Global Warming – Consensus or Con Job?

Seán G. Dwyer PhD

My topic is Global Warming. The slide displays my bias and I will admit to it. I never could see why being a little bit warmer would be such a bad thing. Most of you probably read in the last few weeks that the latest UN report on global warming predicted even more disaster than the previous reports. That is truly amazing. Didn't the earlier reports predict that global warming would destroy most life on Earth? OK, that is a Jay Leno line, but the hyperbole on this subject is getting out of hand. The media's need for headlines to be apocalyptic seems to outweigh science's need to be scientific.

Since we are between Ice Ages, the Earth is either warming or cooling. The issue is NOT whether global warming is occurring, but whether manmade greenhouse gases - CO_2 in particular - are the cause, and whether it is something to fear or take steps to counteract.

Have you heard that the polar ice caps on mars are receding? Are they driving SUVs up there? How about Vikings who farmed in Greenland a thousand years ago? One farm had barn stalls for over 150 cows. Where did they get hay to feed them in winter? How did polar bears adapt? They survived!

The onset of what is known as "the Little Ice Age" caused those settlements to die out by 1400 AD. But bottom line, it is clear the temperature had once been a lot warmer than it is today. Perhaps the current global warming is just a repeat of what happened when Vikings farmed in Greenland. If so, then somebody is feeding us a very expensive load of codswallop.

Does this whole Global Warming thing make sense to you? It never has to me. It was like a jigsaw puzzle with key pieces missing. For starters, I could not appreciate why global warming would be such a bad deal. Many retirees go to Florida to have warm weather year around. But even Florida has problems with cold weather. How often do you hear about early frost damaging the citrus crop? Those farmers would have appreciated an extra degree or two.

One September when I was at UND I went home with a fraternity brother named Don. Don's father was a wheat farmer and Don was to help with the wheat harvest that weekend. While driving past wheat fields the night before they were due to start, Don was praying for low clouds to form overhead to keep the wheat from freezing, but he also wanted no rain from those clouds as that would require

expensive drying of the harvested grain. I thought he was walking a thin line with his prayer, but undoubtedly an extra two weeks in the growing season would have been very welcome and kept prices down for consumers of wheat. The low clouds would have acted as a "greenhouse gas" and slowed down radiation of heat from the fields. Oooh, cloud – water vapor – is a greenhouse gas. How do we control that?

I grew up in Ireland in the 1950s and recall how rainy and cold it used to be, even in the summer. Really good summers were so rare that my mother always talked about the great summer of 1949. What would be so bad about global warming?

Let me state right off the bat that I never believed in the argument that man-made CO_2 produced global warming. That theory just ignores too much science and history.

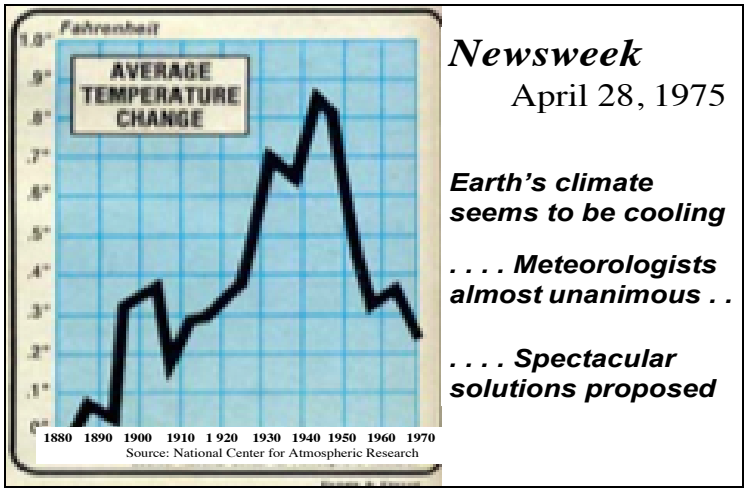
"But there is a scientific consensus" you say.
No there isn't, and there never has been on this issue, but that has not stopped people with an agenda from claiming one, or the media from hyping it.

"Why would anybody have such an agenda?" you ask incredulously. If you understand that, you can put the jigsaw puzzle together. Last month in Ireland I saw a documentary called "The Great Global Warming Swindle" and it filled in the missing piece for me. It was a real epiphany for me.

Let's start with the consensus. A story in the 4/28/75 issue of Newsweek read as follows:

> ***"After three quarters of a century of extraordinarily mild conditions, the earth's climate seems to be cooling down . . . Meteorologists are almost unanimous in the view. . . resulting famines could be catastrophic."***

Whoops, the "almost unanimous view" of meteorologists in 1975 was global **cooling**.



Climatologists do seem to be a whiney lot, and they were pessimistic that politicians would do anything about it. Interestingly, one of the proposed solutions was to melt the polar ice caps by covering them with black soot. That was iffy, because while the soot would absorb more solar energy, the latent heat of melting would consume energy and cool the environment.

A Swedish scientist named Bert Bolin responded to the oncoming Ice Age by suggesting that CO_2 produced at ever increasing rates by burning oil and coal might act as a greenhouse gas and slow down the cooling. That solution was also iffy as shown on this Temperature Vs. Time graph from the Newsweek article. Temperature went up during the Depression when there were fewer cars or factories. In 1940, when war production ramped up and continued in the reconstruction of Europe and Japan, temperature declined. Clearly, Bolin's theory re manmade CO_2 as a greenhouse gas didn't work. But Bert Bolin was about to win a high level sponsor with an agenda.

Energy politics ruled the day. Many of you will recall the problems with the Arab Oil Embargo in 1973/74. My employer had to work through major raw material shortages. I can tell you that R&D never had it so good before or since. Marketing guys used to bring us doughnuts, hoping to get us to focus on their own products. Global warming would become another bonanza for scientists.

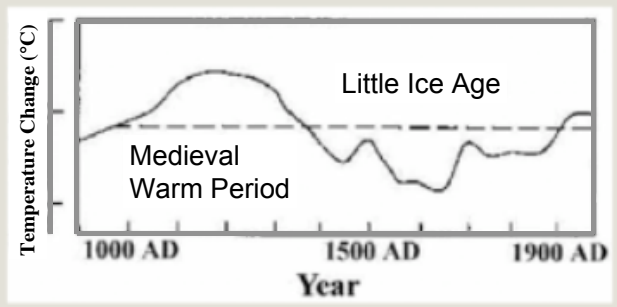
Also in 1974 the British coal miners knew that the oil embargo was a good time to strike and they brought down Prime Minister Edward Heath's government. When the next Tory Prime Minister was elected in 1979, Margaret Thatcher was damned if she was going to let herself be knobbled by either the Arabs or the miners. Maggie needed an alternative source of energy. Nuclear fit the bill but had baggage. How to make nukes look good and coal/oil look bad. . . . "What is the phone number of that Swedish scientist?" . . . . . But Maggie's agenda was about to get hijacked.

An unlikely alliance formed. It included Margaret Thatcher on the right and anti-capitalists on the left, hippies who worshiped the peasant lifestyle, plus environmentalists across the political spectrum, all pushed the same idea, although for different reasons. Two events knocked Maggie's plan off the rails while money was pouring into climatic research. In the USA the funding for climatic research jumped from $150M per year to $2B. With that kind of money on the table, you can generate a lot of supporters. Dependent people whose jobs are at stake are open to both believe and push a consensus about anything. As Upton Sinclair insightfully said, "It is hard to get a man to understand something if his living depends on him not understanding it."

When temperatures started to rise, the predicted Ice Age transformed into Global Warming and Bert Bolin became a founder and co-chairman of the IPCC, the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Lots of people got jobs, researchers got grant money, and political activists left on the shelf since the Viet Nam War and later on the fall of communism found a new cause.

The events that knocked Margaret Thatcher's nuclear agenda off the rails were the 3 Mile Island accident in 1979 - where nobody died - and Chernobyl in 1986, where many died.

Accepted View in 1991 IPCC Report



Conventional wisdom in 1991 acknowledged the well documented 'Little Ice Age' (1300 - 1850), which ended the Viking settlements in Greenland that had formed during the Medieval Warm Period.

The science to that date not only explained how the Vikings had managed to farm in Greenland, but it also showed that the Little Ice Age included the time when Marie Antoinette supposedly suggested cake as an alternative to bread for starving Frenchmen. It is hard to harvest wheat in rainy weather.

The Domesday Book was written shortly after the Norman invasion of England in 1066. It was essentially a census. Surprisingly, it listed over 70 vineyards in England! It was warmer back then. If that is true, what was the big deal about global warming?

Unfortunately, the IPCC represents “science by supercommittee” and it is more political than scientific. Rule 3 of this supercommittee firmly reminds delegates that: *“documents should involve both peer review by experts and review by governments”.*

There **IS** a difference between “Political Science” and “Politicized Science”.

Deleted from 1996 IPCC Report:

“None of the studies cited above has shown clear evidence that we can attribute the observed [climate] changes to the specific cause of increases in greenhouse gasses”

“No study to date has positively attributed all or part [of the climate changes] to anthropogenic causes”

By 1996 the IPCC had gone over to the Dark Side, although many scientists had not (WSJ June 12, 1996). One of them, Prof. Frederick Seitz, former president of the U. S. National Academy of Sciences, revealed that the UN-sponsored scientific report promoting global warming had been tampered with for political purposes.

Predictably, there were protests from officials of the IPCC, who claimed that the reason for the revisions to the report was

"to ensure that it conformed to a 'policymakers' summary' of the full report...."

That begs the question: Shouldn’t a summary conform to the underlying scientific report rather than vice versa?

Sections that were eliminated include:

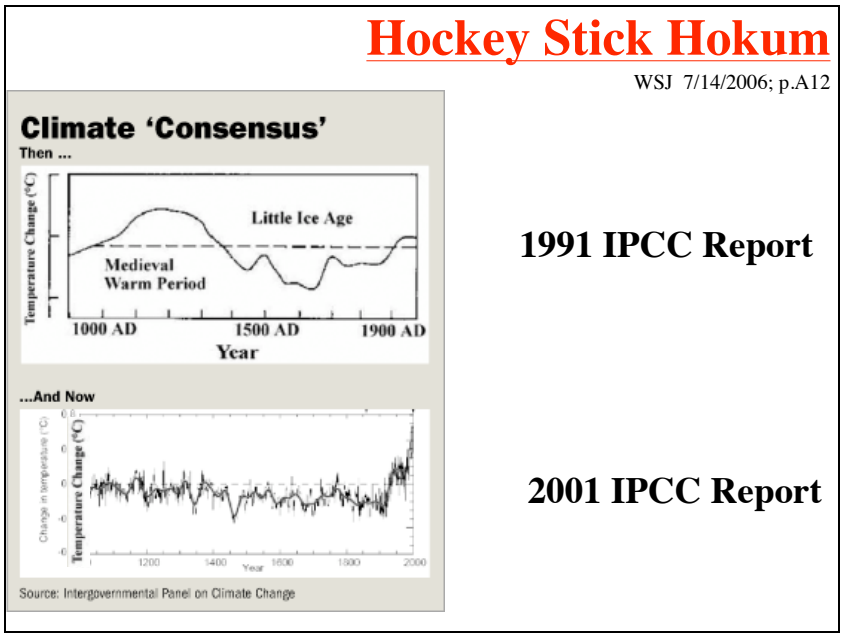
“None of the studies cited above has shown clear evidence that we can attribute the observed [climate] changes to the specific cause of increases in greenhouse gasses.”

Another was:

“No study to date has positively attributed all or part [of the climate changes] to anthropogenic causes”

Professor Seitz described the 1996 report as "the most corrupted peer-review process". When he demanded that his name be removed from the report, the IPCC refused on the grounds that he had had input into the report, so they had to give him credit. Seitz insisted that they had ignored his input and threatened to sue if they did not remove his name. They did so, and Dr. Seitz says that this is how they get the supposed endorsement of “2,500 scientists”. Many of them are opposed to what is left after politicians finish filtering out the science.

By 2001 research money was pouring into anything that would support the global warming agenda. Efforts included computer models and the famous Hockey Stick graph on the bottom of this slide emerged. It is much more alarming than the graph at the top which suggests that the globe has been both warmer and colder than it is now. Not only did the polar bars survived during the Medieval Warm Period, mankind was much healthier then than during the Little Ice Age that followed. Nevertheless, almost everything put out by the IPCC and environmental groups included the Hockey Stick graph until it was discredited.



The model developed by Dr. Michael Mann of the University of Pennsylvania was so flawed that it completely ignored the Little Ice Age and the warm period when the Vikings farmed in Greenland.

Nevertheless, the supposed consensus among scientists makes it difficult for politicians - who are mostly lawyers - to dissent on such a technical matter, regardless of the cost to society or to their own constituents. There is no upside for a politician to argue as I have, only downside.

One example is Rep. John Dingell, a Michigan Democrat who understandably once dismissed global warming as a "theory", and has had a change of heart since the Democrats took control of the House. Dingell was initially loath to discuss legislative specifics. *"I am going to avoid that like the devil avoids holy water,"* he said early in 2007. Just what we need in Washington.

Actually, Dingell did figure out a strategy as reported in WSJ on July 10, 2007. This Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee announced that he planned to introduce a new tax on carbon emissions. His point was to force his colleagues--and the voters--to be more honest about the cost of their global-warming posturing. It is one thing to pay $100 to save the planet, if you get to see Madonna at the LIVE EARTH concert as a bonus, it is a horse of a different color to have to pay an extra buck or two for every gallon of gas. Not that doing so would have much impact on total emissions if the European experience is anything to go by. They have been paying much higher prices for gas and still manage to exceed their Kyoto goals year after year.

Back to Dingell and the politics of global warming. Politicians prefer policy tricks like higher automobile mileage standards or a "cap and trade" regime for swapping "credits" for carbon emissions. These schemes shift the direct costs onto businesses, which then pass them along indirectly to unwitting consumers. Of course, these policies still amount to taxes on energy use, but they provide politicians "cover". Voters care much more about costs they pay than about costs paid by businesses. "Cap & Tax" would be a more accurate description for this flawed policy.

One of the problems with this attitude is that the costs of such policies hit some industries much more than others, the US auto industry being the prime example. Representative Dingell knows that the cost of indulging Nancy Pelosi's well-to-do environmentalists and hot-tubbers on global warming would fall disproportionately his blue collar constituents.
(Note added in Dec 2008: Democrat Henry Waxman replaced John Dingell, also a Democrat, as Chairman of the House Energy & Commerce Committee. Messing with the Global Warmers can be costly)

Even President Bush has rolled over on the issue, and the autoworkers never supported him like they did Rep. Dingell.

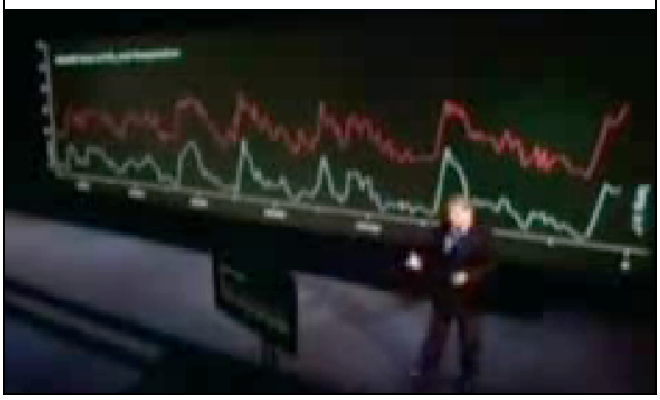
On Oct 27,2006 Senators Olympia Snow and John D. Rockefeller sent a letter to the CEO of ExxonMobil complaining about that company's support of a small cadre of global warming skeptics. The basic message was *"Start toeing the Senators' line on global warming, or else."* (WSJ Dec 4, 2006; see also WSJ Dec 13, 2006 for letters in response to this article)

When did we lose the right to reasonable dissent or freedom of speech?

The new environmentalism has become a religion for western elites + anti-capitalists + America haters. Anybody who objects attains the status of holocaust denier.

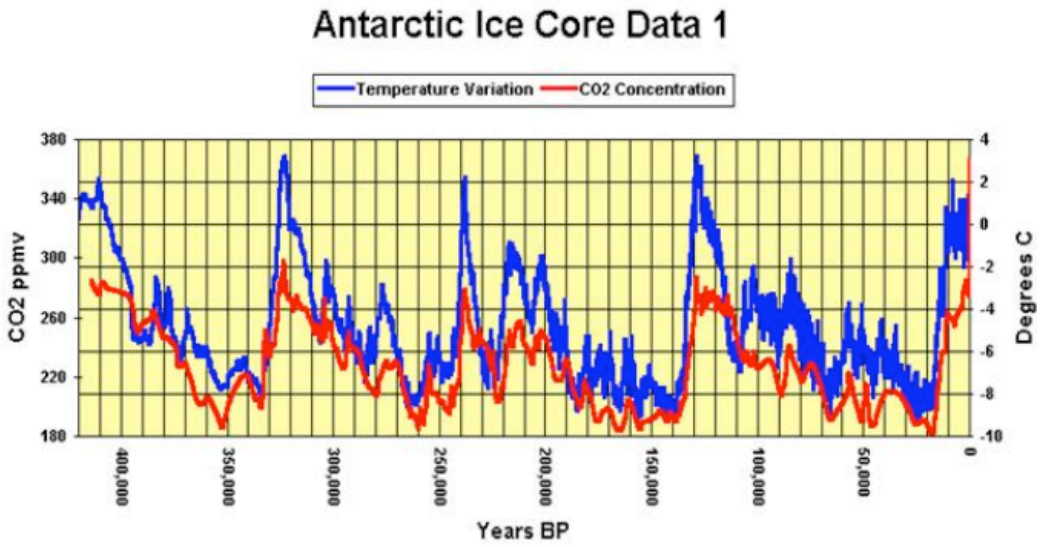
Maggie Thatcher's agenda was not the only one hijacked by the global warming alarmists.
One of the founding members of Greenpeace resigned when his movement was hijacked for political purposes. He discussed it in the documentary *The Great Global Warming Swindle.*
Speaking of documentaries, Al Gore's Oscar winning movie, *An Inconvenient Truth,* described ice core studies which showed a clear correlation between atmospheric CO_2 levels and global temperatures over hundreds of thousands of years. While Al Gore is a Global Warming alarmist, *The Great Global Warming Swindle* was clearly the work of Global Warming skeptics. Interestingly, they both agree that there is a clear and long-term correlation between atmospheric CO_2 levels and global temperature.

Temp & CO_2 ARE Correlated

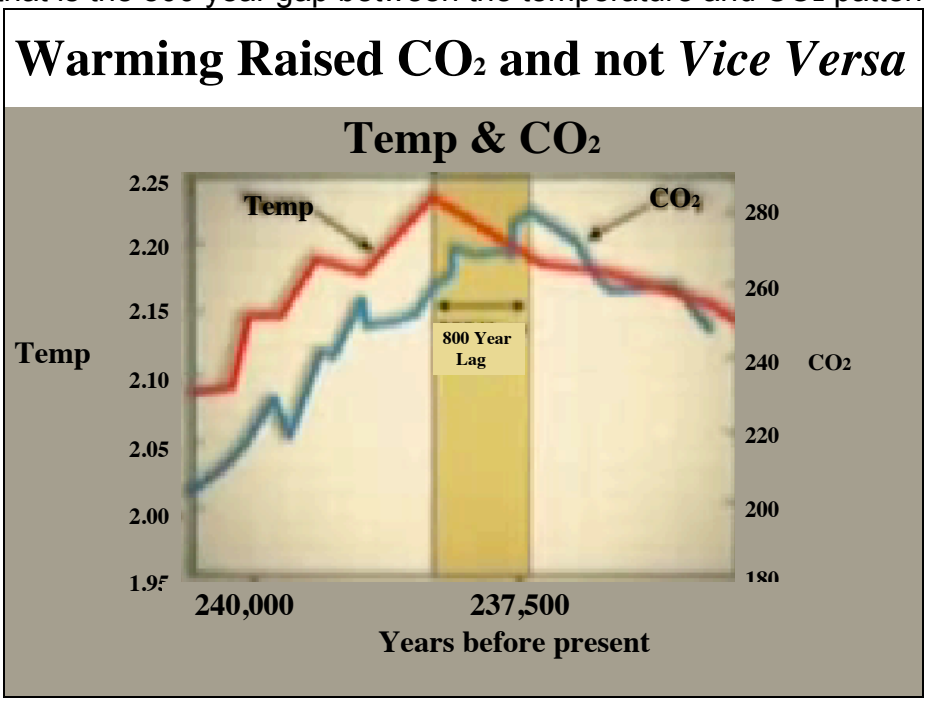


Now you should recall that the 1975 Newsweek graph suggested no correlation between manmade CO_2 and temperature. But that was over a period of 75 years. The graph presented by Al Gore covered a million years. Peaks in temperature were matched by peaks in atmospheric CO_2 levels. Temperature lows were accompanied by low CO_2 levels.

Temp & CO_2 are Clearly Correlated



However, there was a key point that Gore never mentioned and is not obvious because of the scale of the graph, and that is the 800 year gap between the temperature and CO_2 patterns.



This is a slice of the same data over a 10,000 year period. You can see the 800 year gap. The explanation is really simple, but its impact on the global warming issue is devastating for the alarmists. First, the explanation:

Volcanoes and oceans are the largest source of CO_2 on the planet, and more CO_2 can be dissolved in cold water than in warm water. As the oceans warmed up, CO_2 would be expelled into the atmosphere. The reverse would occur when the oceans cooled. The 800 year gap is caused by the huge volume of the oceans. It takes 800 years.

As a child I remember swimming at a shallow beach that would have water about 1/2 mile farther out at low tide than at high tide. On sunny days the tide would advance over hot sand and the water close to the shore would be soupy warm. When I would go out to chest deep, my feet would be in cold water and my chest in warm water. It takes time to equilibrate all layers. Germany used to sneak U-Boats past Gibraltar in WW 2 by dropping down to a cold layer and then shutting down their engines. Warm water coming out of the Mediterranean at the surface would be replaced by a cold current flowing in down below. It takes a long time to equilibrate temperatures in an ocean.

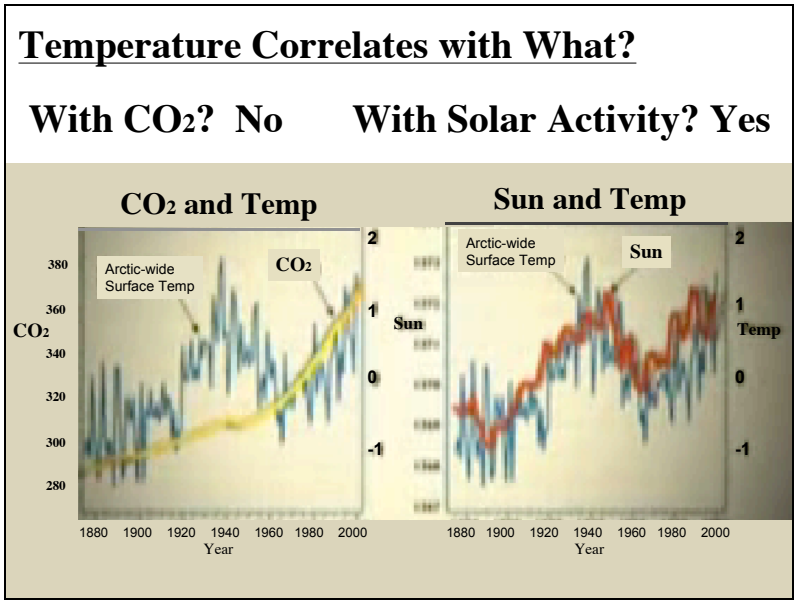
Now for the global warming theory: If global warming produced CO_2 rather than vice versa, doesn't that turn the "CO_2 as a climate driving greenhouse gas" theory upside-down? Why was global temperature going down for hundreds of years while CO_2 levels were still going up?

We saw from the Newsweek graph that the theory did not hold up for manmade CO_2 in the short term of 75 years. The ice core data does not support it in the long term.

The latest data from NASA states that 3 of the 5 hottest years on record occurred before 1935. The hottest year was 1934 (WSJ 7/1/2008 p.A15) , followed by 1998, 1921, 2006, and 1931 (http://prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/08-14-2007/0004645546&EDATE

Incidentally, warm water is less dense than cold water and therefore occupies more volume. This, plus a smaller ice pack at the time, is why the place where William the Conqueror came ashore to fight the Battle of Hastings in 1066 is now about 3 kilometers inland. The sea level dropped when the oceans cooled during the Mini Ice Age. However, whereas Al Gore warns us of a 20 foot rise in sea level, the 3rd IPCC report predicted only three feet and the 4th report due next month reduced that to 17 inches.

Before I retired I was often frustrated by people who would tell me why something would not work, but who never came up with a solution. I'll now show you why global warming is occurring.



These slides are from *The Great Global Warming Swindle.* The one on the right shows how closely sunspot activity correlates with temperature over the last 100 years. The one on the left covers the same period and compares temperature and atmospheric CO_2 levels. There is no correlation. This is all modern data, so the measurements are direct and not derived from computer models.

In 1980 satellite data definitively proved that the sun's radiance varies in intensity in cyclical patterns. The climate models used by greenhouse theory exponents always assumed that the sun's radiance was constant. With that assumption, they could ignore solar influences.

This CO_2 dogma has had its day. In April 2006 sixty scientists wrote a letter to Canadian Prime Minister Steven Harper, and I am providing it to you as a handout. Their goal was to get the Canadian government to review the actual evidence of climate change before implementing provisions of the Kyoto Protocol, which they say should never have existed. If you look at the credentials of the authors you might conclude that it would be difficult to have a “consensus” if they were opposed to it.

Just once I would like to hear the global warming alarmists explain why they think our current climate is the best of all climates, but they ignore that responsibility.

Each time in recorded history that global warming occurred, civilization flourished and living standards increased. These included the Roman civilization (200 BC - 500 AD), the Medieval Warm period (900 – 1300 AD), and the current period (1850 – present). Times were so good in Europe during the Medieval Warm Period that they could afford to build Notre Dame, Westminister Abby, the Alhambra, etc. Cooler periods like the Dark Ages (500 – 900 AD) and the Mini Ice Age (1300 – 1850 AD), saw less food production, more famine, and devastating plagues.

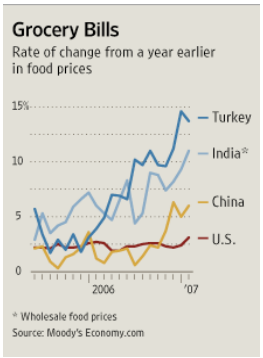
The 4th report from the IPCC was due in May of 2007 and the summary had already triggered complaints about scientific foul play as had earlier ones. A hell of a lot of jobs now depend on Global Warming, and the whole topic is great for attacking both George Bush and America. It is also incredibly expensive, with lots of unintended consequences. The focus on alcohol is a good example.

The ‘Precautionary Principle’ causes people to say things like “Even if the alarmists are wrong, should we not clean up the environment anyway?” Cleaning the environment is always a good idea, but the problem with that approach is that bad science can have unexpected consequences.

One of the chief causes of world-wide food-price inflation is new demand for ethanol and bio-diesel. A structural shift in agricultural markets affecting corn, palm oil, sugar, etc, has led to higher costs of beef, beer, eggs, and soft drinks.

2 Years ago Gerogia’s Saxby Chambliss voted with 73 other Senators for an energy bill requiring the USA to use 7.5 billion gallons of ethanol for fuel. (WSJ 5/18/07) Earlier this year Sen. Chambliss introduced a bill calling for even greater ethanol use, though with one striking difference: The bill caps the amount of that fuel that can come from corn. It turns out Georgia's chicken farmers hate corn-based ethanol; Georgia's pork producers hate corn-based ethanol; Georgia's dairy industry hates corn-based ethanol; Georgia's *hunters* hate corn-based ethanol.

Unexpected Consequences



One of the chief causes of food-price inflation is the new demand for ethanol and biodiesel . . . .

. . . . expect higher chicken prices because of the “ethanol crisis”. . . .

30% of US grain harvest. .

WSJ April 9, 2007

A spokesman for a poultry group testified to a congressional subcommittee that Americans should expect higher chicken prices because of what the group described as "the ethanol crisis.”

With global grain stocks at their lowest level in 30 years, 30% of the U.S. grain harvest is likely to be devoted to ethanol production by 2008, up from 16% in 2006. The price of tortillas is going up in Mexico because corn is being diverted to gasohol. We can afford it. Can Africa and India, or poor people in Mexico?

The use of 'carbon offsets' to justify one's carbon footprint is a bit like buying indulgences to bypass purgatory and go straight to heaven. More significantly, when developed countries buy carbon credits from underdeveloped countries, they ensure that they remain underdeveloped.

I would like to finish with a discussion about our individual carbon footprints. These are two real homes owned by wealthy people. The house on the left has geothermal heat pumps located in a central closet which circulate water through pipes buried 300 feet deep in the ground where the temperature is a constant 67 degrees; the water heats the house in the winter and cools it in the summer. It uses about 25% of the electricity that traditional heating and cooling systems utilize. An underground cistern collects rainwater from roof run-off. The cistern also collects wastewater from sinks, toilets and showers after it goes through purifying tanks. Water from the cistern irrigates the landscaping surrounding the four-bedroom home.

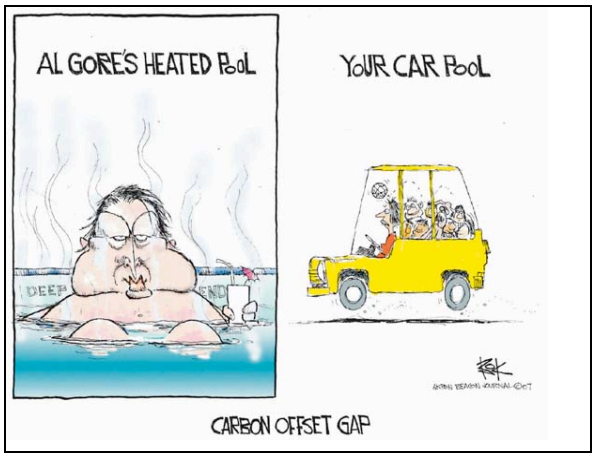
The house on the right is a 20,000 sq.ft. 20 room mansion (not including 8 bathrooms) heated by natural gas. The pool house alone uses more gas than my whole house. The average monthly bill for electricity and natural gas runs over $2400. My bill for all of last year was $2,600 for gas and electricity. In natural gas alone, this home consumes more than 20 times the national average for an American home, but the owner justifies his large carbon footprint by buying carbon credits.

Now I ask you, which owner is the real environmentalist?
The house on the left is George Bush's house in Crawford, Texas. The one on the right is Al Gore's, and he goes around telling everybody else to lower THEIR carbon footprint.

Bottom line, Global warming via man-made greenhouse gas is a scam enabled by a biased press.

I'll end with this cartoon about the carbon offset gap. If the soccer Mom with a pile of kids crammed into a smaller car was replaced with an African woman who will never have electricity in her home, it

would be even more appropriate.



Wind and solar energy are vastly more expensive than the forms of energy we use every day. Should the poorest nations be restricted to using the most expensive sources of energy? That is the most repugnant outcome of this misdirected environmentalism. One of the beliefs of liberalism seems to be that it is necessary to do something that makes you feel good about yourself - - - regardless of how much harm it does to others. That's bull!

A solar panel can handle a transistor radio, but it cannot support a steel industry or power a railway train. Do we have the right to say that people in the 3rd World must remain subsistence farmers and goat herders? I think not. We should not romanticize peasant life if we are not willing to live it ourselves. Al Gore's pool house is incompatible with actions he espouses in *An Inconvenient Truth.*

I am so sick of these *faux*-environmentalists who block oil drilling off our west coast, off Florida, off the east coast, and even the north slope of Alaska where nobody ever goes. Yet, somehow it is OK to them to have our oil come from countries that don't care about their own people, let alone the environment. Do you remember how much oil spilled when the last few hurricanes blew through drill rig alley in the Gulf of Mexico. None, nada, zip. Why? Because we learned our lesson in the 1980's and put the proper controls in place. Just as importantly, buying all this oil from countries where the people don't even like us is transferring so many dollars out of the USA that our economy is going into the tank. *Faux*-environmentalism and bad science can destroy economies and kill people!

To summarize what I have presented, I have provided evidence that
(a) There is no consensus among scientists regarding manmade greenhouse gases being the cause of global warming,
(b) Manmade CO_2 clearly did not drive global warming in the last century when temperatures increased during the Depression and dropped during WW 2 and the subsequent boom. Finally,
(c) Atmospheric CO_2 levels did not drive global warming over the last million years. So the basic premise of the alarmists is false.

Now I know that you can find lots of conflicting arguments out there from people with a vested interest in global warming alarmism, and even from some without. Take them with a grain of salt and maybe you should challenge the consensus myth. That would be a good start.

Finally, I am not a holocaust denier. I also don't think we should limit GDP growth and spend a trillion $'s chasing this loony CO_2 idea. There are better ways to spend it.

With solar activity as its primary cause, global warming <u>may happen</u> and it will not be such a bad thing.

(The handout follows on the next two pages)

Apr 8, 2006 **An open letter to Prime Minister Stephen Harper:** **(HANDOUT)**

Dear Prime Minister: CC: Rona Ambrose, Minister of the Environment, Gary Lunn, Minister of Natural Resources

As accredited experts in climate and related scientific disciplines, we are writing to propose that balanced, comprehensive public-consultation sessions be held so as to examine the scientific foundation of the federal government's climate-change plans. This would be entirely consistent with your recent commitment to conduct a review of the Kyoto Protocol. Although many of us made the same suggestion to then-prime ministers Martin and Chretien, neither responded, and, to date, no formal, independent climate-science review has been conducted in Canada. Much of the billions of dollars earmarked for implementation of the protocol in Canada will be squandered without a proper assessment of recent developments in climate science.

Observational evidence does not support today's computer climate models, so there is little reason to trust model predictions of the future. Yet this is precisely what the United Nations did in creating and promoting Kyoto and still does in the alarmist forecasts on which Canada's climate policies are based. Even if the climate models were realistic, the environmental impact of Canada delaying implementation of Kyoto or other greenhouse-gas reduction schemes, pending completion of consultations, would be insignificant. Directing your government to convene balanced, open hearings as soon as possible would be a most prudent and responsible course of action.

While the confident pronouncements of scientifically unqualified environmental groups may provide for sensational headlines, they are no basis for mature policy formulation. The study of global climate change is, as you have said, an "emerging science," one that is perhaps the most complex ever tackled. It may be many years yet before we properly understand the Earth's climate system. Nevertheless, significant advances have been made since the protocol was created, many of which are taking us away from a concern about increasing greenhouse gases. **If, back in the mid-1990s, we knew what we know today about climate, Kyoto would almost certainly not exist, because we would have concluded it was not necessary.**

We appreciate the difficulty any government has formulating sensible science-based policy when the loudest voices always seem to be pushing in the opposite direction. However, by convening open, unbiased consultations, Canadians will be permitted to hear from experts on both sides of the debate in the climate-science community. **When the public comes to understand that there is no "consensus" among climate scientists about the relative importance of the various causes of global climate change, the government will be in a far better position to develop plans that reflect reality** and so benefit both the environment and the economy.

"Climate change is real" is a meaningless phrase used repeatedly by activists to convince the public that a climate catastrophe is looming and humanity is the cause. Neither of these fears is justified. Global climate changes all the time due to natural causes and the human impact still remains impossible to distinguish from this natural "noise." The new Canadian government's commitment to reducing air, land and water pollution is commendable, but **allocating funds to "stopping climate change" would be irrational**. We need to continue intensive research into the real causes of climate change and help our most vulnerable citizens adapt to whatever nature throws at us next.

We believe the Canadian public and government decision-makers need and deserve to hear the whole story concerning this very complex issue. **It was only 30 years ago that many of today's global-warming alarmists were telling us that the world was in the midst of a global-cooling catastrophe**. But the science continued to evolve, and still does, even though so many choose to ignore it when it does not fit with predetermined political agendas.

We hope that you will examine our proposal carefully and we stand willing and able to furnish you with more information on this crucially important topic.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ian D. Clark, professor, isotope hydrogeology and paleoclimatology, Dept. of Earth Sciences, University of Ottawa
Dr. Tad Murty, former senior research scientist, Dept. of Fisheries and Oceans, former director of Australia's National Tidal Facility and professor of earth sciences, Flinders University, Adelaide; currently adjunct professor, Departments of Civil Engineering and Earth Sciences, University of Ottawa
Dr. R. Timothy Patterson, professor, Dept. of Earth Sciences (paleoclimatology), Carleton University, Ottawa
Dr. Fred Michel, director, Institute of Environmental Science and associate professor, Dept. of Earth Sciences, Carleton University, Ottawa
Dr. Madhav Khandekar, former research scientist, Environment Canada. Member of editorial board of Climate Research & Natural Hazards
Dr. Paul Copper, FRSC, professor emeritus, Dept. of Earth Sciences, Laurentian University, Sudbury, Ont.
Dr. Ross McKitrick, associate professor, Dept. of Economics, University of Guelph, Ont.
Dr. Tim Ball, former professor of climatology, University of Winnipeg; environmental consultant
Dr. Andreas Prokocon, adjunct professor of earth sciences, University of Ottawa; consultant in statistics and geology
Mr. David Nowell, M.Sc. (Meteorology), fellow of the Royal Meteorological Society, Canadian member and past chairman of the NATO Meteorological Group, Ottawa
Dr. Christopher Essex, professor of applied mathematics and associate director of the Program in Theoretical Physics, University of Western Ontario, London, Ont.
Dr. Gordon E. Swaters, professor of applied mathematics, Dept. of Mathematical Sciences, and member, Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Research Group, University of Alberta
Dr. L. Graham Smith, associate professor, Dept. of Geography, University of Western Ontario, London, Ont.
Dr. G. Cornelis van Kooten, professor and Canada Research Chair in environmental studies and climate change, Dept. of Economics, University of Victoria
Dr. Petr Chylek, adjunct professor, Dept. of Physics and Atmospheric Science, Dalhousie University, Halifax
Dr./Cdr. M. R. Morgan, FRMS, climate consultant, former meteorology advisor to the World Meteorological Organization. Previously research scientist in climatology at University of Exeter, U.K.

Dr. Keith D. Hage, climate consultant and professor emeritus of Meteorology, University of Alberta
Dr. David E. Wojick, P.Eng., energy consultant, Star Tannery, Va., and Sioux Lookout, Ont.
Rob Scagel, M.Sc., forest microclimate specialist, principal consultant, Pacific Phytometric Consultants, Surrey, B.C.
Dr. Douglas Leahey, meteorologist and air-quality consultant, Calgary
Paavo Siitam, M.Sc., agronomist, chemist, Cobourg, Ont.
Dr. Chris de Freitas, climate scientist, associate professor, The University of Auckland, N.Z.
Dr. Richard S. Lindzen, Alfred P. Sloan professor of meteorology, Dept. of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Dr. Freeman J. Dyson, emeritus professor of physics, Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton, N.J.
Mr. George Taylor, Dept. of Meteorology, Oregon State U.; Oregon State climatologist; past president, American Assoc of State Climatologists
Dr. Ian Plimer, professor of geology, School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Adelaide; emeritus professor of earth sciences, University of Melbourne, Australia
Dr. R.M. Carter, professor, Marine Geophysical Laboratory, James Cook University, Townsville, Australia
Mr. William Kininmonth, Australasian Climate Research, former Head National Climate Centre, Australian Bureau of Meteorology; former Australian delegate to World Meteorological Organization Commission for Climatology, Scientific and Technical Review
Dr. Hendrik Tennekes, former director of research, Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute
Dr. Gerrit J. van der Lingen, geologist/paleoclimatologist, Climate Change Consultant, Geoscience Research & Investigations, New Zealand
Dr. Patrick J. Michaels, professor of environmental sciences, University of Virginia
Dr. Nils-Axel Morner, emeritus professor of paleogeophysics & geodynamics, Stockholm University, Stockholm, Sweden
Dr. Gary D. Sharp, Center for Climate/Ocean Resources Study, Salinas, Calif.
Dr. Roy W. Spencer, principal research scientist, Earth System Science Center, The University of Alabama, Huntsville
Dr. Al Pekarek, associate professor of geology, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Dept., St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, Minn.
Dr. Marcel Leroux, professor emeritus of climatology, University of Lyon, France; former director of Laboratory of Climatology, Risks and Environment, CNRS
Dr. Paul Reiter, professor, Institut Pasteur, Unit of Insects and Infectious Diseases, Paris, France. Expert reviewer, IPCC Working group II, chapter 8 (human health)
Dr. Zbigniew Jaworowski, physicist and chairman, Scientific Council of Central Laboratory for Radiological Protection, Warsaw, Poland
Dr. Sonja Boehmer-Christiansen, reader, Dept. of Geography, University of Hull, U.K.; editor, Energy & Environment
Dr. Hans H.J. Labohm, former advisor to the executive board, Clingendael Institute (The Netherlands Institute of International Relations) and an economist who has focused on climate change
Dr. Lee C. Gerhard, senior scientist emeritus, U. of Kansas, past director and state geologist, Kansas Geological Survey
Dr. Asmunn Moene, past head of the Forecasting Centre, Meteorological Institute, Norway
Dr. August H. Auer, past professor of atmospheric science, University of Wyoming; previously chief meteorologist, Meteorological Service (MetService) of New Zealand
Dr. Vincent Gray, expert reviewer for IPCC, author of The Greenhouse Delusion: A Critique of 'Climate Change 2001,' Wellington, N.Z.
Dr. Howard Hayden, emeritus professor of physics, University of Connecticut
Dr Benny Peiser, professor of social anthropology, Faculty of Science, Liverpool John Moores University, U.K.
Dr. Jack Barrett, chemist and spectroscopist, formerly with Imperial College London, U.K.
Dr. William J.R. Alexander, professor emeritus, Dept. of Civil and Biosystems Engineering, University of Pretoria, South Africa. Member, United Nations Scientific and Technical Committee on Natural Disasters, 1994-2000
Dr. S. Fred Singer, professor emeritus of environmental sciences, University of Virginia; former director, U.S. Weather Satellite Service
Dr. Harry N.A. Priem, emeritus professor of planetary geology and isotope geophysics, Utrecht University; former director of the Netherlands Institute for Isotope Geosciences; past president of the Royal Netherlands Geological & Mining Society
Dr. Robert H. Essenhigh, E.G. Bailey professor of energy conversion, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering, Ohio State U.
Dr. Sallie Baliunas, astrophysicist and climate researcher, Boston, Mass.
Douglas Hoyt, senior scientist at Raytheon (retired) and co-author of the book The Role of the Sun in Climate Change; previously with NCAR, NOAA, and the World Radiation Center, Davos, Switzerland
Dipl.-Ing. Peter Dietze, independent energy advisor and scientific climate and carbon modeller, official IPCC reviewer, Bavaria, Germany
Dr. Boris Winterhalter, senior marine researcher (retired), Geological Survey of Finland, former professor in marine geology, University of Helsinki, Finland
Dr. Wibjorn Karlen, emeritus professor, Dept. of Physical Geography and Quaternary Geology, Stockholm University, Sweden
Dr. Hugh W. Ellsaesser, physicist/meteorologist, previously with the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Calif.; atmospheric consultant.
Dr. Art Robinson, founder, Oregon Institute of Science and Medicine, Cave Junction, Ore.
Dr. Arthur Rorsch, emeritus professor of molecular genetics, Leiden University, The Netherlands; past board member, Netherlands organization for applied research (TNO) in environmental, food and public health
Dr. Alister McFarquhar, Downing College, Cambridge, U.K.; international economist
Dr. Richard S. Courtney, climate and atmospheric science consultant, IPCC expert reviewer, U.K.

Preparation for Q&A

Where is "The Great Global Warming Swindle" available on the internet?
http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=4499562022478442170&q=global+warming+swindle&hl=en

What was your source for the barn stalls in the Viking farm in Greenland?
It can be found on p.232 of Jared Diamond's book, "Collapse: How Societies Chose to Fail or Succeed". The Viking settlement in Greenland coincided with the Medieval Warm Period and ended with the advent of the Little Ice Age. Jared Diamond is also the author of "Guns, Germs, and Steel - The Fates of Human Societies", which explains why the native Americans never invented the wheel. He is a fascinating author.

What does Al Gore's pool house have to do with women not having access to electricity in Africa?
Under the Kyoto Protocol Japan and Europe can purchase cheap emissions "credits" from developing nations that they can then use to help meet their emissions-reduction obligations at home. Interestingly, China, which has refused to accept any carbon cap, is the biggest polluter in the world, and the Kyoto Protocol allows China to sell us carbon credits. (WSJ 4/12/07) I doubt that 3rd World peasants who have to do without the benefits of power plants or railways will get much of the payment for the carbon credits.

How does a corporation or a country generate carbon credits for sale?
Close down a polluting factory is one way. Another is to plant trees that will consume greenhouse gases like CO_2. Carbon offsets are sold by the ton and not by area, and they do not have a return address. WSJ recently (4/14/07) described an interesting conundrum. Whether or not planting a tree adds to or detracts from global warming depends on where it is planted. For example, northern tree plantations can trap heat, as they both absorb solar energy and shade snow that would reflect solar energy. This, say scientists, can overpower the cooling effects of trees soaking up CO_2 and storing the carbon in the growing biomass.

Regardless of whether the case for GW is proven, shouldn't we still conserve "just in case"?
That is the Precautionary Principle. By all means conserve all you want for yourself, but don't stick others with either the cost or loss of benefit. Meeting Kyoto Protocols would cost the USA hundreds of billions of dollars and probably have no effect on global warming since that appears to be primarily sun driven. We have better uses for that kind of money. This is the point of the letter from the 60 scientists to the Canadian Prime Minister.

Some scientists might disagree, but aren't there still 2,500 or 5,000 whatever that did agree?
I referenced the example of Frederick Seitz, former President of the National Academy of Science, who had to sue to get them to remove his name from the 1996 IPCC report. He was not alone. "Contributed" is not the same as "Agreed". If you compare names listed as signatories of the 60 scientists' letter with those on the IPCC reports, you will notice something that I find significant. In the 60 scientists' letter, technical qualifications, fields of work, and ranks of each signer were listed along with their institutions. In the IPCC reports they listed only name and country or the name and institution. Very egalitarian, you might say. But would it not be nice to know if somebody was a professor or a grad student, a scientist or a summer intern, etc.?

Why should we believe the models of the skeptics are more reliable than the models of the alarmists?
The models used to produce the Hockey Stick graph did not reflect the Medieval Warm Period and the Little Ice Age that followed it, both of which are recorded history. The fact that the IPCC used the Hockey Stick graph in the face of this dichotomy is enough to cause everything put out by the IPCC to be suspect. The arguments I advanced re the effect of CO2 on the temperatures in the 20 Century are all modern data points for some point on earth and not calculated from mathematical models. Finally, temperature/CO2 correlations over a million years used in Al Gore's movie were replicated in at least three ice core studies. Both sides agreed there were correlations. The fact that peaks and troughs for temperature preceded peaks and troughs in CO2 levels demonstrated that CO2 was not the driving force.

How can they come up with a meaningful "average" temperature for the whole globe?
Good question, and I have no answer. I read that using a single data point to represent something as complicated as global temperature is as meaningful as using the average number in a phone book.

You said "this would not be the first time our environmental policies cost 3rd World lives". Give examples.
A good example of flawed science is our almost total ban on DDT, which we do not need nearly as much as people in the tropics do for malaria control. Use of DDT reduced Sri Lanka'a malaria burden from 2.8 million cases in 1948 to 17 cases and no deaths in 1963. Then Rachel Carson's book "Silent Spring" invigorated environmentalism and DDT was banned outright in some countries. When Sri Lanka ended use of DDT in 1968, instead of 17 malaria cases they had 480,000. More than a million children die from malaria every year in Africa. There is a difference between spraying DDT once a year in your house and spraying it on fields where it can get into the food chain.

If CO2 is at its highest level due to man's influence, should we not be worried?
That sounds sensible, but we should not overreact and do more damage like we did with the bans on DDT. Data from Hawaii shows that carbon dioxide levels have gone from about 315 parts per million in 1958 to c. 350 ppm in 1990, the greatest level in 130,000 years (Lyman 1990). That is 0.035%. Now I don't know about the validity of the 130,000 year claim, but the 800 year gap between rising temperature and rising CO2 levels suggests that we should now be experiencing a CO2 increase because of the Medieval Warm Period.

I have heard that Hawaii is downwind from Anak Krakatoa, a new volcano that is developing at the site of the original Krakatoa that blew up in 1883. Volcanoes put out prodigious amounts of CO2, more than all the factories and cars in the world. So using data from a single point on Earth may make as much sense as dialing the average number in a telephone book. Given that Hawaii has a volcano of its own, it makes relying on Hawaii as a key source of global CO2 data a mite suspect. But if you want to work in Hawaii, I guess that is where you take your readings. If you wanted to use a single place on Earth, Ireland would be more suitable to use. There are no local volcanoes and the island is downwind of about 3,000 miles of ocean.

In the Great Global Warming Swindle one scientist said that CO_2 levels have been much higher in the past. See http://www-eps.harvard.edu/people/faculty/hoffman/snowball_paper.html for a description of Snowball Earth. The theories involved suggest that the level of CO_2 in the atmosphere about 600 million years ago were 350 times current levels, i.e. about 12%.

What regulates the level of CO2 in the atmosphere?
Trees and other plants absorb CO_2 and give off O_2. The absorbed CO_2 becomes part of the biomass, e.g. the tree trunk. Burning that biomass is the same as burning natural gas, gasoline, or coal in air ($CH_4 + 2O_2 \rightarrow CO_2 + 2H_2O$). Water evaporating into the atmosphere acts as a CO_2 scrubber by condensing into rain droplets that then dissolve CO_2 in the air and carry it down into the ocean. This is why the oceans are a major source of CO_2, especially as they warm up, thereby making CO_2 less soluble. When Snowball Earth existed 600 million years ago there would have been little or no water in the atmosphere. It would have all been frozen into the glaciers. Thus, when volcanoes, which would not have been affected by the glaciers, erupted and sent CO_2 and ash into the cloudless sky, there would have been no rain to scrub the CO_2. That explains why CO_2 could have built up to 12% of the atmosphere. At that level, its greenhouse gas effect would have been hundreds of times more impactful than it has been in the last million years. That, and the ash deposited on the glaciers increased absorption of solar energy and another ice age ended.

In light of what you presented, how could I see a documentary on TV this week that included a scientist in Antarctica who is clearly a greenhouse gas alarmist? Was he a fool or are you wrong?
Perhaps he had skin in the game. I don't. What does his research in Antarctica cost and who pays? A key part of what I presented – temperature in the 20th century V. predictable manmade CO_2 – is easily verified. Another was the correlation of temperature and CO_2 from ice core data. Both skeptics and alarmists agree

on that data, although the latter show - but don't talk about - the 800 year gap. The credentials of the 60 scientists in the letter to the Canadian Prime Minister clearly demonstrate that there is not a 'consensus' among scientists on the issue. Finally, the deleted segments in the IPCC final reports and the lawsuit threatened by Dr. Frederick Seitz prove skullduggery. Believe what you want, but don't ask me, or my grandchildren, or anybody else, to pay for it. Al Gore jets around the world doing just that. One of the beliefs of liberalism seems to be that it is necessary to do something that makes you feel good about yourself regardless of how much harm it does to others. Bull!

How is burning alcohol in cars supposed to reduce greenhouse gas production? CO_2 is still produced.
Actually, more CO_2 would be produced by the use of gasohol than gasoline, but that part of it made from biomass would have recently been derived from CO_2 in the air. In contrast, CO_2 caused by burning gasoline comes from oil that has been underground for millions of years. Reasons that use of gasohol would produce more CO_2 include (a) alcohol contains less energy than gasoline and therefore more would have to be burned, (b) Gasohol cannot be pumped through pipelines and would have to be trucked or sent by rail from where it is produced (e.g. Iowa) to where it is used (e.g. New York), (c) energy is used to harvest corn to make alcohol.

If Global Warming is a big swindle, what can anybody do about it?
First off, avoid bundling unrelated issues. Skepticism about greenhouse gas global warming is NOT the same as being against environmentalism or recycling. 52% of our energy comes from the cheapest source, coal, so every alternative will drive up OUR costs, but not those of China. They have refused to accept caps on CO2. Know that this scam will cost us jobs, raise our cost of living, and do absolutely nothing about solar induced global warming. Speak up and vote accordingly.

Why would the UN – which runs the IPCC – support such a con job?
Why would the UN reelect Iran to co-chair the UN Disarmament Commission on April 9, 2007, the same week that Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad declared that Iran could now produce nuclear fuel on an industrial scale. No joke. He did so from the Natanz nuclear facility, the very site producing the very enriched uranium that caused the UN to slap sanctions on Tehran in December and just last month. The Disarmament Commission is responsible for reducing the development of dangerous weapons by dangerous nations. Syria is the secretary for this commission.

Why would the UN elect Zimbabwe to chair its Commission on Sustainable Development in May of 2007? Zimbabwe used to be known as "the bread basket of Africa". Today they are better known for 2,200% inflation and hungry people. Don't look for logic with the UN. Either follow the money or just look for the most anti-American thing they could do.

How could they determine what Oxygen and Carbon Dioxide levels were 1,000,000 years ago?
CO_2 and O_2 representative of ambient levels would dissolve in atmospheric precipitation (i.e. rain and snow) and this would deposit on the glaciers. Some would evaporate off in the summer, and what did not would be covered by the next winter's precipitation. Periodically, volcanic eruptions would spew dust into the air and this would deposit on the snow, thereby yielding a marker as reliable as a tree ring.

When ice cores are sampled from 500,000 years ago, one simply has to determine how much CO_2 is dissolved in the snow to see what the level of CO_2 was in the atmosphere 500,000 years ago. Temperature determination is more complicated, but it can be done by measuring isotopes of O_2. A naturally occurring but rare form of oxygen exists, with eight protons and ten neutrons, designated oxygen-18, by the atomic weight - i.e., the sum of the protons and neutrons. This isotope is slightly heavier than the common oxygen-16.

When the air is warmer, the heavier water molecules containing an oxygen-18 atom more readily condense out to form the snow that falls in that season's layer than when it is colder. Thus, ice core

layers with an enriched ratio of oxygen-18 to oxygen-16 indicate times of warmer air temperature. By measuring changes in the ratio of the oxygen isotopes, scientists infer the fluctuations in air temperature, going back hundreds of thousands of years. Other isotopes -- hydrogen and nitrogen, for instance -- can help confirm the temperature changes inferred from the oxygen measurements.

How about the *Clathrate Gun* Hypothesis?
'Clathrates' are chemical cages made of one type of molecule inside which another type of molecule is trapped. For example, Methane Clathrate is a cage of H_2O molecules trapping CH_4 molecules. It can be stable up to about 18°C if under enough pressure. Think of it as ice with methane gas trapped inside. Large deposits have been found under sediment in the sea. Methane is a more powerful green-house gas. The Clathrate Gun Hypothesis presumes that rapid release of large amounts of methane gas cause by warming of the sea could trigger higher global warming. It is a hypothesis. I recall one study in Antarctica where ice core sample laid down after a very rapid end of an Ice Age 15,000 years ago were tested to see if the methane level was high. It was not, so their search for proof of the Clathrate Gun hypothesis was not successful.

As an aside, rapid release of methane is one of the theories for why ships suddenly disappear in the Bermuda Triangle. If a ship was suddenly surrounded by a mass of gas bubbles in water, it would sink.

What is your source of information re the homes of George Bush and Al Gore?
The July 29, 2001 issue of the Chicago Tribune was the source of the information re Bush's house. (See http://epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Minority.Blogs&ContentRecord_id=0510480a-802a-23ad-401c-e362782ce790)

The Gore data popped up on many internet sites after he won his Oscar for *An Inconvenient Truth.* The original report was based on public records described by the Tennessee Center for Policy Research. (See http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=nation_world&id=5072659)

Gore's recommendation that 'families calculate their carbon footprint and take steps to reduce and offset it'.seems to me like saying "Sin less if you can, but if you can't, buy a few indulgences to cover your butt." Isn't that what caused the Reformation a few hundred years ago?

What is the source of the hottest years data?
An editorial in the Washington Times on August 15, 2007 described how NASA had quietly restated its numbers, without fanfare or so much as a press release, after a blogger pointed out faulty methodology. Now, per NASA: 1934 is hottest, followed by 1998, 1921, 2006 and 1931.
(See http://www.washingtontimes.com/article/20070815/EDITORIAL/108150004/1013)

"Follow the money" is usually good advice when skullduggery is suspected. Aside from research grants where is money to be made with Global Warming alarmism and its related laws?
Where does Al Gore buy his carbon credits to justify his high energy lifestyle? Generation Investment Management, a company he founded and of which he is Chairman? Incidentally, Generation Investment Management is an investor in the Chicago Climate Exchange, which was first funded by the Joyce Foundation on whose board President Obama sat in 2000 while in Chicago. They also will win a windfall in carbon trading fees, according to Ron Insana in the Street.com June 29, 2009.

31 March 2007 Irish Examiner

Climate change is a fact, but the reasons for it are still up in the air

By Ryle Dwyer

FOLLOWING my column two weeks ago, it was suggested that I was attacking Green Party policies and somehow suggesting there was no basis for conservation, recycling or cleaning up our air and water, and it was even said that I was suggesting that global warming is nonsense.

Global warming is a fact. It will undoubtedly lead to a rise in sea levels and some flooding could result, but the 20-foot rise predicted by Al Gore is a hysterical figment of the imagination of a failed politician.

Even the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) — which sparked much of the hysteria with its doctored report in 1996 — predicted just a 36-inch rise in the sea levels by the end of this century. It has since cut that prediction by more than half to 17 inches.

The Dutch have staved off such flooding over the centuries, and people should be making plans to cope with rising sea levels rather than taking futile measures to prevent inevitable warming, which is a result of solar activity over which we currently have no control. The opinions expressed in the column were the published views of recognised experts.

Of course, we should still tackle air pollution because of the respiratory problems it causes.

Fortunately, we no longer witness the kind of pea-soup fogs that went on for days and even weeks in Dublin and London in the 1950s. They were the result of a deadly combination of normal fog, industrial smog and the prolific use of soft coal.

On the basis of the greenhouse gas arguments, cigarette smoking is helping to provoke climate change. There is no proof of this, but there is proof that smoking damages health by contributing to both cancer and heart disease.

Environmentalism has it place and many greenhouse gas sceptics are staunch environmentalists. It is important, for instance, that drinking water should be cleaned up in Galway because cryptosporidium is a distinct threat to people's health.

It may cost millions to clean up the water, but it should be done for health reasons, not because an epidemic of the runs in Galway will lead to global warming. It will have no more impact on climate change on Earth than it will contribute to the shrinking of the polar ice caps on Mars.

Cleaning up our water and air is important to our quality of life. That's enough reason for doing so; the State should tackle those problems and not waste money on carbon credits to promote daft and unproven theories about climate change.

On April 8 last year, 60 prominent international experts in the fields of Earth science, climatology, meteorology, geophysics, maths and economics sent an open letter to Stephen Harper, the Canadian prime minister. Their goal was to get the Canadian government to review the actual evidence of climate change before implementing provisions of the Kyoto Protocol.

"While the confident pronouncements of scientifically unqualified environmental groups may provide for sensational headlines, they are no basis for mature policy formulation", they warned.

The study of global climate change is an emerging science and it will likely take many years before we understand the Earth's climate system properly.

"Significant advances have been made since the protocol was created, many of which are taking us away from a concern about increasing greenhouse gases", they continued.

"If, back in the mid-1990s, we knew what we know today about climate, Kyoto would almost certainly not exist because we would have concluded it was not necessary".

People have been citing a phoney 'consensus' of scientists on the IPCC to justify theories about global warming, but the actual 1996 consensus was that they could find no definite evidence that greenhouse gasses were responsible for global warming in any of their studies. "None of the studies cited above has shown clear evidence that we can attribute the observed changes to the specific cause of increased greenhouse gases" is what they actually concluded.

Unfortunately, this conclusion was excluded from the final report in order to fit a political agenda.

In the case of the 1996 IPCC report, the summary was published first, followed several months later by the actual report. But when the report was published several of the participating scientists were appalled that their conclusion about there being no clear evidence that greenhouse gases were responsible for global warming was dropped. Many of them denounced the change as an unscientific distortion designed to fit a political agenda.

OFFICIALS of the IPCC explained that the report's revisions were "to ensure that it conformed to a 'policymakers' summary' of the full report." Those officials were getting the whole process backward.

A summary is supposed to conform to the report, and while it might be permissible for policymakers to draw up such a summary with the approval of the experts, it is utterly perverse that the report drawn up by the scientists should be altered by policymakers just to comply with their own summary.

The people of Castlegregory, Co Kerry, had a practical example of the impact of distorted science in relation to their efforts to build an 18-hole golf course. They built a nine-hole course in the 1980s, but they have been blocked ever since by a bogus controversy over natterjack toads that were flourishing in ponds built as part of the course. In a report commissioned by the Council of Europe, Dr TJC Beebee of the University of Surrey wrote that "all three ponds, and the drainage channels, have been heavily used by natterjack and all contained between hundreds and tens of thousands of well-grown tadpoles at the time of our visit" (1991).

He admitted that natterjack toads were flourishing on the course, but contended that the area "must have supported a large local toad population" before the course was built. There was therefore no way of knowing what damage the construction of the course had done to the breeding grounds of the toads.

He was presuming there had been no scientific surveys of the natterjack in the area prior to building the course, but there had been a number of surveys which demonstrated that the area had not previously been a breeding ground at all.

Dr Maria Gibbons from UCG said she had been "monitoring and researching the Kerry toad populations on and off since 1981, and there is consequently much information available, most of which has been presented to the Wildlife Service in reports published in 1981, '82, '83 and '86".

"As far as I am aware (and I have been in Kerry for six breeding seasons)," she continued, "there were no toad breeding sites, at least during the 1980s, existing in the area now occupied by the nine-hole golf course. Toads would have always used this area for foraging during the summer, and that is presumably how they discovered the existence of the new golf course ponds in the first place", she explained.

"Evidently Dr Gibbons has more extensive knowledge of the Castlegregory area than I do", Dr Beebee candidly acknowledged in December 1992. He admitted natterjacks had flourished to a degree beyond what he had believed possible, but the building of a second nine holes had been blocked because of a supposed threat to natterjacks.

The people of Castlegregory were "natterjacked', just as the rest of the world is being deceived by distortions about the cause of global warming. Such behaviour gives environmentalism a bad name, and the environmentalists will ultimately endorse it at their own peril.

Irish Examiner 17 March, 2007 by Ryle Dwyer

On October 31, 1992 Pope John Paul II apologised on behalf of the Vatican for the persecution of Galileo Galilei over 350 years earlier. Poor Galileo had the nerve to say that the Sun, not the Earth, was the centre of our universe.

Even before Galileo was born, a Polish astronomer, Nicolaus Copernicus came to a similar conclusion. He believed that scientists before him and his own contemporaries were wrong in thinking the Sun and the planets revolved around the Earth. Instead, he reasoned that the Earth and the other planets revolved around the Sun. But he was afraid to push his views for fear of provoking the ridicule of his contemporary scientists, and possible excommunication from the Catholic Church.

The consensus then was that Earth was the centre of the universe, but Galileo was more forceful than Copernicus in pushing his ideas. Hence he got into trouble with the Church.

In October of 1632, Galileo was ordered to appear before the dreaded Inquisition. Facing torture and execution, he decided that discretion was the better part of valour, and he distanced himself from his life's work. He confessed, in writing, to heresy and he made a full public confession.

Pope Urban VIII and the other princes of the church had triumphed. Galileo, the heretic, was sentenced to indefinite imprisonment and told to be grateful that he was allowed to serve his time under house arrest near Florence.

Of course, we know now that they were wrong, but it took the Vatican over three and a half centuries to admit its mistake. This should be a classic warning that science by consensus is as faulty as the perverse racial theories expounded by the Nazis, the perverted Marxism practiced by the communists behind the Iron Curtain, or the radical fundamentalism that led to the terrorist outrages in New York, Bali and Madrid.

In a sense we are witnessing the rise of a new kind of fundamentalism, a secular religion in the form of a trendy naturalism that could be every bit as unthinking as the mentality that confronted Galileo. People are hyping hysterical theories about global warming that have been accepted by the gullible media and elements of the scientific community who have been prostituting themselves.

Last week Martin Durkin's Channel 4 documentary — The Great Global Warming Swindle — exposed the farce, but people hiding behind a cozy, ignorant consensus ridicule those who question the hysteria.

In science those who questioned unproven consensus made some of the greatest breakthroughs. The theories being expounded as part of the current hysterical consensus are not proven; they are just theories.

There are good grounds for questioning the current consensus in blaming man-made carbon dioxide (CO_2) for global warming. Global warming certainly exists and there is a rise in carbon dioxide levels, but are those levels the cause, or the effect of global warming?

Scientists have detected that the polar ice caps are receding on Mars. Nobody would rationally suggest that this is due to man-made carbon dioxide. Could it be something to do with the Sun?

Galileo had to cope with those who believed that man and Earth were at the centre of the universe. The same kind of delusion is prevalent today among those who are telling us that man is responsible for the greenhouse gasses, particularly CO_2, and thus for the global warming that is supposedly going to destroy the world.

"You can't say that CO_2 will drive climate," insists Professor Ian Clark of the Department of Earth Sciences at University of Ottawa. "It certainly never did in the past."

"None of the major climate changes in the past thousands years can be explained by CO_2," argues Dr Piers Corbyn, Climate Forecaster with Weather Action.

A United Nations sponsored body, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) came out with a report in 1996 that was supposedly a consensus of more than a thousand scientists who contended that CO_2 and the greenhouse gasses were going to lead to disaster, but a number of members of the IPCC, including Professor Paul Reiter of the Pasteur Institute, Paris, and Professor Richard Lindzen of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, denounced the study as a distortion, because some significant findings were altered in an unscientific way just to fit a political agenda.

Professor Frederick Seitz, former President of the American Academy of Sciences, described the report as a "disturbing corruption" of the peer review process, because a number of key observations made by scientists had been deleted. Those included their observation that "none of the studies cited above has shown clear evidence that we can attribute the observed changes to the specific cause of increased greenhouse gasses."

The IPCC explained that the changes were made "in response to comments from governments, individual scientists and non-governmental organizations." Professor John Christie, one of the main authors says that IPCC is a political body and its conclusions were politically motivated.

There has been a rise in the average temperature by just over 0.5 degree Celsius since the mid 19^{th} century. But most of that occurred prior to 1940, and the greatest increase was during the Great Depression of the 1930s when industrial activity was distinctly curtailed, yet there was a distinct drop

in temperature during the post war industrial boom until 1975. Ironically at that stage the BBC and the media generally were warning of the catastrophic impact that global cooling was going to have on the world's climate.

Scientists have been able to study climate changes over thousands of years by the study of ice core samples deposited throughout the ages. In his Oscar winning documentary, An Inconvenient Truth, Al Gore states that an ice core survey found a clear correlation between CO2 and temperature over the millennia. "When there is more carbon dioxide," Gore stated, "the temperature gets warmer."

The ice core data showed a definite link, but he got it backward. The oceans are the biggest producer of CO2. As the temperature of the oceans increase so do the levels of CO2 in the atmosphere. Over the thousands of years the world experienced numerous climate changes that had nothing to do with man-made greenhouse gasses.

When Eric the Red led the Norwegian Vikings to Greenland in the late 900s, it was an ice-free farm country with grass for sheep and cattle. By 12th century there were 3,000 people living there. But then in the 15th century the average temperature dropped by about 1.5 degrees Celsius and the world experienced a mini ice age that lasted for some 300 years. The Thames in London used to freeze so hard that people went skating on it.

We are currently in a warmer period in the cycle of change but it was even warmer in earlier times.

Going back over 400 years Professor Eigil Friss-Christensen, Director of Danish National Space Centre, has shown that solar activity caused by sun spots correlated very closely with the temperature on Earth. It is the Sun that drives climate changes.

The greenhouse gas hysteria is the modern equivalent to the kind of mistake that the Popes and the consensus scientists were making the 16th and 17th centuries in believing that man and Earth were the centre of the universe. They knew no better.

Paying carbon credits to underdeveloped countries will just waste our money and ensure they remain underdeveloped. We are victims of an incredibly extravagant scam being promoted by a reckless alliance of prostituting scientists, an uncritical media, and trendy elements inspired by irrational emotion.