

'Global warming' fraud aimed at U.S. economy

by Elijah C. Boyd

On Oct. 7, one day after President Clinton's much advertised "teach-in" on climate change at Georgetown University, the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment, of the Committee on Science, held hearings featuring the testimony of prominent climate scientists who argue that the scientific evidence shows that there is no global warming crisis. The President's stated position is that "although we do not know everything, what we know is more than enough to warrant responsible action," and that "most scientists say this process [global warming] has already begun."

The introductory remarks of Subcommittee Chairman Rep. Ken Calvert (R-Calif.) stressed that the science is far from settled. Because of the administration's position going into the Dec. 5 climate conference in Kyoto, Japan, he said, "none of the scientists who have different views on this issue from the administration participated in the conference. . . . For an administration which prides itself on diversity, this conference was evidence that diversity of scientific thought is not included in the mix."

Democratic Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche posed the issue more sharply, in a radio interview with "EIR Talks" on Oct. 14. LaRouche said that Clinton was "really waffling dangerously by capitulating to the so-called Kyoto emissions conference issue, pushed by [British Prime Minister Tony] Blair and European henchmen of Blair *against* the United States." Clinton has been "badly advised" into "situating endorsement of the so-called carbon tax, or the carbon emissions lid, on the world. And this, of course, is Al Gore's policy, or the policy of Al Gore's cohorts, like Tim Wirth at the State Department. But it's not a sane policy for Clinton."

Blair's attack on the United States

Blair and the European Union have pressed Clinton, since the Denver summit of the G-8 in June, to back a 15% reduction in carbon-dioxide emissions below the 1990 level, by the year 2010, which would cripple the U.S. energy supply, and household incomes. Meanwhile, as White House Council on Environmental Quality head Kathy McGinty noted at a press briefing on June 26 after President Clinton's speech to the United Nations anniversary meeting for the Rio summit climate conference in 1992, the European Community's own reports indicate that their emissions will "actually increase by 8% by the year 2010!"

At that same UN press briefing, Daniel Tarullo, Assistant to the President for International Economic Policy, stated that none of the proposals on the table will solve the problem of global warming, that they are just first steps "in creating a framework within which policies will be developed over the course of the next five, six, seven, or eight decades to combat the problem of global warming."

The U.S. position for the Kyoto summit is still being battled-out within the administration. The hard-line greens, such as McGinty and Wirth, are reportedly pushing for drastic cuts in automobile, power plant, and industrial emissions, while others, such as Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin, argue, rightly, that such cuts would cripple the economy.

Under administration discussion is a "carbon tax" to cut emissions, and various "emissions trading" schemes, where high-emission nations could "trade" with low-emission nations in order to meet an emissions quota without cutting back on its energy production. Entwined with this issue, is the question of whether the proposed cuts should apply equally to industrialized and developing nations. So far, the U.S. official position—minus any numbers—has been there should be binding targets applied to all countries, with maximum flexibility given to each country to meet those targets.

As for other proposals on the table: The Japanese have proposed a 5% reduction in emissions, which has come under heavy attack from the various shades of green groups, who want a return to stone-age energy technologies.

In the midst of this, the industry coalition fighting the global warming hoax has stupidly focussed its opposition not on the fact that the science is all wrong, but on the fact that it will "force Americans to severely restrict their energy use—while letting countries like China, India, and Mexico off the hook," as the coalition's newspaper ad stated on Oct. 6. In other words, the green-imposed poverty should be equally shared.

EIR will review the specific emissions-control proposals, and their economic consequences, in an upcoming issue. Here, we focus on the lack of a scientific basis for the global warming hoax. In fact, as was accepted until the mid-1970s, all the evidence points to the world being on the verge of a new ice age.¹ Hence, the mooted options for emission cuts constitute not a debate topic, but a warplan, to destroy the economic power of the United States and curb the industrialization of the developing sector.

The scientific evidence

The Congressional hearings on Oct. 7 provided much of the evidence that global warming is a non-problem, and that

1. For historical documentation on the present ice age, see Laurence Hecht, "The Coming (or Present) Ice Age," *21st Century Science & Technology*, Winter 1993-1994; and "Orbital Cycles, Not CO₂, Determine the Earth's Climate," *EIR*, May 16, 1997.

computer models are not reality. Here are some samples from the testimony.

Dr. Roy W. Spencer, Senior Scientist for Climate Studies, NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, in his prepared testimony, directly attacked the weaknesses in the computer models, the Ozymandius-like pseudo-deities used to back up the hoax: "I contend that the physics contained in current general circulation models (GCMs) are still insufficient to have much confidence in their predicted magnitude of global warming," he said.

"There are several reasons for this uncertainty, some of which include: 1) the radiative perturbation due to anthropogenic doubling of carbon dioxide is small, about 1% of the Earth's natural cooling rate; 2) naturally occurring water vapor is a far more important greenhouse gas than is carbon dioxide, and it varies considerably in space and time; 3) the feedback effects of clouds and water vapor are still poorly understood; and 4) while the Earth as a whole is in radiative balance (incoming sunlight equaling outgoing infrared radiation, thus maintaining a fairly constant temperature) the surface is far out of radiative balance.

"This latter fact," Dr. Spencer continued, "is due to evaporation and convection processes, which absorb excess heat from the surface and transport it to the upper troposphere.

This upper tropospheric heat can be more efficiently radiated out to space since it is above most of the heat-trapping vapor. Thus, convective overturning of the atmosphere, and *not* radiation balance, largely determines the surface and upper tropospheric temperature distribution."

Dr. Ari Patrinos, Associate Director for Biological and Environmental Research, U.S. Department of Energy, stated:

"Both the Forum [on Global Change Modeling] and the IPCC [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the UN group providing the "science" for the climate treaty] agree that climate models are improving. However, both reports also agree that there are still significant uncertainties in GCM predictions and therefore model results can only be couched in probabilistic terms. These uncertainties include:

- "1. Incomplete representation of important physical processes in the present models, particularly cloud and aerosol feedback effects and oceanic heat transport;
- "2. Insufficient computer power to conduct multiple, independent simulations of climate change to thoroughly test the models and produce a statistically significant number of predictions;
- "3. Lack of regional resolution; and
- "4. Theoretical limitations on the predictability of the climate system. . . ."

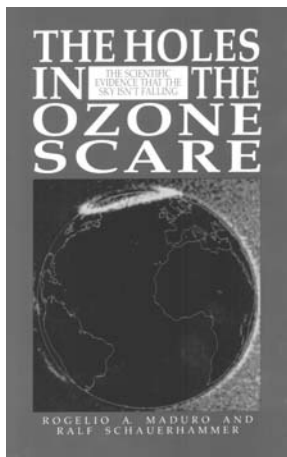
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