

**The Week That Was: 2020-06-20 (June 20, 2020)**  
**Brought to You by SEPP ([www.SEPP.org](http://www.SEPP.org))**  
**The Science and Environmental Policy Project**

**Quote of the Week:** *“Aqueous vapor [water vapor] is a blanket, more necessary to the vegetable life of England than clothing is to man. Remove for a single summer-night the aqueous vapor from the air which overspreads this country, and you would assuredly destroy every plant capable of being destroyed by a freezing temperature. The warmth of our fields and gardens would pour itself unrequited into space, and the sun would rise upon an island held fast in the iron grip of frost.”* – John Tyndall (“Heat: A Mode of Motion”, 1861) [H/t William Happer]

**Number of the Week:** Daily change of 100°C (or daily change of 180°F)

**THIS WEEK:**

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

**Greenhouse Warming:** Last week, TWTW focused on a new book by Peter Webster, *Dynamic of the Tropical Atmosphere and Oceans*, reviewed by his spouse Judith Curry, formerly the chair of the School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at the Georgia Institute of Technology. There are many issues that we do not understand about the tropics, which render climate modeling used by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change highly questionable and the US climate modeling efforts highly doubtful.

Writing in No Tricks Zone, Kenneth Richard brings up a new paper by Richard Lindzen, “An oversimplified picture of the climate behavior based on a single process can lead to distorted conclusions.” A retired professor at MIT, Lindzen was last year’s recipient of the Fredrick Seitz Memorial Award for exceptional courage in the quest for knowledge. The current work is an example of his courage. [Unfortunately, the paper, published in *The European Physical Journal Plus*, is paywalled, and TWTW relies on what was reproduced in No Tricks Zone.] Lindzen begins:

*“Although it is often noted that greenhouse warming has long been found in the climate literature, it turns out that this was not generally considered a major cause of climate change until the 1980s.*

*“Many factors, including fluctuations of average cloud area and height, snow cover, ocean circulations, etc. commonly cause changes to the radiative budget comparable to that of doubling of CO<sub>2</sub>. For example, the net global mean cloud radiative effect is of the order of – 20 W/m squared [minus 20 watts per meter squared] (cooling effect). A 4 W/m squared forcing from a doubling of CO<sub>2</sub>, therefore, corresponds to only a 20% change in the net cloud effect.*

*“The ‘consensus’ assessment of this system is today the following:*

*“In this complex multifactor system, the climate (which, itself, consists in many variables – especially the temperature deference between the equator and the poles) is described by just one variable, the global averaged temperature change, and is controlled by the 1–2% perturbation in the energy budget due to a single variable (any single variable) among many variables of comparable importance. We go further and designate CO<sub>2</sub> as the sole*

*control Although we are not sure of the budget for this variable, we know precisely what policies to implement in order to control it.*

*“How did such a naïve seeming picture come to be accepted, not just by the proponents of the issue, but also by most skeptics?”*

Lindzen gives his views on how this came about and discusses problems therein. In the blog Richard highlights certain points presented in the full paper:

*“1. Doubling the atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentration from 280 ppm to 560 ppm results in just a 1-2% perturbation to the Earth’s 240 W/m<sup>2</sup> energy budget. This doubled-CO<sub>2</sub> effect has less than 1/5th of the impact that the net cloud effect has. And yet we are asked to accept the ‘implausible’ claim that change in one variable, CO<sub>2</sub>, is predominantly responsible for altering global temperatures.*

*“2. A causal role for CO<sub>2</sub> ‘cannot be claimed’ for the glacial-to-interglacial warming events because CO<sub>2</sub> variations follow rather than lead the temperature changes in paleoclimate records and the 100 ppm total increase over thousands of years produce ‘about 1 W/m<sup>2</sup>’ of total radiative impact.*

*“3. Climate science didn’t used to be alarmist prior to the late 1980s. Scientists were instead sufficiently skeptical about claims of climatically-induced planetary doom. That changed during the years 1988-1994, when climate research centered on CO<sub>2</sub> and global warming received a 15-fold increase in funding in the US alone. Suddenly there was a great financial incentive to propel alarming global warming scenarios.*

*“4. Concepts like ‘polar amplification’ are ‘imaginary’.*

*“‘The change in equator-to-pole temperature difference was attributed to some imaginary ‘polar amplification,’ whereby the equator-pole temperature automatically followed the mean temperature. Although the analogy is hardly exact, this is not so different from assuming that flow in a pipe depends on the mean pressure rather than the pressure gradient.’”*

In short, although considered complex, the climate models oversimplify critical parts of the climate system, making the models unreliable. Lindzen’s findings are similar to those of Webster in last week’s TWTW: Critical parts of the climate system are over-simplified, and a minor part (CO<sub>2</sub>) is over-emphasized. See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy

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**The Shape of Water:** In an open access paper in *The European Physical Journal Plus*, Geoffrey Vallis of the University of Exeter, brings up the problems of modeling water vapor and methane which have phase changes. According to his web site, the interests of Vallis “are in climate dynamics and planetary atmospheres, and my work varies between basic research in geophysical fluid dynamics and more applied modeling of various aspects of the oceans, atmospheres, or climate, although distinguishing between these subfields can sometimes be quite arbitrary.” The abstract of the article “The Trouble with Water: Condensation, Circulation and Climate” states:

*“This article discusses at a basic level a few of the problems that arise in geophysical fluid dynamics and climate that are associated with the presence of moisture in the air, its condensation and release of latent heat. Our main focus is Earth’s atmosphere, but we also discuss how these*

*problems might manifest themselves on other planetary bodies, with particular attention to Titan where methane takes on the role of water. Geophysical fluid dynamics has traditionally been concerned with understanding the very basic problems that lie at the foundation of dynamical meteorology and oceanography. Conventionally, and a little ironically, the subject mainly considers 'dry' fluids, meaning it does not concern itself overly much with phase changes. The subject is often regarded as dry in another way because it does not consider problems perceived as relevant to the real world, such as clouds or rainfall, which have typically been the province of complicated numerical models. Those models often rely on parameterizations of unresolved processes, parameterizations that may work very well but that often have a semiempirical basis. The consequent dichotomy between the foundations and the applications prevents progress being made that has both a secure basis in scientific understanding and a relevance to the Earth's climate, especially where moisture is concerned. The dichotomy also inhibits progress in understanding the climate of other planets, where observations are insufficient to tune the parameterizations that weather and climate models for Earth rely upon, and a more fundamental approach is called for. Here, we discuss four diverse examples of the problems with moisture: the determination of relative humidity and cloudiness; the transport of water vapor and its possible change under global warming; the moist shallow water equations and the Madden-Julian Oscillation; and the hydrology cycle on other planetary bodies."*

The phase changes of water require or give off considerable heat. Under a standard atmosphere, the melting of ice, alone, requires 79.7 calories per gram (cal/gm) or 334 kJ/kg, which does not include heating of the ice to bring it to melting temperature. The vaporization of water to water vapor (steam) requires 539 cal/gm or 2260 kJ/kg, which does not include the heat required to bring water to a boiling (vaporizing) point.

Except in a laboratory, there is no such thing as dry air on earth, much less "dry fluids", yet climate modelers assume their existence, then try to guess at what the influence of physical air and water, including phase changes, would be on their models after they created the models using imaginary air. This is a major reason why climate models must be tested against physical evidence, not against similar models. See links under Seeking a Common Ground.

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**Heat Exposure:** The JAMA network, formerly known as the Journal of the American Medical Association produced a "peer reviewed", highly questionable meta-analysis claiming that heat and pollution present serious health risks particularly to black expectant mothers. It appears to be another meta-study lacking rigor. Have issues such as smoking, alcohol intake, drug use, pre-natal care, body weight and BMI of the mother been eliminated? Steve Milloy writes:

*"While it is true that African-Americans as a group have suffered at a proportionately greater rate from COVID-19 - as well as many other illnesses - than other population groups, this has nothing to do with the environment so much as it does with poverty, education and the increased rate of co-morbidities that go along with those two problems."*

The heat issue prompts one to ask how humanity survived in the tropics, where it evolved? Also, the combined pollution and heat issue prompts the question, how did African-Americans survive in the American South, without air conditioning, and the roads were unpaved, dusty, until the 1960s and 70s? See links under Health, Energy, and Climate and Other News that May Be of Interest.

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**Tree Rings, Again?** As discussed by Paul Homewood, a review of a new book, *Tree Story: the History of the World Written in Rings* brings up how tree rings may provide answers to questions about history.

*“Unlike carbon14-dating, which can only offer a temporal range, tree rings pinpoint the conditions for a precise year, even the beginning or end of the season. Cross-referencing with known events has helped add a missing climate element to history. The disappearance, for instance, of the pioneering English colony at Roanoke in North Carolina had long baffled historians; after three years, in 1590, a relief ship arrived to find everyone gone. Tree-ring analysis has confirmed not only the intervening years as ones of drought but as the most extreme dry period on the eastern seaboard in the last eight centuries.*

*“Dendrochronology has also helped explain such curiosities as a dip in Caribbean piracy in the 17th century (a spate of hurricanes), riots in Ptolemaic Egypt (rain failure), the Ottoman crisis of the early 17th century and the rise and fall of the Mayan, Mongolian and Uyghur empires. When, a few years ago, Stradivari’s famous Messiah violin was deemed a copy, it was analysis of the rings in its wood that confirmed its authenticity.”*

Unfortunately, the reviewer for the UK Spectator falls into the Mann trap, the hockey-stick. As Homewood writes:

*“Somehow what starts as a perfectly sensible review morphs into Michael Mann and his discredited hockey stick!*

*“But, as the review itself admits, tree rings tell you more about rainfall than temperature, Indeed, in a much better review in Newsweek, we read how the book reveals in detail the effect that a long period of drought had on the declining Roman Empire in the 4thC.*

*“In fact, Mann’s Hockey Stick was hopelessly flawed in many ways. (I would recommend Andrew Montford’s book, ‘The Hockey Stick Illusion’, for anyone interested.*

*“For a start, the Hockey Stick was based on shonky [questionable] statistics, which were guaranteed to produce a hockey stick curve regardless of the data fed into it. This was because of the way Mann used Principal Component analysis. In simple terms, Mann’s statistics blew out of all proportion any data which showed a hockey stick effect and ignored all other data.*

*“Secondly, as far as tree rings were concerned, it was heavily dependent on bristlecone pines. It has long been known that the marked increase in bristlecone growth in the 19th and 20thC is due to CO2 fertilization, not temperature. When bristlecones are taken out of Mann’s analysis. the hockey stick disappears.*

*“Thirdly, when tree ring and other proxy data diverged from rising temperature data in the late 20thC, Mann ignored the proxies and spliced the temperature data onto his graph.*

*“There are also a whole host of other major flaws in the Hockey Stick, not related to tree rings. Homewood links to works by McKittrick and McIntyre. See links under Oh Mann!*

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**SEPP’S APRIL FOOLS AWARD  
THE JACKSON**

Since 2012, SEPP conducted an annual vote for the recipient of the coveted trophy, The Jackson, a lump of coal. Readers are asked to nominate and vote for who they think is most deserving, following these criteria:

- The nominee has advanced, or proposes to advance, significant expansion of governmental power, regulation, or control over the public or significant sections of the general economy.
- The nominee does so by declaring such measures are necessary to protect public health, welfare, or the environment.
- The nominee declares that physical science supports such measures.
- The physical science supporting the measures is flimsy at best, and possibly non-existent.

The eight past recipients, Lisa Jackson (12), Barack Obama (13), John Kerry (14), Ernest Moniz (15), Michael Mann (16), Christiana Figueres (17), Jerry Brown (18), and AOC (19) are not eligible. Generally, the committee that makes the selection prefers a candidate with a national or international presence. The voting will close on June 30. Please send your nominee and a brief reason why the person is qualified for the honor to Ken@SEPP.org. Thank you.

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**Number of the Week: Daily change of 100°C (or daily change of 180°F) – the swing in daily temperatures near the equator of Mars.**

Largely ignored in the global warming controversy is how important greenhouse gases are in keeping the land masses of Earth inhabitable. Yet in 1861, greenhouse gas pioneer John Tyndall understood the critical role the major greenhouse gas, water vapor, plays in keeping land masses warm enough for life on Earth. (See Quote of the Week) This knowledge has been lost in the noise of global warming fears since the 1980s.

Thus, it is useful to recognize the stability greenhouse gases give to Earth by comparing the temperature swings near the equator of the Earth with a nearby planet that has limited greenhouse gases, Mars. Mars has a daily rotation of 24.6 hours, similar to that of Earth. The primary gas in the atmosphere is carbon dioxide, 95% and it has very little water vapor, while the atmosphere of Earth is 0.04% carbon dioxide with about 1.5% water vapor (ranging from about 1% to 4%)

Since 1997, there have been 4 US rovers on Mars. The first one lasted a few months, the second one landed in January 2004 and operated until March 2010, the third one also landed in January 2004, and operated until June 2018, the fourth one landed in August 2012 and continues to operate.

Based on measurements, near the equator of Mars, the daily temperature fluctuation is about 100°C (180°F), from a high of about 21°C (70°F) at midday to minus 79°C (minus 110°F) the same night. [During polar winters, not on the equator, surface frost can form at night, giving evidence of limited water vapor.]

Using Wikipedia, TWTW reviewed the reported temperatures of locations, near the equator, near the centers of land masses of Africa and South America. The results are:

Kisangani, Democratic Republic of Congo, from BBC Weather Centre (No time period given)  
0 degrees, 31 minutes North

Elevation 447 m (1467 ft)

Population 1,602,144 (2015)

March average high 31°C (88°F) average low 21°C (70°F) Mean monthly hours Sunshine: 187

June – average high 30°C (84°F) average low 21°C (70°F) Mean monthly hours Sunshine: 150

September– average high 29°C (84°F) average low 20°C (68°F) Sunshine hours: 186

December– average high 30°C (84°F) average low 20°C (68°F) Sunshine hours: 155

Heaviest rain period September to November with October 218mm (8.6 Inches)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kisangani>

and

Boa Vista, Brazil from Brazilian National Institute of Meteorology (1981-2010 normal)

2 degrees 49 min N

Population 375,374

Elevation 90 m (300 ft)

March average high 34.2°C (93.6) average low 24.3°C (75.7°F) Sunshine hours: 142

June – Average high 31.2°C (88.2) average low 23.1°C (73.6°F) Sunshine hours: 93.5

September– average high 34.2°C (93.6) average low 24.2°C (75.6°F) Sunshine hours: 200.7

December– average high 33.8°C (92.8) average low 24.3°C (75.7°F) Sunshine hours: 173.5

Heavy rain in the May to August, 321.3 mm (12.65 in) in June

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boa\\_Vista,\\_Roraima](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boa_Vista,_Roraima)

CONCLUSION: Compared to Mars, with little atmosphere and the primary gas being CO<sub>2</sub>, the stability (lack of variation) of daily temperatures on Earth is remarkable. As Tyndall implied, without the greenhouse effect, the nighttime temperatures on Earth's land masses would be well below freezing, preventing growth of vegetation. Yet the UN IPCC and others claim a small increase in the greenhouse effect, occurring at night, will be dangerous to human health?

See links:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mars\\_rover](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mars_rover)

<https://mars.nasa.gov/mer/spotlight/20070612.html>

[https://www.space.com/16907-what-is-the-temperature-of-mars.html#:~:text=A%20summer%20day%20on%20Mars,F%20\(minus%2073%20C\).](https://www.space.com/16907-what-is-the-temperature-of-mars.html#:~:text=A%20summer%20day%20on%20Mars,F%20(minus%2073%20C).)

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## NEWS YOU CAN USE:

### ***Censorship***

#### **Twitter Censorship Update**

By Tony Heller, His Blog, June 17, 2020

<https://realclimatescience.com/2020/06/twitter-censorship-update-2/>

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

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

Idso, Carter, and Singer, Lead Authors/Editors, Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC), 2013

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

Summary: [https://www.heartland.org/\\_template-assets/documents/CCR/CCR-II/Summary-for-Policymakers.pdf](https://www.heartland.org/_template-assets/documents/CCR/CCR-II/Summary-for-Policymakers.pdf)

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

Idso, Idso, Carter, and Singer, Lead Authors/Editors, Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC), 2014

<http://climatechangereconsidered.org/climate-change-reconsidered-ii-biological-impacts/>

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

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

By Multiple Authors, Bezdek, Idso, Legates, and Singer eds., Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change, April 2019

<http://store.heartland.org/shop/ccr-ii-fossil-fuels/>

Download with no charge:

<http://climatechangereconsidered.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Climate-Change-Reconsidered-II-Fossil-Fuels-FULL-Volume-with-covers.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, Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (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)

## **Global Sea-Level Rise: An Evaluation of the Data**

By Craig D. Idso, David Legates, and S. Fred Singer, Heartland Policy Brief, May 20, 2019

<https://www.heartland.org/template-assets/documents/publications/SeaLevelRiseCCRII.pdf>

## ***Challenging the Orthodoxy***

### **MIT's Dr. Lindzen Pokes Fun At The 'Naïve', Well-Funded 'Scientific Reasoning' That 1 Factor – CO<sub>2</sub> – Controls Climate**

By Kenneth Richard, No Tricks Zone, June 15, 2020

<https://notrickszone.com/2020/06/15/mits-dr-lindzen-pokes-fun-at-the-naive-well-funded-scientific-reasoning-that-1-factor-co2-controls-climate/>

Link to paper: An oversimplified picture of the climate behavior based on a single process can lead to distorted conclusions

By Richard S. Lindzen, The European Physical Journal Plus, June 3, 2020

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1140/epjp/s13360-020-00471-z>

## **Climate Statistics 101: see the Slide Show AOC Tried, and Failed, to Censor**

Video, By Caleb Rossiter, CO<sub>2</sub> Coalition, Via WUWT, June 18, 2020

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2020/06/18/climate-statistics-101-see-the-slide-show-aoc-tried-and-failed-to-censor/>

## **Climate Matters: A Climate of Fear about Climate Conversations (w/Michelle Stirling)**

45 minute video, June 18, 2020

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MTDDfVAgtDc&feature=youtu.be>

Seeking if the science is settled.

*[SEPP Comment: Interrupted by ads. Ms. Stirling discusses Risky Business built on the most extreme scenario by the IPCC.]*

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

#### **World has six months to avert climate crisis, says energy expert**

International Energy Agency chief warns of need to prevent post-lockdown surge in emissions

By Fiona Harvey, The Guardian, June 18, 2020 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/jun/18/world-has-six-months-to-avert-climate-crisis-says-energy-expert>

Link to report: Shaping a secure and sustainable energy future for all.

By Staff, EIA, 2020

<https://www.iea.org/>

“In a report published on Thursday, the IEA – the world’s gold standard for energy analysis - set out the first global blueprint for a green recovery, focusing on reforms to energy generation and consumption. Wind and solar power should be a top focus, the report advised, alongside energy efficiency improvements to buildings and industries, and the modernisation of electricity grids.”

*[SEPP Comment: The “world’s gold standard for energy analysis” may be selling fool’s gold.]*

#### **UN: Covid-19, Climate Change and Racial Justice are all Linked**

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, June 15, 2020

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2020/06/15/un-covid-19-climate-change-and-racial-justice-are-all-linked/>

#### **Covid-19 pandemic is 'fire drill' for effects of climate crisis, says UN official**

Lise Kingo says social equality issues must be part of sustainable development agenda

By Fiona Harvey, The Guardian, June 15, 2020 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/jun/15/covid-19-pandemic-is-fire-drill-for-effects-of-climate-crisis-says-un-official>

Link to UN Global Compact Leaders Summit, June 15 & 16

<https://www.unglobalcompact.org/>

#### **A War Against Climate Science, Waged by Washington’s Rank and File**

By Lisa Friedman, NYT, June 15, 2020

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/15/climate/climate-science-trump.html#:~:text=A%20War%20Against%20Climate%20Science%2C%20Waged%20by%20Washington's%20Rank%20and,cues%2C%20and%20running%20with%20them.>

“A case in point: When John Crusius, a research chemist at the United States Geological Survey, published an academic paper on natural solutions to climate change in April, his government affiliation never appeared on it. It couldn’t.”

*[SEPP Comment: Insisting the place of employment of the author not appear on a paper is equivalent to censoring it? Perhaps there has been too much non-science from NASA-GISS and NOAA contradicted by physical evidence.]*

#### **Restrictions on science not limited to Trump administration's highest ranks: report**

By Rebecca Beitsch, The Hill, June 15, 2020

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/502766-restrictions-on-science-not-limited-to-trump-administrations>

See link immediately above. [SEPP Comment: Is each complaining employee saying his / hers work is pure science? Far too much EPA work is political science, not related to physical evidence.]

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

#### **The Climate Campaign Is Less And Less About The Climate**

By Francis Menton, Manhattan Contrarian, June 18, 2020

<https://www.manhattancontrarian.com/blog/2020-6-18-biyb4kqu2wfj71beidexgg8exbk437>

[SEPP Comment: Does a US District Judge in Montana have jurisdiction in Virginia?]

#### **The Green Civil War**

By Joel Kotkin, Real Clear Energy, June 18, 2020

[https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2020/06/18/the\\_green\\_civil\\_war\\_496728.html](https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2020/06/18/the_green_civil_war_496728.html)

[SEPP Comment: Partly reviewing Michael Shellenberger's new book, "Apocalypse Never."

#### **Congrats! US, Sweden, Australia have more climate "deniers" than anywhere**

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, June 17, 2020

<http://joannenova.com.au/2020/06/congrats-us-sweden-australia-have-more-climate-deniers-than-anywhere/>

#### **Wealth: It is a difficult concept**

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, June 17, 2020

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2020/06/17/wealth-it-is-a-difficult-concept/>

"Politicians being famously good at saying one thing, doing another and thinking a third, the EU response to the wealth-destroying impact of climate policies has been to fudge, for instance exempting the aviation industry from tough rules in the hopes of reviving tourism."

#### **Deep Learning's Climate Change Problem**

By Rob Toews, Forbes, June 17, 2020 [H/t WUWT]

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/robtoews/2020/06/17/deep-learning-climate-change-problem/#55d9b2256b43>

"The bottom line: AI has a meaningful carbon footprint today, and if industry trends continue it will soon become much worse. Unless we are willing to reassess and reform today's AI research agenda, the field of artificial intelligence could become an antagonist in the fight against climate change in the years ahead."

[SEPP Comment: Unreliable power is of no help. With a power outage, what is being processed disappears.]

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

#### **Despite pandemic China increases coal production, has 5,000 coal mines, and a glut of new plants**

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, June 19, 2020

<http://joannenova.com.au/2020/06/despite-pandemic-china-increases-coal-production-has-5000-coal-mines-and-a-glut-of-new-plants/>

#### **China's New Coal Push As Relations With West Sour**

By Staff, Bloomberg, Via GWPF, June 16, 2020

<https://www.thegwpf.com/chinas-new-coal-push-as-relations-with-west-sour/>

## **India Unleashing Coal: PM Modi Announces New Coal Boom, Privatisation Of Coal Mines**

By Staff, IANS News Service, Via GWPF, June 18, 2020

<https://www.thegwpf.com/india-unleashing-coal-pm-modi-announces-new-coal-boom-privatisation-of-coal-mines/>

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

### **Toward Serious Reform of Benefit/Cost Analysis Under the Clean Air Act**

By Benjamin Zycher, Real Clear Markets, June 17, 2020

[https://www.realclearmarkets.com/articles/2020/06/17/toward\\_serious\\_reform\\_of\\_benefitcost\\_analysis\\_under\\_the\\_clean\\_air\\_act\\_496436.html](https://www.realclearmarkets.com/articles/2020/06/17/toward_serious_reform_of_benefitcost_analysis_under_the_clean_air_act_496436.html)

### **Trump administration sued over marine monument rollback**

By Rachel Frazin, The Hill, June 17, 2020

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/503142-trump-administration-sued-over-marine-monument-rollback>

“President Trump issued a proclamation this month that would reopen the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument, 130 miles off the coast of Massachusetts, for commercial fishing.”

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

### **Disclosure of climate-related financial risks not enough to drive action**

News Release, by Griffith University, June 15, 2020 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

<https://phys.org/news/2020-06-disclosure-climate-related-financial-action.html>

Link to paper: Climate-related financial disclosures in the public sector

By Edwards, Yapp, Mackay & Mackey, Nature Climate Change, May 25, 2020

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-020-0785-1>

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

### **Mass spectrometry and climate science. Part I: Determining past climates**

By Roland Hirsch, Climate Etc. June 16, 2020

<https://judithcurry.com/2020/06/16/mass-spectrometry-and-climate-science-part-i-determining-past-climates/>

### **Some Random Quantum Thoughts**

Guest post by Rud Istvan, WUWT, June 19, 2020

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2020/06/19/some-random-quantum-thoughts/>

### **The Trouble with Water: Condensation, Circulation and Climate**

By Geoffrey K. Vallis, The European Physical Journal Plus, June 8, 2020

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1140/epjp/s13360-020-00493-7>

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

### **Sky News: Aussie Royal Commission to Investigate how Climate Activists “Hijacked” Forestry Management**

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, June 19, 2020

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2020/06/19/sky-news-aussie-royal-commission-to-investigate-climate-activist-hijacking-of-forestry-management/>

*[SEPP Comment: Highlights the difference between studying the physical world as compared with studying the modeled world!]*

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

#### **Long-term Carbon Accumulation Rates of Two Alaska Peatlands**

Taylor, L.S., Swindles, G.T., Morris, P.J., Galka, M. and Green, S.M. 2019. Evidence for ecosystem state shifts in Alaskan continuous permafrost peatlands in response to recent warming. *Quaternary Science Reviews* 207: 134-144. June 19, 2020

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V23/jun/a9.php>

“The greatly enhanced sequestration of carbon by the peatlands in modern times was attributed by the authors to the recent warming observed since the end of the Little Ice Age, leading them to conclude ‘our work demonstrates that some Arctic peatlands may become more productive with future regional warming, subsequently increasing their ability to sequester carbon,’ adding that ‘as the Arctic continues to warm, peatlands in the continuous permafrost zone may become an increasingly important carbon sink.’ And this latter conclusion is a far cry from the model projections cited by the authors of the Arctic becoming a net carbon source by the mid-2020s!”

#### **A 423-year Moisture Reconstruction for San Luis Potosi, Mexico**

Villanueva-Díaz, J., Stahle, D.W., Therrell, M.D., Beramendi-Orosco, L., Estrada-Ávalos, J., Martínez-Sifuentes, A.R., Astudillo-Sánchez, C.C., Cervantes-Martínez, R. and Cerano-Paredes, J. 2020. The climatic response of baldcypress (*Taxodium mucronatum* Ten.) in San Luis Potosi, Mexico. *Trees* 34: 623-635. June 17, 2020

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V23/jun/a8.php>

“The observed cyclic nature of the reconstruction, coupled with what appears to be an absence of any trend in the data, suggests that rising concentrations of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> have had no measurable impact on droughts or pluvials in the region of San Luis Potosi over the past 423 years. And that suggests *no vindication* for the models' projections on moisture. Rather, it points toward their *invalidation* in this regard!”

#### **No Response of a Toxic Algae to Ocean Acidification and Warming**

Li, P.F., Yang, G.P., Liu, C.Y. 2020. Combined effects of elevated temperature and pCO<sub>2</sub> on the production of DMSP and DMS in the culture of *Amphidinium carterae*. *Journal of Applied Phycology* doi.org/10.1007/s10811-020-02058-8. June 15, 2020

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V23/jun/a7.php>

“The above findings represent good news given the toxic nature of this species and its ability to cause red tides. But you probably won't find any acidification alarmists publicizing or rejoicing at it!”

### ***Model Issues***

#### **We caught bacteria from the most pristine air on earth to help solve a climate modeling mystery**

By Kathryn Moore, Jun Uetake and Thomas Hill, The Conversation, Via Phys.org. June 19, 2020 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

<https://phys.org/news/2020-06-caught-bacteria-pristine-air-earth.html>

“But due to how remote the Southern Ocean is, there have been very few actual studies of the clouds there. Because of this lack of data, computer models that simulate present and future climates overpredict how much sunlight reaches the ocean surface compared to what satellites actually observe. The main reason for this inaccuracy is due to how the models simulate clouds, but nobody knew exactly why the clouds were off. For the models to run correctly, researchers needed to understand how the clouds were being formed.”

## **Model Failures: Inflated Pandemic Estimates Weaken Climate Forecasts**

By Adam Creighton, The Australian, Via GWPF, June 17, 2020

<https://www.thegwpf.com/model-failures-inflated-pandemic-estimates-weaken-climate-forecasts/>

“It’s remarkable we put so much faith in expert models, given their history of failure.”

## **Video: How simple math can help predict the melting of sea ice**

By Charles Rotter, The Conversation, Via WUWT, June 16, 2020

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2020/06/16/video-how-simple-math-can-help-predict-the-melting-of-sea-ice/>

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

### **Beware of Crazy Snowpack Percentages!**

By Cliff Mass Weather Blog, June 18, 2020

<https://cliffmass.blogspot.com/2020/06/beware-of-crazy-snow-totals-percentages.html>

## **This Date In 1917 – 128 Degrees At Ojai, California**

By Tony Heller, His Blog, June 16, 2020

<https://realclimatescience.com/2020/06/this-date-in-1917-128-degrees-at-ojai-california/>

## **1919 or 2019? Kingston Edition**

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, June 17, 2020

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2020/06/17/1919-or-2019-kingston-edition/>

## ***Changing Weather***

### **What has caused more extreme summer heat events over northeast Asia?**

News Release by Chinese Academy of Sciences, June 15, 2020 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

<https://phys.org/news/2020-06-extreme-summer-events-northeast-asia.html>

Link to paper: Attribution of the record-breaking heat event over Northeast Asia in summer 2018: the role of circulation

By Ren, Zhou, and Zhang, Environmental Research Letters, May 12, 2020

<https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/ab8032>

## **Massive Saharan dust plume headed for the Gulf of Mexico, Florida**

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, June 18, 2020

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2020/06/18/massive-saharan-dust-plume-headed-for-the-gulf-of-mexico-florida/>

## **Are Weekends Wetter than Weekdays?**

By Cliff Mass Weather Blog, June 13, 2020

<https://cliffmass.blogspot.com/2020/06/are-weekends-wetter-than-weekdays.html>

## ***Changing Seas***

### **Mangroves at risk of collapse if emissions not reduced by 2050, international scientists predict**

By Charles Rotter, WUWT, June 17, 2020

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2020/06/17/mangroves-at-risk-of-collapse-if-emissions-not-reduced-by-2050-international-scientists-predict/>

Link to paper: Thresholds of mangrove survival under rapid sea level rise

By N. Saintilan, et al. Science, June 5, 2020

<https://science.sciencemag.org/content/368/6495/1118#:~:text=Mangroves%20under%20sea%20level%20rise&text=Their%20analysis%20suggests%20an%20upper,keep%20up%20with%20the%20change.>

From the write-up: “They reviewed data on mangrove accretion 10,000 to 7000 years before present, when the rate of sea level rise was even higher than today as a result of glacial ice melt. Their analysis suggests an upper threshold of 7 millimeters per year as the maximum rate of sea level rise associated with mangrove vertical development, beyond which the ecosystem fails to keep up with the change.”

*[SEPP Comment: What about the period 16,000 to 9,000 years ago, when sea level rise was far more rapid?]*

### **What if NASA’s new ocean satellite finds sea level rise isn’t the problem it’s touted to be?**

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, June 16, 2020

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2020/06/16/what-if-nasas-new-ocean-satellite-finds-sea-level-rise-isnt-the-problem-its-touted-to-be/>

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

#### **My polar bear podcast interview with Anthony Watts from WUWT**

By Susan Crockford, Polar Bear Science, June 19, 2020

<https://polarbearscience.com/2020/06/19/my-polar-bear-podcast-interview-with-anthony-watts-from-wuwt/>

#### **No early breakup for W Hudson Bay sea ice again this year: polar bears still on the ice**

By Susan Crockford, Polar Bear Science, June 14, 2020

<https://polarbearscience.com/2020/06/14/no-early-breakup-for-w-hudson-bay-sea-ice-again-this-year-polar-bears-still-on-the-ice/>

#### **Alaska Global Warming Update**

By Tony Heller, His Blog, June 19, 2020

<https://realclimatescience.com/2020/06/alaska-global-warming-update/>

#### **Greenland’s Summer Melt Late Starting**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, June 19, 2020

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2020/06/19/greenlands-summer-melt-late-starting/>

#### **A possible explanation for why West Antarctica is warming faster than East Antarctica**

By Bob Yirka , Phys.org, June 15, 2020 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

<https://phys.org/news/2020-06-explanation-west-antarctica-faster-east.html>

Link to paper: The internal origin of the west-east asymmetry of Antarctic climate change

By Sang-Yoon Jun, June 12, 2020

<https://advances.sciencemag.org/content/6/24/eaaz1490>

*[SEPP Comment: Discusses feedbacks but not the possible cause of the warming such as geothermal activity in the West Antarctic under the ice.]*

#### **Natural Climate Change in Antarctica Is No News!**

By David Whitehouse, GWPF, June 18, 2020

<https://www.thegwpf.com/natural-climate-change-in-antarctica-is-no-news/>

### ***Changing Earth***

#### **Coal-burning in Siberia after volcanic eruption led to climate change 250 million years ago**

News Release, Arizona State University, June 16, 2020 [H/t WUWT]

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2020/06/200616135818.htm>

Link to paper: Field evidence for coal combustion links the 252 Ma Siberian Traps with global carbon disruption

By T. Elkins-Tanton, et al, *Geology*, June 12, 2020

<https://pubs.geoscienceworld.org/gsa/geology/article/doi/10.1130/G47365.1/587319/Field-evidence-for-coal-combustion-links-the-252>

From the news release: “Calculations of sea water temperature indicate that at the peak of the extinction, the Earth underwent lethally hot global warming, in which equatorial ocean temperatures exceeded 104 degrees Fahrenheit. It took millions of years for ecosystems to be re-established and for species to recover.”

*[SEPP Comment: No relationship between CO2 concentrations and ocean temperatures presented! Speculation!]*

### ***Acidic Waters***

#### **Arctic Ocean acidification worse than previously expected**

News Release, University of Bern, June 17, 2020 [H/t WUWT]

[https://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2020-06/uob-aoa061720.php](https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2020-06/uob-aoa061720.php)

Link to paper: Emergent constraint on Arctic Ocean acidification in the twenty-first century

By Jens Terhaar, *Nature*, June 17, 2020

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-020-2360-3>

*[SEPP Comment: Exaggeration greater than previously exaggerated? Use extreme language to claim extreme results from using extreme models of CO2 emissions – modern climate science?]*

### **A carbon sink shrinks in the arctic**

UD researchers show Canada Basin's diminished capacity to absorb carbon dioxide

News Release, University of Delaware, June 15, 2020

[https://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2020-06/uod-ac061520.php](https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2020-06/uod-ac061520.php)

*[SEPP Comment: So Arctic waters are not absorbing as much CO2 and lowering pH as what was once feared?]*

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

#### **Could entomophagy end U.S. and African protein shortages?**

By Paul Driessen, WUWT, June 16, 2020

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2020/06/16/could-entomophagy-end-u-s-and-african-protein-shortages/>

### **Is There Bias In How We Judge GMOs?**

By Chuck Dinerstein, ACSH, June 10, 2020

<https://www.acsh.org/news/2020/06/10/there-bias-how-we-judge-gmos-14839>

### ***Lowering Standards***

#### **UK is no longer a ‘wet and rainy’ country, head of Environment Agency says**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, June 19, 2020

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2020/06/19/uk-is-no-longer-a-wet-and-rainy-country-head-of-environment-agency-says/>

## **IEA: 'Green' coronavirus recovery would keep global emissions below 2019 peak**

By Josh Gabbatiss, Carbon Brief, June 18, 2020

[https://www.carbonbrief.org/iea-green-coronavirus-recovery-would-keep-global-emissions-below-2019-](https://www.carbonbrief.org/iea-green-coronavirus-recovery-would-keep-global-emissions-below-2019-peak?utm_campaign=RevueCBWeeklyBriefing&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Revue%20newsletter)

[peak?utm\\_campaign=RevueCBWeeklyBriefing&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=Revue%20newsletter](https://www.carbonbrief.org/iea-green-coronavirus-recovery-would-keep-global-emissions-below-2019-peak?utm_campaign=RevueCBWeeklyBriefing&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Revue%20newsletter)

*[SEPP Comment: The IEA and the World Bank display that their analyses cannot be accepted at face value.]*

## **Rock around the thermometer**

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, June 17, 2020

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2020/06/17/rock-around-the-thermometer/>

“In ‘Climate Fwd,’ the megawoke newsletter of the New York Times, Kendra Pierre-Louis discusses increasing references to climate change in American popular music. Which is the sort of thing that tends to give the social sciences a bad name.”

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

### **We are all going to die**

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, June 17, 2020

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2020/06/17/we-are-all-going-to-die/>

“‘Collapse of Civilisation is the Most Likely Outcome’: Top Climate Scientists”.

“It’s because ‘reputable’ journalistic sources accept this ‘delicate balance’ claim that they cannot see through, and instead endorse, all these hysterical claims that one misstep and it’s all over, the thing is smashed, we’ve tipped over the tipping points and we... are... all... going... to... die.”

## **Amazing Noctilucent Clouds**

By Cliff Mass Weather Blog, June 20, 2020

<https://cliffmass.blogspot.com/2020/06/amazing-noctilucent-clouds.html>

*[SEPP Comment; Strongly question the graph showing hockey-stick style increases in atmospheric methane since the year 1000! How was atmospheric methane measured for the past 1000 years?]*

## **Claim: Surgical General Anaesthetic is Contributing to Climate Change**

By Eric Worrall, June 17, 2020

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2020/06/17/claim-surgical-general-anaesthetic-is-contributing-to-climate-change/>

Link to paper: 'Green-gional' anesthesia: the non-polluting benefits of regional anesthesia to decrease greenhouse gases and attenuate climate change

By Mausam Kuvadia, et al, BMJ Journals, May 6, 2020

<https://rapm.bmj.com/content/early/2020/05/06/rapm-2020-101452>

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

### **Claim: People Believe in Global Warming, But Choose Not to Act**

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, June 20, 2020

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2020/06/20/the-age-of-numbing-people-believe-in-global-warming-kindof/>

**The number of climate deniers in Australia is more than double the global average, new survey finds**

By Caroline Fisher and Sora Park, The Conversation, Via Phys.Org, June 16, 2020 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

<https://phys.org/news/2020-06-climate-deniers-australia-global-average.html>

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

#### **The Swedish Teenager Interfering in Canadian Politics**

Democracy dies when activists wield more influence than voters.

By Donna Laframboise, Big Picture News, June 15, 2020

<https://nofrackingconsensus.com/2020/06/15/the-swedish-teenager-interfering-in-canadian-politics/>

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

#### **The European Green Deal is a Bad Deal**

By Marcus Holtkoetter: Altenberge, Germany, AG Web, June 14, 2020 [H/t WUWT]

<https://www.agweb.com/blog/european-green-deal-bad-deal>

### **No Wind, No Sun–But Plenty Of Gas & Nuclear!**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, June 19, 2020

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2020/06/16/no-wind-no-sun-but-plenty-of-gas-nuclear/>

“And what do we get for £10bn worth of renewable subsidies?

“A load of capacity which often is next to useless, and a grid which still relies on gas and nuclear for 82% of demand, and a further 9% from biomass which could have been obtained at half the price from burning coal instead!”

### ***Questioning Green Elsewhere***

#### **Change How You Live**

By Donn Dears, Power For USA, June 19, 2020

<https://ddears.com/2020/06/19/change-how-you-live/>

### **Time to Abandon Progressive Democrats’ Climate Change Wish Lists**

By Frank Lasee, Inside Sources, June 18, 2020

<https://www.insidesources.com/time-to-abandon-progressive-democrats-climate-change-wish-lists/>

### ***Green Jobs***

#### **Clean energy industry sheds 27,000 jobs in May**

By Rachel Frazin, The Hill, June 16, 2020

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/503022-clean-energy-industry-sheds-27000-jobs-in-may>

“Energy efficiency, the largest clean energy sector, also lost a greater number of jobs than other parts of the energy sector, losing 18,900 jobs. Nearly 4,300 jobs in renewable electric power generation were also lost.”

*[SEPP Comment: According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the total US job loss in May was about 8 million! See link immediately below.]*

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

#### **The U.S. Has Already Lost More Than 100,000 Oil And Gas Jobs**

By Staff, Rystad Energy, Via Oil price.com June 14, 2020

<https://oilprice.com/Energy/Energy-General/The-US-Has-Already-Lost-More-Than-100000-Oil-And-Gas-Jobs.html>

### ***Funding Issues***

#### **ROSS CLARK: From Ethiopian girl band to Kenyans listening to toads... how staff at Dfid spent YOUR millions**

Boris Johnson made the call to abolish the standalone Department for International Development (Dfid)

Millions of taxpayers' money has been going overseas to questionable sources

The Ethiopian 'Spice Girls', palm oil plantations and Nigeria's solar industry have all benefitted from payments

By Ross Clark, Daily Mail, June 16, 2020 [H/t GWPF]

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8429125/From-Ethiopian-girl-band-Kenyans-listening-toads-staff-Dfid-spent-millions.html>

#### **Trust us, it's for your own good**

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, June 17, 2020

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2020/06/17/trust-us-its-for-your-own-good/>

#### **Democrats unveil \$1.5 trillion infrastructure plan**

By Rebecca Bitsch, The Hill, June 18, 2020

<https://thehill.com/homenews/house/503427-democrats-unveil-15-trillion-infrastructure-plan>

### ***Litigation Issues***

#### **Supreme Court ruling seen as boon to natural gas pipelines**

By Amy Harder, Axios, June 16, 2020

<https://www.axios.com/supreme-court-ruling-natural-gas-pipelines-7c6c0d77-af75-485f-8ad9-ecbf1e5a5b7b.html>

“Justice Clarence Thomas, writing for the majority, said under the lower court ruling that Monday’s decision overturned, any pipeline crossing at similar “footpaths” controlled by the Park Service would need an act of Congress for approval.

“21 such footpaths exist across the country comprising at least tens of thousands of miles, per Thomas’ opinion, according to Gary Kruse, managing director of research at LawIQ, an energy regulatory analytics and advisory firm.”

*[SEPP Comment: Not to mention the hundreds of roads, transmission lines, and even the Erie Canal!]*

#### **Supreme Court Decision Big Win for Energy—and America**

Ben Lieberman. CEI, June 15, 2020

<https://cei.org/blog/supreme-court-decision-big-win-energy%E2%80%94and-america>

#### **A Few More Thoughts On The Very Stupid Oil-As-Nuisance Litigations**

By Francis Menton, Manhattan Contrarian, June 13, 2020

<https://www.manhattancontrarian.com/blog/2020-6-13-a-few-more-thoughts-on-the-very-stupid-oil-as-nuisance-litigations>

*[SEPP Comment: Explaining the legal tactics the litigation lawyers use to bring nuisance litigation against oil companies. And the lawyers call the companies greedy?]*

#### **Montana judge upholds ruling that canceled Keystone XL pipeline permit**

By Timothy Gardner, Reuters, May 11, 2020

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-pipelines-court/montana-judge-upholds-ruling-that-canceled-keystone-xl-pipeline-permit-idUSKBN22O07T>

*[SEPP Comment: The judge in question is the Chief United States District Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Montana.]*

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

#### **Dummies Guide To Renewable Subsidies**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, June 13, 2020

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2020/06/13/dummies-guide-to-renewable-subsidies/>

*[SEPP Comment: How subsidies are paid.]*

#### **Dummies Guide To Renewable Subsidies–Part II**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, June 16, 2020

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2020/06/16/dummies-guide-to-renewable-subsidies-part-ii/>

*[SEPP Comment; How much the subsidies cost the public.]*

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

#### **Criteria Pollutant Emissions and Precursors Decline 7 Percent Under Trump**

By Marlo Lewis, CEI, June 12, 2020

<https://cei.org/blog/criteria-pollutant-emissions-and-precursors-decline-7-percent-under-trump>

#### **EPA faces suit over plan to release genetically engineered mosquitoes**

By Rachel Frazin, The Hill, June 15, 2020

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/502827-epa-faces-suit-over-plan-for-releasing-genetically-engineered>

Several groups, including the Center for Food Safety, the International Center for Technology Assessment and Friends of the Earth filed a notice of intent to sue on Friday.

*[SEPP Comment: Center for Food Safety wants mosquitoes?]*

### ***Energy Issues – Non-US***

#### **In-depth: BP data reveals clean electricity matched coal for the first time in 2019**

By Simon Evans, Carbon Brief, June 18, 2020

[https://www.carbonbrief.org/in-depth-bp-data-reveals-clean-electricity-matched-coal-for-the-first-time-in-](https://www.carbonbrief.org/in-depth-bp-data-reveals-clean-electricity-matched-coal-for-the-first-time-in-2019?utm_campaign=RevueCBWeeklyBriefing&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Revue%20newsletter)

[2019?utm\\_campaign=RevueCBWeeklyBriefing&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=Revue%20newsletter](https://www.carbonbrief.org/in-depth-bp-data-reveals-clean-electricity-matched-coal-for-the-first-time-in-2019?utm_campaign=RevueCBWeeklyBriefing&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Revue%20newsletter)

*[SEPP Comment: Mixing apples with oranges. As explained in the May 23 TWTW, the EIA cautions against comparing dispatchable generation with non-dispatchable. Only in a fantasy world do wind and solar work 24/7.]*

#### **German Power Prices Climb 116% Since Year 2000 ...Government Levies, Taxes Tripled!**

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, June 14, 2020

<https://notrickszone.com/2020/06/14/german-power-prices-climb-116-since-year-2000-government-levies-taxes-tripled/>

### ***Energy Issues – Australia***

**It Doesn't Have to be This Way: Australia's Energy Crisis, America's Energy Surplus**  
By Alex Robson, The United States Studies Centre, University of Sydney, 2020  
<file:///C:/Users/Owner/Downloads/It-doesnt-have-to-be-this-way-Australias-energy-crisis-Americas-energy-surplus.pdf>

**SA: Still at risk of blackout, one third of solar PV “switching off” to save state, needs \$1.5b interconnector bandaid to NSW**

Why do so few see the enormous subsidy cost of keeping the South Australian electricity experiment alive?

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, June 19, 2020

<http://joannenova.com.au/2020/06/sa-still-at-risk-of-blackout-one-third-of-solar-pv-switching-off-to-save-state-needs-1-5b-interconnector-bandaid-to-nsw/>

“That’s a \$1,500,000,000 repair bill for an unreliable system that cost a fortune to build, but is unsustainable without a giant bandaid.”

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

**Virginia’s latest folly — offshore wind power**

By David Wojick, CFACT, June 18, 2020

<https://www.cfact.org/2020/06/18/virginias-latest-folly-offshore-wind-power/>

**Colorado Utility Will Close Coal Plant 16 Years Early**

By Darrell Proctor, Power Mag, June 16, 2020

<https://www.powermag.com/colorado-utility-will-close-coal-plant-16-years-early/>

**CLIMATE CHANGED: Oregon bids goodbye to coal power**

By Nick Rosenberger EO Media Group/Catalyst Journalism Project, June 13, 2020 [H/t Ken Schlichte]

[https://www.eastoregonian.com/townnews/economics/climate-changed-oregon-bids-goodbye-to-coal-power/article\\_edbade08-ab88-11ea-99c6-832b254db428.html](https://www.eastoregonian.com/townnews/economics/climate-changed-oregon-bids-goodbye-to-coal-power/article_edbade08-ab88-11ea-99c6-832b254db428.html)

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

**Rolls-Royce triggers £250bn nuclear race: Huge boost for economy if UK consortium gets go-ahead to build fleet of mini reactor plants**

By Neil Craven, Financial Mail, June 13, 2020

<https://www.thisismoney.co.uk/money/news/article-8417289/Rolls-Royce-triggers-250bn-nuclear-mini-reactor-race.html>

**OPG Becomes First Utility to Snag Ownership Stake in Nuclear Microreactor Project**

By Sonal Patel, Power Mag, June 16, 2020

<https://www.powermag.com/opg-becomes-first-utility-to-snap-ownership-stake-in-nuclear-microreactor-project/>

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

**PM Modi's mega international grid plan a key pillar of poverty alleviation, energy access agenda: Amitabh Kant**

"This is a path-breaking project and has a big vision. Solar energy is the future, grid management will be critical. This is the future of energy in the coming era," Kant said speaking at the ETEnergyworld Virtual Roundtable on Solar Energy Storage & Inter-Continental Grids

By Staff, Energy Times, June 20, 2020

<https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/renewable/pm-modis-mega-international-grid-plan-a-key-pillar-of-poverty-alleviation-energy-access-agenda-amitabh-kant/76476195>

“In phase I, the middle east, South Asia and South East Asia will be inter-connected. In the second phase, solar and other renewable energy resource-rich regions will be inter-connected. In the second phase, solar and other renewable energy resource-rich regions will be inter-connected.”

“For example, the North Sea is rich in wind and the Sahara is rich in solar. And in the third phase, we would vie for the global interconnection of the power transmission grid to achieve the One Sun One World One Grid vision,” he said.”

### **Study: Hundreds of 'protected areas' threatened by renewable energy**

Green agenda will create 'increasing pressure' on wilderness regions

By Staff, WND, June 14, 2020

[https://www.wnd.com/2020/06/study-hundreds-protected-areas-threatened-renewable-energy/?utm\\_source=Email&utm\\_medium=wnd-newsletter&utm\\_campaign=dailyam&utm\\_content=newsletter](https://www.wnd.com/2020/06/study-hundreds-protected-areas-threatened-renewable-energy/?utm_source=Email&utm_medium=wnd-newsletter&utm_campaign=dailyam&utm_content=newsletter)

Link to study: Renewable energy development threatens many globally important biodiversity areas

By José Andrés Rehbein, Global Change Biology, March 2020

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/339715092\\_Renewable\\_energy\\_development\\_threatens\\_many\\_globally\\_important\\_biodiversity\\_areas](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/339715092_Renewable_energy_development_threatens_many_globally_important_biodiversity_areas)

### **In Iowa, conservative group looks to counter local wind, solar opposition**

By Karen Uhlenhuth, Energy News, June 17, 2020

<https://energynews.us/2020/06/17/midwest/in-iowa-conservative-group-looks-to-counter-local-wind-solar-opposition/>

“‘We’re protecting private property rights,’ said Nick Boeyink, Land & Liberty’s Iowa field operations director. ‘There are lots of landowners that, with bad policy, wouldn’t have the freedom to receive income on their land. They should be allowed to do with that land what they please.’”

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

#### **Green Haste Will Trash The Promise Of Hydrogen**

Press Release, The Global Warming Policy Foundation, June 19, 2020

<https://www.thegwpcf.com/green-haste-will-trash-the-promise-of-hydrogen/>

Link to report: Hydrogen: The Once And Future Fuel

By John Constable, GWPF, 2020

<https://www.thegwpcf.org/content/uploads/2020/06/Hydrogen-Fuel.pdf>

#### **Call For UK Hydrogen Strategy**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, June 18, 2020

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2020/06/18/call-for-uk-hydrogen-strategy/>

“There’s going to be a long queue forming for all of these billions of public funds promised to turbocharge growth. Yesterday it was the turn of the Hydrogen Strategy Now group to push their way to the front of the line:”

#### **Hydrogen May Be a Lifeline for Nuclear—But It Won’t Be Easy**

By Sonal Patel, Power Mag, June 11, 2020

<https://www.powermag.com/hydrogen-may-be-a-lifeline-for-nuclear-but-it-wont-be-easy/>

## **Germany's Climate Friendly Hydrogen Strategy**

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, June 22, 2020

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2020/06/15/germanys-climate-friendly-hydrogen-strategy/>

*[SEPP Comment: Estimates the energy loss of this scheme to be about 60%.]*

## **Germany plans to spend billions funding green hydrogen**

By Maz Plechinger, Energy Watch, EU, June 10, 2020 [H/t WUWT]

[https://energywatch.eu/EnergyNews/Policy\\_\\_\\_Trading/article12209986.ece](https://energywatch.eu/EnergyNews/Policy___Trading/article12209986.ece)

## **Britain's Dirty Secret Of Subsidised Wood-Fired Power Plants**

By Staff, The Times, Via GWPF, June 15, 2020

<https://www.thegwpf.com/britains-dirty-secret-of-subsidised-wood-fired-power-plants/>

## **Folly: Germany Plans To Convert Coal Power Plant To Burn 100-Year Old Trees In Minutes!**

By Die kalte Sonne, (Translated/edited by P. Gosselin), No Tricks Zone, June 16, 2020

<https://notrickszone.com/2020/06/16/folly-germany-plans-to-covert-coal-power-plants-so-that-they-burn-100-year-old-trees-in-minutes/>

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

### **Climate emission killer: construction begins on world's biggest liquid air battery**

Exclusive: project will store renewable energy and reduce climate-heating emissions

By Damian Carrington, The Guardian, June 18, 2020 [H/t Bernie Kepshire]

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/jun/18/worlds-biggest-liquid-air-battery-starts-construction-in-uk>

“The Highview battery will store 250MWh of energy, almost double the amount stored by the biggest chemical battery, built by Tesla in South Australia.

“The project will cost £85m, and Highview received £35m of investment from the Japanese machinery giant Sumitomo in February.”

*[SEPP Comment: Peanuts compared to Bath County pumped hydro with 24,000 Megawatt hours (MWh) but it needs reliable nuclear and coal fired plants to recharge.]*

## **Guardian's Energy Storage Delusion**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, June 18, 2020

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2020/06/18/guardians-energy-storage-delusion/>

“As I revealed last October, this new Highview plant will store only 250 MWh. This, as anyone with the slightest knowledge of the power system will tell you, is a pitifully small amount. On a normal day, demand is close to 1 million MWh, so you would need 4000 Highviews to cover that if we did not have proper backup capacity for when renewables were not producing.”

See link immediately above.

## **Plunging Renewable Energy Prices Mean U.S. Can Hit 90% Clean Electricity By 2035 - At No Extra Cost**

By Silvio Marcacci, Forbes, June 9, 2020

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/energyinnovation/2020/06/09/plunging-renewable-energy-prices-mean-us-can-hit-90-clean-electricity-by-2035at-no-extra-cost/#63d0eb2c2f9b>

*[SEPP Comment: Repeating the fiction by the Goldman School of Public Policy. The demonstration on El Hierro using wind with pumped hydro storage failed, but it will work in a*

*nation 30,000 times the population? The demonstration on King Island using wind and solar, with multiple types of storage failed, but it will work in a country with 200,000 times the population?]*

### ***California Dreaming***

#### **PG&E pleads guilty to 84 felony counts of involuntary manslaughter in 2018 Camp Fire**

By J. Edward Moreno, The Hill, June 16, 2020

<https://thehill.com/homenews/state-watch/503048-pge-pleads-guilty-to-84-felony-counts-of-involuntary-manslaughter-in>

ARTICLE XII PUBLIC UTILITIES [SECTION 1 - SEC. 9]

[https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=CONS&division=&title=&part=&chapter=&article=XII](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=CONS&division=&title=&part=&chapter=&article=XII)

*[SEPP Comment: According Article XII, Section 3 of the state constitution, as a public utility PG&E is a public utility subject to control by the legislature. Will the legislature be held accountable?]*

#### **In the Middle of a Severe Recession, California Prepares To Raise Its Gas Tax to 50 Cents a Gallon**

The Golden State has the highest gas tax in the nation, and one of its worst-performing highway systems.

By Christian Britschgi, Reason, June 15, 2020

<https://reason.com/2020/06/15/in-the-middle-of-a-severe-recession-california-prepares-to-raise-its-gas-tax-to-50-cents-a-gallon/>

### ***Ma***

#### **Climate Study: Black Expectant US Mothers Especially at Risk from Heat Exposure**

By Eric Worrall, WUWT, June 19, 2020

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2020/06/19/climate-study-black-expectant-us-mothers-especially-at-risk-from-heat-exposure/>

Association of Air Pollution and Heat Exposure With Preterm Birth, Low Birth Weight, and Stillbirth in the US: A Systematic Review

By Bruce Bekkar, et al, JAMA, June 18, 2020

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2767260>

#### **COVID-19 and Environmentalist Injustice**

By Steve Milloy, Real Clear Energy, June 16, 2020

[https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2020/06/16/covid-19\\_and\\_environmentalist\\_injustice\\_496319.html](https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2020/06/16/covid-19_and_environmentalist_injustice_496319.html)

### ***Oh Mann!***

#### **Tree Rings & Michael Mann's Hockey Stick**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, June 14, 2020

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2020/06/14/tree-rings-michael-manns-hockey-stick/>

### ***Environmental Industry***

#### **Conservative climate group runs pro-environment ads on Fox News**

By Rachel Frazin, The Hill, June 15, 2020

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/502736-conservative-climate-group-runs-pro-environment-ads-on-fox-news>

*[SEPP Comment: Complete with chimneys belching black steam darkening the skies!]*

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

#### **Asphalt Paves the Way**

By American Oil & Gas Historical Society, Via Master Resource, June 18, 2020

<https://www.masterresource.org/energy-technology/asphalt-paves-the-way/>

#### **GE: Contra-Capitalism's Toll (lightbulb unit sold)**

By Robert Bradley Jr, Master Resource, June 15, 2020

<https://www.masterresource.org/contra-capitalism/ge-immelt-lightbulb-unit-sold/>

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

#### **Collapsology: The Rise Of A New Doomsday Cult & The Return Of The Dark Ages**

By Staff, The Sunday Telegraph, Via GWPF, June 14, 2020

<https://www.thegwpf.com/collapsology-the-rise-of-a-new-doomsday-cult-return-of-the-dark-ages/>

“Demand to learn how to become a collapsologist is also rising, according to Rémi Richart, an IT expert who has been living a self-sufficient, low-carbon life with his wife and three children in the rural Cantal for 10 years. They have a pedal-driven washing machine and solar oven.”

#### **We need a global treaty**

By John Robson, Climate Discussion Nexus, June 17, 2020

<https://climatediscussionnexus.com/2020/06/17/we-need-a-global-treaty/>

*[SEPP Comment: Time for action! Stop magnetic field change!]*

#### **Oceanfront Property In Arizona**

By Tony Heller, His Blog, June 12, 2020

<https://realclimatescience.com/2020/06/oceanfront-property-in-arizona-2/>

#### **To Halt Climate Change, We Need an Ecological Leninism**

By Charles Rotter, WUWT, June 17, 2020

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2020/06/17/to-halt-climate-change-we-need-an-ecological-leninism/>

Link to article: “To Halt Climate Change, We Need an Ecological Leninism

By Andreas Malm, Jacobin, June 15, 2020

<https://www.jacobinmag.com/2020/06/andreas-malm-coronavirus-covid-climate-change>

*[SEPP Comment: Complete with firing squads, deliberate famine, and concentration camps?]*

#### **Vegans Fall Out Over Gretaburger**

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, June 18, 2020

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2020/06/18/vegans-fall-out-over-gretaburger/>

“The plant-based burger’s description on Uber Eats says it’s ‘full of hot air, light on facts and high in carbon monoxide’.”

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### **ARTICLES**

#### **What Covid Models Get Wrong**

Focus on the burden on hospitals, not on the oft-mistaken forecasts.

Editorial, WSJ, June 17, 2020

[https://www.wsj.com/articles/what-covid-models-get-wrong-11592435169?mod=hp\\_opin\\_pos\\_1](https://www.wsj.com/articles/what-covid-models-get-wrong-11592435169?mod=hp_opin_pos_1)

**TWTW Summary:** Much of what is said in this editorial, particularly about models, applies to the climate models as well.

*Here we go again. The University of Washington's Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation has issued a new forecast that Covid-19 fatalities would spike over the summer in states that have moved faster to reopen. Cue the media drumbeat for another lockdown. Maybe someone should first explain why the models were wrong about so much the last time.*

*Take New York, where Gov. Andrew Cuomo locked down the state in mid-March based on dire warnings. His public health experts projected the state would need as many as 140,000 hospital beds and 40,000 intensive care units—two to three times more regular hospital beds and 10 times more ICU beds than were available. The UW model forecast that 49,000 regular beds and 8,000 ICU beds would be needed at the peak.*

*New York was hit hard, but Covid-19 hospital bed utilization in New York peaked at 18,825 and 5,225 for ICUs in mid-April. Even in New York City, hospital utilization never exceeded 85% of capacity and 89% for ICUs. Government-run hospitals in low-income neighborhoods with the most cases were unprepared, but they were ill-managed before the pandemic.*

*New York was the country's frontline in the coronavirus attack, and caution was needed in the early days because so little was known about the virus. The original UW model, which was based on the experiences in Italy and Wuhan, assumed that strict lockdowns would curb infections, reduce hospitalizations and lower deaths faster than they actually did in the Northeast.*

*Asked last month about when fatalities and hospitalizations would meet state thresholds for reopening, Mr. Cuomo responded: 'All the early national experts, 'Here's my projection model.' . . . They were all wrong. They were all wrong. . . . There are a lot of variables. I understand that. We didn't know what the social distancing would actually amount to. I get it, but we were all wrong.'*

*Hospital utilization by Covid-19 patients in New York City has fallen 94% since the peak, which has allowed some non-essential treatments to resume. New York City has 29% of its hospital beds and 34% of its intensive care units now available. New cases have fallen by about 40% and new hospitalizations by a third in the last two weeks, despite the recent protests.*

*Warnings about reopening states are also overblown so far. While Arizona has had an uptick in hospitalizations, about 59% of its emergency beds and 17% of ICU beds are unused. A month ago, 43% of hospitalized patients with Covid were in the ICU. Now only a third are, suggesting that better and earlier treatment is easing disease severity.*

*In Texas, hospitalizations have also been climbing, but weekly fatalities are down 40% from a month ago. Covid-19 patients occupy fewer than 5% of all hospital beds, and more than a quarter are available. Even in Houston—which has experienced the biggest increase in hospitalizations—Covid-19 patients occupy only 6% of hospital beds. More than 20% are unused."*

According to an accompanying graph, Arizona had the greatest share of ICU beds occupied by Covid-19 patients, slightly more than 30% as of June 16.

*“Covid-19 patients take up a small share of ICU beds in most states that have reopened including California (16%), Texas (11%), Georgia (10%), Utah (9%), Wisconsin (8%) and Florida (7%). Nearly all states have ample hospital and ICU capacity.*

*California Gov. Gavin Newsom started easing his strict lockdown six weeks ago, and restaurants, hair salons, retail stores and gyms are now allowed open in most counties outside of the Bay Area. While new cases have been rising due to more testing and in some cases from community spread, hospitalizations and fatalities have been flat since early May. In Los Angeles, ICU utilization has fallen by about 15% in the last month.*

*‘We have to recognize you can’t be in a permanent state where people are locked away—for months and months and months and months on end—to see lives and livelihoods completely destroyed, without considering the health impact of those decisions as well,’ Mr. Newsom said Monday.*

*Yet national Democrats and the press are still promoting worst-case predictions, almost as if they’re hoping for worse so they can prove Donald Trump wrong. The University of Washington now projects that reopening will cause deaths to triple in California and increase six-fold in Florida and Arizona through September.*

*\*\*\**

*But as Stanford epidemiologist John Ioannidis explains in a new paper, most models have overshoot in part by making faulty assumptions about virus reproduction rates and homogenous susceptibility. A Massachusetts General Hospital model predicted more than 23,000 deaths within a month of Georgia reopening but the state had only 896.*

*‘In the presence of strong groupthink and bandwagon effects, modelers may consciously fit their predictions to what is the dominant thinking and expectations—or they may be forced to do so,’ Mr. Ioannidis writes. ‘Forecasts may be more likely to be published or disseminated, if they are more extreme.’*

*A surge of new infections is inevitable as states reopen, and health officials will have to watch for and contain hot spots. But the Covid models aren’t destiny, and the cost of new lockdowns is too great to sustain. We have to live with the virus risks while fortifying the health system and protecting the most vulnerable.*

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