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Global warming (or “climate change”) is the most contentious and consequential issue of our era. President Barack Obama, perhaps to deflect attention from the many scandals circling his administration, is hyping the issue and ordering the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to implement new regulations aimed at limiting what he calls “carbon pollution.”

The president’s claims, cribbed from talking points provided by radical environmental advocacy groups, are rejected by thousands of scientists who know better. Economists reject the president’s plans too, telling us the proposed regulations will cost $50 billion a year and destroy some 250,000 jobs while reducing future warming by an undetectable .018 degrees C by 2100.

Here is what “global warming skeptics” have discovered: That the human impact on climate is smaller than is often claimed, future warming (if it occurs at all) will be less than is often forecast, and the benefits of higher levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide and modest warming exceed the costs.

Politicians, journalists, and even academics often are guilty of believing in what they hope is true, not what they know to be true or can prove is true. In the global warming debate, seeing what you believe can advance your career or add a talking point in support of your political convictions. Simply believing in man-made global warming is certainly easier than understanding it.

The Ninth International Conference on Climate Change is for people who want to understand global warming. Sixty scientists, economists, and other experts will share what they know about this complex topic. Thirty cosponsoring organizations (listed below) will have representatives on hand to describe what they are doing to advance public understanding.

Nearly 1,000 people are expected to attend this year’s conference, making it the largest yet. Thousands more will be watching the live-stream of all the presentations at heartland.org.

Please join us in Las Vegas for ICCC-9! It will be an unforgettable experience for you and your family and enable you to participate in the most important public policy debate of the century.

Sincerely,

Joseph L. Bast
President
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The three volumes of Climate Change Reconsidered II – Physical Science (September 2013), Biological Impacts (March 2014), and Human Welfare, Energy, and Policies (forthcoming summer 2014) – directly counter the alarmist claims of the United Nations’ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

The Climate Change Reconsidered series is produced by the Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC), an international network of independent scientists with no financial stake in the debate. Their new three-volume report totals more than 2,500 pages, together citing more than 7,000 peer-reviewed studies. They find rising temperatures and atmospheric carbon dioxide levels are causing “no net harm to the global environment or to human health and often finds the opposite: net benefits to plants, including important food crops, and to animals and human health.”

**NIPCC scientists conclude:**

- Atmospheric carbon dioxide is not a pollutant. It is a non-toxic, non-irritating, and natural component of the atmosphere.
- The human impact on climate is very modest, much less than the impact of natural cycles.
- Carbon dioxide has not and will not cause weather to become more extreme, polar ice and sea ice to melt, or sea level rise to accelerate. These were all false alarms.
- There is little or no risk of increasing food insecurity due to global warming or rising atmospheric carbon dioxide levels. Farmers and others who depend on rural livelihoods for income are benefitting from rising agricultural productivity around the world.
- The benefits of modest global warming exceed the likely costs.

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The Case for Open EPA Science

By Lamar Smith

When assessing climate change, we need to make sure that findings are driven by science, not an alarmist, partisan agenda. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Gina McCarthy wrongly claims the debate is over, the case is closed, and anyone who questions the Obama administration’s regulatory agenda is a “denier.”

Academic experts have raised concerns that the Obama administration’s claims about extreme weather events – like floods, droughts, and hurricanes becoming more frequent and intense – are not supported by the actual science. The President uses alarmist claims about climate change as an excuse to impose greenhouse gas regulations through the EPA. These regulations stifle economic growth and lead to hundreds of thousands fewer jobs.

The EPA recently announced its latest regulation to limit CO₂ emissions from existing power plants. By all measures, this rule is all pain and no gain. And even more troubling, the EPA uses science hidden from the public to justify this rule.

To help shine sunlight on the EPA’s non-transparent regulatory process, the House Science Committee this week approved simple, good government legislation called the Secret Science Reform Act. This bill has a common-sense objective: the EPA’s regulations should be based on public data not secret science.

The EPA’s climate regulations will hit workers and families hard but have no discernable impact on global temperature. One analysis that used Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) assumptions found that even if the U.S. stopped all carbon dioxide emissions immediately, the ultimate impact on global temperature would be less than one-tenth of one degree Celsius by the year 2050. Facts like these are hidden behind complicated climate reports designed to create panic and provide cover for previously determined government policies.

It’s unfortunate that our foremost scientific bodies charged with disseminating scientific findings have become highly politicized. Recently released reports by both the IPCC and the White House appear designed to give the Obama Administration an excuse to control more of the lives of the American people.

Significantly, the scientists working on the underlying science for the IPCC defer to international politicians when they develop a so-called “Summary for Policy Makers.” This really amounts to a “Summary by Policy Makers.” The document is disseminated ahead of the actual scientific assessment and provides biased information to newspapers and headline writers around the world, who gobble it up.

Dr. Robert Stavins of Harvard University, who served as a lead author for the IPCC, recently criticized this process as generating “irreconcilable conflicts of interest” that compromise scientific integrity. He wrote, “any text that was considered inconsistent with their interests and positions in multilateral negotiations was treated as unacceptable.”

The bias is there for all to see.

The President and his advisors often claim 97 percent of scientists believe global warming is primarily driven by human activity. However, this claim has been thoroughly debunked. In fact, the most recent analysis to discredit the President’s claim came from a lead author for the United Nations’ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

While the majority of scientists surveyed may think humans contribute to climate change, and I would agree, very few said humans cause most of the warming. The President has misrepresented the study’s results.

We should focus on good science, rather than politically correct science. The facts should determine which climate policy options the U.S. and world considers.

The IPCC and White House reports acknowledge the U.S. has achieved dramatic reductions in emissions. The White House’s National Climate Assessment recognizes, for example, that “U.S. CO₂ emissions from energy use … declined by around 9% between 2008 and 2012.” U.S. contributions to global emissions are dwarfed by those of China, the world’s largest emitter of greenhouse gases. And China shows no signs of slowing down.

The Obama administration should stop trying to scare Americans and then impose costly, unnecessary regulations on them. The President says there is no debate. Actually the debate has only just begun.

Lamar Smith, a Republican, represents Texas’s 21st District in the U.S. House and is chairman of the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology.

Supreme Court Delivers Blow to Obama’s Climate Change Agenda

By Jim Inhofe

Under President Obama, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been engaged in an unprecendented effort to expand its regulatory powers without clear direction from Congress. Monday’s Supreme Court decision in Utility Air Regulatory Group (UARG) v. United States Environmental Protection Agency reprimanded the agency for ignoring the law and issued a stunning rebuf to EPA’s efforts to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act.

I have led the effort for more than ten years to defeat various forms of cap-and-trade legislation that would have allowed EPA to regulate greenhouse gases. Congress has defeated these proposals because of the $300 billion to $400 billion annual cost it would inflict on the economy, all for the theory of manmade climate change. Despite Congress not granting the president these powers through legislation, he has continued to pursue his aggressive climate change agenda through regulation.

It was a year ago this week that President Obama announced his Climate Action Plan, outlining a sweeping strategy to address greenhouse gases across the nation with his pen and phone. The first two major regulations under the plan target new and existing power plants. Although Monday’s Supreme Court decision did not directly address these rules, the Court’s insistence that EPA follow the letter of the law and discontinue its unbridled rulemaking is evidence EPA is standing on thin ice.

This is particularly striking with the recently proposed greenhouse gas regulations for the nation’s existing fleet of power plants. Although the statute says clearly that the agency is allowed to regulate pollution only at each individual power plant, EPA has embarked on a plan to use greenhouse gas regulations to force the United States to live out the Environmental Green Dream by requiring our nation to rely more and more on expensive renewable resources.

We need only to look to Germany to see where this path leads. Since about 2000, Germany has been implementing an aggressive alternative-energy agenda with a mandate to generate 35 percent of the nation’s electricity from renewable sources by 2020. The result has been clear: higher energy prices. The price of retail German electricity has doubled since the Obama administration took office in 2009. In the United States, a country with 20 percent of the world’s population, demand for domestic energy has declined by around 5% since then.

The result has been clear: higher energy prices. The price of retail German electricity has doubled since the Obama administration took office in 2009. In the United States, a country with 20 percent of the world’s population, demand for domestic energy has declined by around 5% since then.

The level of lawlessness with which he has governed on so many issues—such as the decision to release the five most dangerous terrorists at Guantanamo Bay or to open the floodgates of illegal immigration—is astounding. It is encouraging that the Supreme Court finally recognized and spoke to the Constitutional limitations on his authority. Congress writes the laws, not the president. But until there is change in Washington, it will be imperative for us to stay vigilant. The fight will continue at every step, and we cannot relent in our quest to save the American economy from being regulated out of business.

Jim Inhofe, a Republican, is a senior member of the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.
What 97 Percent of Climate Scientists Do

By Joseph L. Bast

President Obama recently tweeted, “@BarackObama: Ninety-seven percent of climate scientists agree: climate change is real, man-made and dangerous.” Environmental groups and their hallelujah choir in the mainstream media repeat the claim endlessly. Even NASA says on its Web site, somewhat more cautiously, “Ninety-seven percent of climate scientists agree that climate-warming trends over the past century are very likely due to human activities.”

So the debate is over, right? No, not hardly.

The fiction that most scientists believe climate change is “man-made and dangerous” can be traced to a handful of surveys and abstract-counting exercises that have been repeatedly debunked and contradicted by more reliable research. Yet the myth lives on in the minds of liberal activists. So let’s settle this once and for all.

The United Nations Says So

The United Nations’ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) claims to speak on behalf of more than 2,500 scientists when it says man-made global warming is a serious problem. But few of those scientists wrote about or reviewed research having to do with the key question of attribution: How much of the temperature increase and other climate changes observed in the twentieth century was caused by man-made greenhouse gas emissions?

For the Fourth Assessment Report, only 62 researchers were responsible for reviewing the chapter that attributed climate change to man-made greenhouse emissions. Fifty-five of those had associations with environmental advocacy groups. Of the seven impartial reviewers, two disagreed with IPCC’s conclusion. That leaves only five credible scientific reviewers who unequivocally endorsed IPCC’s conclusion.

Five is a far cry from 2,500 and is not evidence of consensus.

Naomi Oreskes Says So

In 2004, Science magazine published an opinion essay by a little-known science historian named Naomi Oreskes. Oreskes claimed to have examined abstracts from 928 articles published in scientific journals from 1993 and 2003, abstracts she found by searching an online database. She concluded 75 percent of the abstracts either implicitly or explicitly supported the alarmist view while none directly dissented.

Problem number one: Oreskes lacked the scientific training to accurately categorize the abstracts she read, so scores of scientists quickly reported their own papers opposing the “consensus” were left out or misinterpreted. More than 1,300 such articles now appear in an online bibliography at populartechnology.net.

Problem number two: The abstracts of academic papers often contain claims that aren’t substantiated in the papers. (This is according to research by Park et al. reported in the February 6, 2014 issue of Nature, the world’s most prestigious science journal.) So Oreskes’ methodology is flawed.

Problem number three: In 2008, a University of Illinois college student, Maggie Kendall-Zimmerman, conducted a two-question online survey for her master’s degree thesis. A year later, in an article in EOS coauthored with her thesis advisor, Peter Doran, she claimed “97 percent of climate scientists agree” that global temperatures have risen since before the 1800s and that humans are a significant contributing factor.

This study, too, has been debunked. First, the survey asked the wrong questions. Most scientists who are skeptical of catastrophic global warming would answer “yes” to both questions. The survey was silent on whether the human impact is large enough to constitute a problem.

Second, the college student did not survey solar scientist, space scientist, cosmonaut, physicist, meteorologist, and astronomers, all scientists most likely to be aware of natural causes of climate change.

Third, the “97 percent” figure represents the views of only 79 of the 3,146 respondents who listed climate science as an area of expertise and said they published more than 50 percent of their recent peer-reviewed papers on climate change. Seventy-nine scientists do not constitute a consensus.

William Love Anderegg Says It’s So

In 2010, another college student, William R. Love Anderegg, claimed to find “97–98 percent of climate researchers most actively publishing in the field support the tenets of ACC [anthropogenic climate change] outlined by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.” His findings were published in Proceedings of the National Academies of Sciences.

What Love Anderegg actually found was 97 to 98 percent of the 200 most prolific writers on climate change believe “anthropogenic greenhouse gases have been responsible for most of the ‘unprecedented’ warming of the Earth’s average global temperature over the second half of the 20th century.” The views of 200 researchers out of the hundreds of thousands of earth scientists who have contributed to the climate science debate is not evidence of consensus.

The Counter-Evidence

Rigorous international surveys of climate scientists conducted by German scientists Dennis Bray and Hans von Storch have found most scientists disagree with the consensus on key issues such as the reliability of climate data and computer models. Most say they do not believe key climate processes such as cloud formation and precipitation are sufficiently understood to predict future climate changes.

Surveys of meteorologists repeatedly find a majority oppose the alleged consensus. A survey conducted by the American Meteorological Society of its members in 2012, for example, found only 39.5 percent of those responding said they believe man-made global warming is dangerous.

Of the various petitions circulated for signatures by scientists on the global warming issue, the one that has garnered by far the most signatures—more than 31,000 names—says “there is no convincing scientific evidence that human release of carbon dioxide, methane, or other greenhouse gases is causing or will, in the foreseeable future, cause catastrophic heating of the Earth’s atmosphere and disruption of the Earth’s climate.”

Who Do You Believe?

So who should you believe? President Obama and NASA apparently believe a couple of college students and an alarmist blogger. If you’ve made it this far into this essay, I hope you have some doubts about their “research.”

The real moral of the story is this: Don’t trust anyone who says there’s a scientific consensus on global warming. Don’t “believe” in global warming because that’s what you think others believe. Look under the hood and figure it out yourself.

That’s what 97 percent of climate scientists do.

Joseph L. Bast is president of The Heartland Institute.
Climate Change Debate in the ‘Fight’ Stage

By Tim Ball

If you want to understand what really has been behind the debate over global warming and climate change, consider this.

I have a Ph.D. in historical climatology from the University of London, England, and I studied meteorology and weather forecasting during nine years in the Canadian Air Force. I taught university climate courses for 25 years, published many peer-reviewed articles, authored the climatology half of a university-level textbook, and continue to publish peer-reviewed material.

Yet I am constantly under attack, including lawsuits by two leading members of the United Nations’ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) who claim I am unqualified and don’t know what I am talking about. The attacks are coming because I am qualified, and because I can explain the science in a way the public can better understand. I am a high-profile threat to the climate deception—the use of climate scares for a political agenda.

I waited a few years to publish my book The Deliberate Corruption of Climate Science because the public was not ready for it. A majority (80 percent) don’t understand the current state of science; they can’t believe a small group could influence and fool the world, or that scientists would be so subjective and political. Even scientists have been fooled. Consider this comment by Klaus-Eckart Puls:

Ten years ago I simply parroted what the IPCC told us. One day I started checking the facts and data—first I started with a sense of doubt but then I became outraged when I discovered that much of what the IPCC and the media were telling us was sheer nonsense and was not even supported by any scientific facts and measurements. To this day I still feel shame that as a scientist I made presentations of their science without first checking it.

I believe scientists and the public are ready for the truth now, but that also means the questions are different. They want to know who orchestrated the deception and how it was achieved, but most important they want to know the motive for this effort at mass deception.

A review by William M. “Bill” Gray, emeritus professor of atmospheric science at Colorado State University (CSU) and head of the Tropical Meteorology Project at CSU’s Department of Atmospheric Sciences, notes the importance of identifying the motives behind the climate change hysteria:

This book is a remarkable fact-filled tour-de-force discussion of the global warming topic. It gives much background and behind-the-scenes information of the vast chicanery and lies that have been perpetrated by a small and organized cabal of global warming propagandists. Probably nobody has followed this evolving global warming scandal more closely or has a better background to interpret the data than does Tim Ball. He paraphrases Churchill, “Never have so many been deceived by so few at so great a cost.”

A review by Marita Noon, executive director of Energy Makes America Great, Inc., notes the way the climate alarmists have changed the terms of the debate in order to keep the deception going when the facts of the past two decades proved them wrong:

It is not that Ball doesn’t believe in climate change. In fact, he does. He posits: “Climate change has happened, is happening and will always happen.” Being literal, Obama’s cheese comment is accurate. No scientist, and no one in Congress, denies climate change. However, what is in question is the global warming agenda that has been pushed for the past several decades that claims that the globe is warming because of human caused escalation of CO2. When global warming alarmists use “climate change,” they mean human-caused. Due to lack of “warming,” they’ve changed the term to climate change.

Nor is he against the environment, or even environmentalism. He says: “Environmentalism was a necessary paradigm shift that took shape and gained acceptance in western society in the 1960s. The idea that we shouldn’t despoil our nest and must live within the limits of global resources is fundamental and self-evident. Every rational person embraces those concepts, but some took different approaches that brought us to where we are now.”

Mahatma Gandhi reportedly said, “First they ignore you, then they ridicule you, then they fight you, then you win.” I’ve experienced all phases so far in the climate debate, or more accurately the lack of debate, and I believe we’re in the “fight” stage.

A frequent comment after I make a public presentation is, “I had my suspicions, but I didn’t know enough to know.” The creators of the global warming deception effectively exploited people’s fear and lack of knowledge. People sense there is something wrong with it, and they are asking questions and raising concerns. My book takes a journalistic approach to provide answers. Who did it and why? How was it done? How could a small group of people literally deceive most of the world? The evidence shows they used scientific credentials to browbeat the opposition into submission. They didn’t succeed, and now the fight is definitely on.

Tim Ball, Ph.D., is an environmental consultant and former climatology professor at the University of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

The Deliberate Corruption Of Climate Science

Dr. Tim Ball exposes the malicious misuse of climate science by dishonest brokers to advance the agenda of the progressive left. How was legitimate science twisted into a morass of convoluted gibberish? Dr. Ball explores how and why the science was distorted for political purposes.

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