

The Mad, Mad, Mad World of Climatism

INTRODUCTION

I'll bet I know your thoughts about the climate. For years you've heard about how Earth is warming up. How people are the cause of global warming. How the polar bears are threatened with extinction. How we each must change our lifestyle for the good of the planet.

Television specials show calving glaciers and raging torrents from an ice melt in Greenland and voice concern over greenhouse gas emissions. Scientists report from Antarctica about pending disasters. A news story says that the flood in Pakistan is due to global warming. And wasn't Hurricane Katrina caused by climate change?

If you listen to the news, your national leaders promote new policies to fight climate change. Your nation must embrace renewable energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. There is talk about new taxes and regulations that will require sacrifices, but these are necessary to solve the climate crisis.

Of course, as a good citizen, you try to follow the lead. You've purchased some of the new compact fluorescent lights. They're a little expensive and it takes a while for them to get bright. They contain mercury—so you don't want to break one. Is it true that you can't buy any of the old incandescent bulbs anymore?

You're told that electric cars are the hot new technology. But they seem a little small and are said to have only a 40-mile range. Will they be available as a minivan or a pickup truck? If you buy one, where can you charge it?

You might have a new Vice President of Sustainability at your company. Purchases of expensive green energy and estimating the carbon dioxide output from processes are new policies. It's politically incorrect to question these policies, so you remain silent.

Your high school student comes home with concerns about climate change. It seems she has just seen Al Gore's movie in class. She asks if your family is doing enough to help save the planet.

A group of wind turbines was recently constructed in the next county. They look

majestic, towering above fields and grazing livestock. But when you drive past them, many seem to be standing idle.

Yes, the world is certainly a greener place in response to all these changes. Yet, something deep down in your gut says that all this alarm about global warming just doesn't ring true. Maybe you've heard the demands for change, but they don't make sense in your daily life. Maybe you remember the 1970s, when scientists were concerned about global cooling and a pending ice age. But friends tell you now that your memory is faulty—there was no fear of an ice age back then.

You've been told that our air is being filled with "dangerous carbon pollution." But,

you don't see any evidence of this. You recall the smog in our cities and foul-smelling polluted air when you were a child. Somehow it seems like the quality of air has improved during the last 30 years, despite the alarms from the news media.

Maybe you've just been through a tough winter, with mountainous drifts of snow and cold temperatures. Didn't the seasonal forecast call for a warm, dry winter? And what about Climategate—something about a scandal over temperature data at a university in Britain?

Well, your intuition about global warming is right. There is no direct scientific evidence that man-made greenhouse gases are causing catastrophic global warming. Instead, the world has been captured by the ideology of Climatism—the belief that man-made greenhouse gases are destroying Earth's climate. Most of the leaders in government, at universities, in scientific organizations, and in business say they believe in Climatism.

The astonishing thing is that *CO₂ is green!* Rather than being a pollutant, carbon dioxide makes plants grow! In a world turned upside



FAILED PREDICTIONS

"There are ominous signs that the earth's weather patterns have begun to change dramatically and that these changes may portend a dramatic decline in food production...after three quarters of a century of extraordinarily mild conditions, the earth's climate appears to be cooling down."
—"The Cooling World"
Newsweek, April 28, 1975¹

BEWARE DANGEROUS CARBON POLLUTION!

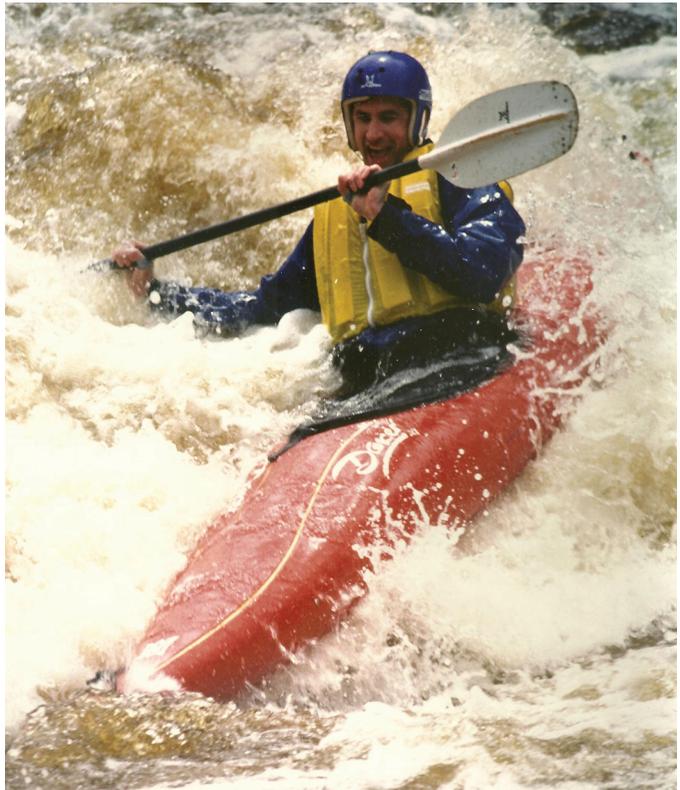


down, every community and every company measures their “carbon footprint” and tries to reduce emissions of a harmless, invisible gas that is essential for photosynthesis and the growth of plants.

Don’t misunderstand me. There are real pollutants that we need to control. For more than 25 years, I’ve had the joy of kayaking many of the great white water rivers of North America. From Texas to Idaho to Quebec, rivers have been a love of my life. I’ve paddled creeks on the Cumberland Plateau in Tennessee, Al Gore’s home turf. Rivers are highlights of this amazing and beautiful world. We all want our water to be pure and our air to be clean. We’re all environmentalists. But we must use sound science to determine man-made impacts on our climate. Sensible economics should drive our energy policy, not unfounded fears about global warming.

This book will take a common-sense look at global warming mania. We’ll provide a down-to-earth discussion of the science, which increasingly shows that natural cycles of Earth are the dominant cause of climate change—not man-made greenhouse gas emissions. We’ll discuss how climate science has been corrupted and look at the money and special interests that continue to drive the dogma of Climatism forward. We’ll discuss renewable energy, which is proposed as a primary solution to stop climate change.

The arguments of this book are not just opinions, but are based on the work of hundreds of scientists across the world who challenge the theory of man-made global warming. Graphs and scientific data from peer-reviewed papers are used to show that



The author at play on the Peshtigo River in Wisconsin.
Photo by Guenther²



**Big Green for
Climate Change**

EPA Awards \$17 Million to Support Research on the Impacts of Climate Change
 “Twenty-five universities to explore public health and environmental facets of climate change”
 —Environmental Protection Agency
 news release, Feb. 17, 2010³

man-made influences are actually only a very small part of Earth’s climate. The evidence is available for all to see.

Chapters 1–2 discuss how our leaders have been captured by the false ideology of Climatism and the remedies proposed to change the life of every person on Earth. Climate science is discussed in Chapters 3–5. I encourage you to read the down-to-earth science in these chapters, but of course feel free to skip these if you’re

just interested in how the world has been smitten by climate madness. Chapters 6–7 discuss alarming claims about Earth’s icecaps and weather, and show that these claims are not supported by scientific data. Chapter 8 exposes some of the biggest whoppers of global warming mania. Chapters 9–10 discuss bad science and the powerful role that money plays in this whole affair. Chapter 11 discusses the continuing shortcomings of renewable energy, despite many decades of media hype and promotion by governments. Don’t miss Chapter 12, “You Can’t Make this Stuff Up!”

Climate change is a serious topic. Government policies are proposed or already in place that will affect the light bulbs you buy, the construction of your house, the car or appliance you purchase, the price of your energy, your workplace, what your children are taught in school, and almost every aspect of your life. This book will help you sort fact from fiction in the global warming debate. It will remove the fear and paranoia that you and your family may be feeling from daily bombardment of climate change nonsense from work, school, and community.

Along the way, we’ll have some fun. We’ll discuss the wackiness of mankind turned on its head by global warming alarmism. This whole charade has moved from the serious to the absurd. Beware the sidebars, since a few of these are spoofs. But the rest are true headlines or quotes from our mad, mad, mad world of Climatism. Enjoy and, as the great Paul Harvey used to say, learn “the rest of the story” about climate change.

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