

Global Warming - Facts & Fiction

If you need a respite from the PVE-RPZ debate, the RPV city council dance and/or the Democrats Presidential nomination marathon, consider the global warming controversy. The war on pollutants such as NOX, SOX and acid rain is a separate issue that everyone probably supports although they may disagree on the technical solution. When it comes to global warming, the media was initially seduced into believing that the "Inconvenient Truth" was actually something more than a political publicity stunt.

The real inconvenient truth is that global warming has been occurring since the Little Ice Age 200-500 years ago but we have barely come close to reaching the 3000-year average temperature and are still about 1degree Celsius below the "Medieval Climate Optimum." Climate data is arguable and extrapolation even more so since the climate is a coupled non-linear dynamical system.

The Oregon Institute of Science and Medicine, a non-profit public foundation, has published a 12-page report backed by 132 references and 19,000 American scientists "opposed, on scientific grounds, to the hypothesis of 'human caused global warming'."

The data they present includes:

- (1) Glaciers have been shortening at the same rate since the early 1800s while hydrocarbon use started accelerating in the mid-1900s.
- (2) The Arctic air and U.S. surface temperatures have continued to closely track solar activity, which is currently on the upswing.
- (3) U.S. rainfall continues to increase at about 1.8 inches per century.
- (4) The number of severe (F3-F5) tornadoes has continued to decline since the mid 1900's.
- (5) The number of Atlantic hurricanes and wind speeds has stayed constant since the mid 1900's.
- (6) Sea levels have been increasing at about 7 inches per century since the mid 1800's.
- (7) U.S. forests have increased 40% in the last 50 years and trees are growing faster.
- (8) CO2 has increased about 30% in the last 100 years while hydrocarbon use increased 6-fold but shows no scientific correlation with global warming.

There are many more facts including the positive attributes of the current global warming trend and the usefulness and real costs of alternative energy sources (nuclear is by far the least expensive and least intrusive). That does not mean that we should ignore the

issue but the next time the ecopirates start ranting about shutting down the economy or turning our food supply into ethanol at least ask for more scientific data than provided by the now mostly discredited Al Gore faction.

Sincerely,
D.F.Reeves