

**The Week That Was: 2015-01-17 (January 17, 2015)**  
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**The Science and Environmental Policy Project**

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**Quote of the Week:** *‘The last 15 years, there has been no recorded warming. Contrary to all the theories that—that they are expounding, there should have been warming over the last 15 years. It hasn’t happened.’* Senator Ted Cruz, just named chairman of the Subcommittee on Space, Science, and Competitiveness. [H/t Climate Etc.]

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**Number of the Week:** 0.02°C

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**THIS WEEK:**

**By Ken Haapala, President, Science and Environmental Policy Project (SEPP)**

**NOAA – NASA Temperature Announcement:** Perhaps few public statements exemplify the willingness of certain government agencies to mislead the public as clearly as this week’s joint announcement by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The press release reads as if the announcement was considered more an opportunity for self-promotion than a scientific statement.

*“NASA is at the forefront of the scientific investigation of the dynamics of the Earth’s climate on a global scale,” said John Grunsfeld, associate administrator for the Science Mission Directorate at NASA Headquarters in Washington. “The observed long-term warming trend and the ranking of 2014 as the warmest year on record reinforces the importance for NASA to study Earth as a complete system, and particularly to understand the role and impacts of human activity.”*

*“NOAA provides decision makers with timely and trusted science-based information about our changing world,” said Richard Spinrad, NOAA chief scientist. “As we monitor changes in our climate, demand for the environmental intelligence NOAA provides is only growing. It’s critical that we continue to work with our partners, like NASA, to observe these changes and to provide the information communities need to build resiliency.”*

*“NASA monitors Earth’s vital signs from land, air and space with a fleet of satellites, as well as airborne and ground-based observation campaigns. NASA develops new ways to observe and study Earth’s interconnected natural systems with long-term data records and computer analysis tools to better see how our planet is changing. The agency shares this unique knowledge with the global community and works with institutions in the United States and around the world that contribute to understanding and protecting our home planet.”*

**The press release touts a fleet of satellites yet ignores the measurements from these satellites, the most comprehensive set of global temperature ever compiled, which do not support the claim that 2014 was the warmest year on record.** As discussed in the January 10 TWTW, the reporting agencies for satellite temperatures, independently supported by data from radiosondes on weather balloons, are the Earth System Science Center at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) and Remote Sensing Systems (RSS). UAH reported that 2014 was the third warmest since 1979, barely exceeding several other years such as 2002, 2005, and 2013. RSS, reported that 2014 only the sixth warmest.

It is unfortunate that these government agencies both claim to be scientific, with one responsible for the US civilian space program (NASA), and the other claims its mission is “to understand and predict changes in climate, weather, oceans, and coasts” (NOAA), ignore the finest scientific temperature data available. Clearly, these agencies subordinate scientific discovery to other purposes.

Writing for the Global Warming Policy Forum (GWPF), David Whitehouse, among others, pointed out that the NASA-GISS (Goddard Institute of Space Studies) database of **surface data** showed that the margin of warming for 2014 was about 0.02 deg C above the data for 2010. He asserts that the margin of error of the measurements is about +/- 0.1 deg C. Thus, the “bump” in temperatures is within the margin of error of the reported data and “[t]alk of a record is therefore scientifically and statistically meaningless.” TWTW would argue that, given poor geographic coverage of the surface-air observations, the movement of observation points on the surface, and the frequent manipulation of the data by the reporting entities, not clearly publically disclosed, the margin of error is likely to be well above +/- 0.1 deg C and it is actually unknown. Further, when comparing satellite observations, which comprise volumes of air contrasting with points on the surface, the surface data is inferior.

Whitehouse also points out that the Berkeley Earth (BEST) analysis team reported its findings, which are similar but its press release is starkly different. “The global surface temperature average (land and sea) for 2014 was nominally the warmest since the global instrumental record began in 1850; however, within the margin of error, it is tied with 2005 and 2010 and so we can’t be certain it set a new record.”

Judith Curry observes that the *New York Times* promoted the claim that 2014 was the hottest year ever and quoted Gavin Schmidt, the head of NASA-GISS, who claimed the next time a strong El Niño occurs, “it is likely to blow away all temperature records”. Curry discusses the issue of the issue of the El Niño, which is occurring but not as strong or as typical as some expected.

Schmidt’s mention of an El Niño raises a critical issue. If it takes a natural event such as an El Niño to push temperatures higher, then there is something very wrong with the science in which the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) proclaimed 95% certainty that humans are the primary cause of global warming and with the models based on this science.

Curry brings up that Senator Ted Cruz (R-Texas) was just named to be the chairman of the Subcommittee on Space, Science, and Competitiveness. “The folks at *Slate* are not happy: *Yup, a Climate Change Denier Will Oversee NASA. What Could Possibly Go Wrong?* They are particularly up in arms over this statement from Ted Cruz: *‘The last 15 years, there has been no recorded warming. Contrary to all the theories that—that they are expounding, there should have been warming over the last 15 years. It hasn’t happened.’*” As Curry points out, there is nothing irrational or incorrect about Senator Cruz’s statement. No wonder he is opposed by global warming promoters. See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy, Questioning the Orthodoxy, and Measurement Issues.

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**Legislative Opportunities:** With the new Congress, SEPP was asked in what five major areas can there be some legislative improvement. One area is data quality as illustrated by the above press release by NOAA – NASA. Even in press releases, agencies claiming to be scientific must use the finest data available. Important data should not be hidden or ignored. Someone with NOAA or NASA may argue that satellite data do not go as far back 1880. The rebuttal is what type of

surface coverage was there in 1880 in Greenland, Antarctica, Asia, Africa, etc? From a global perspective, the claim that the surface record goes back to 1880 is meaningless.

A second area is the use of models that have not been validated in establishing policy, particularly long-rang projections from such models. As we are witnessing, global climate models are failing in the short-term. There is no logical reason to assume that their long-range projections will fare any better. Establishing energy policy, land use policy, etc. on such models can create unneeded, major hardships. Such energy policies include those under Germany's *Energiewende*, the UK's Climate Change Act of 2008, and the US Administration's Clean Power Plan.

A third area for legislative correction is the tailoring of global models for regional analysis, without independent validation. Further, when models are inconsistent with data, data should take preference. For example, the budget of the US Global Change Research program is about \$2.5 billion and has remained at that level since 2010 (adjusted for inflation). The USGCRA states its mission as: "Thirteen Agencies, One Vision: Empower the Nation with Global Change Science."

On May 6, 2014 USGCRP released its National Climate Assessment. The report contains 8 regional reports and one for the 48 states contiguous states. The regional report for the Southeast U.S. projects a major general warming of about 10 F for the region even though "The lack of mid-20th century warming in the Southeast is not simulated by the models. However, 21st century simulations of temperature indicate that future warming will be much larger than the observed values for the 20th century." There is no logically reason for this assertion ant the inconsistency between data and models.

A fourth area for legislative improvement is the social benefits of carbon dioxide. Increased atmospheric carbon dioxide is a great benefit to agriculture, the environment, and humanity. We have thousands of empirical studies showing these benefits. Fear of increased atmospheric carbon dioxide is not substantiated, yet the benefits are being ignored.

And a fifth area are false fossil fuel limitations and electricity issues. Neither the US nor the world will run out of fossil fuels in the foreseeable future. The US has hundreds of years of coal, and at least decades of oil and natural gas. We do not know how much. As being demonstrated in China, with metallurgy improvements, ultra-supercritical coal-fired plants are a reality. These plants are more efficient and cleaner than coal-fired plants in the past. The only remaining issue is disposal of the coal ash, which is solvable. Yet, Washington opposing coal-fired power plants and fossil fuels.

Civilization requires affordable, reliable electricity. Who would check into a modern hospital for a major operation if the electricity frequently failed without warning? Until an affordable, reliable electricity-storage system is available on a commercial scale, solar and wind generation are second-class. The storage issue has been recognized for about 100 years. Subsidies and mandates for deployment of unreliable electricity should stop until the storage issue is solved.

Links supporting above statements from US government include:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/FY%202015%20Climate.pdf>,

<http://www.globalchange.gov/ncadac>, and

[http://scenarios.globalchange.gov/sites/default/files/NCA-SE\\_Regional\\_Scenario\\_Summary\\_20130517\\_banner.pdf](http://scenarios.globalchange.gov/sites/default/files/NCA-SE_Regional_Scenario_Summary_20130517_banner.pdf)

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**A Different Climate Model?** Statistician William Matt Briggs introduces us to a different, simple, climate model designed by Christopher Monckton, Willie Soon, David Legates and Briggs. According to the press release by Briggs, the model was explained in a paper accepted by *Science Bulletin* (formerly Chinese Science Bulletin), the Orient's equivalent of *Science* or *Nature*. The press release states the simple model was designed to answer the question why the general circulation models used by the IPCC overestimate warming since 1990. Based on the information given, the new model tracks much better than the highly complex general circulation models favored by the IPCC and the organizations that follow it. The main difference between the simple model and the IPCC models is that in the new model, it is assumed that natural processes will reduce the impact of warming caused by increased carbon dioxide (negative feedback), while the IPCC models, in general, assume natural processes will enhance the impact of warming caused by increased carbon dioxide (positive feedback such as water vapor).

No doubt, some in the orthodox Climate Establishment will dismiss or ignore the new model. But the climate research being conducted by Chinese scientists is important and, in some cases, supersedes the empirical research by the climate establishment and the IPCC. Other errors by the climate establishment are coming to the fore, such as the inability to physically find the so called "hot spot", a region of pronounced warming centered over the tropics at about 33,000 feet (10km). The "hot spot" is part of EPA's claim that humans are the cause of late 20<sup>th</sup> century warming and its justification for regulating carbon dioxide emissions.

According to the press release, Monckton states: "Our irreducibly simple climate model does not replace more complex models, but it does expose major errors and exaggerations in those models, such as the over-emphasis on positive or amplifying temperature feedbacks. ..."

Although significant additional work and testing remains, the approach by Monckton, et al. of a negative feedback is consistent with prior findings by Spencer and Braswell, and Lindzen and Chou. Given that both Spencer and Lindzen have reported great difficulty in having their work published, the *Science Bulletin* may become a welcome addition to science journals. See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy.

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**Oil Prices, How Low?** The recent drop in oil prices has created massive speculation on how low can the prices go? Much of this speculation involves petro-states, the governments of nations that derive a large portion of their budgets from state-owned oil companies. Several conclusions can be drawn from this controversy. One, the shale-gale is real. Deep underground hydraulic fracturing of dense shale to produce oil works, even though the initial oil production tapers off very quickly. Two, the frequently proclaimed monopoly of big oil is a myth. Much of major production is controlled by governments. The shale-gale in the US is dominated by small and mid-sized producers that took advantage by leasing drilling rights in shale formations very early. Three, contrary to prior predictions, oil production will be a major source of energy for years to come (unless the anti-fossil fuel groups seize control of most of the world's productive areas).

Writing in Project Syndicate, Anatole Kaletsky offers a different approach than most commentators, many of whom focus on the revenue needs of the governments of the petro-states. Kaletsky suggests that the floor price for oil is determined by the lowest-cost major oil producer, Saudi Arabia, and that the ceiling is determined by marginal costs of the North American shale producers.

If so, then recent news about major US shale oil producers should give pause to those speculating on a major price increase. According to the *Wall Street Journal*, companies such as EOG Resources Inc. “are drilling better wells faster. EOG said recently it takes 4.3 days to drill its average well in the Eagle Ford Shale in South Texas, down from 14.2 days in 2012. What’s more, as it drills more of them, it has figured out how to locate wells to get the highest oil output... Combining lowering costs and increasing output means that EOG says it can drill wells at \$40 per barrel in North Dakota, South Texas and West Texas, while still earning a 10% return.”

One can add that the traditional drilling risks of hitting a dry hole have virtually disappeared. See Article # 2, links under Energy Issues – Non-US, Energy Issues – US and Oil and Natural Gas – the Future or the Past?

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**Additions and Corrections:** Following last week’s altered quote of the week: “You can fool all the people some of the time, and some of the people all the time, but you cannot fool Nature!”, Professor of Mathematics Christopher Essex quipped: “Ah, but you can fool the magazine by that name.”

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**Number of the Week: 0.02°C.** As reported by David Whitehouse of GWPF, and others, the bump in global temperature, that created a great triumphal announcement among global warming promoters, was all of 0.02°C, well within the range of error. See comments under NOAA-NASA Temperature Announcement.

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## **ARTICLES:**

### **Let’s Rethink New Methane Policy**

A new set of regulations on the oil and natural-gas industries, targeting emissions of methane are based on shoddy climate science.

Letters, S. Fred Singer, WSJ, Jan 15, 2015

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/lets-rethink-new-methane-policy-letters-to-the-editor-1421363688>

Regarding your editorial “Meth Heads in the White House” (Jan. 5): The White House has announced plans to impose a new set of regulations on the oil and natural-gas industries, targeting emissions of methane. The basis is shoddy climate science, as propagated in various U.N.-IPCC reports. These claim that the global-warming potential of a methane molecule is about 50 times that of CO<sub>2</sub>, and that climate forcing from growth of atmospheric methane is about 20% of carbon dioxide’s. Their estimates are too high by as much as a factor of 100. They made two basic scientific errors, as can be readily shown. They ignored the fact that the infrared absorption bands of atmospheric water vapor cover those of methane (as pointed out by my physicist colleague Dr. Tom Sheahan); one cannot absorb the same radiation twice. Further, the methane bands are located far from the peak of the surface heat emission spectrum, where there is little energy available to be absorbed. I don’t know how IPCC got its numbers—but they are wrong.

As your editorial states: “The real reason methane has become an obsession of the green lobby is that it sometimes leaks when extracting or transporting oil and especially natural gas. Thus methane [control] can be a pretext for interfering with and raising the costs of drilling.”

Fred Singer, Ph.D.,  
Chairman, Science & Environmental Policy Project  
Arlington, Va.

Mr. Singer published early estimates of anthropogenic production of methane and its contribution to stratospheric water vapor (Nature, 1971), since confirmed by data.

### **Abolish the Gas Tax**

A better way to fund roads and bridges than more pain at the pump.

Editorial, WSJ, Jan 14, 2015

[http://www.wsj.com/articles/abolish-the-gas-tax-1421281241?mod=WSJ\\_hps\\_sections\\_opinion](http://www.wsj.com/articles/abolish-the-gas-tax-1421281241?mod=WSJ_hps_sections_opinion)

SUMMARY: “Drivers now see about a quarter of their gas taxes diverted to subsidize mass transit in merely six metro areas and sundry other programs for street cars, ferries, sidewalks, bike lanes, hiking trails, urban planning and even landscaping nationwide. Trolley riders, et al., contribute nothing to the” Highway Trust Fund.

### **Back to the Future? Oil Replays 1980s Bust**

Rise of Shale Extraction Speeds Output and Changes Equation for Producers

By Russell Gold, WSJ, Jan 13, 2015

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/back-to-the-future-oil-replays-1980s-bust-1421196361>

SUMMARY: “The key driver here is improved efficiency,” Mr. Nysveen says.

Companies like EOG Resources Inc. are drilling better wells faster. EOG said recently it takes 4.3 days to drill its average well in the Eagle Ford Shale in South Texas, down from 14.2 days in 2012. What’s more, as it drills more of them, it has figured out how to locate wells to get the highest oil output.

Combining lowering costs and increasing output, EOG says it can drill wells at \$40 per barrel in North Dakota, South Texas and West Texas, while still earning a 10% return. We “pride ourselves on being a very efficient operator,” Billy Helms, EOG’s head of exploration, said at a recent industry conference.”

### **As Oil Slips Below \$50, Canada Digs In for Long Haul**

Oil-Sands Operators, Seeing Long-Term Value, Aren’t Likely to Shut Off the Tap Any Time Soon

By Chester Dawson, WSJ, Jan 12, 2015

[http://www.wsj.com/articles/as-oil-slips-below-50-canada-digs-in-for-long-haul-1421114641?mod=WSJ\\_hp\\_LEFTWhatsNewsCollection](http://www.wsj.com/articles/as-oil-slips-below-50-canada-digs-in-for-long-haul-1421114641?mod=WSJ_hp_LEFTWhatsNewsCollection)

SUMMARY: With already committed high up-front capital costs, as compared with operating costs, oil-sand producers are less sensitive to short-term market changes than many oil producers.

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### **NEWS YOU CAN USE:**

#### ***Commentary: Is the Sun Rising?***

#### **The Sun and solar physicists go quiet**

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Jan 14, 2015

<http://joannenova.com.au/2015/01/the-sun-and-solar-physicists-go-quiet/>

#### **More sun means fewer children, grandchildren**

By Pernille Feilberg Langeland, Gemini, Jan 9, 2015 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

<http://gemini.no/en/2015/01/more-sun-means-fewer-children-grandchildren/>

#### ***Challenging the Orthodoxy***

#### **2014: Global Temperature Stalls Another Year**

By David Whitehouse, GWPF, Jan 16, 2015

<http://www.thegwpf.com/2014-global-temperature-stalls-another-year/>

### **'Warmest year', 'pause', and all that**

By Judith Curry, Climate Etc. Jan 16, 2015

<http://judithcurry.com/2015/01/16/warmest-year-pause-and-all-that/#more-17601>

### **NEW PAPER: Why Models Run Hot: Results From An Irreducibly Simple Climate Model**

By William Briggs, His Blog, Jan 14, 2015

<http://wmbriiggs.com/blog/?p=15237>

Link to paper: Why models run hot: results from an irreducibly simple climate model

By Monckton, Soon, Legates, and Briggs, Science Bulletin, [No Date]

<http://www.scibull.com:8080/EN/abstract/abstract509579.shtml>

### **University Of Augsburg 44-Year Veteran Meteorologist Calls Climate Protection "Ridiculous"... "A Deception"!**

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Jan 12, 2015

<http://notrickszone.com/2015/01/12/university-of-augsburg-44-year-veteran-meteorologist-calls-climate-protection-ridiculous-a-deception/#sthash.5BjTbQ0w.dpbs>

### **Faux polar bear figures**

By Susan Crockford, Financial Post, Jan 15, 2015

<http://business.financialpost.com/2015/01/15/faux-polar-bear-figures/>

### **German Scientist Slams, Mocks PIK's Use Of Tacky Madison Avenue-Style Marketing To Sell (Junk) Climate Science**

Learning from the PIK means learning how to win: Clever Climate Marketing 2.0

By Dr. Sebastian Lüning, Translated by P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Jan 16, 2015

<http://notrickszone.com/2015/01/16/german-scientist-slams-mocks-piks-use-of-tacky-madison-avenue-style-marketing-to-sell-junk-climate-science/#sthash.8QwS6eOB.dpbs>

### **Sans science, sans maths, sans everything**

By Andrew Montford, Bishop Hill, Jan 12, 2015

<http://bishophill.squarespace.com/blog/2015/1/12/sans-science-sans-maths-sans-everything.html>

### **'Threatened' status for Arctic ringed seals under ESA makes no sense**

By Susan Crockford, Polar Bear Science, Jan 14, 2015

<http://polarbearscience.com/2015/01/14/threatened-status-for-arctic-ringed-seals-under-esa-makes-no-sense/#more-23696>

### ***Defending the Orthodoxy***

#### **Bernie Sanders: Passing Keystone XL Means A 'Significantly Less Habitable' Planet**

By Amber Ferguson, Huffington Post, Jan 14, 2015 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/01/14/bernie-sanders-keystone-pipeline\\_n\\_6470716.html?ncid=txtlnkusaolp00000592](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/01/14/bernie-sanders-keystone-pipeline_n_6470716.html?ncid=txtlnkusaolp00000592)

### **Kerry: Climate science 'screaming at us'**

By Jesse Byrnes, The Hill, Jan 16, 2015

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/229812-kerry-climate-science-screaming-at-us>

Link to Report: Global Analysis – Annual 2014

By Staff Writers, NOAA, Published Dec 2014, Retrieved, Jan 17, 2015

<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/global/2014/13>

### ***Questioning the Orthodoxy***

#### **2014, NOAA NASA produce weakest science on hottest fantasy in modern record**

The Art of Lying by Omission

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Jan 15, 2015

<http://joannenova.com.au/2015/01/2014-noaa-nasa-produce-weakest-science-on-hottest-fantasy-in-modern-record/>

#### **You Ought to Have a Look: Record Global Temperatures**

By Patrick Michaels and Paul “Chip” Knappenberger, CATO, Jan 16, 2015

<http://www.cato.org/blog/you-ought-have-look-record-global-temperatures>

#### **GISS Hottest Year Claims Not Supported By The Data**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Jan 16, 2015

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2015/01/16/giss-hottest-year-claims-not-supported-by-the-data/>

#### **2014 - Annus Horribilus For Climate Alarmists**

By Doug Hoffman, The Resilient Earth, Jan 9, 2015 [H/t GWPF]

<http://theresilientearth.com/?q=content/2014-annus-horribilus-climate-alarmists>

#### **If summer ice was critical for S. Beaufort polar bears, 2012 would have decimated them**

By Susan Crockford, Polar Bear Science, Jan 12, 2015

<http://polarbearscience.com/2015/01/12/if-summer-ice-was-critical-for-s-beaufort-polar-bears-2012-would-have-decimated-them/>

#### **Lawrence Solomon: Fantasies about global warming and other delusions will fare poorly in 2015**

By Lawrence Solomon, Financial Post, Jan 9, 2015 [H/t GWPF]

<http://business.financialpost.com/2015/01/09/lawrence-solomon-fantasies-about-global-warming-and-other-delusions-will-fare-poorly-in-2015/>

#### **Those Green Australians! Our emissions per person fell 28% since 1990**

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Jan 13, 2015

<http://joannenova.com.au/2015/01/those-green-australians-our-emissions-per-person-fell-28-since-1990/>

### ***Problems in the Orthodoxy***

#### **Preparing for the Unknown Unknowns**

By Lucy Marcus, Project Syndicate, Jan 15, 2015

<http://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/wef-global-risks-by-lucy-p--marcus-2015-01>

Link to Report: Global Risks 2015

By Staff Writers, World Economic Forum, No Date

<http://reports.weforum.org/global-risks-2015/part-1-global-risks-2015/introduction/>

*[SEPP Comment: The major environmental risks from 18 months to 10 years are extreme weather events and failure of climate change adaption.]*

#### **Climate change skeptic takes reins of Brazil’s science ministry**

By Lizzie Wade, Science Mag, Jan 9, 2015 [H/t Toshio Fujita]

<http://news.sciencemag.org/climate/2015/01/climate-change-skeptic-takes-reins-brazil-s-science-ministry>

### **Kerry, Obama Pressuring India on Climate Change**

By Patrick Michaels, CATO, Jan 12, 2015

<http://www.cato.org/blog/kerry-obama-pressuring-india-climate-change>

### ***Seeking a Common Ground***

#### **Evidence and objectivity**

By Martin Livermore, The Scientific Alliance, Jan 16, 2015

<http://scientific-alliance.org/node/902>

### **What would Charles Keeling think? Science in spite of politics**

By Judith Curry, Climate Etc. Jan 13, 2015

<http://judithcurry.com/2015/01/13/what-would-charles-keeling-think-science-in-spite-of-politics/>

### **Carbon conversation**

By Peter Gill, Bishop Hill, Jan 15, 2015

<http://bishophill.squarespace.com/blog/2015/1/15/carbon-conversation.html>

[SEPP Comment: Exploring the life-time of the CO<sub>2</sub> molecule in the atmosphere, depending on source.]

### ***Review of Recent Scientific Articles by CO<sub>2</sub> Science***

#### **Corals Seeking Shelter from the Storm of Acidification & Bleaching**

By Yates, K.K., Rogers, C.S., Herlan, J.J., Brooks, G.R., Smiley, N.A. and Larson, R.A. 2014.

Diverse coral communities in mangrove habitats suggest a novel refuge from climate change. *Biogeosciences* **11**: 4321-4337.

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V18/jan/a13.php>

#### **Biases Driving Biases in CMIP5 Models of Earth's Major Monsoons**

By Sandeep, S. and Ajayamohan, R.S. 2014. Origin of cold bias over the Arabian Sea in climate models. *Scientific Reports* **4**: 10.1038/srep06403.

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V18/jan/a12.php>

#### **Roman and Medieval Warm Periods vs. the Current Warm Period**

By Yan, H., Sun, L., Shao, D., Wang, Y. and Wei, G. 2014. Higher sea surface temperature in the northern South China Sea during the natural warm periods of late Holocene than recent decades. *Chinese Science Bulletin* **59**: 4115-4122

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V18/jan/a9.php>

#### **CMIP5 Models Misinterpreting the North Atlantic Oscillation**

By Davini, P. and Cagnazzo, C. 2014. On the misinterpretation of the North Atlantic Oscillation in CMIP5 models. *Climate Dynamics* **43**: 1497-1511

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V18/jan/a8.php>

### ***Models v. Observations***

#### **Warmest Year on Record Is Still Bad News for Climate Models**

By Patrick Michaels, CATO, Jan 16, 2015

<http://www.cato.org/blog/warmest-year-record-still-bad-news-climate-models>

### **Alarmists Bizarrely Claim “Just what AGW predicts” about the Record High Global Sea Surface Temperatures in 2014**

By Bob Tisdale, WUWT, Jan 11, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/01/11/alarmists-bizarrely-claim-just-what-agw-predicts-about-the-record-high-global-sea-surface-temperatures-in-2014/>

### ***Measurement Issues***

#### **UHI? What UHI Say GISS**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Jan 15, 2015

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2015/01/15/uhi-what-uhi-say-giss/#more-12523>

#### **The Average Temperature of 2014 Results from Berkely Earth**

By Staff Writers, Berkeley Earth, January 14, 2015

<http://static.berkeleyearth.org/memos/Global-Warming-2014-Berkeley-Earth-Newsletter.pdf>

#### **Weather Instrumentation Debacle? Analysis Shows 0.9°C Of Germany’s Warming May Be Due To Transition To Electronic Measurement**

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Jan 13, 2015

<http://notrickszone.com/2015/01/13/weather-instrumentation-debacle-analysis-shows-0-9c-of-germanys-warming-may-be-due-to-transition-to-electronic-measurement/#sthash.nvrj9jWo.dpbs>

#### **Another bias in temperature measurements discovered**

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Jan 12, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/01/12/another-bias-in-temperature-measurements-discovered/>

#### **Mountain system inflates temp increases at higher elevations**

By Staff Writers, Missoula MT (SPX), Jan 13, 2015

[http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Mountain\\_system\\_artificially\\_inflates\\_temperature\\_increases\\_at\\_higher\\_elevations\\_999.html](http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Mountain_system_artificially_inflates_temperature_increases_at_higher_elevations_999.html)

#### **Germany’s Warming Happens To Coincide With Late 20th Century Implementation Of Digital Measurement**

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Jan 14, 2015

<http://notrickszone.com/2015/01/14/germanys-warming-happens-to-coincide-with-late-20th-century-implementation-of-digital-measurement/#sthash.QHhhBMHN.dpbs>

#### **NASA Mountaintop Sensor Finds High Methane over LA**

By Staff Writers, Pasadena CA (JPL), Jan 14, 2015

[http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/NASA\\_Mountaintop\\_Sensor\\_Finds\\_High\\_Methane\\_over\\_LA\\_999.html](http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/NASA_Mountaintop_Sensor_Finds_High_Methane_over_LA_999.html)

### ***Changing Weather***

#### **Global Tropical Cyclone Landfalls, 1970-2014**

By Roger Pielke Jr. The Climate Fix, Jan 12, 2015

<https://theclimatefix.wordpress.com/2015/01/12/global-tropical-cyclone-landfalls-1970-2014/>

#### **The US and Florida Intense Hurricane Drought, Continued**

By Roger Pielke Jr. The Climate Fix, Jan 5, 2015

<https://theclimatefix.wordpress.com/2015/01/05/the-us-and-florida-intense-hurricane-drought-continued/>

### **Cold kills: Summer no sweat for Aussies but winter freeze fatal**

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Jan 13, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/01/13/cold-kills-summer-no-sweat-for-aussies-but-winter-freeze-fatal/>

### **Forgotten extreme heat, El Nino of 1878 — when miners would “knock off” at 44.4C!**

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Jan 16, 2015

<http://joannenova.com.au/2015/01/forgotten-extreme-heat-el-nino-of-1878-when-miners-yearned-for-the-years-when-theyd-knock-off-at-44-4c/>

### **California Rainfall Nearly Back To Normal In 2014**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Jan 12, 2015 [H/t GWPF]

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2015/01/12/california-rainfall-nearly-back-to-normal-in-2014/>

### ***Changing Seas***

#### **Claim: Acceleration in sea level rise ‘worse than we thought’**

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Jan 14, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/01/14/claim-acceleration-in-sea-level-rise-worse-than-we-thought/>

#### **Sea level rise was less than thought (skeptics were right)**

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Jan 15, 2015

<http://joannenova.com.au/2015/01/sea-level-rise-was-less-than-thought-skeptics-were-right/>

#### **Sea Level Goes The Way The Wind Blows...Wind, Pressure Play Major Roles**

By Ed Caryl, No Tricks Zone, Jan 11, 2015

<http://notrickszone.com/2015/01/11/sea-level-goes-the-way-the-wind-blows-wind-pressure-play-major-roles/#sthash.HIStTIST.dpbs>

#### **Global sea levels rising faster than previously thought, study shows**

By Robert McSweeney, Carbon Brief, Jan 14, 2015

[http://www.carbonbrief.org/blog/2015/01/global-sea-levels-rising-faster-than-previously-thought-study-shows/?utm\\_source=Weekly+Carbon+Briefing&utm\\_campaign=0effea4012-Carbon\\_Brief\\_Weekly\\_111114&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_3ff5ea836a-0effea4012-215218249](http://www.carbonbrief.org/blog/2015/01/global-sea-levels-rising-faster-than-previously-thought-study-shows/?utm_source=Weekly+Carbon+Briefing&utm_campaign=0effea4012-Carbon_Brief_Weekly_111114&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3ff5ea836a-0effea4012-215218249)

Link to paper: Probabilistic reanalysis of twentieth-century sea-level rise

By Hay, Morrow, Kopp & Mitrovica, Nature, Jan 14, 2015

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/vaop/ncurrent/full/nature14093.html>

#### **Ocean 'calamities' oversold, say researchers**

Team calls for more scepticism in marine research.

By Daniel Cressey, Nature, Jan 14, 2015 [H/t GWPF]

[http://www.nature.com/news/ocean-calamities-oversold-say-researchers-1.16714?WT.mc\\_id=TWT\\_NatureNews](http://www.nature.com/news/ocean-calamities-oversold-say-researchers-1.16714?WT.mc_id=TWT_NatureNews)

### **Pakistan's coastal villagers retreat as seas gobble land**

By Rina Saeed Khan, Reuters, Jan 9, 2015 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

<http://news.yahoo.com/pakistans-coastal-villagers-retreat-seas-gobble-land-104942959.html>

### ***Changing Cryosphere – Land / Sea Ice***

#### **Al Gore, wrong again – Polar ice continues to thrive**

By Rolf Westgard, WUWT, Jan 13, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/01/13/al-gore-wrong-again-polar-ice-continues-to-thrive/>

#### **WRONG AGAIN: Greenland's Ice Sheet Defies Critics With 4-Year High**

By Michael Bastasch, Daily Caller, Jan 13, 2015 [H/t GWPF]

<http://dailycaller.com/2015/01/13/wrong-again-greenlands-ice-sheet-defies-critics-with-4-year-high/>

#### **Fossils reveal past, and possible future, of polar ice**

By Staff Writers, Gainesville FL (SPX), Jan 11, 2015

[http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/On\\_a\\_tropical\\_island\\_fossils\\_reveal\\_the\\_past\\_and\\_possible\\_future\\_of\\_polar\\_ice\\_999.html](http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/On_a_tropical_island_fossils_reveal_the_past_and_possible_future_of_polar_ice_999.html)

[SEPP Comment: Fails to justify why temperatures will rise rapidly in the next few years.]

#### **Greenland melting due equally to global warming, natural variations**

By Hanna Hickey, UW Today, May 7, 2015

<http://www.washington.edu/news/2014/05/07/greenland-melting-due-equally-to-global-warming-natural-variations/>

### ***Changing Earth***

#### **Small volcanic eruptions partly explain 'warming hiatus'**

By Staff Writers, DOE/Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Jan 9, 2015 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

[http://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2015-01/dlnl-sve010915.php](http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2015-01/dlnl-sve010915.php)

Link to paper: Total volcanic stratospheric aerosol optical depths and implications for global climate change

By Ridley, Solomon, et al, Nov 28, 2015

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/2014GL061541/abstract?campaign=wlytk-41855.5282060185>

#### **Volcanoes Once Again, Again**

By Willis Eschenbach, WUWT, Jan 9, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/01/09/volcanoes-once-again-again/>

[SEPP Comment: Miniscule findings?]

#### **Volcanoes may have cooled the Earth by 0.05°C to 0.12°C since 2000**

Scientists had overlooked the role of aerosols from small eruptions

The aerosols accumulate between the stratosphere and troposphere

This layer of the atmosphere is difficult to study as clouds obscure it

Eruptions through 1990s and 2000s have contributed to warming 'pause'

Global temperatures plateaued since 1998 after rapid warming in 1990s

The findings mean models predicting climate change need to be revised

By Richard Gray, Daily Mail, UK, Jan 12, 2015 [H/t GWPF]  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-2906874/Volcanoes-cooling-Earth-Aerosols-small-eruptions-reduced-global-temperatures-tropical-rainfall.html>

### **Dinosaurs wiped out rapidly in Europe 66 million years ago**

By Staff Writers, Bucharest, Romania (SPX), Jan 15, 2015  
[http://www.terraily.com/reports/Dinosaurs\\_wiped\\_out\\_rapidly\\_in\\_Europe\\_66\\_million\\_years\\_a\\_go\\_999.html](http://www.terraily.com/reports/Dinosaurs_wiped_out_rapidly_in_Europe_66_million_years_a_go_999.html)

### **How Greenland Got Its Glaciers**

By Laura Geggel, Live Science, Jan 13, 2015  
<http://news.yahoo.com/greenland-got-glaciers-221128017.html>

### **Scientists say a meteorite could be responsible for Antarctic crater**

By Brooks Hays, Princess Elizabeth, Belgium (UPI), Jan 13, 2015  
[http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Scientists\\_say\\_a\\_meteorite\\_could\\_be\\_responsible\\_for\\_Antarctic\\_crater\\_999.html](http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Scientists_say_a_meteorite_could_be_responsible_for_Antarctic_crater_999.html)

### ***Agriculture Issues & Fear of Famine***

#### **Research finds salt tolerance gene in soybean**

By Staff Writers, Adelaide, Australia (SPX), Jan 13, 2015  
[http://www.seeddaily.com/reports/Research\\_finds\\_salt\\_tolerance\\_gene\\_in\\_soybean\\_999.html](http://www.seeddaily.com/reports/Research_finds_salt_tolerance_gene_in_soybean_999.html)  
[SEPP Comment: Will the greens fight it?]

### ***Un-Science or Non-Science?***

#### **Claim: Social cost of climate change too low, Stanford scientists say**

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Jan 13, 2015  
<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/01/13/claim-social-cost-of-climate-change-too-low-stanford-scientists-say/>

Their alternative formulation incorporated recent empirical findings suggesting that climate change could substantially slow economic growth rates, particularly in poor countries.  
[SEPP Comment: The “findings” are more modeled than empirical.]

### **Long-term economic shocks imply taking strong, early action on climate change, study shows**

By Mat Hope, The Carbon Brief, Jan 12, 2015  
[http://www.carbonbrief.org/blog/2015/01/long-term-economic-shocks-imply-taking-strong-early-action-on-climate-change-study-shows/?utm\\_source=Weekly+Carbon+Briefing&utm\\_campaign=0effea4012-Carbon\\_Brief\\_Weekly\\_111114&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_3ff5ea836a-0effea4012-215218249](http://www.carbonbrief.org/blog/2015/01/long-term-economic-shocks-imply-taking-strong-early-action-on-climate-change-study-shows/?utm_source=Weekly+Carbon+Briefing&utm_campaign=0effea4012-Carbon_Brief_Weekly_111114&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3ff5ea836a-0effea4012-215218249)

Link to paper: Temperature impacts on economic growth warrant stringent mitigation policy  
By Moore and Diaz, Nature Climate Change, Jan 12, 2015  
<http://www.nature.com/nclimate/journal/vaop/ncurrent/full/nclimate2481.html>  
Optimal climate policy in this model stabilizes global temperature change below 2 °C

### **The Dangerous Underestimation of Climate Change's Cost**

By Nicholas St. Fleur, the Atlantic, Jan 14, 2015 [H/t Clyde Spencer]  
<http://news.yahoo.com/calculating-dollar-value-climate-change-175804558.html>

*[SEPP Comment: Typical propaganda photo of cooling towers and chimneys emitting steam.]*

### **The rate of sea-level rise is ‘far worse than previously thought,’ study says**

By Terrence McCoy, Washington Post, Jan 15, 2015

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2015/01/15/the-rate-of-sea-level-rise-is-far-worse-than-previously-thought-study-says/?tid=hpModule\\_9d3add6c-8a79-11e2-98d9-3012c1cd8d1e&hpid=z15](http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2015/01/15/the-rate-of-sea-level-rise-is-far-worse-than-previously-thought-study-says/?tid=hpModule_9d3add6c-8a79-11e2-98d9-3012c1cd8d1e&hpid=z15)

Link to paper, Probabilistic reanalysis of twentieth-century sea-level rise

By Hay, Morrow, Kopp & Mitrovica, Nature,

[http://www.nature.com/articles/nature14093.epdf?referrer\\_access\\_token=hLGjDz3v00M2CoAKFNSzVtRgN0jAjWel9jnR3ZoTv00iDnkEGiwklZvRXtMtZcWSkCbFz51YcSJg-d-3zQp\\_N67V0wWNAhqBg-tYr5ox\\_33gtWnZsJcWNGkpeXarWJEy](http://www.nature.com/articles/nature14093.epdf?referrer_access_token=hLGjDz3v00M2CoAKFNSzVtRgN0jAjWel9jnR3ZoTv00iDnkEGiwklZvRXtMtZcWSkCbFz51YcSJg-d-3zQp_N67V0wWNAhqBg-tYr5ox_33gtWnZsJcWNGkpeXarWJEy)

### ***Lowering Standards***

#### **NOAA and NASA to declare 2014 the hottest year on record**

By Staff Writers, ICECAP, Jan 15, 2015

[http://icecap.us/index.php/go/political-climate/noaa\\_and\\_nasa\\_to\\_declare\\_2014\\_the\\_hottest\\_year\\_on\\_record2/](http://icecap.us/index.php/go/political-climate/noaa_and_nasa_to_declare_2014_the_hottest_year_on_record2/)

### **The loss of climate significance**

By Sierra Rayne, American Thinker, Jan 9, 2015 [H/t Timothy Wise]

[http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2015/01/the\\_loss\\_of\\_climate\\_significance.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2015/01/the_loss_of_climate_significance.html)

### ***Communicating Better to the Public – Exaggerate, or be Vague?***

#### **Rivers Are Draining Greenland Quickly: NASA-UCLA**

By Staff Writers, Los Angeles CA (SPX), Jan 14, 2015

[http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Rivers\\_Are\\_Draining\\_Greenland\\_Quickly\\_NASA\\_UCLA\\_999.html](http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Rivers_Are_Draining_Greenland_Quickly_NASA_UCLA_999.html)

Link to paper: Efficient meltwater drainage through supraglacial streams and rivers on the southwest Greenland ice sheet

By Smith et al, PNAS, Jan 12, 2015

<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2015/01/07/1413024112.full.pdf+html>

*[SEPP Comment: They have probably been doing so for thousands of years. The study is focused on southwestern Greenland during the heavy 2012 melt season.]*

### **Climate Change Is Forcing Polar Bears North—Here’s Why That’s Bad News**

By Katharine Gammon, Takepart.com, Jan 9, 2015 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

<http://news.yahoo.com/climate-change-forcing-polar-bears-north-why-bad-211218459.html>

*[SEPP Comment: One to three generations of bears – how many years?]*

### ***Communicating Better to the Public – Make things up.***

#### **ABC got it wrong, BOM not concerned with Australian public being misinformed**

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Jan 14, 2015

<http://joannenova.com.au/2015/01/abc-got-it-wrong-bom-not-concerned-with-australian-public-being-misinformed/>

### **Climate change, extinctions signal Earth in danger zone: study**

By Alister Doyle, Reuters, Jan 15, 2015 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

<http://news.yahoo.com/climate-change-extinctions-signal-earth-danger-zone-study-190551775.html>

### ***Communicating Better to the Public – Go Personal.***

#### **A cancer in our midst**

By Andrew Montford, Bishop Hill, Jan 11, 2015

<http://bishophill.squarespace.com/blog/2015/1/11/a-cancer-in-our-midst.html>

### ***Communicating Better to the Public – Use Propaganda on Children***

#### **Climate-Change Education Advocates Denounce 'The False Science From West Virginia'**

By Rebecca Klein, Huffington Post, Jan 16, 2015

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/01/07/west-virginia-climate-change-standards\\_n\\_6432050.html?cps=gravity\\_2845\\_3477961352299526398](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/01/07/west-virginia-climate-change-standards_n_6432050.html?cps=gravity_2845_3477961352299526398)

*[SEPP Comment: The cited study is the one by John Cook published in Environmental Research Letters and has the phony 97% of scientists.]*

#### **West Virginia decides to teach global warming propaganda to kids**

By Pedro Gonzales, American Thinker, Jan 15, 2015

[http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2015/01/west\\_virginia\\_decides\\_to\\_teach\\_global\\_warming\\_propaganda\\_to\\_kids.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2015/01/west_virginia_decides_to_teach_global_warming_propaganda_to_kids.html)

*[SEPP Comment: Humans influence local and regional climate, the key issue should be clearly stated: are human emissions of CO2 causing unprecedented and dangerous global warming? The physical evidence fails.]*

### ***Expanding the Orthodoxy***

#### **Bringing Ocean Acidification to the Climate Change Agenda**

By Michael Madsen, IAEA, Jan 13, 2015

<http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/bringing-ocean-acidification-climate-change-agenda>

*[SEPP Comment: Doubtful if the International Atomic Energy Agency can supply comprehensive data to support the claims. "There has been a 26 per cent increase of ocean acidification since pre-industrial levels, and the current rate of ocean acidification is over ten times faster than any other period in the last 55 million years." Given the logarithmic scale, 26% is misleading.]*

#### **Ex-Im Bank Staffs Up With Politically Connected Green Energy Execs**

Meet the renewable industry bigwigs and leading environmentalists who will push green energy at Ex-Im

By Lachlan Markay, Washington Free Beacon, Jan 13, 2015 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://freebeacon.com/issues/ex-im-bank-staffs-up-with-politically-connected-green-energy-execs/>

#### **Pope on climate change: Man has 'slapped nature in the face'**

By Nicole Winfield, AP, Jan 15, 2015 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

<http://news.yahoo.com/pope-climate-change-man-slapped-nature-face-121451945.html>

### ***Green Jobs***

#### **Solar industry adds 31,000 jobs [US]**

By Timothy Cama, The Hill, Jan 15, 2015

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/229657-solar-industry-adds-31000-jobs>

### ***Non-Green Jobs***

#### **Baker Hughes: U.S. oil and gas work steady**

By Daniel J. Graeber, Houston (UPI), Jan 9, 2015

[http://www.oilgasdaily.com/reports/Baker\\_Hughes\\_US\\_oil\\_and\\_gas\\_work\\_steady\\_999.html](http://www.oilgasdaily.com/reports/Baker_Hughes_US_oil_and_gas_work_steady_999.html)

### ***Funding Issues***

#### **Academic freedom for me, but not for thee**

By Andrew Montford, Bishop Hill, Jan 16, 2015

<http://bishophill.squarespace.com/blog/2015/1/16/academic-freedom-for-me-but-not-for-thee.html>

*[SEPP Comment: It may be that the professor in question has been labeled a “stealth lobbyist” for the Koch brothers. Is their money, not demonstrated, an evil influence on academic ideas, and government money is not?]*

#### **Frivolous Professors Teach Students Foolish Lessons**

By Kerry Jackson, IBD, Jan 14, 2015 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://news.investors.com/blogs-capital-hill/011415-734793-stanford-professors-letter-urges-fossil-fuel-divestment.htm>

### ***The Political Games Continue***

#### **Ted Cruz Overseeing NASA? It Hasn't Looked This Bad Since 2013, Except For 1993, 1973 And 1959**

By Hank Cambell, Science 2.0, Jan 15, 2015 [H/t Climate Etc.]

[http://www.science20.com/science\\_20/ted\\_cruz\\_overseeing\\_nasa\\_it\\_hasnt\\_looked\\_this\\_bad\\_since\\_2013\\_except\\_for\\_1993\\_1973\\_and\\_1959-152268](http://www.science20.com/science_20/ted_cruz_overseeing_nasa_it_hasnt_looked_this_bad_since_2013_except_for_1993_1973_and_1959-152268)

#### **Republicans Should Offer Their Own Climate Change Amendment to Keystone XL Measure**

By Patrick Michaels, CATO, Jan 13, 2015

<http://www.cato.org/blog/republicans-should-offer-their-own-climate-change-amendment-keystone-xl-measure>

#### **Senate to vote on whether climate change is happening**

By Laura Barron-Lopez, The Hill, Jan 13, 2015 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/229381-mcconnell-to-allow-climate-change-amendment-on-keystone-bill>

#### **Top MIT Climate Scientist: ‘Senate’s Climate Change Vote Is Ludicrous’**

By Wochit 1:00 mins, Video, Jan 15, 2015 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

<http://news.yahoo.com/video/top-mit-climate-scientist-senate-155650699.html>

### ***Litigation Issues***

#### **Supreme Court Will Hear EPA Case This Term**

By Staff Writers, NCPA, Jan 13, 2015

[http://www.ncpa.org/sub/dpd/index.php?Article\\_ID=25248&utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=DPD](http://www.ncpa.org/sub/dpd/index.php?Article_ID=25248&utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=DPD)

### ***EPA and other Regulators on the March***

#### **White House announces new methane emission controls**

By Staff Writers, Washington (AFP), Jan 14, 2015

[http://www.oilgasdaily.com/reports/White\\_House\\_announces\\_new\\_methane\\_emission\\_controls\\_999.html](http://www.oilgasdaily.com/reports/White_House_announces_new_methane_emission_controls_999.html)

### **Americans Understand The Obama EPA Is A Jobs Killer**

Editorial, IBD, Jan 12, 2015 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://news.investors.com/ibd-editorials/011215-734373-environmental-protection-agency-kills-jobs.htm>

### **War On Shale: EPA Targets Fracking Boom With New Regs**

Editorial, IBD, Jan 14, 2015 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://news.investors.com/ibd-editorials/011415-734769-obama-epa-new-fracking-methane-rules.htm?p=full>

### **EPA unveils first methane regulations**

By Laura Barron-Lopez, The Hill, Jan 14, 2015

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/229567-epa-unveils-first-methane-regulations>

### **Proposed EPA Methane Emissions Regulations Are a Waste of Time and Energy**

By Paul “Chip” Knappenberger and Patrick Michaels, CATO, Jan 16, 2015

<http://www.cato.org/blog/proposed-epa-methane-emissions-regulations-are-waste-time-energy>

### **U.S. Will Seek to Cut Upstream Methane Emissions Up to 45% by 2025**

By Thomas Overton, Power, Jan 14, 2015

[http://www.powermag.com/u-s-will-seek-to-cut-upstream-methane-emissions-up-to-45-by-2025/?hq\\_e=el&hq\\_m=3012032&hq\\_l=5&hq\\_v=5e660500d0](http://www.powermag.com/u-s-will-seek-to-cut-upstream-methane-emissions-up-to-45-by-2025/?hq_e=el&hq_m=3012032&hq_l=5&hq_v=5e660500d0)

### **EPA head defends methane rule from greens’ criticism**

By Timothy Cama, The Hill, Jan 16, 2015

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/229781-epa-head-defends-methane-rule-from-greens-criticism>

### **EPA wants to overhaul oil spill dispersant rules**

By Timothy Cama, The Hill, Jan 13, 2015

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/229374-epa-wants-to-overhaul-oil-spill-dispersant-rules>

### ***Energy Issues – Non-US***

#### **A New Ceiling for Oil Prices**

By Anatole Kaletsky, Project Syndicate, Jan 14, 2015

<http://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/oil-prices-ceiling-and-floor-by-anatole-kaletsky-2015-01>

*[SEPP Comment: In this analysis the marginal costs of US shale producers (about \$50 per barrel will become the new ceiling.]*

#### **Eyeing election, UK's Labour seeks to force energy firms to cut prices**

By Andrew Osborn, Reuters, Jan 11, 2015 [H/t GWPF]

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2015/01/11/britain-politics-energy-idUKL6N0UQ0B320150111>

*[SEPP Comment: A different approach than those in the US demanding increased taxes.]*

## **Russia Is Losing Control Over The European Gas Market**

By Elena Holodny, Business Insider, UK, Jan 15, 2015 [H/t GWPF]

<http://uk.businessinsider.com/russia-losing-european-gas-2015-1?r=US>

## **The Russian Threat Runs Out of Fuel**

By Daniel Gros, Project Syndicate, Jan 14, 2015

<http://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/russia-oil-prices-ukraine-ruble-collapse-by-daniel-gros-2015-01>

## **Big Six Energy Groups To Defy Price Cut Call**

By Staff Writer, Sky News, Jan 10, 2015

<https://uk.finance.yahoo.com/news/big-six-energy-groups-defy-183734740.html>

*[SEPP Comment: Political demands to reduce consumer prices.]*

## **The implications of \$50-a-barrel oil for the world's energy mix**

By Mat Hope, The Carbon Brief, Jan 12, 2015

[http://www.carbonbrief.org/blog/2015/01/the-implications-of-50-dollar-a-barrel-oil-for-the-world-energy-mix/?utm\\_source=Weekly+Carbon+Briefing&utm\\_campaign=0effea4012-Carbon+Brief+Weekly+111114&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_3ff5ea836a-0effea4012-215218249](http://www.carbonbrief.org/blog/2015/01/the-implications-of-50-dollar-a-barrel-oil-for-the-world-energy-mix/?utm_source=Weekly+Carbon+Briefing&utm_campaign=0effea4012-Carbon+Brief+Weekly+111114&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3ff5ea836a-0effea4012-215218249)

*[SEPP Comment: In the US, natural gas, not oil, is competitive with wind and solar.]*

## **Cheaper oil complicates war on climate change**

By Nyshka Chandran, CNBC, Jan 11, 2015 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.cnbc.com/id/102323772#>.

*[SEPP Comment: Propaganda photo of dry cracked earth on the banks of Shasta Lake in California, an area that has received extensive rainfall recently.]*

## **Expert views: How low oil prices affect the UK's climate and energy policy**

By Mat Hope, The Carbon Brief, Jan 13, 2015

[http://www.carbonbrief.org/blog/2015/01/expert-view-how-low-oil-prices-affect-decarbonisation-policy/?utm\\_source=Weekly+Carbon+Briefing&utm\\_campaign=0effea4012-Carbon+Brief+Weekly+111114&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_3ff5ea836a-0effea4012-215218249](http://www.carbonbrief.org/blog/2015/01/expert-view-how-low-oil-prices-affect-decarbonisation-policy/?utm_source=Weekly+Carbon+Briefing&utm_campaign=0effea4012-Carbon+Brief+Weekly+111114&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3ff5ea836a-0effea4012-215218249)

## **Iran out billions of dollars in oil revenue**

By Daniel J. Graeber, Tehran (UPI), Jan 12, 2015

[http://www.oilgasdaily.com/reports/Iran\\_out\\_billions\\_of\\_dollars\\_in\\_oil\\_revenue\\_999.html](http://www.oilgasdaily.com/reports/Iran_out_billions_of_dollars_in_oil_revenue_999.html)

*[SEPP Comment: Does not consider the money the government is saving by not having to subsidize fuel to its population as deeply.]*

## **Iran says Saudi will suffer more from oil price slide**

By Arthur MacMillan, Tehran (AFP), Jan 13, 2015

[http://www.oilgasdaily.com/reports/Iran\\_says\\_Saudi\\_will\\_suffer\\_more\\_from\\_oil\\_price\\_slide\\_999.html](http://www.oilgasdaily.com/reports/Iran_says_Saudi_will_suffer_more_from_oil_price_slide_999.html)

"Saudi Arabia's budget reliance on oil sales is 80 percent and 90 percent of its annual exports are related to oil. Kuwait's budget is 95 percent reliant on oil." – according to Iran's president Rouhani.

## ***Energy Issues -- US***

### **Obama targets oil and gas industry, demands massive reduction in methane emissions**

By Benn Wolfgang, The Washington Times, Jan 14, 2015

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/jan/14/obama-hits-oil-and-gas-industry-demands-massive-re/>

### **Black gold starts to tarnish energy firms**

By Zac Coleman, Washington Examiner, Jan 12, 2015

[http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/black-gold-starts-to-tarnish-energy-firms/article/2558381?utm\\_campaign=Washington%20Examiner:%20Politics%20Today&utm\\_source=Washington%20Examiner:%20Politics%20Today%20-%202001/12/15&utm\\_medium=email](http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/black-gold-starts-to-tarnish-energy-firms/article/2558381?utm_campaign=Washington%20Examiner:%20Politics%20Today&utm_source=Washington%20Examiner:%20Politics%20Today%20-%202001/12/15&utm_medium=email)

### **Bipartisan Energy Policy: Consumers, Taxpayers Beware**

By Peter Grossman, Master Resource, Jan 13, 2015

<https://www.masterresource.org/1970s-oil-price-and-allocation-regulation/beware-bipartian-energy-policy/>

### **The Real Cause Of Low Oil Prices**

By James Stafford of Oilprice.com, Washington DC (SPX), Jan 13, 2015

[http://www.oilgasdaily.com/reports/The\\_Real\\_Cause\\_Of\\_Low\\_Oil\\_Prices\\_999.html](http://www.oilgasdaily.com/reports/The_Real_Cause_Of_Low_Oil_Prices_999.html)

## ***Washington's Control of Energy***

### **On Keystone, Obama has no excuses left**

Editorial, Washington Examiner, Jan 12, 2015

[http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/on-keystone-obama-has-no-excuses-left/article/2558492?utm\\_campaign=Washington%20Examiner:%20Opinion%20Digest&utm\\_source=Washington%20Examiner:%20Opinion%20Digest%20-%202001/12/15&utm\\_medium=email](http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/on-keystone-obama-has-no-excuses-left/article/2558492?utm_campaign=Washington%20Examiner:%20Opinion%20Digest&utm_source=Washington%20Examiner:%20Opinion%20Digest%20-%202001/12/15&utm_medium=email)

### **White House Issues Formal Position on House Keystone XL Bill**

By Kate Sheppard, Huffington Post, Jan 7, 2015

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/01/07/house-keystone-obama\\_n\\_6430540.html?cps=gravity\\_2845\\_-885267626263473480](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/01/07/house-keystone-obama_n_6430540.html?cps=gravity_2845_-885267626263473480)

### **Canada disses Obama, postpones meeting with U.S. over Keystone pipeline: report**

By Ben Wolfgang, Washington Times, Jan 15, 2015

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/jan/15/canada-postpones-meeting-us-over-keystone-report/>

### **More than Six Years Later, Keystone XL Is Still a Good Idea**

By Nicolas Loris, Heritage Foundation, Jan 8, 2015

<http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/2015/01/more-than-six-years-later-keystone-xl-is-still-a-good-idea>

### **Keystone matters more now than ever**

By Arthur Herman, Washington Examiner, Jan 15, 2015

[http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/keystone-matters-more-now-than-ever/article/2558672?utm\\_campaign=Washington%20Examiner:%20Opinion%20Digest&utm\\_source=Washington%20Examiner:%20Opinion%20Digest%20-%202001/15/15&utm\\_medium=email](http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/keystone-matters-more-now-than-ever/article/2558672?utm_campaign=Washington%20Examiner:%20Opinion%20Digest&utm_source=Washington%20Examiner:%20Opinion%20Digest%20-%202001/15/15&utm_medium=email)

## **Vetoing Bipartisan Energy, Job and Economic Growth**

By Paul Driessen, Townhall, Jan 10, 2015

<http://townhall.com/columnists/pauldriessen/2015/01/10/vetoing-bipartisan-energy-job-and-economic-growth-n1940981/page/full>

## **The shallow opposition to Keystone**

By Benjamin Zycher, The Hill, Jan 15, 2015

<http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/energy-environment/229519-the-shallow-opposition-to-keystone-xl>

## **How should we calculate the CO2 impact of the Keystone pipeline proposal?**

By Peter Erickson and Michael Lazarus, The Conversation, Jan 14, 2015 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

[http://theconversation.com/how-should-we-calculate-the-co2-impact-of-the-keystone-pipeline-proposal-](http://theconversation.com/how-should-we-calculate-the-co2-impact-of-the-keystone-pipeline-proposal-36099?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest+from+The+Conversation+for+January+14+2015&utm_content=Latest+from+The+Conversation+for+January+14+2015+CID_9b33ff3fc87d8bd19699fa7453a4f2b0&utm_source=campaign_monitor_us&utm_term=How%20should%20we%20calculate%20the%20CO2%20impact%20of%20the%20Keystone%20pipeline%20proposal)

[36099?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Latest+from+The+Conversation+for+January+14+2015&utm\\_content=Latest+from+The+Conversation+for+January+14+2015+CID\\_9b33ff3fc87d8bd19699fa7453a4f2b0&utm\\_source=campaign\\_monitor\\_us&utm\\_term=How%20should%20we%20calculate%20the%20CO2%20impact%20of%20the%20Keystone%20pipeline%20proposal](http://theconversation.com/how-should-we-calculate-the-co2-impact-of-the-keystone-pipeline-proposal-36099?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest+from+The+Conversation+for+January+14+2015&utm_content=Latest+from+The+Conversation+for+January+14+2015+CID_9b33ff3fc87d8bd19699fa7453a4f2b0&utm_source=campaign_monitor_us&utm_term=How%20should%20we%20calculate%20the%20CO2%20impact%20of%20the%20Keystone%20pipeline%20proposal)

*[SEPP Comment: Quite reasonable except the analysis fails to calculate the displacement of oil from oil sands from Venezuela at Texas refineries with oil from oil sands from Canada.]*

[http://www.southportland.org/files/3713/9387/3165/Heavy\\_Oil\\_and\\_Tar\\_Sands.pdf](http://www.southportland.org/files/3713/9387/3165/Heavy_Oil_and_Tar_Sands.pdf)

## ***Oil and Natural Gas – the Future or the Past?***

### **Oil Price ‘To Fall To \$20’ As Gulf States Battle Shale Drillers In**

By Tim Webb, The Times, Via GWPF, Jan 14, 2015

<http://www.thegwpf.com/oil-price-to-fall-to-20-as-gulf-states-battle-shale-drillers-in-us/>

## **Shale economic challenged**

US shale economics challenged as crude, natural gas prices collapse

By Arjun Sreekumar, Platts, Jan 13, 2015

[http://www.platts.com/news-feature/2015/naturalgas/us-shale-crude-natgas-prices/index?elq=~~eloqua..type--emailfield..syntax--](http://www.platts.com/news-feature/2015/naturalgas/us-shale-crude-natgas-prices/index?elq=~~eloqua..type--emailfield..syntax--recipientid~~&elqcampaignid=~~eloqua..type--campaign..campaignid--0..fieldname--id~~&wt.mc_id=ngam201501we_shaleecon&wt.tsrc=eloqua)

[recipientid~~&elqcampaignid=~~eloqua..type--campaign..campaignid--0..fieldname--id~~&wt.mc\\_id=ngam201501we\\_shaleecon&wt.tsrc=eloqua](http://www.platts.com/news-feature/2015/naturalgas/us-shale-crude-natgas-prices/index?elq=~~eloqua..type--emailfield..syntax--recipientid~~&elqcampaignid=~~eloqua..type--campaign..campaignid--0..fieldname--id~~&wt.mc_id=ngam201501we_shaleecon&wt.tsrc=eloqua)

## **U.S. Shale Oil: What Doesn't Kill Me Makes Me Stronger**

By Richard Zeits, Seeking Alpha, Via GWPF, Jan 13, 2015

<http://www.thegwpf.com/us-shale-revolution-smaller-leaner-stronger/>

## **Oil markets are bleeding red**

By Daniel J. Graeber, New York (UPI), Jan 12, 2015

[http://www.oilgasdaily.com/reports/Oil\\_markets\\_are\\_bleeding\\_red\\_999.html](http://www.oilgasdaily.com/reports/Oil_markets_are_bleeding_red_999.html)

## **Oil Has To Plunge Even Further Before The Shale Industry Gets Seriously Damaged**

By Mike Bird, Business Insider, UK, Jan 12, 2015 [H/t GWPF]

<http://uk.businessinsider.com/oil-has-to-plunge-even-further-before-the-shale-industry-gets-seriously-damaged-2015-1?r=US>

## **Fracking, Not Obamacare, Has Helped the Middle Class**

By James Sherk, Daily Signal, Jan 10, 2015

[http://dailysignal.com/2015/01/10/fracking-not-obamacare-has-helped-the-middle-class/?utm\\_source=heritagefoundation&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=morningbell&mkt\\_tok=3RkMMJWWfF9wsRoluKTJZKXonjHpfsX66O0pUKOylMI%2F0ER3fOvrPUfGjI4FRMdrI%2BSLDwEYGJlv6SgFQrLBMa1ozrgOWxX0TD7slJfbfYRPf6Ba2Jw0rf4%3D](http://dailysignal.com/2015/01/10/fracking-not-obamacare-has-helped-the-middle-class/?utm_source=heritagefoundation&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=morningbell&mkt_tok=3RkMMJWWfF9wsRoluKTJZKXonjHpfsX66O0pUKOylMI%2F0ER3fOvrPUfGjI4FRMdrI%2BSLDwEYGJlv6SgFQrLBMa1ozrgOWxX0TD7slJfbfYRPf6Ba2Jw0rf4%3D)

*[SEPP Comment: Not directly comparative.]*

### **The Stunningly Beautiful Price of Gasoline**

By Jeffrey Tucker, Master Resource, Jan 15, 2015

<https://www.masterresource.org/gasoline-prices/stunningly-beautiful-price-gasoline/>

### ***Nuclear Energy and Fears***

#### **Fukushima Radiation Mapping In The Pacific Could Bolster Climate Science**

By Jes Burns, OPB, Jan 9, 2015 [H/t Toshio Fujita]

<http://www.opb.org/news/article/fukushima-radiation-mapping-in-the-pacific-could-b/>

*[SEPP Comment: More to the point, help understand ocean currents.]*

#### **French energy minister calls for new generation of nuclear reactors**

By Marie Heuclin, Phys.org. Jan 13, 2015 [H/t Toshio Fujita]

<http://phys.org/news/2015-01-french-energy-minister-nuclear-reactors.html>

#### **Martingale reveals its ThorCon liquid-fuel reactor design**

By Staff Writers, WNN, Jan 7, 2015

<http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/NN-Martingale-reveals-its-ThorCon-liquid-fuel-reactor-design-07011501.html>

#### **Terrestrial Energy moves forward on molten salt reactor**

By Staff Writers, WNN, Jan 8, 2015

<http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/NN-Terrestrial-Energy-moves-forward-on-molten-salt-reactor-0801158.html>

#### **U.S. Faces Wave of Premature Nuclear Retirements**

By Thomas Overton, Power, Jan 14, 2015

[http://www.powermag.com/u-s-faces-wave-of-premature-nuclear-retirements/?hq\\_e=el&hq\\_m=3012032&hq\\_l=12&hq\\_v=5e660500d0](http://www.powermag.com/u-s-faces-wave-of-premature-nuclear-retirements/?hq_e=el&hq_m=3012032&hq_l=12&hq_v=5e660500d0)

### ***Alternative, Green (“Clean”) Solar and Wind***

#### **Cape Wind Is Dead! (U.S. offshore wind stuck at zero)**

By Lisa Linowes, Wind Action [opposed to wind power] Jan 13, 2015

<http://www.windaction.org/posts/41953-cape-wind-is-dead-u-s-offshore-wind-stuck-at-zero#.VLf6GSvF98E>

#### **Renewable Energy Danger: Wealth Transfer From Poor To Rich**

By Kathleen Hartnett-White, IBD, Jan 16, 2015

<http://news.investors.com/ibd-editorials-on-the-right/011615-735189-renewable-energy-a-wealth-redistribution-scheme.htm?p=full>

#### **India gets \$4 billion solar energy promise**

By Daniel J. Graeber, Ahmedabad, India (UPI), Jan 12, 2015

[http://www.solardaily.com/reports/India\\_gets\\_4\\_billion\\_solar\\_energy\\_promise\\_999.html](http://www.solardaily.com/reports/India_gets_4_billion_solar_energy_promise_999.html)

[SEPP Comment: A memorandum of understanding is hardly a promise. The presence of the US Secretary of State does not give it greater weight.]

### **Solar Subsidies Scam Taxpayers and Homeowners**

By Steven More and Joel Griffith, IBD, Jan 13, 2015 [H/t Timothy Wise]

<http://news.investors.com/011315-734566-solar-installation-subsidies-hurt-taxpayers-homeowners-utilities.htm>

### **U.S. Can Reach 50% Renewable Generation by 2030, Says IRENA**

By Thomas Overton, Power, Jan 12, 2015

[http://www.powermag.com/u-s-can-reach-50-renewable-generation-by-2030-says-irena/?hq\\_e=el&hq\\_m=3012032&hq\\_l=16&hq\\_v=5e660500d0](http://www.powermag.com/u-s-can-reach-50-renewable-generation-by-2030-says-irena/?hq_e=el&hq_m=3012032&hq_l=16&hq_v=5e660500d0)

### ***Alternative, Green (“Clean”) Energy -- Other***

#### **Cambodia PM defends China-funded mega-dams**

By Staff Writers, Phnom Penh (AFP), Jan 15, 2015

[http://www.terraily.com/reports/Cambodia\\_PM\\_defends\\_China-funded\\_mega-dams\\_at\\_plant\\_launch\\_999.html](http://www.terraily.com/reports/Cambodia_PM_defends_China-funded_mega-dams_at_plant_launch_999.html)

### ***Carbon Schemes***

#### **1 million tons of pressurised CO2 stored beneath Decatur, Illinois**

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, Jan 14, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/01/14/1-million-tons-of-pressurised-co2-stored-beneath-decatur-illinois/>

[SEPP Comment: An expensive, political dead-end – like Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository?]

### ***California Dreaming***

#### **California Droughts & Smelt Fish**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Jan 13, 2015

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2015/01/13/california-droughts-smelt-fish/#more-12472>

### ***Health, Energy, and Climate***

#### **Henry Miller in the Wall St. Journal: EPA/USDA strangled biopharming in its cradle**

By Staff Writers, ACSH, Jan 14, 2015

<http://acsh.org/2015/01/henry-miller-wall-st-journal-epausda-strangled-biopharming-cradle/>

#### **Public health’s cigarette sellout: Smoke ‘em if you got ‘em**

By Gilbert Ross, M.D., ACSH, The Hill, Jan 12, 2015

<http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/healthcare/229048-public-healths-cigarette-sellout-smoke-em-if-you-got-em>

### ***Environmental Industry***

#### **Climate Alarmists turn back the Clock**

Green Energy Powered our Past, but cannot Provide for our Future.

By Viv Forbes, Australian Climate Sceptics, Jan 16, 2015

<http://theclimatescepticsparty.blogspot.com.au/2015/01/climate-alarmists-turn-back-clock.html>

*[SEPP Comment: Question the statement: “All gases in the atmosphere have an effect on global climate, usually a moderating one, reducing the intense heat of the midday sun and reducing the rate of cooling at night. But only in theoretical climate models does carbon dioxide drive global warming - real evidence contradicts them.” Nitrogen?]*

**India cracks down on Greenpeace, other environmental groups**

By Shashank Bengali, LA Times, Jan 13, 2015 [H/t Bishop Hill]

<http://www.latimes.com/world/asia/la-fg-india-crackdown-greenpeace-20150113-story.html>

*[SEPP Comment: It appears that India’s claim of a threat to national security is as questionable as the Pentagon’s claim that its green energy program is needed for US national security.]*

***Other Scientific News***

**Alaskan sounding rocket studies role of solar wind on Earth's atmosphere**

By Staff Writers, Washington DC (SPX), Jan 14, 2015

[http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Alaskan\\_Sounding\\_Rocket\\_Campaign\\_Study\\_Role\\_of\\_Solar\\_Wind\\_on\\_Earths\\_Atmosphere\\_and\\_Meteorology\\_999.html](http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Alaskan_Sounding_Rocket_Campaign_Study_Role_of_Solar_Wind_on_Earths_Atmosphere_and_Meteorology_999.html)

**Cool high speed video: Rainfall can release aerosols, study finds**

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Jan 14, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/01/14/cool-high-speed-video-rainfall-can-release-aerosols-study-finds/>

**NASA Satellite Set to Get the Dirt on Soil Moisture**

By Staff Writers, Washington DC (SPX), Jan 13, 2015

[http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/NASA\\_Satellite\\_Set\\_to\\_Get\\_the\\_Dirt\\_on\\_Soil\\_Moisture\\_999.html](http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/NASA_Satellite_Set_to_Get_the_Dirt_on_Soil_Moisture_999.html)

***Other News that May Be of Interest***

**The Digital Road From Poverty**

By Bjørn Lomborg, Project Syndicated, Jan 14, 2015

<http://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/broadband-access-lower-poverty-by-bj-rn-lomborg-2015-01>

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**BELOW THE BOTTOM LINE:**

**Climate Risk Map – Mainly Countries Hostile to the USA**

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, Jan 14, 2015

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/01/14/climate-risk-map-mainly-countries-hostile-to-the-usa/>

*[SEPP Comment: The risks of climate change to Mongolia are greater than to Greenland, or the Netherlands?]*

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