

**The Week That Was: 2017-01-07 (January 7, 2017)**  
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**The Science and Environmental Policy Project**

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**Quote of the Week.** *With four parameters, I can fit an elephant, and with five I can make him wiggle his trunk.* -- Attributed to von Neumann by Enrico Fermi.

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**Number of the Week:** Plus or minus 0.1°C

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**THIS WEEK:**

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

**TWTW:** Over the next few weeks, the coverage of TWTW will be limited. Shortly before the election, Ken Haapala was asked to volunteer for a non-paid, temporary position on a Trump transition landing team. He responded as he would have for any major national candidate – Yes. The activities are taking considerable time. Further, he will avoid writing in TWTW about policy or political issues. Responses to correspondence will be limited. Thank you.

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**What Happens Now?** Roy Spencer reported that the early calculations for atmospheric global temperature report from the Earth System Science Center at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) show that 2016 was slightly warmer than the prior hot year of 1998 by a statically insignificant 0.02°C. The earlier part of the year was warmer, but temperatures dropped in the latter part of the year. Spencer produces a table ranking the 38 years by the anomaly from the average: 2016 is now 1, 1998 is 2, 2010 is 3, 2015 is 4 and 2002 is 5. The top 2 years are about 0.5°C from the anomaly, and the departure from the anomaly lessens significantly after that. According to Paul Homewood, the UAH calculations were independently confirmed by data from Remote Sensing Systems (RSS).

The central issue is not that 2016 was slighter “hotter” than 1998, but what will happen in 2017 and beyond. Both 1998 and 2016 were strong El Niño years (Pacific Ocean warming). After the spike in 1998, the El Niño was followed by a brief La Niña cooling, but then temperatures rebounded to about 0.2°C above the 38-year mean. Will temperatures return to the 1998 to 2015 plateau or be above or below it? Unfortunately, despite spending over \$45 Billion on “climate science” since 1993, the US does not have the capability of predicting significant weather events such as El Niños and La Niñas. See links under Measurement Issues – Atmosphere

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**The Gradient:** In a March conference by the CO2 Coalition, Meteorologist Richard Lindzen gave a presentation emphasizing that the central issue for weather and for climate change is not global average temperature. The central issue is the gradient between the temperatures in the tropics and at the poles. Lindzen states that major historic climate changes “were characterized by large changes in the temperature difference between the tropics and the poles, with very little change at the equator.”

Lindzen uses the concept of a pipeline to illustrate his explanation. If a force applied to a liquid in a pipeline is increased, the flow increases because the pressure in the pipeline increases compared to the pressure at the end of the pipeline. The gradient in the pressure determines the flow.

Another simple illustration can be found by comparing the flow of a non-tidal stream on the coastal plain at an elevation at 20 feet with the flow of a stream in a beaver meadow at 6,000 feet. The speed of the flow of water is not determined by the elevation of the stream, but by the gradient of the stream.

Lindzen writes: *“Misunderstanding the nature of past climate change, has, for example, led paleo-climatologists to exaggerate grossly climate sensitivity. As we have seen, past climate change was primarily characterized by changes in the equator-to-pole temperature difference, accompanied by only small changes in equatorial temperature.”* Lindzen also states that the concept of “polar amplification” of global warming/climate change is absurd.

Lindzen’s comments are consistent with the findings of climate pioneer H.H. Lamb, who observed that the Little Ice Age was marked by fierce storms in Europe and, comparably, the warm periods were benign.

If the globe is experiencing a greenhouse gas warming, then the gradient between the tropics and the poles should be declining and gradient between the surface and the warming atmosphere should be declining. If occurring, these reductions in gradient should lead to a reduction in the severity of storms, not an increase as claimed by many.

Formerly, UAH published useful colored maps showing the global temperature change over the entire dataset, from which one could visualize changes in gradient. But the administration’s cuts in its funding of UAH are having an effect. See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy.

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**Climate Variability Selection:** For some years, researchers at the Smithsonian Institution have explored the development of the human species in the Rift Valley of East Africa. With its many subspecies, the family could be called the human bush, rather than the human tree.

Researcher Rick Potts, director of the Smithsonian Institution’s Human Origins Program, has developed the hypothesis that climate variability selection may explain the increase in brain size of humanoids over the past several million years. Drilling cores and other archeological records show significant periods of strong rainfall and droughts as well as variation in temperatures over the last million years. Such changes in climate, and available foods, may favor adaptive organisms over highly specialized ones.

The data presented show ever increasing climate variability along with a general cooling. The trend in increased climate variability corresponds with an increase in brain case volume. It will be interesting to see how this research develops. See links under Changing Climate.

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**Data Fiddling:** A new paper, built on an earlier one by Tom Karl, attempted to do away with the so-called Temperature Pause or Hiatus by reanalyzing sea surface data, then claiming that earlier estimates of temperature trends by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) had large cooling biases. Thus, according to the paper, actual warming trends are greater than what was reported by the IPCC.

As David Whitehouse states: *“Any estimate of temperature trends that have their endpoint on the uptick of the El Nino curve will give a misleadingly high trend. A new paper falls into this trap, claiming the global temperature hiatus never existed.”*

*“One has to be very careful about estimating temperature trends as they depend strongly on start and end years and changes of a year or two in them can produce very different results. One also has to be aware of the structure in the temperature data of the past 20-years or so as it is dominated not by long-term warming but by natural inter-annual events that are much stronger. There is the very strong 1998 El Nino that elevates temperatures, the much cooler La Nina years of 1999 and 2000, the El Ninos of 2010 and 2015 as well as smaller El Ninos and La Nina effects.*

*“The temperature trends of the oceans estimated by the paper fall into this trap. Technically the trends calculated are accurate for the start and end points used, but they are unwise start and end points which are, to use a frequently misunderstood term, cherry-picked.”*

Perhaps unknowingly, these papers challenge the assertions of the IPCC claims of certainty.

The entire process is reminiscent of what von Neumann said in the quote of the week. If there is insufficient calibration among datasets, one can draw an elephant.

The 2008 NIPCC report discussed the calibration problem of going from instruments on ship engine water intakes significantly below the surface to ocean buoys on the surface. The NIPCC report suggested that because of the thermocline in the oceans, the shift would give an **overestimate** of any warming trend. The latest papers suggest that going from instruments below the surface to instruments at the surface results in an **underestimate** of any warming trend. Have the authors ever gone scuba diving in the ocean and felt the change in temperature with depth? See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy – NIPCC and Challenging the Orthodoxy.

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**Life Finds a Way:** Craig Idso’s web site, CO2 Science, posted an interesting new study on so-called ocean acidification. Analyzing fossilized shells for the most diverse and abundant reef-building coral, the researchers discovered that the corals maintained their skeletal structures for 40 million years. The period covers extensive periods warmer than today, ice ages, and wide variety of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO2) conditions. As the site states:

*“The take home message of the Stolarski et al. paper is that the skeletal formation process of Acropora is, as they state, ‘strongly biologically controlled,’ uninhibited by changes in temperature or seawater chemistry, including seawater pH/ocean acidification conditions that are predicted to occur over the course of the next century and beyond.”*

Many other such links can be found at CO2 science under the headings “Ocean Acidification” and “Ocean Acidification and Warming” [http://www.co2science.org/subject/o/subject\\_o.php](http://www.co2science.org/subject/o/subject_o.php) See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy and Review of Recent Scientific Articles by CO2 Science.

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**Microbes and Oil:** *Oceanus*, the magazine from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, not to be confused with John Holgren’s group, has an interesting article on what happened to the oil from Deepwater Horizon, the BP Oil disaster in the Gulf of Mexico. As TWTW reported at the time, the actual damage to major wildlife was greatly exaggerated, and the naturally occurring microbes were having a feast. The question addressed in the article was whether chemical dispersants helped the microbes in their feast.

The general conclusion is that by preventing the oil from clumping together, keeping the oil in smaller droplets, the dispersants assisted the microbes at the banquet. Of course, many in the

environmental industry will be outraged by such findings. See link under Oil Spills, Gas Leaks & Consequences

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**Judith Curry's Resignation:** Judith Curry has resigned her tenured position as professor at Georgia Tech to devote time to her growing company in weather prediction. For several years, she has been a strong voice for reason in an ever-increasingly politicized world. We hope she continues with her web site, Climate Etc., giving a forum for many questioning the political and climate establishment. See links under Seeking a Common Ground.

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**Number of the Week:** Plus or minus 0.1°C (0.2°F). On his web site, Roy Spencer stated: “*We estimate that 2016 would have had to be 0.10 C warmer than 1998 to be significantly different at the 95% confidence level.*” If the same calculations apply for a cooling, this would be an error range of plus or minus 0.1°C. It would be interesting to see a realistic error range calculation of global surface temperature measurements.

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

#### ***Challenging the Orthodoxy -- NIPCC***

**Nature, Not Human Activity, Rules the Climate**

S. Fred Singer, Editor, NIPCC, 2008

[http://www.sepp.org/publications/nipcc\\_final.pdf](http://www.sepp.org/publications/nipcc_final.pdf)

#### **Overcoming Chaotic Behavior of Climate Models**

By S. Fred Singer, SEPP, July 2010

[http://www.sepp.org/science\\_papers/Chaotic\\_Behavior\\_July\\_2011\\_Final.doc](http://www.sepp.org/science_papers/Chaotic_Behavior_July_2011_Final.doc)

#### **Climate Change Reconsidered II: Physical Science**

Idso, Carter, and Singer, Lead Authors/Editors, 2013

<https://www.heartland.org/media-library/pdfs/CCR-II/CCR-II-Full.pdf>

Summary: <http://www.nipccreport.org/reports/ccr2a/pdf/Summary-for-Policymakers.pdf>

#### **Climate Change Reconsidered II: Biological Impacts**

Idso, Idso, Carter, and Singer, Lead Authors/Editors, 2014

<http://www.nipccreport.org/reports/ccr2b/pdf/Full-Report.pdf>

Summary: <https://www.heartland.org/media-library/pdfs/CCR-IIb/Summary-for-Policymakers.pdf>

#### **Why Scientists Disagree About Global Warming**

The NIPCC Report on the Scientific Consensus

By Craig D. Idso, Robert M. Carter, and S. Fred Singer, NIPCC, Nov 23, 2015

<http://climatechangereconsidered.org/>

Download with no charge

<https://www.heartland.org/policy-documents/why-scientists-disagree-about-global-warming>

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

**The Climate Surprise: Why CO<sub>2</sub> is good for the Earth**

By William Happer, et al. The CO<sub>2</sub> Coalition, July 2016

<http://co2coalition.org/2016/07/29/the-climate-surprise-why-co2-is-good-for-the-earth/>

Videos and pdf

“Global warming: The science in three nutshells” by Richard S. Lindzen, p17

### ***Acropora* Coral Fossils Show Evidence of Immunity to Predicted Future Levels of Ocean Acidification and Warming**

Stolarski, J., Bosellini, F.R., Wallace, C.C., Gothmann, A.M., Mazur, M., Domart-Coulon, I., Gutner-Hoch, E., Neuser, R.D., Levy, O., Shemesh, A. and Meibom, A. 2016. A unique coral biomineralization pattern has resisted 40 million years of major ocean chemistry change. *Scientific Reports* 6: 27579, DOI: 10.1038/srep27579. Jan 6, 2017  
<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V20/jan/a3.php>

### **The constancy of change and the new catastrophism: a personal reflection on crisis-driven science**

By Nick Eyles and Andrew D. Miall, *Speaking of Geoscience*, 2014 [H/t GWPF]  
<https://speakingofgeoscience.org/2014/10/10/the-constancy-of-change-and-the-new-catastrophism-a-personal-reflection-on-crisis-driven-science/>

Publisher Disclaimer: This post is a guest reflection piece and is not intended to represent the Society's official position on climate change.

"In so many areas, we simply don't know enough of how our planet functions."

### **Death Of Global Temperature 'Pause' Greatly Exaggerated**

By David Whitehouse, GWPF, Jan 5, 2017

<http://www.thegwpf.com/death-of-temperature-pause-greatly-exaggerated/>

Link to new paper: Assessing recent warming using instrumentally homogeneous sea surface temperature records

By Hausfather, et al, *Science Advances*, Jan 4, 2017

<http://advances.sciencemag.org/content/3/1/e1601207>

Link to earlier paper: Possible artifacts of data biases in the recent global surface warming hiatus

By Karl, et al, *Science*, Jun 26, 2015

<http://science.sciencemag.org/content/348/6242/1469>

From the abstract of the paper: "Here, we present an updated global surface temperature analysis that reveals that global trends are higher than those reported by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, especially in recent decades..."

### **John Christy on "the Big Picture"**

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Jan 3, 2017

<http://joannenova.com.au/2017/01/john-christy-on-the-big-picture/>

A video

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

#### **Despite new study, global warming pause 'still going strong'**

A new study that only looked at ocean temperatures is being trumpeted as disproving the global warming pause—it doesn't.

By Thomas Richard, *Blasting News*, Jan 5, 2016

<http://us.blastingnews.com/news/2017/01/despite-new-study-global-warming-pause-still-going-strong-001372293.html>

### **Lindzen, me: U.S. climate science needs to shrink by 80-90 percent**

By Lubos Motl, *The Reference Frame*, Jan 1, 2017

<http://motls.blogspot.com/2017/01/lindzen-me-us-climate-science-needs-to.html#more>

## **1000 Skeptical Peer-Reviewed Climate Papers “Should Put UN IPCC To Shame,” Says Harvard Astrophysicist!**

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Jan 3, 2017

<http://notrickszone.com/2017/01/03/1000-skeptical-peer-reviewed-climate-papers-should-put-un-ippc-to-shame-says-harvard-astrophysicist/#sthash.WabBGdfJ.dpbs>

## **Book Review: “Polar Bear Facts and Myths – A Science Summary for All Ages” by Susan Crockford**

Book Review by Kip Hansen, WUWT, Dec 24, 2016

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2016/12/24/book-review-polar-bear-facts-and-myths-a-science-summary-for-all-ages-by-susan-crockford/>

## **Global Warming Skepticism is Part of the Final Phase of the American Revolution**

Guest Opinion: Dr. Tim Ball, WUWT, Dec 23, 2016

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2016/12/23/global-warming-skepticism-is-part-of-the-final-phase-of-the-american-revolution/>

## **Questioning assumptions**

By Martin Livermore, The Scientific Alliance, Jan 6, 2017

<http://scientific-alliance.org/node/1031>

“Private industry is not always wrong and idealistic environmentalists are not always right.”  
[SEPP Comment: *And the reverse is true as well.*]

## ***After US Election***

### **Climate change scepticism could take over govt websites under Trump**

A reworking of language on climate change on a Wisconsin govt site could foretell things to come

By Andrew Revkin, Business Standard, Jan 5, 2017 [H/t GWPF]

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/international/climate-change-scepticism-could-take-over-govt-websites-under-trump-117010500209\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/international/climate-change-scepticism-could-take-over-govt-websites-under-trump-117010500209_1.html)

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

### **JC in transition**

By Judith Curry, Climate Etc. Jan 3, 2017

<https://judithcurry.com/2017/01/03/jc-in-transition/#more-22651>

## **Judith Curry retires, citing 'craziness' of climate science**

By Scott Waldman, E&E News, Jan 4, 2016

<http://www.eenews.net/stories/1060047798>

## **Data shows that using science in an argument just makes people more partisan**

By Dan Kopf, Quartz, Dec 23, 2016 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

[http://qz.com/869587/using-science-in-an-argument-just-makes-people-more-partisan/?utm\\_source=YPL&ypr=yahoo](http://qz.com/869587/using-science-in-an-argument-just-makes-people-more-partisan/?utm_source=YPL&ypr=yahoo)

[SEPP Comment: *Use the reasoning, not the word “science”?*]

## ***Review of Recent Scientific Articles by CO2 Science***

### **The Curses of Heat Strokes and How They Might Best Be Avoided**

Wang, Y., Bobb, J.F., Papi, B., Wang, Y., Kosheleva, A, Di, Q., Schwartz, J.D. and Dominici, F. 2016. Heat stroke admissions during heat waves in 1,916 U.S. counties for the period from 1999 to 2010 and their effect modifiers. *Environmental Health* 15:83. Jan 4, 2017

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V20/jan/a1.php>

### **Parts of Asia Were Warmer During the Holocene Than They Are Now**

Aizen, E.M., Aizen, V.B., Takeuchi, N., Mayewski, P.A., Grigholm, B., Joswiak, D.R., Nikitin, S.A., Fujita, K., Nakawo, M., Zapf, A. and Schwikowski, M. 2016. Abrupt and moderate climate changes in the mid-latitudes of Asia during the Holocene. *Journal of Glaciology* 62: 411-439. Dec 30, 2016

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V19/dec/a18.php>

“Of most interest to the current population of the Earth, however, was the finding of the eleven researchers that ‘periods warmer than modern periods occurred for ~6.5 ka, including during the Holocene Climate Optimum and Medieval Warm Period.’ More specifically, they write that ‘recent temperatures ([ReWP] 1993-2003) are, on average, 0.5°C lower than air temperatures estimated during the MWP and Holocene Climate Optimum’”

### **Models v. Observations**

#### **Two Recent Scientific Studies Show Climate Models A Long Way From Being Up To Par Important Success: Clouds as a Climate Amplifier of Atlantic Ocean Cycles Confirmed**

By Dr. Sebastian Lüning and Prof. Fritz Vahrenholt (German text translated/edited by P Gosselin), No Tricks Zone, Jan 4, 2017

Link to paper: New observational evidence for a positive cloud feedback that amplifies the Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation

By Bellomo, et al. *Geophysical Research Letters*, Sep 17, 2016

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/2016GL069961/abstract?campaign=wolacceptedarticle>

### **Model Issues**

#### **How the Developed World Wastes \$1.5 Trillion PER YEAR on the Basis of Useless Models**

By Alan Carlin, Carlin Economics and Science, Jan 5, 2017

<http://www.carlineconomics.com/archives/3298>

### **Measurement Issues -- Surface**

#### **Uncertainties in sea surface temperatures**

By Judith Curry, Climate Etc. Jan 4, 2017

<https://judithcurry.com/2017/01/04/focus-on-sea-surface-temperatures/#more-22687>

### **Measurement Issues -- Atmosphere**

#### **Global Satellites: 2016 not Statistically Warmer than 1998**

Strong December Cooling Leads to 2016 Being Statistically Indistinguishable from 1998

By Roy Spencer, His Blog, Jan 3, 2017

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2017/01/global-satellites-2016-not-statistically-warmer-than-1998/>

#### **RSS Confirm 2016 Is Tied With 1998 As Warmest Year**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Jan 5, 2017

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2017/01/05/rss-confirm-2016-is-tied-with-1998-as-warmest-year/>

### **Measurement Issues -- Oceans**

## **Mother-of-Pearl Holds the Key to Historical Ocean Temperatures**

Studying this iridescent material in mollusk shells may give scientist a more accurate way to track historical ocean temps

By Kavya Balaraman, ClimateWire, Scientific American, Dec 22, 2016 [H/t Clyde Spencer]

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/mother-of-pearl-holds-the-key-to-historical-ocean-temperatures/>

## ***Measurement Issues – Missing Heat***

### **Mystery of Ocean Heat Deepens as Climate Changes**

Better measurements deepen the mystery of global warming heat stored in the oceans

By Gayathri Vaidanathan, ClimateWire, Scientific American, Oct 7, 2014

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/mystery-of-ocean-heat-deepens-as-climate-changes/>  
[SEPP Comment: A 2014 article on seeking the “missing heat” which may have never existed.]

## ***Changing Weather***

### **“Hottest Year Evah” Update**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Jan 1, 2016

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2017/01/01/hottest-year-evah-update/>

## ***Changing Climate***

### **Climate and human evolution**

By Michon Scott, Smithsonian Institution, NOAA, Nov 9, 2016

<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/climate-and/climate-and-human-evolution>

Link to paper: Alternating high and low climate variability: The context of natural selection and speciation in Plio-Pleistocene hominin evolution

By Richard Potts and J. Tyler Faith, Journal of Human Evolution, Oct 2015

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0047248415001827>

## ***Changing Seas***

### **North Atlantic Cooling Has Plunged Below 1950s (And 1800s) Levels – And Scientists**

#### **Project More Cooling**

By Kenneth Richard, No Tricks Zone, Jan 5, 2017

<http://notrickszone.com/2017/01/05/north-atlantic-cooling-has-plunged-below-1950s-and-1800s-levels-and-scientists-project-more-cooling/#sthash.PVvJRN2L.dpbs>

### **Warming by [less] Upwelling of Cold Ocean Water**

Guest essay by Wim Röst, WUWT, Dec 26, 2016

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2016/12/26/warming-by-less-upwelling-of-cold-ocean-water/>

## ***Changing Earth***

### **There's a jet stream in our core**

By Staff Writers, Paris, (ESA) Dec 29, 2016

[http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Theres\\_a\\_jet\\_stream\\_in\\_our\\_core\\_999.html](http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Theres_a_jet_stream_in_our_core_999.html)

Link to paper: An accelerating high-latitude jet in Earth's core

By Livermore, Hollerbach, and Finlay, Nature Geo Science, Dec 19, 2016

[http://www.nature.com/articles/ngeo2859.epdf?referrer\\_access\\_token=tdZ5JI5LcUyYJLyV6nL4LNRgN0jAjWel9jnR3ZoTv0PmsEc3G31WFfVT1PriGtJTjaxDdL\\_O6-8swaAWadecBNMuB--a7OsYBuRLHZIWZYBW7V4Kb-cQC6yyysPYs1eK\\_7b0YA1bkVjLFoD1FptvFUdIc4vaEcrCQ6XDwSudi4xkNvsUz4PHSsXEKcP](http://www.nature.com/articles/ngeo2859.epdf?referrer_access_token=tdZ5JI5LcUyYJLyV6nL4LNRgN0jAjWel9jnR3ZoTv0PmsEc3G31WFfVT1PriGtJTjaxDdL_O6-8swaAWadecBNMuB--a7OsYBuRLHZIWZYBW7V4Kb-cQC6yyysPYs1eK_7b0YA1bkVjLFoD1FptvFUdIc4vaEcrCQ6XDwSudi4xkNvsUz4PHSsXEKcP)

[uHTkmpgMxySj5rFhRAodDodAn4Xc5vcP5pKJ6IC2bomPJsLQRu4kvAhJVDDj9Y\\_VYzabo0R](http://www.spacedaily.com)  
&tracking\_referrer=www.spacedaily.com

### ***Questioning European Green***

#### **Friends of the Earth Promises: We Will Never Again Spread Misleading Anti-Fracking Scares**

By Ben Webster, The Times, Via GWPF, Jan 4, 2017

<http://www.thegwpf.com/friends-of-the-earth-promises-we-will-never-again-spread-misleading-anti-fracking-scares/>

#### **UK Taxpayers Face £1 Billion Bill Over Green Subsidy Scandal**

By Sean O'Neill and Sean O'Driscoll, The Times, Via GWPF, Jan 3, 2016

<http://www.thegwpf.com/uk-taxpayers-face-1-billion-bill-over-green-subsidy-scandal/>

### ***Subsidies and Mandates Forever***

#### **Wife, Family & Solar Farm To Support—Please Give Generously**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Jan 4, 2017

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2017/01/04/wife-family-solar-farm-to-support-please-give-generously/>

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

#### **Exxon's 2040 Outlook: Fossil Fuels Aren't Going Anywhere**

By Oil & Gas 360, Oil Price.com, Dec 30, 2016 [H/t GWPF]

<http://oilprice.com/Latest-Energy-News/World-News/Exxons-2040-Outlook-Fossil-Fuels-Arent-Going-Anywhere.html>

Link to report: 2017 Outlook for Energy: A View to 2040.

By Staff Writers, ExxonMobil, 2017

<http://corporate.exxonmobil.com/en/energy/energy-outlook>

### ***Return of King Coal?***

#### **Kemper Travesty is No Way to Save Coal Mining Jobs**

By Donn Dears, Power For USA, Jan 3, 2017

<https://dddusmma.wordpress.com/2017/01/03/kemper-travesty-is-no-way-to-save-coal-mining-jobs/>

“Ultra-supercritical coal-fired power plants meet all EPA requirements except for the amount of CO2 they emit. They are 40% more efficient than traditional coal-fired power plants.”

### ***Oil Spills, Gas Leaks & Consequences***

#### **What Happened to Deepwater Horizon Oil?**

Did dispersants help microbes break down oil?

By Chris Reddy, David L. Valentine, Oceanus, Dec 23, 2016

<http://www.who.edu/oceanus/feature/what-happened-to-deepwater-horizon-oil>

“From a scientist's point of view, the Gulf of Mexico is a vast beaker and the Deepwater Horizon disaster represented the forbidden experiment that we would never purposely conduct but which we nevertheless take advantage of to learn lessons that we can apply to future oil spills.”

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

#### **The Final Nail?**

By Donn Dears, Power For USA, Jan 6, 2017

<https://dddusmma.wordpress.com/2017/01/06/the-final-nail/>

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

**Solar Power Is Always A Decade Away From Being Cheaper Than Coal**

By Michael Bastasch, Daily Caller, Jan 4, 2017

<http://dailycaller.com/2017/01/04/solar-power-is-always-a-decade-away-from-being-cheaper-than-coal/>

*[SEPP Comment: The article uses past predictions only. It does not address the critical question: What is the real cost of making solar generation reliable?]*

***Environmental Industry***

**2016’s biggest loser: Big Green**

Voters turned thumbs down on the climate change lobby and rightly so

By Stephen Moore, Washington Time, Jan 1, 2016

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/jan/1/big-green-biggest-loser-of-2016/>

**Exclusive: OECD opens investigation into WWF in world first**

By Staff Writers, Survival, Jan 5, 2017 [H/t GWPF]

<http://www.survivalinternational.org/news/11538>

*[SEPP Comment: An anti-green story that may or may not be supported by facts. Until the story is fully revealed, it may be like unsupported claims by alarmists – accusation is not proof.]*

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**BELOW THE BOTTOM LINE:**

**Iceland’s Volcanic Heat–The Next White Elephant**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Jan 5, 2017

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2017/01/05/icelands-volcanic-heat-the-next-white-elephant/#more-25776>

**Temperature soaring!**

By Staff Writers, Climate Change Predictions.org, Jan 7, 2017

<http://climatechangepredictions.org/uncategorized/7627>

“Few scientists now dispute that today’s soaring levels of carbon dioxide and other gases in the atmosphere will cause global temperature averages to rise by as much as nine degrees Fahrenheit sometime after the year 2000.” [Carl Sagan, The Vindicator, Dec. 12, 1985](#)

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**ARTICLES:** This week, there are no articles cited.

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