

CLIMATE REALISM

“Carbon dioxide is a pollutant.”

WRONG

- **Wrong**, as plants absorb carbon dioxide (CO₂) an essential nutrient, then decay into fossil fuels. **USE OF FOSSIL FUEL RETURNS CO₂ FOR PLANTS TO ABSORB AGAIN FOR ABUNDANT GROWTH.** Plants are part of the food chain and life on Earth depends on the availability of CO₂ for plant growth.

“The return of CO₂ is encouraging plant growth.”

CORRECT

- **Correct**, because a study published in the journal ‘Nature’ concludes because of fossil fuel emissions plants are able to utilise 30% more CO₂, spurring plant growth. For Australia, there is an excess of CO₂ absorbed from the atmosphere compared with emissions. It has been estimated 2.3 tonnes of CO₂ are captured by plants for every tonne emitted.

“Fossil fuel emissions can cause a global climate catastrophe.”

WRONG

- **Wrong**, as geological markers show over 400 million years ago life flourished when CO₂ was 7,000 parts per million (ppm) and has now declined to a near record low of 411ppm. There is no observed scientific evidence from geology that CO₂ has ever caused a “*global climate catastrophe*”.

“The Great Barrier Reef is being destroyed by climate change.”

WRONG

- **Wrong**, because the Australian Institute of Marine Science has reported that most coral coverage is at its highest level since monitoring began 36 years ago.

“Models and science predict a global climate catastrophe caused by CO₂ emissions.”

WRONG

- **Wrong**, because such predictions have failed. For example, a forecast in 2007 made by a leading Australian climate change advocate predicted that global warming “*was so baking that even the rain that falls isn’t actually going to fill our dams and our river systems*”. Dams for Brisbane, Canberra and Sydney have since filled to near overflowing. It turns out what has been relevant for Australian climate was made in 1908 by Dorothea Mackellar in her poem ‘*My Country*’ that Australia was a land “*of droughts and flooding rains*”. Meanwhile, nothing has changed and there has been insufficient attention to address flood mitigation, preparation for droughts and building dams.

“Intermittent renewables will reduce power costs.”

WRONG

- **Wrong**, as subsidies for intermittent renewables and their priority access to market displaces coal generation. As a result, Australian power costs continue to increase from the lowest to near the highest in the world for households and industry.
- **CONCLUSION: THE FACTS DO NOT SUPPORT PREDICTIONS OF GLOBAL CLIMATE CATASTROPHE CAUSED BY CO₂ EMISSIONS.** A number of countries have reached the same conclusion by building and planning 345 coal fired stations with an operating life of at least 50 years.