

ON THREE COUNTS CLIMATE MODELS AND ENERGY POLICY HAVE FAILED

FIRST - Failed to assess implication of climate cycles

In the past, plants captured CO₂ together with solar energy and their decayed residues became fossil fuels. Their use releases the stored solar energy and carbon dioxide (CO₂) is returned for the benefit of plants to use again.

The CO₂ cycle is carbon neutral.

A greener planet is a result from an increasing share of CO₂, which remains low by the standards of geological time.

Ice Age Cycles

During the latest Ice Age ending about 12,000 years ago, ice up to 2 kilometres thick covered 30% of Earth's surface. The current Interglacial Warm Period with more energy absorbed from the Sun has brought gradual rises in temperatures and sea levels. The level of Bass Strait is now 20 metres higher than it was 12,000 years ago.

Sunspot Cycles

Within the longer Ice Age cycle is a shorter and less extreme climate cycle indicated by sunspot activity.

The Little Ice Age occurred when there was low sunspot activity.

We are now experiencing low sunspot activity and the NASA Ames Research Centre has forecast falling temperature. Record low temperatures during the recent Northern Hemisphere winter and a 20-year satellite global temperature low in March are consistent with this forecast. In May, some Northern areas of the UK experienced the coldest period since 1659, when temperature was first recorded. This weather may foreshadow another Little Ice Age.

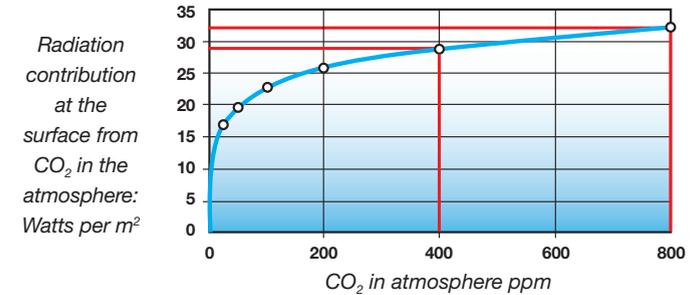
Climate models are driven by CO₂ but energy from the Sun determines climate.

SECOND - Failed to provide evidence of runaway greenhouse effect with CO₂

The present level of CO₂ is a 0.04% share of atmospheric gases. Additional increments bring minimal and diminishing warming effects (see graph).

Climate model predictions assume a multiplier of the CO₂ effect by cloud cover and moisture, no evidence for which exists.

Past CO₂ levels have been at least 4 times higher than at present and life on Earth flourished. Climate alarmism commenced when, Stephen Schneider (Lead Author of the UN IPCC) published an article in 'Discover' 1989 in



Source: Results derived from MODTRANS, an international and IPCC accepted standard for atmospheric calculations

which he sought to "capture the public's imagination" about CO₂ driving harmful climate change by offering in his words, "scary scenarios, make simplified dramatic statements, and make little mention of any doubts we may have".

Without evidence of a multiplier, scientists agree that runaway greenhouse effect from higher CO₂ is impossible.

THIRD - Failure due to dire faulty predictions resulting in harmful energy policy

In Australia, energy policies based on climate model predictions have led to rising power costs and less reliable energy bringing deindustrialisation. Further, these policies have raised households' electricity bills. Australia's existing coal generating units are being forced to close and replacements cannot be financed due to government subsidies and priority market access for unreliable renewables with high cost including capital and backup power. Gas fired generation which emits CO₂ is required to cover gaps in renewable

energy supplies. Including an annual subsidy of \$6.9 billion Australia's expenditure on renewables, relative to its population, is the highest in the world.

The efficiency of solar panels declines over about 20 years. The problem is then of disposing of toxic solar panel waste and the replacement cost.

Across the world, 1,160 coal fired units are planned or under construction mostly in Asian countries providing low cost power. China is building 120 units which will bring its total to 3,000 (Australia has just 60). Coal plants provide the

low cost, reliable power that Australia had 10 years ago. For industry to remain competitive, the Australian Government should follow other countries and encourage the building of new high efficiency coal fired units and consider nuclear power, instead of pursuing unproven technologies.

Worldwide there are 441 nuclear power stations with 54 under construction including one in the UK and 100 planned.

The Climate Study Group