

ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY DIVISION

NEWSLETTER

13 JULY 2015

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 unidentified EED Review Committee alone, which represents the positions of the Environmental and Energy Division (EED) and ASME.

This week's edition includes a discussion of a portion of the EED Executive meeting:

A. ENVIRONMENT 1. EED MEETING

At the San Diego meeting of the EED Executive Committee it was decided to form an unidentified Review Committee to select acceptable papers submitted by EED Newsletter readers for inclusion in future Newsletters. Please continue to send your suggested papers for review and approval to ghh@att.net.

2. IMECE 2015

ASME's International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition (IMECE) is the largest interdisciplinary mechanical engineering conference in the world. Among the 4,000 attendees from 75+ countries are mechanical engineers in advanced manufacturing, aerospace, advanced energy, fluids engineering, heat transfer, design engineering, materials and energy recovery, applied mechanics, power, rail transportation, nanotechnology, bioengineering, internal combustion engines, environmental engineering, and more.

INNOVATION @ IMECE:

Things to Look for in 2015

Stop. Registration Time.

[Registration is open](#) for IMECE 2015. Don't miss this chance to save as much as \$150 on registration rates if you register by August 10.

New Track Plenary Speakers Announced

The 2015 program continues to expand, as we confirm new plenary speakers for our technical tracks:

Biomedical & Biotechnology Engineering: [Jeffrey Sheldon](#), CitareTx

Mechanics of Solids, Structures and Fluids: [Gang Bao](#), Rice University, [Brice Lecampion](#), Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne

Transportation Systems: [Saeed Barbat](#), Ford Motor Company

Awards Preview

The recognition of the excellence of an engineer's work by his or her peers is one of the greatest rewards for accomplishment. By presenting these individuals with tokens of excellence, the Society brings the character and importance of the engineer's work to the attention of the public.

[Check out some of the individuals who will be recognized at IMECE 2015:](#)

- Members' and Students' Luncheon
- President's Luncheon

- Heat Transfer Luncheon
- Electronic & Photonic Packaging Division Wine & Cheese Reception
- Materials Division Reception
- Thurston Lecture
- Applied Mechanics Dinner

In the World of Interdisciplinary Mechanical Engineering: Working Together to Build Drought Resiliency

[Find out](#) how researchers recognize the importance of interdisciplinary dialogue needed to make engineering research effective and move forward.

How to Make 3D Printing Affordable

[Read more](#) about the latest technologies in 3D printing and how we continue to impact Energy Innovation for the Developing World

[See how](#) finding locally appropriate devices and machinery that will work for specific communities can present challenge

B. HEALTH 1. PLAGUE, ANIMAL - USA (09): (COLORADO), MULE DEER, PRAIRIE DOG

A ProMED-mail post

<<http://www.promedmail.org>>

ProMED-mail is a program of the

International Society for Infectious Diseases <<http://www.isid.org>>

[1]

Date: 26 Jun 2015

Source: The Denver Post [edited]

<http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_28391254/el-paso-county-confirms-mule-deer-carried-first>

El Paso County Public Health officials Friday [26 Jun 2015] confirmed the area's 1st case of the plague this year [2015], saying a mule deer found on 19 Jun 2015 tested positive for the disease.

Officials are cautioning residents in the Pleasant Valley neighborhood, on Colorado Springs' west side, to take precautions.

Notification of the positive test came Friday [26 Jun 2015].

The El Paso County case comes on the heels of at least 2 other incidents of plague in recent days; a 16-year-old high school baseball player from Poudre High School died on 8 Jun 2015 after contracting a rare strain of the disease. Also on Friday [26 Jun 2015], a parking area in Lakewood's Bear Creek Lake Park was shut down by plague connected to a prairie dog colony.

Plague is a bacterial disease transmitted to humans by the bite of an infected flea, or by handling an infected animal. Taking steps to avoid flea exposure will help prevent spread of the disease.

In humans, the symptoms of plague infection are high fever, chills, headache, extreme fatigue and tender or swollen lymph glands. If you experience these symptoms, contact your physician.

Plague is endemic in El Paso County, and precautions to prevent plague should always be taken. El Paso County's last reported human case occurred in 1991; officials said they will monitor plague activity in the neighborhood and respond as appropriate.

[Byline: Anthony Cotton]

Communicated by:

ProMED-mail from HealthMap Alerts

<promed@promedmail.org>

[2]

Date: 26 Jun 2015

Source: The Denver Post [edited]

<http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_28390231/prairie-dog-plague-shuts-down-part-bear-creek>

A parking area in Lakewood's Bear Creek Lake Park has been shut down by plague connected to a prairie dog colony. The unpaved, overflow parking lot at the park, 15 600 W. Morrison Road, has been closed the past week, according to a Lakewood media release.

Jefferson County Public Health confirmed the presence of plague in the popular park. Crews have dusted prairie dog holes in the area to kill fleas, which carry and transmit the plague, the release said.

The city is not aware of any humans who have contracted the plague from the park's prairie dog colonies.

Park visitors are urged to follow posted directions and closures, and to keep dogs on a leash and away from marked areas.

[Byline: Kieran Nicholson]

Communicated by:

ProMED-mail Rapporteur Joe Dudley

[Plague, caused by *Yersinia pestis*, is enzootic among rodents in the western United States. Humans can be infected through 1) the bite of an infected flea carried by a rodent or, rarely, other animals; 2) direct contact with contaminated tissues; or 3) in rare cases, inhalation of respiratory secretions from infected people or animals.

Plague is a potential bioterrorism agent. Human infections are rare but can be life-threatening. The case fatality rate of plague depends on the clinical presentation (that is, bubonic, septicemic, or pneumonic) and timing of initiation of antibiotic therapy; if untreated, the case fatality rate is over 50 per cent for bubonic plague and approaches 100 per cent for pneumonic plague. Rapid laboratory identification can help guide therapy.

Domestic cats and dogs can also contract plague from infective fleas.

They may carry infected fleas home to their owners. Cats may serve as a direct source of infection.

There are many flea treatments and repellents appropriate for pets available. Some products may be suitable for dogs but not cats, or may be suitable for an adult but not a younger animal. Be sure to consult your veterinarian, as some products may be toxic to cats, kittens, and puppies, even resulting in fatalities.

Clinical signs in pets involve a localized swelling, such as under the jaw in cats, but also in the inguinal region or under the front leg (the armpit, if you will), lethargy, anorexia, and fever. Please take your pet to a veterinarian if you notice any abnormalities.

Veterinarians should protect themselves by wearing gloves when examining these swellings. A bubo that ruptures may infect the veterinarian or even the pet owner if the pet owner is the one palpating the swelling.

Another form of the disease is the respiratory form. Cats may acquire this form and can spread it to their owners or the veterinarians through infected expiratory droplets. People are also prone to the respiratory infection.

You should also be aware that the fleas that hitchhike into your home via a pet vehicle can also transmit disease to you, the owner, or caretaker of the pet. Sleeping in the same bed with dogs has been associated with plague in enzootic areas. Plague patients with no history of exposure to rodents can be infected by *Y. pestis* if their pets carry infected rodent fleas into the home. Veterinarians always should recommend flea control to dog and cat owners.

Although plague is relatively rare in wild ungulates, this report (J Wildl Dis. 2008 Oct;44(4):983-7. Ocular plague (*Yersinia pestis*) in mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) from Wyoming and Oregon. Edmunds DR1, Williams ES, O'Toole D, Mills KW, Boerger-Fields AM, Jaeger PT, Bildfell RJ, Dearing P, Cornish TE) describes ocular lesions associated with *Yersinia pestis* infection in 3 free-ranging mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) from Wyoming and Oregon, USA. All deer were observed antemortem and seemed to be blind. Post-mortem examination revealed gross lesions of bilateral keratoconjunctivitis and/or panophthalmitis in the 1st 2 deer, but only partial retinal detachment in the 3rd deer. Microscopically, all deer had moderate-to-severe necrotizing and fibrinopurulent endophthalmitis and varying degrees of keratoconjunctivitis with abundant intralesional coccobacilli. The lesions in the 1st (D1) and 3rd deer (D3) suggested an acute course, whereas those in the 2nd deer (D2) were subacute to chronic. *Yersinia pestis* was isolated from ocular tissue swabs or ocular fluids of D1 and D2, and it was demonstrated by immunohistochemistry within ocular lesions of D1 and D3. Although plague does not seem to be a major cause of morbidity or mortality in free-ranging mule deer, keratoconjunctivitis or pinkeye is relatively common in these animals, and plague should be considered as a differential diagnosis in such cases, with appropriate precautions taken to protect human and animal health. Parts of this comment have been excerpted from: CDC. Notes from the field: 2 cases of human plague -- Oregon, 2010. MMWR, 25 Feb 2011; 60(07);214 and the above referenced article <<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6007a4.htm>>. - Mod.TG A HealthMap/ProMED-mail map can be accessed at: <<http://healthmap.org/promed/p/209>>.]

COMMENTS

A. THE WEEK THAT WAS: 2015-06-20(JUNE 20, 2015)

BY KEN HAAPALA, PRESIDENT, SCIENCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY PROJECT (SEPP)

The Encyclical: Early in the week, an Italian newspaper leaked a version of the Pope Francis' highly anticipated encyclical letter on the environment and climate change. After a flurry concerning the unauthorized release, a final document has been released, which is under review. [There is a bit of irony here because Galileo wrote his scientific works in "vulgar" Italian rather than "scientific" Latin.] The Pope's encyclical does not advance science. It offers no empirical evidence that 20th century warming resulted from human carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions (and other greenhouse gas emissions). The primary, critical hypothesis needed to be tested is that CO₂ emissions are causing dangerous global warming, now called climate change. The pope's advisors do not advance empirical evidence supporting the hypothesis. The failure of the globe to warm is more than sufficient evidence that there are problems with the hypothesis. Local and regional climate change from land use changes are a secondary issues.

The Letter states: "The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth." Environmental degradation has long been a major problem, which, for generations, has been made more visible by urbanization. Western, industrialized societies are making great strides in reducing environmental degradation, in a large part thanks to increased prosperity through the use of fossil fuels. The Letter calls for reducing the dangers of climate change by reducing carbon dioxide emissions, requiring diminished use of fossil fuels. Yet, there is no empirical evidence advanced that CO₂ emissions increase climate change, which has been occurring for at least 1.5 billion years, long before multi-cell life. Denying use of fossil fuels to the extreme poor is hardly a way of alleviating poverty. Many societies in Asia, including China and India, are showing great improvements, even with warts such as air pollution, in the overall health and living conditions of the general population through the use of fossil

fuels. Conspicuous consumption and waste may be undesirable, but excess is not justification for removing the necessary.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

We have at least to consider the possibility that the scientific establishment behind the global warming issue has been drawn into the trap of seriously overstating the climate problem—or, what is much the same thing, of seriously understating the uncertainties associated with the climate problem—in its effort

to promote the cause. It is a particularly nasty trap in the context of science, because it risks destroying, perhaps for centuries to come, the unique and hard-won reputation for honesty which is the basis for society's respect for scientific endeavour.

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

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

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

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

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

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

"COP 21 presents an opportunity we cannot afford to miss."

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

Real Arctic or Imaginary Arctic? Those who have read the writings of European or New World Arctic explorers and observers, and some of the records of the Hudson Bay Company, may be uncomfortable with the view expressed by the Climate Establishment that Arctic sea ice, under natural conditions,

provides a stable, predictable habitat, and that only recently has Arctic sea ice become unstable. Independent polar bear scientist Susan Crockford has a new paper challenging what she calls an Arctic Fallacy.

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

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

B. THE WEEK THAT WAS: 2015-06-27(JUNE 27, 2015) **By Ken Haapala, President, Science and Environmental Policy Project (SEPP)**

Delayed Offensive: On June 22, the White House and the EPA announced a new offensive on global warming, now called climate change. "The plan wraps in a handful of federal departments that deal with health, the environment or both, from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)."

The EPA report announcing the plan asserted global warming/climate change a dire threat to the economy and to human health. One of the bolder claims was that up to 57,000 Americans could die per year from poor air quality by 2100, if action is not taken now. "This report summarizes results from the Climate Change Impacts and Risks Analysis (CIRA) project, a peer-reviewed study comparing impacts in a future with significant global action on climate change to a future in which current greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise."

The EPA fails to establish that "poor air quality" is directly related to human-caused global warming. The report may be "peer reviewed" according to EPA standards, but its ancestry is suspect. The White House announcement coincided with an announcement by the Lancet Commission on Health and Climate Change of a new report "Health and climate change: policy responses to protect public health." This new Lancet report is based on an earlier study published on **May 16, 2009**. The earlier study is based on projections from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fourth Assessment Report (IPCC, AR-4), published in 2007.

The 2007 IPCC report is dated, some could call obsolete. According to the Summary for Policymakers, the only natural component forcing climate change is solar irradiance, amounting to 0.06 to 0.30 Watts per meter squared (units). Total net anthropogenic (human) forcing is 10 to 40 times larger than the smaller estimate of natural forcing, ranging from 0.6 to 2.4 units, and 2 to 8 times larger than the greater estimate of natural forcing. The estimates for carbon dioxide alone vary from 1.49 to 1.83 units or 25 to 30 times larger than smaller estimate of natural forcing, and 5 to 6 times larger than the greater estimate of natural forcing.

It is in the atmosphere that the greenhouse effect takes place, and atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO₂) concentrations continue to rise. As shown by satellite data, independently verified by weather balloon

data, there has been no statistically significant warming of the atmosphere for over a decade, perhaps for 18 years. The estimates of strong CO₂-caused warming may be in error.

Recently, over 50 papers have appeared giving various explanations of why temperatures have not responded to increases in CO₂, as projected in the 2007 report. Most of the explanations involve natural causes not considered in the 2007 report. Why the Lancet Commission on Health and Climate Change should use this report based on outdated science, which can be called obsolete, to suggest policy responses can only be answered by the authors of the report.

What makes the new report by the Lancet Commission on Health and Climate Change particularly ironic is that a May 20, 2015 report by another Lancet group stated that human mortality from cold weather events is almost 20 times the mortality caused by warm weather events. The May report was based on data, not on non-validated, speculative climate models.

Similarly, the EPA report relies on out-of-date projections of ever increasing temperatures, which are not occurring, and include increasing sea level rise, which is not occurring, to make highly speculative claims of the benefits of governments controlling emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. In the report, costs of abandoning fossil fuels are largely ignored.

The new effort by the Administration and by the Lancet Commission on Health and Climate Change serves as a reminder of failed government-sponsored predictions in the past and should make one skeptical of entities that rely on them. See links under Un-Science or Non-Science? TWTW May 30, 2015, and http://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/ar4/syr/en/spms3.html

Institutional Credibility: One of the hallmarks of the US government has been the credibility of federal agencies. There may be policy differences, such as issues of national defense; but, in general, government agencies have been honorable in their reports to the public. The assumption of the Federal Courts of Appeal is that reports by government agencies have been scrupulously prepared. Increasingly, SEPP and others are questioning if this assumption has merit, particularly when it applies to the EPA, and certain other agencies.

Alan Carlin, a long-time environmental activist and senior analyst with the EPA, describes his transition to one who openly questions the directions the EPA and the environmental movement are taking. In particular, now, the agency and the environmental movement are driven more by ideology than by data. Programs are instituted to mold, and agree with public opinion and perception, rather than to address environmental needs and concerns. *Environmentalism Gone Mad: How a Sierra Club Activist and Senior EPA Analyst Discovered a Radical Green Energy Fantasy* is ably reviewed Larry Bell (below).

The EPA's health pronouncements are being openly questioned in Congress, particularly those pronouncements that are repeated multiple times, with no new research, and dependent on research the EPA refuses to release to the public. Will similar questions arise with the latest climate offensive by the Administration, to include questioning claims by HHS and CDC?

For example, the Centers for Disease Control, and its predecessors, were instrumental in the rapid increase in life expectancy at birth in the US during the 20th century, from about 47 years in 1900 to 77 years in 2000 (all races, both sexes). Will the CDC forego the institution credibility it built in understanding and preventing diseases in order to promote vague claims of health issues arising from global warming? Has the leadership of CDC endorsed this concept, given global warming is not happening, and politicians assert, without substantiation, and that they can prevent climate change by controlling CO₂ emissions?

Those responsible in these agencies should realize that once institutional credibility is lost, it will be difficult to regain. See links under Un-Science or Non-Science? and

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus/2011/022.pdf>

Lowering Standards –NASA: In keeping with the Administration’s war on climate, which it does not understand because it does not recognize the significant natural influences, NASA has announced detailed global climate change projections and the data showing how temperature and rainfall patterns worldwide may change through the year 2100 because of growing concentrations of greenhouse gases in Earth’s atmosphere.

According to the press release: *“The dataset, which is available to the public, shows projected changes worldwide on a regional level in response to different scenarios of increasing carbon dioxide simulated by 21 climate models. The high-resolution data, which can be viewed on a daily timescale at the scale of individual cities and towns, will help scientists and planners conduct climate risk assessments to better understand local and global effects of hazards, such as severe drought, floods, heat waves and losses in agriculture productivity.*

“This NASA dataset integrates actual measurements from around the world with data from climate simulations created by the international Fifth Coupled Model Intercomparison Project. These climate simulations used the best physical models of the climate system available to provide forecasts of what the global climate might look like under two different greenhouse gas emissions scenarios: a “business as usual” scenario based on current trends and an “extreme case” with a significant increase in emissions. “The NASA climate projections provide a detailed view of future temperature and precipitation patterns around the world at a 15.5 mile (25 kilometer) resolution, covering the time period from 1950 to 2100. The 11-terabyte dataset provides daily estimates of maximum and minimum temperatures and precipitation over the entire globe.”

Neither NASA, nor any government entity, has bothered to verify and validate any global climate model. Perhaps the current leadership of NASA believes the entire Apollo program was simulated on the backlot of a movie studio, because the Apollo mission would not have succeeded without verification and validation of the model simulations. See links under Lowering Standards.

Models v. Data: Roy Spencer reports that John Christy and he, keepers of the UAH satellite data set, calculate that with the El Nino forecasts and the new, controversial Karlized surface data set, 2015 may become the warmest year in the surface dataset. Yet, the temperatures will be well below average forecasts by the global climate models since 1979, demonstrating that use of these models has little significance.

The Karlized surface data is so named after Tom Karl, director of the NOAA’s National Climatic Data Center, who led a team to modify sea surface data by making the superior data compatible with the inferior data. NOAA’s credibility continues to decline. See link under Models v. Observations.

DDP: With the Administration making unsubstantiated claims of dire human health consequences from global warming, which is not occurring, the title and timing of the upcoming annual meeting and conference of the Doctors for Disaster Preparedness could not have been better: *“Myths, Superstitions, and Real Threats Confronting America.”*No doubt there will be some lively discussions on the directions the medical community, and its institutions, are taking. See comments in above.

Regulating Climate Change: Martin Livermore discusses how some courts perceive Human Rights ,going far beyond the original intention of the framers of the Human Rights Convention. A Dutch court has ruled in favor of plaintiffs who sued the government for failing to protect Dutch citizens against climate change. What would the court rule if a new ice age appears in the horizon? See link under Questioning the Orthodoxy

A Solar Cooling? Members of the UK MET Office and others wrote a paper on the current decline in solar activity after a several-decade period of relatively high solar activity. The decline in activity may be

prolonged and may become a grand solar minimum. Solar scientists from Russia and some in Germany have been suggesting such a decline for several years, but have largely been ignored by the Climate Establishment, which includes the MET. The approach by the MET to the decline is amusing in two ways: 1) the effects will be regional; and 2) the effects will not overwhelm human-caused global warming. The claim of a regional, not global effect is ironic. The IPCC has tried to eliminate the Little Ice Age as a global occurrence. The Third Assessment Report (AR-3) in 2001, featured Mr. Mann's hockey-stick, which was the product of very scanty, poor quality data and inappropriate statistics, combined with elimination of data that contradicted the hockey-stick. In subsequent efforts, the IPCC argued that the Little Ice Age was principally European and not global, ignoring data from North America, South America, Asia, etc. that contradicted the claim.

The new paper argues that a cooling would be largely confined in the northern part of the northern hemisphere. But that is where the land masses are and where a cooling would be most pronounced. Surely, no one argues that another ice age will start in the tropics.

The claim that a cooling would not overwhelm human-caused (CO₂) global warming is highly questionable. As stated in the above discussion of AR-4, the IPCC calculated that the effect of solar activity on late 20th century temperatures is very small. It may have been grossly underestimated, with the effect of CO₂ grossly overestimated. If so, a marked decline in solar activity may produce a significant cooling in the critical grain-producing regions of the world resulting in poor harvests. See links under Science: Is the Sun Rising?, Commentary: Is the Sun Rising?, and

http://www.grida.no/publications/other/ipcc_tar/

Number of the Week: 1.17% Green? For about a decade, some US politicians have been bragging about the growth of green jobs in energy. The US Department of Interior produced a document promoting its activities and the employment that its activities entail for 2014. The report claims that the sea activities resulted in 1.15 million jobs in energy and materials. Reading beyond the headlines, about 13,000 (1.17%) of the energy jobs are in renewables such as solar and wind and about 1.1 million are in fossil fuels. Guess which types of jobs the Administration promotes and which types it is attempting to destroy. The Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, does not have a policy for permitting deep underground horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing (fracking) for oil and gas. See link under Non-Green Jobs.

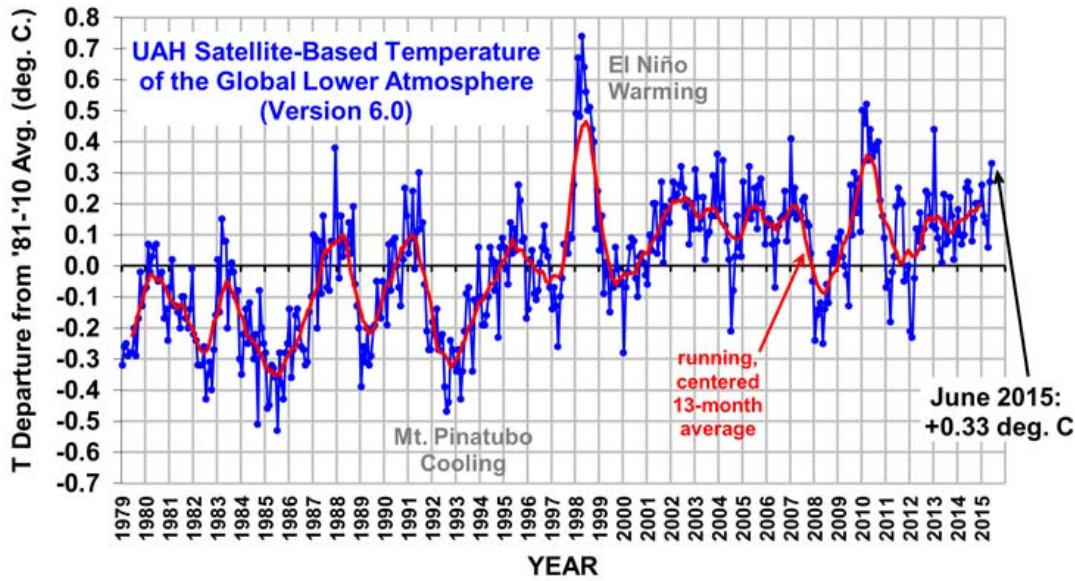
<http://www.sepp.org/twtwfiles/2015/TWTW%206-27-15.pdf>

C. UAH V6.0 GLOBAL TEMPERATURE UPDATE FOR JUNE, 2015: +0.33 DEG. C

July 6 st, 2015

NOTE: This is the third monthly update with our new Version 6.0 dataset. Differences versus the old Version 5.6 dataset are discussed [here](#).

The Version 6.0 global average lower tropospheric temperature (LT) anomaly for June, 2015 is +0.33 deg. C, up a little from the May, 2015 value of +0.27 deg. C (click for full size version):



The global, hemispheric, and tropical LT anomalies from the 30-year (1981-2010) average for the last 6 months are:

YR MO GLOBE NH SH TROPICS

2015 1 +0.26 +0.38 +0.14 +0.12
 2015 2 +0.16 +0.26 +0.05 -0.07
 2015 3 +0.14 +0.23 +0.05 +0.02
 2015 4 +0.06 +0.15 -0.02 +0.07
 2015 5 +0.27 +0.33 +0.21 +0.27
 2015 6 +0.31 +0.36 +0.26 +0.46

Notice the strong warming in the tropics over the last 2 months, consistent with the strengthening El Nino in the Pacific.

The global image for June, 2015 should be available in the next several days [here](#).

The new Version 6 files, which should be updated soon, are located here:

Lower Troposphere: <http://vortex.nsstc.uah.edu/data/msu/v6.0beta/tlt>

Mid-Troposphere: <http://vortex.nsstc.uah.edu/data/msu/v6.0beta/tmt>

Tropopause: <http://vortex.nsstc.uah.edu/data/msu/v6.0beta/ttp>

Lower Stratosphere: <http://vortex.nsstc.uah.edu/data/msu/v6.0beta/tls>

Posted in [Blog Article](#) | [22 Comments](#) »

Roy Spencer

D. MEET THE MUTANTS – THE LATEST GOVERNMENT EFFORT TO DEFEAT CLIMATE CHANGE

Guest essay by Eric Worrall

It would be wrong to think that the governments of the world are solely focused on reducing CO2. Just in case the Paris conference fails to deliver, our selfless government scientists are spending your money, exploring a diverse range of strange mutant varieties of every day farm animals, to ensure...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/07/01/meet-the-mutants-the-latest-government-project-to-defeat-climate-change/>

E. WITH POLLUTION LEVELS DROPPING, IS SMALL PARTICLE AIR POLLUTION REALLY KILLING AMERICANS?

Guest essay by Steve Goreham

Unnoticed by most citizens, last week the United States Senate introduced the “Secret Science Reform Act of 2015.” The act is aimed at the Environmental Protection Agency’s practice of refusing to disclose data from scientific studies that support new pollution regulations. The act indirectly questions the EPA assertion that Americans...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/07/01/with-pollution-levels-dropping-is-small-particle-air-pollution-really-killing-americans/>

F. CLIMATE CRAZINESS OF THE WEEK: CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY PETITIONS EPA TO LIST CO2 AS A ‘TOXIC SUBSTANCE’

From the “everybody breathes out poison” department.

WUWT reader “Hell_Is_Like_Newark” writes: The Center for Biological Diversity has issued a petition to get CO2 listed as a toxic substance. CO2 will join the ranks of dioxin, cyanide, etc. For Immediate Release, June 30, 2015 Contact: Miyoko Sakashita, (415) 632-5308, miyoko@biologicaldiversity.org Legal Petition Urges EPA to Save...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/07/01/climate-craziness-of-the-week-center-for-biological-diversity-petitions-epa-to-list-co2-as-a-toxic-substance/>

G. THAT DIDN'T TAKE LONG: NORTH & SOUTH CAROLINA SHARK ATTACKS BLAMED ON GLOBAL WARMING

Guest Post by Bob Tisdale There has been a series of shark attacks off the Carolina coasts. As of last count, the number is 11 shark bites since mid-May. As one might have expected, from mainstream media’s let’s-see-what-we-can-blame-on-global-warming department comes the CBSNews article “Strange” spike in shark attacks puzzles experts. The news report includes (my...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/07/03/that-didnt-take-long-north-south-carolina-shark-attacks-blamed-on-global-warming/>

H. CLIMATE CRAZINESS OF THE WEEK: CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY PETITIONS EPA TO LIST CO2 AS A ‘TOXIC SUBSTANCE’

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<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/07/01/climate-craziness-of-the-week-center-for-biological-diversity-petitions-epa-to-list-co2-as-a-toxic-substance/>

Editor’s Note: Liquids become acid when the pH > 7 units. None of the oceans currently exceed 7 pH units, thus the use of the term “acid” in reference to Ocean water is technically incorrect. GHH

I. CLIMATE CHANGE & OCEAN ACIDIFICATION SET TO CAUSE GLOBAL SEAFOOD CRISIS BY 2050

Another computer model.

Seafood supply altered by climate change From the University of British Columbia: The global supply of seafood is set to change substantially and many people will not be able to enjoy the same quantity and dishes in the future due to climate change and ocean acidification, according to UBC scientists. These findings...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/07/01/climate-change-ocean-acidification-set-to-cause-global-seafood-crisis-by-2050/>

J. DEBUNKING BLOOMBERG'S 'ALARMING' CLIMATE GRAPH: ARE WE REALLY ON TRACK FOR 4°C GLOBAL WARMING BY 2100?

By Christopher Monckton of Brenchley

David Burton has already done a wonderful deconstruction of Bloomberg's absurd global warming attribution graph, by Eric Roston and Blacki Migliozzi, contrived from data by the notoriously unreliable NASA GISS, purporting to demonstrate that 20th-century global warming was reely 'n' truly all caused by our sins of emission, honest it...

K. GOOD NEWS: POSITED GLOBAL WARMING WON'T KILL OFF OCEAN PHYTOPLANKTON

Ocean algae will cope well in varying climates, study shows From the UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH Tiny marine algae that play a critical role in supporting life on Earth may be better equipped to deal with future climate change than previously expected, research shows. Scientists investigated the likely future impact of changing environmental conditions on ocean...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/06/30/good-news-posed-global-warming-wont-kill-off-ocean-phytoplankton/>

L. INTERMITTENT GRID STORAGE

Posted on [July 1, 2015](#) | [139 Comments](#)

by Rud Istvan

From the utility grid perspective, a fundamental problem with wind and solar is intermittency. In the US, [wind](#) has a median capacity factor of 31%. In California's Mohave Desert, solar [PV](#) has a capacity factor of 23%. To make up the electricity supply difference during the rest of the time, grids must either add otherwise unnecessary backup generation, or flex base load generation (dropping below optimum output so the grid can accept the intermittent renewable input). At a minimum, flexing results in costly capital inefficiency. Otherwise unnecessary backup generation is even more costly.

<http://judithcurry.com/2015/07/01/intermittent-grid-storage/>

M. IMPACT OF AMO/PDO ON U.S. REGIONAL SURFACE TEMPERATURES

Posted on [June 30, 2015](#) | [138 Comments](#)

by Judith Curry

The conclusion is that the oscillatory mode (mostly due to the AMO) (Atlantic multidecadal oscillation)

is significantly more important than the monotonic mode (Pacific decadal oscillation) (mostly due to increasing atmospheric CO2) in explaining the 1980–2000 U.S. temperature increase. – Bruce Kurtz

The failure of global climate models to simulate regional climate variability on decadal time scales suggests that the multidecadal ocean oscillations such as the [AMO](#) and [PDO](#) might play a dominant role in determining climate variability on these scales.

This issue is addressed in an interesting new paper published in *PLOS One*:

12. A new paper appeared [in Climatic Change this week by Visser et al.](#) which looks at disasters and climate change (open access [here](#)). Like other studies and the IPCC assessment, Visser et al. find no trends in normalized disaster losses, looking at several metrics of economic and human losses.

They conclude:

The absence of trends in normalized disaster burden indicators appears to be largely consistent with the absence of trends in extreme weather events. This conclusion is more qualitative for the number of people killed. As a consequence, vulnerability is also largely stable over the period of analysis.

The top line conclusion here is not surprising, though it is interesting because it uses independent methods on largely independent data. It is consistent with previous data and analyses (e.g., Bouwer 2011, Neumayer and Bartel 2011, Mohleji and Pielke 2014) as well as with the conclusions of the recent IPCC assessments (SREX and AR5).

<http://judithcurry.com/2015/06/30/impact-of-amopdo-on-u-s-regional-surface-temperatures/>

N. ON THE RELATION BETWEEN WEATHER-RELATED DISASTER IMPACTS, VULNERABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

A new paper appeared [in Climatic Change this week by Visser et al.](#) which looks at disasters and climate change (open access [here](#)). Like other studies and the IPCC assessment, Visser et al. find no “trends in normalized disaster losses”, looking at several metrics of economic and human losses.

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<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10584-014-1179-z/fulltext.html>

O. EL NIÑO BEGINS TO CURTAIL THE PAUSE

Global temperature update: no warming for 18 years 6 months By Christopher Monckton of Brenchley For 222 months, since January 1997, there has been no global warming at all (Fig. 1). This month’s RSS temperature – now beginning to feel the effects of the current el Niño, which will eventually cause temporary warming – shows...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/07/02/el-nio-begins-to-curtail-the-pause/>

P. NEW PEW CENTER STUDY FINDS GLOBAL WARMING TO BE A MOSTLY POLITICAL ISSUE

The public's political views are strongly linked to attitudes on environmental issues. But political views are not a major factor on biomedical, food safety and space issues. July 1, 2015 (Washington) – Public attitudes about climate change and energy policy are strongly intertwined with political party affiliation and ideology. But politics play a more modest...

Q. EPA CRITICS SEE CARBON LESSON IN HIGH COURT'S MERCURY RULING

July 1, 2015 - CQ News

Opponents of the Obama administration's Clean Power Plan are pointing to Monday's Supreme Court decision rejecting the EPA's mercury regulation as a prime example of why Congress or the judicial branch should preclude the agency's climate rules' implementation while they're challenged in court. Industry and coal-heavy states got a win on paper at the high court, with justices ruling 5-4 that the agency improperly ignored cost considerations when deciding to regulate mercury emissions from power plants. But the rule's impact has already been felt; since it went into effect in April nearly two-thirds of the affected plants have complied without seeking extensions, according to the National Association of Clean Air Agencies.

Lawmakers are already citing the outcome as a cautionary tale heading into a multi-year challenge to the EPA's carbon pollution limits on new and existing power plants. The rules are expected to be finalized this summer. The limited practical effect of the Supreme Court decision on mercury, which will require EPA to at minimum revise part of its rule, gives opponents ammunition to press for states to not have to comply with the climate regulations until judges decide their fate.

The EPA's carbon rules would set state-specific carbon-reduction goals. Utilities would strive to meet them by switching from coal to cleaner-burning fuels.

"While much of the damage of this regulation has already been done, the ruling serves as a critical reminder to every governor contemplating the administration's demands to impose more regressive – and likely illegal – regulations that promise even more middle-class pain," Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said in a statement. "Clearly, there is no reason to subject their states to such unnecessary pain before the courts have even had a chance to weigh in, especially if the Supreme Court simply ends up tossing the regulation out as we saw today."

Industry groups and states that are likely to sue EPA over the Clean Power Plan will likely point to the mercury regulation's impact on coal-fired plants when pushing for a stay of the climate rules while the court process plays out.

The mercury rule "is a pretty egregious example of a case where a lot of things have happened that really are, you know, irreversible because the rule stayed in effect during the litigation," said Jeff Holmstead, an EPA air official during the George W. Bush administration who now lobbies for utilities. "I think that it really does help folks who are not only going to be challenging the Clean Power Plan, but asking the courts to stay it during the litigation," he added.

Congressional Republicans and coal-state Democrats are pushing for a stay legislatively. The House passed a bill (HR 2042) last week to allow states to delay implementing the carbon limits on existing plants until the courts decide on their legality. The legislation also permits states to avoid compliance entirely if they find the rule would negatively impact electric reliability and rates.

"Unfortunately, this ruling comes after the rule has already [taken] a toll, with a number of power plants shuttered and many jobs lost because of the EPA's unlawful action," House Energy and Commerce Chairman Fred Upton, R-Mich., and Energy and Power Subcommittee Chairman Edward Whitfield, R-Ky., said in a joint statement. "The ruling further underscores the need to extend the compliance requirements for the pending [existing plant] rule until the numerous legal questions surrounding it are fully resolved."

The White House threatened to veto the measure, and officials have made it clear that Obama has no plans to forsake regulations that he views as the cornerstone of his legacy on climate change. All eyes then will be on the federal appeals court when it eventually considers lawsuits against the standards. A stay of the regulation pending review is “not common, but it’s not unprecedented either,” Holmstead said. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit paused implementation of the EPA’s cross-state air pollution rule until after the Supreme Court upheld the agency’s approach to regulating toxic emissions that blow across state lines last year.

A Clean Power Plan delay likely wouldn’t have much effect in states that have already taken steps to cut carbon emissions and are inclined to seek further reductions. To be sure, many states run by governors who oppose the rule are still working on implementation plans to ensure that they have some strategy for emissions reductions as the regulation’s future is decided.

But a stay would likely help coal-dependent states that have already voiced intense opposition to the rule slow-walk any major cuts to their carbon footprints. And any hiccup could significantly impact the U.S. pledge to the United Nations to reduce carbon pollution by at least 26 percent below 2005 levels by 2025 – a target that’s predicated on using existing laws and authorities to achieve climate goals.

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed within this article are the views of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of ASME.

R. 2°C OR NOT 2°C—THAT IS THE QUESTION

This note by The Viscount Monckton of Brenchley uses methods and data exclusively from mainstream climate science to constrain the interval of 21st-century global warming. In 2009 the Copenhagen climate summit asserted, on little evidence, that global warming of 2 C° compared with pre-industrial temperature [equivalent to 1.1 C° above today] would be dangerous. The...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/07/04/2c-or-not-2c-that-is-the-question/>

S. A KEY ADMISSION REGARDING CLIMATE MEMES

Posted on [July 3, 2015](#) | [313 comments](#)

by Andy West

Lewandowsky and Oreskes raise the prospect that via the agency of memes, the climate Consensus with its high certainty of danger could be a socially generated artifact and not a scientific fact.

<http://judithcurry.com/2015/07/03/a-key-admission-regarding-climate-memes/#more-19208>

T. HEAT WAVES: EXACERBATED BY GLOBAL WARMING?

Posted on [July 2, 2015](#) | [365 comments](#)

by Judith Curry

Western Europe is on track for a potential record breaking heat wave. Should any of this be blamed on human-caused global warming?

<http://judithcurry.com/2015/07/02/heat-waves-exacerbated-by-global-warming/#more-19171>

U. AN ECOLOGIST’S PERSPECTIVE ON POPE FRANCIS’S ENCYCLICAL LETTER

Guest Contributor: Dan Botkin

Throughout my career as an ecological scientist, I have been fascinated by the connections between the Judeo-Christian religious beliefs and modern environmental science, and have written about this in various scientific articles and several of my books. So I have been especially intrigued that on June 18 the pope published his...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/07/04/an-ecologists-perspective-on-pope-franciss-encyclical-letter/>

V. OBAMA'S RENEWABLE-ENERGY FANTASY

Bill Gates recently noted that the cost of decarbonization using today's technology is 'beyond astronomical.'

July 5, 2015 6:39 p.m. ET

On June 30, one day after the Supreme Court struck down the Environmental Protection Agency's regulation of mercury emissions from power plants, President Obama committed the United States to the goal of generating 20% of its electricity from renewable sources by 2030. This would nearly triple the amount of wind- and solar-generated electricity on the national grid.

The EPA ran afoul of the law by failing to conduct a cost-benefit analysis before it acted to reduce mercury emissions from coal-power plants. There is no objective cost-benefit analysis that could justify the president's target for renewable energy.

Recently [Bill Gates](#) explained in an interview with the [Financial Times](#) why current renewables are dead-end technologies. They are unreliable. Battery storage is inadequate. Wind and solar output depends on the weather. The cost of decarbonization using today's technology is "beyond astronomical," Mr. Gates concluded.

[Google](#) engineers came to a [similar conclusion](#) last year. After seven years of investigation, they found no way to get the cost of renewables competitive with coal. "Unfortunately," the engineers reported, "most of today's clean generation sources can't provide power that is both distributed and dispatchable"—that is, electricity that can be ramped up and down quickly. "Solar panels, for example, can be put on every rooftop, but can't provide power if the sun isn't shining."

If Mr. Obama gets his way, the U.S. will go down the rocky road traveled by the European Union. In 2007 the EU adopted the target of deriving 20% of its energy consumption from renewables by 2020. Europe is therefore around a decade ahead of the U.S. in meeting a more challenging target—the EU's 20% is of total energy, not just electricity. To see what the U.S. might look like, Europe is a good place to start. Germany passed its first renewable law in 1991 and already has spent \$351 billion (€400 billion) on its so-called Energy Transition. The German [environment minister](#) has estimated a cost of up to \$877 billion (€1 trillion) by the end of the 2030s. With an economy nearly five times as large as Germany's and generating nearly seven times the amount of electricity (but a less demanding renewables target), this suggests the cost of meeting Mr. Obama's pledge is of the order of \$2 trillion.

There are other, indirect costs to consider. [Germany](#) is the world's second largest exporter of merchandise, behind China and ahead of the U.S. But high and rising energy costs are driving German companies to locate new capacity overseas.

[BASF](#), which operates the world's largest integrated chemical facility, is shifting more production to America. "With such a huge difference in energy prices, the decision is clear that the money is now going there," a [BASF executive](#) told a meeting of EU industry ministers last year. BASF has opened plants in Malaysia as well as Louisiana.

Advocates of renewable energy such as [Deutsche Bank](#) anticipate that electricity from solar panels will cost the same as electricity from the grid (so-called grid parity) in the not-too-distant future. But none suggest that solar can do so now without subsidies. And as Germany, Britain and other European countries are finding out, overt subsidies are only one part of the cost of renewables.

Most damaging is the effect of renewable mandates on the power stations necessary to ensure the stability of the electric grid and balance supply and demand. Even a modest proportion of wind- and solar-generated electricity prevents gas- and coal-powered stations from recovering their fixed costs. This has led to the [proposed shuttering](#) of Irsching in Bavaria, one of Germany's newest and most efficient gas-fired plants. So unless conventional capacity also is subsidized, at some point the lights will

start going out. European politicians have no answer to a problem they created, and it's a safe bet the EPA doesn't either.

One unintended consequence of the fracking boom is the displacement of coal by natural gas—a cheaper and more effective way to cut carbon-dioxide emissions. A 2014 [Brookings Institution](#) study estimated that replacing coal with modern combined-cycle gas turbines cuts 2.6 times more carbon-dioxide emissions than using wind does, and cuts four times as many emissions as solar.

That's because generating electricity with low-energy density, weather-dependent technology is very inefficient. It requires far more plant and equipment and land to harvest an equivalent amount of power than fossil fuels. And that's not counting the investment in fossil-fuel capacity to provide on-demand power when the wind isn't blowing or the sun doesn't shine.

There is no rational justification for policies favoring renewables. In 1972 environmentalist guru E.F. Schumacher wrote "Small Is Beautiful," taking as his guide what he called Buddhist economics, which he'd discovered in Burma. A civilization built on renewable resources, he claimed, was superior to one built on nonrenewable resources. "The former bears the sign of life," Schumacher wrote, "while the latter bears the sign of death."

Mr. Obama's renewable target is a triumph for Shumacher's Buddhist economics—which amounts to being poor and staying poor. It does not produce jobs, growth or prosperity.

Mr. Darwall is the author of "The Age of Global Warming: A History" (Quartet, 2013).

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/obamas-renewable-energy-fantasy-1436104555>

W. COMMENTERS EXCORIATE A SCIENCE PAPER THAT DENIES GLOBAL WARMING 'PAUSE'

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[NOAA](#) recently manipulated their temperature data in an obvious manner to eliminate the 18 year pause clearly shown in actual data. The procedure is unquestionably lacking in a basis as it raises high quality sea surface temperature data from [ARGO](#) buoys based on less accurate ship intake data from earlier years. Fred Singer (American physicist and emeritus professor of environmental science at the University of Virginia.) comments on this paper in America Thinker.

Don Shaw

"... the most inconvenient truth for global warming theorists has been the absence of any statistically significant warming trend in the past 18 years – in spite of rapidly rising atmospheric levels of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide. Many are simply ignoring this unanticipated result – for example, the encyclical letter issued by Pope Francis on June 18. Conventional climate science, as employed in [IPCC](#) models, has been unable to explain these observations.

Coming to the rescue, Dr. Tom Karl, head of [NOAA's](#) National Climate Data center ([NCDC](#)), asserts that the temperature plateau (aka "pause" or "hiatus") is simply an artifact of the data. After he and colleagues adjust some recent [SST](#) (sea-surface temp) readings, they claim an uninterrupted warming trend in the 21st century. Their paper appeared in *Science-Express* on June 4 and in *Science* mag on June 26.

The Karl claims gave rise to many published comments, mostly negative. *There was not a single comment in support of the Karl paper.* Some simply addressed technical details – the fact that atmospheric temperature data, from satellites as well as from balloon-borne [radiosondes](#), have shown no warming trend. But many other comments questioned the good faith of the authors and implied political motives."

This study has already been debunked by Richard [Lindzen](#): <http://www.cato.org/blog/there-no-hiatus-global-warming-after-all> [Tisdale](#) and Watts: <http://www.powerlineblog.com/archives/2015/06/new->

[paper-on-the-pause-is-...](#) Judith Curry: <http://judithcurry.com/2015/06/04/has-noaa-busted-the-pause-in-global-wa...> Ross McKittrick: <http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/06/04/a-first-look-at-possible-artifacts...>
http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2015/07/commenters_excoriate_a_emscienceem_paper_that_denies_global_warming_pause.html#ixzz3f7eZOhDT

W. NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR PRESTIGIOUS AAEES AWARDS

Due by July 15



Each year the Academy holds its Annual Excellence in Environmental Engineering and Science (E3S) Awards Conference and Luncheon in Washington, D.C. For those of you who have ever attended this premier event, you are fully aware of the prestige that comes with receiving one of the Academy's awards.

Nominations are now open for the 2016. The individual awards include:

- [The Edward J. Cleary Award](#) for expertise in professional practice, administrative excellence, and public service. Environmental engineers and scientists are eligible for this award.
- [The Gordon Maskew Fair Award](#) for achievements in the practice of environmental engineering and significant contributions to the quality of the world's environment. Only environmental engineers are eligible for this award.
- [The Stanley E. Kappe Award](#) for exhibiting outstanding leadership skills within the Academy's Board of Trustees and promoting greater recognition of the Academy and environmental engineering excellence.
- [The Honorary Member \(USA\)](#) and [International Honorary Member Awards](#) for environmental engineers and scientists who have attained a position of Eminence in the environmental and/or human health protection field.

[Click here to view the full criteria and download the nomination forms for these prestigious awards.](#)

Please submit your nominations to Sammi Olmo at JSOlmo@aaees.org no later than **July 15, 2015**.

In addition to these individual awards, the Academy offers a full awards program available to the membership. For more information, please click on this link

(<http://www.aaees.org/downloadcenter/AAEES AwardsSummary.pdf>) to download a summary of these programs.

Regards,
George