as total energy consumption rises.

4) By 2020, the installed nuclear power capacity is expected to reach 58 GW, with an additional 30 GW under construction; inland nuclear power projects will be studied, while the construction of nuclear reactors on coastal areas will begin “at a proper time”. China targets an installed hydropower capacity of 350 GW by 2020, with wind and solar capacities reaching 200 GW and 100 GW respectively.

Although China has promised to increase the share of non-fossil fuels in the energy mix to 20% by 2030. What is less well known is that hydro and other non-fossil fuels were already contributing 8% in 2011, according to the [EIA](#), or approximately 20% of electricity output. This figure will have grown since then, with extra hydro coming on stream. It is likely that non-fossil sources will be supplying around 10% by the end of this year.

Moreover, with new nuclear and hydro capacity already under construction or with planning approved, electricity generation from

nuclear and hydro will likely more than triple from 772 TWh in 2011 to around 2500 TWh by 2025.

None of this increase in capacity is happening as a result of any agreement with Obama. Instead it has been planned for several years. It also needs to be pointed out that China's massive switch to hydro power has had highly damaging side effects, such as the displacement of as many as 23 million people, according to figures from the [International Business Times](#).

5) Wind and solar reaching 200 GW and 100 GW by 2020

Capacities were 75 GW and 3GW respectively in 2013. In terms of output, by 2020 wind/solar should be supplying around 500 TWh pa, about 10% of China's electricity needs. Nothing fantastic there then, and certainly nothing approaching UK targets.

Perhaps the real story behind all of this is that China will continue to consume ever greater amounts of energy, as its economy continues to grow, something that won't stop any time soon.

The EIA show how this will carry on growing even after 2030, and how the use of fossil fuels will carry on growing in the meantime.

<http://www.eia.gov/countries/cab.cfm?fips=CH>

The idea that China's CO2 emissions will drop below today's levels in my lifetime is sheer fantasy

Don Shaw

Z. WHITE HOUSE QUIETLY RELEASES PLANS FOR 3,415 REGULATIONS AHEAD OF THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

THE DAILY CALLER

By Michael Bastasch

Published November 24, 2014

While Americans are focused on what delicious foods they're going to eat for Thanksgiving, the White House is focused on releasing its massive regulatory agenda— marking the fifth time the Obama administration has released its regulatory road map on the eve of a major holiday.

The federal Unified Agenda is the Obama administration's regulatory road map, and it lays out thousands of regulations being finalized in the coming months. Under President Barack Obama, there has been a tradition of releasing the agenda late on Friday— and right before a major holiday.

“It's become an unfortunate tradition of this administration and others to drop these regulatory agendas late on a Friday and right before a holiday,” [Matt Shudtz, executive director of the Center for Progressive Reform, told The Hill newspaper.](#)

The White House's regulatory agenda for spring 2014 was released on the eve of the Memorial Day weekend, when millions of people set

out on weekend getaways or family vacations.

“It’s unfortunate because it’s an update on protections for Americans of all stripes,” Shultz told the Hill. “It lays out the administration’s plan and it deserves more attention.”

But the White House may have a good reason to do so because its [Unified Agenda for fall 2014](#) includes some 3,415 regulations— more than the last regulatory agenda and one that includes 189 rules that cost more than \$100 million.

One of the most contentious rules is the Environmental Protection Agency rules to limit greenhouse gas emissions from new and existing power plants. According to the agenda, these rules will be finalized in 2015.

They have been criticized by Republicans and the coal industry for accelerating the demise of coal-fired power and for setting the stage for increases in electricity prices. Republicans, who are set to take control of the Senate next year, have vowed to fight EPA regulations. “The president said his policies were on the ballot, and the American people spoke up against them,” said incoming Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, a Kentucky Republican. “It’s time for more listening, and less job-destroying red tape. Easing the burden already created by EPA regulations will continue to be a priority for me in the new Congress.”

But environmental groups and the EPA argue the rule will actually help lower utility bills and help fight global warming.

“The good news is that we can afford to tackle the growing threat of climate change and, really, we can’t afford not to,” said Starla Yeh, a policy analyst at the Natural Resources Defense Council. “Doing the right thing will save money even as we protect our health, our communities and future generations.”

A more pressing EPA rule set to be finalized is the so-called coal ash rule for coal-fired power plants. A final rule will be issued by Dec. 19, and could be bad news for the power sector, which will [bear the brunt of \\$20.3 billion in compliance costs](#).

But probably the most fought-over rules to be finalized by the EPA next year will be its redefining of the **“Waters of the United States” under the Clean Water Act**. The EPA will issue its redefinition next year, according to the agenda.

Federal lawmakers from both parties, along with companies from virtually every sector of the economy, have opposed the rule, saying it greatly expands the EPA’s power to regulate even small bodies of water on private property.

“The ‘waters of the U.S.’ rule may be one of the most significant private property grabs in U.S. history,” [said Louisiana Republican Sen. David Vitter](#), adding “they want to take another step toward outright permitting authority over virtually any wet area in the country, while at the same time providing a new tool

for environmental groups to sue private property owners.”

But the EPA says the rule is needed to clear up uncertainty over the EPA’s jurisdiction in the wake of two Supreme Court rulings. [The EPA says](#) “the decisions established important considerations for how those regulations should be interpreted” and that “[e]xperience implementing the regulations following the two court cases has identified several areas that could benefit from additional clarification through rulemaking.”

Editor’s note: The thousands of comments and technical papers submitted to the EPA record demonstrating Greenhouse gases have almost no effect on the global climate and the lack of EPA consideration of 18 years of no increase in global temperature, while concentrations of CO2 have steadily increased, shows the Administration is not interested in scientific global warming input, but prone to destroy the current U.S. civilization. -GHH

Regards
George