

**The Week That Was: 2018-12-01 (December 1, 2018)**  
**Brought to You by SEPP ([www.SEPP.org](http://www.SEPP.org))**  
**The Science and Environmental Policy Project**

**Quote of the Week:** *“There is a principle which is a bar against all information, which is proof against all arguments and which cannot fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance - that principle is contempt prior to investigation.”*— Herbert Spencer [H/t William Readdy]

**Number of the Week:** 42 Billion barrels

**THIS WEEK:**

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

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**Dear Reader of The Week That Was,**

**The Science & Environmental Policy Project (SEPP)** is a 501-c-3 organization, incorporated in Virginia. Its Federal I.D. Number is 54-1645372 and donations are US tax deductible. Established in 1990 by S. Fred Singer to challenge government environmental policies based on poor science, SEPP stands for objective science, based on hard evidence.

No matter how elaborate, results from numerical models that are not thoroughly tested against hard evidence are speculation and cannot be relied upon. Testing the results from using parts of a model against the results from the entire model is a ruse used by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). It is like declaring that a simple linear model with two unknowns has a unique solution. Major government policies based on speculation are a waste of resources.

Our founder, Dr. Singer, is Chairman emeritus. Physicist Dr. Thomas Sheahen is Chairman. Other distinguished scientists serve on the board of directors. Ken Haapala continues as president and oversees general operations. We continue to be very productive.

Two prevalent myths are damaging our economy and hurting the less fortunate: 1) greenhouse gases, chiefly carbon dioxide, are causing dangerous global warming; and 2) wind and solar can easily replace fossil fuels, nuclear, and hydro in electricity generation. Both are false, yet widely accepted. We continue to contest these myths, and others, with hard evidence.

In collaboration with like-minded groups, we produce hard-hitting comments for the public record and provide scientific testimony on Federal government climate and energy policy. We are actively attempting to eliminate or change the EPA's endangerment finding, that carbon dioxide, CO<sub>2</sub>, poses a danger to public health, which lacks hard evidence.

In 2007, SEPP established NIPCC (Non-governmental International Panel on Climate Change) to respond to the false claims of the UN-IPCC, and its followers, who claim, without hard evidence, that the use of fossil fuels, and CO2 emissions, will lead to climate disasters. The Heartland Institute continues the NIPCC efforts with well-attended sessions of the International Conference on Climate Change and the NIPCC reports at [www.NIPCCreport.org](http://www.NIPCCreport.org).

Contrary to frequent attacks, SEPP does not receive support from oil, tobacco, or chemical companies – or government organizations. SEPP accepts donations from private individuals and small contributions from foundations. The appropriate IRS tax filings are made by an independent CPA and are “Open to Public Inspection.”

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**Old Science v. New “Evidence Free Science”:** SEPP Chairman emeritus Fred Singer is “old school.” He does not make predictions until the facts are gathered, the evidence. Perhaps it was because he began his long professional career by using high altitude rockets to gather evidence about the atmosphere including measuring the energy spectrum of primary cosmic rays; the distribution of stratospheric ozone; the equatorial electrojet current flowing in the ionosphere and publishing the first studies on subatomic particles trapped in the Earth's magnetic field: radiation belts, later discovered by James Van Allen.

Singer recognizes that evidence must be compiled before a solid hypothesis, a theory, is developed. The hypothesis must be tested frequently against all the appropriate evidence. If it fails any test, the hypothesis must be discarded or modified. Scientific knowledge is not easily gained, but slowly acquired by severe effort and testing. The atmosphere is a highly complex fluid, set into chaotic motion by uneven heating from the sun as the earth revolves daily in its annual elliptical orbit around the sun. We can only begin to understand it with systematic experimentation and testing.

His views are in sharp contrast with the views expressed in the second volume released by US Global Change Research Program (USGCRP), a two-part series on human-caused global warming called the “Fourth National Climate Assessment: Volume II: Impacts, Risks, and Adaptation in the United States.” A key statement in its summary neatly sums the attitude about scientific knowledge of the those who prepared the report:

*“However, the assumption that current and future climate conditions will resemble the recent past is no longer valid.”* Overview Chapter 1 p.1.

In short, scientific knowledge gained in the past no longer applies. As stated in the quote of the week, this is the path to ignorance.

In an essay in the “Washington Times,” Singer makes two predictions, which are bold for him.

*“I predict that the global warming pause of the last 40 years (‘hiatus’), the growing ‘gap’ between models and observed temperatures will continue to grow to the year 2100, and likely, beyond.*

*“I also predict that increases in global Sea Level Rise (SLR) will reach about 6 inches by 2100, and contrary to the U.N-Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC-2013), I expect there will be no discernible acceleration in this rate of rise.”*

Singer bases the first prediction on his knowledge of the atmosphere and the fact that carbon dioxide has a minor influence on atmospheric temperatures, at most. If increasing carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases are not warming the atmosphere, they cannot be warming the surface, or the oceans. He bases the second prediction of sea level rise on observations of over the past centuries.

By contrast, the findings of the USGCRP report, which will be referenced below as the National Climate Assessment (NCA), are based on assumptions made in 1979 Chaney Report, during the Carter Administration, and never tested against hard evidence. The UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has developed various scenarios, story-lines, on what may happen with increasing greenhouse gases, but never bothered to test these story-lines against hard evidence – the warming of the bulk atmosphere, where the greenhouse gas effect occurs. To make its predictions / projections, the NCA uses the most extreme of the story-lines called RCP8.5. Singer is too old-school to believe in such fairytales. See Article # 1 for the entire essay and the links under Challenging the Orthodoxy.

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**A Hard Test:** As stated in last week’s TWTW, in the world market, central Brazil is the fastest growing competitor to the US Midwest in food staples such as maize (corn) and soybeans. Once considered unsuitable for farming, food production in central Brazil centered around 16 degrees South latitude, which passes through Brasilia. The climate is classified as humid tropical with dry winters. The climate in the Midwest is classified as humid warm to humid cold with hot to cool summers – hardly tropical.

Yet, the summary section on agriculture of the NCA states: *“Increases in temperatures during the growing season in the Midwest are projected to be the largest contributing factor to declines in the productivity of U.S. agriculture.”* As Paul Homewood discusses, the main report states:

*“Projections of mid-century yields of commodity crops show declines of 5% to over 25% below extrapolated trends broadly across the region for corn (also known as maize) and more than 25% for soybeans in the southern half of the region, with possible increases in yield in the northern half of the region. Increases in growing-season temperature in the Midwest are projected to be the largest contributing factor to declines in the productivity of U.S. agriculture.*

Which was translated by CNN to mean:

*“Farmers will face extremely tough times. The quality and quantity of their crops will decline across the country due to higher temperatures, drought and flooding. In parts of the Midwest, farms will be able to produce less than 75% of the corn they produce today, and the southern part of the region could lose more than 25% of its soybean yield.”*

It appears if the goal of the NCA was to create alarm, it succeeded. What the authors of the NCA and the CNN reports fail to realize is that farmers who grow food crops adjust the varieties of the plant to local conditions. Like humans for the past several hundred thousand years, they can adapt to climate change. See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy – NCA

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**No Climate Caused Economic Crash:** The alarmist nature of the NCA excited many in the general media but the economic forecasts were taken apart in two separate efforts published in the “Wall Street Journal.” Holman Jenkins calculated that, assuming a 1.6% annual increase in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) over the next 72 years, the US would be three times as rich than it is today. Thus, a 10% reduction of GDP sometime in the future, as projected by the NCA, is insignificant. If the economy grows to \$61 trillion by 2090, from an estimated \$19.4 trillion in 2017, and the economy is reduced by the NCA estimate of \$510 billion, in 2090, the estimate is meaningless.

In a separate essay, Steven Koonin, who was undersecretary of energy for science during President Obama’s first term, makes similar calculations as Holman Jenkins and concludes that the “global warming” fear promoted by the NCA will not cause significant economic damage. It is far in the future when the economy should be far more prosperous and, if true, the country will have plenty of time to prepare.

These gentlemen have not fallen for economic tricks, such as those used by Nicholas Stern in promoting the disastrous UK Climate Change Act of 2008. See Article # 3 and links under Challenging the Orthodoxy.

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**Importance of Engineering the Grid:** The electric grid can be called the lifeblood of modern civilization. It is truly a modern miracle that we can have heat, light, communications, etc., when needed or desired. Yet, it seems to be the goal of politicians and green zealots to tinker with what works well until it breaks, such as Black State of South Australia.

It is extremely difficult to explain to many people what a carefully engineered marvel the modern grid is and the importance of reliability in maintaining it. A report by the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders in Scotland (IESIS) titled “Engineering for Energy: A proposal for governance of the energy system” goes into the great complexity of the electrical system. In the UK, the grid is called the National Grid and was formed in 1926 by the Electricity (Supply) Act. Though formed differently, the US grid has similar issues.

A 2017 report by IESIS Past President Iain MacLeod entitled “To Engineer - Strategies for solving complex problems” summarizes what professional engineers try to avoid (and how they achieve successful outcomes) in situations of complex uncertainty. As an example, professional engineers designed a grid that:

*“...brought down prices and improved reliability for all electricity customers. **It also meant that it was no longer practical to build generators without assessing their effect on the system.**”*  
[Boldface in original.]

The reports provide a good analogy that may be useful in discussing the complexity of the grid with politicians and others intending to make it green – engineering a modern, complex passenger airplane to make it safe.

*“...the electricity system is dependent on computational technology for the achievement of its goals. In operational time-scales The National Grid Company carries out continuous on-line security assessments to ensure the system is compliant with the Operational Security Standards at all times and may constrain generation on or off to maintain network security and stability.*

*“Like the wings of an aircraft, the parts of an electricity system are interdependent. Making a change to one part can have important effects throughout the system. If these interactions are not considered when making system modifications, an electricity system can become unstable and fail.”*

To a politician proposing adding unreliable wind and solar power to the grid, one could ask: “Would you propose adding unreliable engines to airplanes we fly? If not, why do you propose adding unreliable wind and solar to the grid – thereby jeopardizing our safety?” See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy.

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**Sea Level and Climate Change:** Judith Curry has completed a report for her clients on sea levels and climate change. Though far more detailed and thorough in discussing the claims by the IPCC and NOAA, her conclusions are about the same as Fred Singer’s – no acceleration in recent decades. It appears that sections of NOAA are more influenced by political ideology than by evidence. See links under Changing Seas.

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**Number of the Week: 42 Billion barrels.** The EIA has announced its estimates of proven reserves for 2017 of the crude oil and lease condensate, a light liquid hydrocarbon, which normally goes into the crude oil stream after production – 42 Billion barrels.

*“Stronger oil and natural gas prices combined with continuing development of shales and low permeability formations drove producers of crude oil and natural gas in the United States to report new all-time record levels of proved reserves for both fuels in 2017. Total U.S. oil reserves in 2017 exceeded a brief, one-year, 47-year-old record, highlighting the importance of crude oil development in shales and low permeability plays, mainly in the Southwest. The new record for natural gas extends a longer-term trend of development, mainly in shale plays in the Northeast. Both U.S. proved [sic] reserves of crude oil and natural gas are approximately double their levels from a decade ago. These new proved reserves records were established in 2017 despite production of crude oil at levels not seen since 1972 and record natural gas production.”*

Clearly, the state-of-the-art models used by the Club of Rome and by the US federal government in the 1970s to predict the US would run out of these fuels by the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century were wrong. The error illustrates that the assumptions and calculations used in mathematical models for long-term prediction need to be adjusted to changing findings and technology, something the IPCC and its followers have not done. See links under Questioning the Orthodoxy and Oil and Natural Gas – the Future or the Past?

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## NEWS YOU CAN USE:

### *Challenging the Orthodoxy -- NIPCC*

#### **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>

#### **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)

#### **Climate Change Reconsidered II: Fossil Fuels**

**By Multiple Authors, Bezdek, Idso, Legates, and Singer eds., Nongovernmental**

**International Panel on Climate Change, Draft Summary for Policymakers, NIPCC, Oct 3, 2018**

<http://climatechangereconsidered.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/10-05-18-DRAFT-CCRII-Fossil-Fuels-Summary-for-Policy-Makers.pdf>

### *Challenging the Orthodoxy*

#### **Renowned Physicist Freeman Dyson: “Theories Of Climate Are Very Confused”...”Models Are Wrong”!**

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Nov 16, 2018

<http://notrickszone.com/2018/11/16/renowned-physicist-freeman-dyson-theories-of-climate-are-very-confused-models-are-wrong/>

#### **Holman Jenkins: Even If Alarmists Were Right, Global Warming Is Affordable**

By Holman Jenkins, WSJ, Via GWPF, Nov 29, 2018

<https://www.thegwpf.com/even-if-climate-catastrophists-were-right-global-warming-is-affordable/>

#### **Blackouts, deaths and civil unrest: warning over Scotland's rush to go green**

By Sandra Dick, The Herald, Via GWPF, Nov 30, 2018

<https://www.thegwpf.com/blackouts-deaths-and-civil-unrest-warning-over-scotlands-rush-to-go-green/>

Link to report: Engineering for Energy: A proposal for governance of the energy system  
By Staff Writers, Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders in Scotland (IESIS), 2018  
<http://www.iesis.org/efore/engforenergy.pdf>

### **We need more heretics to question the new religion on tackling climate change**

By Cormac Lucey, The Sunday Times, Via GWPF, Nov 24, 2018

<https://www.thegwpf.com/we-need-more-heretics-to-question-the-new-religion-on-climate-change/>

### ***Challenging the Orthodoxy – NCA***

#### **Is RCP8.5 an impossible scenario?**

By Judith Curry, Climate Etc. Nov 24, 2018

<https://judithcurry.com/2018/11/24/is-rcp8-5-an-impossible-scenario/#more-24485>

### **The Fourth National Climate Assessment violates scientific Integrity, Government Report Is False**

By Edwin Berry, ICECAP, Nov 27, 2018

[http://icecap.us/index.php/go/joes-blog/experts\\_on\\_climate\\_change\\_assessment\\_every\\_conclusion\\_of\\_this\\_latest\\_govern/](http://icecap.us/index.php/go/joes-blog/experts_on_climate_change_assessment_every_conclusion_of_this_latest_govern/)

### **US National Climate Assessment – Midwest**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Nov 28, 2018

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2018/11/28/us-national-climate-assessment-midwest/>

CNN: “In parts of the Midwest, farms will be able to produce less than 75% of the corn they produce today, and the southern part of the region could lose more than 25% of its soybean yield.”

### **US National Climate Assessment–Southeast**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Nov 25, 2018

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2018/11/25/national-climate-assessment-southeast/>

### **An Assessment of the 4th National Climate Assessment**

By Andy May, WUWT, Nov 28, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/11/28/an-assessment-of-the-4th-national-climate-assessment/>

### **‘Embarrassing’: Climate Expert Explains What’s Wrong with the White House’s New Climate Report**

By Chris White, Daily Caller, Nov 24, 2018

<https://dailycaller.com/2018/11/24/climate-change-donald-trump-report/>

### **Assessing the Fourth “National Assessment” of Climate Change**

By Patrick Michaels, CATO, Nov 26, 2018

<https://www.cato.org/blog/assessing-fourth-national-assessment-climate-change>

Link to technical comments on the draft

By Patrick Michaels, CATO, No date

<https://object.cato.org/sites/cato.org/files/pubs/pdf/pat-michaels-national-climate-assessment.pdf>

### **The media got it all wrong on the new US climate report**

By Bjorn Lomborg, New York Post, Nov 28, 2018

<https://nypost.com/2018/11/28/the-media-got-it-all-wrong-on-the-new-us-climate-report/>

### **Latest Global Warming Lies from US Global Change Research Program**

By Norman Rogers, American Thinker, Nov 27, 2018

[https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2018/11/latest\\_global\\_warming\\_lies\\_from\\_us\\_global\\_change\\_research\\_program.html](https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2018/11/latest_global_warming_lies_from_us_global_change_research_program.html)

### **New Study Highlights Inconvenient Data Omitted From ‘Alarming’ US Climate Report**

By Michael Bastasch, Daily Caller, Nov 26, 2018

<https://dailycaller.com/2018/11/26/climate-study-omits-hurricane-landfall-data>

### **Opinion: Obama-Era Holdovers Issue Fake News Climate Report**

By James Taylor, Daily Caller, Nov 28, 2018 [H/t ICECAP]

<https://dailycaller.com/2018/11/28/obama-fake-climate/>

### **Global Warming: Fake Science Again Serves Far-Left Political Agenda**

Editorial, IBD, Nov 26, 2018

<https://www.investors.com/politics/editorials/global-warming-fake-science-agenda/>

### **The US National Climate Assessment Report They Did Not Want You To See!**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Nov 29, 2018

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2018/11/29/the-us-national-climate-assessment-report-they-did-not-want-you-to-see/#more-36509>

### **Global Warming Alarmism Meets a Blizzard of Reality**

By Brian C. Joondeph, American Thinker, Nov 27, 2018

[https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2018/11/global\\_warming\\_alarmism\\_meets\\_a\\_blizzard\\_of\\_reality.html](https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2018/11/global_warming_alarmism_meets_a_blizzard_of_reality.html)

### **The Doomsday Cult**

By Derek Hunter, Townhall, Nov 25, 2018

<https://townhall.com/columnists/derekhunter/2018/11/25/the-doomsday-cult-n2536430>

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

#### **Fourth National Climate Assessment: Volume II: Impacts, Risks, and Adaptation in the United States**

The National Climate Assessment (NCA) assesses the science of climate change and variability and its impacts across the United States, now and throughout this century.

By Multiple Writers, U.S. Global Change Research Program, 2018

<https://nca2018.globalchange.gov/>

#### **Five major takeaways from the federal climate change report**

By Emily Birnbaum, The Hill, Nov 24, 2018

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/418076-five-major-takeaways-from-the-federal-climate-change-report>

“But Gary Yohe, an economics professor and environmental studies professor who served on a National Academy of Sciences panel that reviewed the report, told The Hill that the climate will not ‘change back.’”

### **The 467 hazards of climate change**

Review finds cumulative effect of multiple threats may overwhelm large-scale systems by the end of the century. Nick Carne reports.

By Nick carne, Cosmos, The Science of Everything, Nov 22, 2018

<https://cosmosmagazine.com/climate/the-467-hazards-of-climate-change>

*[SEPP Comment: The article has an ad for the magazine featuring Alien Intelligence?]*

### **I was wrong on climate change. Why can't other conservatives admit it, too?**

By Max Boot, Washington Post, Nov 26, 2018

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/global-opinions/i-was-wrong-on-climate-change-why-cant-other-conservatives-admit-it-too/2018/11/26/11d2b778-f1a1-11e8-bc79-68604ed88993\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.5ef2ba45bdca](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/global-opinions/i-was-wrong-on-climate-change-why-cant-other-conservatives-admit-it-too/2018/11/26/11d2b778-f1a1-11e8-bc79-68604ed88993_story.html?utm_term=.5ef2ba45bdca)

“I’ve owned up to the danger. Why haven’t other conservatives? They are captives, first and foremost, of the fossil fuel industry, which outspent green groups 10 to 1 in lobbying on climate change from 2000 to 2016. But they are also captives of their own rigid ideology. It is a tragedy for the entire planet that the United States’ governing party is impervious to science and reason.”  
*[SEPP Comment: After spending over \$40 billion on “Climate Science”, the US government has produced no hard evidence that CO2 will cause significant global warming.]*

### **Climate change will shrink US economy and kill thousands, government report warns**

By Jen Christensen and Michael Nedelman, CNN, Nov 26, 2018

<https://edition.cnn.com/2018/11/23/health/climate-change-report-bn/index.html>

### **Climate change: Report says 'cut lamb and beef'**

By Roger Harrabin. BBC, Nov 15, 2018

<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-46214864#>

### **Climate Change on the Menu**

By Riccardo Valentini, Project Syndicate, Nov 30, 2018

<https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/fighting-climate-change-through-farm-food-sustainability-by-riccardo-valentini-2018-11>

“Riccardo Valentini, a professor of forest ecology at the University of Tuscia, won the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize as a member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.”

### **Electrifying the World Is No Panacea for Global Warming, IEA Says**

By Jeremy Hodges, Bloomberg, Nov 12, 2018

[https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-11-13/electrifying-the-world-no-panacea-for-global-warming-iea-says?utm\\_content=business&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter&cmpid=socialflow-twitter-business&utm\\_campaign=socialflow-organic](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-11-13/electrifying-the-world-no-panacea-for-global-warming-iea-says?utm_content=business&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter&cmpid=socialflow-twitter-business&utm_campaign=socialflow-organic)

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

#### **National Climate Assessment: Remember MIT's ‘Club of Rome’ Report (1972 ... 2018)**

By Robert Bradley Jr. Master Resource, Nov 29, 2018

<https://www.masterresource.org/national-climate-assessment-us/club-of-rome-redux/>

### **OLIVER: Climate change alarmists seriously harm the economy**

By Joe Oliver, Toronto Sun, Nov 26, 2018

<https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/oliver-climate-change-alarmists-seriously-harm-the-economy>

### **Academic Journals: High Stakes, Few Safeguards**

By Donna Laframboise, Big Picture News, Nov 28, 2018

<https://nofrackingconsensus.com/2018/11/28/academic-journals-high-stakes-few-safeguards/>

### **Inuit, Western science far apart on polar bear issues**

By Darrell Greer, Nunavut News, Nov 29, 2018 [H/t Susan Crockford]

<https://nunavutnews.com/nunavut-news/inuit-western-science-far-apart-on-polar-bear-issues/>

“And, when it comes to scientists making blanket statements about Inuit being wrong about this and wrong about that – excuse me but we’re (Inuit) up here because of our adaptability and we’ll continue to adapt to whatever comes toward us except for, maybe, a meteorite coming in or something like that.

“To me, that’s no more than racist comments being made by some people.”

### **In defence of coal**

Australia’s green zealots are making life harder for the world’s poor.

By Nick Cater, Spiked, Nov 26, 2018

<https://www.spiked-online.com/2018/11/26/in-defence-of-coal/>

### ***After Paris!***

### **World Faces ‘Impossible’ Task Of Finding Agreement At Post-Paris Climate Talks**

By Frank Jordans and Monika Scislowska, Talking Points Memo, Nov 28, 2018 [H/t GWPF]

<https://talkingpointsmemo.com/world-news/paris-climate-deal-talks-impossible-task>

### **Poland names coal companies partners for COP24 climate talks**

By Staff Writers, AFP, Nov 27, 2018

<https://www.france24.com/en/20181127-poland-names-coal-companies-partners-cop24-climate-talks>

### **The Paris Climate Discord**

Not in my wallet.

By Abe Greenwald, Commentary, Nov 27, 2018

<https://www.commentarymagazine.com/politics-ideas/the-paris-climate-discord/>

### **US deals a small blow to Paris climate change agreement before key meeting**

Country gets reference to financial obligations of developed country scrubbed from a critical UN report.

By Nitin Sethi, Business Standard, India, Nov 27, 2018 [H/t GWPF]

[https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/us-deals-a-small-blow-to-paris-climate-change-agreement-before-key-meeting-118112600695\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/us-deals-a-small-blow-to-paris-climate-change-agreement-before-key-meeting-118112600695_1.html)

“The US has struck a small blow at the Paris Agreement days before the high-level annual climate change negotiations kick-off at Katowice, Poland. In a UN report on climate finance, it has forced the scrubbing of all explicit references to the responsibility of developed countries for providing funds and resources to the developing countries for tackling climate change.”

### **PREVIEW-Political divisions cloud Poland climate talks**

By Nina Chestney, Reuters, Nov 27, 2018 [H/t GWPF]

<https://www.cnn.com/2018/11/27/reuters-america-preview-political-divisions-cloud-poland-climate-talks.html>

### ***Change in US Administrations***

#### **How the Trump Administration Flubbed the New National Climate Assessment**

By Alan Carlin, Carlin Economics and Science, Nov 30, 2018

<http://www.carlineconomics.com/archives/4698>

#### **Sarah Sanders: Climate change report 'not based on facts'**

By Brett Samuels, The Hill, Nov 27, 2018

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/418502-sarah-sanders-calls-climate-change-report-most-extreme-version-not>

[SEPP Comment: Such as hard evidence that CO2 is the primary cause of climate change?]

#### **Trump on climate change: 'People like myself, we have very high levels of intelligence but we're not necessarily such believers.'**

By Josh Dawsey, Philip Rucker, Brady Dennis and Chris Mooney, Washington Post, Nov 27, 2018 [H/t Cork Hayden]

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/trump-on-climate-change-people-like-myself-we-have-very-high-levels-of-intelligence-but-were-not-necessarily-such-believers/2018/11/27/722f0184-f27e-11e8-aeaa-b85fd44449f5\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.ab6c29d9bd5e&wpisrc=nl\\_green&wpmm=1](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/trump-on-climate-change-people-like-myself-we-have-very-high-levels-of-intelligence-but-were-not-necessarily-such-believers/2018/11/27/722f0184-f27e-11e8-aeaa-b85fd44449f5_story.html?utm_term=.ab6c29d9bd5e&wpisrc=nl_green&wpmm=1)

“Meanwhile, asked Tuesday about the findings of the nearly 1,700-page climate report the administration released on Black Friday, White House spokeswoman Sarah Sanders echoed her boss.

“‘We think that this is the most extreme version and it’s not based on facts,’ Sanders said of the National Climate Assessment. ‘It’s not data-driven. We’d like to see something that is more data-driven. It’s based on modeling, which is extremely hard to do when you’re talking about the climate. Again, our focus is on making sure we have the safest, cleanest air and water.’”

#### **EPA chief criticizes climate report over ‘worst-case scenario’**

By Timothy Cama, The Hill, Nov 28, 2018

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/418639-epa-chief-criticizes-climate-report-over-worst-case-scenario>

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

#### **Germany heads to COP24 without coal-exit plan**

By Julian Wettengel, Euractiv, Nov 28, 2018 [H/t GWFP]

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy/news/germany-heads-to-cop24-without-coal-exit-plan/>

#### **Can Poland end its toxic relationship with coal?**

Poland, host of the upcoming COP24 climate conference, has long had a love affair with coal.

Can it say goodbye and commit to renewables?

By Irene Banos Ruiz, DW, Nov 26, 2018

<https://www.dw.com/en/can-poland-end-its-toxic-relationship-with-coal/a-46356824>

#### **Brazil backs out of hosting UN climate meeting**

By Chris Mills Rodrigo, The Hill, Nov 28, 2018

<https://thehill.com/policy/international/americas/418733-brazil-backs-out-of-hosting-un-climate-meeting>

“The image of Brazil is at risk,’ Carlos Rittl, executive secretary of the Brazilian Climate Observatory, told the Times. ‘Climate and the environment are the only issues where Brazil is a leader in global terms. We are not leaders in world trade, we are not leaders in a geopolitical sense on security issues. But on climate and environment we are leaders, and we are giving that up.’”

### **Ontario to scale back climate-change goals**

By Shawn McCarthy and Laura Stone, The Globe and Mail, Canada, Nov 29, 2018

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-ontario-to-scale-back-climate-change-goals/>

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

#### **Something To Be Thankful For: Fire (AKA Fossil Fuels)**

By Francis Menton, Manhattan Contrarian, Nov 24, 2018

<https://www.manhattancontrarian.com/blog/2018-11-24-something-to-be-thankful-for-fire-aka-fossil-fuels>

### **CAGW: a ‘snarl’ word?**

By Judith Curry, Climate Etc. Nov 26, 2018

<https://judithcurry.com/2018/11/26/cagw-a-snarl-word/#more-24508>

### ***Science, Policy, and Evidence***

#### **Knowledge, Ignorance and Climate Change**

By Dr. Tilak K. Doshi, WUWT, Nov 30, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/11/30/knowledge-ignorance-and-climate-change/>

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

#### **A Brachiopod's Twelve-Decade Response to Ocean Acidification and Warming**

Cross, E.L., Harper, E.M. and Peck, L.S. 2018. A 120-year record of resilience to environmental change in brachiopods. *Global Change Biology* 24: 2262-2271. Nov 29, 2018

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V21/nov/a15.php>

“Writing as background for their work, Cross *et al.* (2018) point out important shortcomings of present-day ocean acidification experiments, noting that they ‘can still only predict responses from exposures of relative short durations, of months or even a few years, to environmentally unrealistic conditions.’ What is more, such short-term studies fail to account for what Cross *et al.* refer to as ‘the fundamental role played by seasonal phenotypic plasticity and genetic change across generations,’ thus ignoring the ‘acclimation and/or adaptation potential in organisms with short generation times.’ And without adequate knowledge of these processes ‘identified as most important to confer resistance,’ predictions of marine organism responses to the perceived threats of ocean acidification and warming must be recognized for what they are -- half-baked estimations of a future that may well have little resemblance of reality.”

### **Six Centuries of River Runoff in the Yangtze River Basin**

Li, J., Shao, X., Qin, N. and Li, Y. 2018. Runoff variations at the source of the Yangtze River over the past 639 years based on tree-ring data. *Climate Research* 75: 131-142. Nov 28, 2018

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V21/nov/a14.php>

### **Elevated CO2 Does Not Alter Autumnal Leaf Abscission in Sugar Maple**

Li, L., Manning, W.J. and Wang, X.K. 2018. Autumnal leaf abscission of sugar maple is not delayed by atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> enrichment. *Photosynthetica* 56: 1134-1139. Nov 26, 2018  
<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V21/nov/a13.php>

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

#### **MET Office: If at First You Don't Succeed ... Double Down**

By Andrew Montford, GWPF, Nov 26, 2018

<https://www.thegwpf.com/if-at-first-you-dont-succeed-double-down/>

#### **UKCP18–The Met Office's New Junk Climate Projections**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Nov 28, 2018

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2018/11/28/ukcp18-the-met-offices-new-junk-climate-projections/>

### ***Model Issues***

#### **Examples of How and Why the Use of a “Climate Model Mean” and the Use of Anomalies Can Be Misleading**

By Bob Tisdale, Nov 29, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/11/29/examples-of-how-and-why-the-use-of-a-climate-model-mean-and-the-use-of-anomalies-can-be-misleading/>

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

#### **Canadian Temperature Trends and Patterns Back to 1888**

By Ross McKittrick, His Blog, Nov 26, 2018

<https://www.rossmckittrick.com/>

Link to paper: Temperature Trends in Canada since 1888

By Ross Mckittrick, Nov 26, 2018

[https://www.rossmckittrick.com/uploads/4/8/0/8/4808045/temp\\_report.pdf](https://www.rossmckittrick.com/uploads/4/8/0/8/4808045/temp_report.pdf)

Link to program used:

<https://www.rossmckittrick.com/uploads/4/8/0/8/4808045/ctc.txt>

#### **Global Temperature Drops by 0.4°C in Three Years**

By David Whitehouse, GWPF, Nov 30, 2018

<https://www.thegwpf.com/global-temperature-drops-by-0-4c-in-three-years/>

#### **Global Temperature Drops By 0.4°C In Three Years**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Nov 30, 2018

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2018/11/30/global-temperature-drops-by-0-4c-in-three-years/>

*[SEPP Comment: Added information to the above.]*

#### **The MET Office's Baseline**

By Andrew Montford, GWPF, Nov 27, 2018

<https://www.thegwpf.com/the-met-offices-baseline/>

*[SEPP Comment: Is the MET Office cooking the temperature books?]*

### ***Changing Weather***

#### **New Paper: Normalized hurricane damage in the continental United States 1900–2017**

By Roger Pielke Jr. His Blog, Nov 26, 2018

<https://rogerpielkejr.com/2018/11/26/new-paper-normalized-hurricane-damage-in-the-continental-united-states-1900-2017/>

Link to paper: Normalized hurricane damage in the continental United States 1900–2017  
By Weinkle, Landsea, Collins, Musulin, Crompton, Klotzbach & Pielke, Nature Sustainability, Nov 26, 2018

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41893-018-0165-2>

[SEPP Comment: No trend!]

### **40-Year Meteorologist Says Recent Global Warming Due To Natural, Ocean-Cycle-Related Water Vapor, Not CO2**

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Nov 27, 2018

<http://notrickszone.com/2018/11/27/40-year-meteorologist-says-recent-global-warming-due-to-natural-ocean-cycle-related-water-vapor-not-co2/>

### **Forest Fires and Atmospheric CO2**

By Donn Dears, Power For USA, Nov 27, 2018

<http://ddears.com/2018/11/27/forest-fires-and-atmospheric-co2/>

“1871 Oct. 8-14, Peshtigo, Wis: over 1,500 lives lost and 3.8 million acres burned in nation’s worst forest fire.”

### **The Rewetting of the Western U.S.**

By Cliff Mass, Weather and Climate Blog, Nov 30, 2018

<http://cliffmass.blogspot.com/2018/11/the-rewetting-of-western-us.html>

### **Record Cold Hits North America, Arctic Sea Ice Stable As Solar Activity Reaches Near 200-Year Low**

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Nov 24, 2018

<http://notrickszone.com/2018/11/24/record-cold-hits-north-america-arctic-sea-ice-stable-as-solar-activity-reaches-near-200-year-low/>

### **Arctic Oscillation and Polar Vortex Analysis and Forecasts**

By Judah Cohen, Atmospheric and Environmental Research (AER), Nov 26, 2018 [H/t Ron Clutz)

<https://www.aer.com/science-research/climate-weather/arctic-oscillation/>

### **Strong Winds and an Atmospheric River Hit the Northwest**

By Cliff Mass, Weather and Climate Blog, Nov 26, 2018

<http://cliffmass.blogspot.com/2018/11/strong-winds-and-atmospheric-river-hit.html>

### **About 190 sea turtles found frozen near Cape Cod**

By Aris Folley, The Hill, Nov 24, 2018

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/418087-190-sea-turtles-found-frozen-to-death-in-cape-cod>

### ***Changing Climate***

### **New Treeline, Permafrost Evidence Strongly Affirms The Mid-Holocene Was 3°C Warmer Than Today**

By Kenneth Richard, No Tricks Zone, Nov 26, 2018

<http://notrickszone.com/2018/11/26/new-treeline-permafrost-evidence-strongly-affirms-the-mid-holocene-was-3c-warmer-than-today/>

**Earth's polar regions communicate via oceanic 'postcards,' atmospheric 'text messages'**

Press Release, Oregon State U. EurekaAlert, Nov 28, 2018 [H/t WUWT]

[https://www.eurekaalert.org/pub\\_releases/2018-11/osu-epr112718.php](https://www.eurekaalert.org/pub_releases/2018-11/osu-epr112718.php)

Link to paper: Abrupt Ice-age Shifts in Southern Westerly Winds and Antarctic Climate Forced from the North

By Christo Buizert, et al., Nature, Nov 28, 2018

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-018-0727-5>

***Changing Seas***

**Special Report: Sea Level and Climate Change**

By Judith Curry, Climate Forecast Applications Network, Nov 25, 2018

<https://curryja.files.wordpress.com/2018/11/special-report-sea-level-rise3.pdf>

**Sea level rise: what's the worst case?**

By Judith Curry, Climate Etc. Nov 29, 2018

<https://judithcurry.com/2018/11/29/sea-level-rise-whats-the-worst-case/#more-24529>

**Sea Level and Climate Change—Judith Curry**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Nov 28, 2018

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2018/11/28/sea-level-and-climate-change-judith-curry/>

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

**Arctic Breaks Ice Ceiling [11-Year average]**

By Ron Clutz, Science Matters, Nov 27, 2018

<https://rclutz.wordpress.com/2018/11/27/arctic-breaks-ice-ceiling/>

**No extirpation looms for Svalbard polar bears: no pending catastrophe in Norway**

By Susan Crockford, Polar Bear Science, Nov 29, 2018

<https://polarbearscience.com/2018/11/29/no-extirpation-looms-for-svalbard-polar-bears-no-pending-catastrophe-in-norway/#more-119526>

*[SEPP Comment: The bears are not recognizing political boundaries?]*

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

**BBC's Latest Propaganda For Katowice**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Nov 29, 2018

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2018/11/29/bbcs-latest-propaganda-for-katowice/>

*[SEPP Comment: Homewood exposes the great difference between the actual coverage of the surface by instruments and the pretended coverage generated by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), a parent of the UN IPCC. Extensive parts of Antarctica and the Sahara are classified as warming by the WMO, yet there are no actual surface instrument data supporting this claim.]*

***Communicating Better to the Public – Do a Poll?***

**Poll: Nearly two-thirds of Republicans now acknowledge climate change**

By John Bowden, The Hill, Nov 29, 2018

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/418887-poll-nearly-two-thirds-of-republicans-now-acknowledge-climate>

[SEPP Comment: Climate has been changing for millions of years – No link to questions, etc.]

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

**NYT: Climate Deniers are Depraved and Corrupt**

Guest essay by Eric Worrall, WUWT, Nov 27, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/11/27/nyt-climate-deniers-are-depraved-and-corrupt/>

***Communicating Better to the Public – Use Propaganda***

**Gove’s Climate Nonsense**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Nov 26, 2018

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2018/11/26/goves-climate-nonsense/>

“The Evidence All Around Us”

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

**Pied Piper 2018: Australian students skip school for mass protest**

By David Evans, Jo Nova’s Blog, Dec 1, 2018

<http://joannenova.com.au/2018/12/pied-piper-2018-australian-students-skip-school-for-mass-protest/>

**Quebec youth launch climate lawsuit against the Canadian government**

By Megan Darby, Climate Home News, Nov 27, 2018 [H/t Willie Soon]

<http://www.climatechangenews.com/2018/11/27/quebec-youth-launch-climate-lawsuit-canadian-government/>

[SEPP Comment: “Youth” – lack of maturity rather than age?]

***Expanding the Orthodoxy***

**Air Conditioning—Treating a Public Health Benefit As a Threat**

By Ben Lieberman, CEI, Nov 29, 2018

<https://cei.org/blog/air-conditioning%E2%80%94treating-public-health-benefit-threat>

***Questioning European Green***

**The Climate Change Act: Ten years of punishing the poor**

By Harry Wilkinson, The Conservative Woman, Nov 30, 2018

<https://www.conservativewoman.co.uk/the-climate-change-act-ten-years-of-punishing-the-poor/>

**Nigel Lawson Slams Greg Clark’s Energy Speech**

Press Release, GWPF, Nov 28, 2018

<https://www.thegwpf.com/nigel-lawson-slams-greg-clarks-energy-speech/>

**Gove’s Climate Nonsense**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Nov 26, 2018

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2018/11/26/goves-climate-nonsense/>

***Funding Issues***

**U.S. Climate Resilience Tool Kit: Greenland Stays Frozen in 2100... Even Under RCP8.5**

Guest DIY by David Middleton, WUWT, Nov 30, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/11/30/u-s-climate-resilience-tool-kit-greenland-stays-frozen-in-2100-even-under-rcp8-5/>

Link to GAO report: Analysis of Reported Federal Funding

By Staff Writers, GAO, May 30, 2018

<https://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-18-223>

<https://www.gao.gov/assets/700/691572.pdf>

*[SEPP Comment: The GAO report is inconsistent with data compiled from prior government reports. The prior reports and definitions will be carefully reviewed to discover sources of discrepancies. GRIP2 is roughly consistent with new chart by International Commission on Stratigraphy].*

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

#### **Obama Official Helped Prepare Dire National Climate Assessment**

By Valerie Richardson, The Washington Times, Nov 28, 2018 [H/t ICECAP]

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/nov/28/andrew-light-obama-official-helped-prepare-dire-na/>

### ***Cap-and-Trade and Carbon Taxes***

#### **French Carbon Tax Protests**

By Donna Laframboise, Big Picture News, Nov 26, 2018

<https://nofrackingconsensus.com/2018/11/26/french-carbon-tax-protests/>

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

#### **DC lawmakers vote for 100 percent clean power by 2032**

By Chris Mills Rodrigo, The Hill, Nov 27, 2018

<https://thehill.com/homenews/state-watch/418515-dc-lawmakers-vote-for-100-clean-electricity-by-2032>

*[SEPP Comment: Who will pay to make the power stable?]*

### ***Energy Issues – Non-US***

#### **How the Shale revolution Overturned the Green Energy Agenda**

By Nick Butler, Financial Times, Via GWPF, Nov 26, 2018

<https://www.thegwpf.com/how-the-shale-revolution-overturned-the-green-agenda/>

“To understand what has been happening it is instructive to compare the new Outlook with that published 10 years ago. Hydrocarbons — oil, gas and coal — accounted for 81 per cent of total global energy supply in 2008. The figure today is still 81 per cent and, according to the 2018 Outlook, that will decline only marginally over the next 20 years to 74 per cent in 2040.”

#### **Electricity Reform in Ontario: Getting Power Prices Down**

By Ross McKittrick, Elmira Aliabari, Ashley Stedman, Fraser Institute, Oct 4, 2018

<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/electricity-reform-in-ontario-getting-power-prices-down>

#### **Saudi energy minister goes to OPEC with a weak hand: Kemp**

By John Kemp, Reuters, Nov 29, 2018 [H/t Energy Matters.]

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-oil-opec-kemp-column/saudi-energy-minister-goes-to-opec-with-a-weak-hand-kemp-idUSKCN1NY1X9>

“Saudi Arabia faces a familiar but uncomfortable choice: cut production to defend prices or allow prices to fall to protect market share.” – Energy Matters

### **Electricity tariffs have soared as much as 500% due to new pricing formula**

Businesses question why Yucatán electricity costs are 83% higher than in Louisiana

By Staff Writers, Mexico News Daily, Nov 19, 2018

<https://mexiconewsdaily.com/news/electricity-tariffs-have-soared-as-much-as-500/>

### **Homeowners trapped by 25-year solar panel contracts**

Householders who lease their roofs to power firms find it hard or costly to move home

By Anna Tims, The Guardian, Nov 25, 2018

<https://www.theguardian.com/money/2018/nov/25/homeowners-trapped-solar-panels>

### **Now Spain proposes to go 100% renewable**

By Roger Andrews, Energy Matters, Nov 28, 2018

<http://euanmearns.com/now-spain-proposes-to-go-100-renewable/#more-22787>

“In summary, Spain can’t transition to 100% renewable electricity without some economic means of storing its surplus wind and solar for re-use. Currently there is no technology other than pumped hydro capable of doing this, and Spain’s conventional and pumped hydro potential is nowhere near large enough to bridge the gap.”

*[SEPP Comment: Will the greens allow converting a UNESCO biosphere reserve to pumped storage? The data from the utility shows the capacity factor of Solar PV in Spain to be 20.5%. In Sunny Spain?]*

### ***Energy Issues – Australia***

#### **Victoria votes for solar, batteries and climate action, as Labor wins in a landslide**

By Sophie Vorrath, Renew Economy, Nov 26, 2018

<https://reneweconomy.com.au/victoria-votes-for-solar-batteries-and-climate-action-as-labor-wins-in-a-landslide-96081/>

#### **Green is the new black: how renewables and storage will replace coal**

By Lachlan Blackhall, Sydney Morning Herald, AU, Nov 29, 2018

<https://www.smh.com.au/environment/sustainability/green-is-the-new-black-how-renewables-and-storage-will-replace-coal-20181128-p50j02.html>

“Lachlan Blackhall is entrepreneurial fellow and head, Battery Storage and Grid Integration Program, the Australian National University.”

*[SEPP Comment: No estimate of the cost of storage or making wind and solar reliable.]*

#### **New Coal Boom Looms After Green Light for Adani Coal Mine**

By Staff Writers, The Australian, Via GWPF, Nov 29, 2018

<https://www.thegwpf.com/new-coal-boom-looms-after-green-light-for-adani-coal-mine/>

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

#### **How Much Do The Climate Crusaders Plan To Increase Your Costs Of Electricity -- Part IV**

By Francis Menton, Manhattan Contrarian, Nov 30, 2018

<https://www.manhattancontrarian.com/blog/2018-11-30-how-much-do-the-climate-crusaders-plan-to-increase-your-costs-of-electricity-part-iv>

#### **How Much Do The Climate Crusaders Plan To Increase Your Costs Of Electricity? -- Part III**

By Francis Menton, Manhattan Contrarian, Nov 29, 2018

<https://www.manhattancontrarian.com/blog/2018-11-29-how-much-do-the-climate-crusaders-plan-to-increase-your-costs-of-electricity-part-iii>

[SEPP Comment: Discusses some political issues, then uses the quick analysis by Roger Andrews discussed in last week's TWTW.]

### **Offshore Energy Essential for US National Security, Economic Prosperity**

By Jim Webb & Jim Nicholson, Real Clear Energy, Nov 28, 2018

[https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2018/11/28/offshore\\_energy\\_essential\\_for\\_us\\_national\\_security\\_economic\\_prosperity\\_110364.html](https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2018/11/28/offshore_energy_essential_for_us_national_security_economic_prosperity_110364.html)

### **Get your natural gas in Texas for 25 cents, if you can**

By Scott DiSavino, Reuters, Nov 27, 2018

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-natgas-waha-pipelines/get-your-natural-gas-in-texas-for-25-cents-if-you-can-idUSKCN1NW1EV>

[SEPP Comment: Lack of pipelines to take away gas associated with oil development is creating a problem.]

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

#### **Public land drilling contributes a quarter of all greenhouse gas emissions in US: report**

By Miranda Green, The Hill, Nov 26, 2018

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/418242-public-land-drilling-contributes-a-quarter-of-all-greenhouse-gas>

Link to report: Federal Lands Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sequestration in the United States: Estimates for 2005–14

By Staff Writers, USGS, 2018

<https://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2018/5131/sir20185131.pdf>

[SEPP Comment: Has little to do with resurgence of the US oil and gas industries.]

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

#### **U.S. Crude Oil and Natural Gas Proved Reserves, Year-end 2017**

By Staff Writers, EIA, Nov 29, 2018

<https://www.eia.gov/naturalgas/crudeoilreserves/index.php>

### **US oil, natural gas proved reserves shatter records in 2017: EIA**

By Brian Scheid, Platts, Nov 29, 2018

<https://www.spglobal.com/platts/en/market-insights/latest-news/oil/112918-us-oil-natural-gas-proved-reserves-shatter-records-in-2017-eia>

### **A 'Growing Number Of Scientists' Indicate Earth's Oil & Gas Supply Is Abiogenic, Unlimited...Renewable**

By Kenneth Richard, No Tricks Zone, Nov 29, 2018

<http://notrickszone.com/2018/11/29/a-growing-number-of-scientists-indicate-earths-oil-gas-supply-is-abiogenic-unlimited-renewable/>

### **U.S. Liquefied Natural Gas Poised For 'Biggest Year Ever'**

By Jude Clemente, Forbes, Nov 23, 2018

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/judeclemente/2018/11/23/u-s-liquefied-natural-gas-poised-for-biggest-year-ever/#c0ba8b616cb2>

## **Pemex adds 1B barrels of oil reserves in biggest onshore find in 25 years**

By Renzo Pipoli, UPI, Nov 28, 2018

<https://www.upi.com/Pemex-adds-1B-barrels-of-oil-reserves-in-biggest-onshore-find-in-25-years/2961543410864/>

## **The Great Oil Crash of 2018: What's really happening**

By Matt Egan, CNN Business, Nov 23, 2018 [H/t GWPF]

<https://edition.cnn.com/2018/11/21/investing/oil-prices-trump-saudi-arabia/index.html>

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

### **King Global Coal (NYT article parsed)**

By Robert Bradley Jr., Master Resource, Nov 28, 2018

<https://www.masterresource.org/coal-international/king-coal-nyt-2018/>

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

### **Pro-Nuclear Activists Win Landslide Electoral Victory In Taiwan**

By Michael Shellenberger, Forbes, Nov 24, 2018

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/michaelshellenberger/2018/11/24/pro-nuclear-activists-win-landslide-electoral-victory-in-taiwan/#43c0341529a0>

## **Long-delayed Olkiluoto 3 nuclear reactor to go online in January 2020**

The launch of Finland's Olkiluoto 3 reactor has been postponed again. It is now to begin production in 2020, some 11 years behind schedule.

By Staff Writers Uutiset, Nov 29, 2018

[https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/long-delayed\\_olkiluoto\\_3\\_nuclear\\_reactor\\_to\\_go\\_online\\_in\\_january\\_2020/10532547](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/long-delayed_olkiluoto_3_nuclear_reactor_to_go_online_in_january_2020/10532547)

## ***Alternative, Green ("Clean") Solar and Wind***

### **When the Wind Doesn't Blow**

By John Hultquist, WUWT, Nov 25, 2018

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2018/11/25/when-the-wind-doesnt-blow/>

*[SEPP Comment; The Bonneville Power Administration is the largest hydropower project in the US. Their graphs are an excellent example of the failure of wind power. Using hydro and coal-fired turbines to balance the oscillations of wind power must greatly shorten the life-spans of the turbines.]*

## **Recent studies show flaws of wind power**

By The Oklahoman Editorial Board, NewsOK, Nov 25, 2018

<https://newsok.com/article/5615884/recent-studies-show-flaws-of-wind-power>

## **Homeowners trapped by 25-year solar panel contracts**

Householders who lease their roofs to power firms find it hard or costly to move home

By Anna Tims, The Guardian, Nov 25, 2018

<https://www.theguardian.com/money/2018/nov/25/homeowners-trapped-solar-panels>

## ***Alternative, Green ("Clean") Energy -- Other***

### **EPA increases 2019 mandate for fuel made from plant and animal waste**

By Miranda Green, The Hill, Nov 30, 2018

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/419158-epa-increases-2019-mandate-for-fuel-made-plant-and-animal-waste>

### **Cellulosic Ethanol Falling Far Short Of The Hype**

By Robert Rapier, Forbes, Feb 11, 2018

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/rrapier/2018/02/11/cellulosic-ethanol-falling-far-short-of-the-hype/#5aef92c7505f>

### ***Alternative, Green (“Clean”) Vehicles***

#### **Autonomous Automobiles Someday**

By Donn Dears, Power For USA, Nov 30, 2018

<http://ddears.com/2018/11/30/autonomous-automobiles-someday/>

### ***Carbon Schemes***

#### **Europe’s first bioenergy carbon capture and storage pilot now underway**

By Jemima Owen-Jones, Gas World, Nov 27, 2018

<https://www.gasworld.com/europes-first-bioenergy-carbon-capture-and-storage-pilot-now-underway/2015992.article>

#### **UK's first carbon capture and storage project 'operational by mid 2020s'**

By Kevin Keane, BBC, Nov 28, 2018

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-business-46358715>

“The Acorn Project will capture about 200,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> from the St Fergus Gas Terminal near Peterhead and transport it for storage to one of three depleted gas fields using existing pipelines.”

### ***California Dreaming***

#### **Paradise regained? Experts call for European approach to US housing**

By Staff Writers, AFP, Nov 21, 2018 [H/t Toshio Fujita]

<https://www.afp.com/en/news/15/paradise-regained-experts-call-european-approach-us-housing-doc-1b01z51>

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

#### **Give Thanks That We No Longer Live On The Precipice**

By Paul Driessen, Townhall, Nov 24, 2018

<https://townhall.com/columnists/pauldriessen/2018/11/24/give-thanks-that-we-no-longer-live-on-the-precipice-n2536408>

### ***Environmental Industry***

#### **Sierra Club joins Big Wind Bullies at Apex, Diminishing our Environment**

By Mary Kay Barton, Master Resources, Nov 27, 2018

<https://www.masterresource.org/sierra-club-environmental-pressure-groups/sierra-club-big-wind-apex/>

### ***Other Scientific News***

#### **Could an anti-global warming atmospheric spraying program really work?**

By Staff Writers, Institute of Physics, Via Phys.org, Nov 22, 2018 [H/t GWPF]

<https://phys.org/news/2018-11-anti-global-atmospheric.html#jCp>

Link to paper: Stratospheric aerosol injection tactics and costs in the first 15 years of deployment

By Wake Smith and Gernot Wagner, Environmental Research Letters,, IOP, Nov 23, 2018  
<http://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/aae98d/meta>  
[SEPP Comment: *If you don't know the cause, you don't have the cure.*]

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

#### **Civic Virtues and the Future of the Centre-Right**

By Tony Abbott, Quadrant, Dec 1, 2018

<https://quadrant.org.au/magazine/2018/12/civic-virtues-and-the-future-of-the-centre-right/>

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### **BELOW THE BOTTOM LINE:**

#### **How climate change could be causing miscarriages in Bangladesh**

By Staff Writers, BBC, Nov 26, 2018 [H/t Willie Soon]

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-45715550>

#### **Windows closed**

By Staff Writers, Climate Change Predictions.org, Nov 30, 2018

<http://climatechangepredictions.org/uncategorized/5709>

“Already, the window to prevent catastrophic climate change appears to be closing. Some governments are starting to redirect their attention away from climate change mitigation and towards staking their claims in a warming world.

“Canada is spending \$3 billion to build eight new patrol boats to reinforce its claim over the Arctic waterways. Denmark and Russia are starting to vie for control over the Lomonosov Ridge, where new sources of oil and natural gas could be accessed if the Arctic Circle becomes ice free—fossil fuels that will further exacerbate climate change. These actions assume that a warming world is here,” said Erik Assadourian, Vital Signs Project Director. Worldwatch Institute, 31 Mar 2015”

#### **Future of psychology profession assured!**

By Staff Writers, Climate Change Predictions.org, Nov 29, 2018

<http://climatechangepredictions.org/uncategorized/5741>

“In America, 200 Million People Will Suffer ‘Psychological Distress’ From Climate Change.

“A report published by the National Wildlife Foundation finds that the majority of Americans can expect to suffer mental health problems as a result of global warming and warns that our mental health system is not equipped to handle it.

“The interplay between the climate realities we likely face and the potential psychological fallout from them was the subject of a conference convened in Washington D.C., in March 2009,” write Lise van Susteren, MD, and Kevin J. Doyle, JD, introducing their work. ‘A highly respected group of experts offered insights. Their thoughts, recommendations and supporting evidence are presented in this report.’ Gizmodo Australia, 30 Dec 2015”

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### **ARTICLES:**

#### **1. Making climate predictions**

By S. Fred Singer, The Washington Times, Nov 28, 2018

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/nov/28/why-the-supreme-courts-2007-decision-labeling-carb/>

The Chairman Emeritus of SEPP writes: *“I have always been reluctant to make any predictions, ‘especially about the future;’ however, I want to make two exceptions.*

*“I predict that the global warming pause of the last 40 years (‘hiatus’), the growing ‘gap’ between models and observed temperatures will continue to grow to the year 2100, and likely, beyond.*

*“I also predict that increases in global Sea Level Rise (SLR) will reach about 6 inches by 2100, and contrary to the U.N-Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC-2013), I expect there will be no discernible acceleration in this rate of rise.*

*“During the only sure climate warming, 1910-40, the Sea Level Rise increased steadily at 1-2mm/year; as measured by most tidal gauges, with respect to their local shorelines, which did not have enough time to rise or fall.*

*“But we know that water expands when heated. However, the Sea Level Rise did not accelerate during 1910-40.*

*“Something must be offsetting that expansion, which increases rapidly. I believe the offset comes from evaporation, into the atmosphere, with subsequent precipitation turning into ice over the Antarctic. (The area-ratio oceans/Antarctic is 58.)*

*“Following 1910-40, the climate cooled during 1945-75, according to our best data. Again, SLR does not react, but continues to rise at the same steady rate.*

*“This lack of Sea Level Rise acceleration proves that ocean temperature change does not affect SLR — and neither does the steady increase in carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) — contrary to what former Vice President Al Gore and James Hansen, a retired NASA scientist, say. It means that human activity, such as burning fossil fuels, has negligible influence on Sea Level Rise.*

*“But if expansion is more or less canceled by evaporation, what then causes the rise in SLR? The slow average melting of glaciers and polar ice sheets, on a time-scale of millennia, because it is warmer now than during the recent ice age glaciation, more than 12,000 years ago.*

*“There is negligible human influence on Sea Level Rise. By 2100, we expect the sea level to rise, about half-a-foot — a long way from the Gore-Hansen estimate of a 20-foot-rise, inundating coastal cities.*

*“By most measures, a ‘warming pause’ has been ongoing for at least 40 years, despite rising CO<sub>2</sub>. What is the future of this ‘hiatus?’ There are at least three possibilities:*

*“1. The ‘gap’ between the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) models, based on increasing carbon dioxide, and the observations could suddenly disappear — it could be just a statistical fluke (Tom Karl, 2005). This seemed a possibility more than a decade ago but becomes less likely as time goes on.*

*Atmospheric scientist Kevin Trenberth assumed the extra incoming energy is ‘hiding’ in the deep ocean and will eventually be released.*

*“2. The ‘gap’ is permanent and will increase over time. My belief is that this ‘gap’ has been ongoing, at least since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, about 200 years ago, and likely much before.*

*“The climate effect of carbon dioxide increases logarithmically, i.e. very slowly.*

*“Thus, over the course of 200 years, carbon dioxide had near-zero climate impact — a conclusion hard to swallow for the IPCC.*

*“3. The much larger climate effects of solar activity changes dominate climate change by carbon dioxide. It could be modulated also by climate oscillations, such as ‘PDO’ (Pacific Decadal Oscillation). But we don’t know how to predict such future changes or oscillations — except for the general observation they should average to zero over a century, or more.*

*“I will put my money on #3 — but I am not a betting man.*

*“Professor John Christy of the University of Alabama, Huntsville, has plotted the gap, over the past 40 years, using independent, but congruent, satellite and radiosonde data for observed atmospheric temperatures. He showed an increasing gap since 1978 with models.*

*“His graph illustrates the ‘gap’ between IPCC climate models, based only on increasing carbon dioxide, and observed atmospheric temperatures; presented by Mr. Christy at a 2015 congressional hearing, showing the relative unimportance of carbon dioxide as a climate driver.*

*“Carbon dioxide may be popular, but clearly, the ineffective 2007 U.S. Supreme Court decision, labeling carbon dioxide a pollutant, must be revisited.*

*“So why this emphasis on a small carbon dioxide effect? The answer may be both political and scientific.*

*“The political aspect is obvious: Politicians can control emissions of carbon dioxide from ‘evil’ electric power-plants by taxes or other regulation; politicians love control.*

*“The scientific reasons are more subtle: Scientific model-builders are attracted to carbon dioxide, because its climate effects, though tiny, can be calculated and allow construction of mathematical models, while the much larger effects of solar activity changes and climate oscillations are essentially unpredictable by existing theory.*

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## **2. How American Fracking Changes the World**

Low energy prices enhance U.S. power at the expense of Moscow and Tehran.

By Walter Russell Mead, WSJ, Via GWPF, Nov 26, 2018

<https://www.thegwgf.com/how-american-fracking-is-changing-the-world/>

SUMMARY: The James Clarke Chace Professor of Foreign Affairs and Humanities at Bard College writes:

*“The most important news in world politics this month isn’t about diplomacy. Bigger than Brexit, more consequential than presidential tweetstorms, the American shale revolution is rapidly reshaping the global balance of power as energy prices plummet.*

*“Until recently, observers expected American energy production to reach a plateau. A lack of pipeline capacity was expected to constrain output in the Permian Basin through 2020. Instead, shippers found ways to use existing pipelines more efficiently, and new pipelines were constructed faster than expected. U.S. crude-oil production is expected to average 12.1 million barrels a day in 2019, 28% higher than in 2017. Surging production has roiled world energy markets.*

*“The biggest loser is Iran. Shale has been pummeling Tehran for some time. The economic benefits Iran hoped to gain from President Obama’s nuclear deal were largely offset by the sharp 2016 fall in the price of oil. Now the pesky Permian is blighting Iranian hopes again. Rising American output made it easier for the U.S. to slap tough sanctions on Iran without risking a sharp rise in world energy prices. Low prices also reduce Iran’s income from the oil it still manages to sell.*

*“The next biggest loser is Russia. Oil is a key revenue source for the Kremlin. But the shale boom doesn’t only pick Vladimir Putin’s pocket; it also attacks his foreign-policy strategy.*

*“Russia wants to control the world oil price and use that power to boost its diplomatic weight. Mr. Putin has two ways to influence the price of oil. The first is to increase geopolitical tensions. If threatening Ukraine or bombing Syria spooks traders and jacks up energy prices, Russia has a better hand in negotiations with Europe and the U.S.*

*“Mr. Putin’s second option is to cooperate with the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries on price fixing. Building a closer relationship with Saudi Arabia over their common interest in inflated oil prices might loosen the kingdom’s U.S. ties and generate lucrative commercial and arms deals for the Kremlin.*

*“Shale disrupts both approaches. With supplies relatively abundant, energy markets can shrug off geopolitical shocks. The surge of American oil and gas also reduces the benefits of OPEC-Russia cooperation for both sides. Russia and OPEC can raise prices by reducing output, but that makes new drilling projects more profitable for American frackers. Cutting prices to starve the competition also doesn’t work. Thanks to past pressure from OPEC and the innovation it forced on the industry, many wells in West Texas now break even at an oil price of \$30 a barrel. That’s not a price Russia can accept.”*

Mead then discusses the impacts of falling government incomes on the Gulf sheikhdoms and Venezuela and some possible relief for the French President and his carbon taxes. He then states:

*“Shale power is not, however, an unalloyed good for the U.S. China’s energy-intensive manufacturing economy benefits substantially when energy prices fall. In a world with low prices, Beijing is in a better position to ride out a trade war. Recep Tayyip Erdogan’s Turkey also benefits both from low prices and the weakness of its Middle Eastern neighbors.*

*“Ever since the shale boom began, diplomats and politicians have underestimated its importance. The U.S. has regained the position it lost in 1973 as the world’s largest oil producer, which it will likely hold through at least the 2040s. The consequences for energy markets and world politics*

*will be far-reaching. Roughnecks in the American Southwest are doing more than most foreign ministries to change the world.*

*“But the shale revolution isn’t only an energy revolution; it’s a technology revolution, enabled by advanced methods for oil prospecting and extraction. From the transistor to satellites, to the personal computer to the internet and now shale, it is America’s innovation—as much as its hard power and diplomacy—that shapes world politics.”*

### **3. The Climate Won’t Crash the Economy**

A worst-case scenario projects annual GDP growth will be slower by 0.05 percentage point.

By Steven Koonin, WSJ, Nov 26, 2018

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-climate-wont-crash-the-economy-1543276899>

SUMMARY: As discussed above. Koonin questions the economic claims of the NCA then states:

*“Experts know that worst-case climate projections show minimal impact on the overall economy. Buried in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s 2014 report is a chart showing that a global temperature rise of 5 degrees Fahrenheit would have a global economic impact of about 3% in 2100—negligibly diminishing projected global growth over that period to 385% from 400%.*

*“If we take the new report’s estimates at face value, human-induced climate change isn’t an existential threat to the overall U.S. economy through the end of this century—or even a significant one. Changes in tax policy, regulation, trade and technology will have far greater consequences for Americans’ economic well-being.*

*“There are many reasons to be concerned about a changing climate, including disparate impact across industries and regions. But national economic catastrophe isn’t one of them. It should concern anyone who supports well-informed public and policy discussions that the report’s authors, reviewers and media coverage obscured such an important point.”*